

MOUNT HOLYOKE CLUB OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

NEWSLETTER

FALL 2021

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Club members and MHC alums,
"Need a little more Mount Holyoke in your life?" Need a lot? Thanks to Elizabeth Russell '70, Program Chair, the Mount Holyoke Club of Southwest Florida has another remarkable year of activities planned for the upcoming season.

The activities will include a variety of events -- indoors and out, via Zoom and in-person, with other local clubs or just us -- to involve all of you whether or not you are still local or at a distance, and observing Covid restrictions or out and about. See the "Save the Date" items in this newsletter on pages 3 & 4 to start making your plans.

Optional dues are payable for the '21-'22 season--use the slip on page 3 to remit them to Diane Elliott '69, Club Treasurer. We also appreciate articles for the newsletter--see Alexa Scanziani's '87 on page 2. Have you something to contribute?

Meantime the Board is conducting business as usual -- well, maybe not quite as usual. An Ad Hoc Bylaws Committee is concluding its work with recommendations to be discussed at our board meeting on December 1st. Stay tuned!

--Joyce Gleason '69, President



IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

PAGE 2: Spotlight on club member Alexa Scanziani '87, her family, and her gallery in downtown Sarasota.

PAGE 3: Info and registration slip for our November 10th program, "Don't Retire, Rewire." Luncheon and presentation by motivational speaker Jeri Sedlar on November 10th, Sarasota Yacht Club.

PAGE 4: Program notes for the rest of our 2021-2022 season.

PAGE 5: Mountain Day 2021 photos.

PAGE 6: Recap of the presentation by Dr. Darby Dyar on October 5th written by Leslie Farrand '77.

You're Invited to Board Meetings!

Any member is invited to attend Board meetings -- with "privileges of the floor", i.e., you may speak but not vote. Many past and current Board members have begun their involvement in this way. **Please let President Joyce Gleason '69 know at mhcswfl@gmail.com of your interest and she will provide details.**

WEBSITE <http://new.alumnae.mtholyoke.edu/swfl/>

EMAIL mhcswfl@gmail.com

Alexa Scanziani, Mount Holyoke College
Class of 1987
AlexArt International Art Gallery

Talk about life coming full circle! Time has flown by and before I knew it, my daughter turned 18 and is now a Freshwoman at Mount Holyoke College. Just like me, when I started my American journey in 1985 and was looking for something even more pioneering, inspiring, free-spirited, and inclusive than what I was experiencing in Milan (Italy) at the time.



Mount Holyoke College was a transformative and empowering experience that shaped my life. The recommendation of my unforgettable mentor – poet, scholar, and professor Peter Viereck – helped me earn admission to Harvard University, where I graduated in Soviet Studies just in time to witness and write about the collapse of the Soviet Union as a young reporter and photographer for the “New York Times” and “Il Corriere della Sera.” In 2002, my love for journalism and travels brought me together with Fabio Dal Boni, with whom I have two children -- a very promising junior tennis player and our Mount Holyoke Freshwoman (on the right in the photo at left).



In 2014, the family moved first to Tampa and then to Sarasota, where we founded the art gallery that carries my name. Fabio is the artist in residence and his works on aluminum are very much appreciated among art collectors because of their unearthly colors. They are the colors that he saw in his near-death experience in 2015. A miracle brought him back to life and inspired both his art and his memoirs “An Extra Life, 8 Minutes in Heaven with my Father” which is now to be published.



AlexArt International Art Gallery opened in May 2016 in Downtown Sarasota, next to the Opera House. After only a few seasons, it has established itself as a must-see art destination on the West Coast of Florida with its varied and dynamic roster of established Italian and American artists and its impressive offerings of exhibitions and private events. The gallery (www.alexartinternational.com) is located at 25 N. Pineapple Ave, Sarasota 34236. Hours: 10am-6pm



MOUNT HOLYOKE CLUB OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

“DON'T RETIRE, REWIRE!”

Luncheon and Presentation by Jeri Sedlar, Motivational Speaker

Wednesday, November 10, 2021 at 11:30 am

Sarasota Yacht Club

Jeri Sedlar is a motivational speaker, social researcher, and co-author of the nationally acclaimed book, Don't Retire, REWIRE! Third Edition. She is a master of retirement life planning and has earned the title of America's "rewiring" expert. She has interviewed hundreds of professionals, executives, entrepreneurs, partners and pre-retirees in all industries about their hopes, dreams and fears about the future. She has discovered both the pleasures and pain and possibilities and pitfalls associated with retirement.

Since the introduction of Don't Retire, REWIRE! in 2002 Jeri has been traveling the globe challenging individuals to get out of their own way and break through society's as well as their own individual "silver ceilings" to find the fun and fulfillment they deserve and desire at this life stage.

Her rewiring message has resonated across the globe from workshops in Dubai to keynotes in Dallas to interviews with traditional media both on air and on line. She writes a blog and as she says..."people are my passion and I want them to get their futures right!"



**We're joining GEMS, a women's group of Sarasota Yacht Club members, for the event.
Elizabeth Russell '70 is our host.**

The Sarasota Yacht Club is at 1100 John Ringling Blvd., Sarasota 34236. Luncheon is \$25 per person (see form below). Cash bar: all drinks \$10, please bring exact change. Annual Club dues are \$20, and may be paid with your reservation or in person at any of our Club's events. Send reservations and payments to Club Treasurer Diane Elliott at 10594 Alvarado Ct, Seminole, FL 33772, (phone 727-642-5354). Checks payable to "**Mount Holyoke Club of SW FL.**" Guests are welcome; just indicate name(s) on the form. **R.S.V.P. by Wednesday November 3rd.**

Note: Don't have a printer? Just replicate the info below on paper & mail it in with your payment.



Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 11:30 AM: Jeri Sedlar Luncheon & Lecture, Sarasota Yacht Club

Name: _____ Class: _____

Address: _____

Preferred Phone: _____ Email address: _____

Guest(s) Names(s): _____

2021-2022 Club Dues @ \$20 \$ _____

Luncheon ____ @ \$25 _____

TOTAL \$ _____

Cash bar: all drinks \$10.00, please bring exact change.

Mail to : Diane Elliott
10594 Alvarado Ct
Seminole, FL 33772

☐ I am new to the Club (attending for the first or second time).

☐ My contact information has changed. (Use reverse side to provide changes. Thank you!).

**MOUNT HOLYOKE CLUB OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA
2021-2022 PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

Program Chair Elizabeth Russell '70 is planning an exciting 2021-2022 season.
This is what we have in the works so far:

All events subject to change--check our Club website calendar for updates!

Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 11:30 am:

“Don’t Retire, Rewire!” Jeri Sedlar, motivational speaker. The 21st century retirement landscape has evolved and demands new and creative thinking. Luncheon at the Sarasota Yacht Club. Details and sign-up form on page 2.

December 2021:

Marietta Museum of Art and Whimsy, 2121 N. Tamiami Trail, Sarasota 34234. In-person private tour with optional lunch afterwards. Watch for sign up details in a separate flyer.

Thursday, January 20, 2022, 11:30 am:

The Smith Club of Sarasota has invited us for speaker and luncheon at Palm Aire Country Club, Sarasota, about **Unidos Now!**, an organization that prepares young area Latino students to engage in our community and be able to move on to traditional higher education. Sign up details in next newsletter.

February 2022:

“Optimize Your Vocal Health.” Stacie Steinke, MHC Class of 1982, speaker. Via Zoom.

March 2022:

The Wellesley Club is hosting. Date/time/location of this event TBD.

April 2022:

Sarasota Honey Company, an in-person private tour and presentation on bees, honey, agriculture, and beekeeping. Hands-on overview on hive inspection, how to wear beekeeping gear, and how to light a smoker. Hive inspection of an actual beehive: see the different levels of growth within the hive, identify types of bees, honey, pollen, and try to find the Queen Bee!



Please follow federal, state and local Covid guidelines.

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MOUNT HOLYOKE CLUB OF SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

MOUNTAIN DAY September 30, 2021



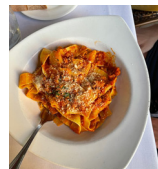
At Old Farmer's Creamery in St Petersburg, FL, Sept 30, 2021. Alums: Susan Tanner Holderness '69, host Susie Beers Betzer '65, Eleanor Tomb Cicerchi '66, and Katie Flachs Wojnowich '06—and families, including a potential member of the class of '42!

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At Cafe Epicure in Sarasota, host Elizabeth Russell '70, Georgia Walters '70, and Alexa Scanziani '87, and Alexa's husband and son. ----->



<-----Sarasota's version of ice cream--pacciuگو!



FIND YOUR PEOPLE!

The Mount Holyoke Alumnae Association has a wonderful **Alumnae Directory** where you can search for and connect with other alumnae. In your computer's search engine, type in "Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College Find Your People" and click to log in or register. If you need help, call the Association at 413-538-2300 during business hours.

In the "**Alumnae Search**" function, you can search by first name, last name, undergraduate last name, and year. Under advanced search, you can search by town, major and/or industry. If the alumna has posted the information, addresses, phone numbers, emails, education, and employment history are listed.

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In case you missed MHC Professsor DARBY DYAR's Presentation, "Looking for Life in our Solar System: A Mars-Earth-Venus Comparison"

On October 5th Mount Holyoke Club of Southwest Florida hosted a spectacular presentation by Dr. Darby Dyer on the search for life on other planets. The Zoom meeting was attended by close to 60 people, including MHC alumnae from classes of 1950–2021, as well as guests from Yale, Wellesley and Smith Clubs.

Dr. Dyer provided a fascinating overview of astronomy today, a field growing in allure for many students. 25% of the class of 2025 is enrolled in Dr. Dyer's three classes and this interest is also manifested in the worldwide growth of countries conducting their own explorations, as well as many noteworthy individual enterprises.



Dr. Darby Dyer

Much of this exploration centers on exoplanets--earthlike planets orbiting a distant star. Focusing on those planets within our own solar system- Venus, Earth and Mars- Dr. Darby went on to explain some of the similarities between the three planets. First, is the habitable zone, or the distance from the Sun. Next is the presence of water, which is critical for the evolution of life. One billion years ago, Venus was full of water, which over time evaporated. The Sun, exhaling solar wind-charged particles, breaks down water and leaves carbon dioxide, known to trap heat. Over time the temperature on Venus rose to 740 degrees Kelvin--hotter than an oven.

Dr. Dyer is involved in NASA's Veritas Discovery Program which is a robotic mission to explore the hell-hot planet. Her team at Mount Holyoke has actually created one of the robotic components on this mission to assess the loss of water and resultant heat. The results may help provide a better understanding of Earth's global warming patterns and expectations as our temperatures continue to increase.

Mount Holyoke also contributed to the Curiosity Rover on Mars, which was partially built in the basement of Shattuck, now part of Kendade Hall, the nexus of the Mount Holyoke College Science Center. Today's Perseverance rover is caching samples which will hopefully indicate microbial life some time during 300 million years on Mars. Test tubes will be collected with rock samples contained in an "Easter Egg" to be retrieved in 10-20 years. Dendritic drainage patterns have been observed similar to those in the Mississippi River, and reservoirs of water/ice are still present.

There is evidence of geological and astronomical processes throughout the Solar System which suggests possibility of life beyond Earth. So, are we really alone? Can life hitch rides on meteorites? Is God the only source of life? Dr. Dyer believes that this generation will see answers!

by Leslie Farrand '77



Curiosity Rover ---->

