JUNE 10 -- TEA and DISCUSSION

Invitations to a festive early summer tea and discussion of issues about sustainable food will be emailed next week. Complete information about the speakers will be included, along with a mail-in RSVP. As space is somewhat limited, make sure to send in your RSVP as soon as possible. Spouses/partners are welcome to attend.

A Save-the-Date postcard was mailed to 400 alumnae we haven’t been able to reach by email, inviting them to send us their email addresses, as we will no longer be using the USPS for club communications.

CURRENT CLUB FINANCIAL DECISIONS

When you receive your Tea invitation, you’ll notice that we are asking for a $10 donation ($5 for Young Alums). Except for a group of long-standing clubs who have never experienced the kind of dormant period we did, clubs around the world are no longer asking for annual dues. Just as the Alumnae Association stopped requiring dues in order to belong and began mailing the Alumnae Quarterly to all alumnae, considering anyone who attended or graduated from Smith to be a member of the Alumnae Association, clubs are assuming this model and asking for donations for events. Our goal is to cover all our expenses for each event and have money in our treasury that will allow us to offer a variety of programs that will engage the largest number of Maine alums, provide ways to celebrate Maine students on campus or those thinking about attending Smith, and perhaps have something left each year to add to the scholarship money that comes from pecan sales or to the expenses of our statewide Book Awards program.

The Alumnae Association also recommends that for clubs our size, it’s better not to renew our official status with the IRS as a non-profit. (This status for us had lapsed a couple of years ago.) This means that donations for events, the Book Awards program, or for general operations are no longer tax-deductible.
**FUTURE EVENTS**

*No-host luncheon in Bangor:* There are enough alums in the Bangor area who might enjoy getting together for a no-host lunch this summer or early fall. All we need is one person to volunteer as the organizer! That means choosing a place and date, making a reservation, and gathering RSVPs. We will send the email announcement to everyone within a certain radius of Bangor. If you are the one, please email Sarah Wintle at sarah.wintle@gmail.com A half dozen or so alums met in April for drinorks and talked about attending an educational program together, then adjourning for conversation about what they heard/saw. There’s interest in connecting in Bangor, so we hope to hear from someone about organizing a luncheon – or any other kind of gathering that strikes your fancy!

*Member-suggested gatherings:* This is YOUR club, so anyone anywhere in this large state can suggest meeting up with other alums for a meal, a drink, an art event, a lecture, an author talk, a local issue forum, anything! All you need to do is contact Sarah Wintle at sarah.wintle@gmail.com, and she will send an email invitation/announcement to alums in your area. You can ask for an RSVP if you need to know how many to expect, or you can just show up and hope you’re not alone!

**UPDATE YOUR CAREER INFO IN THE ONLINE DIRECTORY**

One of the most heavily used resources on the AACS website is the online Directory. Students and alums looking for career advice or possible jobs, mentors or informational interviews, use this valuable tool, so it’s just as important that we keep our work information updated as it is to keep our personal contact information current. Go to www.alumnae.smith.edu right now before you forget, and see if you need to add your updates.

**ADMISSIONS**

As of this writing (May 11), we have no report from the Office of Admission on how many new students from Maine will arrive on campus in September. Those admitted had to notify the college by May 1, so we hope to hear any day and will report in the next Newsletter.

**NEWS FROM CAMPUS**

**Hiring a Smithie: A Great Decision**

On May 20, 2012, more than 650 students will join the ranks of Smith College alumnae. One of the best and mutually beneficial ways to support the Smith network is to hire a Smith student or alumna for an internship or full-time position. Click here to see how the Lazarus Center for Career Development can help make that happen.

**Sherrerd Teaching Awards**

Floyd Cheung, associate professor of English language and literature; Michael Barresi, assistant professor of biological sciences; and Jennifer Guglielmo, associate professor of history, are this year's
recipients of the Kathleen Compton Sherrerd ’54 and John J. F. Sherrerd Prizes for Distinguished Teaching. For more about the award and this year’s winners click here.

Students Help Restore Jewel of Hartford CT

Hartford’s Keney Park, designed in the 1890s by Frederick Law Olmsted’s sons, was once the centerpiece of the city’s nationally renowned parks system. Today, the park is not what it used to be, but with the assistance of students in two classes taught by Nina Antonetti, landscape studies, a collaborative redesign and revitalization project will potentially restore the massive park to its former glory. More...

“Ada Monologues” Sad, Funny, Uplifting Stories

Ask an Ada Comstock Scholar about the path she took to Smith and you’re likely to hear a story about overcoming daunting odds, often filled with humor, plenty of heart-rending moments and inspiring perseverance. Ten Adas shared their stories during the first Ada Monologues in late April. Read transcripts performed by three of them, or view a two-part video of the event.

‘Tween Girls’ Lives Explored

If you would like to know what really goes on in the minds of middle school girls, check out The Drama Years: Real Girls Talk About Surviving Middle School—Bullies, Brands, Body Image, and More. Co-author Whitney Joiner ’00 talks about how she came to write the book and why she is so passionate that girls’ stories be told.

Women’s Colleges Applications

At least four of the Seven Sisters Colleges experienced a record year in the number of applicants. Smith, Wellesley, Mount Holyoke and Bryn Mawr saw increases over last year ranging from over 4.6% to 15%. Did anyone ever really think single-sex education for women would become a thing of the past??

Video for thought: ‘Saber es Poder’(knowledge is power) – a powerfully simple but complex phrase

(Click here for Video)
In her presentation at TEDx, Smith alumna Ginetta Candelario ’90, associate professor of sociology and Latin American & Latina/o studies at Smith, shares her own family history, her rise in academia and how everything in her life and her family history has brought her to the point where she now understands the full meanings of “saber es poder.”

Smith College Club of Maine on Facebook

If you’re already on Facebook, please join our Club group. The more alums we have in the group, the more active it will be!
Don’t forget to check these two sites often. There are new features being added frequently to the AASC website, illustrating the depth and breadth of our alumnae around the world.