

Smith Club of Minnesota

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Join Up!

Please pay your club dues if you haven't already. Benefits include receipt of a copy (hard or electronic) of the just-updated **Club Directory**. You'll also help support the Club in its many activities to promote women's education and nurture alumni connections. Regular dues are \$30; young alums (2007-12) and current grad students \$15; outstate \$10. Use PayPal at <http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/minnesota/membershipdues/> or mail to Tanya Cromey, 2815 41st Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55406.

A Word From the President . . .

—Barbara Klaas '74

Once a month, a group of my women friends go out to dinner together. Sometimes, only a few of us show up; other times we fill the restaurant. We call ourselves AWE: Amazing Women Eating. Our common bond is that we all live or have lived in the same neighborhood. While the eating is great, it's the connection with interesting women that draws us to these dinners.

The Smith College Club of Minnesota is more encompassing in its activities and purpose than my AWE group, but in spirit it's similar. It's a vehicle for meeting and relating to smart, energetic, and talented women. Our club is all about connections—with classmates from Smith, with alumnae from different years or decades who openly share their energy and wisdom, and with women who have similar interests in work or play.

Many of us come to a club salon now and then when the topic is of interest. Others come to our annual meeting. Lots of tireless souls work and reconnect while financially supporting our scholarship fund before and during Smith Day.

Smith Day is the perfect example of and venue for these valuable connections to happen. This year, as in years past, we had department chairs, volunteers, and shoppers from classes in the early 40s up through 2012—a span of over seven decades of Smith women working, shopping, and eating together!

In September the club hosted its biannual Newcomers' Event. New members included Leigh Cressman '06, Elizabeth Ford '05, Claire Romera '00, Lara Hamsher '12, Samantha Oestreicher '05, Maren Delap

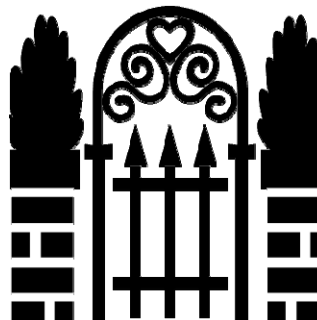
'11, and Katrina McGhee '01. Several executive committee members shared club traditions and activities during the evening as a special welcome to the club.

But don't think you have to be a newly graduated alum or wait for the next Newcomers' Event to become active with our club. Salons offer an intimate setting for connecting—and not all are as strenuous as our Mississippi River kayaking-against-the-current adventure last summer! At our October 22 salon, for example, 10 club members learned from an expert that you can recycle more than you think. Carol Engebretson, a master recycler and sister-in-law of Ann Carr ('70), shared her expertise on current recycling, future trends, and composting. We proudly recycled, reused, or composted everything we used!

Our club also provides opportunities to stay connected to and informed about Smith. Current students who benefit from the club's endowed scholarship fund and Praxis internship funds send us regular updates, recent graduates offer us their insights about life on campus, and members of Smith's faculty and staff frequently speak at club meetings.

We are always looking for ideas and suggestions for activities or topics that will bring Minnesota Smithies together, around the Twin Cities or elsewhere in the state. Please contact Justina Roberts or me (contact info at left) if you have an idea.

We Smith women are amazing, and the more of us who get together, the more fun and rewards we all enjoy. I urge you to get involved and join us when you can, as often as you can!



Campaign for Smith Women for the World

In early October, I had the privilege of participating in the Smith College Women's Global Leadership Celebration and the launch of Smith's Women For the World campaign. Being on campus in the fall was wonderful in itself. But listening to stories of the plight of young women in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Africa and hearing of the efforts of Smith alumnae to improve the status of women across the globe was truly inspiring. The meetings were particularly poignant because they took place shortly after the brutal attack on Malala Yousafzai. When Carol Christ, along with Jill Ker Conway and Mary Maples Dunn, declared that Smith's mission is to educate women for the world, the more than 400 alumnae rose to cheer and applaud. We all felt that, given Smith's history, Smith should and must tackle this next mission of educating women to lead globally.

You will hear much more about the global leadership efforts, but for now, see a video (featuring Minnesota's own Marilyn Carlson Nelson '61) at <http://www.smith.edu/giving/campaign.php>. —Barbara Klaas



Local Smith Authors Busy!

Polly Grose ('54) has published a new book, *Guthrie Theater: The First Fifty Years*. A compilation of essays by actors, directors, designers, and patrons of the Guthrie, the book includes 16 pages of color photographs. Contact the Guthrie Theater Store at 612-225-6300 or store@guthrietheater.org to purchase.

Robyn Dean McHattie's ('96) second "Smithie" novel has won high honors. Trinity College Oxford chose *Oxford Vindaloo*, which chronicles a summer term at Oxford, including an account of Salman Rushdie's surprise reappearance in 1996 at the Oxford Union, as one of three notable alumni books from last year. Robyn also has a new eBook, *My Comic Mom!!*, which includes more than 100 full comic book pages produced in the 1940s by Robyn's mother, Golden Age artist Vee Quintal Pearson, for the *Heroes All* weekly comic book. Read about this and Robyn's other books at her Web site, www.ReturningtoDenver.com.

Margaret Von Blon Wurtele ('67) has published a new book, titled *The Golden Hour*. Her third book but first novel, it follows a 17-year-old Italian girl in the last year of World War II and the bigotry she encountered.

Entrepreneurship Salon

Sheila Moar ('74), at right, founder and owner of Fashion Fusion, will be presenting a salon the evening of Thursday, January 24, at Cecily Hines' home downtown. She will talk about her experience as an entrepreneur, her jewelry design business, and her exotic travels to Asia in search of semiprecious gems, beads, and artifacts. Her creations are currently being sold at Neiman Marcus stores across the country and are being featured in conjunction with the Chinese Terracotta Soldiers exhibit at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. Come find out how three Smith grads have influenced the professional path Sheila has taken, and see a collection of her unique design statements. Please RSVP to Barbara Klaas at baklaas@gmail.com or 763-377-9740.



News from the Alumnae Admissions Coordinators (AACs)

At the beginning of August, the AACs and Peggy Leppik (thanks, Peggy!) hosted a send-off tea for current students (see picture at right). It was a great opportunity for incoming students to get to know some current students, and each other! We have 42 Minnesota women currently enrolled, including nine new students. In September, Lia Brassord, Senior Assistant Director of Admissions at Smith, visited Minnesota to meet with guidance counselors at local high schools and, with AAC Samantha Oestreicher, conduct interviews with prospective students. The AACs had a pleasant dinner with Lia at Barrio in Minneapolis (see picture below), hearing updates and news from Northampton. The AACs are currently working on ordering and mailing gift cards for Northampton businesses to our current students so they can relax with a cof-



New Minnesota members of the class of 2016!



fee or ice cream during finals. We're deep into interviewing season and look forward to our annual prospective student tea in January. If you know someone who is interested in attending Smith, please send her our way for information or an interview. And if you'd like to help the AAC team now or in the future by conducting interviews, hosting prospective or current student events, or delivering roses to accepted students in the spring, contact emily.e.hagens@gmail.com. —Emily Hagens

(Left to right) AACs Anna Campbell, Samantha Oestreicher, Emily Hagens, and Justina Roberts with Lia Brassord from the college.

A Smash Hit!

Our **2012 Smith Day** in September provided a grand time for all. Shoppers raved about the range of Silent Auction items, the Broadway show tunes playing in the departments, the tasty treats in the Bakery, and the wonderful selection of items in Adult Clothes, Antiques/Collectibles, and Books. Over 90 shoppers attended lunch, and members of the Twin Cities Alumni Network, a group of Ivy League and other select college alumni groups of which we are a part, joined us after lunch to shop.

Smith Day on Broadway would not have happened without the energy and excitement of our Directors (department chairs): Robin Hartwell ('86), Mary Taylor ('55), Peggy Smith ('73), Stephanie Frost ('77), Marty Swain ('71), Jane Howard ('75), Holly Churchward ('76), Brigid Brindley ('86), Polly Grose ('54), Nancy Malmon ('57), Johanna Duclos ('60), Shirley Kooyman ('73), Pamela Coleman ('74), Lisa Peilen ('69), Cybel Monson ('91), Emily Hagens ('10), Ellen Van Iwaarden ('81), and Tanya Cromey ('96). And we couldn't have done it without the many, many other club volunteers, young and old, who helped sort, set up, and staff departments and checkouts throughout the day. You all deserve a huge **"Bravo"** and a standing ovation!

We are pleased to report that our profits from Smith Day

were excellent. We netted \$17,140, just slightly less than last year. This is great news, given that some of our basic expenses, such as rent, increased this year. Thank you shoppers!

We are already preparing for Smith Day 2013. The Hopkins Center for the Arts has been reserved, and the depot is open for donations. Contact one of us if you need directions and information on how to access our storage locker. Please remember in getting your items ready to donate that everything is transported from the storage locker to Hop-

kins by movers the week before the sale, so please pack breakable items and books in boxes if at all possible. Loose items are very easily damaged, and books stashed in paper bags tend to rip right through the bottom after long-term storage. We've provided some empty boxes and packing paper in the storage locker if you should need them.

If you're interested in creating the next Smith Day "production" (you get to pick your own theme), let us know. We 2012 producers (chairs) of *Smith Day on Broadway* had loads of fun and agree that it is a fabulous experience you don't want to miss.

*Barbara Klaas '74
Peggy Leppik '65
Elissa Mautner '77*



Clockwise from upper left: Melanie Kiihn ('10) checks out linens; Polly Grose ('54) & Brigid Brindley ('86) at their book department post; Jane Howard ('75) announces raffle winners at lunch; Patricia Baker ('84) examines glassware; our illustrious "Directors," Barbara Klaas, Peggy Leppik, and Elissa Mautner; Robyn McHattie ('96) & Kathy Ollivier ('79) enjoy catching up at lunch; Helen Anderson ('44) & Ginny Humphrey ('42) select artwork, some beautiful pieces of Smith campus china, a rare auction find.



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Minnesota Smith News

■ The Center for Work and Life at Smith has been re-named the **Wurtele Center for Work and Life** in recognition of a gift from Minnesota club member Margaret Von Blon Wurtele ('67) and her husband, Angus. The 3-year-old center's mission is "to help students think purposefully about their own definitions of a rewarding life." Read more about the center and the gift at www.smith.edu/newsoffice/releases/NewsOffice12-041.html.

We are very sorry to report the following recent deaths that affect our Smith community:

■ **Emma Elizabeth Buhrman Hutcheson** ('92) of Edina died October 2. She was, according to her obituary, "many things in life including a lawyer, an artist, a musician, a dedicated fundraiser and a patron of the arts." She was eulogized at her service by Smith roommate xxxx, of Denver. See www.legacy.com/obituaries/startribune/obituary.aspx?n=emma-elizabeth-hutcheson&pid=160262468&fhid=9267#fb.

■ George Pillsbury, husband of **Sally Pillsbury** ('46) died October 13. He was, according to one of several articles in the *Star Tribune*, a "leader in Minneapolis commerce, politics, civic and philanthropic life for more than a half-century." Read more about George's life at www.startribune.com/politics/statelocal/174051501.html.

■ Gerry Nolting, husband of **Elissa Mautner** ('77), died suddenly on October 8. He was a partner at Faegre Baker Daniels, where among his work was litigation in the Exxon Valdez as well as the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spills. See www.faegrebd.com/19104?utm_source=homepage&utm_medium=webfeature&utm_content=noltingremembrance&utm_campaign=sidespot.

■ **Martha Alworth** ('47), a long-time community and social activist who lived in Duluth, died on November 25. She was featured as one of the subjects in our club's first oral history book. See www.duluthnewstribune.com/event/article/id/251067/.

■ **New directories** and copies of **both oral history books** are available—e-mail the club (see address above).

*If you have any **NEWS**—about yourself or another area alumna, please contact Marty Swain at 952-474-2466 mheiberg@umn.edu.*

REQUEST: Are you a **Webbie** or would you like to become one? Do you enjoy **writing** and **communications**? If so, our club is looking for a someone to work on our newsletters and Web site. Training and support eagerly offered by Marty Swain, who has filled these slots for many years. Please write or call (see contact info just above) if you would like to know more. It's fun and provides excellent experience!