

# NEWSLETTER

THE SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF ATLANTA, INC.

SUMMER 2012

## THIRD ANNUAL SUMMER SMITHNIC SUNDAY, JUNE 24

On Sunday, June 24, please join us for an annual summer picnic celebration at the home of Eve Hoffman '64. Smithnic gives Georgia-based students, alumnae, and their families an opportunity to mix and mingle, welcome the Smith College class of 2016 to Smith, and welcome the class of 2012 home to Georgia! Alumnae (and students) are encouraged to invite and bring any young women to the event who may be interested in attending Smith.

Food and beverages will be provided. Bring comfortable shoes to enjoy a walk along the river. The Club would like to thank Eve Hoffman '64 for her generosity and willingness to host this event!

**WHAT:** Smithnic — an informal picnic for Smithies of all ages and their families. Rain or shine.

**WHEN:** Sunday, June 24, 2012 2:00-5:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** 2000 Granite Springs Lane, Norcross, 30092  
*Parking is available on Granite Springs Lane*

**RSVP:** Please let us know (only) if you will attend. Access this link <http://www.tinyurl.com/smithnic2012> or call Nancy Gallagher '87 at (404) 327-7888 (Leave a short message with your name and phone number.)

### LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Smithies,

I write this last letter to you as President of the Smith College Club of Atlanta with a touch of sadness but also with a feeling of optimism and joy. I just returned from an unexpected trip back to Smith College. During the All-Reunion Weekend, I was humbled and honored to be one of 10 recipients of the 2012 Alumnae Association of Smith College (AASC) Volunteer Award for my service to the Smith College Club of Atlanta.

I have to admit it was odd to think about returning to Smith in a year that was not my class reunion year, especially having missed my 25th reunion — the last one theoretically on commencement weekend (while on campus, I was told that rule might well be reconsidered). I'm going through a divorce, and the first two years of my relationship with my husband also happened in Northampton. I realized that ghosts potentially could be lurking around every corner; however, the short trip was nothing but uplifting. I reconnected with several friends from the class of '82, who were on campus for their 30th reunion; an old UMass DJ friend that I made when I was music director at Smith's radio station WOZQ; and some great women with whom I worked during my townie days. I even exchanged contact info with new acquaintances from various graduation years, which made the Smiffenpoofs' rendition of Fleetwood Mac's song "The Chain" at the alumnae parade/AASC meeting even more meaningful.

While on campus I stayed in Wilder House, ironically, in the third-floor corner room directly above my senior-year room. I ate Steve's ice cream, bought a pair of red cowboy boots at Roz's Place, took Dr. Susan Van Dyne's Alumnae College-sponsored class about the Smith College archives, and found the Class of '82 partying past midnight every night — proving that no matter what age their driver's licenses say they are, Smith women don't lose their spirit.

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### RECENT CLUB EVENT

On March 29, alumnae gathered at the home of Mary Hinkel '73 to hear Smith College Professor Emeritus Donald Robinson present a timely lecture (in a presidential election year) "The Stakes in the 2012 Presidential Election: A Constitutional Perspective." Professor Robinson joined the Smith College faculty in 1966 and taught courses on the presidency, political parties, and constitutional history. Robinson retired from Smith College in 2004.



# OFFICERS

## SMITH COLLEGE CLUB OF ATLANTA 2011-2012

**President:**

Anya Martin '85  
anya99@mindspring.com

**Vice-President:**

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# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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An unexpected treat was hearing former Smith College President Jill Ker Conway speak at the Class of '82 dinner on Friday night. Conway was President during my entire time at Smith, and if you know her at all, you know she never hesitates to say something provocative. This time her talk concentrated on how "striking" it is that women will put so much energy into advocating for others but not for themselves. She mentioned historic examples of slavery and abolition; but beyond women's rights or issues that affect women, I also took away the thought that so often we (women) will band together for a cause, but we will not step up to advocate for ourselves individually.

At this turning point in my life, President Conway's comments struck home. I have devoted countless hours to not-for-profit organizations; political campaigns; helping friends find a job or offering an ear during difficult emotional times; assisting my now-senior parents; and providing editorial, marketing, financial, and emotional support for my husband's writing career. In the process, I have built a respectable business and healthcare journalism career with a decent income; but at Smith, I set out to be a fiction writer and perhaps a features/arts journalist on the side. Sure I've had a handful of short stories and even comics published. I've received good comments and reviews for them as well as encouragement from many that I could do more, but with all that's been on my plate, there never seemed to be time to plan and execute a novel or larger work. I have demonstrated the ability to pitch articles, interview CEOs and celebrities, run difficult PR campaigns, but put me in front of an editor or agent to pitch my own work and I'm humbled or tongue-tied.

President Conway talked about her experience on corporate and not-for-profit boards and how it has made her contemplate ways in which women excel or are held back in leadership roles. It's often noted how our self-confidence takes a nosedive after we graduate from high school; some even say middle school. Women have a tendency to seek "approval," she said, but how can you argue effectively for a cause if you are not confident in yourself? Thinking back, I came to Smith as the quiet girl who rarely spoke up in class; but when I went to graduate school and realized that women would not speak up, I became the vocal one — I am certain Smith

was to thank for that. When the Atlanta Smith Club went into hibernation (few activities were scheduled and I had trouble recruiting a leadership team) it was my Smith experience once again that gave me the confidence to step up and start making calls.

Over the past three years as president, I've met and have been inspired by some amazing women here in Atlanta. I am proud to say that together we brought our Club back to a vibrant active organization. Our actions caught Smith's attention and should make us proud. President Carol Christ and Dr. Susan Van Dyne came to Atlanta last fall to lead a fascinating program on Margaret Mitchell at Smith and her legacy. I was especially moved that President Christ singled out a key goal I established when taking on the presidency — to add a service opportunity for Atlanta alumnae that would inspire young women. While many thanks go to Morgan Moorehead '09 and Nancy Roth Remington '72 for organizing our service events, meeting the young ladies at the Global Village School (GVS) during our Connections Tea this spring was one of the highlights of my term. I urge you to consider participating in future events at GVS or tutoring one of its students. They are refugees from war-torn nations and could benefit from self-confident Smith women as role models.

From my point of view, the volunteer award is really a shared honor with the amazing women who have served on the Club's leadership team for the past three years.

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Three of the 2012 Alumnae Association of Smith College Volunteer Award recipients at the Alumnae Parade on Saturday May 24. (L-R) Anya Martin '85 (President, Smith College Club of Atlanta), Suzanne Masri '85 (Co-President, Class of 1985) and Liz Tyminski '86 (President, Smith College Club of Boston).



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

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These women were up for every challenge and handled all the details related to events coordination, communications, recruitment, finances, recharging the Margaret Mitchell Scholarship, and updating our bylaws.

You can see many of their names in the sidebar on page two, but let me mention a few who have served and moved on: Erika Treu '04 (secretary, 2009-10), Colleen Giannotta '06 (technology chair, 2009-10), Mary Hinkel '73 (book awards chair, 2004-11), Cara Saylor Polk '65 (public service coordinator, 2009-11), and Kamina Pinder '93 (Alumnae Admissions Coordinator [AAC], 2009-11).

Now, I leave you in the more than able hands of Kristin Halloran '02 — the Club's incoming 2012-13 President. Kristin has awed and inspired me at every turn; first, as a dependable, creative, and enthusiastic communications chair from 2009-2011 and even more so in the last year as Club Vice President. She has been an indispensable right hand. I apologize to Kristin that in effect she has had to step up a little early. Over the past few months, she has handled the majority of the Club's responsibilities while I have been buried between balancing time-sensitive divorce-related matters and work.

In closing, I hope to see you at the third annual Smithnic on Sunday, June 24. Thanks again to Eve Hoffman '64 for hosting what will be a relaxing afternoon with good food and conversation. Eve tells me there's a lovely path by a creek close to her home, too. Of course, I plan to attend events and continue to support the Smith College Club of Atlanta in any way that I can.

Thank you and have a wonderful summer!

-Anya Martin '85



Anya at Smith College radio station WOZQ

## CONGRATULATIONS! CLASS OF 2012

Welcome to the newest members of the Georgia Smith College alumnae community!

Courtney Ann Cone, Atlanta  
Alison Nicole Gould, Alpharetta  
Germaine Uwamahoro, Stockbridge

The Club is working to build stronger relationships with current students. If you're interested in helping to prepare exam-time care packages, or if you have other outreach ideas, please email [AtlantaSmithClub@gmail.com](mailto:AtlantaSmithClub@gmail.com).

## BOOK AWARD NEWS

The Smith College Club of Atlanta is pleased to announce its 2012 Smith College Book Award winners:

Kate Sadeski – Alpharetta High School (HS)  
Lucy Louise Dubphy Barsness – Athens Academy  
Sarah Diamond – Atlanta Girls' School  
Matingly Marie Shook – Chattahoochee HS  
Anna Dowling – Druid Hills HS  
Taylor Robinson – The Galloway School  
Alice Margaret Barsky – Johns Creek HS  
Victoria Moore – Lakeside HS  
Anna Elizabeth Gwaltney – Lassiter HS  
Charlotte Kathleen Matthews – The Lovett School  
Joy Qiaoyang Zhang – Marietta HS  
Caroline Grace Smith – Pace Academy  
Lauren Rekhelman – The Paideia School  
Antonia Despina Deliyianni – Roswell HS  
Karen Campbell – Stephenson HS  
Xinyue Huang – Woodward Academy

Each year, the Club is able to increase the number of book awards given to Georgia students. These awards are an invaluable public relations tool. Please let us know if there is a Georgia high school where you would like to raise awareness of Smith and consider sponsoring an award (the total cost is approximately \$35). Additionally, if you're interested in interviewing prospective students or assisting with other admission-related activities, contact Charlise Lyles '81 at [lcharlise@aol.com](mailto:lcharlise@aol.com).

## LOCAL ALUMNAE NEWS

Congratulations to **Kimberly Stillwachs '10**, Club secretary; she is headed off to the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta!

Fugees Family, a not-for-profit organization founded by **Luma Mufleh '97**, is raising money to build a school. Visit [www.fugeesfamily.org](http://www.fugeesfamily.org) for information about its upcoming fundraiser at Sweetwater Brewing Company on June 28.

## JOIN THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

If you're interested in helping to guide the Club's activities for the 2012-2013 year, please get in touch with us! We are specifically looking for a new technology chair to keep our website and Facebook page current, as well as a new communications co-chair to work with Jocel Thornhill '90 on newsletters, event invitations, and other club communications. A strong writer with desktop publishing experience would be ideal for this position, but don't let software skills prevent you from expressing your interest. This position is a great resume builder but does require some time and dedication.

As always, if you have brilliant ideas about what the Club should be doing or just want to get more involved, let us know; we're always willing to create new positions!

## BOOK CLUB

The Smith College Club of Atlanta's Book Club typically meets on the third or fourth Sunday of each month at a Club member's home. The host provides snacks and each attendee brings a beverage of her choosing. Recent Book Club selections include: *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*, *Half the Sky*, and short stories by Edgar Allan Poe.



The Book Club is taking a break for the summer but plans to meet in September to discuss *One Hundred Years of Solitude* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez. It is a fantastical story of the Buendia family. Contact Dora Guzman at [dorabguzman@gmail.com](mailto:dorabguzman@gmail.com)

if you'd like to join the club, host a meeting, or for the meeting location.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2012

JUNE

24 **Third Annual Smithnic at the home of Eve Hoffman '64** - see page 1

SEPTEMBER

6 *First semester classes at Smith College begin*

TBD **Book Club Meeting: *One Hundred Years of Solitude*** - see page 3

TBD **Atlanta Club Mountain Day Fall Social**

OCTOBER

6-9 *Fall Break*

11-14 Women's Global Leadership Summit for alumnae, faculty, and students

19-21 *Family Weekend*

NOVEMBER

8 *Otelia Cromwell Day*

21-25 *Thanksgiving Break*

DECEMBER

13 *First semester classes end at Smith College*

18-21 *Final Exams*

## THANK YOU NEW 2011-2012 CLUB MEMBERS!\*

### Sustaining Members

Nancy Roth Remington '72

Virginia Taylor '73

### Contributing Members

Emeline Abeita '99

Nancy Gallagher '87

Linda Peterson Scott '01

### Members

Betsy Barge Birkholz '73

Nicole Kedaroe '10

Anya Martin '85

Susan Olson '64

Bobbi Patterson '74

Hope Wurdack Riley '82

Suzanne Talbott '67

\*Dues paid 2/22-6/15/12

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## JOIN THE CLUB!

2012-2013

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, 119 Madison Avenue, Decatur GA 30030**

- |  |      |  |      |   |                         |
|--|------|--|------|---|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Recent grad (2008-2012) | \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing member | \$60 | <input type="checkbox"/> Margaret Mitchell Circle | \$150                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Basic member            | \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining member   | \$90 | <input type="checkbox"/> Book award               | (\$35 each or \$ _____) |
|  |      |  |      | <input type="checkbox"/> Margaret Mitchell Fund   | (\$ _____)              |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Graduation year: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_