

Yale Class of 1963 Pre-Reunion in the Berkshires May 27-30, 2013

The Class Council decided that a Pre-Reunion might enhance the experience of our 50th Reunion for some of us and encourage more Classmates and their families to return to New Haven from May 30 to June 2, 2013. The Pre-Reunion is intended to complement the Reunion by offering additional informal time together before the Reunion, a range of optional recreational activities and opportunities for Classmates to convene, converse and do things together.

After examining various sites reasonably near New Haven, the Council has chosen the Cranwell Resort, Spa and Golf Club in Lenox, Massachusetts, in the Berkshires approximately a 2-1/2 hour drive from New Haven. The Pre-Reunion would begin Memorial Day Monday evening, May 27 (Classmates could arrive sooner if they wished) and end on Thursday, May 30 when events in New Haven commence. Charlie Sawyer, who lives in the area, has devoted and continues to devote considerable time to making arrangements and plans for the event.

Cranwell will serve as our "headquarters" where we plan to have a welcoming barbecue on Tuesday night and a class dinner Wednesday. However, Classmates and their families may choose to stay "off-campus"--there are numerous other resorts, inns, and bed and breakfasts in the area-- and still be connected to the group. Facilities at the Cranwell Resort include a 35,000 square foot spa, a glass-enclosed indoor heated pool, a fitness center, tennis courts, an 18-hole historic golf course, and three award-winning restaurants and a spa

café. Cranwell has reserved a block of 60 rooms (out of a total 96 rooms, suites, cottages and townhouses) for the Class until December 31 at a group rate of \$189 per night.

Other area activities include the Norman Rockwell Museum in Stockbridge, The Mount in Lenox (home of Edith Wharton, great house, great gardens), Naumkeag in Stockbridge (country estate of the Gilded Age), Berkshire Botanical Garden in Stockbridge, Chesterwood (Daniel Chester French's studio and gardens), Hancock Shaker Village in Pittsfield, The Clark Art Institute in Williamstown, antiquing, walking in charming towns and hiking at Monument Mountain in Great Barrington or Pleasant Valley Sanctuary in Lenox.

Over the summer we will be developing a series of optional events and a detailed program for the Pre-Reunion, information on places to visit and things to do, and alternative places to stay. We expect to send this information to the Class in early fall. Meanwhile we would welcome any suggestions (directed to any of us at the bottom of this letter) that you might have for the Pre-Reunion and would like to know whether you plan to attend or might like to attend but would have difficulty getting there or getting to New Haven so that we could make suitable arrangements for you.

Finally, if you would like to learn more about Cranwell, you can access its website: www.cranwell.com. If you want to make your reservation now, you can contact Cranwell at 800-272-6935 or reservations@cranwell.com. If you are uncertain, remember the preferential rate of \$189 is available until December 31.

Charlie Sawyer Csawyer1@berkshire.rr.com

Dan Arons darons@partners.org

Nelson Luria Nelson.Luria@rbccm.com