WE HAVE LOTS TO TELL YOU IN THIS EDITION OF OUR NEWSLETTER!

BUT FIRST… BE SURE TO SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR NEXT MEETING

We will be meeting on Saturday, November 14, 2015 at Sara Bay Country Club. Our speaker will be Karen Remmler, MHC Professor of German Studies, Gender Studies and Critical Social Thought. Members of the Smith Club have been invited to join us for this meeting.

From 2011 to 2014 Remmler directed the Five College Women’s Studies Research Center, an international center for collaborative work in feminist scholarship, teaching and activism. In 2014 she joined colleagues at Mount Holyoke, Smith and Simmons College to coordinate the program for the Women in Public Service Project Institute.

Her talk will address how forty-eight emerging women leaders from Asia and Africa participated in the Institute, which was designed to engage women from all sectors of society in activities dedicated to supporting equity and creating sustainable livelihoods and long-term strategies for building peace.

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Four years ago when I became your club president, I chose the motto “Reach Out…Stay Connected”. Thanks to your support, we have reached out to the students from southwest Florida who are attending Mount Holyoke by sending them cards and care packages before exams. Several Board members have also taken students out to lunch both here in Florida and in South Hadley.

Your Board, at its recent Spring meeting, spent a great deal of time discussing how our club can foster better connections amongst ourselves. We face two large challenges. First, our membership area extends from Tampa/St. Pete in the north to Fort Myers in the south. Second, it is difficult for many of our younger members to attend Saturday luncheon programs due to family and work responsibilities.

Embracing the college’s new motto “Never Fear/Change”, your Board will be working on developing ways to get our membership more involved in meeting one another and identifying with Mount Holyoke.

Wishing you a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing you at a club event soon.

Sue Simpson ’68
The Alumnae Association holds a convocation of club leadership in one of its regions each year on a rotating basis. This year was the meeting of the Southeast and Mid-Atlantic Alumnae Regional Council (SMARC). As Vice-president of our club, I represented the Mount Holyoke Club of Southwest Florida in Atlanta from April 10-11, 2015. There were 10 clubs or groups in attendance along with members of the Clubs committee and staff. SW Florida was the only club in Florida which sent a representative.

Marcia Brumit Kropf ’67, President of the Alumnae Association, explained the reach of this group. The Association has existed in some form since 1837 and was officially formed in 1923 as a non-profit. Since 1975 it has grown 50% and includes nearly 37,000 alumnae, of which 2,600 live outside the U.S.

Throughout the meeting, success stories, suggestions, best practices, and other ideas were exchanged. Today many of the clubs are increasingly relying on social media. The trend is towards more informal and less expensive meetings, such as panel discussions, networking events, pot luck dinners, sessions connected with the college’s calendar (e.g. Mountain Day) and “pop-up” occurrences. All agreed for the need to involve younger alumnae.

A rallying cry to reach members emerged from the council’s meeting: “Need a little more Mount Holyoke in your life?” This is the appeal of alumnae clubs everywhere. It reminds us of the importance of the college in our lives, of the value of the education and interactions received on campus, and of our connections to each other. These ties do not go away!

Your Board will take the lessons learned from this meeting to heart as it plans the programs for this coming year.

ALUMNAE SCHOLAR FUND

In keeping with the tradition of donating to the Alumnae Scholar Fund, your Board approved sending a $500 donation this year.
Do you have fond memories of Mountain Day? Would you like to participate in Mountain Day this coming fall? Well, you can! When the bells ring on campus in So. Hadley, we will be advised and, in turn, we will notify those of you who want to participate in our local Mountain Day event.

We will gather at Mote Aquarium at 10:00 AM for a “Sea Life Encounter Cruise”. Meet other MHC alumnae, and join a marine biologist on this 1 hour, 45 minutes cruise through Sarasota and Roberts Bays.

Here’s how it works. You must make an advance reservation with Maggie Gat ’61. She will contact you by 8:30 AM on Mountain Day. Obviously, you will have to be flexible enough to join the festivities without advance notice of the exact day, just as we did all those years ago when we were students! Mountain Day usually occurs in early October.

If you are interested, please send an email before Sept. 8th to Maggie at mhcswfl@gmail.com. Be sure to include your name, email address and phone number. The subject line of your email should say “Mount Holyoke Mountain Day”. Maggie will confirm your intention and stay in touch with you as we all await that special day. Email is preferred but, if you don’t have email, you may call Maggie.

The cost is $27 per person and payment should be made directly to Sarasota Bay Explorers at the ticket booth at Mote on the day of the trip. More information about the cruise can be found at www.sarasotabayexplorers.com.

Thank you, Maggie, for coming up with this terrific idea and for organizing Mountain Day in Sarasota!

THE COMMON READ ON CAMPUS

Picking up the Common Read is a good way to stay connected to what is happening at the college. Stay tuned for more information in future newsletters about the possibility of area book discussions focused on this novel that has been described as “fearless, gripping, at once darkly funny ...a richly told story set in today’s globalized world.”

Americanah, by Nigerian author of Ifemelu and Obinze, teenagers in love. Their Nigeria is under military country if they can. Ifemelu, the United States to study. She loses relationships, all the while never thought of back home: racism. professor, had hoped to join her, but and he plunges into a dangerous, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, is the story a secondary school in Lagos, who fall in dictatorship, and people are leaving the beautiful and self-assured, departs for suffers defeats and triumphs, finds and feeling the weight of something she Obinze, the quiet, thoughtful son of a post-9/11 America will not let him in, undocumented life in London.
Mary Lou Judd Carpenter ’55 gained a new perspective on the life of her parents when she was given the files and writings of her mother Miriam Barber Judd ’25. She realized that her mother was a gifted writer who recorded her feelings during her marriage, trying to make sense of what didn't make sense.

Mary Lou decided to compile some of her mother's 2000 letters which contained private reflections and ruminations on the relationship between Miriam and her husband Walter. The result was the book Miriam’s Words: The Personal Price of a Public Life.

Miriam was born in India to missionary parents. They moved back to New Jersey when she was 8 and Miriam went on to graduate from Mount Holyoke College. It was there that she first met Dr. Walter Judd. By the time they were married in 1932, Walter had already served as a medical missionary in China and Miriam had worked for a publication in New York City and had also taught English in India for 2 years. Both felt a strong need to be of service to others. Plans were put in place for them to go to China in 1934 where Walter ran a rural Mission Hospital while Miriam remained initially in Peking with Mary Lou then just a few months old.

Although the family was reunited in Fenchow, life was not easy. For the next few years, they had to face both internal and external threats to China. Communist aggression forced Miriam, Mary Lou and second daughter Carolyn to flee to Peking. About a year later, they were forced to flee to Hong Kong, again without Walter, this time because of the invading Japanese. Ultimately, Miriam returned to New Jersey with her two children, and their third daughter was born while Walter was half a world away.

When Walter joined them a year later, he started two years of speaking throughout the U.S., alerting people to the threat of a Japanese attack against the U.S. During this time Miriam cared for the children and managed Walter’s correspondence and schedule from New Jersey.

In 1941, the family moved to Minneapolis, where Walter took over a medical practice and was soon approached to run for Congress. Having won the election, Walter moved his family to Washington D.C. From 1943 to 1962 Miriam lived the life of a Congressman's wife, attending political events, participating in Presidential campaigns, and entertaining. She was invited to brunch with Eleanor Roosevelt, met Winston Churchill, Princess Elizabeth and Prince Phillip, and worked with Mamie Eisenhower and Mrs. Lawrence Rockefeller. She did a great deal of volunteer work and served as a Trustee of Mount Holyoke College.

Various biographies about Miriam and Walter do a good job of detailing the activities of their lives. But Mary Lou, in her talk and in her book, describes the frustration, loneliness and despair experienced by her mother. Miriam wrote in her letters that she did not know how to play the political game. She felt alone much of the time and wrote of her husband, "My life with you will always be fundamentally lonely... there is no blame in this... there will always be a small wistfulness
for what might have been, but cannot be.” Drawn heavily into the political scene, Miriam wrote, “Walter is tired from running the world, and I am so tired of running Walter and the children.”

Mary Lou went on to explain that the years of the political campaigns were particularly difficult for her mother. Miriam wrote of “being overwhelmed and filled with hatred, frustration and despair.” She described Walter as “so decent, strong, fair and tired.”

Of their relationship with their daughters, Miriam wrote, “The girls find it difficult to talk to Walter, so I became the go-between.” “To what extent”, she asked, “am I responsible for the way my children see their father?”

Mary Lou summed up her talk by saying she was relieved to find her mother’s writings. She had once thought that her mother was a “doormat” who was never willing to speak up to her husband. She would speak up on behalf of her children but never for herself. Mary Lou knew her mother was hurting, but writing the book, she said, brought great solace and a better understanding of the personal price that must sometimes be paid for a public life.

**IN CASE YOU MISSED OUR MARCH MEETING…**

MHC Professor of Politics, Dr. Kavita Khory ’84, gave a very interesting talk about International students on campus today and how the demographics have changed over the years. The first international student came to MHC in 1839. Today, 30% of the students are from foreign countries with the majority from China, followed by India, Vietnam and Pakistan.

About 10-12 years ago, we had a lot of students from Eastern Europe. About 80% of international students got funding or financial aid from MHC. Today most international students are from Asia and the number of international students getting funding or aid has dropped to 52%. These students select majors across all departments, but the Chinese tended to gravitate toward economics, math and computer science. Today, more are going into humanities.

Dr. Khory described the MHC classroom today as a “global classroom”. The international students bring a different perspective and different experiences into the classes. They bring their own history and socialization as well. Class participation for many of these students had been an alien idea until now. Kavita teaches a class called “War and Peace in South Asia” and, during simulations, the students must take the perspective of another country. Through this process they learn understanding and empathy. They begin to talk about their own political systems in a more analytical and reflective way.

For example, during a discussion about propaganda and war, students shared what they learned from history books in their own countries before coming to the U.S. These exchanges and discussions, said Dr. Khory, are so much richer than just “teaching”.

Dr. Kavita Khory with former student Kelly Monod ’02

55 Classmates L to R: Pat Brodt, Mary Lou Carpenter, Deb Nash
After graduation, international students often go into teaching, the sciences, and architecture. They become artists, novelists, college professors and go into the corporate world as well as non-profits.

Dr. Khory said that she can’t imagine teaching without having international students in her classes. She also told us that a huge new development is the number of international alumnae, now out in the working world, who are offering internships to current students.

While MHC is not holding itself out as a school for international students, they are doing more recruiting abroad and, for example, have a MHC rep based in China. There is increased competition, from other countries who want to attract international students. “We highlight what the college does well, and we do international really well”, said Khory.

**MHC LACROSSE TEAM IN BRADENTON**

Mary Allyn’s granddaughter Hannah Yeh ’15 and her lacrosse teammates were in Bradenton for Spring training in March. They played various matches while they were here.

Mary ’63 and Maggie Gat ’61 cheered them on in their match against Bowdoin. The team members were glad to have fans. If they return next spring, you might join us!

P.S. Hannah graduated Summa Cum Laude and was inducted into Phi Beta Kappa.

**IVY LEAGUE COLLEGE FAIR**

Once again our Admissions Representative, Kelly Monod ’02, was on hand at the Ivy League College Fair held on January 25, 2015. She was joined by Charlene Hovatter ’90.

One of Charlene’s children attends the school at which Kelly is principal.

**IN MEMORIAM**

It is with sadness that we report the passing of June Jubinville ’46 at her Loomis Village home in So. Hadley. She was in the care of her loving husband, William F. Jubinville, to whom she was married in 1948 at the Mount Holyoke Chapel.

June was a sustaining member of the Junior League of Holyoke, and a member of the Granby Church of Christ Congregational. She was an excellent athlete, particularly in golf. June was club champion at both the Orchards Golf Club in So. Hadley and the Plantation Golf Club in Venice, Florida, where she was a member for 60 and 30 years respectively.