WHAT YOU SHOULD DO NOW

1.) We need your email address. More and more of our class communications are taking place by email. So, if we don’t have a correct, current email address for you in our database you will miss out. Please check the AASC directory for your information and update it if necessary by going to: http://alumnae.smith.edu/tools/update_address.php or contact Sue Foley at suzannejac@aol.com.

Also, check your spam filter to make sure important Smith or Class communications are not getting dumped there.

2.) Check out our class website, http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/1969

Check this frequently as our web mistress will be continually updating it. Please note that on our website we have posted a list of 1969 classmates the college has lost contact with. If you know how to contact any of these women please let us know so we can reach out to reconnect them.

3.) Pay your class dues. (See page 3 for details.) Remember you can pay your dues anytime during the 5 year term (2009-2014).

4.) Volunteer. If you had a good time at Reunion, or if you’re just a good sport, consider volunteering for a class job. We’d like to identify House Reps early in this term. This makes it possible to generate more communication among housemates and awareness of the fun in attending Reunions. Contact Debbie Franczek if you are “game” at dfranzcek@hotmail.com.

5.) Send us more pictures. If you have a get-together with other Smithies take some pictures and send them into Linda Sicher - she’ll post them on our website - be sure to indicate the names and class years of those in the picture.

How To Contact Your Class Team

President
Sue Herrick Foley
suzannejac@aol.com

Vice President/Reunion Chair
Debbie Chase Franzcek
dfranzcek@hotmail.com

Treasurer
Harriet Cooke McGuire
harrietcmguire@earthlink.net

Co-Secretaries
Barbara Lauren
Blauem123@aol.com
Roz Zalewski
rzalez@aol.com

Web/Facebook Mistress
Linda Frank Sicher
lsicher@aol.com

Memorial Chair
Janet Williams Harrison
tacmac@gmail.com

Planned Giving Chair
Edie Dinneen
ediedinneen@aol.com

Nominating Chair
Thea Dodge Cardamone
thedcardamone@comcast.net

House Rep Co-Chairs
Joyce Moran
Imagery857@aol.com
Lisa Hernandez Rosenbloom
jppasvant@gmail.com

Class Website
http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/1969

Class Facebook Page
http://www.facebook.com/pages/#!/
group.php?gid=109383512421960%

Smith Alumnae Website
http://alumnae.smith.edu

The President’s Corner

I hope you all had a nice summer. It’s hard to imagine that it is fall now and we’ve almost closed out another year! It seems just a few weeks ago that your class officer team met in April for 3 days to discuss plans for the next four years leading up to our 45th Reunion. As I always do when I spend time with a group of our classmates, I found our time together fun, enlightening and stimulating. For a bunch of 60-somethings we sure didn’t reflect the traditional image of the “senior citizen”—no sleepy minds or rocking chairs here! In fact, what struck all of us as we talked was the realization that at 60+ we’re far from “done.” We may have retired in some cases, and we may be grandmothers in some cases but we’re still excited about personal growth, learning and new experiences. The opportunities are all around us and, increasingly, we have more free time to take advantage of them. We realized as we talked also that the Smith community offers a strong support base for this lifelong personal evolution. Connecting with old and new Smith friends always leads to some new personal or professional insight. These are smart, accomplished, energetic women with whom we discover we have so much in common. Visiting the Smith campus when the opportunity presents itself is an exhilarating experience. The college resources for alums are impressive and can be explored through the website. The college has changed in many ways over the last 40 years but the excitement of a future to be explored still fills the air—whether you are 18 or 65, it is hard not to be inspired when you are there. What would it be like to be a Smith student today? Northampton has also changed—fairly dramatically. It is now a vibrant, busy cultural center with museums and galleries to explore. A visit to Northampton today is easily worth several days to drink in all the experiences available. So we reach our mid-60’s with a lot of life experience but with the realization that there is still much ahead of us to learn, to experience and to enjoy—old friends to visit, new friends to make, new knowledge and skills to acquire, new perspectives on old topics, new topics to examine, a different looking Smith and a different looking Northampton to explore. We come away from that realization looking forward to the excitement of the next chapters in our lives.

Sue Foley
President Class of 1969
Class Officers Planning Meeting Highlights

Class officers Sue Foley, Debbie Franzeck, Hat McGuire, Barb Lauren, Roz Zakheim, Linda Sicher and ex President Thea Cardamone met at Sue’s home in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida for a long weekend planning session. It was a lovely spring weekend and after 3 days of talking and scratching our heads, we came up with some great ideas and plans. We also got to know each other a lot better and had a lot of fun. We were joined for a bar-b-que on Saturday night by Barbara Burgess Wolfe and Joyce Moran who had her daughter Sophie with her. It was great to catch up with everyone.

We set some specific goals for the next four years that include proactively helping classmates stay connected with each other and with Smith, developing some really interesting and fun Reunion plans for our 45th, and getting more classmates involved in organizing class activities and plans.

One of the subjects we talked about the most was how to keep the whole class engaged and informed. We want you to know about all the ways we will be trying to communicate with you: the Smith Alumnae Quarterly (class newsletter sent out periodically to all classmates); the Smith Alumnae Quarterly (news/articles compiled by your class officer team and sent as hard copy to all classmates for whom we have a mailing address); the Class Facebook Page (new way to keep in touch and “chat” with classmates).

We agreed that another priority is to encourage and help organize more class mini reunions over the next few years.

Five years is a long time between official Reunions, so let’s stay in touch in smaller groups in between. A large percentage of our classmates live within 6 metro areas—so getting together is easier than you might think.

We also decided to gear up the House Rep system now as House relationships were and still are our main connections within the Smith community. Joyce Moran and Lisa Henderson Rosenblom have agreed to serve as House Rep Co-Chairs and would love to hear from you if you would be willing to serve as a House Rep.

Some early thoughts about our next Reunion include hosting a class Book Fair and Art Show, compiling a book of classmate oral histories, and organizing a plan of things to do and see in the Northampton and surrounding areas before and/or after Reunion. For many—especially those coming from a distance—the weekend is too short and it’s so check-full of Reunion activities that it is hard to do or see much else. So how about coming early or staying later and going to a spa in the Berkshires for a few days with some friends, or how about touring the museums, galleries and other sites of Northampton, Amherst, Holyoke or any of a number of other interesting New England towns, etc. If you have some ideas about what you would like to see before or during Reunion—speak up! Contact Debbie Franzeck. She would love to hear from you.

Anything You Would Have Done Differently: Nothing else really except perhaps gone to graduate school (maybe in law) but at the time my goal was to graduate and go to work. As it turns out I was challenged by, and enjoyed, working for the Government for most of my career and felt that there were few barriers to women in that realm.

Name: Ida Offenbach Abbott
Senior House/Major: Hubbard House/ American Studies
Home: Oakland, California. We have lived in San Francisco and Oakland for 38 years.
Family Status: Married to Myles Abbott, a pediatrician, for 41 years. Two wonderful sons; Jordan who is 32, is a national consultant with Ticketmaster and lives in FL., and David who is 29, is an account executive with Beacon Communications (advertising firm) and lives in Japan.
Occupation: I practiced law for 20 years and for the last 15 years have been a consultant and speaker on professional and leadership development, primarily for law firms. I have had several books published on these topics, including one released this summer, Women on Top: The Woman’s Guide to Leadership and Power in Law Firms (Thomson Reuters 2010)
Activities: I don’t have much free time, but when I do, I love to travel, cook, entertain, and tap dance!
Accomplishments: My husband and sons are great (though my sons are too far away). I love my work and believe I have made a difference in the legal profession. I was a pioneer in the field of lawyer’s professional development and now am working hard to promote the advancement of women lawyers into leadership. One thing I am especially proud of is creating the Hastings Leadership Academy for Women, a leadership development course for women law firm partners. Only 14% of equity partners and only 5% of law firm leaders are women, which is a disgrace. It’s hard to believe that 35 years after I became a lawyer, we are still fighting many of the same battles.
Thoughts On Smith: As the years go on, and as I work with women who are struggling to be successful in their careers and fulfilled in their lives, I gain more appreciation for the impact Smith has had on me. Being a part of a community of strong, accomplished and diverse women; seeing lots of women leaders and role models; knowing that there are many models of success—not just the ones that were created long ago by and for men—and enjoying the benefits that a powerful network of women can offer have made a big difference in my work and my life.
Anything You Would Have Done Differently: Not really. I feel blessed. I’ve reached a good place and am happy with my life.

Name: Marilyn “Lyn” Schultz Blackwell
Senior House/Major: Jordan House/ Psychology
Home: I’ve been living in East Montpelier, Vermont for 37 years.
Family Status: Married with three sons, two grandchildren and two more on the way.
Occupation: I am a Historian and have taught Vermont, American and Women’s history part-time for 15 years at a variety of institutions including the Community College of Vermont, Vermont College of the Union Institute, Norwich University and the University of Vermont. I also worked at the Vermont Historical Society. Much of what I have researched, taught and written about concerns the diverse historical paths of the women’s movement.
Activities: I love cross-country skiing, hiking, tennis and gardening.
Accomplishments: Returning to graduate school at age 37, publishing and contributing to historical scholarship, and raising 3 children who survived adolescence and appear to be happy, healthy and thoughtful adults.
Thoughts On Smith: Smith was my choice and a good one for me, though I was shy and did not take advantage of the rich offerings at the time. The experience did expose me to intellectuals as role models and to the possibility of seeking an academic career.
Anything You Would Have Done Differently: Of course, but given the disjuncture between the childhood role model for women and the demands on women after we graduated, particularly with respect to the struggle over marriage, motherhood and careers, I’m glad now that I maintained a balance in my life. I do wish I had devoted more time to sports and the outdoor life, which I prize more than ever now that the physical limitations of reaching my 60s are imminent.
Notes From Your Class Team

Class VP and Reunion Chair, Debbie Franzcek
Are you interested in hooking up with some classmates for lunch, cocktails, a book or movie discussion, a spa weekend away somewhere or some other interesting activity? Mini reunions are great fun. Just look at the picture at right of a group of Scales housemates who met up for a mini reunion on Martha’s Vineyard this past summer—they had a wonderful weekend!

Or how about this group at left from Hampshire House that got together to celebrate the fortieth wedding anniversary of Katherine Lwebuga-mukasa to Dr. Jamson Lwebuga-mukasa, Amherst ‘70.

We’d like to share your pictures and comments, too, on our class website and in other class publications. So, if you attend one of these gatherings be sure to let Linda Sicher, our web mistress know. And, if you’d like to organize an event we can help—with classmate lists for your area, ideas and encouragement. Just contact me.

Or here is another volunteer opportunity—Joyce Moran and Lisa Rosenbloom are looking for House Reps. This is a terrific way to be in touch with your housemates. It doesn’t take a lot of time and you’re simply contacting housemates to build enthusiasm for Reunion. For larger Houses like Chase, Wilson or Emerson we would love to have several House Reps. This is a fun job—so raise your hand and contact either Joyce or Lisa.

Class Treasurer, Hat McGuire
Twenty-three classmates have already paid their class dues for the current 5 year term (2009-2014). The more dues we receive this year, the better prepared we will be for planning the 2014 Reunion. Why not take this item off your “To Do List”? Three changes in the class dues structure were announced at the 2009 Reunion:

1. The term of previously paid “Life Member” dues has expired. We hope all members of the class will contribute to the class treasury at some point during the five-year span between the 2009 and 2014 Reunions.
2. The charge for Class Dues is now $75 for the 5 year period. Those who prefer to pay annually can pay $20 per year.
3. Since the Smith College Class of 1969 fund is now a 501(C)(3) non-profit fund, receipts will be sent for each member’s contribution for tax deduction purposes.

Please send your checks, made out to Smith College Class of 1969 to Harriet McGuire, 3007 Russell Rd., Alexandria, Va. 22305. Please include your email address to facilitate transmittal of the receipt.

Co-Secretaries, Roz Zakheim and Barbara Lauren
Keeping in touch with classmates is the best part of being co-secretary. Compiling the SAQ column every three months has been both rewarding and difficult. Please be patient with the space constraints the college now imposes both for print and photos, easier said than done—we wish we could publish everything! Roz has volunteered to coordinate with the college’s interest in oral histories before our next Reunion and hopes to have more information by the next newsletter; please let her know if you would like to help.

Web and Face Book Mistress, Linda Sicher
Come visit our class website and our Class of 1969 Facebook page. Our class website (http://alumnae.smith.edu/smithcms/1969) is home base for all things relating to the Smith College Class of 1969. We hope it will serve as a vital link keeping you connected to your friends and classmates and updated on all the planning we are doing for our 45th reunion in 3 ½ years.

(continued on next page)
Notes From Your Class Team (continued)

Our Facebook page (http://www.facebook.com/pages/#!/group.php?gid=109383512421960) allows us to communicate easily with each other and share what we have been up to. Already over 46 classmates have signed up so join us if you haven’t done so already. Even better… send an invitation to a friend to join!”

Nominating Chair, Thea Cardamone

Class Officers, and their planning, are the key to a great Reunion. Thanks to the team led by Sue Foley and Debbie Franzcek, we are looking forward to an exciting 45th with some great activities and a chance to reconnect with House and other classmates. It’s not too early to begin thinking about the one after that—the “Big Five—O”—our 50th! If you have ideas about what the class should do for that and want to have a hand in it, consider volunteering (or suggesing a classmate) as a class officer for the next 5 years, 2014-2019. We need the usual: President, VP/Reunion Chair, Web Mistress, Secretary, Treasurer, Memorial Chair, Planned Giving Chair, House Rep Chair, etc. Contact me with your ideas to fill these slots.

Memorial Chair, Janet Williams

When we lose a classmate, our class through the Memorial Chair, reaches out to the family on behalf of the class to express our condolences. All gifts to the Smith Fund in memory of any classmate we have lost through the years are also acknowledged by the Memorial Chair and deeply appreciated.

Planned Giving Chair

At this stage in our lives, we experience a variety of professional and personal transitions—retirement, retooling, empty-nesting, grand-parenting, etc. For any of those reasons, this is a good time to reflect on how we got to where we are and to consider what we still want to accomplish. If one of the things you want to do is to acknowledge the difference Smith made in your life, feel free to contact me or visit www.smith.edu/future/planned to find out how the Office of Planned Giving and Bequests (800-241-2056 ext. 5) can help you meld Smith into your future as well as your past.

Get To Know Your Classmates

Fourty two years later get to know your classmates! What have they been doing? What have they been thinking? Here’s a sampling from three of our classmates. We’ll be featuring more classmates in future newsletters.

Name: Daryl Massey Bladen

Senior House/Major: Lawrence House/ Religion

Home: In 1995 after 26 years in DC my husband and I took early retirement from our government positions and moved to Brewster, Ma on Cape Cod. I love living here year round.

Family Status: Widowed four years ago; no significant or insignificant other. One daughter, two stepdaughters and their three spouses; three grandchildren and one elderly mother.

Occupation: From 1969 to 1995 I administered Federal economic development grant programs for The US Departments of Commerce and Housing and Urban Development in DC. From 1996 to 2000 I managed the volunteer program of the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History. Since then I have been working part time to coordinate the volunteers at the Brewster Ladies Library.

Activities: Major ones are assisting my mother who lives nearby, maintaining an old house/large yard, volunteer work, playing tennis and running a “free B&B” for family members and out-of-town friends (this goes with the territory when you live on Cape Cod!).

Accomplishments: I think that I fairly easily balanced a full-time career with family and believe that it can be done, especially with the right job and spouse.

Thoughts On Smith: I greatly appreciate my Smith education but would not go to a women’s college if I could relive my life. I went to an all girls high school and would have been much happier going to a co-ed college where one could get to know males as friends instead of through horrible blind dates. Still, I appreciate that a lot of Smithies are organized, take-charge types and critical thinkers. But is that from Smith, or were we that way before we got there?
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We agreed that another priority is to encourage and help organize more class mini reunions over the next few years. Five years is a long time between official Reunions, so let’s stay in touch in smaller groups in between. A large percentage of our classmates live within 6 metro areas — so getting together is easier than you might think.

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Occupation: I practiced law for 20 years and for the last 15 years have been a consultant and speaker on professional and leadership development, primarily for law firms. I have had several books published on these topics, including one released this summer, Women on Top: The Woman’s Guide to Leadership and Power in Law Firms (Thomson Reuters 2010)
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President Class of 1969