

# LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY

## CLASS OF 1973 | 50TH REUNION NEWSLETTER

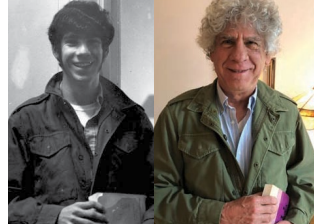


Welcome to the first Class of 1973 50th Reunion newsletter!

As Debby and Kristen noted in their email, this first newsletter focuses on our first months on campus! We hope you get some chuckles from this edition and some excitement about Reunion Weekend, June 15-18, 2023! —Phyllis and David



Phyllis Peter-Mallard



David Spear

### DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

#### David Spear

In preparation for the reunion, I was looking back over my memorabilia about our arrival at Lawrence. I still recall the excitement of the new, the love of personal freedom, and the raw fear of potential failure. It was then, and is now, difficult to disentangle the local from the national. Do you remember these things from fall term 1969?



- Green beanies were to be worn by all freshmen until Lawrence won its first football game. It didn't look promising as LU fell in the season opener. Fortunately, the Vikes prevailed in game 2, meaning this embarrassing tradition could disappear, presumably forever.

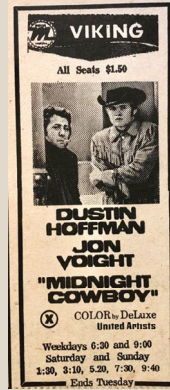
- Foretelling the reunion theme of our class—Fifty Years ... Still Innovating—President Smith addressed us at his first convocation. He “called for greater educational experimentation. He explained that Lawrence’s size and small professor-to-student ratio make it particularly well-suited to educational innovations.” Later in the term the Povolny Report encouraged widespread curricular innovation.



THROUGH AN INJURED ANKLE will keep him off television tomorrow, Augie Fosu, freshman from Ashanti, Ghana, will boost the red-hot Lawrence soccer team from the bench. The Viking-Green Bay game will be carried on channel 2 at 1 p.m.

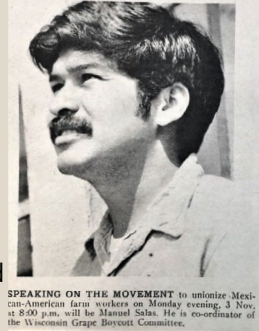
- Coming from a small town in Wisconsin, I had barely heard of soccer, but the LU soccer team began its season with victories over Fox Valley, Stevens Point, and Ripon.

- A few of the music events: Professor John Koopman’s voice recital and Prof. Miriam Clapp Duncan’s organ recital; blues singer Howlin’ Wolf performed in the chapel as part of the Homecoming festivities; and the 60-voice Stockholm Chorus opened the year’s Artist Series. The Lawrence Chorale Society performed Handel’s *Messiah*.



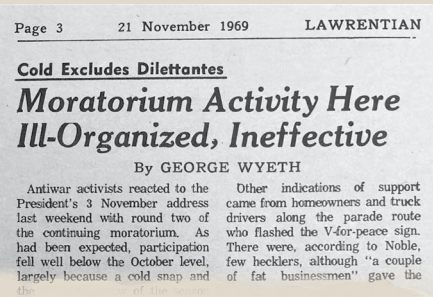
- Films that fall included “The Treasure of Sierra Madre” in Youngchild Hall, while “Midnight Cowboy” showed at the Viking Theater in town.

- Civil Rights leader Julian Bond spoke about the emerging New Coalition; Manuel Salas, union organizer, explained the need for a grape boycott; Harrison Salisbury, managing editor of the *NY Times* appeared; Gary Snyder recited some of his Beat poetry; the Theatre Department produced Peter Weiss’ “The Investigation.”



SPEAKING ON THE MOVEMENT to unite Mexican-American farm workers on Monday evening, 3 Nov, at 8:00 p.m. will be Manuel Salas. He is co-ordinator of the Wisconsin Grape Boycott Committee.

- The Vietnam War was never far from our minds. Lawrence intended to participate in the national moratorium, but to what extent? In the run-up to October 15, a faculty resolution urged “its members to cancel or postpone their classes, administrators to close their offices, and students to participate in discussion of the war on that day.”



All this without even mentioning our classes. Have you finished *A Passage to India* yet?



I look forward to getting together at our reunion to surf with classmates on this giant wave of nostalgia.

## DO YOU REMEMBER WHEN?

**Kristen Olson Lahner**

IN THE DAYS BEFORE COMPUTERS ...

How were we paired by a 'computer' with our Computer Dance partner? It is always fun to hear classmates' stories of that fateful event, the great mixer known as the Computer Dance. No one with whom I've spoken has any idea of how the pairing was accomplished, although there are theories! For example, my husband Ron Lahner was paired with Cindy Libbey Gilpin—both were "Ls" from various parts of Minnesota. Was that the key to their pairing? It just can't have been—I was an "O" from Michigan, and my Computer Dance date was Tom Elliott, an "E" from Massachusetts! Usually, asking a classmate "Who was your Computer Date?" elicits a series of mostly humorous stories. But, while Tom and I made it through the evening quite comfortably, there were others who did not. One girl, who shall remain unnamed, claimed she needed to use the restroom near Riverview Lounge, then proceeded to leave her hapless date outside the ladies' room door as she crawled out the awning window to escape! My roommate, a "T" from Wisconsin, was paired with a "B" from New Jersey. They had enough fun that Mr. B decided to set her in his sites, coming on to her

BROKAW

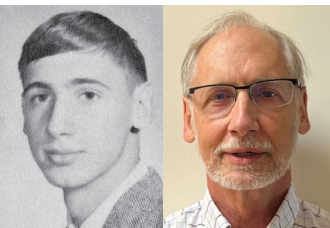
DEAR NUMBER 482, DAVID SPEAR

THIS IS RAX IN CONTROL, THE IBM 360 AT THE INSTITUTE OF PAPER CHEMISTRY, LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY. THE PEOPLE WHO PROGRAMED ME INSTRUCTED ME TO FIND YOU A GOOD DATE FOR THE COMPUTER DANCE THIS WEEK. I AM HAPPY TO INFORM YOU THAT YOUR MATCH IS THAT MARVELOUS LITTLE NUMBER 74 WHO LIVES AT SAGE. YOU SHOULD PICK HER UP AT 9.15 PM. THE BEST OF LUCK TO BOTH OF YOU.

RAX

wherever she went until he got the message that she was not interested. The Computer Dance and its aftermath are always sources of interesting conversation when we are together with classmates! When we share Computer Dance stories with younger alums or current students (or our own children), they cringe over the non-PC element of the entire concept. For those of us who were Freshmen at the time, there was probably plenty of cringing as well! Imagine the young gay person, for example, who must have felt very awkward in this setting. Or the boy or girl who had never even dated, or danced for that matter. What seemed like innocent fun for some was quite painful for others, I suspect. It will be fun to revisit this when we are all together at the reunion next June! And, regardless of how any of us feels about Computer Dance memories, the question still remains: In the days before computers, how were we paired by a 'computer' with our Computer Dance partner?

## DON'T MISS IT! WHY I'M COMING TO REUNION



**George Wyeth**

For many years, I was not a reliable attender of reunions. The first few years it seemed too recent, then life changes took us farther away. And kids, jobs, family all made things interesting and exciting but also were very demanding. It wasn't until our 35th that I finally made it back for the first time.

I'm not even sure what inspired me that time—I had not been in regular touch with many classmates and college seemed like a distant memory. But something did and I found my way to Appleton for the first time in many years. After that, I got to the 40th in 2013 and began reconnecting with people that I stayed in touch with afterward. By then we were all pretty far along in life, and the stories were fascinating. Some were familiar from class notes, but many were not, and some people took very unexpected turns (I won't name names). I missed the 45th but can't pass on the 50th.

At the 35th, I got an offer I couldn't refuse, from Prof. Hah who'd been my undergraduate advisor and had a way of making those kinds of offers. He invited me to come to campus and teach a seminar for a term. He was probably not serious, but I was at a point where I felt like a change of scenery, so I took him up on it. Without going into too much detail, it changed my perspective on Lawrence greatly, and in particular made me appreciate the strengths of a liberal arts college. I found that faculty knew students well, and had goals for them—not just passing classes but acquiring deeper skills too. Students could be athletes without sacrificing their academic ambitions, or could participate in music and other activities without being a major in the field. Having sent two sons to very different kinds of schools, I saw the value of that in a very different light.

I'm now looking forward to the 50th, and hope to see many of you there!



**Phyllis Peter-Mallard**

Lawrence was actually my second choice. My original plans, to go to college and room with my high school BFF, got derailed about the same time as my parents decided to move across the country. I wasn't at

all happy about being alone at the other school so I decided to come to Lawrence where I had family who lived nearby. My first six months on campus were not easy—it was my first time away from home, the classwork was daunting, and I was desperately homesick. But then I took a biology class and got excited over a project monitoring tadpoles as they grew into frogs ... don't laugh but my life at Lawrence changed just like those tadpoles!

I started getting into my classes and making more friends. The deal was sealed the following spring when I went to the London campus and met a group of people who became my "pack" for the next 3 years! After graduation, as friends scattered, Lawrence remained a part of my life. I still have family in Kaukauna so I visited campus occasionally and kept in touch as your class secretary, coordinated DC alumni events and later served on the alumni association board. And, of course, I came to the reunions whenever I was able. As an introvert (yes it's true) I find large gatherings overwhelming—especially when they involve people I don't know (or these days can't remember) very well. Cluster reunions certainly fall into that category. I went to a few of them but hands down my favorite reunion experiences came from our single class reunions where it was just the class of 73!! Even my husband, who went to a huge state university, looks forward to Lawrence reunions and reconnecting with people he's gotten to know over the years. Some say that reunions are most fun if you plan to meet up with close buds. I've done it both ways and can honestly say it's fun being there no matter who you are with! To those who are feeling a bit uncertain I promise you'll have no trouble finding good conversation, lots of laughter and long joyous walks down memory lane! I look forward to seeing you there!

## REUNION COMMITTEE UPDATES

### Communications and Zoo Redo II Committee

Greetings from your 50th Reunion Communications Team!

We look forward to reaching out to all our classmates with upcoming reunion news through our newsletters and other mailings. Have you received your Save-the Date card? We hope you have already marked your calendars for June 15–18, 2023.

In anticipation of our weekend, here are a few easy things you can do now:

Join the Class of '73's 50th Reunion Facebook page: Lawrence Class of '73 50th Reunion.

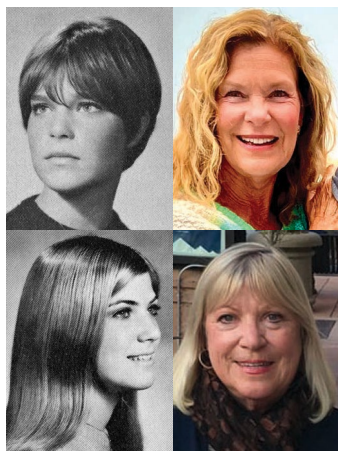
Watch future communications regarding room blocks and special LU rates, and make your hotel reservations early.

Are there special people you want to see? Reach out now and make sure email addresses are up to date.

We are compiling a 50th Reunion edition of the *Zoo Book*! You will receive an invitation this fall to submit your *Zoo ReDo II* photos and story.

Feel free to contact any one of the Reunion Committee members with your comments and questions.

We look forward to hearing from all of you, and can't wait to be with you on campus in June!



**Debby Burns, Co-Chair**

**Kristen Olson Lahner, Co-chair**

Louis Butler

Anne Skinner Glad

Linda Rosenbauer Hau

Laura Mueller Just

Phyllis Peter-Mallard

Joe Rota

Sue Conkey Running

David Spear

Nancy Freeman Wallace

### Class Gift Committee

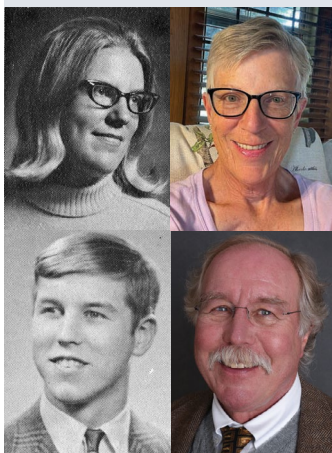
*Everything Counts!*

One of the exciting things about a 50th Reunion gift is the number of options we have to contribute to the overall total for our 50th Reunion. (We could be a record-breaking class!) Please consider how you would like to impact the future for Lawrence students with your 50th Reunion gifts.

- Include Lawrence in your estate plans and provide an estimate of that gift (the estimate is not legally binding and can be adjusted at any time.) This can be done in many ways, including naming Lawrence as a beneficiary of an insurance policy or naming Lawrence in your will.
- If you already included Lawrence in a bequest, but have not provided an estimate of that gift, now is the time because your estimate counts.
- Make a one-year pledge or, even better to have more impact, a multi-year pledge (three, four, or five years of pledges count in the year the pledge was made). For example, a five-year pledge of \$2,000/year would count as a \$10,000 gift towards our 50th Reunion class gift.
- Where can you designate? All designations count, including:

- ▲ Our special class fund (details to come!)
- ▲ Lawrence Fund
- ▲ Athletics
- ▲ Conservatory
- ▲ Björklunden
- ▲ Scholarships
- ▲ Other areas of interest, like individual named funds

This is our year, 2023, to make a BIG difference for the Lawrence student experience through our collective 50th Reunion gifts. To discuss, reach out to any of us on the Gift Team, or our 50th Reunion Staff Liaison, Megan Spranger at 920-832-7441.



**Linda Laarman, Co-chair**

**John Peterson, Co-chair**

Duffie Adelson

Ann Carrott

Susan Harman

Ken Melchert

## Program Committee

The Programming Team is hard at work putting together an engaging set of activities for Reunion Weekend. These kick off with Club '73 opening late Thursday afternoon in Hiatt Hall, providing our own headquarters to meet and socialize with classmates. The following days will offer more opportunities, from the entertaining (trivia!) to reflective (memorializing departed classmates). We hope to celebrate classmates receiving Alumni Awards.

Two themes will run throughout the weekend activities: (1) *Reverberations through Our Times*, a chance to engage in dialogue around the social and political issues that dominated our time on campus and still engage students and alums today; and (2) a *Fred Sturm Retrospective*, with Alumni College offerings and multiple performances through the weekend to remember and honor our classmate.

We would like to have your input to tailor some activities to fit the interests of classmates, as well as accompanying significant others. Please fill out the survey [here](#) to add your voice to our planning!



**Duffie Adelson, Co-chair**

**Rob Lindquist, Co-chair**

**Sara Quandt, Co-chair**

Bill Ash

Tom Cutler

(Marty) Martha Freitag

Cindy Libbey Gilpin

Ron Lahner

Ginger Bevis Littleton

Joseph Michel

Steve Swets

Charlotte Wilson

George Wyeth

This first edition has been fun to put together but our goal for future editions is to include reflections from as many of our classmates. So, if you would like to comment, or contribute short reflections or photos, please reach out to us at [lu73newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:lu73newsletter@gmail.com).

—Phyllis and David



**TO UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION, please email [dev\\_operations@lawrence.edu](mailto:dev_operations@lawrence.edu)**

**Or update the information directly in your profile in the Alumni Directory**