

WINTER 2022

1967

President: Charles Kurz II • Vice President: Alan S. Weinstein • Secretary: James L. O'Connor, james.oconnor.1967@trincoll.edu • Class Fundraisers: Alex Levi, James H. Oliver•

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Thank you all for answering my plea for the latest updates on your lives. **Jeff Fox** questioned my “Esteemed Classmates” salutation, stating that he did not feel the label applied to him and some other classmates whom he chose not to identify. Jeff is too modest. I often refer to him as my esteemed classmate. So far, no one, other than Jeff, has contradicted me.

John Ray and wife Loretta have moved. “The pandemic convinced her to finally retire from teaching. We moved to a smaller house on a small lake close to our daughter and granddaughter. Worst part about the move was getting all brand-new doctors and going through their initial screening processes—plus, all the address changes and deciding what we had to get rid of to fit into a smaller house!”

Chip Whitehead and wife Barbara will be celebrating their 50th anniversary in June 2022. “Our daughter’s family, which includes three granddaughters and one yellow lab, visited with us at the beach this summer. And we recently visited them to celebrate our twin granddaughters’ 12th birthdays!”

Phil Mayer sent the sad news that **Jim McCulloch** died of COVID last February. This is a reminder to take good care of ourselves and our families in these pandemic times. Everyone in our class is eligible for the COVID booster in addition to the regular inoculations.

I spoke with **Nate Rath** recently, and he reminded me that he had a very mild case of COVID-19. He compared it with having the flu and says he knows he was very lucky.

Dick Sanger is alive and very busy in Texas. “Neyda and I live in Austin, where her daughter Lauren and Jason live along with their two kids, Wynn and Sloane. My eldest son, Rick, lives in Dallas with Carrie. Hank lives in Denver with Jill, as does his son Luke. Pat, the youngest son, lives in Dickinson, Texas, with Kate and their son, Simon. I have a great-granddaughter, Ivy, who lives in Georgia with her mum Brooke (Hank) and Geraldo. I am a Vistage chair and have three groups; a Junior Achievement volunteer (four years) in Canyon Vista Middle School eighth grade; and an ambassador (five years) for the Round Rock Chamber (so named for the large round rock in the middle of the river on the Chisholm Trail, which marked a safe place to cross). I am also co-chair of the National Mounted Warfare Foundation’s project at Fort Hood. We are planning to build a new museum telling the stories of two million soldiers who went to Fort Hood (Jackie Robinson and Elvis included). I am a board Finance Committee member for the Greater Austin Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and board member/treasurer of the Metropolitan Breakfast Club (Austin’s premier breakfast club with speakers for 37 years ... and the only one). I swim 50 laps about four times a week. Walking four miles did not do it for me during COVID. Both Neyda and I have had two Moderna and now our booster shots.”

Our class president, **Charley Kurz**, writes that he had a wonderful conversation recently with our first Class of 1967 Scholarship recipient, Latanya Coke ’19. After graduating from Trinity with a degree in biology, Latty worked at the Feinstein Institute for Medical Research on Long Island. She is starting a Ph.D. program at Duke University in developmental genetics. She is one of eight students in her first-year class; she expects that it will take at least five years to complete her degree requirements. Her Duke tuition is fully paid, and she receives a living stipend. Latty lives in an apartment in Durham. She enjoys scientific thinking and writing; she had her first journal article published in January 2021.

How about this? Trinity history major **Don Bishop**, living in Northern Virginia, had his ninth-grade grandson sit in the Honda’s front seat next to him and “navigate” to Gettysburg without

using GPS. Don editorializes that apparently no one teaches kids how to read maps, know the different kinds of highway signs, or notice the mile markers. They got there without too much delay, and Don was sure to mention how Colonel Strong Vincent, Trinity Class of 1858, defended Little Round Top at the cost of his life. Returning home from the battlefield, grandson William proclaimed it “awesome.”

Gettysburg is indeed awesome. I wrote back to Don, saying that my great-great uncle Charlie Spiesberger was a member of the New York State 140th Infantry and died on Little Round Top. He was an 18-year-old German immigrant. Don knew, of course, that the 140th was placed next to Joshua Chamberlain’s 20th Maine Volunteers on Little Round Top. How about them apples?

A reminder: Our 55th Reunion is this coming June. You will be receiving many mailings about it, and I hope you will attend. Best, Jim

From the Alumni Office: In 2021, **Jeffrey J. Fox** published *The Adventures of Flash: An Abandoned Homeless Potbellied Pig*. Jeffrey, who earned an M.B.A. from Harvard Business School, is the founder of Fox Business Advisors. He’s also the author of several best sellers, including *How to Become a Rainmaker* and *How to Become CEO*. Jeffrey formerly served Trinity as a member of Board of Trustees; he’s also a 1997 recipient of Trinity’s Alumni Medal for Excellence.

SPRING 2022

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Robin Tassinari was honored by New York CDPHP (Capital District Physicians Health Plan) as the Top Doctors People’s Choice Award Winner. Robin has worked at Albany Medical Center since 1975 and is a professor of psychiatry and internal medicine at Albany Medical Center College. He still loves it. “I’ve had so many experiences. Some of them enlightening. Most of them exhilarating.” Robin says the COVID-19 pandemic has demonstrated the potential telemedicine holds for the treatment of mental health and substance abuse disorders. “The no-show rate has improved dramatically. I believe virtual care is here to stay.”

Bob Ebinger writes, “I hope to attend our Reunion just prior to our trip to Angola. Another adventure in Africa! The past three years, we have been to South Africa (to see rhinos and drink wine), Zambia (Victoria Falls and Zambezi River), Sudan (a cultural trip between the protests and revolution), and Uganda (the gorillas).”

Ray Graves is staying very busy. “I was elected to the Board of Directors of Delta Kappa Epsilon (Deke) last year. At my first board meeting, I found out how deep the movement has become to abolish college fraternities. DKE is one of many Greek letter organizations (GLOs) presenting to the public the positive aspects of fraternities and the continuing efforts at self-policing to eliminate the abuses of sexual assault, hazing, and alcohol abuse. The all-too-frequent news stories of misconduct, injury, racism, abuse, and deaths at fraternities continue to threaten the continued existence of the GLOs. I am back in school, pursuing an LL.M. in taxation at Wayne State University, where I received my J.D. in 1970. I am protected by masking and virtual class attendance, giving no clue to my classmates that I served as a U.S. bankruptcy judge, 1982–2002. (I’m not a superhero, but I now have a secret identity.)”

I’ve been lucky and not had any encounters with COVID but nevertheless managed to spend three weeks in the hospital at Christmas. A kidney stone was treated with a stent that apparently gave me a staph infection. Massive doses of antibiotics followed. I am fine now and grateful to the doctors and staff at New York-Presbyterian/Columbia hospital.

FALL 2022

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Classmates, on June 10 and 11, we celebrated our 55th Reunion. Due to COVID, only seven members of the Class of 1967 came to Reunion. But it was an exceptional group of '67ers: **Charley Kurz, Alan Weinstein, Alex Levi, Rob Boas, Peter Heller, Paul Scheinberg**, and me.

Our Class of 1967 Scholar, Dhiraj Ganji '23, joined us for the class dinner and presentation of the Trin Man Award. During the dinner, we presented the college with a check for \$3 million as our class gift. **Luke Terry** was chosen as the Trin Man. Luke has contributed in many ways to Trinity. He served as a trustee, took an active role supporting the football and lacrosse teams, and made generous contributions to the college. He was not able to make the trip to Hartford due to a recent surgery, but wife Belinda and son Luke Terry III '24 accepted the award from **Rob Boas**, the class Elms Society representative.

On Saturday morning there was a memorial service for our classmates who have died since our 50th Reunion. **Alan Weinstein** read each name. The memorial service was led by the Rev. Marcus G. Halley, college chaplain. I found the service particularly moving. Two of my closest Trinity friends, **Peter Milford** and **Nate Rath**, died recently. We were all in Theta Xi. Nate was one of my roommates senior year. After graduation, Peter and I shared an apartment with **Dan Haden** and **Bob Fowler** in New York City. At times it resembled Theta Xi on a particularly raucous Friday night. I will not elaborate.

I hope all of you are well. If you've been thinking about contacting a classmate and haven't gotten around to it, pick up your phone or send that email. Carpe diem. And drop me a line. I always am searching for material for this column.