

AT YOUR SERVICE: Class of 1969  
2014-19 Leadership Team

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SMITH CLASS OF 1969 NEWSLETTER  
JANUARY 2019

## Four months to go!

HAVE YOU MADE  
YOUR RESERVATIONS?

**MAY 16-19, 2019**



**OUR ODYSSEYS**  
CLASS of '69/50th REUNION  
SMITH COLLEGE

It is time for you to make your reunion plans!

In February, the College will send you an email and will mail a booklet with instructions for registering. Registration can be done online. You can make housing reservations and sign up for meals. Plan to arrive by 4:00 pm on Thursday. Registration is at Alumnae House where you will get your house assignment, name badge and key card for access to your dorm as well as information about reunion activities. Classmates will be staying in one of the eight houses assigned to the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion class. Tea will be served at Cutter-Ziskind at 4:30 pm on Thursday with cocktails and dinner at 5:30 pm in the Ziskind dining room.

Friday is a full day of events sponsored by the college and by the class. Saturday is Ivy Day so bring your whites for the parade. There are class and college events in the afternoon and the illumination of the campus at night. Sunday is graduation. We will have brunch with closed circuit TV coverage for us all to watch graduation. The houses close at 1 pm on Sunday.

Remember that dorm rooms are spartan so you may want to bring a bathrobe, slippers, good soap, shampoo and other sundries and perhaps an alarm clock. Bathrooms are communal and there is no air conditioning in most of the houses where we will be staying. Please leave valuables at home and plan to pack what you can carry as you will have to handle your own luggage. Check the weather in Northampton as it may be chilly and rainy. And plan to wear comfortable shoes as we will be doing a lot of walking.

Please let us know if you need assistance getting to events so we can arrange accessibility options for you. On-campus shuttles will be available to transport you to and from parking areas and student residences. If you may need financial assistance with some reunion costs, please contact Beth Sweetow at the email below.

Check the class website for a list of those attending as well as updates on our reunion events schedule: <https://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/1969/> (password is our gym suit color). And there is general reunion information on the college website: <https://alumnae.smith.edu/reunion2019/>. Watch for updates and last minute information in emails from us at [69classreunion@gmail.com](mailto:69classreunion@gmail.com). Questions? Please contact Beth [bethsweetow@yahoo.com](mailto:bethsweetow@yahoo.com) or Lisa at [eogae@aol.com](mailto:eogae@aol.com).

### READ ALL ABOUT US!

Did you know that our class includes two Equity actors, a survivor of Tower 1 on 9/11, a British socialist, a woman who founded an orphanage and school in Vietnam in honor of her late son who worked there, an expert tango dancer, two weavers who use recycled plastic in their art, and a pilot? Read their stories and more in our 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Class Book.

Expect to receive the Reunion Class Book in your mailbox in mid-March. Read about our amazing classmates. Two-thirds of 1969's living classmates participated in the book and 85% of the group contributed essays. Thanks to the house reps who reached out to classmates to encourage participation. And thanks to the volunteer editors: Joan Meltzer FitzGibbon, Sandy McLaren Foote, Priscilla Carter Fort, Janet Williams Harrison, Barbara Van Iderstine Holden, Susan Bangs Munro, Margie Barkin Searle, Susan Bangs Munro and Editor Katherine Martin and Assistant Editor Margi Nareff. Each one of our classmates who have died will be remembered in the book with touching tributes from many of you. You will enjoy reading about our accomplished classmates and learning about their odysseys.

## REUNION TRANSPORTATION INFORMATION

Ellen Matzkin and Jean Merrill are coordinating ride-sharing opportunities from the New York area. You can contact them at [matzkinellen@gmail.com](mailto:matzkinellen@gmail.com) and [jeanmerrill@gmail.com](mailto:jeanmerrill@gmail.com). We are looking for someone to coordinate ride-sharing from the Boston area. Please contact Beth if you can help with this. Information will be posted on the class website about ride-sharing. Our website is <http://alumnae.smith.edu.smithcms/1969> and the password is our gym suit color.

The Vermonter (Amtrak) train may be a great option for others. It leaves from Washington DC about 8 am with stops including Baltimore, Philadelphia, New York Penn Station and several stops in Connecticut. It arrives in Northampton at about 4 pm. Be sure to check and confirm the schedule at [www.amtrak.com](http://www.amtrak.com). Tickets can be reserved online. Hat McGuire is going to help set up a special train car for Smithies. For more information and to join your classmates on the way north, contact her at 703-298-9759 or [harrietmcguire@earthlink.net](mailto:harrietmcguire@earthlink.net). Returning south on Sunday, the train leaves Northampton at 2 pm arriving Washington at 10:30 pm.

### **TIME TO DO YOUR SMITH '69 CLASS SURVEY!**

Hey, '69ers – the class survey is rolling along. We kicked it off in early December, and by early January we were approaching a 50% response. It would be really wonderful to get *69% or more of our class* to lend their voices; the deadline for participation is February 15. Then together we will have answered the question: *Who are we now?* The survey is short, and the questions are pretty interesting. Wouldn't you like to know how satisfied/dissatisfied we are with our past life choices and our current sex lives? What about our concerns on aging, or how we see the women's movement affecting us over the years? And how many of us have a reason to say "#MeToo"?

If you haven't yet done the survey, look for an email dated December 9 or January 2 from [andersen@syr.edu](mailto:andersen@syr.edu) via Survey Monkey. (Check your spam folder, too.) Just click the link and follow through. Questions? Contact Kristi Andersen at [Andersen@syr.edu](mailto:Andersen@syr.edu) or Judie Feins at [j.d.feins@gmail.com](mailto:j.d.feins@gmail.com). Thanks from our survey team, Kristi and Judie!

### **OTHER IMPORTANT REMINDERS: ACTION ITEMS!**

Thanks to each of you for your support in making to make our reunion a success. Here are a few more action items to consider:

#### **STILL TIME TO SEND YOUR DUES**

Your class dues provide important financial support. This includes helping to defray the cost of producing and mailing our Class Book to every classmate. There is still time to send in your \$75 five-year class dues to Carolyn White Wallis, PO Box 724, Vineyard Haven, MA 02568. Make checks to SMITH CLASS of 1969. If you aren't sure if you have already sent in your dues contact Carolyn at [wallis.carolyn@gmail.com](mailto:wallis.carolyn@gmail.com).

#### **HOW TO MAKE A FASHION STATEMENT IN THE ALUMNAE PARADE**

You know the usual drill: a sea of white attire, from head to toe, broken only by our yellow class ribbon and, for members of The Grecourt Society, a second "mystic blue" ribbon. Both are worn from the right shoulder to the left hip. In addition, at reunion registration, you will receive a class tote bag, eliminating the need for a purse, and a scarf printed with our 50<sup>th</sup> reunion Odyssey logo.

Too much conformity for you? If you would prefer to wear raucous go-go boots, a tie-dye shirt with bell bottoms or that prim Villager dress with Weejuns and a circle pin, please contact a parade co-chair: [MaryGoldschmid@gmail.com](mailto:MaryGoldschmid@gmail.com) or [EdieDinneen@aol.com](mailto:EdieDinneen@aol.com). You too can march at the front of the parade dressed in your beloved late-Sixties (that's 1960's) garb, including perhaps your gym suit if you're lucky enough to be able to fit into it.

#### **READY FOR A TREASURE HUNT?**

Good News! The Class of '69 time capsule has not been unearthed or destroyed in the forty-nine years since it was interred. The Not So Good News: No one on the Reunion Team knows where these memories are currently located. It is not in our locker at the Alumnae House. If you know where it is, please inform Beth or Lisa. We may need to resort to moonlight marauding.

#### **WHO WILL BE OUR NEXT TEAM OF CLASS LEADERS FROM THE 50<sup>TH</sup> TO THE 55<sup>TH</sup>?**

Although our 50th is just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about the next five years! Sue Herrick Foley is chairing a Nominating Committee to slate class officers and leaders for the 2019-2024 term until our 55th reunion. Each officer/chair who is nominated has the choice of adding a co-chair if desired. Self-nominations are encouraged. The committee's goal is to have a full slate of officers by April 2019 for confirmation at our Reunion class meeting in May of 2019. Serving on the class leadership team is a wonderful way to support the college and to enjoy working with familiar classmates as well as become acquainted with other bright, creative, energetic and committed class of "69ers. Sue can be contacted at [suzannejac@aol.com](mailto:suzannejac@aol.com).

## SISTER, CAN YOU SPARE TEN MINUTES?

It's not too late to help our class win the reunion prize for the class with the most new members who have joined The Grécourt Society since our last Reunion, honoring those who notify Smith that they have included it in their estate plans --which broadly means that they have made testamentary arrangements for Smith to receive a gift (of any amount) upon their deaths. No current outlay of funds is required, the process is easy and can be completed in a few minutes, and it is always possible to revise or revoke such arrangements if necessary. Spouses are also eligible for Grécourt membership if a gift will come from joint assets.



One trouble-free way to become a new member of Grécourt is to designate Smith as a primary or contingent beneficiary for all or part (even as little as one percent) of some payable-on-death financial account such as an IRA or brokerage account. Just ask for a beneficiary change form, fill it out, and notify Smith online of what you've done by clicking "submit" on the Grécourt website <https://smith.plannedgiving.org/smith/giving/2.html>. No documentation or disclosure of amount is necessary.

If you are interested in setting up a substantial or more complicated planned gift (including ones that pay you income, those with tax advantages or ones that generate credit toward our class reunion gift total), there is also time before reunion to confer about those possibilities with Smith's Office of Gift Planning at 800.241.2056 [option 5] or <https://smith.plannedgiving.org>. Smith now counts 50% of a primary bequest valued at \$10,000 or more toward the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion class gift total, if documentation is provided.

Members of Grécourt, now numbering over 80 in our class, will proudly wear a "mystic blue" ribbon in addition to the usual yellow one in the Alumnae Parade. We hope everyone else considers joining them by notifying Smith of any planned gift they have made to support future generations of Smith students. With only ten minutes of your time, you can make a lasting difference.

## RECONNECTING IN BOSTON

At Judie Feins' home in Belmont last fall, classmates talked a lot about books they had read, where they lived at Smith, their majors, and how they liked their college years. What have they done since Smith? Come to Reunion and find out!

Classmates from the left:

Back row: Gloria Gehshan Liliias, Judith Vanderkay, Jane Slocum Deland, Cynnne Greenleaf, Judie Feins, Susan Hall Mygatt

Front row: Susan Levine Fritz, Pam Chamberlain



## SMITH MEDALISTS CHALLENGE YOU TO RALLY FOR SMITH!

Six extraordinary women in our class have been awarded Smith Medals – Sarah Chasis, Betsy Lamson Humphreys, Catharine MacKinnon, Jane Abramson O'Connor, Pearl Yau Toy, and Laura D'Andrea Tyson. They are remarkable for their achievements, as well as for their generosity to Smith.

In February these Smith Medalists have come together to challenge members of our class who have not yet given for our 50th reunion to Rally for Smith. For each new donor during the month, the group will contribute \$100, up to a total of 50 for a total of \$5,000. Your gift of \$50 will become \$150; if you make a gift of \$10,000, Smith will receive \$10,100.

We are aiming for 65% class participation for our 50th. By the end of December we were at 35%. In December alone, during the Essential Smith challenge, our participation jumped over 10%! But we have a long way to go!

Thank you to Sarah, Betsy, Catharine, Jane, Pearl, and Laura for their generous challenge! There's no better time to make your reunion gift to Smith.

Margi, Susan, and Debbie

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**OUR ODYSSEYS**  
CLASS of '69/50th REUNION  
SMITH COLLEGE

**NAME**  
**ADDRESS**  
**ADDRESS**  
**ADDRESS**