

# Class of 1953

Spring 2015



## 1953 CLASS OFFICERS

### President

*Jane Cowen Pafford*  
phone: (413) 532-2426  
email: jcpaf@comcast.net

### Reunion Chair Triumvirate

*Judy Hill Kittredge*  
phone: (413) 684-0271  
email: jkittredge@crane.com

*Lynn Stein Leavitt*

phone: (413) 528-2226  
email: lidesigns1@hotmail.com

*Jid Whitney Sprague*

phone: (413) 458-4698  
email: jjds@aol.com

### Co-Secretaries

*Barbara Dodds McSpadden*  
phone: (203) 637-9370  
email: bpmcs@earthlink.net

*Ann Safford Mandel*

phone: (203) 655-9846  
email: asm703@aol.com

### Class Fund Agent

*Christine von Wedemeyer Beshar*  
phone: (212) 474-1698

### Special Gift Chair

*Christina Janson Eldridge*  
phone: (914) 337-4548  
email: chrisjeld@aol.com

### Planned Giving

*Molly Duff Woehrlin*  
phone: (507) 645-9619  
email: wwoehril@carleton.edu

### address for class website:

<http://alumnae.smith.edu/smith-cms/1953>

Greetings!

It has been two years since our 60th Reunion – May 2013. And, there are three more years before our 65th. To help us stay connected we're including some pictures sent in by classmates. I'd like to add any pictures you may have of a get-together with classmates. Just email it/ them to me: jcpaf@comcast.net.

Other ways to stay connected and stay abreast

of college happenings: The class website:

smith.edu, sign in (use the AV number on your quarterly as your password), go to classes, then 1953. (Most of you are reading this newsletter on our website.) Other great resources: the Smith website – Smith.edu, official alumnae publications, the on-line versions of the *Sophian* ([www.smithsophian.com](http://www.smithsophian.com)) and the Smith News Tracker, a daily e-newsletter from Smith, The last contains links to articles about the college, Northampton, general higher education news, etc. You can sign up for a free subscription of the News Tracker by e-mailing Marti Hobbes in Smith's News Office: mhobbes@smith.edu).



*Jane Cowen Pafford*

## PLANNED GIVING

I want to thank all our classmates who have funded life income gifts or name Smith in their estate plans and thus have joined The Grecourt Society.

We currently have 61 members of the Society (including one spouse). Since July 1, 2008, our class has funded 3 gift annuities totaling \$51,837.00.

We have also received 10 bequests from deceased classmates totaling \$3,797,608.28. A large thank you from the college, from the students (present and future) and from me.

If you are interested in funding a Charitable Gift Annuity to Smith, which begins to pay out the interest immediately, you may be interested to know the current rate

Age 82 – 7.2%

Age 83 – 7.4%

The Office of Gift Planning is extremely excited about its newly redesigned website launched in January 2013. It features many user-friendly functions to guide potential donors to information needed to make donations to Smith. You may also contact the Gift Planning staff directly as they would be delighted to hear from you and answer any questions you may have. They can provide you with a personalized gift illustration. Please contact Lisabeth at 413-585-2051 or [ljaswniewicz@smith.edu](mailto:ljaswniewicz@smith.edu).

*Molly Duff Woehrlin*

## VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

In September, 2014, **Betsy Jones Hayes** represented the class at Smith's Volunteer Leadership conference, "Inspire, Excite, Engage." She reports:

"The campus looked beautiful and Smith did its usual outstanding job of organizing and feeding over 150 attendees. Many of the sessions were for those classes who were holding reunions in 2016, so I skipped those.

*Leadership For Rebels* was the title of my first session run by Rachel Simmons, author, educator and coach. She "coaches" Smith undergraduates on how to cope when you fall short. Today's undergraduates are under pressure to be "all" while still being "a good girl."

That afternoon there were two workshops. The first focused on Smith alumnae volunteers in the admission process. We are very important! Admissions counts on alumnae to share their experiences with prospective students in their communities. Projects, such as distributing books in the high schools, provide a way to meet and talk with high school juniors and seniors about Smith.

The second was given by our dynamic Dean of Admissions, Debra Shaver. Its title: *What I Like About You, The Reading and Selection Process*. Some interesting tidbits were:

- Yes, legacies, including grandmothers, count. They get a second look or "read".
- Yes, grades are important, along with a profile of the secondary school and its location.
- Yes, to passion and enthusiasm for extracurricular activities.
- No, SATs are not required. They have found that the SAT score is not indicative of future success in college. In addition, there are no comparable tests in foreign countries.

After Admissions lists the students they want to admit, then it is on to the Financial Aid Department. It is a difficult job to make it all fit. It costs Smith over \$70,000 a year to educate each student! Full tuition – \$46,010 – does not pay the full tab.

FYI: Remember when mail was delivered to our houses twice a day? Not any more! Students do not have mail boxes in the houses. Communication is done electronically. When a letter or package arrives an email is sent with instructions on how to pick it up. Times are changing!

## CLASS SECRETARIES

We hope to hear from each of you! Please send along any news. The best way to do this is: email **Ann Safford Mandel**: [asm703@aol.com](mailto:asm703@aol.com). A reminder, the *Alumnae Quarterly* decides which pictures it will include in the class notes. The best way to submit a picture is to email it directly to the *Alumnae Quarterly*. If you have sent in a picture that has not been used, send it to our President, **Jane Pafford** ([jcpaf@comcast.net](mailto:jcpaf@comcast.net)) for the next newsletter or our website.

## CLASS FUND AGENT

Just a reminder: annual giving is most helpful – and important - for the college. Funders believe the percentage of alumnae who give is just as important as the amount. The closer we get to 100% class participation annually the more we help the college in their appeals to foundations and government entities. So, please make a gift – in any amount. Thank you.

*Christine von Wedemeyer Beshar*



*Jody Shartle Anderson, left, and Ruth Lieder, both class of '53 get together in Sun Valley, ID. Jody is wearing her Smith College scarf especially for Ruth.*



## CLASS OF 1953 SCHOLARSHIP FUND

You may remember – Spring of senior year our Class President, **Ellie Stalford**, Alumnae President, **Katrinia Schmidt**, and Alumnae Fund Chairman, **Molly Duff**, sent a letter to the class. They asked that we ask our parents to donate the \$50 matriculation fee paid the spring before we entered Smith. This annual graduating class request began with the class of '49. Those \$50 donations went into a fund – 1953 Scholarship Fund.

The original gift totaled \$25,005. The current market value is \$191,017.

Annually, the interest is spent to support a current undergraduate. The amount varies between \$7200 and \$8200 representing about one third of the financial aid package. (This year, 2014-15, the figure is \$8607.)

Recent recipients: 2012-13 Neuroscience major from the State of Washington. 2013-14 and 2014-15 Yiwen Zhu '16 from Nanjung, People's Republic of China. Email: yzhu@smith.edu. She lives in Park House. A junior this year, she is majoring in Psychology, and her minor/concentration is History. She has held two teaching Assistantships: Logic 100 and Statistics. She also has held an Internship at Northampton Clinical Support and Options. She is hoping to attend a Ph.D. program after college and continue doing research.

Contributions to the fund are welcome. Checks may be made out to Smith College with designation to the Class 1953 Scholarship Fund.



## REUNION TRIUMVIRATE

Although its two and half years until our next Reunion, we are looking for a representative from each of the houses. It's a great excuse to stay in touch with house mates. Please email or call one of us if you are willing to be the rep for your house:

**Judy Hill Kittredge**, [jkittredge@crane.com](mailto:jkittredge@crane.com)

**Lynne Stein Leavitt**, [lidesigns@hotmail.com](mailto:lidesigns@hotmail.com)

**Jid Whitney Sprague**, [jids@aol.com](mailto:jids@aol.com)

## TREASURY

Currently the balance is \$2,386.31. The class appreciates any donations of dues that will help fund our 65th Reunion.



*It is with great regret that we share the names of our classmates whose deaths were reported to us since our last newsletter:*

Seok-Chee Lee Eng .....	date not available
Marcia Bourne .....	2/28/10
Elaine Gallant Roth.....	4/10/14
E. Anne Jaqua Taylor .....	6/7/14
Carolyn Younglove Richards .....	6/10/14
Sheila St. Cyr Rockwell.....	10/14/14
Judith Hall Reed .....	11/19/14
H. Jane Gwyn.....	12/2/14
Ann Vanderbilt Hartwell.....	12/9/14
M. Virginia Menefee Knab .....	12/10/14
Natalie Austin Ashmore.....	1/5/15
Lucy Dayton Deephouse.....	2/4/15
Rebecca B. Worcester .....	2/6/15
Mary Jane Butler Gill .....	2/15/15
Virginia Davidson McNaughton.....	2/18/15
Margaret Whitney Phillips.....	2/24/15
Cornelia Chapple Chaffin .....	3/13/15

# Smith College Class of 1953

Office of Alumnae Relations

33 Elm Street

Northampton, MA 01063

First Class Presorted  
U.S. Postage PAID  
Northampton, MA  
Permit No. 13

*Address Service Requested*

