



March 19, 2004

Friends of OA Board

Peter Bregman '89
Andy Brown '69
Katherine Byers '00
John Danielson '58
Philo Elmer '69
Keith Ely '79
John Gager Faculty
Jim Garrett '65
Jason Gold '81
Dave Irving '58
Bill Katen-Narvell '76
Glenn Morris '72
Grace Offutt '91
Alex Rawson '01
Laura Scott Caputo '98
Ed Seliga '75
Sue Suh '96
Chris VanBuren '84
Dave Wilson '53 *68
Joe Woods '57

Dear Friend of OA,

I can't believe it, 30 years has gone by! The very first Frosh Trip, for the Class of 1978, headed out on August 31, 1974. We have had an absolutely wonderful history over the past 30 years, so we have a lot to celebrate. Since OA started, over 11,800 students have participated in the Frosh Trip and we've trained over 2,100 leaders. Thousands more have gone on OA trips, taken OA trainings, participated in alumni events, experienced the Climbing Wall, and so much more. We have a lot planned to celebrate and I along with all the members of the Friends of OA Board hope that you can join us.

Reunions 2004

The celebration begins this spring at Reunions from Friday, May 27 – Saturday, May 28. We will have a number of great activities over those two days. The Climbing Wall will be open and we'll be running canoeing and kayaking on Lake Carnegie. Check out the full schedule of events in the Reunions Calendar in the May Princeton Alumni Weekly with details on times and where to sign up or check the OA Web site at www.princeton.edu/~oa/alumni.

On Saturday of Reunions there are going to be a number a special events. One of the most important is the annual Josh Miner '43 Experiential Education Award given each year to an alumnus(a) who has made significant contributions to the field of experiential learning. For OA's 30th Anniversary we could not have selected a more appropriate recipient of the award than Philo Elmer '69, whom some of you know as Warren. Philo has been involved with outdoor and experiential learning for more than thirty years and will be a wonderful keynote panelist for this year's Josh Miner Panel. We particularly hope that everyone can join us for the Leader & Friends brunch (very informal) on Saturday before the P-rade held downstairs in the Brush Gallery in Jadwin Hall. Here are the special events we have planned.

Saturday, May 28, 9:00 a.m.

With John Muir (And Friends) In Alaska: Retracing The 1899 Harriman Expedition: In 1899, the railroad financier Edward H. Harriman and his family invited the charismatic conservationist John Muir, the nature writer John Burroughs, the photographer Edward Curtis, and many of America's leading scientists to join an elaborate, two-month expedition to Alaska, Siberia, and the Bering Sea. Their travels and discoveries helped to create a baseline for our present knowledge of the flora, fauna, and native cultures of that remote part of the world. In the summer of 2001, a group of eminent scholars retraced the Harriman route, observing a century of change. Robert Peck '74, a Fellow at the Philadelphia Academy of Natural Sciences and member of the 2001 expedition, will share his travel experiences in this wild unspoiled land. Using spectacular slides from both the 1899 and 2001 expeditions, Robert will explore the significance of the two expeditions. Don't miss this dramatic presentation of discovery and rediscovery in Alaska. McDonald Hall A01.

10:30 a.m.

The Experience of Service - Josh Miner '43 Experiential Education Panel: Many Princetonians are engaged in service benefiting their community. One piece that is often missing is reflection and integration of the service experience in the person's daily life. The

focus of the panel is how individuals can best grow and develop from their civic engagement in community service activities. This year's Josh Miner '43 Experiential Education Award winner and our keynote panelist is Warren "Philo" Elmer '69. McDonald Hall A01.

11:45 a.m.

Outdoor Action 30th Anniversary Alumni Leader Brunch, Josh Miner '43 Award and Slide show. All current and former Outdoor Action Leaders are invited to join us for an informal Alumni Brunch. We will also present the annual Josh Miner '43 award to an alumnus(a) who has contributed to the advancement of experiential education. This year's recipient is Philo Elmer '69. We will be doing a slide show of three decades of OA adventures. Jadwin Hall Brush Gallery.

OA 30th Anniversary Celebration in the White Mountains

The culminating event will be the OA 30th Anniversary Celebration in the White Mountains in New Hampshire, July 21 – 25. For anyone who participated in any of the previous OA Reunions at Mt. Princeton or Blirstown, this promises to be even more spectacular. All of the details of the programs are in the enclosed brochure.

I'd like to invite you to come and join us for a restful, fun weekend. It's a chance to see old friends, make new ones, meet current OA student leaders, enjoy some low key and fun outdoor activities, and just hang out. We've structured the program to make it affordable for parents with kids, so bring the whole clan. Enclosed is the registration information for this summer's program. Here are some of the people who have expressed interest in joining us this summer. I hope you can be there as well.

Dave Irving '58
Wallace Good '72
Gladys Epting '75
Rusty Frye '75
Rick Curtis '79
Helene Ferm '81
Kabir Mahadeva '81
Kathleen Milton '81
Carl Schuman '81
Peter Ellis '83
Liz Newman '83

Andrew Reumann-Moore '83
John McNerney '84
Yana & Bruce Kane-Esring '85
Dan Kastelman '85
Chris Round '88
Brian Ascher '89
Dunrie Greiling '92
Kathleen Guinee '95
Marion Henry '95
Tom Lannamann '96
Barbara Merz '96

Sean Hartman '97
Jeremy & Jess Archer '98 & '99
Katie Arkema '00
Katherine Byers '00
Erik Sherwood '00
Mike Errecart '01
Alexandra Melby '01
Amanda Blaine '03
Emile Change '03
Simone Schaner '03
Stacia Thompson '03

If you have any questions about the program, please call 609-258-6230 or check out the OA Web Site for OA 30th Anniversary updates at www.princeton.edu/~oa/alumni. So many people have expressed interest in the 30th Anniversary Celebration that we know it is going to be totally full so I encourage you to sign up early to save your space.

How You Can Help OA Celebrate

In order to celebrate our anniversary we want to get photos, trail stories, and comments from all of you to put together a tremendous 30th Anniversary Web site. We've set up Web pages where you can upload photos and send us your comments and memories. Jump to www.princeton.edu/~oa/alumni for the links to these pages. We will be putting together a PowerPoint slide show of three decades of OA to show at the Leader brunch during Reunions and for the OA Reunion in July. We need all photos by May 15 so please dig through your memorabilia now. OA rocks!

Sincerely,



Rick Curtis '79
Director, Outdoor Action