

### **Introductions & Reconnection**

- Participants introduce themselves, often including:
  - Current location (many now spread across different states).
  - Brief life updates since last meeting or since graduation.
- Some reconnect after long gaps, recalling names, faces, and shared experiences.
- Occasional clarification of identities (maiden names, nicknames, etc.).

### **Current Events & Real-Time Context**

- Discussion includes present-day circumstances affecting members:
  - Notably, California wildfires are mentioned, with participants describing:
    - Poor air quality and smoke conditions.
    - Evacuation concerns and general disruption.
- Group expresses concern and support for those directly impacted.

### **Personal Updates**

- Life updates vary but commonly include:
  - Retirement status or late-career transitions.
  - Family updates (children, grandchildren).
  - Geographic moves or seasonal living.
- Some participants reflect briefly on how their lives unfolded compared to expectations during college.
- One person's memory was a student meeting with the Dean of the Veterinary School, and the Dean told us that women were not wanted for the Vet School because we were bad bets in terms of professionals. The Vet School allowed only 2 women in each class of 40. Of course, that is far from the case now where women outnumber men in the Veterinary programs. But that was a formative event for me. I went into Ecology.

### **Shared Memories & College Identity**

- References to:
  - Campus life and social dynamics during their college years.
  - Friend groups, activities, and cultural environment of the early 1970s.
- Participants reconnect through:
  - Recognizing names and recalling mutual acquaintances.
  - Revisiting how they knew each other (classes, dorms, social circles).

### **History Project Discussion**

- The group's broader goal is to document their class history through:
  - Personal stories and recollections.
  - Possibly written or recorded formats.
- This meeting is more exploratory than task-driven:
  - No strict assignments or deadlines emphasized.

## Session date: January 14, 2025

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- Focus on gathering participation and encouraging storytelling.
- Implicit goal: capture a wide range of perspectives rather than a single narrative.

### Group Interaction Style

- Conversational and loosely moderated.
- Frequent interruptions in a natural, friendly way.
- Humor and light teasing appear throughout.
- Participants actively listen and respond to each other's updates.

### Tone & Atmosphere

- Warm, nostalgic, and collegial.
- Balance between:
  - Lighthearted catching up.
  - More reflective moments about aging, life paths, and current challenges.
- Supportive responses when serious topics arise (e.g., health, environmental concerns).

### Key Takeaways

- The meeting functions as both a social reconnection and a foundation for the history project.
- Strong emphasis on maintaining relationships and shared identity as a class.
- Early-stage momentum: building participation, resurfacing memories, and setting the tone for future, more structured contributions.