



CCW NEWS

A CORNELL CLUB OF WASHINGTON PUBLICATION

www.cornellclubdc.org

SEPTEMBER 2017

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Meet Your New CCW Directors

Jill Fields '88 — Director (2016-2018)

Jill is a 1988 graduate of the College of Arts & Sciences. Since arriving in DC, she has served on the CCW Board as VP Membership, Treasurer, VP of the Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network (CAAAN), Member-at-Large, the Investment & Audit Committee and most recently, VP Scholarship. Jill served on the Cornell Alumni Association Board and the Cornell University Council and also participated in the nominating committee for the inaugural Cornell Alumni Advisory Board (CAAB).

Toniqua Hay MPA '12 — Director (2017-2019)

Toniqua received an MPA from the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs (CIPA) in 2012. While at Cornell, she served as President of the Black Graduate & Professional Student Association, GPSA Student Advocacy and Women in Public Policy. She started as a director for CCW in 2015 and this year, she supports membership and other special initiatives. Toniqua also serves as a mentor for CIPA's externship program in DC, as well as for her other alma mater, Georgia Tech.

Grace Jean '00 — Immediate Past President

A Class of 2000 graduate of the College of Arts & Sciences, Grace has been a big fan of CCW since attending her first club event at the Kiplinger farm as a rising Cornell freshman. When she landed back in the DC area in 2001, she became an active club member attending numerous events and eventually finding her way to board meetings and volunteering for various projects. Grace served as CCW President from July 2015 to June 2017 after completing two years as the club's First Vice-President. She was CCW's newsletter editor from July 2011 to June 2013.

Linda Jarschauer Johnson '60, '63 — Director (2017-2019)

Linda, Human Ecology '60 '63 majored in Child Development & Family Relationships. She served as Executive Director of the Cornell in Washington Program for 25 years, retiring in 2008. She is a member of the Cornell University Council. Her current CCW interests include working with the Programming Committee, organizing programs with Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, with David Skorton, and arranging walking tours of DC.

Dan Murphy '96 — Director of Technology (2017-2018)

Dan handles all the behind the scenes technology needs for the club ranging from account administration to event promotion and everything in between. He has been a Northern Virginia resident for over 10 years and when not behind a computer screen, enjoys participating in the active automotive culture in this area.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

A Cornell Evening at the National Museum of African American History and Culture

President Martha Pollack

Welcome Reception
Friday, November 17th

Museum Event
Saturday, November 18th

Registration opens
September 7th

Meet Your New CCW Directors – cont'd

Board of Directors 2017-2018

President

Terry Horner '92 PhD '98

First Vice-President

Katherine Stifel '87

Treasurer

Elina Hum '79

Secretary

Elisabeth Boas '71

Vice-Presidents, CAAAN

Janet Cornfeld '72 (DC/MD)

Matt Nieman '98 (VA)

Vice-President, Communications

Liz Herman '01

Vice-President, Community Service

Laura Gonzales Meyers '04

Vice-Presidents, Membership

Julia Buffinton '14

Drew Zukosky '13

Vice-President, Programming

Jim Schoonmaker '74

Vice-President, Scholarship

Lisa Burns Griffin '87

Immediate Past President

Grace Jean '00

Directors (terms to 2018)

Jill Fields '88

Christine Song '94, MBA '05

Katherine Rogers '01

Ali Wright '11, Law '14

Kwame Rodriguez MBA '15

Directors (terms to 2019)

Toniqua Hay Gr '12

Linda Johnson '60, '63

Steve Piekarec '74

Chuck Schilke Law '88

Mel Zurn '93

Cornell Club of Washington

2148 O Street NW

Washington, DC 20037

Steve Piekarec '74 — Director (2017-2019)

Steve graduated from the College of Arts & Sciences '74 (started in Engineering) and is a CCW Life Member. He is currently the longest tenured Board member and first joined the Club in 1993. He has served as an officer of CCW for 12 years, including President from 2009 to 2011. He was also First Vice-President, Past President, VP Programming (7 years in 2 separate stints), VP Network and Outreach and has served as a Director. He has been an active CCW member and received the Bondareff Award in 2013.

Kwame Campos Rodriguez MBA '15 — Director (2017-2019)

Originally from Peru, Kwame started volunteering for the CCW in 2016 and has served as Assistant Treasurer since December 2016. His areas of expertise are financial and operational analysis. Among his interests, he is dedicated to promoting education as a tool to overcoming poverty.

Katherine Rogers '01 — Director (2016-2018)

Katherine graduated from CALS in 2001 and spent six years in Philadelphia before moving to DC in 2007 for graduate school. Once here, Katherine became active in CCW, helping to found the CCW book club, serving as VP Programming in 2008-2009, co-chairing a scholarship fundraising gala in 2013, and serving as a CAAAN interviewer for several years. A gregarious supporter of the club, Katherine has been seen talking up CCW everywhere around the DC area from government offices to neighborhood businesses and even (once) at a speed-dating event.

Chuck Schilke Law '88 — Director (2017-2019) and General Counsel

Chuck is General Counsel of CCW. After college at the University of Chicago and graduate school at Harvard, Chuck attended Cornell Law School, where he focused on business and international law. Shortly after moving to DC, he joined the Board and served in various roles of President, Treasurer and VP Activities. Beyond CCW, Chuck has served on the Cornell Alumni Federation Board, the Cornell Law School Alumni Council, and the Cornell University Council.

Christine Song '94, MBA '05 — Director 2017-2018

Christine Song graduated from the College of Arts & Science with a major in Government and returned to Cornell for her M.B.A. She has been a member of CCW since moving to DC in 2012. She was recently appointed to be Editor of the CCW newsletter and is a member of the newly created Communications team.

Ali Wright '11, Law '14 — Director (2017-2018)

Ali Wright double majored in History and French while at Cornell. He decided to extend his stay in Ithaca by attending Cornell's law school for an additional three years. A native Washingtonian, Ali moved back to the DC area after law school, but sought to remain involved with the Cornell community. He enjoys attending many of the events CCW hosts and now, in his role as Director, devotes his efforts to organizing programs. Ali is an Associate at McDermott Will & Emery LLP and focuses his practice on labor and employment litigation.

Melvin Zurn '93 — Director (2017-2019)

Mel Zurn, Arts & Sciences '93, has been active with CCW since moving to the Washington area. He has served as VP Membership, and as a Director-at-Large for three terms. Last year, he was also the chairman for the Club's Annual Dinner. He lives in Reston, Virginia, with his wife Suzanne and son Philip.

CCW History

With the March 2017 issue of CCW News, we began a series to honor CCW's 32 Past Presidents.

For many years, the Cornell Women's Club and the Cornell Club of Washington (men only) sponsored their own programs and activities. In December 1965, both boards approved a merger agreement, and a referendum vote was mailed to the alumni. The two presidents at the time, Edwin Miller '35 and Lori Eisenberg '50, completed their terms. For the following year (1966-67), Phillip Fleming '52 was elected the first president of the newly consolidated group.

Visit

www.cornellclubdc.org/history
for more CCW history.

Interview a Past President!

Would you like to see CCW honor a Past President?
Would you like to interview a Past President?

We are always looking for suggestions and interviewers.

Please email us at:
newsletter@cornellclubdc.org.

Honoring CCW Past Presidents

Past President Kim Jones Gilliam is one of Cornell's busiest local alumnae! Now in her fourth year operating her own family-run business, Frolick Dogs, with her husband Kevin, Kim took a few moments to reflect with us on her time at Cornell and with CCW.

Kim attended Cornell for her undergraduate studies (CALs '98) and for her MBA ('02). While an undergrad, she was active both in campus life – working as a TA for a marketing professor and riding at the university's Equestrian Center – as well as around Ithaca, volunteering with the vet school's Cornell Companions program, taking her cat to visit residents in a local home for individuals with Alzheimers. While completing her MBA, Kim reports she was the youngest person in her class and “so had lots of enthusiasm and energy to become very engaged.” And become engaged she did! She served on the Student Council, was elected to the Alumni Class Council, served as a TA once again, sang in the Sound Investments a cappella group and played on the Frozen Assets women's hockey team.



Kim Jones CALS '98, MBA '02



The annual "Pie in the Face" fundraiser at the Johnson School

One of her favorite memories from her time at the Johnson School was a “Pie in the Face” contest, an idea Kim proposed for the Community Impact club's efforts to fundraise for a local food bank. In the contest, students would vote on which of their favorite faculty, staff or classmates would get a pie in the face in the school's atrium. Kim's successful inaugural effort raised lots of money for the cause, offered a raucous good time for the school, and it even became an annual tradition!

Shortly after completing her MBA, and after a summer working in Ithaca on the Johnson School alumni relations team, Kim moved to DC in the fall of 2002. “Within weeks” of her arrival, then-President of CCW Chuck Schilke sought her out and invited her to dinner. By the end of dinner, Kim had agreed to fill an open board slot for the next year – not realizing at the time it put her on the road to her own later CCW presidency (2007-2009). Through the years, Kim served in a number of other capacities for CCW, including VP Technology, Secretary and First Vice-President. She has served on the Cornell Alumni Council and is currently the Reunion Chair for her Johnson School class (which just had its 15-year reunion and won the attendance record!).

Kim notes that the best reasons local alums should join CCW are the opportunities to connect with others and to attend top-notch events in the area. Looking back on her time as CCW President, she is most proud of one such event – an evening in March 2009 with New York City Public Schools Chancellor Joel Klein, Columbia '67 and his DC counterpart, Michelle Rhee, Cornell '92, organized in collaboration with other DC Ivy League alumni clubs. Rhee and Klein talked with moderator David Johns, education policy advisor to Senator Edward Kennedy, about the two most closely watched public school system overhauls in the country. Such events highlight the best things about CCW: the energy and enthusiasm required to make them happen, and the chance to come together as a community to learn and engage together.

- Katherine Rogers '01

Member Spotlight

Elina Hum '79, Tax Attorney and Founder of Hum Law Firm

Tell us something about yourself? I graduated from Cornell in 1979 and majored in Government, but took many classes in the English and History departments. Almost immediately after I arrived at Cornell, I joined a recently-formed group on campus called the Asian American Coalition. At that time, "Asian American" was newly coined. While many Americans of Asian descent identified themselves by their countries of heritage, there was a burgeoning movement to identify ourselves as Asian Americans based on the belief that in the United States there are unique shared experiences among Americans whose families originated from Asia irrespective of their countries of origin. Our little group convinced Cornell to begin offering classes in Asian American Studies. We persuaded the university to hire Victor Nee, then a graduate student, as the instructor of the first course offered at Cornell in Asian American Studies. Professor Nee is now a professor of Sociology at Cornell. Fast forward to recent times and a few years ago, at an event for law students to network with practicing attorneys, I met a young woman who casually mentioned that she received her undergraduate degree from Cornell and was an Asian American Studies major. I was wonderstruck! I have to count working with others of the Asian American Coalition to spearhead the Asian American Studies program at Cornell among the accomplishments of which I am most proud.



Elina Hum '79 - Victoria Peak, Hong Kong
Photo credit: Janice Chan '80

What is your favorite memory from Cornell? I have many pleasant memories from my years at Cornell. One of my favorites is walking back to my room after the library closed for the night. The campus was deserted and I felt like I owned the whole beautiful place. My favorite class and professor would have to be the great Oliver Wolters and his seminar "Early Southeast Asian History." The late Professor Wolters was a giant in his field. The majority of my classmates in the 200-level seminar were graduate students, who took the class just so they could study with him. His egalitarian treatment of all his students propelled by his singular thirst for knowledge continues to be an inspiration. I can still see him getting all excited whenever anyone in his class raised his or her hand.

When did you move to DC and what brought you here? I first came to DC in 1979 to study law at Georgetown. In 1985, after I received my LLM in Taxation at NYU Law School, I returned to DC to clerk for the late Judge William M. Fay at the United States Tax Court. From there I went to work as a tax associate for the law firm of Dickstein Shapiro in DC and I subsequently opened my own tax law practice here in the mid-1990s.

Why did you join CCW? Do you volunteer with any other Cornell groups? When I was working as an associate at Dickstein Shapiro in the late 1980s, many of my friends from Georgetown and the Tax Court had left the area. DC has a large transient population; many people are here only a few years for work and then they move on. So it is very difficult to make new friends. CCW was the perfect way for me to have a social life. Besides serving on the CCW Board, first as Director-at-Large for three years and now as Treasurer, I had been active with my class during reunion planning. Throughout the past few decades, at all times, I was able to find CCW events and programs that were of interest to me even as I got older and my life style and interest changed accordingly. I guess one can say that throughout the many changes and stages of my life CCW was always a constant. When I first joined CCW I met many active and dedicated Cornellians such as Connie Geerhart '52 who recruited me for CAAAN. I interviewed high school students whose applications were pending, and I also sometimes met Cornell international students who came to DC to welcome them here. Spending time with young people always inspires me to do more and to learn more. They are energetic and fearless; "reverse mentoring" yields tangible benefits, not the least of which is finding out about the latest technology.

Best part about living in DC? Favorite place/restaurant/venue? I love that DC is a city where so many people from all over the world come to visit or work. While having lunch at a restaurant near DuPont Circle recently I overheard three languages spoken among the few tables of diners around me and the song playing softly in the background in the restaurant was in a fourth language! My favorite places in DC are the Smithsonian museums and galleries. I get in for free, I can stay as long as I like until closing, and I can see exquisite work by world-famous artists, or experience and learn about cutting-edge technology, or get transported back in human or natural history.

- Christine Song '94, MBA '05

Remembering Bob Day '56

Robert Edward Day, Jr., '56, of Silver Spring, MD, and a long-time and active member of the Cornell Club of Washington, died peacefully on June 24, 2017. While at Cornell, he rowed for the school and crew became his lifelong passion. He was also a member of Quill and Dagger, Sigma Phi fraternity and cheered for Cornell athletics at a time when all cheerleaders were men!

Following Bob's graduation from Cornell, he was a Fulbright Scholar at Tubingen University in Germany, and became a career diplomat for the U.S. Department of State with embassy postings in East Germany, Poland, Yugoslavia and Iran. When Bob returned to the DC area in the 1980s, the late Ed Berkowitz '56, one of Bob's best friends in college and former CCW president and general counsel, persuaded Bob to join CCW. Bob and his wife, Diana Day '56, became active supporters of the CCW and their commitment to the Club and to Cornell was unwavering. In 2007, Bob received the Bondareff award to honor his outstanding commitment to CCW. He organized countless CCW programs and won several Best Program Awards, such as the State Department tour in 2003 and the Tour of Ezra Cornell's Achievements in 2014. Bob also helped Kathleen Miller '82 win Best Program Award for "Cornell on the Anacostia" in 2001. In addition, in 2015, Bob celebrated the life of Ed Berkowitz, his friend who had recruited him to the CCW, by bringing Ithaca-made Silent Movies with live musical accompaniment to the Avalon Theater. None of Bob's friends could think of him without mentioning his love for rowing, and it was that love that linked Bob to DC beyond CCW. Gladys Stifel '58 recalls the first time she met Bob. He had come to a CCW Board meeting to request funds to purchase a rowing teaching barge. Paul Pearlstein and Carl Cole also remember that time well. Bob wanted to restart rowing on the Anacostia River for DC youth, who lived east of the river, so that they could get a shot at attending college by winning rowing scholarships. Together with friends like Paul and Carl, Bob started the Organization for Anacostia Rowing and Sculling ("OARS") in 1988. A May 12, 1992, *Washington Post* article under the headline "Rowing comes to the Anacostia" marveled at the first regatta on the Anacostia in 101 years thanks to OARS. The article described how, during the race, a coxswain for a local junior high school four-man crew who was less than five feet tall and barely weighing 80 pounds became a "towering commander." The 14 year-old seventh grader declared, "it's better being a leader." Thus was the influence of Bob and his team on DC's youth and of him on CCW.



Bob Day '56 at Schoellkopf Stadium

- Elina Hum '79

Past Event Highlights

Freshman Send-Off Dinner Party



The CCW, Judy Gleklen Kopff '68, the Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador Network (CAAAN) Chair for Washington, DC, and Gary Kopff '71, held the annual student send-off dinner party at the Kopff home on August 13th for new Cornell freshman and transfer students from the DMV area. Almost 40 freshmen and 2 transfer students attended and a wonderful evening was had by all! We are thankful to Judy and Gary Kopff, who have been extremely generous supporters of the CAAAN program, and have hosted the Freshman Send-Off supper for more than 40 years. Lisa Burns Griffin '87, CCW Vice-President-Scholarship, spoke briefly about the club's activities, and Janet Lynn Cornfeld



Judy Gleklen Kopff '68 with the future Cornell Class of 2021

'72, Regional Chair for CAAAN of DC/Maryland, welcomed students, offering them advice about their transition to college. Susan Warshaw Ebner '77, Law '80, CAAAN Chair for Potomac/Rockville, and Robert Scarlett '13, CAAAN Chair for Prince Georges, Charles, and St. Mary's Counties, also provided insight into the undergraduate experience.

Events at a Glance

National Symphony Orchestra

Season Opening Gala Concert with Yo-Yo Ma and Cynthia Erivo



Reserve your Ticket!

Sunday, September 24th from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Kennedy Center Concert Hall

Tickets - \$85

Email Tomoko Morinaga
tm58@cornell.edu

SEPTEMBER

- 09 Old Rag LXIV
Questions: Clint Brass at ctb14@cornell.edu
- 11 CCW Book Club – “The Dirty Life” by Kristin Kimball
Questions: Liz Pomper at ehp3@cornell.edu
- 13 How to Start Your Own Company
Questions: David Muchow at dmuchow@muchowlaw.com
- 16 Old Rag LXIV – Rain Date
Questions: Clint Brass at ctb14@cornell.edu
- 21 Young Alumni Happy Hour – Welcome to DC
Questions: Drew Zukosky at ajz37@cornell.edu
- 22 Ivy Singles September Event - The Arts Club of Washington
Questions: Steve Piekarec at spiekare@verizon.net
- 24 National Symphony Orchestra: Season Opening Concert with Yo-Yo Ma
Questions: Tomoko Morinaga at tm58@cornell.edu

OCTOBER

- 20-21 Homecoming 2017!
Questions: homecoming@cornell.edu
- 21 Ivy Social Club Smithsonian Castle Tour and Hike
Questions: Sally Elsadek at selsadek@gmail.com
- 21 Cornell Homecoming Virtual 5K!
Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

Register for events at <http://www.cornellclubdc.org/events>

Volunteer Corner



Community Service

Looking for event leaders for Fall Service Weekend over Columbus weekend (Oct 7-8): apple picking in Winchester for AFAC (food bank) and watershed cleanup at Rock Creek Park with Rock Creek Conservancy, final dates and details TBD. To learn more, contact Laura Gonzales at communityservice@cornellclubdc.org.

Newsletter

Do you like to write? Do you like to edit? Do you want to interview a Past President or Member in the Spotlight? Then please join the communications team! We are always looking for writers, editors, interviewers, content and new ideas. To learn more, contact Christine Song at newsletter@cornellclubdc.org.

Programming

The CCW Programming Committee is currently planning events for the new year! Submit your ideas to programming@cornellclubdc.org.

Technology

Looking for people with website experience to help in the redesign of the CCW website. Contact Terry Horner at president@cornellclubdc.org.

Club Announcements

Old Rag LXIV

Saturday, September 9th, 7:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

(Rain Date: Saturday, September 16th)

Old Rag Mountain

Sperryville, VA

Join Alumni and Cornell in Washington students for our 64th and semiannual trek into the Blue Ridge Mountains! Old Rag Mountain is one of the Washington area's most popular excursions. The first 1/3 of the strenuous, 9-mile hike (summit 3268 ft.; elevation gain 2300 ft.) is on an uphill 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 needed for climbing, enjoying the view, eating, and descending is about 6 hours. Friends and family are welcome.

You must RSVP by Wednesday, September 6th to Clint Brass ([see contact below](#)). Please provide your name, email address, a telephone number where you can be reached shortly before the hike (in the event of bad weather), and the number of people coming. Also, indicate if you can give anyone a ride, if you need a ride, or if you will meet us there.

Cost: Flat \$25 per vehicle National Park Service fee. Bring your portion of the fee, payable on location before we begin. Carpoolers should plan to pay a portion of the vehicle fee and contribution toward gas money.

Transportation: Cars will be dispatched starting at 7:45am from the Cornell Center, or you can drive directly to our rendezvous point in Sperryville, arriving absolutely no later than 9:45am.

Questions: Clint Brass at ctb14@cornell.edu

How to Start Your Own Company

Wednesday, September 13th, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Finnegan, Henderson, Farabow, Garrett & Dunner, LLP

901 New York Ave NW, Washington, DC

Want to start or grow your own company? Need some law, business, or financial guidance? Join a lively panel discussion of experts on key topics, such as steps you should take to start a company, when to hire a lawyer and how to manage costs, how to protect your intellectual property, how to raise money, how to divide equity among partners, and more. Our startup experts include the CEO of a startup company, an intellectual property lawyer, and an investor.

Cost: Members – free, Non-Members – \$5.00

Transportation: Gallery Place - Chinatown (Green, Red, Yellow lines)

Questions: David Muchow at dmuchow@muchowlaw.com

Ivy Singles September Event - The Arts Club of Washington

Friday, September 22nd, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

The Arts Club of Washington

2017 I Street, NW, Washington, DC

The Cornell Club of Washington is pleased to host the Ivy Singles Happy Hour Fall Kick-Off! We invite you to join us at this charming historic landmark, the James Monroe House, just off Pennsylvania Avenue.

Cost: \$40

Transportation: Metro Foggy Bottom (Blue, Orange, Silver lines)

Questions: Steve Piekarec at spiekare@verizon.net

Do you have ideas for the CCW Newsletter? We would love to hear from you!

Email us at: newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

CCW News

Cornell Club of Washington
2148 O Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
www.cornellclubdc.org

September 2017

Moved? New email? Update your record at www.cornellclubdc.org

Welcome New CCW Members

Kaisha Alabi, Gr '04	Maria Celeste Gonzalez '14	Nini Shan '17
Alexander Bonelli '17	John Harney '17	Nitin Shyamkumar '17
Jody Boudreault Gr '00	George Henkel '17	Megan Sweeney '07
Woojin Choi	Emelly Mutambatsere Gr '07	Grace Tucker '17
Vanessa Chu '17	Nathan Nastili Gr '17	Stacey Wang '17
Stacy Yang '17	Bianca Rhodes '10	James Warner Gr '16
Da Jong Fan '17	Mary Riordan '89	Jessica Dowling '03, Gr '11
Laura Fletcher '17	Alissa Rivas-Morello '17	Xinze Juno Yao Gr '16