



May
2004

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2004

A CORNELL CLUB OF WASHINGTON PUBLICATION

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

Mark Katz '86, Speaker at Annual Dinner: "Politics is Easy-Comedy is Hard"

Tuesday, May 18, 6:00 p.m.
The Madison Hotel
1177 15th St, NW

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Is it legal to have fun at an Annual Meeting? You bet! Come hear Mark Katz '86, a trained and licensed humorist who, under the banner of his Sound Bite Institute, generates hum for himself and his clients, a hodge-podge of world leaders, corporate cheeses, and various VPs. Mark was the kid who cracked jokes from the back row of your seventh grade English class, but he grew up to write humor speeches for the president of the United States.

Our guest speaker can trace his career from the principal's office to the Oval Office--with a four-year stop in Ithaca along the way. Mark is the author of the critically-acclaimed *Clinton & Me*, an account of his two-term tenure as the in-house humorist of the Clinton White House, where he helped the president prepare for his annual funny speeches to the Washington press corps, including the celebrated Clinton video shown at the White House Correspondents' Dinner in April of 2000.

Copies of *Clinton & Me* will be available for Mark to sign, and a portion of the book sales will be donated to the Cornell Club of Washington Scholarship Fund.

Cocktail Hour and Silent Auction, 6:00 p.m.: We'll start the evening in the Dolly Madison Ballroom of the Madison Hotel, 1177 15th St. NW in Washington D.C. where you can meet and mingle at the cash bar and place your bids in the silent auction of items and services. Dinner follows at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting and Speaker, 8:00 p.m.: Quick business portion of our annual meeting including the election of 2004-2005 officers, then on to the main attraction, our guest speaker, Mark Katz.

Mark Katz careened his way into the Oval Office over the course of a lifetime: born the second son of a suburban orthodontist and a Kennedy-bedazzled mother, he spent a childhood trying to make the Nixon Enemy list and deploying classroom jokes to deny others their education. Resisting career pressure to straighten teeth (or at least go to law school), he chose politics instead. At 24, he hitched his wagon to Michael Dukakis' star-only to become the joke writer on a campaign that was a joke unto itself. Four years later, he was an unemployed copywriter in need of a job when he got a call from a flailing Clinton White House in need of jokes. And the rest, as they say, is comedy.

For a preview of Mark's sense of humor, turn to page 6 for an interview with Mark, conducted by Danielle Alsop, President of the Cornell Club of Washington.

Wanted: Silent Auction contributions

To contribute, please contact
 Melanie Acostavalle at
mga6@cornell.edu or
 202/364-5176.

New Alums Email alert!

see page 6

CCW 2003-2004 Officers

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Former President Clinton to Speak at Cornell's 2004 Commencement

Former President Bill Clinton has accepted the invitation to speak at Cornell University's Convocation on Saturday May 29, 2004. Cornell University's Convocation address is unique in both its timing and student involvement in speaker selection. Unlike other universities, which present a featured guest speaker during the graduation ceremony, Cornell separates the student-sponsored Convocation from the ceremonial Commencement, sponsored by the administration. This year, former President Clinton was the unanimous first choice of the Convocation Committee, comprised of seniors in the Class of 2004 Council, student-elected trustees, and senior representatives of the Student Assembly.

Cornell's recent Convocation speakers have included political strategist James Carville, activist and actor Danny Glover, and former Attorney General and Cornell alum Janet Reno '60. Clinton is the first United States President to speak at a Cornell Convocation.

Coming Events...

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
- Sun., May 2- MDDG, *Waiting for Godot*, Clark St. Playhouse, Arlington, VA, 2 p.m. Contact: 703/418-4808 or <http://www.washingtonshakespeare.org/directions.htm>
- Sun., May 2- Dragon Boat training, Anacostia Community Boathouse, 1115 O St. SE, 2:50-4:00 p.m. promptly! Contact: Jack Chiu, jackwc56@hotmail.com or Bob Day at dayhaven@starpower.net or 301/438-7755.
- Wed., May 5- Softball, Cornell vs. Ohio. Contact: Steve Piekarec, spiekare@cs.com or 703/281-4311 or see <http://www.dalum.org>
- Fri., May 7- Entrepreneurial Conference, Madison Hotel, 1177 15th St. NW, 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Contact: Danielle Alsop at dalsop@verizon.net.
- Tues., May 11- CCW, 2148 O St. NW, Programming at 6:30, Board at 7:30 p.m. Contact: Danielle Alsop at dalsop@verizon.net.
- Thurs., May 13- Young Alumni Happy Hour, Hamilton Crowne Plaza, 14th & K Sts. NW, 6-8 p.m. Contact: Anne Law, alaw99@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
- Sun., May 16- Dragon Boat training, Anacostia Community Boathouse, 1115 O St. SE, 2:50-4:00 p.m. promptly! Contact: Jack Chiu, jackwc56@hotmail.com or Bob Day at dayhaven@starpower.net or 301/438-7755.
- Tues., May 18- Annual Dinner, Madison Hotel, 1177 15th St. NW, 6 p.m. Contact: Danielle Alsop, dalsop@verizon.net.
- Mon., May 17- MDDG discussion, Guapo's, 4515 Wisconsin Ave. NW, 6:30 p.m. Contact: Mark Gruenberg at 202/898-4825 or gruenberg@footlightsdc.org for reservations.
- Wed., May 19- "Group Therapy," Topaz, 1733 N St. NW, 6-8 p.m. Contact: Lauren Myers, LM32@cornell.edu or 301/717-4383.
- 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, Georgetown Waterfront, around 9:30 a.m. Contact: Jack Chiu, jackcw56@hotmail.com or Bob Day 301/438-7755, dayhaven@starpower.net
- Sun., May 23- MDDG, *Boy Gets Girl*, H St. Playhouse, 1365 H. St. NE, 2 p.m. Contact: Robin Larkin, rlarkin@footlightsdc.org or 301/897-9314.

June

- Sun., June 20- Father's Day Picnic, noon-4p.m. Invitations sent directly to members. Volunteers contact: Nicole DelToro, ndeltor@andrewscole.com or 703/883-2005 x1044.

Quick Club Announcements...

● **Hands On D.C. Saturday, May 1, 8:30 a.m.**

Cardozo High School, 1300 Clifton St. NW

Join the Cornell team for a community serve-a-thon in which teams of people come together for a day of service to help DC public schools. Work will involve some type of project at a school such as painting or gardening or clean up, with exact assignments made on May 1. Meet at 8:30 a.m. for the opening rally. Children are welcome at this family friendly attempt. To join the Cornell team, please contact Michelle Johnson Coon at mjohnsondc@yahoo.com. You can learn more about the event at <http://www.handsondc.org/>

● **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, May 19, 6:00-8:00 p.m.**

When it's that time again--the third Wednesday of the month (including the summer)--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. 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!

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

Saturday mornings, 10:00-11:30 a.m., 801 7th St. SW

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. Volunteers need not commit to every weekend.

Jefferson is located at the intersection of 7th Street SW and Maine Avenue. There's 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.

Free Entrepreneurial Conference

You're invited to attend an exciting economic development conference at The Madison Hotel , 1177 15th St, NW, 8:00 a.m. through 2:00 p.m. on Friday, May 7 sponsored by SayYES to Cleveland (founded by Cornellians Mark Brandt and Benson Lee). The entrepreneurial conference includes:

- Speakers Michael Feuer, co-founder and former CEO of OfficeMax and Tom Coughlin, Vice Chairman of the Board of Wal-Mart Stores
- Entrepreneur Panel “Securing Money from Start-up to IPO” moderated by a nationally known venture capitalist

Tickets for the Indians/Oriole game on Friday, May 7 may also be available to those Cornellians pre-registering. Secure your spot by registering at www.yescleveland.org (click on Events) or call Sharon Dail Ramirez, Executive Director of SayYes, at 216/ 776-6172. Email President Danielle Alsop (dalsop@verizon.net) with any questions. The Madison Hotel is Metro accessible at the Farragut North (Red Line) and McPherson Square (Yellow/Blue).

Qatar Embassy Dinner: CCW Members Only

Friday, May 14, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

4839 Indian Lane NW, Washington D.C.

The Honorable Bader Omar Al-Dafa, the ambassador of Qatar, has invited members of CCW to be his guests at a dinner at his residence. A few places, open to CCW members only, are still available for the Friday, May 14 dinner, 6-8:00 p.m. After the ambassador's talk, a question and answer period will follow.

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 and send back your check if your response is too late for you to be included on the guest list. For questions, please contact Marge at 202/625-6312 or e-mail her at mloory@aol.com.

The ambassador's residence is at 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.

This event is the third in CCW's series on the Mid-East, including a visit to the Israeli Embassy and Professor Brann's Faculty Lecture in May.

Sallie Mae 10K Run

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

Join a Cornell team of runners participating in the 21st Annual Sallie Mae 10K race. 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. The top male and female times from each school will be combined to determine the team winning \$10,000 for their school's scholarship fund! Register at <http://www.salliemae10k.org>. Put “Cornell” in the appropriate box and check “intercollegiate” under the team category. Email Lauren Myers to get credit as being a Cornell runner at LM32@cornell.edu. For questions, contact Lauren at 301/717-4383. **3**

Yale/Cornell Young Alumni Happy Hour

Thursday, May 13, 6:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
14K Bar and Restaurant
Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel
14th & K Streets, NW

Have you ever wanted to know what going to school at Yale was like? This is your chance to find out! The Young Alums of the Cornell and the Yale Club of Washington DC invite you to their first joint happy hour of 2004 on Thursday, May 13 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Meet and mingle with alums from the "other" Ivy at the Hamilton Crowne Plaza Hotel, 14th and K Streets NW and chat over drinks and appetizers. Happy Hour Drink Specials will be available along with a discounted Appetizer Menu.

Directions: The closest Metro station is McPherson Square on the Orange/Blue Lines. For further directions, call the hotel at 202/682-0111. To RSVP or ask questions about the event, please contact Anne Law at alaw99@yahoo.com.

Ivy League 50+ Singles Cocktail Reception

Sun., May 16, 6:00-8:30 p.m.: 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 \$35 in advance, \$45 at the door. 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 you are interested in playing bridge with the Ivy League 50+ Singles Group, please contact David Huff at 202/363-1289.

Welcome to New Lifetime Members of CCW!

#221 Stephen Friedman '59

#222 Barbara Friedman '59

#223 - Gregory Commins, Jr. '87

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CCW Photo Album



CCW Board member Ed Berkowitz (left) thanks Reuven Azar, Political Counselor, at the Israeli Embassy.



Board meeting: Hard at work are (from left to right) Board Member Kim Jones, Membership Vice Presidents Mary Bowman and Bob Day.

Ivy Singles Social Club May Event: The Italian Cultural Institute

Friday, May 21, 6:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
2025 M Street NW, Suite 610

Italian Food and Cash Bar of Italian Wines and Champagnes

Join us for a repeat of last year's sold-out, smashing success: an evening in Italy, full of romance and entertainment at the Italian Cultural Institute, the cultural wing of the Italian Embassy. Savor the delights of Italian cuisine, sip Italian wine or champagne, listen to heartwarming Neapolitan songs and learn about Italian traditions and culture; art and music, with tips on travel, fashion, and design with welcoming remarks by the director of the Institute.

Reservations: \$25 by check payable to "DC Penn Alumni Club" and mail to Charna Lynn, P.O.B. 40103, Palisades Station, Washington, DC 20016, by Tuesday, May 18, 2004. Please note your Cornell affiliation on the check. E-mail reservations to rifu4u@aol.com and walk-ins: \$30. Space is limited so make your reservations early for what promises to be a unique and fun event. Questions: contact Charna Lynn at rifu4u@aol.com.

Directions: The Italian Cultural Institute is located on M Street between 20th and 21st Streets NW in downtown DC. It is 5 blocks from the Red Line metros Farragut North and Dupont Circle. There is free street parking on M Street after 6:30 p.m., and on the side streets all the time. Garage parking for \$5 is available in the building.

The Ivy Singles Social Club (ISSC) is a coalition of Ivy League, Seven Sister and other prestigious schools' regional alumni associations that sponsors social activities. Our events are open to all single alumni of member schools. <http://www.ivysinglesdc.com/>

Dates to Save for upcoming ISSC events in June:

Saturday, June 12: Tour of Anderson House (2120 P St. NW) with Lunch at Mimi's American Bistro, 2118 Massachusetts Avenue (rescheduled from April). The Harvard Club presents a tour with Education Coordinator Dr. Caren Pauley of the magnificent home of Larz (Harvard Class of 1888) and Isabel Anderson. Now headquarters for the Society of the Cincinnati, the first veteran's organization established in the U.S., the mansion houses the Andersons' collection of fine arts, plus the Society's library and permanent museum. A fantastic look at the top of the upper crust after the turn of the last century will set you back \$5. Lunch follows, Dutch treat. No Walk-Ins: Cost: \$5 (tour only). If the website to register <http://www.ivysinglesdc.com/> is unavailable, call 202/337-1300 and give a phone number where you can be reached.

Friday, June 18: Happy Hour at the Georgetown Club and Tea and Cookies at the Bryn Mawr Lantern Bookstore, 1530 Wisconsin Avenue. Send \$25 check payable to "The University of Chicago Club of Washington, DC" to Debby Prigal, 1625 Q St. NW #207, Washington, DC 20009, by Monday June 14, 2004. Note your school on check. E-mail Reservations and Walk-ins: \$30 for ALL email to brynmawr@ivysinglesdc.com or phone reservations 202/265-3145, and walk-ins.

Defense of Division Title Players Still Needed

Vs. Ohio, May 5

Cornell's new CAN (Capital Alumni Network) season will begin on April 30 with an opener against Colgate, the first of 14 games. Last season was Cornell's most successful softball season ever in the mostly competitive and ever-growing CAN league. Cornell's regular season record was 14-1. This year there are 48 teams in 8 divisions. We hope to again compete for the division title, as well as be a serious contender in the post-season tournament at Bolling Air Force base in mid-August.

The schedule for Cornell (and the rest of the league) can be found on the CAN web site (www.dalum.org), under Sports, Softball. Weekday games, usually Wednesday or Friday are played on the Monument or the Ellipse. Postgame gatherings are at the Bottom Line on I Street, NW between 17th and 18th. Weekend games (2-3 doubleheaders) are usually in Alexandria, near the Van Dorn Metro.

A number of regulars from last year return, including stalwarts Rob Cozzie, Scott Ford, Brad Olander, Rhonda Sincavage, Larry Arnold, Steve Piekarec, Tim Hess, Eugene Freedman, Eric Diamont, Dave Sotos and Lauren Hall. They are joined by a number of important newcomers. However, we still need a couple more female athletes who have experience pitching or playing in the infield or outfield. Players need five games to qualify for the tournament. It is never too late to join or just come out and support the team. Contact Steve Piekarec at spiekare@cs.com or 703/281-4311 for more information.

Roving Reporter: Bob McKinless, '48 Old Rag XXXVII

April 17, 2004: The nicest weekend of 2004 (78-degrees) provided a splendid setting for our Spring Hike. Ten Cornell-in-Washington students joined five alumni and seven of their friends on the crowded trail. The Park Service came close to declaring the parking lot full, which would have barred additional hikers. Many thanks to Clint Brass '90, Chris Tupino '01 and Peter Knoll '85 (Harvard) for helping transport the students.

On a personal note, after skipping the hike last fall, I managed to do 2/3 of the climb this time and look forward to doing all of No. 38 in September.

Festival: May 22 and 23, Georgetown Waterfront

Training sessions: 3-4:00 p.m., Sundays, May 2 and 16

The Cornell Club's "Big Red Dragons" are now entered in several races during Washington's upcoming Dragon Boat Festival on Saturday and Sunday, May 22 & 23, and training sessions are already underway. We still have a few more seats for Cornellians and their friends—half a dozen at last count—and it's not too late to join. Please consider joining the team—not just watching!

Festival: To enjoy the spectacle and the festival as spectators, come to the Georgetown Waterfront. The boats launch from the Thompson Boat Center near the Kennedy Center, the finish line is located at Washington Harbor, and the starting lines are 500 meters and 250 meters upstream—closer to Key Bridge. Learn more about this traditional highlight of the Chinese festival year at www.dragonboatdc.com.

Training for Paddlers: You, your friends and family members over age 14 can still join the Big Red Dragons. Anyone who has ever paddled a canoe can easily learn the racing technique for making these Chinese dragon boats fly across the finish line. So it's not too late, even if you may have missed the first session. The remaining sessions are scheduled:

Sunday, May 2, 3:00 pm-4:00 pm

Sunday, May 16, 3:00 pm-4:00 pm

Note: You must be prompt or the boat will shove off without you. All training sessions are being held at the new Anacostia Community Boathouse, located at 1115 "O" Street, SE, adjacent to the Washington Navy Yard's gate at 11th and "O" Streets, S.E.

Email Team Captain Jack Chiu '99 (jackkwc56@hotmail.com) your name, phone number(s) and preferred e-mail address, ASAP plus those of any friends you're bringing. Team Manager Bob Day '56 (dayhaven@starpower.net) would appreciate being copied on your messages. If you have questions e-mail Jack or phone Bob at 301/438-7755.

Modern Drama Discussion Group in May

Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*, May 2, 2:00 p.m.

Discussion, Ari Roth's *Oh, the Innocents*, May 17, 6:30 p.m.

Gilman's *Boy Gets Girl*, May 23, 2:00 p.m.

CCW co-sponsors the Modern Drama Discussion Group known as "Footlights." 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.

Performance *Waiting for Godot*, Sunday, May 2, 2:00 p.m. Discussion follows the performance. Please call WSC (Clark St. Playhouse) for tickets (\$17) and directions.

Discussion of *Oh, the Innocents*: Monday, May 17, 6:30 p.m. at Guapo's, 4515 Wisconsin Ave. NW near the Red Line's Tenleytown/AU Metro. Theater J Artistic Director Ari Roth wrote and will direct his own play with his own music—a play about making music or any kind of art in a world dominated by commercial interests and pressures for success and fame. For a reservation, contact Mark Gruenberg at 202/898-4825 or gruenberg@footlightsdc.org.

Performance of Rebecca Gilman's *Boy Gets Girl*, Sunday, May 23, 2:00 p.m. Tickets for Theater Alliance (H St. Playhouse, 1365 H St. NE) are \$17 each. Send your check, payable to "Footlights," to Robin Larkin, 5403 Nibud Ct., Rockville, MD 20852. For information contact Robin, 301/897-9314 or rlarkin@footlightsdc.org. Your cancelled check is your receipt. Tickets are distributed by Robin at the theater just before the performance.

Go to <http://www.footlightsdc.org/index.html> for updates and links to theaters for directions.

Election of CCW Officers at Annual Dinner, May 14

Proposed slate for officers of the Cornell Club of Washington for the 2004-2005 year to be considered at the Annual Dinner:

President: Danielle Alsop
First Vice President: Jonathan Simon
Treasurer: Nicole Del Toro
Secretary: Anne Law
Vice President, Newsletter: Helen Schwartz
Vice President, Scholarship: Mary Bowman
Vice President, Membership: Nicole Driebe
Vice President, CAAAN MD/DC: Debbie Rutenberg
Vice President, CAAAN VA: Jill Fields
Vice President, Technology: Kim Jones
Board: Bob Day, Marjorie Loory, Steve Piekarec

New Alums Alert!

Alumni from '02 and '03, did you know your @cornell.edu address no longer works unless you have set up your free-for-life Cornell email and forwarding service? Set up this free service online at <http://www.cuconnect.cornell.edu/html/ForwardNew.html>

CU On the Net automatically forwards all e-mail sent to your Cornell address to an alternate e-mail address of your choosing. As you change jobs, addresses, and Internet access providers, your Cornell address remains constant. And you get your name and e-mail address on the CU Electronic Directory.

Needed: Silent Auction contributions

Did you get financial aid at Cornell? Here's your chance to give back. Proceeds of the Silent Auction at our Annual Meeting May 15 go to CCW's Scholarship Fund. It's not too late to donate items or services. Get a possible tax deduction! Get great publicity!

Please contact **Melanie Acostavalle** at mga6@cornell.edu or 202/364-5176

Interview with Mark Katz '86,
2004 Annual Dinner Speaker

(see reservation form on next page)

Interviewer: Danielle Alsop, CCW President

Q: What was your major at Cornell?

A: I started out as an ILRie for reasons that must have made sense at the time but I can't remember now. I graduated from Arts with a degree in government. By the middle of my junior year, my father made this salient observation: "I liked it better when you were working twice as hard and I was paying half as much."

Q: What did you like best about Cornell?

A: Oddly, my favorite semester was the one I spent in Washington, DC in the Cornell-in-Washington Program. I had a great internship at the Washington bureau of the *New York Times* that was my introduction to the world of media and politics and wrote a thesis on the media coverage of the 1984 Democratic primaries. My theme song that semester was "Far Away from Cayuga's Waters."

Q: How did you come to mix humor with politics?

A: I spent the year I was 10 years old watching the Watergate hearings and listening to George Carlin albums. And I think my brain got cross-wired in a way that has never become completely untangled.

Q: That's a very odd combination.

A: Yeah, isn't it? The other idols I have from those formative days are Mel Brooks and Carl Reiner, Robert Klein, Bob Woodward, Carl Bernstein, and John Dean.

Q: What kind of material would you suggest Kerry use to deflect all the criticism he's getting from the Bush campaign?

A: Kevlar.

Q: What's the best joke you've ever written that's been used?

A: One of the very first jokes I ever wrote for President Clinton, which was after his first 100 days in office. It was "I don't think I'm doing that bad. After his first 100 days in office, William Henry Harrison had already been dead for 68 days." There's a chance I peaked too early.

Q: And the best one that hasn't been used?

When Al Gore rejected this joke in 2000: When his grades at Harvard came to light—his sophomore year—I pitched this joke to him, which was "It's true I got Cs and Ds my sophomore year at Harvard but in my own defense, that was also the year that I invented the bong."

Q: Would you ever consider writing jokes for President Bush?

Here's the thing: the RNC actually does have enough money to hire me to write jokes for Bush and Cheney—but after I cashed the check, they wouldn't have a lot left over.

Q: Is there anything you won't joke about?

A: I try to stay away from jokes about infanticide. They almost never work.

Crew Anyone? Free Lessons at Learn-to-Row Day

June 12, Anacostia Community Boathouse, Sat., June 12, 1-4:00 p.m.

Learn to row at a special clinic sponsored by the Capital Rowing Club and practice your newly acquired skills aboard GRASSHOPPER II, the new training barge donated by Cornellian Don Spero, EP '61, and his wife Nancy. On the boathouse lawn meet your friends at a white tent with a Cornell flag. Get expert coaching on proper rowing technique using "Concept Two" ergometers, before going out with a coach to "row the Anacostia."

The entrance to the Boathouse, marked by two white anchors and a sign, is located at 1115 "O" Street S.E., adjacent to the Washington Navy Yard's gate at 11th & O Streets SE. For further information, contact Bob Day at 301/438-7755 or e-mail: dayhaven@starpower.net.

CORNELL CLUB OF WASHINGTON ANNUAL DINNER

Tuesday, May 18, 2004
The Madison Hotel
1177 15th St, NW
Washington, DC 20005
2nd floor Dolly Madison Ballroom

(Directions: Farragut North on Red Line Metro or McPherson Square on Yellow/Blue. Parking available \$10/car)

6:00pm Cocktail Hour and Silent Auction (cash bar)

7:00 pm Dinner

8:00 pm Program, Election of Officers, GUEST SPEAKER: MARK KATZ, ARTS '86

SILENT AUCTION: Proceeds benefit the Cornell Club of Washington Scholarship Fund. If you would like to make a contribution to the Silent Auction, please contact Melanie Acostavalle at mga6@cornell.edu or 202/364-5176.

Dinner RSVP by May 11th. Questions contact: Danielle Alsop 703/863-1683 or dalsop@verizon.net
Silent Auction questions contact: Melanie Acostavalle - mga6@cornell.edu

Name _____ Guest Name _____

School/Year: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Number attending

_____ x \$30 for Recent Grads CCW members (Classes '98 - '03) = \$ _____

_____ x \$40 per current Club member and guest(s) = \$ _____

_____ x \$50 per non member = \$ _____

Tax deductible gift to the CCW Scholarship Fund (please enclose a separate check) = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

___ I cannot attend, but included is a tax deductible gift to the CCW Scholarship Fund for \$ _____

___ I would like to donate an item for auction (please contact me at the above address). Yes ___ No ___

___ I would like to reserve _____ copies of *Clinton & Me* (do NOT include payment now; pay at dinner)

Please make checks payable to the Cornell Club of Washington
and mail to: Danielle Alsop 4701 Tipton Lane, Alexandria, VA 22310

Annual Father's Day Picnic

Featuring

President Jeffrey Lehman '77

Sunday, June 20, Noon -4pm
Kiplinger Farm, Poolesville

All club members and guests are welcome! Look for your personal invitation to arrive in the mail mid-May.

Be among the first DC area alumni to meet and welcome President Jeffrey Lehman '77 when he attends the Annual Father's Day Picnic on **Sunday, June 20, 2004** at the Kiplinger Farm in Poolesville, MD. In addition to the usual festivities of swimming, tennis, and kids' games, club members and guests will have an opportunity to hear first hand about the President's plans and initiatives for the University. Bring a picnic lunch, blankets or beach chairs, racks and swim suits. We'll supply the drinks, watermelon, and cake.

Volunteers Needed! Due to an expected turnout of several hundred people, extra volunteers are needed for set up and clean up, as well as some other logistical tasks. If you're able to volunteer, please contact Nicole DelToro '91 at ndeltoro@andrewscole.com (preferred) or 703/883-2005 x104.

Harry Potter Private Screening in DC

Bring the kids, bring the grandkids, bring yourself, bring your friends!

On Saturday, June 5 in the morning, come to a special screening of Harry Potter, one day after it opens. Tickets are on a first come, first served basis and each Cornell member is limited to five tickets.

Please note that when you sign up, you are on a waiting list since, due to city legalities, there is a small chance this event may be canceled. Do not send any money now, but do sign up on the web at <http://www.acteva.com/go/ccw> or by contacting Lauren Myers at 301/717-4383 or at LM32@cornell.edu with your information. Once the event has been re-confirmed you will be able to formally RSVP and pay \$7.00 per person by credit card or check. If you have any questions, contact Lauren Myers '97 at LM32@cornell.edu or 301/717-4383.

CCW News

Cornell Club of Washington

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Washington, D.C. 20037

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