

Hub Club News

A Newsletter for Wheaton College Alumnae and Alumni

In the Greater Boston Area

Summer 2008

Upcoming Events

Vibrant Reflections, a show featuring Wheaton alumnae artists Kristin Ford '07 and Hailey O'Donnell '07, will be featured at New Civilitea, 318 Derby Street, Salem MA, **August 1-Sept. 14**. Meet the artists at the opening reception on Friday, August 1st, 6:30-8:30pm. This exquisite show is nature at its best ... rugged shoreline and turbulent sky. Using nature to tell a story, both artists conjure up visions of "Vibrant Reflection." Although inspired by travels to Ireland, it is their own backyard of New England that has shaped their vision. *Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8am-6pm, Sat.-Sun. 9am-5pm*

Join the Greater Boston Wheaton Club for a **pre-Red Sox game event on September 25**. Meet up with Red Sox ticket lottery winners and other Boston area alums on the second floor of The Baseball Tavern at 1270 Boylston Street, www.thebaseballtavern.com. The fun starts at 5 P.M. Come and hang out with Wheaton friends before the game – free appetizers/cash bar – and then watch the Sox battle the Indians on the Tavern's many hi-def big screen TVs.

Save the Date! On November 13, 2008, the GBWC and the Wheaton Alumnae/i Association will sponsor a **cocktail reception and faculty lecture** at the Downtown Harvard Club of Boston, One Federal Street. We're still recruiting the faculty speaker, but this is sure to be a festive and informative event. Check the Wheaton and GWBC Web sites for updates.

Save the Date! Homecoming Weekend and the Alumnae/i Leadership Conference at Wheaton is October 17-18....don't miss it!

A Walking Tour— The Flat of Beacon Hill

This 90-minute tour pays homage to one of Boston's least known and most delightful neighbourhoods. Built on made land in the 19th century, this intimate patch of real estate soon acquired carriage houses and stables for the horses of wealthy families living on the Hill. Today, charmingly converted residences blend seamlessly with such landmarks as the Charles Street Meeting House, the Church of the Advent, and the "Sunflower Castle." The stately Hampshire House—home of *Cheers*—adds a note of celebrity. (The Flat is where it's at!) After the tour, we will view a private garden.

Saturday, September 20, 2008, 11 a.m.
Tickets are \$12.60 per person.
Meet outside Savenor's Market,
160 Charles Street, Boston.

Send a check, made payable to **Boston By Foot**, to: Margy Bratschi, 780 Boylston Street, Apt. 4E, Boston, MA 02199. Please include your telephone and email. **Checks must be received by Monday, September 15.**

Questions? Contact Margy at 617-973-6170 (w), 617-236-0204 (h), or margbratschi@yahoo.com.

RECENT GRADS! Connect with fellow alums and get late-breaking event info – join the Wheaton College Young Alumni of Boston Facebook group!

Featured Alum: Margaret Bratschi '78

By Cynthia Rodday '92

The Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women recently celebrated the contributions of women in the Commonwealth. Margaret Bratschi '78 was one of this year's honorees.

"Our Unsung Heroines are women who don't make the news, but make the difference in their communities, businesses, or volunteer endeavors," stated Linda Brantley, MCSW Executive Director, in an official press release. Elizabeth Charney and Gretchen Grozier, docents for Boston By Foot, each nominated Margy for this special citation. Gretchen states Margy "has always been an inspiration to me—just her breadth of knowledge, her commitment and her capacity are astonishing." Margy also received a special certificate from Mayor Thomas M. Menino.

After graduating from Wheaton with a degree in Biology, Margy attended the University of Cincinnati where she earned a M.A. in Speech Pathology. How did this biology major find a career as a law librarian? Her career choice is understandable since her mother was one of the earliest computer-engineering librarians in the country and a docent at Valley Forge. After graduate school, Margy found a paralegal position at a Boston law firm. Soon she pursued a law librarian position. While working full time, Margy earned her M.S. in Library & Information Science at Simmons College. She now serves as Library Director at Posternak, Blankstein & Lund LLP. She is also a member of the Association of Boston Law Librarians. During her spare time, Margy is a docent at numerous institutions—the Boston Athenaeum, Boston Public Library, John Adams Courthouse, and Boston By Foot—delivering commentary on various Boston landmarks.

Margy is widely recognized for her work at Boston By Foot, a nonprofit educational organization. Docents must fulfill strict requirements prior to full-time status including five-hour sessions, on five consecutive Saturdays; four research papers; as well as a two-part final exam. In her nomination of

Margy, Elizabeth Charney wrote, "Margaret has a natural ability to be a team player, a mentor and teacher...Margaret has given tours to 200,000 people and trained at least 1,200 docents" during the 20 years she has volunteered at Boston By Foot.

Further exemplifying Margy's commitment to Boston By Foot, she regularly contributes to tour manuals. She co-authored the following manuals: *Bulfinch Birthday Bash* (1998), *Literary Landmarks: A Walking Tour of Literary Boston in Victorian Times* (2000), and *The Financial District* (2001). Manuals she researched and wrote exclusively include *Oliver Wendell Holmes* (1988), *Harvard Yard* (2003), and *The Dark Side of Boston* (2008). John Morrison, a friend and colleague from Boston By Foot, states "She is personable, reliable and knowledgeable—a quiet and confident leader. [Though raised a Philadelphian,] she has become a Boston treasure. I am truly enriched by knowing her, as we all are."

On September 20, 2008, Margy will give a special Walking Tour of the Flat of Beacon Hill to the Greater Boston Wheaton Club. Look for more information on the club's Web site as the date approaches.

As the Greater Boston Wheaton Club's Club Coordinator since 1998, she regularly attends GBWC events. Many lucky lottery winners of Wheaton's Night at Fenway Park have greeted Margy to obtain passage into Fenway Park. Ironically, she has never attended a Boston Red Sox game!

Recognized at last for her volunteerism, perhaps we can finally convince our Unsung Heroine to attend a Boston Red Sox game. At the very least, we should persuade her to take a Walking Tour of Fenway Park. What better way to cement Margy's knowledge of Boston history than a guided tour of one of America's most beloved ballparks?

El Greco to Velazquez: Wheaton Tours the MFA

On June 11, the Greater Boston Wheaton Club, together with the Wheaton College Alumnae/i Association and the Wheaton Friends of Art, hosted a very special event at the Boston Museum of Fine Arts.

Following a reception at the School of the Museum of Fine Arts, Evelyn Staudinger Lane, Associate Professor of Art History at Wheaton, spoke about the exhibit on view that evening: *El Greco to Velázquez: Art during the Reign of Philip III*.

Professor Lane walked us through the exhibit via a wonderful PowerPoint presentation. She provided the audience with an excellent background of the times, pointed out specific items to look for, and recommended various ways to view complementary works. It was great fun to be in the gallery looking a painting, turning 180 degrees to study a similar theme by a different artist, and notice other people doing the same thing.

The exhibit featured paintings, sculpture, and decorative arts organized around themes such as portraiture, religion and the court, and the genesis of still life paintings.

Greater Boston Wheaton Club Planning Committee

Margy Bratschi '78, *Coordinator*
Melissa Namiot Mader '88, *Treasurer*
Marion Heller '88, *Newsletter Editor*
Kristin Sarkisian '96, *Newsletter Editor*
Karen Medugno '98, *Filene Center Liaison*
Cindy Rodday '92, *Webmaster*
John Sharry '06, *NESCAC Plus Liaison*

Committee Members: Sandra Sable Gilpatrick '95, Jessica Benjamin '99, Jennifer Bradley '92, Renee Poutre '88, Kate Andrews '04
Wheaton Liaisons: Heather Corbett '86 and Ryan Parker '01

E-mail Updates and Club Dues

To receive occasional e-mail regarding upcoming Wheaton events in the Boston area, subscribe to the GWBC listserv. To **subscribe**, write to either Cindy Rodday '92 at **clrodday@yahoo.com** or Melissa Mader '88 at **melotmar@comcast.net** and either of them will add you to the list! ***This is the only way to find out about GWBC events that don't make our publication deadline so don't be left out!***

Annual dues are *only* \$10 and all dues support the events we plan! Please make dues checks out to The Greater Boston Wheaton Club and sent to: Melissa Mader, 43 Carpenter St., Rehoboth, MA 02769. Thank you!