



CCW News

A Cornell Club of Washington Publication
Editor-in-Chief: Claudia T. Benack '74

September 2019

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CCW 2019-2020 Welcome

Dear Members and Friends of the Cornell Club of Washington,

More than fifty years ago, a group of forward-thinking alumni formed the Cornell Club of Washington, now numbering greater than 1,000 members. Many thanks for engaging and supporting Cornell. Your legacy of stewardship and dedication is a Cornell treasure. I also extend a Big Red thank you to Terry Horner, Past President and the 2018-2019 CCW Board, and our 2019-2020 Board for offering to serve CCW. One other CCW legacy is embodied by more than 370 Cornellians who have become Life Members. Your enduring generosity helps sustain CCW programs and unrestricted scholarships for Metro DC Cornell students. Thanks to your generosity, we again provided scholarships to local Cornell undergraduates for the 2019-2020 academic year. These scholarships and stipends are named to honor some beloved CCW legends—Howard Epstein, Austin Kiplinger, Bob Ladd, Bob McKinless, and Barber Conable.

CCW’s legacy extends to our tradition of creating unique, award-winning programs, which engage and enlarge the Cornell community in the country’s capital, as well as to the volunteers who create and host those events. As you’ve come to expect, we have a full year planned, as each issue of CCW News attests. I invite you to peruse the events calendar and register for something that interests you. Every time you do so, you help strengthen the Big Red legacy that generations of Cornellians in Washington, DC built for us.

As you reflect on our journey together, I encourage you to remain engaged with Cornell and consider how you can continue to play a role in shaping its future for years to come. You have my heartfelt gratitude for your confidence in my leadership, and my deepest appreciation for all you have given. I hope to see you at some of the upcoming CCW programs and events throughout the year.

Matt Neiman '98, President

Mark Your Calendars

Homecoming 2019

October 4-5th, the Cornell community gathers in Ithaca to connect, learn, celebrate favorite Cornell traditions, and make new memories. Join in the fun.

International Zinck’s Night 2019

October 17th

“Give My Regards to Davy”

Cornell Trustee-Council Annual Meeting (TCAM)

October 17-19

Meet Your CCW Officers

Matt Nieman '98 — President

Matt (ILR) previously served CCW as VP for CAAAN. At Cornell, he spent many a day in Barton Hall with Army ROTC, but these days, Matt is an employment law litigator with Jackson Lewis P.C. Prior to entering private practice, Mr. Nieman was an active-duty U.S. Army Judge Advocate (“JAG”) at Fort Benning, Georgia and at Camp Liberty, Baghdad, Iraq.

Melvin Zurn '93 — Treasurer (2019-2021)

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.

Elizabeth Boas '71 — Secretary

Elizabeth was active in things Cornell as she ghost-wrote her mother's Alumni News class column for years! She served in leadership roles for such activities as CAU Advisory Board, CULAC, PRI Board, Student & Academic Services Advisory Board, as a class officer, and on the Boards of Cornell Clubs of nearly everywhere she's resided.

Janine Lossing '89 — Vice-President, CAAAN DC/MD

Janine received a BA in Computer Science at Cornell, and a MBA in Marketing at Duke '93. Janine brings 22 years of experience to the CCW Board as a strategist and facilitator to help organizations learn, lead and grow. As a CollegeTracks volunteer she helps low income and first generation HS students navigate the college application process.

Toniqua Hay MPA '12 — Vice-President, Communications

MPA Cornell International Development & Economic Policy and Fellow at the Cornell Institute for Public Affairs. She currently is working at the IFC of the World Bank Group to advance the role of working-age youth in infrastructure and natural resources sectors by enhancing innovative opportunities for engagement, investment, collaboration and value creation within the private sector.

Lisa Burns Griffin '87 — Vice-President, Community Service

BA ILR School and JD Harvard Law School. Lisa has a lifelong interest in community service. She volunteers frequently at community service events with CCW and other organizations. Lisa's additional Cornell roles include CCW VP Scholarship, CCW Director, CAAAN Committee Chair, and Cornell 1987 Class Council.

Annalise Schoonmaker '14 — Vice-President, Membership

BA Biological Sciences Cornell and MS Candidate GWU Milken Institute School of Public Health. Pre-medical biology and chemistry education experience at the Weill Cornell Medicine Foundation in Doha, Qatar. Currently, Annalise is a Science Program Analyst supporting strategic program planning, research analysis and coordination.

Justin Kondrat '14 — Vice-President, Membership

BS Plant Sciences. Justin is founder of the Cornell Orchid Collection with the purpose to maintain specimen quality and to serve as a living teaching tool that showcases evolutionary morphologies, history, culture and art influence of the flowering plant family Orchidaceae. Justin currently is the Lead Horticulturist at the Smithsonian Gardens Orchid Collection.

Jim Schoonmaker '74 — Vice-President, Programming

Jim, CALS '74, continues to serve on the Programming Committee and has worked on several programming efforts, most notably the recent series of Civil War bus trips led by Professor David Silbey, the Tribute to Austin “Kip” Kiplinger, and the Conversation with Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

Alex Payne '09 — Vice-President, Scholarship

B.S. Policy Analysis and Management Cornell and MPA Public Administration Syracuse University Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs. Currently, Legislative Director for Congresswoman Kim Schrier. Previously, Alex was the lead for the US House of Representatives Democratic Caucus on early childhood education, child safety/welfare, and career and technical education issues.

Terry Horner '92, PhD '98 — Immediate Past President

Terry is a CCW Life Member and served CCW as VP Membership, First Vice President and President. His Cornell activities include VP Class of 1992, University Council, Glee Club, Hangovers Advisory Council, CUGALA, Washington DC Cornell Fund Committee, the Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future Alumni Advisory Board, and the Human Ecology Dean's Advisory Council.

Board of Directors

President

Matt Nieman '98

First Vice-President

Treasurer

Melvin Zurn '93

Secretary

Elisabeth Boas '71

Vice-Presidents, CAAAN

Janine Lossing '89 (DC/MD)

Vice-President, Communications

Toniqa Hay MPA '12

Vice-President, Community Service

Lisa Burns Griffin '87

Vice-President, Membership

Annalise Schoonmaker '14

Justin Kondrat '14

Vice-President, Programming

Jim Schoonmaker '74

Vice-President, Scholarship

Alex Payne '09

Immediate Past President

Terry Horner '92, PhD '98

Directors (through June 2020)

Kwame Campos Rodriguez MBA '15

Filiz Serbes JD '88

Chuck Schilke JD '88

Dan Murphy '96

Directors (through June 2021)

Joanna Ain '05

Julia Buffinton '14

Claudia Benack '74, MS '75

Linda Jarschauer Johnson '60 MS '63

Steve Piekarec '74

Meet Your CCW Directors

Chuck Schilke Law '88 — Director (2019-2020) 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. Chuck has served on the Cornell Alumni Federation Board, the Cornell Law School Alumni Council, and the Cornell University Council.

Filiz Serbes '88 — Director (2019-2020)

Filiz received a JD from Cornell and LLM NYU School of Law in '91. Currently, she is the Special Counsel to the Associate Chief Counsel of the Internal Revenue Service, in the Treasury Legal Division.

Kwame Campos Rodriguez MBA '15 — Director & Asst Treasurer (2019-2020)

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 to overcoming poverty.

Dan Murphy '96 — Director and Webmaster (2019-2020)

Dan handles all the behind the scenes technology needs for the club ranging from account administration to event promotion. As a Northern Virginia resident for over 10 years he enjoys participating in the active automotive culture in the area.

Joanna Ain '05 — Director (2019-2021)

BA History Cornell and MPA Harvard Kennedy School of Government '15. Currently, Associate Director, Policy at Prosperity Now. Joanna is an expert in federal policy and financial programs impacting student loan borrowing and forgiveness.

Claudia Benack '74, MS '75 — Director, Editor-In-Chief CCW Newsletter (2019-2021)

Claudia received a B.S. with Honors and M.S. in Nutrition College of Human Ecology, and obtained a Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Case Western Reserve University. Claudia previously served the Cornell Alumni Community as an elected member of the Cornell HEAA Board (1995-1999; 2010-2014) where she chaired the By Laws, Policies and Procedures Committee and the HEAA Student Grants Committee. Claudia is recipient of the 2018 Albert Nelson Marquis Lifetime Achievement Award and 2019 Top 100 Professionals by Who's Who.

Julia Buffinton '14 — Director (2019-2021)

BA Linguistics, Computer Science and Cognitive Science, Cornell and MIDS '19 UC Berkeley School of Information. Julia recently joined LMI Management Consulting as a Data Scientist bringing the best management and technical practices to address intricate issues across the federal government.

Linda Jarschauer Johnson '60, '63 — Director (2019-2021)

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.

Steve Piekarec '74 — Director (2019-2021)

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, VP Network and Outreach and has served as a Director. He has been an active CCW member and received the Bondareff Award in 2013.

Past Event Highlights

Another Big Red Fun Filled Summer with CCW

- 08/31/2019 Potomac Paddle XXXII
- 08/29/2019 Ivy Singles Social at Le Chat Noir
- 08/24/2019 Ivy/Seven Sisters Summer Indoor Tennis Party
- 08/23/2019 Embassy Row Rooftop Jazz Champagne, and Art Concert
- 08/08/2019 Cornell Hotel Society Washington DC/Baltimore – CHS Welcome to DC Happy Hour
- 08/05/2019 8th Ivy / Seven Sisters Chess Social
- 08/05/2019 CCW Book Club - “1984” by George Orwell
- 07/29/2019 2019 Ivy/Seven Sisters CITI OPEN Tennis Outing
- 07/27/2019 Library of Congress Tour
- 07/12/2019 Don’t Tell Comedy
- 07/12/2019 Boomers to Busters - Summer Rooftop Soiree
- 07/11/2019 Ivy Social Club at Jazz on Jackson Place
- 07/07/2019 Ivy Singles - Hike, Pizza, and Light
- 07/03/2019 White House Tour
- 06/27/2019 The Turn of the Tide: World War II in 1943 - Prof. David Silbey lecture
- 06/23/2019 16th Annual Cornell Mid-Atlantic Crab Feast

CCW Don’t Tell Comedy

On July 12th in a Secret Location near K Street, DC, local Cornellians gathered for an intimate evening of comedy! The venue provided a pleasant experience for both comedians and audience. Comedians - Benjy Himmelfarb, Natalie McGill, Bassam Shawl, Stephen Campbell, Chris O’Connor, and Matt Deakins. Combined with an inexpensive ticket and the tantalizing element of secrecy, Cornellians had one great night out.



Cornell Mid-Atlantic Crab Feast



The 16th Annual Cornell Mid-Atlantic Crab Feast was held on June 23rd, and it was again, a special event! The weather was ideal for the Feast. This fun annual Cornell tradition was held at Kurtz’s Beach on Maryland’s Western Shore. There were a total of 420 guests and Cornell alumni, who came from as far away as southern Virginia, central New Jersey and the Philadelphia area. The drive was easy, and there was ample convenient parking. Visitors were welcomed, and musicians played with a music style that perfectly fit the pastoral coastal setting. There were games and fun for the children and adults alike. Crabs are the feature each year. There also were chicken and vegetarian choices, or hot dogs for children, as well as hundreds of salads, side dishes and desserts including gluten-free.

Events at a Glance

August

31...[Potomac Paddle XXXII](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

September

07...[Old Rag Mountain, Sperryville, VA \(Old Rag LXVIII\)](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

10...CCW Monthly [Board](#) & [Programming](#) Meeting

Questions: president@cornellclubdc.org

18...[Young Alumni Happy Hour -- Welcome to DC](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

21...[Old Rag LXVIII - Rain Date](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org



October

04...[Homecoming 2019](#)

homecoming@cornell.edu 607-255-6012

06...[Community Service Event: Carter Barron Cleanup & Invasive Removal](#)

Questions: communityservice@cornellclubdc.org

08...CCW Monthly [Board](#) & [Programming](#) Meeting

Questions: president@cornellclubdc.org

13...[Ivy Social Club Hike at Claude Moor Park](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

17...[International Spirit of Zinck's Night](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

20...[Small Potluck Dinner - Vienna, VA](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

26...[Metalworking Studio Demonstration by Artist Chris Shea '87](#)

Questions: [Terry Horner at tnh1@cornell.edu](mailto:Terry.Horner@cornell.edu)

November

02...[US Capitol Tour, Pizza, and Light](#)

Questions: programming@cornellclubdc.org

10...[Community Service Event: DC Central Kitchen Morning Meal Preparation](#)

Questions: communityservice@cornellclubdc.org

12...CCW Monthly [Board](#) & [Programming](#) Meeting

Questions: president@cornellclubdc.org

Volunteer Corner

Communications

Are you a fan of Instagram and Facebook? Help CCW with our communications efforts including our social media and email updates. Contact Toniqua Hay at communications@cornellclubdc.org

Community Service

We are always looking for community service ideas and volunteers! To learn more, contact Lisa Burns Griffin at communityservice@cornellclubdc.org

Finance Committee

Do you have a background in accounting or tax law? Or want to become more familiar with these areas and how they work in the non-profit context? Then please consider joining us!

Contact Mel Zurn at treasurer@cornellclubdc.org

Programming

The CCW Programming Committee welcomes suggestions for programs and volunteers to help with them!

Contact Jim Schoonmaker at programming@cornellclubdc.org

Technology

Looking for people with website experience to help in the redesign of the CCW website. Contact

Matt Nieman at president@cornellclubdc.org

Nominations

Interested in serving on the 2018-19 CCW Board of Directors? Consider being nominated to serve as a director. Contact Eliot Greenwald at nominations@cornellclubdc.org

Editorial

Interested in assisting CCW with its newsletter and informing the local Cornell community about local goings-on? What to be published? Contact newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

Upcoming Events

Homecoming 2019

October 4-5th Cornell University, Ithaca, New York



What's happening?

- Football
- Cornell vs Georgetown
- Fireworks
- Laser Light Show
- Homecoming 5K
- Return to Classroom
- Big Red Fan Festival

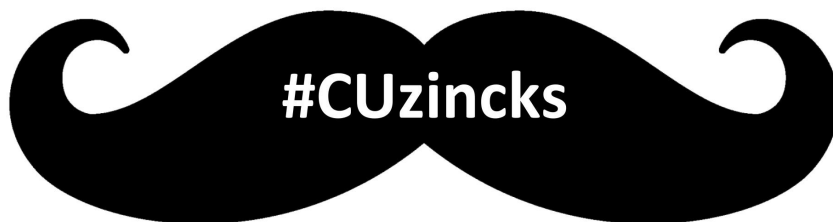
Community Service Event: Carter Barron Cleanup & Invasive Removal

October 6th 1:00-3:00 pm Carter Barron Amphitheater, 4850 Colorado Ave NW, Washington, DC 2001

- Volunteers will meet beside the Brightwood Recreation Area by the entrance of the Rock Creek Park Tennis Center. Closest address (4850 Colorado Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20011) will take you to the south entrance of Carter Barron. Parking is available in the lots. Volunteers are encouraged to carpool, bike, or use public transportation.
- Description: Join Rock Creek Conservancy and the National Park Service as we remove trash and invasive plants from one of our “mini-oases,” Carter Barron. In 2019, the Conservancy is focusing its restoration efforts on five “mini-oases” in Rock Creek Park in addition to the normal volunteer locations throughout the Rock Creek Watershed. These areas have been strategically chosen because they are important to the health of Rock Creek and they are important to the communities that live near them. Trash and invasive plants are two of the biggest issues plaguing this urban park. We invite you to join Rock Creek Conservancy to help restore this “mini-oasis.” We hope to see you there!
- Registration: Individuals must register. There only are 15 “reserved” spaces.

International Spirit of Zinck's Night

October 17th Washington, DC



What's happening?

History of International Zinck's Night. We'll all have drinks at Theodore Zinck's, when I get back next fall!" goes "Give My Regards to Davy," the timeless Cornell fighting song. Enjoy camaraderie and refreshments at a gathering for Cornellians of all stripes everywhere.

CCW News

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

September 2019

Moved? New email? Update your member profile at www.cornellclubdc.org

Do you have ideas for CCW News? Or corrections? Email us at: newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

Event Venues and Speakers Wanted

Do you have a meeting space that CCW could use for lectures or receptions?
Do you know a local Cornellian who would be a great speaker?
Contact Jim Schoonmaker at programming@cornellclubdc.org

CCW News

Do you know a local Cornellian who should be featured in a future newsletter?
Contact Claudia Benack at newsletter@cornellclubdc.org

New CCW Members 6/01/2019-8/31/2019

Life Members

Cole Stefan '18
Taylor MacBain '18

New Members

Melanie Adams '18
Tyler Brewer '19
Remikelu Cole '92
Joanna Guy '13
Emma Hoarty '19

New Members

Peter Hu '19
Amir Patel '18