After several months of soliciting ideas, Staff Council has a new graphic mark and motto. Thank you to everyone who helped choose the winners by voting at the recent HR Benefits Fair. The new Staff Council motto is Your Smith Connection. Thanks to Deb Letourneau for submitting this suggestion. The graphic mark that had the most votes was designed by Ashavan Doyan and is pictured here. It will be used as an identifier for Staff Council-related events. Thank you to everyone who submitted ideas—and to the Communications Committee for working on this project over the last few months.

NEW TO THE ONLINE GALLERY THIS MONTH ARE WATERCOLORS BY GUEST ARTIST Sabina Knight. Sabina is an Associate Professor of Chinese and Comparative Literature. More of her watercolors can be viewed at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/09.

Meetings
All staff are welcome to attend meetings or serve as a non-voting member on a committee. Check the Staff Council Web site for information on meeting dates, times, and locations. The minutes from Council meetings can also be found online at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil.

NOTICE: The next issue of the Chronicle Monthly will be published and distributed in February 2010.

Upcoming Events

December 8 (Tuesday) Cookies & Hot Chocolate
2:00 to 4:00 p.m., Campus Center Carroll Room. Come join us for some holiday cheer!

January 9 (Saturday) Winter Afternoon at the Movies
1:00 p.m., Stoddard Hall Auditorium. Join us to see Up, the award-winning movie created by Pixar Animation Studios.

March 23 (Tuesday) Book and Media Exchange
Drop-off days are March 18, 19, and 22. You may bring books, videos or CDs to the Campus Center in exchange for points to redeem toward items from other staff. Volunteers are needed for accepting items on the drop-off days. Contact us at staffactivities@smith.edu.

Do you have an idea for a staff activity? Contact the Activities Committee at staffactivities@smith.edu.

Pet Portraits Exhibit
The recent Pet Portraits Exhibit at the Nolen Arts Lounge in the Campus Center was a great success. The exhibition, curated by Amanda Hill ’10, was a whimsical look at pets owned by staff and faculty. Fifty-seven Smith employees exhibited pictures of over one-hundred pets. Most were cats and dogs, but horses, donkeys, and birds were also on display. There was such an overwhelming positive response to the exhibit, that there is already talk of making it a yearly tradition. Amanda will be graduating this year, so perhaps Staff Council will be willing to organize the event next year. Thank you, Amanda, for organizing this wonderful exhibit!
Welcome Yule: A Midwinter Celebration
December 11-13, Welcome Yule: A Midwinter Celebration, Shea Theater, Turners Falls, MA. www.welcomeyule.org

Twenty-five years ago, a small group of Valley residents began celebrating the return of the sunlight at midwinter with music, dance, songs and stories. A reunion cast of adults and children, plus a few newcomers, brings this year’s 25th anniversary performance to the Shea Theater for three days in December. The show will feature many of the all-time favorite songs from years past, including the Glouchestershire Wassail and Lord of the Dance, as well as dancing of all kinds (spooky, serious, and riotous), a mummers play, and stories for all ages.

Artistic Director Jinny Mason (Neilson Library) selected the songs and stories for this year’s show. “From the first time I saw the show, in 1989, I wanted to be part of it. My kids grew up in Welcome Yule. It’s been a passion for me for nineteen years.” In creating this year’s show, Mason thought about the music, ideas, and joyful community effort that have made cast and audience members return year after year to celebrate together.

Holiday Magic
Saturday, December 12, 7:00 p.m., Greenfield High School Auditorium, Greenfield. www.pvso.org
Performed by the Pioneer Valley Symphony (Paul Phillips, Conductor) and featuring the Amherst Ballet Theatre Company (Catherine Fair, Director). Pam Skinner (Neilson Library) will be performing in this production. She has played viola with the Pioneer Valley Symphony Orchestra for over twenty years. Works on this program include “Dreams of a Winter Journey” (first movement of Symphony No. 1 by Tchaikovsky), “The Polar Express” (Silvestri), and “Chopiniana”, a ballet to the suite “Les Sylphides” (Chopin).

Hollyberry Fair
Saturday, December 5, 2009, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Trinitarian Congregational Church, 147 Main Street, Northfield, MA. Jan Morris (Student Affairs, Wellness Office) will be exhibiting at this craft fair. “I’ll be selling gift boxes and singles of greeting cards, as well as photography and collage. My Web site is www.janniejoyart.com.” You can also view some of Jan’s photos on the Staff Council Online Gallery at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/09.

It’s a Wonderful Death with the Comical Mystery Tour
Tuesday, December 29th, seating 6:00-6:15 p.m., Hukelau Restaurant, 705 Memorial Drive, Chicopee, MA. (413) 593-5222. Jan Morris (Student Affairs, Wellness Office) will be performing in this comical, musical, murder mystery dinner theatre. Call for reservations/prices. www.comicalmysterytour.com

The Chronicle Monthly is paid for by the Smith College Staff Council and is published by and for Smith College staff. To join the 12% of your co-workers who have opted out of receiving a printed version of this newsletter, see the panel at right. An electronic version of the Chronicle is available at www.smith.edu/staffcouncil/chronicle.

Staff Council encourages submission of announcements, photos, and event listings for publication in this newsletter and/or online. Staff Council and the editorial staff reserve the right to edit submitted material for purposes of clarity or length. All rights reserved.

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EDITORS:
Chris Gentes cgentes@smith.edu ext. 2600
Angela Tosca atosca@smith.edu ext. 2683

CREATIVE ADVISOR: Ken Molnar

PROOFREADERS: Carla Cooke, Marti Hobbes, Mimi Lempart

Neilson Library illustration by Chris Gentes