



The Harvard Club of San Diego

www.harvardclubofsandiego.com

January-March 2014

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings Fellow Harvard Alumni and Happy New Year!

It's hard to believe that 2014 is already here. It seems that 2013 flew by in the blink of an eye, on now we are embarking on a new year of exciting events and activities, specially crafted for you and your families.

2013 was a landmark year for the Harvard Club of San Diego. We launched new initiatives and continued to grow our membership and our alumni community. Our community service program grew to offer monthly activities that made a true impact on our community, our young alumni events culminated in a big, beer tasting event at the ever-popular Green Flash Brewery, and our monthly book club brought us back to our academic roots with intellectual discussions and debates.

Furthermore, our Harvard football team beat not only Yale, but also USD at a monumental game held right here in our hometown. Add to that the impressive 22 early action students admitted to Harvard College this past December (thank you again, Schools Committee!) and we have a year of inspiring and memorable achievements.

That's a pretty hard act to follow, but we are confident that 2014 has even more in store for our dedicated community of alumni. We are hard at work developing an impactful speaker series and our dedicated community service team is busy cleverly crafting even more creative events. Additionally, we will continue to expand our collaboration with the San Diego Harvard Business, Law, Government, and School of Design clubs as well as the Ivy Plus alumni clubs to bring you opportunities across schools and clubs.

This New Year's message wouldn't be complete without saying a very big Thank You to everyone who has made this club a continued success. This includes all our members, benefactors, committee members, and board directors who have contributed so much of themselves to our community. Because of you, we have much to celebrate and even more to anticipate.

I look forward to serving you in a fresh and exciting new year!

Grace Samodal; HCSD President

UPCOMING EVENTS

Harvard Glee Club Comes to San Diego

- 1) Saturday, January 18, 7:30pm
Escondido Center for the Arts
- 2) Sunday, January 19, 7:00pm
First United Methodist Church

Harvard Admissions Batch Interview

Sunday, January 26, 12noon
UCSD

February Book Club – Wendell Berry's Life is a

Miracle: An Essay Against Modern Superstition

Monday, February 10, 7:00pm
Del Mar

All Ivy Event – The Who and The What

Wednesday, February 12, 6:00pm
La Jolla Playhouse

HCSD 2014 Annual Dinner

Thursday, February 27, 6:00pm
La Jolla Country Club

March Book Club – Gregory Zuckerman's The Frackers:

The Outrageous Inside Story of the New Billionaire Wildcatters
Monday, March 10, 7:00pm
Location TBD

For more event details visit our website at:

www.harvardclubofsandiego.com.

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CRAIG LAMBERT: HARVARD MAGAZINE'S DEPUTY EDITOR VISITS SAN DIEGO

Craig Lambert, Deputy Editor of the Harvard Magazine, will join San Diego alumni February 27th for a delightful exploration of the diversity of comic writers who emerged from the cauldron of the Harvard Lampoon to sustain The Simpsons, Animal House, Letterman, Saturday Night Live, and more.

Craig has been a prolific writer not only for Harvard Magazine, but also for the New York Times, Sports Illustrated, and Town and Country. Craig indicates that "the excitement of my job is to spend two hours, several times a month, interviewing some of the brightest minds of our generation."

When asked what were some of his favorite articles which he authored for Harvard Magazine, Craig described a profile of Doug Kenney '68, author of "National Lampoon's Animal House" and "Caddyshack"; a study of the shift toward the professionalization of Ivy sports where athletes devote their entire training regime to just one sport rather than taking the opportunity to letter in two or three sports; and a survey of forty key Harvard figures who form the backbone of Hollywood film and television.

Recently Craig prepared a story for the New York Times' Op Ed page describing "Shadow Work", where businesses have been retrenching the



number of service workers available to help consumers. Craig observes that many people pump their own gas, squeegee their windshields, and scan their groceries.

On the day Craig was interviewed for this profile, Harvard was shutting down all classes due to a huge snowstorm. Craig looks forward to heading to "Our Fair City" for several days of respite in February.

2014 ANNUAL DINNER AT LA JOLLA COUNTRY CLUB

The Harvard Club of San Diego is delighted to invite you to our annual dinner at the beautiful grounds of the exclusive La Jolla Country Club. This will be an elegant evening featuring a champagne and wine reception, followed by dinner overlooking La Jolla and the Pacific Ocean. We will be honored with an outstanding presentation from Harvard Magazine's Craig Lambert (AB, '69) and an opening treat from Mike Reiss (AB, '81) of the Simpsons.

Date: Thursday, February 27, 2014
Time: 6pm - Champagne Reception;
7pm - Dinner
Venue: La Jolla Country Club
Address: 7301 High Ave, La Jolla, 92037

Members, couples and recent graduates receive special discounts!



Visit www.harvardclubofsandiego.com to book your tickets soon. Ticket sales will close on February 25. We do expect this event to sell out.

22 EARLY ACTION ADMITS FROM SAN DIEGO

The Harvard Club of San Diego's Schools Committee is proud to announce the 22 Early Action Admits from San Diego and Imperial counties, six of whom were awarded the Harvard Prize Book as juniors. Current students and Early Action interviewers are invited to the Congratulatory Brunch on January 19 to honor these admits.

In its first years, a Prize Book was awarded at only a handful of schools in the New England area. Today, more than 1,900 Prize Books, sponsored by local Harvard alumni, are awarded in schools all over the world. In San Diego, all high schools can participate by nominating the most outstanding member of its junior class. This year the following 22 seniors were admitted from San Diego and Imperial counties:



- Richa Chaturvedi, Mt. Carmel High School
- Eric Chen, Canyon Crest Academy
- Sabrina Devereaux, Francis Parker School
- Michaela Dews, Francis Parker School
- Tobechukwu Ezeokoli, Mt. Carmel High School
- Tyler Frances, Coronado High School
- Jason Ge, Westview High School
- Brad Gretsches, La Costa Canyon High School
- Stephanie Guo, Canyon Crest Academy
- Sonya Jacobs, La Jolla Country Day
- Kamran Jamil, Bishops School
- Alex Kahng, Torrey Pines High School
- Gabriel Martinez, Bishops School
- Mark Matten, Bishops School
- Erik Owen, Westview High School
- Regan Pecjak, Madison High School
- Christian Schatz, Calvin Christian High School
- Zachary Schmid, Francis Parker School
- Andrew Secondine, Bishops School
- Preetam Soundararajan, Francis Parker School
- Rosa Vargas, Francis Parker School
- Brandon Wachs, La Jolla Country Day

The HCSD would like to thank the interviewers who dedicated their time to give all Harvard College applicants the rewarding experience of an admissions interview and reach out to the local community as ambassadors of the university. Regular Action interviews are underway and we are always in need of more alumni interviewers! If you would like to volunteer, please visit www.harvardclubofsandiego.com to contact us.

CALL FOR ADMISSIONS INTERVIEWERS

We are off to a great 2013-2014 interviewing season with 22 early action admits, and we expect many more during regular action. We had a very successful "batch day" on January 11 at UCSD, where over 30 alumni interviewed almost 150 applicants. We will need everyone's help again this year in order to interview the almost 600 San Diego County and Imperial County applicants to Harvard.

Everyone in the Harvard Club of San Diego as well as the University Admissions Office appreciates and values alumni participation in the interviewing process. The alumni interview is often the first and only experience that these talented young people will have with the University. We need everyone's participation to give each and every applicant a positive "Harvard" experience.

There are 3 easy ways to participate:

1. Participate in the regular action batch day at UCSD on Sunday afternoon, January 26th (Noon - 5pm).
2. Interview a slate of candidates (generally 3 or 4) at a place and time determined by you and your candidates.
3. Some combination of the above.

The batch days are a great way to knock out several interviews for Harvard in a single afternoon and get a chance to meet other local alumni in the process. Please e-mail James Chenevey, HCSD Schools Committee Co-Chair, at jpschouse@msn.com, if you can participate and tell him your interviewing preference (batch days or separate interviews).

EVENTS RECAP

ALUMNI SERVE AT FATHER JOE'S – JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS

An evenly split team of volunteers (half alumni and half family members) gathered on Saturday, December 7th to serve dinner to the homeless residents at St. Vincent de Paul Village.

The Village is a partner of Father Joe's Villages, and is one of three locations that provides 887 transitional housing beds for up to a year in duration before placement in affordable housing and other alternatives. The program has a shared living component to it where individuals have assigned responsibilities which can be referenced on resumes. It is also a very secure and protected environment where the front desk is not able to disclose whether or not an individual resides on the campus for the safety of those who have escaped domestic violence.

The gymnasium attached to the kitchen had plenty of table space and was turned into a winter wonderland with decorations to add to the holiday spirit. Alumni were especially pleased to expose their children to the experience who in turn expressed their surprise in seeing many of the homeless who didn't appear to be in such circumstances based on appearance and conversation. We were surrounded by plenty of families and veterans who were grateful to have us on site.



Besides staffing the food distribution line, we had some volunteers helping with clean up on the floor and others with cutting the pizzas when they came out of the oven.

We served approximately 150 individuals over a 2.5 hour time frame. By the end of the evening, many alumni expressed interest in attending some of the community service events that will take place in 2014. We hope to see you there as well!

CAMP CAHiTo – FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

On Sunday, October 20th families of Brown, Harvard and MIT alumni gathered at Camp CaHiTo –a hidden gem within Balboa Park. We proved that sticks, ropes, forts and targets are all we need for an afternoon of fun. The children, and some young-at-heart parents, explored rope swings and tree houses, as well as target practice. A good number hit the targets!

After practicing low-ropes with support some made it across the tricky cables unassisted. Still others explored the trails and forts, making structures out of logs and sticks. Both the turnout and the enthusiasm were stellar, and the group is excited for more family events. Please share suggestions and thoughts for the many exciting possibilities in and around San Diego!

MENTORING VETERANS

On November 5th, a few days before Veterans Day, the Harvard Club of San Diego had alumni who volunteered their time for a single evening of mentoring veterans as they transition from serving our country to becoming integrated into the workforce.



With special thanks to The Travis Manion Foundation (TMF) for making this experience possible for us as a group, we interspersed around a conference table for an interactive group discussion between 10 veterans and 7 alumni mentors. After introductions, we started by covering some topics such as veterans in the workplace and the opportunity to dispel some rumors about hiring veterans since the two biggest issues are difficulty with understanding transferrable skills and fear of PTSD/post deployment issues. This lined up well with the previous TMF session that focused on transition-

the ups and downs about being out of the military. We then changed direction to concentrate on job prospecting as well as general career information.

A good sign that the evening was mutually beneficial for all in attendance was the fact that everyone remained past the session end time to talk further with many alumni offering guidance from both a general and career aligned perspective. We're planning another mentoring opportunity in the first half of 2014 with a different group of veterans - stay tuned!

WELCOME TO YOUR CITY – CRAFT BREWS AND A FOOD TRUCK

The Harvard Alumni Association coordinates Welcome to Your City events in cities around the world to connect regional alumni with recent graduates and new residents. The Harvard Club of San Diego added America's Finest City to this series and held our event on Thursday, October 17 at the Green Flash Brewery. No introduction to San Diego is complete without craft brews and a food truck!

Approximately 30 alumni attended, representing the College and several graduate programs, and approximately 15 alumni participated in our private tour of the brewery with Sean, our animated guide. It was a casual, fun evening

out. To get a taste of the event again - stay tuned and join us for our next Thirsty Third Thursday!



A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR HCSD BENEFACTORS

HCSD appreciates all of its wonderful members, but we would like to extend a special thank you to the Benefactors who contribute at the Premium dues levels. The extra funds contributed by our Benefactors help to offset the expenses associated with the core projects of our Club: Schools Committee and Prize Book Committee. Benefactors help underwrite HCSD hosted events such as: the Early Admit brunch in January, the Congratulatory Reception for all admits in April, the Leaving Left Coast Summer Picnic for all local undergraduates, and special Harvard group visits (such as the Harvard Pitches concert in May 2012 and the

Harvard Glee Club concert this month). Without their awesome support, we would not be able to provide such rich programming for our local Harvard community. The board would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to our:

Silver Benefactors: Fred Abbo, Frederick Berretta, Alan Cousin, Susanna Flaster, Tony Grover, Jill Gustafson, William Hammond, Chester Haskell, Maria Heredia, Joanna Hirst, Shazia Jamil, James Krause, George Lattimer, Martin Poirier, Chantal Lackey Reed, John Stiker, Paul Styrt, and Brad Zlotnik and to our **Golden Benefactors:** Bruce Hansen, Loreen Collins

THESE HCSD EVENTS ARE JUST AROUND THE CORNER – GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!

Harvard Glee Club Concerts:

Two Performances in San Diego

Saturday, January 18 and Sunday, January 19
Escondido and Mission Valley

2014 Annual Dinner - Harvard Humor Hits Home (featuring Craig Lambert)

Thursday, February 27, 6:00pm
La Jolla

The Harvard Club of organizes a variety of events for our local alumni and coordinates with other school clubs in the area to expand our educational, social and networking opportunities. Here are some of our favorite recurring events. If you have suggestions for events that you would like to see offered, please visit www.harvardclubofsandiego.com and write to us through the contact page.

HCSD Book Club

The Harvard Book Group has developed a devoted following and has thoroughly enjoyed the lively repartee at each evening's gathering. Not all books or authors have a Harvard connection, but sometimes they do; we have read books by Drew Faust, Michael Sandel, and young Harvard graduates and even had authors visit when they are in town and join our discussions. The group meets at 7pm on the 2nd Monday of every month. All paid members and their guests are welcome.

Community Service Events

The Harvard Club of San Diego aimed to offer community service events on a quarterly basis in 2013, but thanks to the hard work of Kristin Gross and alumni volunteer coordinators we were able to offer opportunities almost every month! Community service events range from annual events like working at the San Diego Food Bank to unique opportunities at the Special Olympics to mentoring students and veterans about college and career paths. These events are a family-friendly, rewarding way to give back to and interact with our local community.

Young Alumni Thirsty Thursdays

Monthly happy hours across town were introduced in 2013 to engage our young and young-at-heart alumni and welcome recent graduates to San Diego. This year we plan to coordinate quarterly events and make them a little larger, reminiscent of the Welcome to Your City event held at the Green Flash Brewery last October. Suggestions for fun venues? Email Emily Balmert at emily.balmert@gmail.com.

Meet the Current Students

HCSD provides opportunities for alumni to stay connected to and positively impact the current and future students of Harvard. From awarding Prize Books and interviewing applicants, to offering J-Term opportunities and attending receptions like the Leaving Left Coast picnic, the HCSD offers channels for alumni to inspire and advise students.

HCSD LEADERSHIP

Officers

President: Grace Samodal, AB '95
Vice President: Joanna Hirst, AB '69
Treasurer: Vivian Fung, AB '98
Secretary: Loreen Collins, AB '82

Board of Directors

Emily Balmert, AB '09
Loreen Collins, AB '82
Vivian Fung, AB '98
Kristin Gross, ALM '02
Joanna Hirst, AB '69
Rebecca Rudy, AB '99
Grace Samodal, AB '95
Christopher Sanders, AB '09
Daniel Wolf, JD '86

Committee Chairs

Schools: James Chenevey, AB '87, MBA '92;
Loreen Collins, AB '82; Emily Balmert, AB '09
Prize Book: Ronnie Friedman-Barone, M.Ed '87
Book Club: Katie Militello, AB '79
Community Service: Kristin Gross, ALM '02
Communications: Emily Balmert, AB '09
Annual Dinner: Grace Samodal, AB '95
Young Alumni: Emily Balmert, AB '09



