

Trinity College in 1966

News Headlines:

1. Anti Vietnam War Protests from 1963 to 1966
2. Miranda Rights come into being after the Supreme Court overturns the conviction on June 13th of a confessed rapist
3. The name Mini-Skirt is attributed to Mary Quant who also went on to popularize Hot Pants in the later years
4. The "Batman" television series starring Adam West debuts on ABC.
5. The popular television show Star Trek debuts in September.
6. NASA launches Lunar Orbiter 1, the first U.S. spacecraft to orbit the Moon.
7. Soviet Union Lands Luna 9 on the Moon in February and the US follows on June 2nd with the Surveyor 1 soft moon landing.
8. Ronald Reagan enters politics on June 7th becoming governor of California.
9. The United States Department of Transportation is created in October by an act of Congress.
10. On January 1st the Subway Strike in New York brings the City to a stop. It lasted 12 days.
11. **Richard Speck** Murders 8 Nurses in Chicago Illinois
12. **US has nearly 500,000 troops in Vietnam**
13. All **cigarette packets** in the United States must carry the health warning "Caution! Cigarette smoking may be hazardous to your health"
14. **Indira Gandhi** is elected Prime Minister of India

The Chicago Freedom Movement, led by Martin Luther King, Jr., holds a rally at Soldier Field in Chicago, Illinois. As many as 60,000 people come to hear Dr. King as well as performers Mahalia Jackson, Stevie Wonder, and Peter Paul and Mary.

Singing Groups:

The most popular groups included The "Beach Boys" with Pet Sounds, The "Rolling Stones" with Under my Thumb and The "Beatles" with Revolver, and Yesterday and Today.

Top Movies of 1966 were:

Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf (Liz Taylor and Richard Burton on fire)
A Man for All Seasons
The Shop on Main Street
The Sand Pebbles
A Man and a Woman (with the song that we couldn't stop humming)
Alfie and Georgie Girl (brought British life to us in different ways)
The Russians are Coming, The Russians are Coming (good for many laughs)

Top Songs: #1 was "Ballad of the Green Berets" – Sgt. Barry Sadler. The minds of many were on Vietnam.

2. Wild Thing - The Troggs
3. Hanky Panky - Tommy James and the Shondells
4. Pied Piper - Crispian St. ...
5. Summer In The City - The Lovin' Spoonful
6. Hungry - Paul Revere and the Raiders
7. Paperback Writer/Rain - The Beatles
8. I Saw Her Again - The Mamas and The Papas
9. Lil' Red Riding Hood - Sam The Sham and the Pharoahs
10. Strangers In The Night - Frank Sinatra

We sang along with all of them, knowing all the words.

We attended a lot of dances as the dating game in college began.

The Twist was already a basic dance in '66 and continued to be done. Other

Dances:

- The Boogaloo
- The Bristol Stomp
- The Chicken
- The Drag
- The Loco-motion
- The Hully Gully
- The Jerk
- The Limbo
- The Monkey
- Mashed Potato
- The Tighten Up

Some Personal Recollections of 1966

Carol Leffson Baker recalls:

We were all coming from graduating classes all over the country and starting at the bottom as Freshman again.

It was a completely new way of life filled with new roommates, new rules, new teachers, climbing stairs in Main. Rushing to the Science Building and back to the Library.

Day Hops (Day Students) arrived to find their own Washington Club Lounge where there was always a non-stop Bridge game going on through many a class bell. You found many a classmate group on a sofa discussing dates and loves found and lost. We also each had a locker in the lower level and many times had to call on Paul when it wouldn't open or a combination was forgotten. Trinity life extended from the top of the Red Roof to the basement and the Bookstore.

Kathy Gallagher remembers:

These are the trials, tribulations and joys of a Class of 1970 freshman, who lived off campus because there just wasn't a spot to fit her into the dorms, which were seriously overcrowded that year. I'm not certain, but I think this may have been an early attempt to broaden the scope of the undergraduate college. It no longer would be just a proper young lady and her support staff being given a private room at the college, but now opened it up for proper young students living off campus as well.

This was the year that the admissions department assisted a hopeful freshman with locating a living space in nearby Brookland. Sr. Eileen Marie's mother was looking for a boarder and someone to be supportive around the house.....I got the spot and was thrilled. This opportunity allowed me to attend the College as a day student, even though I was from Philadelphia. I do not believe this was a very common practice in 1966, but you have to give a great deal of credit to the admissions office for permitting it. Matilda Giampietro and I became friends because she lived with her family nearby. Good ol' Matilda assisted a very naive freshman from Philadelphia with such useful tips as "how to use a tampon". For this I will always be grateful to a very generous and kind Matilda. Was I the only one in 1966 that did not understand the concept of a tampon??

Main was clearly a hangout for the "day hops", but not living at home I often took advantage of the amenities. I remember walking to TC from Brookland one Sunday morning and availing myself of the showers in the basement of Main.....only to have Sr. Lidwin come into the bathroom to make sure that the plumbing wasn't leaking.

Another "day hop", Maureen Flatley had a cool little sports car. She and I cut classes one day and went to visit friends of hers at Georgetown. This was one the one big advantage of being a day hop.....possibly having access to a car. It was also very daring for me and I only did it once. Lesson learned..... I'm pretty sure Maureen did not graduate with our class.

Just so everyone is aware.... In 1966, my dream was not one of graduating, but, rather, getting to my senior year so that I could wear an academic gown around campus. It is the little things in life that make it rich. I suspect I may have been heavily influenced by Groucho Marx as Professor Wagstaff in *Horse Feathers*.

Class Officers for our freshman year (1966-67) included two "day hops" and two boarders.....Kathleen Gallagher, Rosalie Angelo, Justine Foley and Matilda Giampietro. For me this was another sign of the College broadening its scope.

I have saved a little scrap of paper for 50 years because I was so overwhelmed by it. It was given to me by my "big sister" shortly after arriving at TC. I always presumed that she wrote it specially for me and, since I have not found a literary reference to tell me otherwise, I continue to believe it. (Although the reference to the Moody Street Bridge leads me to suspect that Kerouac might have had a hand in it.) I send you this because I think it sums up our freshman year better than I could ever describe it. She signed the little note Andy T. I have searched all the yearbooks and could only find one likely culprit, who was ANDREANNE MARIE TEMMEL, Class of '68 from Bethlehem PA. I write it below just as she wrote it to me.

**"we've taken a vote on you
and all your grandstand-go-wild.**

**you and the rest of those mad
glee fires that bound around
much too early - are to be shipped
by rail- out ----**

**that's a sadfield thought
don't go - 'cos after you're gone with
we'll have to take flood
measurements from the moody street bridge.**

**go ahead blow the string balloons
to the manhattan sky.
have a brocade-shiney day." love andy t
We were the "Singing Class":**

Some of us joined the Glee Club as we had in High School. We found out that the Trinity Glee Club was the oldest campus organization. In December of 1966 we performed in a joint concert with the Glee Club of Georgetown University. It was a Concert of Sacred and Holiday Music and we held two performances, one in O'Connor Auditorium and one at Holy Trinity Church in Georgetown. The Director was John Paul, Dean of Music from Catholic University.

We were the GREEN Class! On our first class day, St. Patrick's Day, we started out, arm in arm, as we skipped from one end of the Marble Corridor to the other, singing "Top of the Morning" to you. At the Well Sing, we would resound with "We're the green class-singing class. So please come along – with you behind us, we can't go wrong."

The traditions made us all a part of something very large. Green classes had gone before us and would come again after we had graduated.

Memories of Dorm Life:

Cathy Largay McCarthy describes hers:

Dorm life for me, living in a triple was different even though I'd grown up as the youngest of 6, had never shared a room.

First time away from home; was excited to be in the big city.

Class day we celebrated Matt Kane's Bit O' Ireland pub, and with the drinking age for beer and wine being 18, well you get the picture. Green beer all around. And yet we had quarterly exams the next day.

I came from a long line of Georgetown grads and was so proud to be in the same city.

Jean Mulcahy Vanek saw Trinity 1966 as full of firsts for her:

My first plane flight was from Boston to Washington to start freshman year at Trinity. I was assigned to a single on Main Hall's "third floor Pit," and was initially bitterly disappointed not to have a roommate. Turned out that living in the Pit was like having eleven roommates, since our doors were always open, and we lived in one another's rooms.

I remember Lydia Soler who lived next door. She was part of an extensive network of students from San Juan, Puerto Rico's high society who spent their weekends partying at Ivy League schools up and down the East Coast. Lydia was quite likely my first friend from another culture.

I remember eating my first pomegranate, instructed in the fine art of extracting those juicy seeds by Adele Pilewicz who lived across the hall. Adele left Trinity after just one year, but I never eat a pomegranate without thinking of her.

I remember my first Georgetown date who managed to spill beer all over his wool sports coat. He proudly explained that since he had just learned to operate the coin-fed washer and dryer in his dorm, the spill would be no problem!

With some chagrin, I remember getting the first “C” in my academic career (in French). The academic standards and competition were extremely high – something we can all, in retrospect, be proud of.

Thanks to a cultural events voucher that came as part of our matriculation fee, I enjoyed my first professional ballet, symphony and theater experiences that year.

Most importantly, for the first time ever I was free to discover who I was and who I would become. What a wonderful, nurturing environment Trinity College was for all of us!

And so, 1966 and our Freshman year came to a close. We had experienced many “firsts”, friendships, classes, teachers, dances, dates, exams and much more. As we look back we remember that the best part was the warmth and comfort that came along with being a Trinity '70 Green.