LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Dear Class Officer,

Greetings, and welcome to ClassExchange. The Class Affairs Committee is pleased to provide you with the latest edition of our newsletter, and we hope you will find it informative and useful.

In the next few issues of ClassExchange, we would like to take the opportunity to introduce you to the standing committees of the Alumni Council (of which we are one). These committees can be of service to you in many ways, and we would like to give them the chance to tell you who they are and what they can do for you and your class. There are many ways in which Alumni Council staff and volunteers can make your job as a class officer easier and we want to be sure that you are aware of what services we can provide, and how to take advantage of them. In this issue, we have focused on Community Service. I would like to thank Sue Suh ‘96 for her contributions on behalf of the Committee on Community Service.

ClassExchange is mailed to all Class Presidents, Vice Presidents, Secretaries, Treasurers and Reunions Chairs. If you know of any other leaders in your class who would find this newsletter useful, please feel free to pass it along to them. Also if you have any suggestions or questions, please contact us.

We hope you enjoy this issue.

Nancy Cassels ’73, Chair
Michael L. Barrett ’66, Vice-Chair

2002-2003 CLASS AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Nancy Reed Cassels ’73, Chair
Michael L. Barrett ’66, Vice-Chair

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John M. Smith ’95

PAW Staff:
Kathryn Beaumont Fischer ’96
Nancy S. MacMillan

Alumni Council Staff:
Dottie Ferrara h22 h27 h32 h33
Dawn Reading
Adrienne A. Rubin ’88

KEY COMMUNITY SERVICE WEB SITES

Alumni Council Committee on Community Service
http://alumni.princeton.edu/~cs/

Pace Center for Community Service
http://www.princeton.edu/pace/

Student Volunteers Council
http://www.princeton.edu/~svc/

Community House
http://www.princeton.edu/~house/

THINKING ABOUT….

Welcome to a new column!

Periodically, we will ask you questions about a given topic relating to class affairs. We hope you will use these to stimulate thought and discussion in your officer meetings and/or conference calls. If you would like to send us a summary of your conversation, we would find it most useful.

...... COMMUNITY SERVICE!

Has your class become involved in any way in public service or community projects? Please describe briefly. What is the degree of class participation (how many classmates have been involved)? Would you describe this effort as successful? If so, how do you measure this success? If not, why do you believe that the effort was not successful? Has your class worked with any other classes on such projects (or with any other organizations or groups from other colleges)? Does your class have any suggestions for other classes who might want to initiate such projects? Does your class need any assistance or ideas for initiating such projects?
Hello, Class Officers! Interested in starting your own community service programs? It’s easier than you might think—and an extremely rewarding endeavor. Here are some ideas to help get you on your way:

1. **Find a champion.**
   Crucial to a successful project is finding a leader or leaders to spearhead it. Every class has members willing to champion a cause for which they harbor a passion. Their vision, perseverance, and leadership are critical. Reach out to champions in class meetings, newsletters, and e-mails. Once leaders surface, you’re more than halfway there.

2. **Identify the project.**
   Your champion has most likely identified his or her interest, but may not know exactly how to pursue it. Look at established service organizations whose infrastructure you can work within such as Habitat for Humanity, the Red Cross, and the World Wildlife Fund. Established structures make it easier to launch and sustain projects. Another option is to offer a classmate’s ongoing project, which could be enhanced by the class’s support.

3. **Survey the class for support.**
   Once a project is identified, send out a survey to assess the level of class interest and degree of support, or call a class meeting during a mini or major reunion. Ask specific questions about people’s willingness to donate time, money, materials, etc. This will give you the basis for determining how ambitious the project should be.

4. **Start with little steps.**
   Even small projects make a difference. Little steps often lead to big outcomes. It is the first step that is hardest to get people to take and requires the most encouragement from you.

5. **Consider teaming up.**
   You might want to team up with another class, association, corporation or local group. You don’t need to go it alone. Many of the most successful class projects are a result of partnership.

6. **Do it!**
   It is important to plan a project, but don’t worry about having every detail worked out or you will never begin. Jump in and start building momentum. Take the first step and enjoy the ride.

7. **Communicate.**
   Communicate in every way possible the progress of the project, goals, obstacles, successes. Communication is critical to the project’s sustainability and success.

8. **Tie the project to reunions.**
   Better yet, tie your reunion theme to your project. Doing good for the community can be fun and a strong rallying point for your class. Joining a major reunion to a class service project has had powerful results. It can bring disaffected classmates back into the class fold and entice them to attend more class events. Reunions with a community service theme tend to be better attended, more fun, and foster a real sense of class pride.

Many classes have community service projects, and you can find this list at our Committee website: http://alumni.princeton.edu/~cs/index.html.

[NOTE: This site is currently being updated. Thanks for your patience!] If your class project is not listed here, please contact us so we can include it on our site.

Along with the “Get Started” list above, you can also find on our website some guidelines for starting a student mentoring program, including “20 Ideas to Work With a School” and “Advice from a Mentoring Veteran.”

If you have any other questions or comments, please contact one of the following people. Thank you for sharing the spirit of Princeton in the Nation’s Service and in the Service of All Nations!

Sue Suh ’96  
Chair, Committee on Community Service  
suesuh@alumni.princeton.edu

Thomas Kissinger ’84  
Vice-Chair, Committee on Community Service  
tom_kissinger@medcohealth.com
Have a Problem? Ask Adrienne!

Dear Adrienne:

My class wants to start a community service project. I have heard that there are restrictions on what we can and cannot do because of our 501(c)(3) status. How can I make sure we are headed in the right direction?

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Thanks for asking! We’re glad you’re considering adding a community service component to your class activities. Community service projects are a great way to involve classmates who may be less interested in the traditional social functions.

Because your alumni class is included in the University’s Group tax filing with the IRS, it is important that all class activities be substantively related to the University’s mission of scholarship and teaching. Classes cannot just raise money for other not-for-profits. For example, you cannot send out an appeal for Habitat for Humanity using your class mailing list, because your class mailing list can only be used for official class activities. However, you can choose to adopt a Habitat project as your class project and seek donations to help defray the cost of the project.

In general, community service efforts are viewed by the University as important ways of reaching more classmates and thus not in conflict with the University mission and fundraising efforts, such as Annual Giving. However, when you are contemplating beginning a new project, it is always a good idea to run your idea by us here at the Alumni Council. We can check for potential challenges related to your tax-exempt status, make sure that Annual Giving is aware of and in agreement with any community service fundraising you need to do, and can put you in touch with other classes who are doing similar projects.

I look forward to speaking with you about the details of your project and helping you navigate these tax-exempt issues.

— Adrienne

IDEA OF THE ISSUE

Use the Class Events Calendar

Have your event information at your classmates' finger tips! Many classes have their own websites that are linked to the Alumni Council page. Regardless of whether or not you have your own web site, send us your event information and we'll post it on the Class Events Calendar for all your "surfers" to find! The more information out there, the better your connections!

Check it Out!
http://alumni.princeton.edu/Associations/ClassEventsCalendar.asp

Contact Dottie: email dferrara@princeton.edu, call 609-258-5451 or fax 609-258-128

THE TOP TEN CLASSES IN DUES COLLECTIONS FOR 2001-2002 ARE...

#10 1936 with 69.0%
# 9 1932 with 69.1%
# 8 1933 with 69.7%
# 7 1934 with 71.0%
# 6 1940 with 74.5%
# 5 1937 with 75.0%
# 4 1945 with 77.0%
# 3 1941 with 82.4%
# 2 1942 with 82.8%

...AND...THE # 1 CLASS IS...
1935 with 90.0% !!!!!
COMING ATTRACTIONS...SAVE THESE DATES

Alumni Day & The Service of Remembrance • February 22, 2003
This is a perfect and popular time for a class reception and/or dinner.

Spring 2003 Alumni Studies Program
Animal Behavior led by Dr. James L. Gould, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.
Optional on-campus sessions: March 7-8, 2003 and May 9-10, 2003

Reunions
2003 • May 29 - June 1, 2003 -----NOT Memorial Day weekend!
    New Class Officers Training on Saturday, May 31, at 8:00 a.m. - Spread the word!
2004 • May 27 - May 30 (Memorial Day weekend)
2005 • May 26 - May 29 (Memorial Day weekend)
2006 • June 1 - June 4

Please note these important dates:
    Reunions 2004 Kick-Off Meeting • Saturday, January 18, 2003, 2:00 p.m.
    Reunions 2003 All Hands Meeting • Saturday, April 12, 2003, 2:00 p.m.

Planning Your Class Reception or Dinner?
The Alumni Council can help you reserve space on campus for any gathering. Please contact Maggie Johnson h96 at 609-258-5836 or mhj@princeton.edu if you would like assistance.