



Fall 2013

The President's Corner

Dear Classmates,

It's hard to imagine that our 45th Reunion is only 7 months away---**May 23-25, 2014**. The last 5 years just seem to have flown by! Why is it that as we get older time seems to go by faster?

Your Reunion planning team headed up by **Debbie Chase Franczek** has been hard at work for months now and, while many details are still being firmed up, in this newsletter you'll find a lot of information about planned Reunion events and options. The team has developed a theme for our 45th: "1969 Reflects and Rocks On" alluding to where we are now in our life journeys and where we came from---"then and now". Our classmate, **Amy Finley Scott** has designed our reunion logo (above) which captures the number "45" inside the image of an old 45 record (remember those??).



Reunions are a lot about memories and catching up with old friends. But they are also about making new friends and seeing how the Smith and Northampton that we knew in 1969 have changed. "Then and Now"--it's an interesting comparison. We think that there are so many new aspects to Smith, Northampton, and the surrounding area that not only is coming back for Reunion worthwhile in itself but it's worth making Reunion weekend part of a bigger, longer vacation trip. Classmate **Debby Slavitt** who now lives in Northampton has suggested the following websites as sources for looking into all the wonderful things to do and see in Northampton and the Pioneer Valley.

---www.mohawktrail.com

---www.valleyvisitor.com

---www.valleyartsnewsletter.com

We hope to have a large turnout for our 45th and we especially invite classmates who've never attended a Reunion to consider doing so. You'll be interested to read **Joan Gottschall's** profile inside. She will be a Reunion first timer next May and she makes a great case. So mark your calendar and start making your plans now. Watch our website and Facebook page over the next months for further updates. Also, please be aware that many communiques regarding reunion will be by e-mail only, so be sure to keep your contact information current with the college.

Sue Foley

President, Class of 1969

How To Contact Your Class Team

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Class Website

<http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/1969>

Class Facebook Page

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/109383512421960/>

Smith Alumnae Website

<http://alumnae.smith.edu>

Get To Know Your Classmates

What have your classmates been doing and thinking since graduation? As in past newsletters below are profiles of three classmates. All have signed on to serve as House Reps for our 45th Reunion---thanks **Joan, Susan and Mary Ann!**

Joan Gottschall

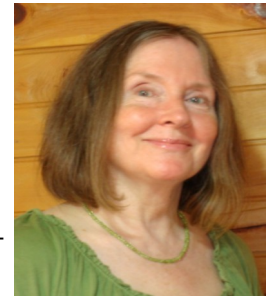


- ◆ **Senior House/Major:** Mary Ellen Chase/American Studies
- ◆ **Home:** I moved to Chicago after law school, expecting to spend 2-3 years at a large law firm before returning to the New Jersey firm where I had worked both summers during law school. Shortly after I moved to Chicago, my parents moved from New Jersey to Canada, and suddenly I had no home to go to. I considered returning to New Jersey many times in the years that followed but, ultimately, came to realize that Chicago had become my home.
- ◆ **Family Status:** Single, never married, no kids.
- ◆ **Occupation:** For six months after graduating from college, I looked for a job with long-term potential. Finding nothing, I went to law school; I have been in the legal profession ever since. I have worked at a large commercial law firm, as a federal public defender, as an in-house lawyer at a university, as a federal magistrate judge and finally, in 1996, I became a United States District Court Judge. I held this position until I took "senior status" (semi-retirement) in 2012.

◆ **Activities:** Except for membership on a number of not-for-profit boards, I didn't do much outside of work until, in 2000, I bought my first house, acquired a small amount of land and took up gardening; this is probably the first real hobby I have ever had (as well as the ultimate triumph of hope over experience). I like to cook, have sung in a local community chorus and have taken a number of courses, trying to augment my meager science/math background. I am currently enrolled in a Master of Liberal Arts program, taking a mix of science and humanities courses. Keeping mentally engaged, planting things in the dirt and listening to music (my greatest debt to Smith is probably the introductory music course I took as a freshman, which I think was called Music 13) are the best ways I've found to keep negative feelings, which my job and the state of the world might otherwise inspire, at bay.

- ◆ **Thoughts on Reunions:** I've never come to a Reunion before because, frankly, I was terrified. My college years were very difficult years for me and each time I've thought of attending a Reunion, I find myself back in that very unhappy mental place. I went to college wanting desperately to be an academic (English literature) but lost most of my intellectual self-confidence in the summer before I started college. When I got to Smith, I found the critical approach of the English courses I took off-putting and inhospitable, and I did not have the confidence to chart my own direction. Well before I graduated from Smith, I knew that I would never be able to pursue the career which had previously been my dream. Besides that, the transition from a coed public high school to an all-women's college was very hard for me. At this point, my advancing years have led me to the conclusion that if not now, WHEN?? I'm anxious to renew old friendships and make new friends. When I signed up as a Class Rep, what went through my mind (besides the shock of being asked) was that doing so would make it really hard to chicken out from Reunion. Hope to see you all soon!

Susan B. Walker



- ◆ **SENIOR HOUSE/MAJOR:** Talbot/History
- ◆ **HOME:** Right now, I am in Saugerties, NY, where my husband and I have lived since 1996. Before that I lived in Woodstock, NY, with my ex, and NYC (the Village). Between graduation and NYC, I bounced around a bit--Cambridge, MA, and a few places in NJ. We are about to move to Coxsackie, NY, two Thruway stops closer to my job, which means I can give up my weekday apartment near my job and live in the same house every day with my husband.
- ◆ **FAMILY STATUS:** I am married to Barry Braker, who has two grown children, both married, and we have a granddaughter, who will start 1st grade this fall. I was never able to have children, so I am really enjoying this.
- ◆ **OCCUPATION:** I have had three careers (along the way earning masters degrees in history and teaching ESL): copyeditor, teacher of English to international students at SUNY New Paltz, and curator. I have worked at a couple of historic house museums, and since 2006 have been the curator at the NYS Bureau of Historic Sites, where I work as a consultant with all of the NYS-owned historic house museums. It's impossible to know everything about every period of U.S. history and every genre of fine and decorative arts, so I am constantly learning, and I love that. The Bureau is located on a small island (the rest all state park) in the mouth of the Mohawk River, where it flows into the Hudson, and I love that, too. Along with the curatorial unit, the facility houses the collections management (registrars), conservation, interpretation, and exhibit units. My colleagues are marvelous, which is great, because we work collegially on various projects for our sites. Collections management keeps track of all NYS-owned collections objects, the conservators treat the objects, interpretation designs and creates exhibit panels and interpretive signage, and the exhibit unit designs and builds the exhibit "furniture." I write exhibit text and furnishing plans, supervise four seamstresses who make reproduction period clothing for sites that request it, advise on furnishings--everything from the appropriate repro 18th-century wallpaper to what should be on a Gilded-Age dinner table--and field all sorts of questions from site staff.
- ◆ **ACTIVITIES:** I have served on the board of the Saugerties Historical Society and the town Historic Preservation Commission. In Waterford, I am on the board of the Waterford Historical Museum. What I truly enjoy is reading, hiking, and bird watching. I haven't done much of the latter two, but once we are moved and settled, I hope to get back to them. I also hope to make time to play my recorder and harpsichord. My husband plays guitar and wants to learn to play the bass clarinet. We both love music and hope to go to lots of concerts. Oh--I want to go kayaking; all I need is a kayak and access to water!
- ◆ **THOUGHTS ON REUNIONS:** I missed our first (5th) Reunion but have been to every one since. I find them very nurturing and always leave feeling very glad that I attended. I like reconnecting with former classmates and Northampton but have a stronger reason right now: my niece is class of 2016, majoring in ecological geosciences and marine biology. I helped her settle in to Albright with my sister and attended family weekend as well, where I saw the tail end of a quidditch match. Smith students have wonderful opportunities now that weren't available to us, and although I'm sorry to see the consolidation of dining services, I applaud all the support that Smith students have available to them for learning and for preparing for chosen careers.

Mary Ann Welch Ericson



- ◆ **Senior House/Major:** Franklin King House/History
- ◆ **Home:** Although Manchester, N. H. has been home for the past 17 years, I am something of a New England “wanderer”, having also lived and/or worked in VT, MA, CT, and ME since 1969.
- ◆ **Family Status:** Married to Kent for the past 30 years, have two lovely stepdaughters and am “Nana” to 4 beautiful grandchildren. Enjoy an extended family of sister and brothers, in-laws, nieces, nephews, grand-nieces/nephews, & more cousins than I can count.
- ◆ **Occupation:** Higher Education Administration – currently a College Registrar. I began my career at our alma mater in 1972 assisting in the transition from Heads of House to Head Residents. From that rewarding introduction to educational administration, I have lived out my work life on college campuses ever since. Left Smith in ’76 to pursue my M. A. in Higher Ed at Teachers’ College/Columbia. I went on to develop a Weekend College program for adult learners, and later served as the first Director of Admission & Marketing for a degree-completion program for non-traditional students. In 1996, I returned to a traditional, residential campus as Registrar at Saint Anselm College, a small, Catholic liberal arts college, where I was the first woman to hold the position there – my predecessors had all been Benedictine monks! As we at St. A’s prepare to greet the Class of 2017, I can report that I still get excited by the arrival of students on campus, I still love the rhythm of the academic year, and the academic community is still filled with wonderfully engaged faculty, staff and enthusiastic students.
- ◆ **Activities:** Spending time with family...Having a rather large extended family, I grew up with the experience of best friends being family. That is still true today – my sister and her family, my stepdaughters and their families, my brothers and theirs... I’m fortunate to be part of such a caring family. Travel...with a special love for the castles and cathedrals of Europe, I could never have foreseen how much enjoyment I would derive from being a History major, or from the art history courses at Smith, including Art 100 and Medieval Art & Architecture! My husband, a former Dean of Admissions now retired, is “conditioned” to travel, and we agree that we have just begun to scratch the surface. So much to see, and so little time...Photography and genealogy...I just dabble at this point, but look forward to the time when I can indulge these interests more fully.
- ◆ **Thoughts on Reunions:** Reunions offer a wonderful opportunity to re-connect with old friends and to connect for the first time with some pretty fascinating women. Although I have been to several Reunions, the 40th was brimming with special moments ~ listening to classmates who’ve published – art books, children’s books, travel books...chatting with old acquaintances about their families, their interests, their work...strolling with an old friend through the marvelous collection at the Art Museum while catching up on “long-lost” classmates...meeting women whose faces I easily recognized despite the years gone by, whose lives had not intersected with mine since those long-ago days in class, in gym, or just somewhere along the walkway from the Quad to Seelye Hall. Our 40th highlighted for me that these gatherings are about being re-invigorated, renewed, refreshed, affirmed, and all manner of good things. For sure, I will be heading to our 45th!



..... Class of 1969 **Notes From Your Class Team** Class of 1969

VP/Reunion Chair, Debbie Chase Franczek

Mark your calendars for May 23-25, 2014

Our Reunion team is firming up plans for what should be another great Reunion. Although many details are still to be worked out, here is a peek at how the schedule for the weekend is shaping up.

- As we all know too well, change happens...not surprising the Reunion weekend format has changed from prior years. Alumnae College is no more! Instead of offering intellectual enrichment on the Friday morning of Reunion weekend, Smith will offer programming on Friday and Saturday afternoons so that all Reunion attendees can receive a taste of today's Smith education.
- We know that many of you choose to arrive on the Thursday (this year May 22) of Reunion weekend due to travel logistics and to start catching up with old friends sooner. Houses will open on Thursday afternoon for early arrivals. And, for those who will be there on Thursday, we are starting a new tradition of having a casual dinner on Thursday night at FitzWilly's in downtown Northampton.
- On Friday morning you will have a chance to explore the area on your own or to take a van tour we are organizing of the beautiful and interesting towns north of Northampton (put together by classmates **Debby Slavitt** and **Rosa Leader Smith**) or hear classmate **Jane Abramson O'Connor** speak on her career as a prize-winning children's book writer at the Eric Carle Museum of Picture Book Art at Hampshire College (seeing the campus is a treat in itself!). And on Friday afternoon we'll have a lovely tea service in our Reunion house--- a classy memory from 1969!
- We will again have class dinners on both Friday and Saturday nights. A "Then and Now" slideshow on Friday night will give us a chance to look back almost 50 years at ourselves, Smith and Northampton. On Saturday night we hope to have several current Smith students talk to us about life on campus in 2014 as they are interviewed by one of our classmates with a 1969 perspective.

- Saturday morning will feature the Alumnae Parade where we wear our "whites" and proudly carry our signs. The Parade is followed by the AASC annual meeting where we'll meet Smith's new President, Kathleen McCartney. Then it's on to our class lunch and a brief class meeting to elect officers for the next term. Following the meeting there will be a book discussion for those who wish to participate. Watch for future communications regarding possible titles---we need your feedback.
- Sunday morning we'll also again have a chance to remember friends who are no longer with us as we gather at the Class Memorial Tree.
- At our last Reunion, we introduced the Gallery of Creativity, where classmates' art works and publications were displayed. The Gallery was so well received we are repeating it again.
- Reunion plans are not yet set in stone---I welcome any suggestions. For instance, following up on a suggestion, **Peggy Gillespie** will offer a guided meditation session during the weekend. Now here are some other ways that we need your help:
 - ⇒ Gallery of Creativity. **Ellyn Paul Weiss** and **Barbara Wallace Grossman** will organize an exhibit of our classmates' artwork and books. We hope that those of you with a creative bent will share your work. If you want to exhibit your artwork, please email **Ellyn** at eweiss@ucsusa.org; if you want to display your books, please email **Barbara** at barbara.grossman@tufts.edu.
 - ⇒ "Then and Now" Slideshow. For our Friday night "Then and Now" slideshow we need lots of pictures of you, your classmates, your Smith House and life on campus from our years there---and pictures of you at past Reunions. Take a walk down Memory Lane and go through your old picture albums. Send us copies that we can include in the slideshow. And, while you are at it, send us some pictures of you and your life today. Please include names and dates. This will be a really fun show. Send your pictures to **Debbie Franczek** at dfranczek@hotmail.com or at 5555 So. Everett Ave, Apt D-7, Chicago, IL. 60637. Thanks to **Anita Gebhart** for offering to put this together.
 - ⇒ Parade Sign Ideas. To help our class stand out at the Alumnae Parade, please submit your humorous parade sign ideas to **Irene Restieri Desisto** at iredesisto@yahoo.com. Parade signs should tie to our Reunion theme: "1969 Reflects and Rocks On" or our program of "Then & Now". Have fun!
 - ⇒ Emails Please. Keep your e-mail address current with the college to receive all Reunion communications; most of them will be via email. Send any new email address (as well as other contact information changes) to alumaarecords@smith.edu---or just send your updated info to one of our class secretaries **Barbara Lauren** (blauren123@aol.com) or **Roz Zakheim** (rszesq@aol.com). And be sure your spam settings are not blocking Smith e-mails.
 - ⇒ Lost Classmates. Some classmates have not kept their addresses current with Smith. Consequently they don't receive Class news. Please check our class website for a list of lost classmates. If you have contact info for any of them, please give it to **Sue Foley** (suzannejac@aol.com).

A Few More Thoughts

- WANT TO BRING A GUEST? While most of us attend Reunion on our own there are always a good number of husbands, partners, children and other guests who attend with classmates. They are more than welcome. If you choose to stay off campus, we urge you to RESERVE EARLY. Smith recommends the list of accommodations at www.explorenorthampton.com. You could also try www.bedandbreakfast.com for unique lodging in western Massachusetts. Guests can be accommodated in the student houses (at the usual Reunion cost). If you do bring a guest with you, please remember the bathrooms are co-ed and the single beds are no larger than they were 45 years ago!
- FINANCIAL HELP IS AVAILABLE. The experience of attending Reunion not only cements ties with the friends we already have, but also provides the opportunity to make new ones. We all benefit when the turnout for Reunion is high. Attending Reunion can sometimes be a financial strain, with registration, housing, and meal fees in addition to travel costs. BUT PLEASE, before you conclude that your budget prevents you from attending Reunion, consider taking advantage of the resources our class has available to help out. If you want to attend our 45th, but are concerned about the expense of doing so, please contact our Treasurer, **Harriet Cooke McGuire** (harrietmcguire@earthlink.net). Of course, your inquiry will be kept confidential. We are eager to see you next May.

Treasurer, Harriet McGuire

As of 6/30/13 our class treasury had a total of just over \$12,000. Our "One Year Till Reunion Countdown" raffle was quite successful in reminding and incentivizing classmates to pay their 2009-2014 dues. Our raffle winner, who wins a \$175 credit towards her 2014 Reunion expenses, is Priscilla Carter Fort. Congratulations Priscilla! **To keep the momentum going we're announcing another raffle---"Six Months Till Reunion"**. ALL dues payers of record by Nov. 23, 2013 will be eligible to win and the prize will be a \$100 credit towards 2014 reunion expenses. Dues for the 5 year period are \$75. **Checks should be made out to: Smith Class of 1969 and sent to: Harriet McGuire, 3007 Russell Road, Alexandria, Va. 22305.** Please include your email address so I can send your charitable deduction receipt. Direct any questions to me at: harriemcguire@earthlink.net. Not sure if you've paid your dues? Check it out on our class website.

Social Media Chair, Linda Sicher

Between now and next May, keep an eye out for Reunion updates on our class website (<http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/1969>) as well as on our class Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/groups/109383512421960/>). Our Facebook page is also a good way to stay connected with classmates and to see what they are up to and thinking about. Our page is a "closed" FB group so only our classmates can read it. Of course to access the Class of 1969 page, you first have to join Facebook. Once you are a FB member, search for "Smith College Class of 1969" and click on "join group" , or you can email Roz Zakheim or Linda Sicher to get an invitation to join our FB group.

Memorial Chair, Janet Williams Harrison

At our 2014 Reunion we want to remember and honor our classmates who, sadly, are deceased. The list is below. We plan to publish a Memorial Book to be available at Reunion filled with memories of these 40 wonderful women. But we need your help. If you have a personal memory, a shared memory, just one brief moment recollected, an obituary you saved, information gathered from a family member, please send it to me (twcma@gmail.com). This book can not happen without your help.

Name	Senior House	Date of Passing
Valentine Ackerman	Emerson House	02/14/2005
Sheila Berman	Gillett House	05/15/2002
Diana Hibbard Bitz	Chapin House	06/17/2010
Elizabeth Blakey	Haven House	05/01/2006
Diana Buitron-Oliver	Morris House	04/29/2002
Kathleen Carlson	Tenney House	02/24/2013
Emily Couric	Scales House	10/18/2001
Adrian Fogel Curtis	Lawrence House	08/18/2002
B. Gale Curtis	Albright House	06/27/1969
Leslie Arends Eckel	Baldwin House	02/21/2010
Elizabeth Fuller	Clark House	03/14/1974
Patricia Goodyer	Jordan House	11/10/1986
Bonnie Gordon	Dawes House	10/01/1993
Elizabeth Schroder Hoxie	Emerson House	12/01/1983
Paula Iverson	Dewey	12/13/2001
Cheryl Steinmetz Kent	Gardiner House	08/13/1986
Joanne Birkhold Krakow	Northrop House	02/07/1997
Laurene Kreer	-----	06/01/1980
Eleanor Lazarus	Chase House	02/26/2013
Linda Stickler Lotto	Lawrence House	12/29/1987
Susan Ludlow-MacMurry	Comstock House	04/26/2001

Name	Senior House	Date of Death
Margery Willey Marshall	Wilder House	10/01/1987
Cary MacRae McDaniel	Tyler House	05/30/1996
Catherine Milwid	Morris House	04/18/1968
Malashri Mukerji	Hubbard House	07/01/2012
Mary Quiett	Washburn House	10/01/2005
Nancy Reilly	Emerson House	05/30/1995
Catherine Campbell Rhorer	King House	11/27/1979
Sally Doonan Rogers	Gardiner House	09/12/2004
Anne Rognstad	Wilder House	01/10/2010
Andrea Rosnick	Chase House	07/06/1998
Norma Salem	Scales House	01/01/1990
Jane Samz	Comstock House	09/14/2011
Ann Carrad Schaffner	Parsons House	06/19/2013
Eileen Lesko Scott	Off Campus	03/11/2005
Ann Spiegel	Park House	03/29/2010
Marcia Taylor	Tyler House	11/08/1975
Denise Ryan Tedeschi	Morrow House	12/11/1998
Mary B Wilson	Lamont House	06/23/2013
Taj Diffenbaugh Worley	Wilder House	09/07/1987
Phyllis Ziegler	Ziskind House	12/15/1998

Co-Secretaries, Roz Zakheim and Barbara Lauren

We class secretaries work about 3 months in advance to gather contributions from you for the Class Notes section of the *Smith Alumnae Quarterly*. Here's how it works. News that comes in by May 15 gets into the Fall issue, news that comes in by August 15 goes into the Winter issue and so on. So you can see why there is big gap between when you send in your news and when it gets printed! One last important point---you've noticed that we request news only by email. So it is important that you keep Smith current with your email address.

Planned Giving Chair, Edie Dineen

Time flies---it's almost our 45th Reunion! We're not as young as we used to be and, if we're being diligent, updated estate planning should continue to be on our "To Do" lists. For those of us who want to include Smith in that effort, the Office of Planned Gifts and Bequests (www.smith.plannedgiving.org) is always available to discuss the various mutually beneficial ways in which we can show appreciation to our alma mater. So feel free to contact them at 800-24-2056 (option #5) or, better yet, visit their ice cream stand on the main level of the Campus Center on Friday afternoon of our reunion. All current and prospective members of The Grecourt Society are welcome.

Class Fund Chair, Susan Bangs Munro

Thank you to all of you who have given to the Smith College Annual Fund over the past four years. Your gift will count toward our overall BIG goal for our 45th Reunion. And to make that goal a bit easier to imagine right now, we are not talking about dollars but about participation. We started Smith in the fall of 1965. For our 45th reunion our goal is 65% participation of current classmates in the Annual Fund effort. Every gift counts toward participation, whether big or small. As we lead up to Reunion you'll be hearing more about Women for the World: The Campaign for Smith. Alumnae support is what ties the Smith community's past, present and future together. With a gift to Smith you help to maintain it as a diverse community dedicated to learning, teaching, scholarship, creativity and critical thought. We left Smith stronger than when we arrived. Let's support current and future Smith women in pursuing their goals.