Dear Class of '87 Classmate,

Let me take you on a trip in the Wayback machine to the Spring of 1987. It was a much simpler time, long before you ever heard of Katie's Ice Cream, One Direction, or the Kardashians. We were enjoying our last term at Carleton. As a physics major, my course load was appropriately difficult: Comps, Short Story Writing, Tacitus and the Silver Age of Latin literature (in translation), and transcription lessons. All were PRC. My final exam was in the Classics class and the final question was something in the style of one of the authors we had studied. I wrote the following epigram.

A cap and gown seem small reward for years of trials and tribulations.
I hope someday to see the worth of my $550 education.

Apparently that little ditty was sufficient to earn a P and I did wear a cap and gown, walked across the stage in the Bald Spot, and was handed a diploma from President Porter with the rest of you. Although, I still have a recurring nightmare that I did not have enough credits to graduate.

Over the years since graduation, I am reminded of this poem whenever I have that recurring nightmare or make a contribution to my children's 529 plan. (Wouldn't it be nice if a quality education at a top-ranked liberal arts college were only $550? I am also reminded of it every five years when it is time for Reunion.

Almost all colleges have reunions. Most of these are pre-programmed affairs. Carleton is fairly unique in the high degree of volunteer involvement in the reunion planning process which leads to class-specific activities and to nation-leading attendance percentages. For this year's Reunion, a small group of your classmates (see list below) are working to develop the program of events for our class. Here are a few of the things that we have planned:

- Nature Walk in the Arb - Educational stroll through the Arb led by classmate and restoration ecologist, Josh Skolnick.
- Friday Night Hangout at the Cave - Chill out at the Cave with an assortment of snacks and drinks with live music from Josh and The Ex-Senators and other TID artists.
- Show Up and Tell - Informal short talks from some of our classmates discussing unique experiences, passions, and perspectives.
- 90s Dance Party with try of '92 and '93 - Saturday night, large tent, music that our kids don't like, awesomeness.
- Class Photo - It's always fun to see how everybody has changed, so please try to make it for the class photo, but if you can't, we can always Photoshop you in.

In terms of Reunion attendance, our class has been a pacemaker. Other than our 50th reunion, we have set attendance records at every reunion and still hold the record for attendance at the 15th reunion (26.7%). The current record for attendance at a 35th reunion, held by the class of '91, is 33.5%. We have set an attendance goal of 35% for our 35th reunion in the current environment, this will be challenging, but I think we are up to the challenge.

By now, I'm sure you have a lot of questions. When is Reunion? Where do I go to find out more information? When do I register? Will they serve Monte Cristo sandwiches at the class dinner? Worry no longer — almost all of your questions are answered below.

- When - June 16-19, 2022
- Reunion Website
- Registration - opens in early March. Register early before the housing fills up.
- Housing - For our 35th Reunion, our class will be headquartered in the luxurious and air-conditioned Carleton Townhouses (sort of like the Village Houses, but nicer in every respect).
- Bio Book - Check out the Class of '87 Bio Book and submit your entry today!

To me, one of the most worthwhile benefits of your $550 education is Reunion. Reconnecting, reminiscing, and making new connections is at the heart of what makes Reunion special. I have been to all six of our Reunions and I will be at our seventh in June. I hope to see you there.

Best Regards and Stay Safe,
Jim Friedmann

Jeffrey Aldrich, Clifford Anderson, Dan Baker, Karen (Menghini) Baudeliditze, William Bonello, Emily Christenson, James Darling, John Dewey, Erika Dimann, Lisa (Broman) Ettelridge, Jim Friedman, Liu Gore, Chet Haase (Program Chair), Peggy Hermann, Susan (Orand) Johnson, Julianne Kaster, Nancy Lee, Jane (Turpin) Moore, Kathleen Paul, Laura Pugh, Joseph Roussell (Gift Co-Chair), Joshua Skolnick, Lisa (Shen) Taylor, Elizabeth Wardthuff (Gift Co-Chair), Jeremy White (Gift Co-Chair), Catherine Yates, and Phil Zivins

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