



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF  
SMITH COLLEGE

# SMITH CLUB OF CLEVELAND



August 2017

## Club Officers, 2017-18

Lynn-Ann Gries '84  
President

Mittie Jordan '75  
Vice President/Programs Chair  
Mindy Baierl '85  
Vice President/Programs Co-Chair

Christine Cano '84, Ph.D.  
Recording Secretary

Amy Miller '99  
Corresponding Secretary

Betsy Kaufman Sampliner '62  
Treasurer

Samantha Mishne '99  
Assistant Treasurer

Martha Woerner '08  
Candidates Committee Chair  
Veselina Grassi '09  
Candidates Committee Co-Chair

Joanne C. Mortimer '70, M.D.  
Book Club Chair

Robin Black Walker '87  
Book Awards Chair

Suzanne W. Stratton-Crooke '61  
Jane Quayle Outcalt '59  
Senior Smith Co-Chairs

Erika Hanson Amini '09  
Young Alumnae Chair

Ruth Strauss Berger '58  
ACE Representative

Elizabeth Chandler '87  
Past President & Nominating  
Chair

Marjorie Berson Roth '67  
SOTC Chair

Lauren Richards '06  
Marketing Chair & Website  
Coordinator

<http://tinyurl.com/smithcle>  
<http://bit.ly/SmithCLE>



*The mission of the Smith College Club of Cleveland is to encourage a sense of connection and continuity with Smith past, present and future, to promote an awareness of Smith in the Cleveland community, to encourage qualified students to apply to Smith and to contribute to the College's scholarship fund.*

Dear Friends,

I hope everyone is having a wonderful summer. The fall newsletter is going out a bit earlier this year because we have a busy few months planned and I want everyone to have ample time to organize their calendars. Before launching into next year, however, I want to acknowledge everyone who helped make last year's programming possible.

Hats off to our program chairs, **Mittie Jordan '75** and **Mindy Baierl '85**, who helped us become more mindful last October (despite the event coinciding with Game 2 of the World Series!) and introduced us to the amazing story of **Helen "Penny" Chenery Tweedy '43** and Secretariat in May. Thanks, also, to **Susan '68** and **Hal LaPine** for facilitating use of the Racquet Club for our annual Holiday Party and to **Elizabeth Chandler '87** and Mindy for encouraging **Becky Ruppert McMahon '89** to share her story with us at our annual meeting in June. Finally, props to **Suzanne Stratton-Crooke '61** and **Jane Outcalt '59** for the interesting Senior Smith luncheon in May where the group learned from Jon Outcalt about Winston Churchill's life as an artist.

In addition to events, there are other club initiatives to note. We continue to have strong involvement in Summer on the Cuyahoga through the leadership of **Marjorie Roth '67**, and have **Joanne Mortimer '70** to thank for keeping the monthly book club running smoothly. **Martha Woerner '08**, **Veselina Grassi '09** and **Robin Walker '87** keep our recruiting machine humming and succeeded in encouraging 18 local students to apply and two students to attend Smith this past year. Finally, we have **Sue Pacini '65** to thank for bringing the club into the 21<sup>st</sup> century by enabling us to accept credit card payments on our website -- a big step forward for us!

This coming fall the Club is trying something a bit new and different -- the "Smith Salon" -- a series of independent and intimate gatherings under the roof of an inspiring hostess, designed to increase the knowledge of the participants through conversation -- each salon will feature a women's college alumna of note. Attendance will be limited to 12 guests at each salon, to allow for robust conversation. Details within.

In terms of numbers, there are approximately 275 alumnae living in the Northeast Ohio region and, over the past several years, approximately one-third have paid annual dues. If you're a dues payer, thank you! If you're not, please consider joining. (*Remember, you can now pay via credit card!*) Dues payers receive priority for Smith Salon events and the money pays for all mailings, recruiting materials, book awards, one board member's travel expenses to the annual Leadership Conference in Northampton and our two spring luncheons (Senior Smith and Annual Meeting). A dues envelope is included with this mailing.

Lynn-Ann Gries '84  
(216) 978-2647

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wed., Sept. 13**

**Smith Salon #1 featuring *Rachel Lerner-Ley '08***

**7:00 p.m.**

**Rachel Lerner-Ley '08** is the Artistic Associate and Dramaturg in her 5th season at the Cleveland Play House. Her work focuses on season programming, new play development, and artistic communication. If you've ever seen the word "dramaturg" and wondered "what the heck is that?" or if you have a general interest in the theater arts, come listen to Rachel discuss her work at the Cleveland Play House—and perhaps even try your hand at a little "turgy!". Rachel will be sure to provide a preview of "Shakespeare in Love" which opens on Sept 15.

This salon will be held at the home of **Marjorie Roth '67** in Pepper Pike. RSVP to [lagries@aol.com](mailto:lagries@aol.com) or (216) 978-2647. Preference to dues payers. Waiting list will be maintained.

**Mon., Oct. 9**

**ACE - Grazella Shepherd Lecture Day**

**9:15 a.m.**

This year's Grazella Shepherd Lecture Day, sponsored by the Association for Continuing Education (ACE), is titled "The Tangled Tale of Turkey" and features as moderator, John Grabowski (Professor of History at CWRU), and speakers Sinan Ciddi (Executive Director -- Institute of Turkish Studies, Georgetown University) and Ori Z. Soltes (Professor of History, Georgetown University). This timely event focuses on the background and internal and external ongoing events in Turkey today. Members: \$35; Non-members: \$45. The location is Mayfield Sand Ridge Country Club, 1545 Sheridan Rd., South Euclid and the program runs from 9:15 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Details can be found at [www.acesite.org](http://www.acesite.org) or by calling (216) 368-2090.

**Wed., Oct. 18**

**Smith Salon #2 featuring *Renee Sentilles, Ph.D (Mt. Holyoke '88)***

**7:00 p.m.**

Were you a tomboy when you were young? Did you love to play rough and tumble games? Or were you strictly a girlie-girl? Come hear Professor Renee Sentilles, an historian and Associate Professor of History at Case Western Reserve University share her not-yet-published research on this interesting cultural phenomenon. Her book, **American Tomboys and the Construction of Modern Girlhood: 1850-1915**, is slated for official release in early 2018. This salon will be held at the home of **Amy Carlson '84** in Shaker Heights. RSVP to [lagries@aol.com](mailto:lagries@aol.com) or (216) 978-2647. Preference to dues payers. Waiting list will be maintained.

**Wed., Nov. 8**

**Smith Salon #3 featuring *Dr. Sheryl Kingsberg, Ph.D '84***

**7:00 p.m.**

Are you tired of all the TV advertisements for Viagra? Why are there so many products to help men with sexual dysfunction? Who's listening to, and taking care of women in this regard? Come talk with **Sheryl Kingsberg '84**, Chief of Behavioral Medicine at UH and Professor of Reproductive Biology and Psychiatry at CWRU School of Medicine. Sheryl's primary research interests are in treatments for female sexual disorders and the psychological aspects of infertility and menopause. This salon will be held at the home of **Musette Vincent '78** in Bratenahl. RSVP to [lagries@aol.com](mailto:lagries@aol.com) or (216) 978-2647. Preference to dues payers. Waiting list will be maintained.

**Sunday, Dec 3 or 10**

**Smith Club Holiday Party**

**5:30 p.m.**

Save the date(s) -- we will convene at a location TBD for our annual Holiday Party. Formal invitations will be sent closer to the event.

Don't forget you can find all of Smith's publications here:  
<https://www.smith.edu/about-smith/news-and-publications>

And remember to periodically check our club's Facebook page:  
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/SmithClubCleveland/>

## GENERAL NEWS

### Young Alumnae

We are fortunate to have **Erika Amini '09** continuing her leadership of the Young Alum effort. Email Erika at [erika.n.hanson@gmail.com](mailto:erika.n.hanson@gmail.com) for more information on young alum programming or to offer suggestions. Join and check the Club's Facebook page <http://bit.ly/SmithCLE> to learn more details about their plans and club-wide happenings.

### Book Club

The schedule of books will be available on the Club's website, <http://tinyurl.com/smithcle> after Sept 1. The club plans to kick off the year with the book *The Book of Unknown Americans* by Cristina Henríquez. This book is required reading for the Smith first years who will matriculate this fall.

Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month, September through June, **except for September and November when the meetings are being moved to the first Wednesday** to accommodate the Smith Salon. Meetings convene at 7:00 pm and the book discussion begins at 7:30. It's important to emphasize that book club is open to all -- come once, every time or never depending on your time and interest in the book. If you need any information, contact **Joanne Mortimer '70** at [mdraijmor@aol.com](mailto:mdraijmor@aol.com).

### Candidates and Book Awards

Candidate recruiting is a team effort, beginning with candidate identification through the book award program, handled with usual Smithie aplomb by **Robin Walker '87**, followed by college fairs and interviews, which are in the extremely capable hands of **Veselina Grassi '09** and **Martha Woerner '08**.

Working together, Veselina and Martha encouraged 18 local women to apply to Smith. Of this group, six were admitted and two have matriculated. Our newest Smithies (class of 2021!) are Anna Von Bethmann-Hollweg from Hathaway Brown and Callan ("Callie") Swaim-Fox from Cleveland Heights High School. Robin was very busy during April and May handing out book awards to 21(!) young women, priming the pump for next year's applicant pool.

Robin, Martha and Veselina are always looking for volunteers to help with book award presentations, college fairs, interviews, and other prospective student events. Email Martha at [martha.woerner@gmail.com](mailto:martha.woerner@gmail.com), Veselina at [veselina.grassi@gmail.com](mailto:veselina.grassi@gmail.com) and Robin at [robin.walker.mk@gmail.com](mailto:robin.walker.mk@gmail.com) if you're interested in helping out.

### Summer on the Cuyahoga

This summer we welcomed seven Smithies to Cleveland as participants in Summer on the Cuyahoga.

	<u>Name and Class Year</u>	<u>Smith Major</u>	<u>Employer</u>	<u>Hometown</u>
1	Abigael Stephens '18	History	Boys Hope Girls Hope	Williamstown, MA
2	Chloe Lee '17	Engineering - General	Waxman Industries	Upper Marlboro, MD
3	Natalia Perkins '19	Economics	LEAP	Shaker Hts. OH
4	Natalie Weiss '18	American Studies	Ingalls Library & Archive	Pasadena, CA
5	Sara Ramasastry '17	History/Amer. Studies	LEAP	Oak Brook, IL
6	Saraphina Masters '17	Art History/Classical Studies	Cleveland Museum of Art	Buffalo, NY
7	Yvonne VanLeuven '18	Physics and Mathematics	REACH Program	Watervliet, NY

These seven Smithies enjoyed the company and guidance of 14 alumnae hosts: **Erika Amini '09, Pat Ashton '53, Mindy Baierl '85, Joanne Bonder '76, Amy Carlson '84, Nancy Duff-Boehm '73, Veselina Grassi '09, Becky McMahan '89, Amy Miller '99, Julianne Roseman '13, Marjorie Roth '67, Heather Stoll '94, Musette Vincent '78 and Martha Woerner '08.** Smith's participation in SOTC would not be possible without the fundraising efforts of our Steering Committee and the generosity of our donors.

The Smithies' summer in Cleveland was bookended by their attendance at our Annual Meeting on June 10th and an end-of-summer celebration at **Susan '68 and Hal LaPine's** home on July 30th. We sent the interns off with copies of former Smith College President Jill Ker Conway's beautiful childhood memoir, *The Road from Coorain*. Other events hosted by our club for the interns included a pizza party at an apartment in the Flats hosted by **Joanne '76 and Dan Bonder**; a panel discussion on poverty and social justice in Cleveland (created in response to suggestions from last year's interns), planned by **Marjorie Roth '67 and Katie Collin '01** and featuring **Mittie Jordan '75** as a panel participant; a five mile hike through the Cuyahoga Valley National Park led by **Martha Woerner '08**; and tours of selected collections at the Museum of Art, led by interns **Saraphina Masters '17** and **Natalie Weiss '18.**

The Smith representative to SOTC for 2017-18 is **Marjorie Roth '67** [riroth@comcast.net](mailto:riroth@comcast.net). Contact her with questions, comments, or ideas about the program.

### **News from Northampton**

At this year's annual meeting we were fortunate to be joined by Pam McNulty, Senior Philanthropic Officer, who shared news from Northampton, starting with a review of Commencement 2017, an event that featured an address by Oprah Winfrey (<https://www.smith.edu/news/oprah-winfrey-at-commencement/>). Oprah was encouraged to participate in support of graduating senior **Morgan Mpungose '17**, one of the first students chosen to attend the Oprah Winfrey Leadership Academy for Girls in South Africa.

Pam reported that Smith has received a record number of applications (5,432) for the 10<sup>th</sup> year in a row, including a record number from African American and international applicants. The college has retaken the lead (from Pitzer College) as the #1 producer of Fulbright award winners among liberal arts colleges, with 17 students being selected for fellowships this year.

The biggest news on campus is the renovation of Nielsen Library, featuring a re-design by renowned architect Maya Lin. All the details about the "intellectual heart of the campus" can be found online. <https://www.smith.edu/libraries/about/new-neilson>

Pam shared with the group that the Campaign for Smith raised a record-breaking \$486 million which, as of this writing, is the highest capital campaign total for a women's college, as well as the largest amount raised in the history of the college. The campaign was supported by more than 37,000 donors.

Last but not least, Pam shared the five themes that the college is focusing on as part of President McCartney's new strategic plan (available online at <https://www.smith.edu/planning/docs/StrategicPlan-2017.pdf>):

- 1) Face-to-face education
- 2) Inclusion, diversity and equity
- 3) Experiential and applied learning opportunities
- 4) Emerging methods, fields and pedagogies
- 5) Complex, urgent problem solving

All in all, Pam's remarks reminded us that Smith is not an institution that stands still!

### **In Memoriam**

A lifelong resident of Shaker Heights, **Arlene Lois (Schwartzberg) Angell '48** passed away May 11, 2017 at age 90.