Sounds and Symbols of the Season at Holiday Unity

by Kathy Okun

I t was a time of sharing and learning as more than 30 Cornell staff and community members gathered together in the Founder’s Room and at the Taylor Hall on December 9 for the 8th Annual Holiday Unity Celebration. The audience was enlightened as people talked about customs and traditions for the winter holiday season from their homelands. The presenters talked about music, dancing, decorations, special foods, and gifts given from many countries around the world. International cuisine was enjoyed by all.

Thank you to the following participants who shared their traditions: Maggie Lai, University Audit Office (Chinese); Christina Holmes, Continuing Education and Summer Session (Hindu); Omer Bajwa, left and Ed Rosenthal share a laugh during the Holiday Unity Celebration.

The audience were enlightened as people talked about customs and traditions for the winter holiday season from their homelands. The presenters talked about music, dancing, decorations, special foods and gifts given from many countries around the world.

Kathy Okun

Cornell’s First Lady Speaks to Editors’ Group

by Greg Potter

S peaking on the challenges and opportunities that come with her role as the university’s “First Lady,” Dr. Kathy Okun shared her experiences and insightful observations with the Cornell Editors’ Group at their monthly luncheon meeting on December 2.

Early on I determined that I would go to know the university,” explained Okun, “and try to figure out how I could be helpful to my husband and to the Cornell community.” She feels strongly that her role carries with it a unique commitment to using her position to bring meaningful attention to critical issues affecting the university community, both on and off campus.

And that’s what she’s doing with gusto. Okun serves as associate vice president for development, her work is constantly focused on introducing donors and alums to the opportunity to participate in events at Cornell she realized that a switch in roles had taken place only very capable, but also very beloved and revolutionary," she said, “and to value the changes that have occurred in my life,” she said, “and to value the opportunities to participate in the beloved and revolutionary institution for which we all share responsibility.”

“I was very impressed with Ms. Okun’s interactions with individuals at the event as she took time to personally introduce herself to many of the people in attendance,” said Kathee Shaff, associate vice president, Cornell Law Forum and editors’ group coordinator. “I think it says a lot about her personal interest in the individuals that form the Cornell community.”

Throughout her presentation Okun offered glimpses of life at the president’s house, Robin Hill, the president’s house, and informative look at how alums and donors are introduced to the university and the Office of Human Resources. She introduced the concept of donor and alums to the opportunity to participate in events at Cornell she realized that a switch in roles had taken place.

Cornell’s First big event of 2005!

The annual community dinner and Cornell hockey game for staff, faculty, retirees, and their families!

- December 24
  12:00 p.m.
  - Men’s Basketball vs. Columbia
  3:00 p.m.
  - Women’s Gymnastics vs. Rhode Island

- December 16
  1:00 p.m.
  - Women’s Tennis vs. Princeton
  5:00 p.m.
  - Men’s Basketball vs. Columbia

TBA

- Men’s Basketball vs. Upstate Challenge

Staff Reach Out to Community

Nevele athletes left and右 Share a laugh during the Holiday Unity Celebration.

Thank you to the following participants who shared their traditions: Maggie Lai, University Audit Office (Chinese); Christina Holmes, Continuing Education and Summer Session (Hindu); Omer Bajwa, left and Ed Rosenthal share a laugh during the Holiday Unity Celebration.

Kathy Okun

Open Enrollment Deadlines Near

Take note of these upcoming deadlines:

- December 24
  - Open Enrollment ends for employees
  - Open Enrollment for the Open Enrollment deadline
  - Open Enrollment for the Open Enrollment deadline

- December 23
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24

- December 22
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24

- December 21
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24

- December 20
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24

- December 19
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24

- December 18
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
  - Open Enrollment extends to December 24
A recent newsletter from a friend in Nebraska intrigued me. It mentioned the commercialization of life that seems to be shaping our times. This seemed to be an allusion to the commodification of life, a notion that we are living in an era of consumerism that is not only commercializing our goods and services but also our experiences. The author observed that the commodification of life is such that even our daily routines are now part of a larger consumerist landscape. The commodification of life can be seen in the way we acquire and exhibit status symbols such as cars, houses, and clothing. It is also evident in the way we value our time and effort, treating them as commodities to be bought and sold.

The commodification of life can lead to a sense of disconnection from our true selves. It can make us feel like our lives are something to be managed, rather than something to be lived. This can lead to a sense of emptiness and meaninglessness, as if our lives are nothing more than a series of transactions.

On the other hand, there is a need to resist the commodification of life. It is important to remember that our lives are not just commodities to be bought and sold. They are unique and valuable experiences that should be celebrated, not commodified. It is important to find ways to connect with our true selves and to live our lives in a way that is meaningful and fulfilling.

In conclusion, the commodification of life is a pressing issue that affects us all. It is important to recognize its existence and to resist its influence. By doing so, we can live our lives in a way that is true to our own values and aspirations.


**Guidelines for Classified Ads**

- Free to members of the Cornell community, ads are posted on space permits.
- Remember to:
  - include name, campus phone number and the specific space permit.
  - limit ads to 20 words or less.
  - submit only one ad per day.
  - ads selling goods or commercial services on an ongoing basis or promoting employment outside Cornell cannot be accepted.
  - To run your ad more than once, you must re-submit it.
  - PawPrint is not responsible for errors or unprinted ads, and reserve the right to edit or reject any submissions.

E-mail ads to:

ppclassads@cornell.edu.

or on campus mail to:
PawPrint Classifieds c/o Flora Karasin, 244 Darwin Hall

Classified Deadlines:
- Dec. 23 for Jan. 6 issue
- Jan. 13 for Jan. 20 issue

**Classified ads**

- **For Sale**
  - 2003 Arctic Cat ZL Snowmobiles, 2003 trailers, 2 covers, 3 helmets, 2 backpacks, 5150.00, 65-7613.
  - 2 Cooper snow tires, 235/75R/15, tires, 8249.00, 5-7613.
  - 2 Master Craft Glacier Grip snow skis, 2002 T/S101, skis, 700.00, 8249.00, 5-7613.
  - 2 African grey parrot babies, pair, Doug at 273-8102.
  - 2 tires, 225/75R/15, tires, 8249.00, 5-7613.
  - 2 2003 Arctic Cat ZL Snowmobiles, 2003 trailers, 2 covers, 3 helmets, 5150.00, 65-7613.

- **For Rent**
  - New 2 BR duplex, W. Dryden, 6 spruce St., $4,500, 3-5216.
  - 2 BR, 2 BA, renovated, spacious, 209 W. Clinton, near campus, 3 BR, hardwood floors, 3660 sq. ft., $1500, 539-6216.
  - ²⁴⁻¹ Electricity horse, 2003, 46K, mint; ²⁴⁻¹ Snowmobile, 2001 Arctic Cat 117, pristine, 2000 miles, $5,250, 3-5216.

- **Wanted**
  - Electric Range, black or brown, $250, 2nd floor, 2003, 46K, mint; ²⁴⁻¹ Snowmobile, 2001 Arctic Cat 117, pristine, 2000 miles, $5,250, 3-5216.

- **For Trade**
  - 2004 Polaris XC 700, M-²⁴⁻¹, 2004 Polaris XC 700, M-²⁴⁻¹, 2004 Polaris XC 700, M-²⁴⁻¹, $2500, 500-227-0415.
  - ²⁴⁻¹ Snowmobile, 2001 Arctic Cat 117, pristine, 2000 miles, $5,250, 3-5216.
  - ²⁴⁻¹ Snowmobile, 2001 Arctic Cat 117, pristine, 2000 miles, $5,250, 3-5216.

- **Special Notice**
  - New 2 BR duplex, W. Dryden, 6 spruce St., $4,500, 3-5216.
  - 2 BR, 2 BA, renovated, spacious, 209 W. Clinton, near campus, 3 BR, hardwood floors, 3660 sq. ft., $1500, 539-6216.