



### A Letter from our Club President



**Mittie Jordan, Nancy Pelosi**  
2008 Democratic National  
Convention, Denver, Colorado

Dear alumnae and friends,

During the first week of March, we prepared our traditional Spring newsletter featuring front page articles about our upcoming Senior Smith Luncheon and Annual Meeting. As well, in recognition of Women's History Month, I wanted this space to feature the extraordinary person who was scheduled to deliver our 142nd Commencement Address, the highest-ranking woman elected federal official, the Honorable Nancy Pelosi. Although circumstances beyond the College's control have dictated the cancellation of the 2020

exercises and celebrations, Speaker Pelosi will be awarded an honorary degree—with all the rights and privileges appertaining thereto," including membership into the Smith Alumnae Association.

Today, we find ourselves in uncharted waters. Due to the daily developing nature of an international pandemic—including the ambiguity of a timeframe for resuming safe gatherings, we are refraining from promoting our Spring and Summer programs. If it is necessary to postpone our plans, we are hopeful to reschedule the wonderful speakers we engaged for the events. We will keep you posted about our annual and other routine programs by way of post and email and with updates on our Club website: [www.SmithClubofCleveland.org](http://www.SmithClubofCleveland.org).

Until then, remember who we are. Our ranks include alumnae who have seen and survived it all. Our eldest living member Clara Rankin, class of 1938, entered Smith on the heels of the Great Depression and graduated a year before the beginning of World War II with over 100 Smithies joining the armed forces and volunteering with the Red Cross. From that time to our youngest graduate and former Book Award recipient, Julia Bouzاهر, class of 2020, we have collectively witnessed numerous global conflicts, famine, earthquakes, tornados and hurricanes that have claimed the lives of many more people than COVID-19. But we survive. We are the historical descendants of the African enslavement, Irish Potato Famine, Jewish Holocaust and Japanese American Internment. We survive and we thrive!

Stay healthy. Stay encouraged. Smile. The crocus and daffodils are blooming.

Faithfully yours,  
Mittie Imani Jordan '75, President



1945 Report on Wartime Activities at Smith College. Smith women formed 2 Platoons of Waves during WWII

### History Making Madam Speaker!

#### Nancy Pelosi Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

*"We've come a long way, baby!"*

The Virginia Slims cigarette slogan was one of the popular sayings during my years at Smith in the early 1970's. Another was about a woman's plot in life: *"A woman's place is in the house—and the senate!"*

Over the course of my four and a half years at Smith, (I entered in 1970 with the class of 1974, took a semester off, went back, declared a double major and graduated in 1975) there were a total of twenty-three women in the U.S. Congress—21 in the House and 2 in the Senate. Of those 23 women, only two were of color: the first, Japanese American **Patsy Takemoto Mink** of Hawaii, second, New York's **Shirley St. Hill Chisolm** who became the first African American and the first woman to run for president of the United States on a major party ticket. Today, there are one hundred and twenty-six women seated on "the Hill"—101 representatives and twenty-five senators including Smith alumna **Tammy Baldwin** of Wisconsin, and forty-seven of the Representatives are women of color. Indeed, we've come a long way, and Nancy Pelosi has been instrumental in paving the path toward getting us here.

**Nancy Patricia D'Alesandro Pelosi** is the first and only woman in history to hold the coveted position of the Speaker of United States House of Representatives. Representing California's 12th Congressional District, Peolosi has led House Democrats since 2003, serving twice as Minority leader and twice as Speaker during both Republican and Democrat majority rule. She is second in the presidential line of succession.

Born the seventh child and only girl to a family of political organizers and elected officials, Pelosi was raised devoutly Catholic, proudly Italian and fiercely female. While her father and brother were the elected representatives of her family, the graduate of the all-girls Institute of Notre Dame in Baltimore

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## Cleveland Smith Club Admissions Recruiting

### Class of 2024 Candidates & Beyond

Friends, the deadline for applications for the class of 2024 has come and gone. This year, 190 prospects identified by the College Admissions Office produced 12 regular decision applicants representing eleven Greater Cleveland schools. We believe that we can do better than that. If we want to see more students from our area enroll at Smith, we need to increase the number of applications. So once again we want to suggest three easy ways for you to help:

- You can encourage friends and family to seriously consider Smith and refer them to us.
- You can volunteer to talk with our Book Award recipients or other prospects
- You can interview an applicant and share your recommendation with Admissions

The college application process is increasingly complex and stressful for high school students. ***Help us bring the Smith experience and Smith's impact to life by volunteering.*** Your small investment in time, 30 minutes or less, has the potential to significantly impact a talented, young woman who in turn might just change the world!

If you'd like to help with our recruiting efforts, please reach out to our admissions and recruiting team:

**Candidates** Co-chairs **Mindy Maxwell Baierl '85** at

**mmbaierl@gmail.com / 440.796.9469** and **Leen Ajlouni '18** at **leen.y.ajlouni@gmail.com or 413.345.3880**; **Book Awards** Co-chairs **Joanne Trespacz Bonder '76** **jbdb008@gmail.com / 216.695.7408** and **Gretchen Smith Dutko '01** at **gretchendutko@gmail.com / 216.566.4836**

### *The Power of Suggestion*

Is there a special young woman in your life? A granddaughter? A neighbor? A babysitter? A student? Have you suggested that she consider applying to Smith College?

At a recent board meeting of our Cleveland Smith Club, we were discussing the challenge of recruiting applicants to our favorite college. The whole system of college applications has changed dramatically since most of us were applying: there is a "common application" form; students are applying to 3 or 4 times as many schools; they are not required to have interviews; the school college counselors are overwhelmed; our Book Award program is increasingly challenged. We brainstormed new ways to use today's technology to reach Cleveland area prospects and came up with some good ideas. However, as we talked, we all agreed that most of us chose Smith because an alumna reached out to us when we were at an impressionable age. That alumna, her kindness and example, had a powerful positive influence in our decision to go to Smith.

Our Cleveland Smith Club is full of wonderful women. If each of us can speak to one or two young women who have the qualities of intellectual curiosity, leadership, and community commitment, we can change their lives forever. And, the Cleveland Smith Club will grow and flourish!

**Susan Dunn LaPine '68**, Secretary of the Board



### In Memoriam



**Nancy Christiansen Carpenter '54**, January 31, 1932 — November 8, 2019 Beloved wife of William, mother of Edward (Elizabeth,) Marguerite and Lynn (Bill); grandmother of Hayley, William, Nicole and Christine. An avid bridge player, Nancy was a sixty-one year member of the Junior League of Cleveland and worked for years helping children. She worked as a volunteer at the Cerebral Palsy School, with deaf students at the Chambers School and with Girl Scouts during her daughters elementary school days. She was member of Children's Guild, Colony Garden Club, the Intown club, and the Cleveland Racquet Club where she often played tennis. She was a life-long member of Fairmount Presbyterian Church. Donations in her honor may be made to Hathaway Brown School, 19600 North Park Boulevard, Shaker Heights 44122 [www.hb.edu](http://www.hb.edu)



**Henry Lewis Meyer III**, December 25, 1949 — February 11, 2020 Son of the late Henry "Hank" Lewis and Anne Taylor, loving husband of **Jane Creamer Myer '74**, father of Patrick, Andrew and Christopher (Lydia), brother of Frances, Anne and A. Corydon. Henry is the former Chairman of the Board and CEO of Key-Corp and its predecessor Society Corp. He served on the Boards of Directors of University Hospitals health Systems, Incl, Ideastream, the Greater Cleveland Partnership, the Northeast Ohio Council on Higher Education, United Way of Greater Cleveland, University School, The Lincoln Electric Company, Continental Airlines, Inc. and United Airlines, Inc. He was a past member of the Board of the Federal Reserve Bank of Cleveland. Donations in his name may be made to University Hospitals of Cleveland P.O. Box 94554, or University School 2785 SOM Center Road, Chagrin Falls 44022 [www.us.edu](http://www.us.edu).





l-r: Erin Davis '07, Abby Kopp, Emma Kopp, Sara Ramasastry '17, Lila Kopplin '17, Lucy Richman.

### Young Alumnae News!

Following the annual tradition of sending care packages to current NEO Smithies and SOTC interns, several young alums (including a few new faces!) enjoyed an afternoon tea before the holiday party to assemble the end-of-the-semester gift bags. They were chock-full of candies, school supplies, an assortment of tea, and SOTC swag! Thanks to all who contributed items.

Last October the young alumnae (+ friends) in the area enjoyed a beautiful day of sunshine and blue skies at Eddy's Fruit Farm. The fruits of their labor resulted in delicious apple pies and decadent apple butter. We are planning to continue our outdoors fun with a summer hike in the Cuyahoga Valley National Park. Please look out

for more information and updates about future events on the club's Facebook page and via email in the upcoming weeks. We hope you will join in the fun! Until then, feel free to reach out to us: **Kylie Fisher kmf109@case.edu** and **Erin Davis erinkathleendavis@gmail.com**

### Summer on the Cuyahoga

The **SOTC Outreach Committee** has been busy with publicizing SOTC to the Smith Campus. These dedicated young alumnae volunteers are **Leen Ajlouni '18, Chole Lee '17, Emily Matz '18, Natalia Perkins '19 and Sara Ramasastry '17**. We all can be grateful for their efforts and young voices which connect so beautifully with current Smithies. Sara traveled to Smith to accompany SOTC Executive Director Eric McGarvey at the SOTC information session on February 3rd where they were joined by other former interns. In one busy day Sara met with Denise Materre, Vice President for Alumnae Relations, Floyd Cheung, Vice President for Diversity and Jason Bauer-Clapp at the Lazarus Center, our point man on campus. Faculty members Kelly Anderson and Jeffrey Ahlman also spent time with Sara, as did Senior Philanthropic Officer Sharon Looney-Armstrong, our Cleveland area Development representative. We see already applications submitted from Smithies whom Sara met! A heartfelt thank you to Sara for all of her efforts!



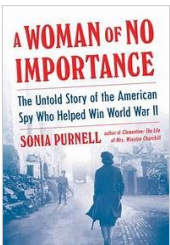
Former interns Sara Ramasastry '17, Paula Torre-Nieto '21, Kara Van Allen '20, Dana Barry '20

A special thank you to **Yin Mei Lim '98** who joined the SOTC Employer Committee and has worked diligently to introduce SOTC to potential employers. As always, we welcome alumnae support in hosting our amazing interns during their time with us in the summer. If you are interested in co-hosting a student, or have any questions about SOTC Smith, Please feel free to contact me. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Marjorie Roth '67, RIROTH@Comcast.net.**

### Smith Book Club

My how time flies when you're having fun! **Book Club** participants have read and discussed eight amazing books since our season began in May 2019. *Born a Crime* by Trevor Noah, *Song of Solomon* by Toni Morrison, *Rising out of Hatred: The Awakening of a Former White Nationalist* by Eli Saslow, *Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead, *Elegy for Iris* by John Bayley, *Jackson's Dilemma* by Iris Murdoch, *Becoming* by Michelle Obama and *Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk* by Kathleen Rooney.



Although we are uncertain about our discussion meetings, we still encourage you to read the remaining books: *A Woman of No Importance: The Untold Story of the American Spy Who Helped Win I I*, *A Doll's House Part 2* by Lucas Hnath, and *The Pioneers* by David McCullough. Book Club is a welcoming and casual group. If you have questions about a book or would like to be on our email list please contact **Joanne Mortimer '70** at **mdraijmor@aol.com**.

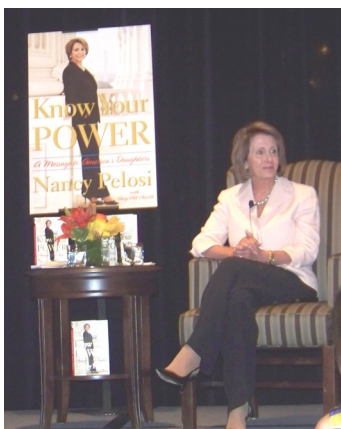
### WWW.SMITH.EDU



We encourage alumnae to visit our **College and Club websites** to keep up with local and campus events, current students, other alumnae and clubs in the United States and abroad through the **Alumnae Gateway!**

**WWW.SMITHCLUBOFCLEVELAND.ORG**

## Nancy Pelosi (continued from page 1)



was also nurtured by her mother who was actively involved with organizing Democratic women and taught Nancy the value of social and political networking. In her 2008 book, *Know Your Power: A Message to America's Daughters*, Pelosi pens a fond memory and appreciation for another woman who helped to cultivate and groom her political career, her 5th District Congressional predecessor, Sala Burton. She engaged her first and only close race following her mentor's death in 1987, winning and successfully holding the seat for the past thirty-three years.

History will most likely cite the impeachment of Donald J. Trump as the most notable legislation under her leadership, but there are many other landmark achievements of her influence that will not go overlooked including the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, the Affordable Care Act, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, the Don't Ask, Don't Tell Repeal Act, and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Speaker Pelosi is the proud fifty-seven year wife of businessman Paul Pelosi, mother of five and grandmother of nine. The National Women's Hall of Fame inductee is a board member of the National Association of Italian-American Women, a graduate of Trinity College in Washington DC and also holds an honorary doctorate from our Seven Sister school, Mt. Holyoke College.

In 2008 I had the privilege of being one of four nationwide campaign supporters selected to attend the Democratic National Convention as the guest of Speaker Pelosi and the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee. Seeing her operate in "real time" was a force to behold! The historic forum which nominated Barack Obama to become the first African-American president was an unforgettably awesome experience. It was one of my dearest friends, alumna **Sara Guettle '70** who presented my name for consideration.

*Mittie Imani Jordan '75, President*

### Member Dues and Donations

We encourage those who have not paid their dues to please do so in order for us to keep our assessment at a comfortable level. We are especially appreciative of members who contribute to our scholarship fund and volunteer their time in support of our club. Dues payments are for the fiscal year July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020. You may send your check payable to the **Smith College Club of Cleveland and mail c/o Arminé Thompson, 3104 Montgomery Road, Shaker Heights, 44122**. Member dues paying levels are as follow:

Regular \$50    Sustaining \$80    Junior (2010—2015) \$25    Free introductory membership for classes 2016 - 2020

+Denotes Donation to Scholarship Fund

Kathleen Abramcyk '74	Diane Collier '67+	Mittie Jordan '75+	Caroline Morgan '47	Kathleen Stoll '58
Dale Anglin '86	J. Dalton-Robinson '51+	Ann Kiggen '56	Jane Morris '63+	Heather Stoll '94
Patricia Ashton '53+	Virginia Dawson '65	Sheryl Kingsberg '84	Joanne Mortimer '70	Erin Stone '01
Mindy Baierl '85	Molly Downing '64+	Lucy Kistler '58+	Pamela O'Halloran '80	Saran Stone
Bonnie Baker '63+	Nancy Duff-Boehm '73+	Susan Klein '77	Lydia Oppmann '66	S. Stratton-Crooke '61
Virginia Benjamin '73	Mary Dunbar '64+	Marilyn Langmack '67+	Henry Ott-Hansen	May Targett '52+
Ruth Berger '58+	Kylie Fisher '13	Susan LaPine '68	Martha Sue Pacini '65	Aminé Thompson '07
Christy Bittenbender '74	Barbara Gavin '57+	Nancy Lavelle '58+	Kathy Pender '59+	Elizabeth Tone '53
Dalia Bolze '74	Pamela Gibbon '69	Sonya Rhie Mace '93	Margaret Plumpton '71	Ginger Van Wagenen '78+
Elizabeth Bolman '83	Veslina Radeva Grassi '09	Mary Marshall '78	Cornelia Rendall '77	Musette Vincent '78+
Joanne Bonder '76+	Lynn-Ann Gries '84+	Nancy McCrickard '76	Cecilia Render '83	Robin Walker '87
Maureen Brett '74+	Marjorie Grodin '46	Rebecca McMahan '89	Lauren Reed Richards '06	Nancy West '59
Holly Brooks '77+	Suzanne Hartford '65+	Su Meck '14	Anne Richie '82	Dudley Yost
Judith Bryan '76+	Jane Healy '56+	Amy Miller '99	Julianne Roseman '13	Margo Youngs '64+
Christine Cano '84	Ann Herbruck '56+	Samantha Mishne '99	Marjorie Roth '67	
Amy Carlson '84	Mary Herrick '60+	Jane Moore '51+	Betsy Sampliner '62+	
Ann Case '54+	Annette Himes '81	Katie Collin Moore '01	Julia Siegel '53+	
Elizabeth Chandler '87+	Yen Izanec '70	Rita Moore '50	Andrew Stackhouse '98	

## 2019 Reflections

### Fall Program with Smith Engineering Professor Suzannah Howe, PhD



This past November, alumnae and friends gathered in Case Western Reserve University's innovative *Think Box* for an eye-opening presentation by Smith's Engineering Design Clinic director and Senior Lecturer, Professor Suzannah Howe, followed by a tour of the creative space. In addition to our Vice President / Director of Programs and Program Co-Chair, **Amy Miller '99** and **Katie Collin Moore '01**, respectively, we want to thank **Marjorie Roth '67** for initiating the discussion for Dr. Howe's visit, and **Mindy Maxwell Baierl '85**, CWRU Senior Director of Corporate Relations and Strategic Projects and former Executive Director for the Institute for Management and Engineering, for her assistance in coordinating the exciting and informative collaborative program. Well done ladies!



### 2019 Annual Holiday Party in the Home of Jim & Su Meck '14



**Jim & Su Meck '14, Amy Miller '99, Mittie Jordan '75**

Thanks to **Jim and Su Meck** for opening their home to us for our annual holiday party, and to our Vice President and Programs Co-Chairs, **Amy Miller '99** and **Katie Collin Moore '01** for planning the joyful gathering with Smith alumnae, spouses and friends. If you did not receive the pdf full of photos from the party, please email Mittie at [mittiejordan@aol.com](mailto:mittiejordan@aol.com) for the enjoyable, visual memory of the evening!





## Smith College Club of Cleveland

c/o 3130 Lander Road  
Pepper Pike, Ohio 44124



## SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF CLEVELAND

### Board Nominations for 2020—2021 Election

Since 1898, the **Smith College Club of Cleveland** has provided a variety of opportunities for multi-generational Smith alumnae in the greater Cleveland area to gather and grow.

Our club is fortunate and proud to have a great team of alumnae working together to realize our mission “*to encourage a sense of connection and continuity with Smith past, present and future, to promote awareness of Smith in the Cleveland community, to encourage qualified students to apply to Smith, and to contribute to the scholarship funds.*” As some of us rotate off the Board this fall, we hope that you will consider serving as a chair or member of one of our committees coordinating programming, membership, admissions recruiting, marketing and communications, business and finance. We welcome new members and new ideas!

Look forward to hearing from **Lynn-Ann Ries Gries '84**, our immediate Past President and Nominating Chair, about upcoming openings on our Governing Board as we prepare our Annual Meeting election slate. If you are interested in serving on the Board you may contact Lynn-Ann @ [lagries@aol.com](mailto:lagries@aol.com).

**SAVE THE SPRING 2020 DATES**  
**April 16, Young Alumnae Happy Hour**  
**May 8, Senior Smith Luncheon**  
**June 13, Annual Meeting**

Mittie Imani Jordan '75, President  
Susan Dunn LaPine '68, Recording Secretary  
Betsy Kaufman Sampliner '62, Treasurer  
Arminé Thompson '07, Assistant Treasurer  
Lynn-Ann Ries Gries '84, Past President / Nominating

#### Programs

Amy E. Miller '99, VP/Director of Programs  
Katie Collin '01, VP/Member Development Programs  
Ruth Strauss Berger '58, Association of Continuing Education Representative (ACE)  
Joanne Mortimer '70, Book Club Chair  
Suzanne Stratton-Crooke '62, Senior Smith Co-Chair  
Jane Quayle Outcalt '59, Senior Smith Co-Chair  
Marjorie Berson Roth '67, SOTC Chair  
Musette Vincent '78, SOTC Co-Chair  
Erin K. Davis '07, Young Alumnae Co-Chair  
Kylie M. Fisher '13, Young Alumnae Co-Chair

#### Recruiting & Admissions

Mindy Maxwell Baierl '85 Candidates Chair  
Leen Ajlouni '18, Candidates Co-Chair  
Joanne Trespascz Bonder '76, Book Award Co-Chair  
Gretchen Smith Dutko '01, Book Award Co-Chair

#### Communications

Lauren Reed Richards '06, Marketing & Online Media  
Amy E. Miller '99, Corresponding Secretary  
Mittie I Jordan '75 Newsletter Editor & Design