Class of 1977’s 25th Reunion to take place May 16 — 19, 2002

Class VP/Reunion chair Luck Davidson announces that the 25th reunion of the Class of 1977 will take place at Smith during commencement weekend, May 16 — 19, 2002. Luck and other reunion planners selected “Prime Time” as our Reunion theme.

Read Luck’s article that appears on page two.

“Giving to the Alumnae Fund provides each of us an opportunity to support women’s education.”
Reunion Chair Luck Davidson Gets Ready

I have just spent two days meeting with our Class President, Nan Stifel, and our class Treasurer, Kathleen Brueger, planning our 25th Reunion. We have dates (May 16-19), we have plans, we have a committee. Now all we need is you.

The word I'm reading and hearing most often is BUSY. You people are all really busy now, it's that time of our lives. But I also believe that we are more in control of our time than we have been in past years, and if we really want to do something, we usually can. Mark your calendars for that weekend in May 2002, and make it a priority to return to Northampton.

What are the reasons not to return to Smith College for our 25th Reunion? Here are some I've heard:

"I don't have time"... If you plan now, surely you can take 48 hours out of your next five years for this. That small investment of time will have dividends in the form of new and renewed friendships, an exchange of ideas, the inspiration gained from hearing what others are doing, and a sense of pride in a place that is a part of our personal histories.

"I can't afford it" Smith's Alumnae association makes available a reunion travel stipend if you need assistance with travel expenses. Send your request letter, which will be kept confidential to: Reunion Travel Stipend, AASC, Alumnae Outreach, 33 Elm street, Northampton, MA 01063

"I haven't accomplished enough" Most of our class members are not jet setters, running the government, or CEOs. Those who are can entertain and inspire us. But that will not be the point of this reunion gathering--trust me.

In fact the Reunion Committee is considering offering a money back guarantee to all who register for our 25th. Now that's confidence!!! The feedback from Reunion #20 was and still is incredibly positive--we are building on that foundation. Sometime today, check out our reunion Website. Class President Nan Smith Stifel has done an excellent job of making it funny and informative.

Finally, if you have an idea for a Reunion Speaker, panel discussion, book club gathering, or if you'd like to help in any way--big or small, contact me. I'd love to hear from you.

Luck Gambrell Davidson
310 Wentworth DR
Greensboro, NC 27408
ld2ck@aol.com
(336)275-6870
Class President Nan Smith Stifel ponders “Prime Time”

As I sit here trying to write a column in time for a self-imposed deadline, I find I’m distracted by thoughts of our upcoming reunion. Luck Davidson and her team of volunteers already are hard at work. Their goal: to make our 25th Reunion a special weekend for every one of us. That’s a tall order, but one made easier by the magic of the campus setting and the kind folks in Alumnae House who advise and reassure Class Reunion planners.

Our reunion will take place during Commencement weekend, so we’ll be able to see Seniors packing up for the last time. Don’t you remember that last day as a Smith student — or should I say your first day as an Alumna? I, for one, somehow missed saying goodbye to several friends, and before I knew it, we were all scattered across the country. Reunion offers all of us an opportunity to reconnect with friends we may not have been in touch with in decades!

Traditionally, the 25th Reunion is the biggie; Alumnae who did not attend their 5th or 10th or even their 20th reunion will return for the 25th. I’ve attended several of our reunions, and I think they get better and better. Let’s face it, by this point, most of us can be proud of (or at least, content with) the choices we have made and continue to make. Certainly, there’s nothing to prove or justify to our classmates! Our 25th Reunion is not about who earns the most, who travels where, whose kids got in which colleges; it’s about several hundred terrific women convening in an environment of mutual respect and tolerance, and having a great time together at the place that still is our “common ground.”

Our next newsletter will include a Reunion weekend agenda. For now, suffice it to say that you can count on Friday tea, Friday night cocktails and dinner, the Ivy Parade on Saturday morning, followed by box lunches and a panel discussion, Saturday cocktails and dinner, followed by the Campus illumination and the traditional step-sing; Sunday brunch, and Commencement ceremonies for those staying late. There will be plenty of time to tour the Campus and explore Northampton — both of which have seen dramatic changes in the past quarter-century!

Twenty-five years ago we laughed together when Saturday Night Live introduced the “Not Ready for Prime Time Players.” The Class of 1977 can proudly celebrate the fact that we are not only ready for Prime Time, we’re there!

Mark your calendars now, and send in your Class Book Survey that is enclosed in this newsletter. Please give generously to the Alumnae Fund, and contact Luck Davidson or another member of the Reunion team and offer to help with one of the dinners or at our Class headquarters. I’m off to Costco for a 10-month supply of Slim-Fast! See you in May!

Nan Smith Stifel

(Fund Team Aims High, continued from page 1)

This past fiscal year 45% of the members of the Class of ’77 made a contribution to the Alumnae Fund, for a comprehensive total gift of $357,618. We know that the 25th reunion milestone should propel us to step up our giving and make an earth-shaking donation to the College. As is typical of our class, we will not shy away from challenging tasks, so the goal for our 25th reunion is to have 50% of our class participating in a grand gift of $1,000,000!

The Fund Team has been assembled. So, over the next several months you may hear from one of them: Debra Romero Thal, Ginger Kelly Ackerman, Rachel Coan, Martha Simons Dale, Jean Sandman Manthorne, Helen Chaikovsky, Constance DuHamel, Lynn Smith Fox, Joan Freedman Goodman, Paula Herold, Marian Barrett Leibold, Gwen Mattleman, Nancy Nadel Walsh, Isabella Zagare, Christine McCarthy, and Marianne Loiacono Thomas.

Debra Romero Thal
Fund Team Coordinator

SMITH COLLEGE
PRIME TIME
25TH REUNION

Filler fun: Can anyone remember how many times we had to run around the Alumnae Gym balcony to equal one mile?
A) 8    B) 16    C) 24    D) Felt like 100
E) None of the above.
25th Reunion Class Book

We will be publishing a Class Book for Reunion. The Class Book gives us all a chance to share what’s going on in our lives, and serves as a great keepsake. Please make sure that you’re in the book by filling out and returning the enclosed form. Everybody should submit a page, even if she’s not sure she can make it to Reunion. We want to make this easy, so we’ve enclosed a return envelope for your convenience. (Sorry, but until a lot more people pay class dues, we can’t put stamps on the envelopes for you.) Although we also will put the form on our website, we actually prefer that you send us the hard copy. The Class Book is a big undertaking, and you can help by sending in your response promptly. Our next newsletter will include a list of classmates from whom we’ve received information.

“Please make sure that you’re in the book by filling out and returning the enclosed form.”

Thanks to the following individuals who already have offered to help with Reunion:
Kimberly E. Bennett
Beth O’Connell Bardeen
Betty J. Belanus
Sue Bunnell
Lisa Gilson Clancy
Joyce Knoller Cohen
Kim Coleman
Penelope Corcoran
Mary Haines
Jaye Barbaresi Hensel
Julie Sullivan Jones
Elizabeth Sawyer Kelly
Allison Smith Lauren
Laurie Macintosh
Ellie Crocker Morse
Harriet Madoff Oswald

WANTED

Reunion Chair Luck Davidson needs a photo or sample of our “Last Competent Class” button that many of us wore at graduation! Please send it to:
Luck Davidson
310 Wentworth Dr.
Greensboro, NC 27408

Reunion Headquarters Chair Sue Bunnell needs mementos to display on our HQ bulletin board. Photographs, event programs, and other items labeled with your name may be sent to:
Sue Bunnell
41 E. Longmeadow Rd.
Wilbraham, MA 01095-2443

Alumnae Parade Chairs Harriet Madoff Oswald and Joyce Knoller Cohen welcome your ideas for parade signs. A huge turnout of alumnae like the Class of ’77 will supply will need to carry a lot of great signs in the parade! Send your ideas to Harriet or Joyce:
Harriet M. Oswald          Joyce K. Cohen
33 Grapal St.                  300 Central Park W.
Rye, NY 10580               New York, NY 10024
Does your House have a Rep yet?

House Reps will be contacting their former housemates over the next several months, encouraging a high Reunion turnout for each house. If your house doesn’t list a Rep, call or email Luck Davidson and volunteer for the job! The House Rep job is simple, consisting of writing a letter, postcard, or email to housemates and acting as a sort of cheerleader for house participation at Reunion.

Albright House:  
Baldwin House:  
Capen House  
Chapin House: Julie Sullivan Jones  
Chase House  
Comstock House: Margaret “Peg” McGirr  
Cushing House  
Cutter House  
Dawes House  
Drew House  
Duckett House  
Emerson House: Catherine Senghas  
Gardiner House: Harriet Madoff Oswald  
Gillett House: Leslie M. Warrick  
Hampshire House  
Haven/Wesley  
Hubbard House  
Hopkins Houses  
Jordan House

King House: Sandy McGregor O’Brien  
Lamont House: Elizabeth L. Ambos  
Lawrence House  
Morris House  
Morrow House  
Northrop House  
Oak House  
Park Complex: Kathleen Brueger  
Parsons Complex  
Scales House  
Sessions Complex  
Talbot House: Irene Spielman-Hodge  
Tenney House  
Tyler House  
Washburn House  
Wilder House  
Wilson House: Mary Lou Wienski Elson  
Ziskind House  
Off Campus

Reunion-bound Smithies

What a darling roadster! And you say you rented this to drive to our 25th reunion?

That’s right! I charged my Annual Fund gift to my credit card that earns reward points, and I used some of those reward points to rent the car!

Tip of the Day: Let your Annual Fund gift help “sponsor” your trip to Northampton in 2002!

Did you know?
YOU can charge your own Reunion gift by clicking on the blue link that’s on our website. Go to http://www.smith77.org then to our News or Alumnae Fund page.
The following classmates have indicated that they’ll be at our 25th reunion:

Ginger Kelly Ackerman  
Kathleen Brueger  
Sue Bunnell  
Helen Chaikovsky  
Rachel Coan  
Joyce Knoller Cohen  
Penelope Corcoran  
Martha Simons Dale  
Luck Gambrell Davidson  
Constance DuHamel  
Susan Atwood Eschenroeder  
Lynn Smith Fox  
Joan Freedman Goodman

Paula Herold  
Marian Barrett Liebold  
Jean Sandman Manthorne  
Gwen Mattleman  
Christine McCarthy  
Harriet Madoff Oswald  
Nan Smith Stifel  
Debra Romero Thal  
Marianne Loiacono Thomas  
Sally Thorner  
Nancy Nadel Walsh  
Isabella Zagare

Add your name to this list by indicating that you’re coming to reunion. Let us know (before the College sends out the Reservation forms) via the Class Book form or our website, www.smith77.org.
If you **still** haven’t paid your class dues yet (and only 80 of you have!), please forward them to treasurer Kathleen Brueger now. Please send news for the *Smith Alumnae Quarterly*, and Kathleen will forward it to our secretary, Susan Atwood Eschenroeder. (Make checks payable to **Smith College Class of 1977**). Thank you very much.

______ I’m enclosing my class dues of $25.00.
______ I want to be a class hero and I’m enclosing $77.00!

I’d like to help! Please contact me about volunteering as:
______ a “city rep” who gives classmates info about local Smith gatherings
______ a member of the “unofficial” nominating committee
______ website woman
______ a member of the reunion committee
______ House Rep for _____________ House.

My name and phone number: _____________________________

Fill out this form and mail it and your check for $25.00 to:
Kathleen Brueger, 5013 N. 24th St., Arlington, VA 22207.
Note: Class dues are NOT reunion fees.

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*Treasurer Kathleen Brueger* thanks those of you who have paid your class dues, and encourages the rest of us to follow suit. We’re looking for some **heroes** who will put in “$77 for ’77,” to help us meet our budget as we head toward our 25th reunion. Dues are used to fund class mailings, maintain the website, and help defray the costs of reunion planning.

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Send news to Secretary Susan A. Eschenroeder
8400 Spring Meadow Road
Richmond, VA 23235
or email Susan at SAEsch232@aol.com
Our 25th reunion logo echoes our theme, “Prime Time.”

“You simply MUST come to our 25th Reunion!”

“Okay, okay, I will — just get your finger out of my face!”