



# Special Edition Reunion Newsletter

Winter 2014

## The President's Corner

Dear Classmates,

Wow - 5 years have just flown by! Now our 45th Reunion is just around the corner: May 23-25. Please plan to come and join us as we "Reflect and Rock On." For those arriving early campus housing will be open on Thursday, May 22 at 4 pm.

If you've attended Reunion before, you know you'll have a great time catching up with old friends and making new ones. If you haven't come to Reunion before, I can promise you you'll be very pleasantly surprised---the campus and Northampton are both familiar and different (after 45 years!) at the same time, classmates are friendly and you'll find out how much you have in common after all this time---good memories and perhaps some difficult ones, too.

The weekend is packed with activities and options but there's plenty of free time for exploring as well. And speaking of exploring---Northampton and the Berkshires are beautiful in the spring. So why not add a few days to your trip before or after Reunion weekend. Inside you'll find some websites that lay out the amazing things to do and see in the area and hotels and B& B's to check on.

This newsletter has lots of information about Reunion but please periodically check our website for updates and special information like: who's planning to attend, the activities schedule and so on. If you have questions about anything you can contact our Reunion Chair, **Debbie Franczek** or your House Rep. And if you haven't already received it, watch your mail for the Reunion registration package from the college (will also be available on-line---so please make sure Smith has your up to date email address — send changes to: [alumnaerecords@smith.edu](mailto:alumnaerecords@smith.edu)).

Over the last 5 years we've had a great team of class officers who have worked very hard devising ways to keep us all connected to each other and to Smith. I want to thank all of them for their creative and tireless volunteer service. And I want to let you know that all of us look forward to seeing you in May.

**Sue Foley**

President, Class of 1969



## How To Contact Your Class Team

### President

**Sue Herrick Foley**

[suzannejac@aol.com](mailto:suzannejac@aol.com)

### Vice President/ Reunion Chair

**Debbie Chase Franczek**

[dfranczek@hotmail.com](mailto:dfranczek@hotmail.com)

### Treasurer

**Harriet Cooke McGuire**

[harrietmcguire@earthlink.net](mailto:harrietmcguire@earthlink.net)

### Co-Secretaries

**Barbara Lauren**

[blauren123@aol.com](mailto:blauren123@aol.com)

**Roz Zakheim**

[rszesq@aol.com](mailto:rszesq@aol.com)

### Social Media Chair

**Linda Frank Sicher**

[lsicher@aol.com](mailto:lsicher@aol.com)

**Margie Barkin Searle**

[mbsearl@gmail.com](mailto:mbsearl@gmail.com)

### Memorial Chair

**Janet Williams Harrison**

[twcmac@gmail.com](mailto:twcmac@gmail.com)

### Planned Giving Chair

**Eddie Dinneen**

[ediedinneen@aol.com](mailto:ediedinneen@aol.com)

### Nominating Chair

**Thea Dodge Cardamone**

[theacardamone@comcast.net](mailto:theacardamone@comcast.net)

### Class Fund Chair

**Susan Bangs Munro**

[sbmunro47@gmail.com](mailto:sbmunro47@gmail.com)

### House Rep Co-Chairs

**Joyce Moran**

[Jmoran0852@aol.com](mailto:Jmoran0852@aol.com)

**Lisa Henderson Rosenbloom**

[lpassavant@gmail.com](mailto:lpassavant@gmail.com)

### Class Website

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

### Class Facebook Page

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

### Smith Alumnae Website

<http://alumnae.smith.edu>

## Reunion Planning Team

It takes a lot of people to make Reunion weekend plans come together.

Thanks to all of them:

### Reunion Chair

**Debbie Chase Franczek**

### House Rep Co-Chairs

**Joyce Moran**

**Lisa Henderson Rosenbloom**

### HQ Co-Chairs

**Judith Vanderkay**

[jvanderkay@alumnae.smith.edu](mailto:jvanderkay@alumnae.smith.edu)

**Judie Feins**

[bell.feins@verizon.net](mailto:bell.feins@verizon.net)

### Parade Chair

**Irene Restieri DeSisto**

[irendesisto@yahoo.com](mailto:irendesisto@yahoo.com)

### Friday Afternoon Tea

**Carolyn Coulter Gilbert**

[gilbgolf@aol.com](mailto:gilbgolf@aol.com)

### Meals Chair

**Elissa Getto**

[eogae@aol.com](mailto:eogae@aol.com)

### "Then and Now" Slideshow

**Rosa Leader Smith**

[rleadersmi@aol.com](mailto:rleadersmi@aol.com)

**Debby Slavitt**

[deborahjane@alumnae.smith.edu](mailto:deborahjane@alumnae.smith.edu)

**Anita Verchinski Gebhardt**

[anita@vertbiz.com](mailto:anita@vertbiz.com)

### Friday Morning Tour

**Rosa Leader Smith**

**Debby Slavitt**

### Logo Design

**Amy Finley Scott**

[amy@amyfinleyscott.com](mailto:amy@amyfinleyscott.com)

### Art Show

**Ellyn Paul Weiss**

[eweiss@ucsusa.org](mailto:eweiss@ucsusa.org)

### Authors Show

**Barbara Wallace Grossman**

[barbara.grossman@tufts.edu](mailto:barbara.grossman@tufts.edu)

### Photography "Posse":

**Ben Brosgol**

(husband of **Debbie Jacobs Brosgol**)

**Ed Dexter**

(husband of **Jan Humphrey Dexter**)

**Jack Foley**

(husband of **Sue Herrick Foley**)

# 2014 Reunion Class Schedule

(See Reunion mailing from Smith for other college programming)

## Thursday, May 22

4:00 pm

Houses open for alumnae arriving early-- including HQ at Lawrence House

4:00-8:00pm

Reunion registration---Alumnae House

7:00 pm

Casual class dinner at Fizwilly's in downtown Northampton (23 Main St.)

## Friday, May 23

8:00 am-8:00 pm

Class HQ open --Lawrence House

8:30 am-11:30 am

Road trip! Tour of Hatfield and Florence

11:00 am-11:00 pm

Reunion registration--Alumnae House

12:00 noon

All Reunion Class Luncheon

3:00 pm

Talk by classmate, **Jane Abramson O'Connor**, author of the Fancy Nancy series--Lawrence House

4:00 pm

Afternoon tea service---Lawrence House

5:30 pm

All class social hour (cash bar and light appetizers)-- Campus Center

6:30 pm

Class dinner--King/Scales dining room

7:30 pm

"Then and Now" slideshow

## Saturday, May 24

8:00 am-3:00 pm

Reunion registration---Alumnae House

8:45 am-12:00 pm

Alumnae Parade, AASC Annual meeting---Campus Grounds

12:00 pm-1:00 pm

Class luncheon and meeting to elect new class officers ---Neilson Browsing Room

1:00 pm-4:00 pm

Free time--no class programming scheduled

4:00 pm

Discussion on dealing with loss led by classmate, **Susan Hall Mygatt**--Lawrence House (see class web-site for details.)

5:30 pm

Class social hour---King/Scales Courtyard

6:30 pm

Class dinner and program---King/Scales dining room

8:00 pm-10:00 pm

Campus Illumination

## Sunday, May 25

8:30 am-9:00 am

Remembrance Service for deceased classmates--- Class Tree location

9:00 am

All Reunion Multi-Faith Service of Remembrance

10:00 am

Sunday brunch---Cutter/Ziskind dining room

1:00 pm

Residence houses close

## NEWS FLASH

Our class has been assigned the Green Street complex for housing--- Tyler, Washburn, Lawrence and Morris houses. Lawrence will serve as our Headquarters and breakfast will be in Tyler.

## GOT QUESTIONS?

If you have any questions about Reunion weekend, please contact Reunion Chair,

**Debbie Franczek**

dfranczek@hotmail.com

or your House Rep.

Our classmates who are serving as House Reps for our 45th have done a wonderful job of reaching out and keeping us all connected ---a big thanks to all of them! House Reps and their contact information can be found on our class website.



## SPECIAL EVENTS!



### Dinner at Fitzwilly's

If you'll be in Northampton on Thursday, May 22 (Houses will be open for alumnae arriving early), come join us at 7 pm at this casual dining spot to start your Reunion weekend---space has been set aside for our class. Fitzwilly's (23 Main St.) has been open since 1972 and is a popular Northampton restaurant. You'll be responsible for your own check. If you plan to attend, please let **Edie Dinneen** know at: ediedinneen@aol.com.



### Road Trip!

Did you know that Sophia Smith was deaf or that her choice to locate Smith College in Northampton instead of Hatfield was a last minute decision? And did you know that the Florence section of Northampton was a very active stop on the Underground Railroad--or that the Mary Ellen Chase House was once the home of Thomas Napier, a former North Carolina slave auctioneer? Join us Friday morning for a fun and educational tour of the historical sites of Hatfield and Florence with stops at several locations, including Sophia Smith's grave site with informative talks by local museum curators. There is no charge for this tour but please let **Rosa Leader Smith** (rleadersmi@aol.com) know if you have questions or wish to participate. We'll be back in time for lunch. Want to know a bit more about the areas we will visit---check out these websites:

<http://hatfieldhistory.weebly.com>

<http://www.davidstrugglescenter.org>

<http://pvhn.wordpress.com/locations/hatfield-farm-museum/>



### High Tea with the Ladies

Remember Friday afternoon tea with your House Mother? Classmate **Carolyn Coulter Gilbert** has arranged for a wonderful nostalgic tea service at 4pm on Friday in our HQ at Lawrence House---a great opportunity to relax and begin catching up with friends.

## EXTEND YOUR VISIT

Northampton and surrounding areas are beautiful and rich with history, museums and lots of things to do. Why not add a few days on to your trip to explore a bit. Check out these websites for information on things to do and see and places to stay.

www.valleyvisitor.com  
www.explorenorthampton.com  
www.mohawktrail.com  
www.bedandbreakfast.com



### "Reflect and Rock On"--Then and Now Slideshow

During and after our Friday night class dinner we'll be showing a special "Then and Now" slideshow produced by classmate, **Anita Verchinski Gebhardt**. This slideshow, appropriately set to our favorite 60's music, will bring up lots of memories and also show us how we, the Smith campus and Northampton have all changed over the years. **WE NEED YOUR HELP ON THIS!** Please scour your photo albums for shots we can use---these can be photos of you and/or friends at Smith, the Smith campus, athletic or other events and so on. Even if you only have 2 or 3 photos to share that would be great. **BUT PLEASE DON'T SEND US YOUR ORIGINALS.** Send photos electronically (dfranczek@hotmail.com) or you can make copies for just pennies at Walgreens, CVS and many other locations.

Send your photos to **Debbie Franczek**:

5555 So. Everett Ave., Apt D-7, Chicago, Ill 60637.

**DEADLINE IS MARCH 31.**



### Gallery of Creativity

We have tons of creative talent in our class, both professional and amateur, and we would like to showcase it in our HQ over the Reunion weekend. Classmate **Ellyn Paul Weiss** (eweiss@ucsusa.org) will be orchestrating a display of visual art works by classmates---painting, drawing, sculpting, etc. and classmate **Barbara Wallace Grossman** (barbara.grossman@tufts.edu) will be organizing a display of classmate written works. **DON'T BE SHY!** If you are an artist or author please contact Ellyn or Barbara by April 15 to Discuss your work and the Gallery details.



### Memorial Booklet and Remembrance Service

On Sunday morning we will gather at the Class Tree (located between the President's residence and the Quad) to remember and honor our 42 classmates who are no longer with us. This is always a very moving and heartfelt service. This year we are also producing a Memorial Booklet that collects memories of our lost classmates from those who knew them best. **AGAIN, WE NEED YOUR HELP!** The list of deceased classmates can be found in our Fall newsletter if you still have it, or on our class website. Please take a moment to review it and then contribute to our Memorial Booklet if you have a personal memory, a shared memory or even just a brief moment recollected about any of the women on our necrology list. Please send your memory submissions to our Memorial Chair, **Janet Williams Harrison** (twcmac@gmail.com) by March 31.

## DON'T FORGET

If you're coming to Reunion there are a few essentials to remember:

- the houses are not air conditioned and have only basic conveniences (single beds with sheets, one pillow and one blanket per person).
- rooms do not lock so don't bring valuables
- suggestions of things to bring include an alarm clock, hair dryer, toiletries, flip flops, a bathrobe (remember community bathrooms) and a small flashlight
- Parade attire is all white, including shoes
- May weather in Northampton can be glorious but it can also be chilly in the early morning or at night so pack accordingly

**GO! A**

**QUIRKY PARADE**

**SIGN IDEA?**

Email our Parade Chair, **Irene DeSisto**: irenedesisto@yahoo.com by March 15. Remember the theme for our 45th is "Reflect and Rock On". Have some fun with this!

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES?

The winner of our "6 Months Till Reunion" raffle was **Jan Humphrey Dexter**. She receives a \$100 credit towards her 2014 Reunion expenses. Congrats Jan! As a reminder, dues for the 2009-2014 term are \$75. Checks should be made out to: Smith Class of 1969 and sent to **Harriet Cooke McGuire** at 3007 Russell Rd., Alexandria, Va., 22305 (please include your email address for a charitable deduction receipt.)



## SUPPORT SMITH

In so many ways Smith College has been a big factor in all of our lives. As an institution it has changed and evolved tremendously over the years but it continues to be an avenue of great impact and opportunity for women from all over the globe. As with all significant institutions of higher education, attendance at Smith is not cheap. A Smith education today costs \$16,000 more than the full tuition of \$55,320. Most students require some financial assistance. Contributions from alumnae help close the gap. Whether or not you are planning to attend Reunion there are two ways you can consider helping:

1. Make a gift of any amount. Our class goal for this reunion term is 65% participation in giving. You can make your gift:  
online: [www.smith.edu/future/giving/giftform.php](http://www.smith.edu/future/giving/giftform.php)  
by phone: 800-241-2056 (option 1)  
to give securities: 800-526-2023 (option 5)
2. Consider joining the Greycourt Society by including Smith in your estate plans. The college will make an award this year to the class with the highest number of new members since the last Reunion. For more information contact classmate **Edie Dinneen** ([ediedinneen@aol.com](mailto:ediedinneen@aol.com)) or the college at [www.smith.edu/future/planned](http://www.smith.edu/future/planned) (or call 800-241-2056 ext. 5).

## CLASS OF 1969 FUND RAISING TEAM

Thanks to our team for their hard work.

Fund Team Co-ordinator  
**Susan Bangs Munro**

Class Fund Agents  
**Cynthia Greenleaf Fanton**  
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Class Stewards  
**Ginny Wigger**  
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**Susan Stillman**  
[stillmansj@aol.com](mailto:stillmansj@aol.com)

### REUNION ASSISTANCE

*If you want to attend Reunion but are concerned about the expense of doing so, please contact our class Treasurer,*

*Harriet Cooke McGuire  
([harrietmcguire@earthlink.net](mailto:harrietmcguire@earthlink.net)).*

*The class has set aside some resources to help out. Of course, any inquiry will be kept confidential.*

## FINAL THOUGHTS

With Reunion only a few months away, let's "talk turkey"—what possible reason could there be for not joining in on this fun event? So, here are some of the top reasons we hear—and why you should not think that!

1. "I'm too busy right now, just can't fit it in." Hey it's a weekend—don't you deserve some time off and away with the girls? We can eat, talk, swap family photos...When was the last time you had the opportunity to do all that with a bunch of fun women?
2. "Oh, I've put on so much weight, etc." Hey, get in line here, so have we all! Not to mention a bunch of new wrinkles that weren't there a few years ago, gray hair, and lots of other indications that mother nature will not be denied. So what?! There is comfort in knowing that the passages of life are shared. When we connect with classmates we realize ALL the things that we have in common.
3. "I have mixed emotions about my time at Smith—it wasn't all roses!" You might be surprised at how many of your classmates had similar experiences and feelings for a variety of reasons. We're "all grown up" now and you'll find others very willing to share thoughts about those years. It's all about perspective. And in talking we are reminded of all the good things that did happen and the true friendships that we did make.
4. "I don't know if I have anything in common with classmates now". I can promise you that you do—you'll be surprised.

**So come and enjoy each other, the Smith campus and a little time off.**

## WHAT YOU SHOULD DO NOW



- ✓ Call a friend to join you at Reunion.
- ✓ Make your travel plans.
- ✓ Pay your class dues if you haven't already.
- ✓ Send photos to Debbie and memories of deceased classmates to Janet.
- ✓ Make a gift to Smith College.
- ✓ Check our class website and join in on our Facebook page.