



# Lyon's Roar

Class of 2004 Newsletter

Winter 2015

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## Class Board

### President

Sophia Apostola

### Vice President

Margaret Byrne

### Treasurer

Chrysanthe Courniotes

### Secretary

Rachelle Palmer

### Co-Reunion Chairs

Katie Hill

Rebecca McNealy

Korinne Reinhard

### Co-Head Class Agents

Anna Allen

Anna Bennett Robertson

### Co-Class Scribes

Sarah Gelinis

Diana Chaban Griffith

## Questions/Comments

[2004classboard@gmail.com](mailto:2004classboard@gmail.com)

<http://sites.alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/wp/mhc2004/>

## Welcome Back!

First and foremost I hope you all are finding some time in February to celebrate Mary Lyon's birthday, perhaps by grabbing a friend in the area and making Deacon Porter's Hat or some M&Cs! I think I can speak not only for myself, but the entire Class Board, in saying that we are very excited to be serving you. We hope to provide you with more opportunities to engage with one another, through social media, local events, and more. We hope to provide you with updates about what is happening on campus and ways to stay connected to MHC. Some of you may have noticed we are revamping the Class website, please feel free to let us know what you think about the website and how we can best serve you by emailing us at [2004classboard@gmail.com](mailto:2004classboard@gmail.com).



*Sophia*

Class President



## Top Ways to Stay in Connected to Classmates:

- 1. The Revitalized Website**  
<http://sites.alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/wp/mhc2004/>



- 2. Facebook**  
Like "Mount Holyoke College Class of 2004" for the most up-to-date information. This is a great way to find out about class and local events, news about current campus happenings, and other fun information.

- 3. Email Blasts**  
Check your inboxes for periodic emails about events coming to your email and class updates.

- 4. Class Newsletter**  
Watch your mailboxes, inboxes, and the website for the class newsletter! The newsletters are a way for us to stay connected and learn about what might be in the works for our class.

- 5. Class Notes in the Quarterly**  
Have you relocated? Did you finish graduate school? Did you get an award? Did you get married or have a baby? Did you visit classmates in another city?

We want to hear from you!

Send your news to  
[2004scribe@gmail.com](mailto:2004scribe@gmail.com)



## Deacon Porter's Hat

Deacon Porter's Hat got its name because its shape reminded the early students of MHC of the tall hat worn by our first Trustee in Charge of Building. The Hat is a steamed pudding usually flavored with West India molasses and spice and raisins, it can also be a chocolate pudding.



But whatever the ingredients are, it must be steamed in a tall round container so that it looks like the lofty superstructure for a gentlemen's old-fashioned high hat.

### Ingredients

#### Deacon Porter's Hat

1/2 cup shortening  
1 cup molasses  
1 cup buttermilk (*or sour milk*)  
1/4 cup raisins  
2 cups flour  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon nutmeg  
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

#### Foamy Pudding Sauce

1 egg  
2 teaspoons rum  
1/2 cup sugar  
1/2 pint heavy cream – whipped

### Preparation

#### Deacon Porter's Hat

Melt shortening; add molasses and buttermilk. Sift together flour, soda and spices. Combine with molasses mixture. Add raisins. The resulting batter should be stiff. If it is not, add more flour, one tablespoon at a time. Turn into buttered one-quart mold. Fill mold half full. (You may also use a one-pound coffee can, or double the recipe and use a two-pound can. For individual servings, use six- or eight-ounce juice cans and fill 2/3 full.) Cover tightly. (A double layer of aluminum foil tied with string may be used.) Set on rack in large kettle and pour boiling water to half the depth of the mold. Cover kettle tightly. Bring to boil on top of the stove. When steam begins to escape, reduce heat to low and steam for two hours. Unmold and place hat whole and steaming on a dessert plate. Slice individual portions at table. Serve with lemon, hard, or foamy pudding sauce.

#### Foamy Pudding Sauce

Combine all ingredients except cream. Beat until thick and foamy. Refrigerate about two hours. Fold in whipped cream just before serving.

## Calling All Classmates!

We are hoping to start a column to provide advice to fellow classmates regarding areas that we have experience in. Some of those topics can include advice on buying and selling a home, what to look for when choosing a pediatrician, how to create a social media plan, writing a will, creating a retirement plan, dealing with aging or ill parents, and much more. If you are interest in submitting an advice column to the newsletter please contact the Class Board at [2004classboard@gmail.com](mailto:2004classboard@gmail.com). We look forward to hearing from you!



**WE WANT YOU!**

## Introducing Your Class Board

### Anna Allen

I grew up in Chapel Hill, North Carolina before attending MHC. During school I majored in Biological Sciences, minored in Art History, and was a member of the Hunt Seat Equitation Team. I graduated with my DVM degree in 2010 from North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine in Raleigh, North Carolina. I practiced equine medicine at a large private practice near Middleburg, Virginia for one year before returning to Chapel Hill, North Carolina to pursue a Master of Public Health degree. In December 2012, I accepted a position with the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services as the Public Health Liaison Veterinarian for the Emergency Programs Division. We are responsible for preparation, planning, response, and recovery coordination and mitigation for disasters and emergencies involving the agricultural sector in North Carolina. I keep in touch with many friends from MHC on a regular basis and manage to see at least a few of them yearly! I enjoy reading, hiking, kayaking, traveling, movies, spending time with friends and family, and watching or attending sporting events. I had my first child, a son, in October 2014 and I am loving motherhood! I enjoy serving MHC as both Co-Class Agent and an Alumna Admissions Volunteer.




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### Sophia Apostola

I lived in Boston, MA and work for the State of Massachusetts as an attorney. In my spare time I love to craft and make beaded and woven bracelets. I remain involved in the College volunteering as a pre-law advisor and attending career related events off and on campus. As your class president I hope to provide a space for you to connect and reconnect with classmates and the college.




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### Anna Bennett Robertson

Hi I'm Anna. I work as a Financial Associate with the accounting team in the Harvard Law School Financial Office. Outside of work I try to find time to be creative -- painting, knitting and designing projects for friends and family. My husband Mark and I are expecting our first kiddo at the end of April. I want to thank everyone for giving to the Mount Holyoke Fund this year, and encourage you to give if you haven't already.




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### Margaret Byrne

My favorite memories of our 10-year reunion include hanging out with Kevin the Party Cop at our trivia night, catching up with my old roomie, upside-down twerking lessons, and having a dance party with 100 brilliant and amazing women. As the vice president my goal is to help you feel connected to your classmates and to your alma mater.

Northampton, MA, has been my home for the past 7 years. I live with my wife Gwen Bass and our 3 kids, and work for the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. I look forward to mini-reunions, catching up on Facebook, and seeing some of you at events on campus.




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### Chrysanthe Courniotes

I am currently an Associate at Booz Allen Hamilton, a Management Consulting firm, in Washington, DC. I work on Veterans Affairs and Military Health projects focused on health policy and strategic planning. I have worked at Booz Allen Hamilton for 7 years and have worked across many of the Health Federal agencies. Prior to joining Booz Allen, I focused my efforts on Healthcare Reconstruction work in both Iraq and Afghanistan. I traveled to Afghanistan twice between March 2007 and January 2008, working with the US Command Surgeon in developing a strategic health plan. I am also an evening law student at the UDC David A. Clarke School of Law with an expected graduation date of May 2015. I also have a Master's of Science from SDA Bocconi University in Milan, Italy. I spend my free time volunteering in my community on political/legal initiatives and exploring the city with friends.



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**Sarah Gelin**

I had an amazing time at our 10 year reunion, I loved being on campus again and catching up with old friends. I currently work in a law office, assisting with real estate and elder law; and in my spare time, I enjoy photography, crafting, and traveling. This past year I had my first photography show, the opportunity to travel to St. John, and I'm hoping to head to New Orleans this spring!



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**Kate Hill**

I live in Vermont with my husband and our two boys. After teaching 1st and 2nd grade for 8 years, I started teaching in a 3rd, 4th, & 5th grade level cluster this year. It's been an interesting change, but I've enjoyed taking on the challenge of teaching across three grade levels. At home I enjoy cooking, crafting, creating, playing and learning with my two boys.

On the sidelines of it all I try to blog about our family activities. I'm looking forward to working with the class board to think about ways to keep our class connected before we return for the next reunion.

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**Rebecca McNealy**

I have lived in Evanston, IL for the last seven years and work as a special education teaching assistant. Outside of school, I teach a glass fusing class and take a pottery class, plus I have become interested in the Chicago running races. I have loved being a part of class board, and am excited to plan our 15th reunion with my fellow co-chairs.



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**Rachelle Palmer**

After spending 9 years in consulting and traveling 100%, I am now settled down in one place with my husband Michael and our dog Penny. I'm working at MongoDB, a tech startup based in NYC. I absolutely love it - there's free food, unlimited vacation, and the work is challenging - though I now really wish I'd majored in Computer Science. When I came back for our reunion, I stayed in Wilder Hall and I cannot express how much I missed my old roommates, laying on the green and stargazing... MHC changed my life and who I was, and I'll always owe the school and my classmates a great debt. I try to stay involved by helping rising seniors with resume reviews and interview preparation and case studies via phone.



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**Play On!**

Are you hosting game night soon? Have to buy a present for someone's housewarming? Our Class still has copies of Mount Holyoke-opoly for sale. If you are interested in purchasing a copy please visit our website, <http://sites.alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/wp/mhc2004/mountholyoke-opoly/>, where you can order a copy.

