

June 2005

Dear Classmate or Friend of 1951,

We are making final arrangements for our Los Angeles mini-reunion starting Wednesday, September 28 through Sunday, October 2 and for our optional tour of Santa Barbara from October 2 until the morning of October 5. We have already received a good response to our first letter and expect approximately 145 people in Los Angeles and 65 in Santa Barbara. Enclosure A to this letter lists those who are either “definite” or “probable” attendees for Los Angeles and Santa Barbara.

We now need to make final commitments at various venues and request that you firm up your plans by completing and returning Enclosure B, the Reservation Form with your hotel plans, tour selections and method of payment for both Los Angeles and Santa Barbara.

NOTE: This letter is being sent to all definite and probable attendees and also to those classmates from whom we have not heard. Therefore, it is important that Enclosure B, the Reservation Form, be returned even if you cannot attend as this will save the Class the cost of additional mailings. It is also important to note that this Los Angeles visit is the Class mini-reunion and that the Santa Barbara tour is optional and has been added for the benefit of those who have traveled a great distance and want to extend their stay by visiting beautiful Santa Barbara.

The following schedule is fairly definite and basically the same as in the first letter. However, there are choices to be made on Thursday, Friday and Saturday as indicated in Enclosure B.

Wednesday, September 28 – Our first event will be a welcoming cocktail party and buffet at the Westwood home of Jane and George Barrett with buses operating to and from the hotels.

Thursday, September 29 – We will spend the day in Pasadena starting with a private docent-led tour of the Norton Simon Museum followed by lunch at the Huntington Museum and Gardens. The group will then be divided with two-thirds staying to tour the Huntington Galleries and gardens and the remaining third touring the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which is responsible for space exploration including the Lunar and Mars landings. We will have dinner at the lovely Bel Air Country Club.

Friday, September 30 – The morning will be spent in Beverly Hills where the group will have two choices among the following: a visit to the TV and Broadcasting Museum, a tour of private gardens in Beverly Hills and Bel Air, a private tour of a major movie studio, and two hours of leisure. The afternoon will feature a visit to the Getty Museum where both the architecture and the gardens are exceptional. Dinner will be an informal affair at the Bel Air Bay Club overlooking Santa Monica Bay.

(over)

Saturday, October 1 – This will be a day devoted to downtown Los Angeles starting with a tour of the new Cathedral followed by a guided tour of another architectural masterpiece, Frank Gehry’s Disney Hall and Auditorium. We will have a delightful lunch at the California Club. In the afternoon we will visit the LA County Museum where the all-new King Tut Exhibition is featured. This exhibition will not be seen at many other major US cities, but for any classmate who might have seen it elsewhere, we have scheduled a docent-led tour of the California Contemporary Museum (MOCA) or a visit to the nearby Peterson Automotive

Museum. Our Class Dinner with a speaker, as yet unnamed, will be held at the famous Beverly Wilshire Hotel which is within easy walking distance of our hotels.

Sunday, October 2 – Our farewell brunch at the Luxe Hotel will start at 9:30 to accommodate those traveling back East. Those staying on for the optional Santa Barbara visit will leave by bus around noon. See Enclosure C for details of the Santa Barbara trip.

Hotels – As mentioned in my earlier letter, our principal hotel for the mini will be the chic Luxe Hotel on Rodeo Drive at a special rate of \$194 per night, plus tax of 15.2%. We have also booked a less expensive hotel, the Beverly Pavilion, at a rate of \$158 per night including tax. This hotel is in the Rodeo Drive area only 3 blocks from the Luxe Hotel. Full breakfasts are included in both hotel rates. Reservations can be made by calling the Luxe Hotel at 1-800-468-3541 (ask for Emmy with any questions) or the Beverly Pavilion at 1-800-441-5050 and identifying yourself as “Yale Class of 1951 Reunion.”

NOTE: It is particularly important that hotel reservations be made promptly as the reserved block of rooms cannot be held indefinitely during the busy season.

Reunion Cost – The per-person price for this 5-day Los Angeles mini-reunion will be \$795, which includes all admissions, bus transportation and all meals. Obviously, the price does not include plane fare to and from LA and the hotel bill which will be the responsibility of each attendee. Anyone wanting to travel to and from Los Angeles via American Airlines at a discount should phone 1-800-433-1790 and give the group name “Yale Reunion” and the authority number A0695AG.

Cancellation – We are asking for the prompt return of your Reservation Form (Enclosure B) this far in advance of the mini-reunion because we must make commitments now to ensure that the facilities and venues will be available to us. If you subsequently find that you must cancel after already having reserved and paid for this mini-reunion, we will be able to give you a full refund until August 1. From August 1 to August 31, a \$100 charge for fixed costs will be deducted from the refund. After August 31, the refund will have to be prorated based on those expenses that are unrecoverable.

I am delighted to report that 1951 has set the standard for Yale mini-reunions and that other classes are now following our lead. We await your prompt response and look forward to seeing you in Los Angeles for yet another outstanding '51 mini-reunion.

Best wishes,

Grant Esterling
1951 Class Secretary

enc. Enclosures A, B, C

Please return this form
even if you are not attending

Enclosure B

RESERVATION FORM
CLASS OF 1951, LOS ANGELES MINI-REUNION
September 28-October 2, 2005

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

Phone _____ e-mail _____

1) Attendance

_____ Definite _____ Definitely Cannot Attend

2) Hotel Arrangements:

Reserved at _____ Luxe _____ Reserved at Beverly Pavilion
Have Made Other Arrangements _____

3) Tour Choices:

Thursday, September 29, Afternoon

_____ Huntington Gallery and Garden Tour
_____ Jet Propulsion Laboratory

Friday, September 30, Morning (Choose two)

_____ TV and Broadcasting Museum
_____ Beverly Hills and Bel Air Private Garden Tour
_____ Private Movie Studio Tour
_____ Leisure Time

Saturday, October 1, Afternoon

_____ LA County Museum for King Tut Exhibit
_____ California Contemporary Museum (MOCA)
_____ Peterson Automotive Museum

4) Brunch Sunday, October 3, Morning at the Luxe Hotel

_____ Will Attend _____ Will Not Attend

OPTIONAL SANTA BARBARA TOUR

October 2-October 5

1) Attendance:

_____ Definite _____ Definitely Cannot Attend

2) Hotel Arrangements:

_____ Reserved at Santa Barbara Inn _____ Have Made Other Arrangements

FEE - \$795 per person for LA Mini-Reunion x _____ = \$ _____

\$585 per person for Santa Barbara Tour x _____ = \$ _____

Total = \$ _____

_____ My check for \$ _____ payable to Yale Class of 1951 is enclosed

_____ Charge \$ _____ to my credit card

_____ AMEX _____ VISA _____ MASTERCARD

Acct # _____ Exp. Date _____

Return Form or FAX ASAP to Grant Esterling, Class of 1951
c/o AYA, P. O. Box 209010
New Haven, CT 06520-9010
FAX (203) 432-0587

SANTA BARBARA TOUR

October 2 – 5, 2005

For those wishing to extend their Southern California stay and participate in the add-on tour of Santa Barbara, the agenda follows.

Sunday, October 2

The bus will depart around noon for Santa Barbara with a visit en route to the Ronald Reagan Library. We will arrive at the Santa Barbara Inn late afternoon and then enjoy a sunset yacht tour of the Santa Barbara coastline with cocktails and a catered buffet in board.

Monday, October 3

We will travel by bus to the Santa Ynez Valley for wine tasting in an area whose wines have gained considerable success in tastings and film. The morning will start with a winery visit followed by a visit to the Santa Inez Mission, a stroll through the Danish Village of Solvang and then a tour, wine tasting and lunch at the Firestone Winery. We will then return to our hotel via historic San Marcos Pass followed by a brief bus tour of Montecito culminating in a reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres at the lovely home of our classmate Brad Dillman who warns that there are a few stairs to be climbed at his house. Anyone still hungry after the reception can have dinner at his own expense in our hotel at Michel Richard's excellent restaurant, Citronelle.

Tuesday, October 4

This day will feature a visit to Hope Ranch and a walking tour of old Santa Barbara. Lunch will be either at the Valley Club or the Santa Barbara Club. In the afternoon, we will visit the Museum of Natural History and the famous Santa Barbara Mission, various art galleries and architectural and garden sites. We will also have free time for shopping. Dinner will be at the Coral Casino Beach Club overlooking the Pacific.

Wednesday, October 5

Buses will be available to return us to the Los Angeles airport. Anyone wanting to stay over an extra day should contact George Barrett during the Los Angeles mini.

Tour Cost

We are projecting a Santa Barbara tour cost of \$585 per person.

Hotel

The Santa Barbara Inn is a few hundred feet from Santa Barbara's East Beach and is a short walk to the famous old Stearns Wharf. Hotel rates at the Santa Barbara Inn are \$159 for a room with a mountain view and \$199 for one with an ocean view plus a 12% tax. Full breakfast is included. Each attendee will be responsible for his or her reservations by calling 1-800-231-0411. Ask for Bibi and identify yourself as "Yale Class of 1951 Reunion."