DEAR CLASSMATES,

Cindy’s photo never fails to make me laugh! Who is that brave man? We can look back at the fun of our 50th Reunion by visiting our class website www.smith61.org, and we can look forward to our 55th by keeping in touch with many of the friends we’ve just seen.

I hope you received the letter to ’61 which I sent by email on Nov. 22, 2011 thanking Sally and Nancy, Betsy, Mary, Louise and each officer and classmate who worked so diligently towards our 50th.

Now, a new team is on board and you will find brief messages from them below. Don’t hesitate to call us for any reason. As time passes, we appreciate more and more the bond of our shared years and lives at Smith. It was a good beginning!!

Happy New Year from sunny, snow-covered Maine! Joyce Geiger Spencer, President

VICE-PRESIDENT/REUNION CHAIR 2016 - Louise Merrill Dudley

It’s too soon for real work on our 55th reunion, but NOT too soon to be thinking about how you might want to be involved when the time comes. Many thanks to those who have already stepped forward. Having lots of willing hands on the team is what will make for another fine occasion, so do let me know if there’s a particular part you’d like to help with. Just email me at eludley@embarqmail.com.

I’d also love to hear suggestions for our next reunion theme, along with your comments on what you particularly liked at our wonderful 50th.

As for old business, I still have about a dozen 50th reunion books and yellow tote bags from the parade. If you want one or both, just raise your hand! Otherwise, I’ll offer the bags to www.freecycle.com.
MEDIA CHAIR - Irene Stiefel Starr

Reunion Highlights are at www.smith61.org. Included are links to the presentations, photos, resources, panels, timeline, and the Reunion Report. You can post news yourself or send it to Irene to post. To view the website for the first time, go to www.smith61.org and follow the guidelines. Enter your maiden name (first/last) and a password. Many choose the “AV” number from their Quarterly mailing label. Your computer may remember your password, but you should also jot it down! Additions to the website are welcome, as are questions or comments.

SECRETARY - Nancy Silverman Skurnik

Nancy sends regular reminders of her deadlines for the Quarterly, but space there is limited. Feel free to post more extensive news and photos online at www.smith61.org. Again, Irene can help you.

TREASURER - Lynda Spence

Class DUES for 5 years are $40. and Life Membership is $75. Call or email Lynda if you are unsure of your status and she will gladly look it up. Keep Lynda happy and send her your contribution!

MEMORIAL GIFTS - Edie Smith & Ellen Stover Eddy

Edie and Ellen would like to remind you that a gift to Smith in memory of a classmate, your mother, or friend from another class, is added to your Class of ’61 gift. The same holds true for gifts to the Botanic Gardens, Library, Athletic or Music Departments, etc.

SMITH FUND AGENTS - Marion Scattergood Ballard, Sally Ross Schroeder, Alice Schaffer Smith

Our class fund agents have been busy recruiting Ambassadors. This is a new way to volunteer for our class. Ambassadors will assist in outreach efforts, thank classmates for gifts to Smith, and generally stay in touch. Each ambassador may be linked with up to ten classmates. Our goal is to have everyone in the class connected - and leave the real work of raising dollars to the college. So far about 25 of you have volunteered to be ambassadors, and we would LOVE to have more! If you are interested, please call or email any of us. You won’t regret it!

marionballard@comcast.net  sallyrschroeder@comcast.net  asmith36@sbcglobal.net

PLANNED GIVING - Carolyn Kinder Carr

If you are thinking of a Charitable Gift Annuity, you should commit before March 31, 2012. A December message from the development department noted that the current rate of 5.8 for those who are 70, will decrease to 5.1 after April 1, 2012. A Charitable Gift Annuity is a great way to help yourself as well as the college. If you have looked at fixed income rates recently, these represent a handsome return on your money.

Most of our class is now online and will be receiving Newsletters and all class communication this way. Those who don’t have or use email will continue to receive hard copy newsletters. Please send a new email address or a change in your existing address to Smith’s records department at alumnaerecords@smith.edu.