

NEWSLETTER

THE SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF ATLANTA, INC.

SPRING 2010

THE SECRET LIFE OF ISAAC NEWTON, ALCHEMIST: AN EVENING WITH PROFESSOR DOUGLAS PATEY SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 2010 AT THE HOME OF ANNE HARPER '70

Is there more to the story of Sir Isaac Newton than his explanation of the laws of gravity and motion? He built the first practical reflecting telescope, removed any remaining doubts that the sun was at the center of the solar system, and shares the credit for the development of calculus (an accomplishment for which we may love or hate him). But from the time Newton died in 1727 until the early 20th century, only a few of his intimate friends were fully aware of his interest in alchemy, despite the fact that he actually produced more writing on the subject than he did on physics and optics. Newton knew that the facts about his work could ruin his reputation, or worse - it is reported that at one point during his lifetime, those found to be studying unauthorized alchemy could be subjected to public hanging on a gilded scaffold!

Douglas Lane Patey, Sophia Smith Professor of English and director of Smith's Program in the History of Science and Technology (which he helped to develop in the 1980s), will be making his first trip to Atlanta in April to reveal some of these secrets to us. Dr. Patey also works with

other interdisciplinary programs, including Landscape Studies and Linguistics. He holds an A.B from Hamilton College, and advanced degrees - masters' degrees in philosophy and English and a Ph.D. in English - from the University of Virginia. A self-described "18th-century person by training," he attributes his wide range of academic interests to the opportunities afforded by Smith's liberal arts focus to



Jupiter enthroned. Newton's drawing with his copy of John de Monte-Snyder's *Metamorphosis of the Planets*.

study and teach a variety of subjects. His favorite courses to teach are entitled "What Jane Austen Read" (on the origins of the English novel), "History of the English Language," and "The Technology of Reading and Writing" (on the history of literacy).

Dr. Patey has written several books, as well as numerous essays on the origins of modern disciplinary distinctions between the arts and the sciences. We can be confident that his talk will appeal to those of us who consider ourselves squarely in one camp or the other, along with those of us who may (still) be undecided.

The Smith College Club of Atlanta would like to thank Anne Harper in advance for hosting this event for Atlanta Smithies and their adult guests at her Garden Hills home.

WHERE: 179 Bolling Rd. NE, Atlanta 30305

WHEN: Saturday, April 10, 2010 - 7:30 p.m.

RSVP: by April 2, online at

<http://tinyurl.com/scprofessor10> or to

Nancy Gallagher at 404-327-7888

(attending only, please - leave a short message with your name and phone number)

SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF ATLANTA SPRING SOCIAL - MARCH 18

WHAT:

Happy Hour! Reconnect with old friends, make new ones, meet the club's officers, find out about upcoming events, and chat with local Smithies over select hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar at Café Lily in downtown Decatur!

WHERE:

Café Lily
308 West Ponce de Leon Avenue
Decatur, GA 30030

WHEN:

Thursday, March 18, 2010
7:00-9:00 p.m.

RSVP:

by March 16, online at

<http://tinyurl.com/scspring10> or to Nancy Gallagher at 404-327-7888

(attending only, please - leave a short message with your name and phone number)

YOUNG ALUM SOCIAL - MARCH 6

WHAT: Coffee break! An informal opportunity for conversation with other Atlanta-area young (or young-at-heart) Smithies.

WHERE: *Bakeshop* - 903 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta 30309

WHEN: Saturday, March 6, 2010 - 11:00 a.m.

RSVP: Email Caitlin Gill at caitlinjgill@gmail.com by March 4 for more information or to RSVP.

SAVE THE DATE: SMITHNIC JULY 11

WHAT: Smith College Club of Atlanta's first annual picnic celebrating all Georgia Smithies past, present and future: first-year students who are about to embark on their Smith journeys, current students, prospective students, and alumnae. Families welcome.

WHEN: Sunday, July 11, 2010 **WHERE:** Home of Cara Saylor Polk '65. More information to come!

OFFICERS

SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF ATLANTA 2009-2010

President:

Anya Martin '85
anya99@mindspring.com

Treasurer:

Jenny Miller '96
jmfMiller@gmail.com

Secretary:

Erika Treu '04
erika.treu@gmail.com

Communications Chair:

Kristin Halloran '02
khaloran@gmail.com

Technology Chair:

Colleen Giannotta '06
colleen.giannotta@gmail.com

Event Coordinators:

Nancy Gallagher '87
nancymgallagher@gmail.com

Nikki Radford '04
nikki.radford@gmail.com

Book Award Coordinator:

Mary Hinkel '73
hinkelfamily21380@earthlink.net

Alumnae Admissions Coordinator:

Kamina Pinder '93
pkamina@hotmail.com

Jr. Alumnae Admissions Coordinator:

Charlise Lyles '81
lcharlise@aol.com

Young Alumnae Event Coordinator:

Caitlin Gill '02
caitlinjgill@gmail.com

Public Service Coordinator:

Cara Saylor Polk '65
carabryn@comcast.net

Legal Advisor/Bylaws Review:

Liz Dinsmore '91
lizzdinsmore@mac.com

Book Club Coordinator:

Cynthia Schlag-Morneweck '90
cmorneweck@gmail.com

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

It was fantastic seeing so many of you at the Holiday Tea in January. Over 60 local Smithies attended, the largest number to come to a tea in several years. Thank you again to Amy Murphy '80 for generously inviting us into her spacious loft with its panoramic views of downtown Decatur.

At the tea, many of you expressed your desire for more opportunities to meet up with other alumnae, and we're pleased to announce a number of activities this spring and summer. First, everyone had so much fun at the Fall Social that we're going to do our best to make these informal gatherings a seasonal event. Please join us on Thursday, March 18 from 7-9 p.m. at Café Lily in Decatur for drinks and conversation with extraordinary women. We'll be providing light hors d'oeuvres, but the Mediterranean-inspired cuisine is delicious in case you don't have time to grab dinner before or after.

Young Alumnae Event Coordinator Caitlin Gill has organized a coffee break/brunch for Atlanta-area young (or young-at-heart) Smithies on Saturday, March 6 at 11 a.m. at Bakeshop. And the Book Club meets monthly (see page 4).

One of the pleasures of being at Smith was the opportunity to take classes with some amazing professors about topics which had nothing to do with our ultimate careers but gave some insight into the human condition. One of the perks of being a Smith alumna is that we still get the opportunity to hear amazing professors speak - the college generously provides funding for professors to give lectures at local clubs across the country. In the past, the Smith College Club of Atlanta has enjoyed listening to Pat Skarda, Daniel

Horowitz, and Ann Leone, and this spring, the college and the club are pleased to invite you to hear Professor Douglas Lane Patey share his studies of "The Secret Life of Isaac Newton, Alchemist," on Saturday, April 10 (see cover story for details). Thanks to Anne Harper '70 for hosting!

In addition, we're creating a summer event which we hope to make a new club tradition: the Smithnic. We'll be inviting all Georgia incoming first-years, and there's no need for a babysitter. Bring your families! Thanks to Cara Saylor Polk '65 for the idea and offering her home (which has a pool!) and refreshments. Save the date for the afternoon of Sunday, July 11 and look for more details later this spring.

Next, a huge thank you to everyone who has paid dues. We never could have organized multiple events this year and supported the Book Awards without your financial assistance. Alas, a big part of that money has had to go to communication expenses. It costs nearly \$500 to print and mail this newsletter to the approximately 600 alumnae in the state. We hope to mail an invitation card or summer newsletter with Smithnic details and other news, but our ability to do so depends on collected dues. Just a humble reminder that what we're able to do to support Smith locally is dependent on your generous support.

Finally, to ensure you receive all club communications, don't forget to update your email address at <http://alumnae.smith.edu/>. And if you're on Facebook, join the Atlanta Smith College Facebook group.

Thank you and I look forward to meeting you soon at a Smith College Club of Atlanta event!

-Anya Martin '85
AtlantaSmithClub@gmail.com

LUMA MUFLEH '97 RECEIVES SMITH MEDAL

Congratulations to Luma Mufleh, who received the Smith Medal on Rally Day, February 17, 2010. Luma, a native of Jordan, is the founder of Fugees Family, Inc., a non-profit organization devoted to working with child survivors of war. A lifelong soccer player and experienced coach, Luma discovered a group of boys playing soccer in the streets of Clarkston, GA, and asked if she could join them, beginning what she now describes as "a

wonderful and terrifying journey." The organization has grown to run multiple academic and athletic programs intended to help refugees succeed. Luma and the Fugees have recently been featured in the *New York Times* and *Sports Illustrated* and on ESPN, NPR, CNN, and "The Today Show." Their story is also the subject of Warren St. John's recent book, *Outcasts United*. For more information, visit <http://www.fugeesfamily.org/>.

BOOK AWARD

Mary Hinkel, Book Award Coordinator, and the rest of the officers would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Book Award fund. With your help, we were able to invite three new schools to participate this year.

For the 2009-2010 school year, the Smith College Club of Atlanta will present book awards to students attending the following schools: Athens Academy, Atlanta Girls' School, Chattahoochee High School (Fulton County), Druid Hills High School (DeKalb County), Galloway School, The Lovett School, Pace Academy, The Paideia School, Tucker High School (DeKalb County), Walton High School (Cobb County), and Woodward Academy.

If you are interested in participating in this program or have a school that you would like us to contact for potential inclusion next year, please contact Mary Hinkel at hinkelfamily21380@earthlink.net.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Please help the Club to continue the tradition of the Margaret Mitchell Scholarship by sending in a contribution along with your annual dues. Checks should be made payable to The Smith College Club of Atlanta, Inc. and mailed to Jenny Miller with the form below.

VOLUNTEER!

THE SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF ATLANTA NEEDS YOU!

Our Alumnae Admissions Coordinators are looking for additional volunteers to help with interviewing prospective students in Georgia and with other admissions-related activities. If you're interested, please email Kamina Pinder (pkamina@hotmail.com) or Charlise Lyles (lcharlise@aol.com).

Do you want to get more involved in the Smith College Club of Atlanta? If you're interested in building a more active and connected Smith alumnae community in Atlanta and throughout Georgia as one of the club's officers in 2010-2011, send an email to AtlantaSmithClub@gmail.com.

Check us out on Facebook! Search for "Atlanta Smith College Club" and our group should appear. Technology-related goals for 2010 include a new website and a method for collecting dues online!

The Smith College Club of Atlanta newsletter will be coming to you twice a year and needs a better title. If you have suggestions for a name or ideas for content, please email Kristin Halloran at khalloran@gmail.com.

Please note that some club communications may be sent by email only! Please ensure that your contact information is up-to-date at <http://alumnae.smith.edu/>

THANK YOU TO ALL
2009-2010 CLUB MEMBERS!*

Margaret Mitchell Circle
Gretchen Nail Blackwell '85
Leslie Graitcer '66
Mary Hinkel '73
Heather Smith Kleiner '61
Lee Locust '76
Amy Murphy '80

Sustaining Members
Nancy Gallagher '87

Contributing Members
Anne Harper '70
Eve Hoffman '64
Jenny Miller '96
Cara Saylor Polk '65
Virginia Taylor '61

Members
Ann Clay Adams '79
Rebecca Culyba '97
Elizabeth Dinsmore '91
Angela Elrod '92
Kristin Halloran '02
Anya Martin '85
Jeanne McKeon '06
Marilyn Metzler '97
Cynthia Morneweck '90
Susan Olson '64
Katharine McMaster Pike '92
Kamina Pinder '93
Nicole Radford '04
Linde Peterson Scott '01
Ellen Kierr Stein '69
Dorothy Tabourne
Suzanne Talbott '67
Betsy Peters Turner '58
Bess Weyandt '04
Ivy Willis '96

*as of 2/13/10

JOIN THE CLUB! 2009-2010

There are several levels at which you can support the Smith College Club of Atlanta or sustain your current membership. Please fill out the form below, and send with a check payable to The Smith College Club of Atlanta, Inc. to **Jenny Miller, 743 Myrtle St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30308**

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recent grad (2005-2009) \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing member \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Margaret Mitchell Circle \$125 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic member \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining member \$75 | <input type="checkbox"/> Book award (\$35 each or \$ _____) |
| | | <input type="checkbox"/> Margaret Mitchell Fund (\$ _____) |

Name: _____

Graduation year: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Save the green! Check here to opt out of receiving a paper newsletter; please double-check your email address above.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2010

MARCH

- 6 **Atlanta young alum coffee break** at Bakeshop (see page 1)
- 18 **Smith College Club of Atlanta Spring Social** at Café Lily (see page 1)
- 13-21 *Spring Break!*
- 25-26 Women in Media conference (<http://alumnae.smith.edu/womeninmedia/>)
- 28 **Book Club meeting** (see note, this page)
- 31 Early bird registration deadline for Reunion 2010

APRIL

- 8-10 Smith College Glee Club 125th Anniversary concert and reunion
- 10 **"The Secret Life of Isaac Newton, Alchemist"** - an evening with Smith professor Douglas Lane Patey (see page 1)
- 25 **Book Club meeting**
- 30 *Second semester classes at Smith end*

MAY

- 13 Reunion begins for classes of 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, and 2005
- 15 *Ivy Day and Illumination Night*
- 16 *Commencement*
- 20 Reunion begins for classes of 1930, 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, and 1980

JULY

- 11 **Save the date for the first annual Summer Smithnic** for alumnae, current and prospective students and families

Help us plan future Club events - take our survey at <http://tinyurl.com/sccasurvey09> and let us know what you want to see! If you would like to get involved in any way, please send an email to any of the officers or to the Club's email address: AtlantaSmithClub@gmail.com.

BOOK CLUB

The Smith College Club of Atlanta's Book Club holds meetings at 3 p.m. on the third or fourth Sunday of each month at a member's home. The next meeting is on Sunday, March 28. Meetings are low-pressure with snacks and great conversation!

This month's book is *Red Azalea*, a memoir by Achee Min. In three parts, Min tells the story of her experiences growing up in China and her complex relationship with the Communism of Mao Zedong. The story addresses some of the issues that the strong female characters encounter living in a totalitarian state in which individuality is punished. If you'd like to join the book club to discuss this book or add your name to the list for future meetings, please email Cynthia Schlag-Morneweck at cmorneweck@gmail.com.



Printed on 50% post-consumer recycled paper. Please recycle when you're done!



THE SMITH COLLEGE
CLUB OF ATLANTA
P.O. BOX 313
AVONDALE ESTATES, GA
30002