

has changed for the better: understanding mental illness; increased opportunities for women and minorities; less tolerance for inappropriate behavior (sexual harassment and bullying). However, we have lost some things: We are less powerful economically; dissenting (politically incorrect) ideas are not freely discussed in our schools; political divisions, magnified by technological changes, have paralyzed our government, decreasing our national competitiveness. It is important that we, as recipients of a Lawrenceville education, act as logical, rational leaders in our communities."

And now this from classmate **Mike Gibson**: "I am alive and well in Cincinnati, which is (as I continue to find) an accomplishment at this age. My spouse Celine and I spend time between Cincinnati and our little mountain cabin near Asheville, N.C. We continue to enjoy our retirement and our three children and four grandchildren.

"I continue to dabble in music (guitar mostly) via open blues jams, casual get-togethers with other musicians and any other 'gig' I can find. There are no professional musicians in any danger of losing their jobs because of my talent at this point. It is always smart to know your limitations! I do however have a formidable collection of fine guitars! I have trouble passing up certain 'great deals' in music shops, much to Celine's dismay.

"Seriously speaking, though, Celine and I are doing very well. There are the normal family challenges from time to time. I lost my brother, who was four years my senior, to cancer in 2016. I was very fortunate to have had my father until past his 96th birthday, but he passed away in November 2017. Mother, age 90, is still with us and is going with me to our cabin for a few days. Knowing that I may have the longevity gene, it would probably have been a good idea to have led a little healthier lifestyle! But I am in good physical condition except for a few arthritic joints and I generally enjoy every day.

"Through serendipitous circumstances I had a couple of text messages with two former Hamill House brothers, Ted Wobber '71 and **Raimund Popper**. Both seem to be fine and both living in Europe — one in Spain and one in Italy ... real tough assignments!"

Retirement? How about the next from **Tom Crawford**: "My wife and I are finally implementing our plan to move to a warmer climate, closer to family and to a beautiful setting. We are in the process of moving to Longboat Key, off Sarasota on the west coast of Florida. We are fixing up our new home there while selling our place near Seattle. Lots of moving parts to get right (or at least not wrong) so it has been a busy quarter. We look to leave the Seattle area by July 15 and get to Florida just in time for the hot summer season so clearly our timing is

not right. As the move time gets nearer, the closing down of a 22-year stint in the great northwest becomes more and more real. Anyway, we are excited and looking forward to getting settled in Florida. On a different subject I have started to have quarterly calls with **Bob Leavitt** to keep at least one Lawrenceville connection current.

Finally, **Hank Clifford** expounds on the not-yet-retirement theme: "A well-kept secret to those not living in California is that sadly the beautiful state of California is in a death spiral of political and economic self-destruction, and thousands of Californians are fleeing every month, at least those who have the means to do so. Not wishing to be the last rat to abandon the sinking ship, we have spent the past year studying bucket-list destinations for our 'final resting place,' and have settled upon Charlottesville, Va., which coincidentally is also the location of my post-L'ville alma mater. The move from sunny San Diego to not-quite-as-sunny C'ville will be a gradual process, but most likely the next time you hear from me, I will be firmly ensconced in the Old Dominion, enjoying a quieter, more pastoral existence ... but still not retired."

Adios, for now.

1973

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We had an enormous turnout for our 45th — in fact one of the largest ever for a 45th reunion year. In addition to the School's already robust schedule, **Phil Hughes** and **Bill Jump**, with the help of others on the stellar reunion committee, added well-received class-specific events to our schedule. Class events were an attempt to create new intersections, and from the response, exceeded expectations. The experience generated great momentum as we head toward our 50th.

These "class-only" or "class-focused" events were numerous, and kicked off with a well-attended class-only bourbon tasting (even had a bottle of Pappy's to the surprise of the attendees) on Friday afternoon, sponsored by **Phil Hughes** in the spectacular new Abbott Dining Hall. There was a well-attended ceremony for classmate **Bruce Quackenbush** for his induction into the Athletic Hall of Fame presented by Champ Atlee H'74 '75 '79 '83 '84 '87 '06 P'92. **Don Missey** and **Ed Dougherty** organized a well-attended trackside gathering to pay tribute to **Merrell Noden**. Joining us were Merrell's wife Eva Mantell and son Sam '17, which made the event even more meaningful.

Corky Ellis organized a panel of classmates discussing interesting pursuits outside their careers. Our Saturday night class dinner was held at the School's

LAWRENTIAN LAURELS: JIMMIE TUCKER '73

Pioneering Architect Fêted



Jimmie Tucker '73 is a founding principal of Self + Tucker Architects in Memphis.

Jimmie E. Tucker '73 was honored with the Francis Gassner Award in April during the American Institute of Architects Memphis 65th Anniversary Gala at Ballet Memphis. Tucker is the first African-American to receive the prestigious award, presented annually to a Memphis architect for his or her contributions to the profession and the community.

A native Memphian and founding principal of Self + Tucker Architects, which he founded 23 years ago with partner Juan Self, Tucker is the first African-American architect to serve as president of AIA Memphis, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects. His work is notable for his efforts to revive and preserve historic and underserved neighborhoods in the Memphis area. Tucker has been involved with projects including museums, countless schools and churches, and a number of civic and commercial sites throughout the city. He also serves as an adjunct professor of architecture at the University of Memphis.

"One of the things I tell my students: Neighborhoods that are experiencing certain challenges, those are the neighborhoods that really need our attention, our focus and our energy, and really deserve good design," Tucker recently told the Memphis *Commercial Appeal*. "Those are the neighborhoods where you can really have an impact."

Tucker learned he was to receive the Gassner Award on April 4 — notable both as the 50th anniversary of the death of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and for the ribbon-cutting on a decade-long project to develop, design and renovate the historic Universal Life Insurance Building. For him, the date held deeper meaning. Tucker enrolled at Lawrenceville in the fall of 1968, just months after King's assassination, and African-American students had begun to attend the School only four years prior.

"It was somewhat of a turbulent time when we were there," Tucker recalls. "I've come to appreciate it [Lawrenceville] so much more since then and the difference it's made in my life, having the opportunity to leave Memphis, to go to another part of the country and interact with people of different backgrounds and from different parts of the world."

Tucker has also served as founder and first president of the Memphis chapter of the National Organization of Minority Architects NOMA, as a member of the Downtown Memphis Design Review Board, and on boards for the Urban Land Institute, United Housing, and U.S. Green Building Council.

"I love what I do every day," he says. "It's an opportunity to have an impact. I think that's important that you can do something you like and it's of value."

— Andrea Fereshteh