Join us on Saturday, February 13, 2016

Boca Grande Club at 11:30 A.M.

Enjoy a great meeting and spend some time in lovely Boca!

Renee Sentilles ’88, author of the soon-to-be-released book “American Tomboys (1850-1915)”, will be our speaker for the February program. Professor Sentilles, Associate Professor at Case Western Reserve University, specializes in nineteenth century cultural history, American women’s history, the history of childhood, girlhood studies, gender studies, and the American West.

Please see our President’s message for suggestions on how to make the most of your day in Boca.

The following people have offered to provide rides to the Boca Grande meeting. Their contact information is listed below, along with their location. If you are interested in sharing a ride, please contact them directly to make arrangements. There is a $6.00 toll to cross the Causeway.

Dee O’Brien    mhcswfl@gmail.com
Fredy Jacobson  mhcswfl@gmail.com
Maggie Gat      mhcswfl@gmail.com
Sue Simpson     mhcswfl@gmail.com
Diane Pick      mhcswfl@gmail.com

Our last meeting of the season promises to be memorable!

March 12, 2016 at Sara Bay Country Club

Has Mount Holyoke changed over the decades? You bet it has! For our March meeting, we are putting together a panel of alumnae representing classes from the past 60 years to share what it was like on campus then and now. Come prepared to be surprised, entertained, and perhaps share a laugh or two.

Blanchard Hall

Originally it was a gymnasium, then offices and the college post office. Today it is a bustling student center.
Happy New Year!

On January 6th Diane Pick and I had lunch with 3 of our southwest Florida students: Wren Wilkins, and sisters Miral and Alishba Khalil. All are enthusiastic to be at Mount Holyoke and appreciate the many opportunities they have in choice of courses and majors. They enjoy learning in a global community and have become friends with students from all over the world. Traditions like Mountain Day are still popular and serve as a bond for students and alumnae alike.

At our March 12th meeting we will all have the opportunity to share memories of Mount Holyoke when we were students. More details will follow in our next newsletter. Circle March 12th on your calendar now.

Give yourself a pre-Valentine’s Day treat and come to our February 13th meeting which will be held on beautiful Boca Grande. Deb Nash ’55 has made all the arrangements for our luncheon at the Boca Grande Club with its scenic views of the Gulf of Mexico.

Boca Grande is a special place: beautiful beaches, a quaint downtown area, magnificent banyan trees, and no stop lights! After our meeting, plan to see the rest of the island and perhaps stop by the historic Gaspirilla Inn. From downtown Sarasota it is about an hour’s drive, so try to carpool. Let’s have a good turnout for our guest speaker. I hope to see you on the 13th.

Warm regards, Sue Simpson ’68

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**PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

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**CLUB MEMBERS “NORTH OF THE BRIDGE” CELEBRATE MOUNTAIN DAY 2015**

**EATING... YOU GUESSED IT... ICE CREAM!!**

The hosts used Facebook and the Alumnae Association’s searchable map to promote the events.

L to R:

**Strachans Homemade Ice Cream**
Palm Harbor, FL

- Sharon Gillespie
- Jennifer Sawka ’91
- Jamie Donnelly ’03 (host)
- Sandy Seckel

L to R:

**Coldstone Creamery**
Tampa, FL

- Jeannie Egan ’87 (host)
- Ginny Cunningham ’74
- Connie Farnsworth ’52
- Ashira Amanda Pelt ’15

L to R:

**Old Farmer’s Creamery**
St. Petersburg, FL

- Susie Betzer ’65 (host)
- Dorothy Kaelber ’54
- Diane Whitaker ’78
- Marcia Heath ’74
"We've come a long way, baby, and we have a long way to go!" That was my reaction as I listened to Professor Karen Remmler’s talk at our November meeting. Remmler provided some very interesting data on what women are doing today to meet the challenges of the future, particularly in regard to transforming conflict.

To set the stage, Karen shared the following statistics. In the last 20 years, women represented fewer than 3% of peace treaty signatories and fewer than 8% of members of treaty negotiation parties. Of the 300 peace accords signed in post Cold war years, only 10 address sexual abuse of women. In the U.S., women hold fewer than 20% of the seats in Congress. In some countries you can be assassinated if you are a woman running for office. Worldwide, women account for 48% of the public sector workforce, but hold less than 20% of the leadership positions in that sector.

Opportunities abound today at Mount Holyoke for young women to engage in educational and other programs and initiatives that will help define the roles of women in the future. Remmler said that, to succeed in the 21st century, our students will need to work in diverse teams, communicate effectively across multiple cultural boundaries, and understand the synergies between domestic and international community development issues. She said Mount Holyoke emphasizes learning how to argue and back up your particular point of view. It is about re-thinking who you are in the world and learning from one another through a mutual exchange of ideas.

Remmler spoke extensively about the Women in Public Service Project (WPSP), a program of the Global Women's Leadership Initiative at the Wilson Center, which empowers the next generation of women around the world and mobilizes them on issues of critical importance in public service. The WPSP was founded by U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in 2011 as a partnership between the State Department and the five remaining Seven Sisters colleges. The Project has established a goal of 50 by 50: 50% of public service roles at all levels held by women by 2050.

Professor Remmler started out teaching German language and literature, but had a keen interest in what happens after atrocity and war. To further her education she got a Certificate in Peacebuilding and Conflict Transformation at the School for International Training. She teaches the First-Year Seminar on “Remembrance as Reconciliation in the Wake of Extreme Violence”. Her passion for her area of expertise shined brightly throughout her presentation.

EXCUSES

"I don't have time." “I'm not the right one for the job.” “I'm afraid I will over-commit.” “I have other priorities.” “I don't have the right skills or knowledge.”

Your Board members had some of these thoughts before they volunteered to take positions in our Club. But if we all gave into these feelings, we wouldn’t have a Club. We currently have 3 positions open on our Board: Program Chair, Newsletter Editor, and Social Chair. If no one steps up to fill these positions, we may no longer have a Club. Being on the Board is fun, it’s rewarding, and the camaraderie is wonderful. Are you willing to volunteer? If so, contact Nominations Chair, Joyce Gleason, at mhcswfl@gmail.com.
Last year Donal O’Shea, president of New College, called MaryAnne Young and asked if she would consider applying for the position of Vice President of Advancement - Director of Foundation of New College. At the time MaryAnne held a similar position at MHC reporting to Lynn Pasquerella.

Although difficult to leave MHC, MaryAnne knew that coming to Sarasota was the right move at this time in her life. She and O’Shea had worked together for about 20 years and got to know each other well, especially during the time that Donal was Dean of Faculty at MHC. MaryAnne had already grown to love Sarasota, having been here several times on fund raising trips with Pasquerella, and having bought a place here to spend vacations with her newly retired husband.

It is always fascinating to me why people choose to attend one college over another. MaryAnne’s story is particularly interesting. She spent half of her senior year in high school living with a family in France where she became fluent in French. She then took a year off between high school and college and spent that time working in Dallas. As she was looking through college guides (pre-Internet days), she read about a small college for women that was academically rigorous.

The MHC alumna who interviewed MaryAnne happened to be the Chair of the French Department at Southern Methodist University in Dallas and she conducted the interview entirely in French. MaryAnne was very impressed with her, and of course, with MHC.

After graduation from MHC in 1981, with a double major in French and International Relations, MaryAnne worked for a couple of years for the Red Lion Inn in Stockbridge, MA where she learned a lot about management and found that she really enjoyed working with lots of different people. She moved back to the Pioneer Valley and took a job as Secretary/Receptionist at the Alumnae Association on campus. She became a program officer, worked with alumnae committees, helped with reunions, and found that she really enjoyed fund raising. So when an Annual Fund Officer position opened, she applied and was accepted. That launched her into her fund raising career at MHC where she stayed until coming to New College.

MaryAnne is very proud of her family and that her children, one son and one daughter, “turned out so well”. She enjoys kayaking with husband Bliss, biking, walking, and cooking (especially anything French). She is passionate about education and is optimistic that this next generation of young people are great problem solvers who are engaged at every level.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS WHO HAVE PAID THEIR DUES

If you haven’t yet paid your dues for the 2015-2016 year, please include them with the Registration Form. Our Club depends on YOUR SUPPORT!

Mary Allyn
Lauren Altomare
Mary Ellen Barker
Barbara Blumfield
Pat Brodt
Kitty Cannon
Linda Crootof
Pat Edmonds
Connie Farnsworth
Mary Jim Fergeson
Nanette Galloni
Phyllis Gaffney
Anne Garrett
Maggie Gat
Joyce Gleason
Mary Lou Hawkins
Carol Henkel
Mary Hodgson
Fredy Jacobson
Suzanne Janney
Katherine Johnson
Dee O’Brien
Diane Pick
Stewart Pollock
Elizabeth Russell
Gail Sanderson
Alexa Scanziani
Sue Scanziani
Ann Simpson
Georgia Walters