



# '62/50TH IN VIEW

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## “Reunionizing”: *Ramping Up for the Big 5-0!*

If you agree that **time does fly**—consider this: This past month marked four years since our 45th class reunion, and in less than 12 months we will be getting together for **“The Big 5-0”—our 50th class Reunion.**

**If this newsletter leaves nothing else in your mind—let it be the following: Our class of 1962 50th Reunion takes place from June 7 through June 10, 2012. There is nowhere else you should be on that weekend than with us—to celebrate half a century of our lives since leaving the Hill.**

It's no exaggeration to tell you that your class council and the Reunion team have been **“catching the spirit”** as they prepare for the big event. That's what we want each and every one of you, our classmates, to do also: **“Catch the spirit” that has made CU '62, on many levels, one of the most successful alumni classes in Cornell history.**

We believe that **more than 500** class members, spouses, significant others, and family members will be returning to Ithaca for a fun-filled four days. Here's what we have planned:

To begin with, our accommodations will be sumptuous at the beautiful **Court-Kaye-Bauer dorms** on North Campus. Not familiar with it? Don't be surprised, because there have been so many changes on the Hill, you will probably need a map. However, our dorm is just behind **Balch Hall**, and you must remember **that!** Our dorm is air-conditioned, fully accessible with ramps and elevators, and transportation will be available for anyone who needs it—**one more reason no one should stay home!**

The weekend kicks off **Thursday afternoon** with a **terrific video of remembrance.** Producers **Phil Handler and his wife, Maddy** (CU '65), are looking back over our Cornell years with classmates like Jane Brody, Char Collister, Jan Crites, Mike Duesing, Harry Edwards, Sam Fleming, Clark Halstead, Alex Steinbergh, George Telesh, and others.

After enjoying those stories, we'll move on to savor the mouth-watering food at our opening reception and dinner. This will be your first chance to see our entire crowd, to meet old friends and classmates—and to see how good they look (and they'll all look great!)

**Friday morning**, after breakfast at our dorm, you'll definitely want to be at the Statler.

That's when *New York Times* medical columnist (and '62 classmate) **Jane Brody** will be moderating a **great symposium on healthy living**—goodness knows we surely want to stay bright-eyed and bushy-tailed as we move on to our second half-century off the Hill. Jane will be joined by a great panel of experts.

**Friday afternoon** will find most of us attending affinity group get-togethers, or just wandering around the beautiful campus to see all the changes 50 years have wrought. However, you may want to take a bit of a rest late in the day to get ready for a gala, the **Friday night dinner and dance**—we've corralled the great **“Backtalk Band”** for a return engagement. That popular group had our crowd really jumping at our 45th, and we're looking forward



Above photo: Bauer Hall, the site of the class of '62 accommodations at Reunion 2012.

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## “Reunionizing”: *Ramping Up for the Big 5-0!*

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to another fabulous evening.

**Saturday morning** will be time to hear **President David Skorton’s “State of the University”** presentation—he’ll have a lot to say about Cornell in the 21st century. We’re pinning down a location for Saturday lunch but, wherever we wind up, you’ll want to be there for a casual, good time.

Another great dinner is being planned for **Saturday evening**. Many of us will want to get to Bailey Hall for the traditional **Cornelliana Night**—music, camaraderie, and wonderful fun. After that, you can’t leave the campus without at least quaffing a draft or two at the **beer tents** on the Arts Quad. When some of us left those tents at our 45th, it was raining and so, in true CU tradition, we commandeered a campus bus and made the driver take us back to the dorm—we won’t tell you how that was pulled off!

All too soon, it will be **Sunday morning**. We’ll have our traditional class breakfast and official meeting (where we’ll nominate and vote on a slate of new class officers), and then say our goodbyes. **Because, even after our 50th, we want CU ‘62 to be as vibrant as possible in our second half-century. We want to continue to “catch the spirit!” for many years to come.**

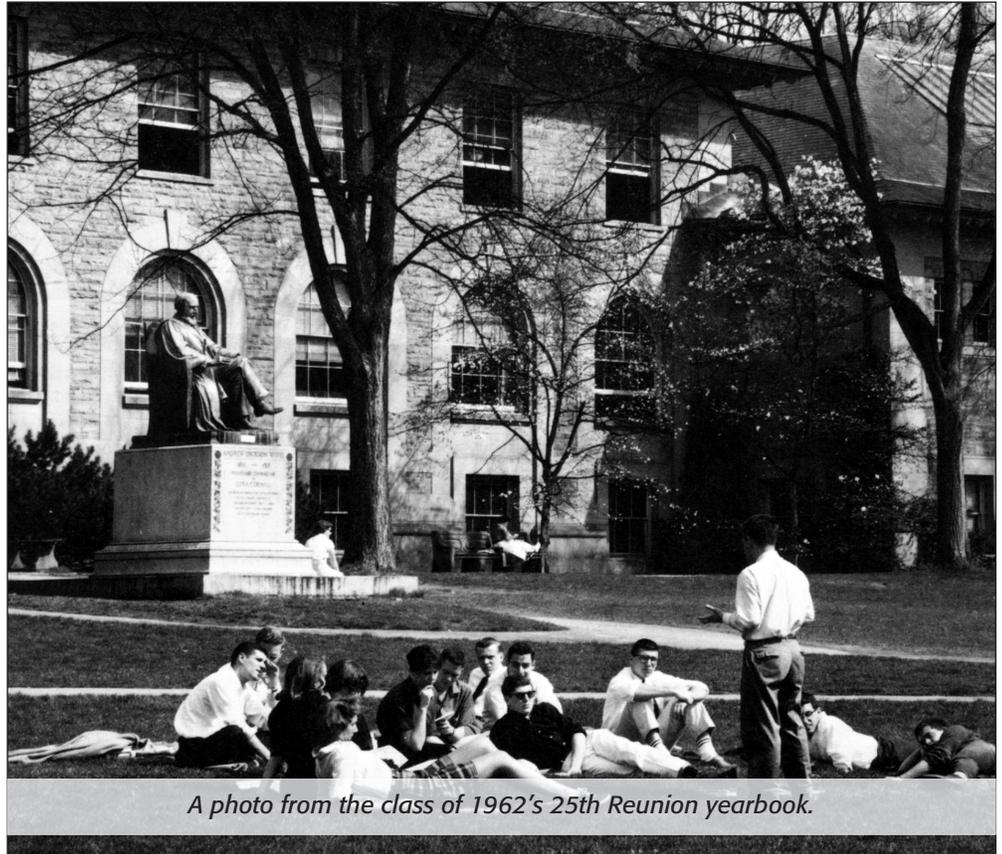


## History in the Making—All About Us!

Judy Rich knows what it is to work really hard. So does Peter Slater. A quarter-century ago, they produced our 25th Reunion history book—quite a tome, and a great one at that. They have teamed up again to produce our 50th Reunion “book,” except that, in this digital age, “book” has a different connotation.

This time, our two class historians are putting a half-century’s worth of memories onto a CD that will be available next spring when

registration materials are sent to classmates. However, it has been one big effort boiling down the stories and memories of more than 300 classmates who have sent in their biographies and pictures. They thank all who’ve cooperated, and they are working hard to produce another great class history. This one will be on a CD; however, printed books may be available, for a fee, on request. We thank Judy and Peter for another great effort.



*A photo from the class of 1962’s 25th Reunion yearbook.*

## “Teamwork” is More Than a Word

If ever there was a need to join our team, it’s now—just about a year before Reunion. The Reunion team needs your help in a variety of areas.

Here’s our great team:

**General Chairperson:** Ruth Z. Bleyler  
**Class President:** Alex Vollmer  
John Lowrie  
Frank Quirk  
Nancy Clark  
Don Juran

We need volunteers to help in several job areas such as decorating, hosting, and cleanup.

If you want to help out in any of these areas, please contact our Reunion leader, **Ruth Bleyler**, at [rzb3@cornell.edu](mailto:rzb3@cornell.edu). Ruth will coordinate your efforts, and she will put you in touch with the proper team members.

One very good way you can help is by **organizing an affinity group**—whether it’s your fraternity or sorority, a campus club to which you belonged, a professional society, or other organization whose members you can encourage to come back to the “big 5-0.”

If you can help us in that area, please get in touch with **Jon Hinebauch** at [jhinebauch@comcast.net](mailto:jhinebauch@comcast.net), or **Willis Ritter** at [writter@cwr103.com](mailto:writter@cwr103.com). Our guys really want to hear from you.

# One Man's Journey From our 45th to our 50th

John Doolittle has accomplished a great deal since he left our 45th Reunion four years ago. As far as we know, he's the only member of our class to have joined the Peace Corps at the age of 67, after many years as a financial executive in the research area of California's Kaiser Permanente healthcare organization.

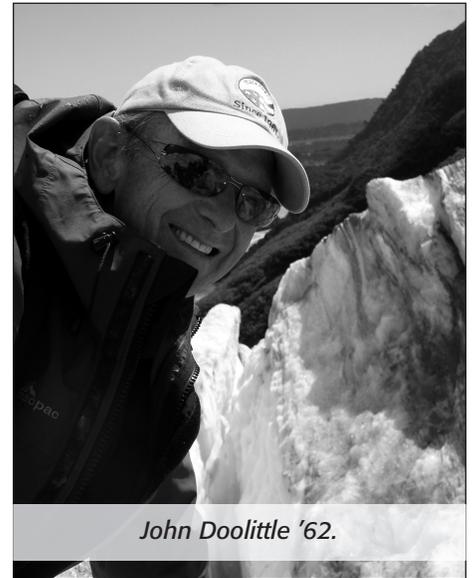
After his graduation in 1962, John did volunteer work in Laos, which led to a job with the U.S. State Department's Agency for International Development (USAID). He spent from 1962 through 1968 in Laos and Vietnam managing local cooperatives (in Laos) and various community development-related activities (in Vietnam).

That work gave him great satisfaction, so much so that, 45 years later, joining the Peace Corps would give him a chance to continue the work that had interested him many years before.

His Peace Corps assignment was in northeastern South Africa, in a small village just a few miles south of Kruger National Park. His job was to work with a local non-government organization (NGO) in promotion of "income-generating projects," such as a handicraft manufacturing and sales operation called "Wildly Africa." He assisted projects in mushroom production and beekeeping products marketed locally, but also in Afrikaner supermarkets.

He had to teach the local people a course equivalent to "business 101" management training, which he considered his biggest accomplishment during that tour.

After his Peace Corps experience, John worked with a small, private U.S. and Thai-based organization involved in international development. This time, he found

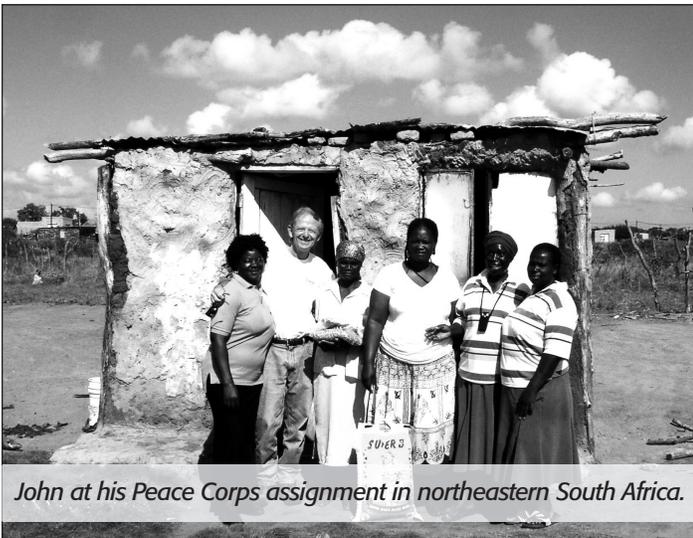


*John Doolittle '62.*

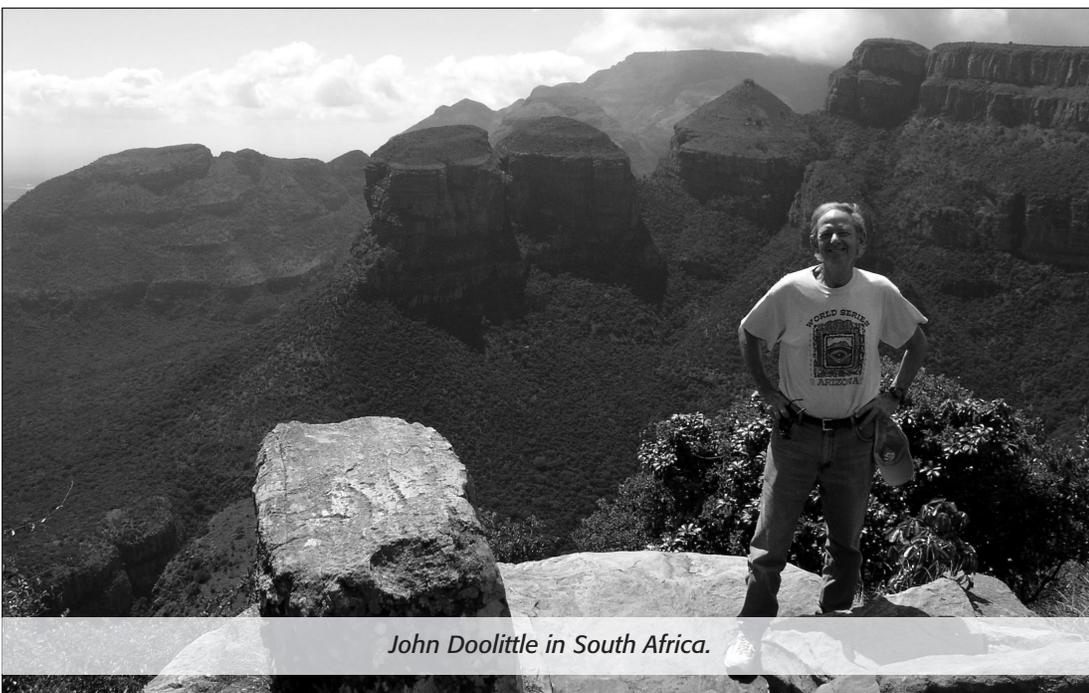
himself working in two small Thai villages—populated by minority Myanmar refugees—helping to plan and implement information-technology enhancements for local primary schools. However, his work for this private group eventually brought him back to the same area of South Africa where he'd worked before. This time, with little background in journalism, John resurrected a community newspaper—the *Nkomazi Voice*.

It was here that he came up close and personal with the real sadness and helplessness of the AIDS crisis in Africa, providing home-based care and burial services along the South Africa/Mozambique border. John said, "The stigma of this disease is so great, it's very hard to get people in rural areas to be tested. They'd just rather not know—scenes that would break your heart—death was ever present."

Funding ran out eventually—fallout from the economic downturn of the past couple of years—and John returned from Africa. He still does volunteer work, but now, as he approaches our 50th Reunion, John says, "Mostly I'm enjoying life in Northern California and Mazatlan, Mexico." However, in the four years since our 45th, for John Doolittle—what a life it has been!



*John at his Peace Corps assignment in northeastern South Africa.*



*John Doolittle in South Africa.*

# Committee Seeks to Uphold Class Generosity

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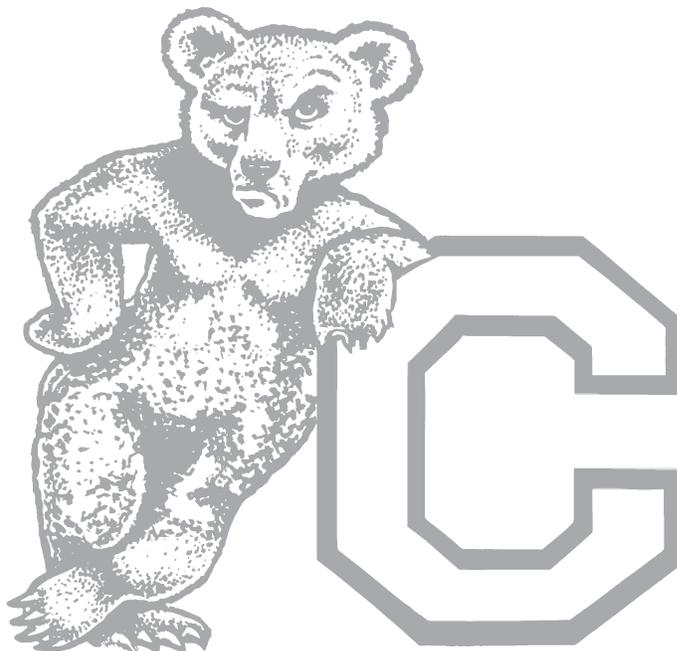
**At our half-century mark, here's something you might seriously consider ...**

Members of the class of 1962 have been among Cornell's most generous alumni. As part of our 50th Reunion, a campaign committee is being formed to solicit gifts to keep up this class tradition. In addition to outright giving, the committee will encourage classmates to consider maximizing their gifts through one of the many gift-planning vehicles.

The Committee, which will officially kick off its campaign in September, is headed by **Myra Maloney Hart** and **Fred Hart**, and includes (to date):

**Helen Rabinowitz Anbinder**  
**Stephen Ashley**  
**Margie McKee Blanchard**  
**Ruth Zimmerman Bleyler**  
**Charlotte Jones Collister**  
**Evelyn Ruth Eskin**  
**Samuel Fleming**  
**Ruthie Holzapfel Fortkamp**  
**Marc Gerber**

**Richard Levine**  
**John Lowrie**  
**Nancy Schlegel Meinig**  
**Stephen Ploscowe**  
**Frank Quirk**  
**Barnett Rukin**  
**Neil Schilke**  
**George Slocum**  
**Richard Sommer**



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