

SMITH '72 *IN ACTION*

February 2003

From Your Class President

Reunion 2002

I hope each of you who attended our 30th reunion in May 2002 enjoyed reconnecting with classmates and with Smith. Thanks to *Lou Zellner* and her team for making the reunion a memorable experience. Photos from 6 of the disposable cameras are available. A few of the pictures are reprinted inside this newsletter. Many more will be displayed -- in color-- on our class web page (more details below). You can view all of the pictures from all 6 cameras and order reprints if you send me an email (address on the back page). I have loaded all the photos on a commercial, but free, web site (ofoto.com). In response to your email, I'll send you 6 emails to link you to each of the 6 rolls of film.

Reunion 2007

Our triumvirate of class vice presidents is already at work planning our 35th reunion in May 2007! As you can see from the masthead of this newsletter, we have a theme for the next 4.5 years, *Smith '72 in Action*. We want to celebrate our classmates' involvement in a wide range of activities. Plans are for the class web site to include a feature on "Everyday Remarkable Women" to supplement the "Remarkable Women" area on the Smith College web site. We will keep you informed and solicit your input as plans proceed.

Susan Gutchess and I vow to reinstitute the Class Survey for our 35th reunion. Hopefully by then our technological prowess may allow us to provide an electronic, as well as paper, survey option.

Class of 72 in the 21st Century

I remember loading punch cards into the hopper of the main frame computer at Smith in 1972. Now I am composing a newsletter on my PC. The revolution in information technology is providing us with wonderful new ways to keep connected with classmates and with Smith.

Beth Sobiloff has volunteered to redesign our class website. As I mentioned above, we will be using the web site to post reunion photos, celebrate the many

achievements of our classmates, archive copies of the class newsletter, and generally keep all of us up to date on class news and activities. We'll let you know when the new site is live.

I urge you to help us take advantage of the opportunities and *economies* the new information technology offers by registering your email address in the electronic Alumnae Directory on the Alumnae Association web site: <http://alumnae.smith.edu>. We will eventually be able to save on postage and provide more frequent updates as we move the bulk of class communications to an electronic medium.

News from the Smith Campus

Your class officers returned to Northampton for a class officer training program in October. In addition to getting pointers on how to perform our duties and getting to know each other, we had the privilege of being on campus for the inauguration of the new President of Smith College, Carol Christ. The inauguration ceremony was truly inspiring. I was particularly moved by the greetings and messages delivered by representatives from other colleges and universities.

Our classmate *Lucy Reid* (M. Lucille) will be receiving a Smith College Medal at Rally Day (February 19, 2003) and be keynote speaker. Lucy is truly an example of Smith '72 in Action!

Nancy Ammon Jianakoplos



Class officers shown above from left to right: Nancy Jianakoplos, Stefanie Cargill, Maggie MacDonald, Deborah Lazarus, Luisa Rabe, and Melissa Hield. (Not Shown: Mary Burton, Deb Robinson, and Kate Johnson)

From Your Class Secretary

By now you have hopefully read your Winter *Quarterly*. Much has changed in the world since I was last Class Secretary, but some things have not, like the lead time between *Quarterly* deadlines and publication. With that in mind -- and hopeful of enabling more "real time" communication -- I want to encourage you to do three things.

First, sign up for a lifetime Smith e-mail address, which forwards email to your current e-mail carrier without your needing to let everyone know a new email address every time you change email providers.

Second, go to your own listing in Smith's on-line alumnae directory, and update your information, if necessary.

Third, let me know if you have anything you'd like to share with your classmates via the *Quarterly*. I'll be contacting many of you over these next five years, but I love getting your opinions, new ventures, and the like.

Why do any of this? My dear friend, *Marnie Gislason Obernauer*, Smith '68, coined a phrase that has since been picked up by the Alumnae Association, "**to be alumnae is a lifetime advantage**". As we become more knowledgeable about one another's lives, areas of expertise, and needs, we can plug in more quickly. By updating your employment information, you may end up doing something for the next generation of Smith women; when I was last hiring, I was thrilled to be contacted by Smith students and graduates. Finally, you'll be a more accessible member of our class -- which means we'll see you as we travel, and include you as we pull together classmates for all manner of fun.

Mary Lindley Burton

From Your Class Treasurer

The Class of 1972 has \$13,902.13 in its treasury. Our class funds primarily come from class dues included in reunion fees. \$10,000 is in an interest-earning business savings account and the treasurer is researching other short-term (four year) options to grow the treasury.

Smith suggests that each graduating class file for 501-C-3 tax-exempt status with the IRS. Thanks to past treasurer *Ann Chipley Playe*, the class of 1972 has had tax-exempt status for some years. Thank you also to *Ann* and *Susan Gutchess* for their good stewardship of the class funds over the past several years.

Melissa Hield

From Your Class Fund Team

When my marriage fell apart and me with it, a friend invited me to go biking with her. We spoke little, pedaled a lot, and the healing process began. Now, four years later, I'm an avid biker and in pretty good shape both mentally and physically. It took a while, but I got there. In a biking magazine I came across this quote that did a great job of expressing the appeal of biking for me:

"Let me tell you what I think of bicycling. I think it has done more to emancipate women than anything else in the world. It gives women a feeling of freedom and self-reliance. I stand and rejoice every time I see a woman ride by on a wheel...the picture of free, untrammelled womanhood."

- *Susan B. Anthony*

As I thought about this quote, I realized that biking was just building on what Smith had given me as well -- freedom, self-reliance, courage, self-confidence, independence. Although each of us experienced Smith a little differently, there was a commonality. Smith gave us a firm foundation on which to build our lives (or from which to go forward).

Let's make sure that Smith continues to give women opportunities to reach their potential. Support Smith with your dollars. Every gift counts, large or small. Support Smith with your time. Every effort counts; whatever time you can give is appreciated.

Whenever I get together with classmates, I am reminded of the value of my Smith experience and the benefit of having been educated at a woman's college. Think about getting involved with '72 - it's a great way to connect with classmates, have fun, and celebrate "free, untrammelled womanhood".

Deborah Thomas Robinson

REUNION 2002

[Due to file storage space constraints reunion pictures are not included in the online version of this newsletter.]

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