



## REUNION '68...Reconnect, Reflect, Reminisce, Recommit Won't you be our guest?

Reunion is upon us. Remember that cloudy day in May 1968 when we graduated? Who were your best friends? Have you been in touch? Why not contact five of those classmates. Invite them to come back and join you at Reunion. Together you can reconnect, reflect, reminisce, recommit. Think of the fun, the laughter, the memories. And, Great Scott! You'll be a Golden Scot!

And, now, some Reunion particulars:

### Registration

Mailed in March, the 1968 Reunion brochure contains Reunion event and registration information. Already 51 of our classmates have registered. The Reunion homepage ([macalester.edu/reunion](http://macalester.edu/reunion)) has a list of who's coming.

Briefly:

- Register online or through the mail. Online is a snap. Register a guest, too.
- Select events of your choice. Package and à la carte pricing available. (Total package price = \$125.)
- Stay on campus. Dayton Hall, a suite-type, air-conditioned dorm, is set aside for the Class of 1968 at a cost of \$50 for the weekend.
- Register early to take advantage of early bird price breaks.

### 1968 Reunion Headquarters—Briggs House

For Reunion, Briggs House, the president's residence in the 1960s, is the 1968 headquarters—your first stop on campus. Doors open at 1 p.m., Thursday, June 7. Informal social that evening. Sign in; pick up your Reunion materials. Staffed at all times, classmates will be there to welcome you, help you register for events, and answer your questions. Message boards will facilitate meet-ups with classmates, 'mini-reunions' with your best buddies, fellow majors...To dress the stage, the Program Committee plans a series of displays to capture the era. To that end,

"What's a Reunion without photos and memorabilia of our Mac years? We're planning to create a '64-'68 memory lane at Briggs House. We can't do it without your help. Here's a sample of what we're looking for:

- Engagement photos taken under the Bell Tower
- SWAP/SPAN/Ambassadors for Friendship souvenirs
- Concert/Drama Choros playbills
- All College/Homecoming photos
- Convo/Chapel tickets
- Course lists
- ID cards...

We want your stuff. Bring it to Reunion, or better yet send it to us. Everything will be returned. Look through those boxes! See you on June 8."

—Lynn Olson, Program Committee co-chair

**Mail all items to:**

Connie Cannon, 1526 Forrest Road, Bridport, VT 05734

### REUNION PLAYBILL

A select group of events for your consideration (see Reunion homepage for detailed Reunion-wide schedule of events):

#### Class of 1968 Welcome Gathering

Thursday, June 7, 8:30 p.m.–Midnight, Briggs House

#### Golden Scots Induction Ceremony

Friday June 8, 10:30 a.m., Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel  
Group photo prior to ceremony

*This is the moment. Great Scott! You're a Golden Scot!*

#### Golden Scots Society Luncheon

Friday June 8, 11:45 a.m.–1:30 p.m.,  
Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel

#### Minnesota History Center—The 1968 Exhibit

Friday, June 8, 2–5:15 p.m.

\$15 per person, includes entrance to the exhibit and transportation to and from campus. (Tour limited to 52 participants).

The Minnesota History Center has an exhibit capturing 1968. Register online or by calling 651-696-6894.

#### Decades Dialogue— Reception and Dinner

Friday, June 8, 6 p.m., Location TBD

Decades Dialogue—conversations on the decades of our lives; small group sessions (e.g. dinner table partners); build a memory wall of the influencers, music, milestones; and wear your best tie-dyed!

#### Mac Talks—'68 Conversations with Friends

Saturday, June 9

Six 30-minute video sessions scheduled throughout the day. Six small-group sessions of 5 or fewer.

Sign-up required, Briggs House

Coming on the heels of the vaunted series *The Vietnam War* (featuring classmate Tim O'Brien) the local PBS affiliate, Twin Cities Public Television (TPT), will be on campus to capture and preserve for posterity the cataclysm known as 1968 through our eyes, our stories, our experiences.

See [StoryCorps.org](http://StoryCorps.org) for general format of the process.

#### Formal Class Dinner

Saturday June 9, 7 p.m., Location TBD

Theme: Imagine

Emcees: Mary Spaeth Campbell and Jim Schuchman

Preview of Mac Talks—'68 video

Class of '68—our past, the present, into the future

### IMPORTANT DATES

**March 2018**—Registration and housing opens

**May 11, 2018**—Early bird registration deadline (fees increase thereafter)

**May 25, 2018**—Registration closes

**Now through May 31, 2018**—Contribute to class gift; join Wallace Society

## THE MACALESTER EXPERIENCE... What's yours?

### Focus: 1967–1968

Our senior year opened with Macalester receiving Phi Beta Kappa affiliation. Success—after years of effort and investment to build an outstanding liberal arts institution. And, we benefited. The Golden era continued but changes are coming—to the school, to the students, to the country. The cataclysm of 1968 approaches.

In October, Harvey Rice announced his resignation. The chapel wars had subsided and construction started (in spite of the occasional snow fence destruction), Phi Beta Kappa was in place, and Rice's personal term limit of 10 years approached. He was 60. In March, the school selected Arthur Flemming to succeed Rice. A Macalester trustee and president of the University of Oregon, Flemming promised an ambitious social justice agenda.

Student power was a nascent but emerging entity. The Community College (CC) had goals that included among other things a free dorm-based university, pass/fail courses across the board, a closed-door dorm open-house policy, and for those over 21, drinking allowed and no hours for women. By the end of the year, one pass/fail course per semester passed the faculty board, FRANK (Faculty Rating and Assessment of Numerous Courses) was set to rate and assess the 200+ introductory courses. There was pushback to *The Mac Weekly* criticism by parents and to *in loco parentis* in general. Students had a voice and a right to use it.

The state of the country fed that voice. Vietnam, the 1968 election, the civil rights movement. The Macalester Committee for Peace in Vietnam held weekly vigils along Grand Avenue every Thursday over the noon hour through graduation. The Macalester Committee for Peace through Victory held like vigils on Wednesdays. Those vigils ended before the end of the fall semester. Results of a December student survey found: 88% disapproved of the handling of the war, 28% wanted immediate withdrawal, 30% urged the cessation of bombing, and 5% supported the invasion of the North. When the Selective Service decided that there would be no graduate school deferments except for medical and dental schools, the die was cast. The war in one way or another was moving front and center into our lives.

The 1968 election found tremendous support for Eugene McCarthy especially after Lyndon Johnson withdrew. Many worked on both his Minnesota and Wisconsin campaigns. Results of an April 1968 nationwide student poll found McCarthy with 28% (44% at Mac); Robert Kennedy, 21% (6% at Mac); Hubert Humphrey negligible. Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated on April 4, 1968. Shock waves throughout the country. The Macalester community rose up, with hundreds marching down Summit to yet again protest racism. On campus, SAHR (Student Action for Human Rights) put an emphasis on protecting the human rights of students (against untoward regulations, academic and social) and on gaining an understanding of 'black' power by forming a SAHR subcommittee composed entirely of black students.



Though student engagement was on the rise, apathy was a concern. Only 25% of the student body had voted in the aforementioned Vietnam survey.

In the end we were (and probably still remain) a diverse group. How diverse? Evelyn A. Early reminisces about an Interim course specifically looking at that diversity.

"Interim 1968 course #36 "Student Subcultures and Anthropological Research" was a capstone for my student life and a springboard for my future ethnographic research. Our goal was to research how students socialized with like-minded friends to formulate a typology of student subcultures. My notes showed: Alienate. Aimless. Peer Dependents, Committed, Independent Intellectuals, Professionals.

Professionals (e.g., "biology majors, hard core music/theater majors") were "committed to a discipline." Independent Intellectuals (e.g., "writers; Chicago's Ecumenical Institute members") were "concerned with the human condition." And so on.

As TA for the class, I enjoyed nudging discussions of how groups see themselves (attitudes toward careers, academics, diversity, politics, leisure time) and how others see them (loners? jocks? nerds? alienated? activists?). As a student at Mac, I had an excuse to meet a wide range of folks on campus—reminding myself that we were a truly diverse lot.

Later teaching anthropology using the Spradley-McCurdy *Conformity and Conflict* with vignettes of American culture, I felt that I'd lived the reader's ancestry!"

—Evelyn A. Early

### And now, a little trivia:

- According to the September 15, 1967 issue of *The Mac Weekly* **which** of our classmates became engaged to marry with the token of engagement being a red Schwinn bicycle rather than a ring?
- The September 22, 1967 issue of *The Mac Weekly* described two bad regions of drug traffic in the Twin Cities. **Where** were those regions?
- **What** kind of collusion with the college administration was hinted at in the January 19, 1968 issue of *The Mac Weekly*?
- Bonus question: **Which** of our classmates was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize and in **what** year?

Answers will be posted on the Reunion webpage, but you could find them yourself in the archives.



### THEN AND NOW...Processions

And then we were together one last time for graduation, lining up in front of Old Main on a cold, rainy, cloudy day. And just like that it was over. We dispersed to Vietnam, to look for a job, to wonder about our future.

And now we are about to be together again, lining up for the Golden Scot induction. It will be good to be together, to learn about each other's journey, to **reconnect, reflect, reminisce, recommit.**

We were fortunate to attend Macalester when we did.

Let's share our stories, memories, laughs, sorrows.

On behalf of Mary Spaeth Campbell, Mark Westra, and the whole Reunion committee—think back and come back!

**See you in June!**