

Membership Report

2020 - What a crazy year! But despite the worry, turmoil, and disruptions to our normal routines and lives, '64 classmates came through in their support of our class. Of the 76 alumni classes we are #2 with participation from 406 classmates, up from #5 just last year! And let's not forget, we draw from a smaller pool of classmates than younger classes do. **Yay for Us!**

You can pay dues from the drop-down Dues and Giving menu on our class website: cornell1964.org.

As of July 1, 2021, and for the time being, the *Cornell Alumni Magazine* will no longer be a printed magazine. Instead, a free online digital magazine will be available to all alumni. More information about this should be coming soon, but for now, our class correspondent, Bev Johns Lamont, explains on page 1 how this change will impact our "Class Notes" column.

Since there is no longer a magazine subscription included with dues, we have reduced them to \$40 per individual, and \$50 per couple (both Class of '64). In addition, *dues are now fully tax-deductible!* Another change: because of the administrative complexity, Auto Renewal is being discontinued.

Dues defray some of the costs for reunion fees, outreach to classmates, class events, mailings, and class projects. We hope you will decide to support the Class of '64 and Cornell by choosing to pay them.



As always, thanks for your support of Cornell and our Class.

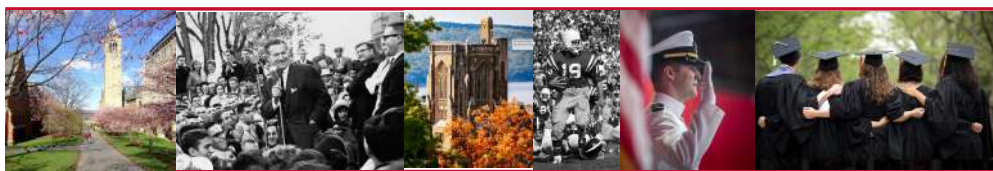
Let's continue the tradition for the 60th!

June 6-9, 2024

Barbara Lutz Brim



Linda Cohen Meltzer



CU on Facebook

The 100 members (exactly) of our Facebook group are staying in touch with other classmates and informed about Cornell happenings, including Cornell's efforts to deal with the pandemic and numerous webinars you can "attend" online.

Join us and you, too, can share your own news, photos, memories, etc., especially important now that we can't connect in person. Go to: facebook.com/groups/cornell1964 to join us!



Nancy Taylor Butler

Key Portals

Class Website: cornell1964.org

Dues (online): Pay through the Dues and Giving link on our class website: cornell1964.org.
Dues (by check): "Cornell Class of 1964" and mail to: Cornell University, PO Box 37333, Boone, IA 50037-0333
\$40.00 annually, Individual class members
\$50.00 annually, Couples (both class of '64)

Class News: Bev Johns Lamont, blamont64@comcast.net, or 720 Chestnut St, Deerfield, IL 60015
Class Facebook Page: facebook.com/groups/cornell1964



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Cornell Class of 1964

News - Spring 2021

President's Message

COVIDentially, don't tell anyone, but Cornell's Class of 1964 has made it to 2021. May you vaccinate up and stay safe, perhaps by also exercising in nature to keep your immune system primed. If the physical challenge of exercising in nature is a tad beyond your place and means just now, Cornell has some GREAT online videos of nature walks on campus. Even though Patty and I have walked most of them, often with a Cornell professor interpreting, the videos are still worth our time.

Since last year's mini-Class Zoom meeting, we have been awarded a Class Zoom license to expand our reach. Our first outing featured our classmates Edie Lederer, Chief Correspondent at the UN for the Associated Press, leading a stimulating discussion of the 2020 election and its implications and Ed Goodman, a Cornell Med School grad and long-time Fellow of the Infectious Disease Society of America, schooling us on COVID, with classmate-author Bill Klingensmith, also a Cornell MD grad with Ed, moderating. If you enjoyed this experience, we may venture down this path again, featuring other classmates with experiences worth sharing. (This appears to be a target-rich environment.)

Linda Meltzer has separately messaged you regarding the change in our Class dues structure, which, if you were subscribing to the *Cornell Alumni Magazine*, saves you money while fattening our kitty, with the potential of also providing administrative funds for the JFK Memorial Award.

The JFK Award endowment funds, as presently structured, can only be used for the award grant itself, so we need to develop a means of continuing to administer it well into the future—an important part of the Legacy initiative we decided to undertake last Spring. Separately in this newsletter, Cindy details this year's unusual award process, with the usual superb results, and Phyllis Rivkin Goldman and Michael Troner begin what we hope to be a continuing build-up of development opportunities to help make the Class of '64 JFK Memorial Award Legacy a continuing force among Cornell awards.

It remains an honor to be of service to the Cornell Class of 1964.

Aloha, Ken Kupchak



News from Our Class Correspondent

The May-June issue of the *Cornell Alumni Magazine* will be the last print issue of the magazine—but the "Class Notes" column will continue, albeit in a different context. The alumni office assures us that an Internet site for Class Notes will be established and will still be entitled "Class Notes." The difference of course will be that instead of distributing your news in print, it will be available online electronically. There are two big advantages to this new format: we will not be subject to a print publication's deadlines or space limitations, which in turn means you can submit news whenever you want and say as much as you want. Just send your news to me whenever the urge strikes, anytime throughout the year at blamont64@comcast.net.

Bev Johns Lamont



Class of 1964 John F. Kennedy Memorial Award

What a change from a year ago, when I was writing to you about the inspiring on-campus event celebrating our 65th and 66th JFK Award winners! Not a week after that, Cornell, along with the rest of the country, started to shut down. The award process has carried on throughout the pandemic, with Zoom meetings; a wholly digital publicity campaign orchestrated by our on-campus partner, Kristin Kurz of the Public Service Center; and a terrific alumni webinar on life in public service led by Katie Dealy, JFK 2000, joined by Karl Hausker '79, Itai Dinour '01, and Hannah McKinney, '15. Watch it at: https://vod.video.cornell.edu/media/1_7vijf0st



Cynthia Wolloch

To our delight, those efforts yielded 29 applications, representing the most diverse pool in our history. Most of the applicants were on campus during the fall, but others chose to work virtually from home or, as in our winner's case, undertake study abroad. This is how I learned that Ithaca and Singapore are one day apart, with a 13-hour time difference.



Alice Soewito

This year we honor Alice Soewito, an Environment and Sustainability major in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, with minors in Business, Climate Change, and International Development. Alice was also awarded the Cargill Global Scholars Award, was a Udall Scholar nominee for Cornell, and received grants from the American Geophysical Union and the CALS Alumni Association. She was a member of the Undergraduate Student Leadership Council and President of Cornell Catholic.

Having lived in three countries, she has always been inspired to work on the global environmental crisis through cooperative efforts. Alice understands that to tackle large issues we have to "think globally and act locally." Throughout her time at Cornell, she worked in different sectors to learn how to do exactly that. At Cornell Dining, she was a Student Sustainability Coordinator, working on food waste eradication. At the Cornell Botanic Gardens, she promoted the conservation of plants and cultures that depend on them, producing numerous print and online guides to bring more people into the gardens and educate them about what is there.

Alice is particularly interested in implementing climate policies through work in extension and outreach programs or cooperatives, such as Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE). She was given the opportunity to work with the Zambian Ministry of Agriculture to build climate-smart agricultural tools. In addition to her recent stint in Singapore, Alice studied in Tanzania and Seychelles, where she continued to learn about extension and outreach in promoting ecotourism ventures that directly benefited the local communities.

After graduating, Alice hopes to establish an extension program in Surakarta, Indonesia to develop effective freshwater solutions. She was inspired by her mentor and thesis advisor, Professor Rebecca L. Schneider, who works on Cornell's ditch extension program. Alice hopes to model that program and bring it to Indonesia to apply to non-point source pollution management, working with the mayors and key industrial leaders. Ultimately, she hopes to bridge the gaps between science and policy, and policy and communities by working with governments and local communities to create environmental solutions.

The review committee was excited to select Alice in a year when the existential climate crisis is receiving renewed attention at the Federal Level. Among her qualities are exceptional communication skills, which will both serve to engage local partners and will assure her work a wide audience. Just Google her name and watch her numerous videos on her interests and work, including one which illustrates why she chose Cornell for her undergraduate work.

Alice follows in the footsteps of many illustrious alumni. Closest to home, Jared Genser, '95, a member of the JFK review committee, was honored from among 2,165 nominees from 135 countries for his international human rights work as one of three winners of the 2020 Tallberg Eliasson Global Leadership Prizes. This Swedish prize is awarded annually for extraordinary leadership – in any field and any country – that is courageous, innovative, rooted in universal values, and global in application or in aspiration. The Chair of the Tallberg Foundation wrote to Jared, "Jan Eliasson once said to me that the goal of a great leader is to reduce the gap between the world as it is and the world as it should be. You are obviously doing exactly that. In a world where great leadership seems scarce, your work demonstrates both what is possible and what can actually be done."

One example of why Jared deserved this prize is his appointment by the Organization of American States Secretary General Luis Almagro to the volunteer diplomatic post of Special Envoy on the Responsibility to Protect. In this capacity, Jared engages in wide-ranging consultations with OAS Member States and civil society to develop a regional system to prevent and respond to mass atrocity crimes. In light of the ongoing crimes against humanity taking place in Venezuela, he has a special focus on working with the Secretary General to ameliorate the suffering of the Venezuelan people.

(continued)

Alice!



In other JFK Award alumni news: Derek Chollet, '93, has left the German Marshall Fund to return to the US Department of State, where President Biden named him Counselor of the Department. Douglas Mitarotonda, '02, was elected a Trustee of the University and Betsy Cooper, '04, is Director of the Aspen Tech Policy Hub of the Aspen Institute.

We highlight these alumni and others because they are why we work. You will be hearing about other ways we hope to elevate the visibility of the JFK Award through its alumni and the role that they are playing to carry the work forward. Copies of the second edition of *The JFK Award, the History and Grantees*, are available from cwolloch@yahoo.com.



Phyllis Rivkin Goldman

Dear Classmates,

Our **JFK Memorial Award**, begun in 1964, has continued to "carry on the memory of JFK and honor his faith in public service." This Award has enabled graduates from all colleges to pursue careers in a broad array of fields, including international affairs, public health, human rights and law. As a grant of \$15,000, it has allowed our awardees to concentrate on keeping the spirit of public service alive in their work and personal lives. In this time of unprecedented challenges to our democracy, we need this award to remain as a lasting legacy of the Class of '64. Let us make sure that awardees like Derek Chollet '93, appointed by President Biden as Counselor of the State Department, and those other incredibly talented awardees



Michael Troner

highlighted in Cindy Wolloch's letter continue to contribute to the betterment of our society. Those of us who have heard past JFK Award winners speak at Reunion have felt the excitement generated by the commitment, sincerity and brilliance of these wonderful men and women.

To ensure that this award will continue to recognize our future outstanding candidates, please join us by supporting the JFK Memorial Award when you make your class contribution. To contribute, go to cornell1964.org, choose JFK Award, then click on **Donating to the JFK Award Fund**. In future years, as we grow the award's endowment, the amount of the grant can grow as well, so please give generously!

Thanks, Michael and Phyllis, Class of '64 Annual Fund Representatives

