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The Krokodiloes of 1981

THE HASTY PUDDING CLUB
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Dear Krok Alums,

Picture this:

It's 2 A.M. We're mildly inebriated and serenading an elderly stranger who looks down onto Plympton Street from a second story window. He shouts out: "Fantastic!!! WHO ARE YOU GUYS??" "WE'RE THE HARVARD KROKODILOES!" "OF COURSE, WHO ELSE! WHY DON'T YOU ALL COME UP FOR A DRINK?"

Typical Krok thing to happen, I thought-- until I realized that this "stranger" was Leonard Bernstein and that he would spend the next one-and-one-half hours swapping songs with us. When he heard us sing "Serenade in Blue", he ran upstairs to wake up his editor, Jack Gotlieb, and bid us sing it again. He also promised (and has since delivered) an original composition written specifically for the Kroks. By the end of the night, he had allowed himself to be indoctrinated --"inkroktrinated"-- along with our two new tenors, Jim Keyte and Terry Robinson.

This anecdote is only an indication of the kind of year the Kroks of '81 have been having. The Kroks are off to a flying start . . . literally, we've flown three times already!

The big news: we are going on a European Tour the summer of 1981! Gordon Bloom, our Tour-Manager, has taken the term off to put together a spectacular Itinerary, a copy of which is enclosed. Gordon is headed to Europe in December to follow up concert leads. In the meantime, he is devising ingenious ways to raise the \$27,000 that we need. Our biggest problem at the moment is finding european contacts. Any leads or suggestions you have would be much appreciated. Gordon can be reached at the Krok office in the basement of the Hasty Pudding Club (Please note our new phone number, above). For those of you in New York City, he will be there on the 19th, 20th, and 21st of November, when the Kroks will perform for the N.Y. Advertising Council at the Waldorf-Astoria.

What Else Is Happening?

THE NEW RECORD: "Kroks at Symphony Hall." It is a recording of the spring jamboree of 1980, supplemented by a few studio cuts. And it is late! To the one-hundred or so of you who have records on order, please accept my apologies for the delay. The record company is having production difficulties, but the record should arrive any day now. For those of you who are interested, we will send you one for a mere six dollars.

THE SCHEDULE: Here are some dates that you might want to set aside.

THE YALE GAME CONCERT and RECEPTION on NOVEMBER 22. The Kroks of 1981 invite and encourage you to attend a "Krokodilo reception" in the theater of the Hasty Pudding Club directly after the game. We will be performing at the Pudding immediately following the reception and at Lowell House at 8 P.M. the same evening.

THE WOOLSEY CONCERT at YALE on NOVEMBER 15. Once again, the Kroks will join with the Whiffs in our annual fall performance at Yale.

THE SPRING JAMBOREE on APRIL 3 at SANDERS THEATER. The Kroks will host the Whiffs in our annual spring performance at Harvard.

THE KROKS and KUUMBA in CONCERT. Presently in the works, this would be a joint concert given for the benefit of the community by the Kroks and Harvard's leading black singing group. Probable dates are: February 6, 7, 8 or March 13, 14, 15.

THE 35TH REUNION of the HARVARD KROKODILOES. We are planning a banquet which will most probably coincide with our April 3rd Spring Jamboree or possibly with graduation. It all depends on when you can make it. You can expect more information and a questionnaire in the months to come.

HISTORY AND MEMORABILIA: Since it's our 35th reunion, we have decided to compile as much information about the Kroks over the years as possible. We have had good luck sifting through the old files, but we need your help. For instance, does anyone have a collection of all the Kroks' old records? If so we'd like to record them. How about old Krok ties? Do they still exist? Finally, does anyone know the significance of the 1964 needlepoint which reads: "Krokodiloes Nobarf, No Trou!!" Initiation rules, perhaps? These and equally tantalizing questions will no doubt be answered by the time reunion rolls around.

Enclosed is the Brochure that will introduce the Kroks to prospective concert and tour sponsors. I hope you enjoy it. I look forward to hearing from you and hope to see you all, if not at the Yale game reception or the concert that evening, then at the Krokodiloes reunion.

I remain,

George M. Overholser
Director