

IMPORTANT!!! PLEASE REPLY TO THIS E-MAIL!

I have close to 80 entries in my database and I'd like to remove all those who I haven't heard from for a year. If I don't hear from you, I'll be removing you!

The 2010 Alumni Game is in the books, and the turnout and level of play both indicate that the annual event is here to stay. By my count there were 32 of you who suited up, plus the legendary Old Man himself who officiated along with yours truly. Anthony Maney '83 was the senior alumnus in attendance and Jay Struss '94 and wife Lindsay traveled the farthest distance - about 200 miles - from St. James on Long Island.

The guys ran for a good hour and a half on the hot turf, but plenty of water and Gatorade kept the heat and humidity at bay. I'm not sure how the teams were formed but I hope that those responsible show up next year and do it exactly the same way. The game was a classic, with the Young Guys defeating the Young Guys with Less Hair (my team names - I didn't see any old guys, but there WERE a few buckets) by a score of 16-15. The lead changed hands a number of times throughout, with the YGLH's scoring the last three goals, tying the game with 20 seconds to play, only to fall victim to the clock. But there was a LOT of good lacrosse, even more laughs, and too many hot dogs. I hope all who came enjoyed themselves, and that we see you again next year. I'm always amazed at how quickly you guys fall right into game mode once we start - it's like you never left.

A few thanks are in order:

To Andy Lindbergh '96 and Ryan Balzer '01 (my oldest of three alumni) for doing the bulk of the shopping and cleanup.

To Lindsay Struss (wife of Jay '94) for taking photos. I'll get the word out when I receive them and get them out on the website.

To all those alumni who wanted to attend but instead chose to honor their commitments to Columbia Youth Lacrosse and coach what we all hope will be future Columbia Lacrosse Alumni. You'll be happy to know that your absence was noticed, and in order to prevent future dilemmas, next year's plans are to hold the game at night on the turf and perhaps have a youth lacrosse game beforehand.

For the plaque presented to me by Andy Lindbergh '96 on behalf of the Columbia Alumni that reads, "Honorary Alumni 2010 - A Special Thanks to Chip Balzer for His Many Years of Support to the Columbia Lacrosse Program." It was completely unexpected and very much appreciated - , I'm proud to be one of you. Thanks.

I'm kicking around an idea for a "Where Are They Now" page on the website, since I know where a few of you are and what you've been up to. The suggestion for a Facebook page came up, but I'm not a Facebooker, so if that's something someone wants to pioneer, I'll be glad to put a link on my website for it. In any event, if you'd like to send me some info regarding what you've been up to, including family and work, I'll post it. It's a good way to plug your business if you'd like.)

And John Crowther '86 has floated the idea of a Rick Randall Scholarship, which we hope to begin presenting annually at next year's Columbia High School Lacrosse Banquet. John began the fund with a generous \$100 contribution, and we do have some money left over from this year's game registration fees. Once we get organized, expect to hear more from John. Any suggestions for this or other ideas are always welcome.

I think that's it for now. Keep in touch, and spread the Columbia Alumni Lacrosse word. (Visit columbialacrosse.org, click High School Boys, then Alumni.)

Let's get 50 guys out on the field next year!

Chip