



April
2004

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Brann Speaks on Middle East Conflict and Peace

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Thursday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.

Regional Food & Drink, 810 7th Street, NW

You are cordially invited to hear Professor Ross Brann, Milton R. Konvitz Professor of Judeo-Islamic Studies and Chairman of the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Cornell University, speak on "Road Map to Middle East Conflict and Peace: A Historical Perspective" on Thursday, April 22.

Professor Brann will discuss the significance and unanticipated consequences of the events of 1967 and how they dominate the current state of the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. He will also discuss recent and current efforts at peacemaking, including the American role. Finally, he will also speak about how these issues have been addressed on the Cornell campus. Suggested reading for this lecture: David Shipler's *Arab and Jew: Wounded Spirits in a Promised Land*.

Ross Brann is serving his fourth term as Chair of the Department of Near Eastern Studies at Cornell University. A native of San Francisco, California, he graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of California at Berkeley and received his Ph.D. from New York University. A Guggenheim and NEH Fellow, Brann is the author of *The Compunctious Poet: Cultural Ambiguity and Hebrew Poetry in Muslim Spain* (Johns Hopkins U Press), recipient of the 1992 National Jewish Book Award in Sephardic Studies, and author of *Power in the Portrayal: Representations of Muslims and Jews in Islamic Spain* (Princeton UP, 2002).

On campus, Brann has been especially active in promoting dialogue groups between Muslim, Arab and Jewish students on various educational programs around conflict resolution in the Middle East for the Ithaca community in general and the Ithaca public schools in particular.

Location & Time: This event will be held in the private back room of Regional Food & Drink (RFD), located at 810 Seventh Street, NW, Washington, DC. This is just one block from the Gallery Place/Chinatown Metro stop (Red, Yellow and Green lines) on Seventh Street between H and I streets, NW. A reception starting at 6:30 p.m. will allow time for mingling before introductions at 7:15 p.m. Although this event is free, please RSVP prior to the event to knj2@cornell.edu. For more information, contact Kim Jones '98, MBA '02 at knj2@cornell.edu or 571-275-3823.

Update your CCW directory listing now!

If your address, phone number(s), or email address has changed since the 2002 CCW Directory AND you have not notified CCW of such changes, please forward to Eli Savada the updated information at esavada@mac.com and enter "CCW update info" in the subject line. You can determine if your address is correct by looking at this newsletter's label.

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Qatar Embassy Dinner Planned

On Friday, May 14, the Honorable Bader Omar Al-Dafa, the ambassador of Qatar, has invited 45 members of CCW to be his guests at a dinner at his residence. The program will consist of a talk by the ambassador and a question and answer period. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. and end at 8:00 p.m.

The proceeds from this event will go to our scholarship fund. A minimum contribution of \$25 should accompany your request to be included on the guest list. The attendees will be the first 45 people whose checks are received.

Please send your checks made out to the Cornell Club of Washington to: Marjorie Loory, 2724 34th St NW, Washington, D.C 20008. Please include: your mailing address, phone number and e-mail address so that we can notify you whether your response was in time for you to be included on the guest list. If not, we will need your address to send back your check. For questions, please contact Marge at 202/625-6312 or e-mail her at mloory@aol.com.

The address of the ambassador's residence is: 4839 Indian Lane NW in Washington. From Ward Circle travel west along Nebraska Ave past American University. Indian Lane is the first street on the right after you pass the traffic light at Foxhall Road.

Coming Events...

April

- Thurs., Apr. 1- Pre-Reunion Event, Bulgarian Embassy, 1621 22nd St. NW, 7:30-9:00 p.m.
Contact: Dale Lazar, dlazar@pillsburywinthrop.com, 703/905-2126
- Tues., Apr. 13- CCW Programming (6:30 p.m.) and Board (7:30 p.m.) meetings, Washington Cornell Club, 2148 O St. NW. Contact: Danielle Alsop at dalsop@verizon.net
- Sat., Apr. 17- Old Rag XXXVII, meet 2148 "O" St. NW, 8:00a.m. Contact: Bob McKinless, 703/256-5451 or rfm10@cornell.edu
- Sun., Apr. 18- MDDG, "Fences," Roundhouse Theatre, East-West Hwy, east of Wisconsin, Bethesda, 3:00 p.m. Contact: Robin Larkin, 301/897-9314 or rlarkin@footlightsdc.org
- Wed., Apr. 21- "Group Therapy," Topaz, 1733 N St. NW, 6-8 p.m. Contact: Lauren Myers, 301/717-4383 or LM32@cornell.edu.
- Thurs., Apr. 22- Brann Lecture, RFD, 810 Seventh St., NW, 6:30p.m. Contact: Kim Jones, 571/275-3823 or knj2@cornell.edu
- Sat., Apr. 24- ISSC, Anderson House Tour, 2117 Massachusetts Ave. NW, noon-3:00 p.m.
Contact: 202/337-x1300
- Sun., Apr. 25- First Practice, Big Red Dragons, Anacostia Community Boathouse, 1115 "O" Street, SE. Contact: Bob Day at dayhaven@starpower.net or 301/438-7755
- Thurs., Apr. 29- MDDG Discussion, "Cyrano de Bergerac," check www.footlightsdc.org for location, 6:30p.m. Contact Mark Gruenberg, 202/898-4825, gruenberg@footlightsdc.org.

May

- Sat., May 1- Hands On DC, Cardozo High School, 1300 Clifton St. NW, 8:30 a.m. Contact: Michelle Johnson Coon at mjohndc@yahoo.com
- Fri., May 14- Qatar Dinner, 4839 Indian Lane NW, 6-8 p.m. Contact: Marge Loory, 202/625-6312 or mloory@aol.com
- Sun., May 16- Sallie Mae 10K Run, 8a.m. Contact: Lauren Myers, LM32@cornell.edu, 301/717-4383. Register at: www.salliemae10k.org
- Sun., May 16- Ivy 50+ Singles, Westin Embassy Row, 2100 Massachusetts Ave. NW, 6-8:30 p.m. Contact: Betsy Hendrix, 703/356-6678
- Fri., May 21- ISSC, Italian Cultural Institute, 2025 M St. NW, Ste. 610, 6:30-8:30 p.m.
Contact: Charma Lynn, rifiuti4u@aol.com
- May 22-23- Dragon Boat Festival, Anacostia Community Boathouse, 1115 O St. SE. Contact: Jack Chiu, jackcw56@hotmail.com or Bob Day 301/438-7755, dayhaven@starpower.net

Quick Club Announcements...

● **Community Service: Tutoring at Jefferson Junior High**

Join in the Saturday Academy tutoring program with the 7th, 8th, and 9th graders at Jefferson. Tutors are needed in all subjects, from Algebra and Reading to Spanish and Physics. Typical activities include helping students with homework assignments, test preparation or research.

Tutoring is held on Saturday mornings from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. No need to commit to every weekend. Jefferson is located at 801 7th Street, SW in D.C. at the intersection of 7th Street SW and Maine Avenue. There is plenty of free parking, and the school is four blocks south of the L'Enfant Plaza Metro. For more information, contact Dan Lavanga '89 at dlavanga@hotmail.com or 703/548-8349.

● **Cornell Job Bank**

Those with jobs to post and those wishing to apply should contact the new coordinator Steven Oppenheimer using procedures listed at

<http://ccw.alumni.cornell.edu/career/career.html>

All job listings - WITHOUT contact information included - will go out to all CCW job seekers. Job seekers will send their resumes and cover letters when their qualifications are appropriate for a job to the new coordinator, Steve Oppenheimer, and he will route them back to the job offerors.

● **"Group Therapy" Wednesday, April 21, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

When it's that time again--the third Wednesday of the month--come take a break from whatever is going on in your life and have a drink, maybe two at Group Therapy! Please join your fellow Cornellians for Group Therapy Happy Hour Session...with many drink specials. This month we're meeting at Topaz Bar (1733 N Street NW Washington). If you have any questions, please contact Lauren Denise Myers '97 at: LM32@cornell.edu or 301/717-4383. Look for the sign that says Cornell Group Therapy!

● **Recruiting the Best and the Brightest!** Looking for a way to share your Cornell experiences? Want to get involved with a fun group of Cornellians? Join CAAAN (Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network). It's fun and works with your schedule! All you need is email and great enthusiasm about Cornell. Interested? Contact Jill Fields at jaf53@cornell.edu.

Annual Father's Day Picnic Featuring President Jeffrey Lehman

Sunday, June 20, 2004, noon-4:00 p.m.

Be among the first DC area alumni to meet and welcome President Jeffrey Lehman '77 when he attends the Annual Father's Day Picnic at the **Kiplinger Farm in Poolesville, MD**. In addition to the usual festivities, club members and guests will have an opportunity to hear first hand about the President's plans and initiatives for the University.

We will supply beverages and watermelon. You bring your favorite picnic fare and a blanket. Tennis, swimming, softball, balloon and egg tosses, and pony rides are among the fun filled activities.

Due to space constraints, this event is open only to current members of CCW and their guests and requires advance registration. Invitations will be mailed in May from the University. **If you are not a member, download the form at <http://ccw.alumni.cornell.edu> and send in today or contact Bob Day at 301/438-7755 or dayhaven@starpower.net.**

To volunteer, contact Nicole DelToro '91 at ndeltoro@andrewscole.com (preferred) or 703/883-2005 x104. Contact Nicole if you need a ride or can provide a ride.

IT'S TIME FOR OLD RAG XXXVII



On Saturday, April 17, alumni and Cornell - in - Washington students will climb Old Rag Mountain near Sperryville, VA. This is one of the Washington Area's most popular excursions, and we expect a large turnout (25-40) each time we go.

The first 2/3 of the strenuous, 9-mile hike is on a trail through the trees, while the upper part is open and rocky. Bring lunch and water in a day-pack, and be sure to wear a hat and sturdy shoes. The total time for climbing, enjoying the view, eating and descending is about six hours. The Park Service has a \$5 fee per person and allows no more hikers after the parking lot is full. Therefore, a prompt 8:00 a.m. start from the Cornell Center, 2148 O Street, N.W., in Washington is needed for this full-day event. Note that the Metro is NOT open until after 8:00 a.m. on Saturday.

Let Bob McKinless '48 know if you are planning to go, by calling 703/256-5451 or emailing rjm10@cornell.edu. Contact Bob by April 14 so he can arrange transportation for the students and carpools among the alumni. Give your name, home phone number and how many passengers you could carry comfortably - or if you NEED a ride.

On the day of the hike, if your plans have changed or you are running late, please call Bob between 7:30 and 8:00 a.m. at 202/466-2184.

Ivy League 50+ Singles

Sun., May 16, 6-8:30 p.m.: Cocktail reception and cash bar at the historic Fairfax Hotel (recently renamed the Westin Embassy Row Hotel), 2100 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., near the Dupont Circle Metro stop. Admission is \$25.00 in advance. Telephone RSVPs by Wednesday, May 7th, to Betsy Hendrix, at home, 703/356-6678 (indicating Cornell affiliation). Mail checks, payable to The Yale Club of Washington, DC, to Ms. Terry Watson, c/o The Yale Club of Washington, DC, at 4323 Cathedral Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20016.

If interested in playing bridge with the Ivy League 50+ Singles Group, please contact David Huff at 202/363-1289.

CALLING ALL RUNNERS!!!

Sallie Mae 10K Run

Sunday, May 16, at 8:00 a.m.

Would you like to go for a 10K run, and raise money for our CCW Cornell Scholarships? Join a Cornell team of runners participating in the 21st Annual Sallie Mae 10K race, sponsored by the Sallie Mae Fund. Overall proceeds benefit the District of Columbia College Access Program, but a competition within the race will pit Cornell's team against other alumni groups with runners from different schools.

Here's how the Alumni Group competition works. The top male and female times from each school will be combined to determine the winning team. First place wins \$10,000 for their school's scholarship fund! You must register at <http://www.salliemae10k.org>. Make sure you put "Cornell" in the appropriate box and check "intercollegiate" under the team category. Make sure you email Lauren Myers to get credit as being a Cornell runner at LM32@cornell.edu. For questions, contact Lauren at 301/717-4383.

The 21st annual Sallie Mae 10K course is flat and fast and winds you along the Potomac River to scenic Haines Point and back, starting from Ohio Drive near the FDR Memorial.

Roving Reporter Bob Day:

Visiting State Department's Diplomatic Reception Rooms

A group of 23 CCW members toured the Department of State's Diplomatic Reception Rooms and enjoyed lunch together in the Henry Clay Executive Dining Room on February 5th, the third such visit during the past year, organized by CCW's Urbanauts. Cornellian Jim Siekmeier PhD '93, now in the Office of the Historian at State, shared a few insights into the work of his office.

For those who wish to arrange a visit to these historically important Diplomatic Reception Rooms, you can request reservations. Tours are free, but must be scheduled (up to 90 days in advance) since they are only given by appointment. They are conducted on weekdays, Monday-Friday only (except on holidays), at 9:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. To reserve, phone the State Department's Tour Office at 202/647-3241 and follow the prompts; TDD number is 202/736-4474.

If you have questions about arranging these 4 tours, please feel free to phone Bob Day '56 at 301/438-7755.

Big Red Dragons Need You



First Practice Sunday, April 25

Festival May 22-23

You, your friends and family members over age 14 can still join the Big Red Dragons-- CCW's entry in Washington's Third Annual Dragon Boat Festival. Additional paddlers are still needed for our two boatloads of 20 paddlers each. We may also enter a third boat in the new 12-paddler events added to this year's racing program. These exciting new 12-paddler boats are scheduled to arrive from Taiwan in late April.

First Practice: Our unique, spirited and altogether fun team needs to submit its roster, including a team photo for the Festival Program Booklet. We're now planning our first training session with photos for Sunday afternoon, April 24--probably starting at 3:00 p.m. Those who can stay on for an impromptu picnic should mark their calendars accordingly.

Location and Dates: Like the Festival itself--to be held the weekend of May 22-23--this will be a rain or shine event. There will be only three training sessions--all at the new Anacostia Community Boathouse, located at 1115 "O" Street, SE, adjacent to the Washington Navy Yard's "O"-Street Gate. Dates for two remaining practices--in May--will be set by the team members themselves.

Costs: The Big Red Dragons, having won silver medals last year, plan to make a strong showing again this year and intend to enter at least two boats. Therefore, the cost per participant will be \$25-\$30, including costs associated with the three training sessions (coaching), two days of racing (including a steersperson charge), use of the equipment, souvenirs and all the medals we're going to win. Of course, you also have to do some frenzied paddling for a minute or two in each race!

Signups: Team Captain Jack Chiu '99 (jackcw56@hotmail.com) is handling all the roster questions, so please e-mail him your name, phone number(s) and preferred e-mail address, as soon as possible. If you're bringing friends to paddle with us, Jack will need the same information for each of them. Team Manager Bob Day '56 (dayhaven@starpower.net) would appreciate being copied on your messages. For questions phone Bob at 301/438-7755.

CAAAN Activities in Virginia

Jill Fields '88 reports on the activities in Virginia of the Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network (CAAAN) encouraging students to apply to and attend Cornell.

Applications to Cornell came from 276 students from Northern VA this year. Since AAP and Hotel conduct interviews outside of the CAAAN system, we targeted the 260 students in the five remaining schools for contact by an alum and submitted contact reports for 218 or 84%. Please extend a round of thanks to all alumni volunteers who donate their time to Cornell and the prospective students. A special thanks for the four CAAAN committee chairs in Virginia: Samantha Peele (Fairfax), Craig Lowenthal (Alexandria), Gary Markin (Thomas Jefferson) and Laura Bandini (Arlington).

On March 2, a reception for students who applied to the Engineering School attracted over 37 students, many accompanied by parents, at Falls Church High School. Shawn Felton from the Admissions Office at the College of Engineering delivered an excellent presentation to the students. Six local Engineering alums talked about their Cornell experiences and answered questions. A sincere thank you to these dedicated Cornell Volunteers: Samantha Peele, Susan Mueller, Craig Lowenthal, Dale Lazar, Herb Fontecilla and Gary Markin.

All Cornell volunteers: Please note we are now in a Moratorium with prospective students as they decide which school to attend, so do NOT talk to students between now and April 5. Please refer to the CAAAN website (<http://caaan.admissions.cornell.edu/>) or contact your committee chair for additional information.

CORNELL SOFTBALL: - Players Needed

Spring is quickly approaching and the Big Red Team is preparing to resume its climb to the top in the Capital Alumni Network (CAN) Softball League. Last season was Cornell's most successful softball season ever in the mostly competitive and ever-growing CAN league. The regular season record was 14-1, a division championship by four games and the number two overall ranking in the 41-team league. This included seven come-from-behind wins, capped by a late season rally from an 11-2 deficit against top-10 ranked Virginia while playing one person short and with two women hurt during the game.

In the season-ending tournament, where every team brings just their best, Cornell made the Elite Eight, after a stirring comeback from a 10-0 deficit against an un-friendly Texas squad out for revenge, before falling to two-time defending champ Penn State, who also inflicted the only regular season loss (10-9).

Though serious sports were played at times, there were light games, a weekend post-game barbeque, after-games league gatherings at the Bottom Line, CCSP and other watering holes, and good people (some on the other teams too).

While many veterans (of various generations) return, there are a few gaping holes from departures through relocations and weddings (combined) of long-time stalwarts who helped carry Cornell from the initial depths of those early seasons to last year's heights. Thanks to Blair DeSio and Laura Yancer (who at least kept it in the team by marrying each other) and Audrey Kleinsmith, Board Member, Cornell CAN rep, longtime softball GM, first regular women pitcher in CAN, and the reason most of us were here in the first place.

Special needs include female athletes (our top two moved away and we need more regulars), anyone who can play multiple positions, young legs especially on defense, a little extra power, role players, someone (Laura-like) to be push when we fail to pay attention or care, during the game cheerers and after games pros, and people who know and do what it takes to be part of a good team and have fun too. We share coaching, other work, credit, blame, beer, sport medicines, stories and memories. Come join us! E-mail Steve Piekarec at spiekare@cs.com or call him at 703/281-4311 for more information. Check out the CAN website for league information, schedule and all the off-field activities at <http://www.dcalum.org>.

Modern Drama Discussion Group in April

***Fences*, Roundhouse Theatre, April 18, 3:00 p.m.**

***Cyrano* discussion, April 29, 6:30 p.m.**

CCW co-sponsors the Modern Drama Discussion Group known as "Footlights," along with the University of Chicago Club and other alumni groups. Each month, 35-50 Footlights members meet over dinner with playwrights, directors, and scholars to discuss modern drama. Participants read the plays on their own (available at Backstage Books, Politics and Prose and Olsson's), meet at inexpensive restaurants near Washington-area Metro stations, and usually attend performances. Membership is free, although a \$5 donation is requested.

***Fences* Performance: Sunday, April 18, 3:00 p.m., Roundhouse Theatre, East-West Highway, one block east of Wisconsin. Metro Red Line: Bethesda.**

To order theater tickets (\$31 each), contact Robin Larkin at 301/897-9314 or rlarkin@footlightsdc.org. Send your check payable to Footlights, to Robin Larkin, 5403 Nibud Ct., Rockville, MD 20852. Your cancelled check is your receipt. Tickets are distributed by Robin at the theater just before the performance. Note the number of tickets and the play(s) on your check.

Discussion of *Cyrano de Bergerac*: Thursday, April 29, 6:30 p.m.

Tickets to the Shakespeare Theatre's production of Edmond Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac* will be available later for a June 2004 performance. American University Associate Professor Deborah Payne-Fisk will lead the discussion. Check www.footlightsdc.org for update. For a reservation, contact Mark Gruenberg at 202/898-4825 or gruenberg@footlightsdc.org. If you have a reservation and find you cannot come, please contact Mark to cancel, so someone else can attend.

Ivy Singles Social Club April Event

Saturday, April 24, noon-3:00 p.m.
Anderson House Tour,
2117 Massachusetts Ave. NW
and Mimi's Bistro, 2120 P St. NW

Hosted by the Harvard Club

Come tour the magnificent home of Larz (Harvard Class of 1888) and Isabel Anderson III, complete with original furnishings and European and Asian art and collectibles. The tour will be lead by Dr. Caren A. Pauley, the Education Director at Anderson House and Executive Director of the Harvard Club of Washington.

Anderson House, a mansion built between 1902 and 1905 in the Beaux Arts style by Little and Browne of Boston, was the Andersons' winter home. Isabel Anderson was considered the wealthiest woman in the country when she financed the construction.

Today, Anderson House serves as the headquarters and meeting place for the Society of Cincinnati, the first veteran's organization established in the United States--with George Washington as its first president-- and the oldest patriotic-lineal society in the world.

Then enjoy lunch together at Mimi's American Bistro, just around the corner from Anderson House, and serving American cuisine with a Mediterranean touch. Choose and pay for your own lunch from their varied menu. Tables are of various sizes, and Mimi's will provide one check per table. See Mimi's menu at <http://mimisd.com/lunch.htm>

Cost: \$5, register online. If the web site at <http://harvardclubtools.publishingconcepts.com/clubs/wdc/> is unavailable, call 202/337-1300 and give a phone number where you can be reached. The registration deadline is April 21.

Ivy Singles Social Club May Event: Friday, May 21, 6:30-8:30 p.m. Italian Cultural Institute, 2025 M St. NW, Ste. 610. Italian food and cash bar of Italian wines and champagnes. Advance reservations: \$25 by check (note Cornell affiliation), payable to "DC Penn Alumni Club." Mail to Charna Lynn, P.O.B. 40103, Palisades Station, Washington, D.C. Questions: contact Charna Lynn at: rifiuti4u@aol.com.

Further information on Ivy Singles activities is available at www.ivysinglesdc.com.

Pre-Reunion Event at Embassy of Bulgaria

**Thursday, April 1, 7:30-9:00 p.m.
1621 22nd St. NW**

The Cornell Club of Washington and the Reunion Classes invite you to a Pre-Reunion Event in Washington, DC. Meet and mingle with fellow classmates from all the '4 and '9 reunion classes and learn what is planned for Reunion Weekend. Our host will be the Embassy of Bulgaria and Ambassador Elena Borislavova Poptodorova.

Ambassador Poptodorova recently visited Cornell, and she or a designee will speak to us about Bulgarian/US relations. Light food and beverages will be served.

Location: The Embassy of Bulgaria, at 1621 22nd Street, NW, Washington, DC, is accessible by Metro (Red Line: Dupont Circle). Street parking is possible, though scarce, after 6:30 p.m.

Price: \$5 per person for reunion classes, and \$10 per person for all other classes and guests. Please RSVP by March 25, to Dale Lazar '74, at dlaazar@pillburywinthrop.com or 703/905-2126 or 6455 West Langley Lane, McLean, VA 22101. For more information, e-mail Dale at dlaazar@pillburywinthrop.com.

Help Make a Difference with *Hands On D.C.*

**Saturday, May 1, 8:30 a.m.
Cardozo High School, 1300 Clifton St. NW**

Join the Cornell team for Hands on DC on May 1st. Hands on DC is a community service-a-thon in which teams of people come together for a day of service to help DC public schools. Volunteers also have the opportunity to raise money for scholarships for DC students; however, fund-raising is not required. We will not know our exact assignment until that day, but it will involve some type of project at a school such as painting or gardening or clean up. Meet at 8:30 a.m., May 1, at Cardozo High School in Washington D.C. for the opening rally. This is a family friendly event, so children are welcome. If you are interested in being part of the Cornell team, please contact Michelle Johnson Coon at mjohnsondc@yahoo.com. You can learn more about the event at <http://www.handsondc.org/>

CCW News

Cornell Club of Washington
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