SPRING 2018

# Reunion Speaker Anthony Gallo, WG '63: Capitol Career & Dramatic Retirement



Anthony Gallo, WG '63

The words "Renaissance Man" are inadequate to describe the multi-faceted career and "retirement" of our luncheon speaker, Tony Gallo. Born in the small western Pennsylvania town of Vandergrift, his interests, experience and accomplishments reach an international audience.

From writing award-winning federal research papers, to renovating historic homes in the Capitol Hill district, plus presenting his own stage plays in major venues and making frequent C-Span appearances, Tony has exhibited remarkable ability and inventiveness across the board. Let's start at the beginning.

#### From the military to finance

After an undergraduate degree at William & Mary and a Wharton MBA in 1963, Tony entered the U.S. Army. He became fluent in French, Italian and Russian while stationed at Fort Knox. Upon discharge, he went back home and worked for PNC until 1966 in retail banking and investment analysis.

From 1966 until 1970, he variously taught finance, marketing, economics, money and banking and business at seven colleges and universities, including Duquesne, Pitt, and Robert Mor-

Continued on page 2

## John F. "Jack" Smith, W'51, WG'52, Our Founder and Great Friend, Leaves Us at 88

When attending a Wharton MBA Reunion between 1998 and 2002, you'd undoubtedly find Jack Smith meeting informally with the 50 Year Class. He loved a good time, but also had something on his mind — spreading the word about the "tea" principle.

His focus: MBAs 50 years out have acquired so much talent, experience, and accomplishment,

it's a terrible waste to put them "out to pasture." Both Wharton and Senior Alumni could benefit by creating a vehicle to increase contact and turn closer relationships into good works. Thanks to Jack, the result was the Wharton Graduate Emeritus Society, established in the fall of 2003.

He put it together for us and now, unfortunately, we must carry on without him. Jack passed away on April 4. His wonderful wife of 61 years, Mercedes, predeceased him. Jack leaves six children, 14 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. And carry on they will. As the youngest of four brothers, the Smith family has always been extremely close and together. (*Continued on page 2*)



*Iack Smith* 1929 - 2018

## Crandall Citations in Two Praiseworthy Categories at Reunion Luncheon

In our second year presenting Crandall Citations for valuable public service by retired members, we have important, positive news. Whether simply helping a neighbor or a large organization in a foreign country, your involvement really counts. Large and small acts of public service are both vital and make our lives better.

Bob Crandall used the example of small business as the principal driver of U.S. GDP when he started this "geezer crusade" to improve living conditions. To



this end, we have now instituted the awarding of Crandall Citations in two separate, but very complementary, categories.

The first is an "Unlimited" category, which focuses on good works of national or international scope. Our awards last year are good examples of this. The second area is the "Close-Up" category, which concentrates on works of a community or regional nature. Both deserve attention and recognition on an equal basis. Both will be a principal feature of our Annual WGES Reunion Luncheon.

We won't reveal the winners here, but you probably already know something about one of them. If you live or work in Greater Philadelphia or New England, you may have heard of the other as well. But the best way to get the interesting full story is to sign up for Reunion and join us at Huntsman Hall on Saturday, May 12 at noon. It will be a memorable time for all.

# WGES Tour: France's Dordogne Valley



Chateau de Beynac, a medieval fortress high above the Dordogne River, was Richard the Lionheart's stronghold

From October 11 to 19, join a special Wharton MBA-only trip to a beloved European corner. The Dordogne is Perigord-Noir's pre-Revolutionary capital in the romantic Aquitaine Region of France's southwest. You'll feel more like a resident than a visitor here, blending in with the rich local culture and rhythmic life. A prized destination of veteran travelers, there are many good reasons.

Your residence, the Plaza Madeleine Hotel, is

a grand 19th- century townhouse with modern features, including heated outdoor pool, solarium, spa, jacuzzi and sauna. It's located next to the ancient medieval quarter walls of Sarlat-la-Caneda. This town has perhaps Europe's greatest gathering of medieval, Renaissance and 17th- century buildings, lit by gas lamps. It's a place to go back in time.

#### Beautiful, Surprising Medieval Villages

In family-owned Plaza Madeleine the entire trip, you'll only unpack once. Day trips will take you to charming, unique villages. Rocamadour, a UNESCO

World Heritage site has one of the world's most dramatic settings – the face of a sheer 400-foot cliff. Middle Ages pilgrims came here to climb 216 steps seeking miracles at St. Amadour's crypt. The nearby Jardins d'Eyrignac have been deemed France's finest gardens by noted horticulturists.

The Chateau de Beynac (reminiscent of Mont St. Michel) sits high above the Dor-

dogne River. An incredible medieval fortress, it was once Richard the Lionheart's stronghold. You'll also cruise on a private Dordogne River gabare (wooden boat), followed by a Perigord riverside lunch below the chateau.

#### A Myriad of Local Delights

You'll enjoy 15 special tours, presentations and activities, wine and cheese tasting, special meals with local specialties — truffles, wild mushrooms, berries, walnuts, duck, wines from nearby Bordeaux — even a French language introduction. A private welcome reception at your hotel, morning breakfasts, five luncheons and dinners (with regional wines) are included.

For peak enjoyment and understanding, your Dordogne guide is Lynn Marsden-Atlass, Director of the Arthur Ross Gallery and Curator of the University of Pennsylvania Art Collection. Dordogne is popular and availability is limited, so act now. Land cost is \$4,195 and \$600 deposits per person are due now. Checks to 2018 Village Life in Dordogne should be sent to Thomas P. Gohagen & Co., 209 S. LaSalle St., Suite 500, Chicago IL 60604-1446, or call 800-922-3088 for credit card deposits.

## Gallo

Continued from page 1

ris. During this time he was also a financial journalist for the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*. In 1970, two important things happened: he entered government work as a Federal Research Economist and moved to Capitol Hill.

#### Writing and renovating

By 2000, Tony had authored 250 economic papers and won awards, including one for *The Impact of Race on U.S. Food Consumption*. He also founded a Capitol Hill historic preservation and renovation company. Slumlike in 1970, Capitol Hill had become an elite DC neighborhood when the company closed in the late '90s. His 26 renovations certainly contributed.

## **Smith** Continued from page 1

After college, Jack was a U.S. Navy officer and touted military service as vital to education and training. After starting an executive search firm, he moved to Modern Group, Ltd. a materials-handling firm near Philadelphia, eventually becoming chairman of the board. After retirement, he continued to check in weekly. He found the task of turning a standard corporation into an ESOP both difficult and extremely rewarding. And his contributions for us just kept on coming.

In 2000, he retired from the government and decided to devote his life to public service. The major focus would be drama and journalism. The mission — enrich the community by providing opportunity for spiritual growth. Via both spoken and written word, he believed an uplifting, moving message could help bring positive change.

#### Incredibly productive -- and versatile

Since this decision, Tony has written 24 full-length dramas that have had 160 performances in 45 venues in many eastern states, including the Kennedy Center, the State Department and Off Broadway. Titles include *Lincoln and God, The Springfield Boys* and *Charleston Revisited*. He has also written three musicals and is a veteran member of the Dramatists Guild of America.

When Bob Crandall issued his "geezer's crusade" invitation to improve public life in his 2010 luncheon address, Jack jumped on it. He believed Bob's call to action could be our flag bearer and get members motivated. He was clairvoyant. Thus the Crandall Citation came about.

From our beginning and on into the future, Jack is our partner. As long as WGES is here, he will be, too. Most suitably, at our May 12 luncheon, a Crandall Citation in his name will be presented to his family. Farewell, dear friend. We have all been infinitely enriched by your presence.

Also, as a member of The National Press Club, he deals with public interest issues and is frequently seen on C-Span. His "retirement" involves roles as playwright, lyricist, "book" writer, director, producer, editor, screenwriter, publisher and theatre owner. It's a wonder he has time to speak at our luncheon.

Thankfully, he will do so, and the topic will be "The Challenge of Being the Wharton School Playwright." From all we know about Tony, it's going to be a very interesting time.

### Coming Up!

Reunion Luncheon: Sat, May 12 – Noon, Huntsman Hall – Welcoming new 1968 & 1973 Class Members – Dean Garrett greeting, Glee Club serenade, great food & wine – Crandall Citation presentations and address by Anthony Gallo WG '63

Jazz Picnic: Sat, May 26 – 2 to 5:30 PM - Outdoor food, drinks, and "live & kicking" old time jazz - Home of Dewitt Peterson, WG '56, in Moorestown NJ – Bring your friends – dpeterson53@comcast.net or 856-234-5147 for directions

WGES Member Survey—This is your society. We all want to improve it. To do so, the Steering Committee invites you to tell us how we're doing. In late spring or early summer, you'll receive a "friendly" survey. Please tell us what you think. We look forward to hearing from you. Your ideas will help make WGES a better society.