

Hub Club News

A Newsletter for Wheaton College Alumnae and Alumni
in the Greater Boston Area



Summer 2006



RED SOX FEVER!

The GBWC sold out of Sox tickets again this year! As we can only obtain a limited amount of tickets, in order to fairly award tickets to the more than 600 alums who request them, we instituted a raffle format this year. The GBWC wants to recognize Renee Poutre '88, who works extremely hard every year in order to organize this event. While it is disappointing that not everyone can receive tickets, we know that our alums recognize that Renee volunteers for this assignment and is handling an enormous amount of responsibility making this event possible. We thank her for her continued help and willingness to volunteer in this capacity! So let's have some fun and PLAY BALL!

Look for alums in the stands at the following games:

August 1st: Boston vs. Cleveland Indians

August 14th: Boston vs. Detroit Tigers

September 5th: Boston vs. Chicago White Sox

NESCAC UPDATE

By Sandra Sable '95, NESCAC Plus Liaison

Wheaton and Williams Colleges co-hosted a fun happy hour for the NESCAC Plus group on June 8th. Paul Holian '93, owner of The Place, gave our group private space and appetizers for the event. We had alums that spanned from the 80's to some recent alums from the classes of 2000's. It was a great way to reunite with Wheaties in the Boston area!

Greater Boston Wheaton Club Planning Committee

Margy Bratschi '78, *Coordinator*
Melissa Namiot Mader '88, *Treasurer*
Jessica Benjamin '99, *Newsletter Editor*
Susan Looney '87, *File Center Liaison*
Cindy Rodday '92, *Webmaster*
Sandra Sable '95, *NESCAC Plus Liaison*

Committee Members: Jennifer Bradley '92,
Liz Bates Cellucci '86, Diana Delaney '95,
Patti Harrington Allan '95 S'92, Jessica
Martin '04, Renee Poutre '88, Kristin
Sarkisian '96, Erin Sehnal '02 *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 Melissa.a.mader@veritude.com and either of them will add you to the list! ***This is the only way to find out about young alum events and other GWBC events that don't make our publication deadline so don't be left out!***

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

Featured Alum: Carol Dine '65

By Jessica Benjamin '99

Initially I was quite nervous about interviewing Carol Dine. Her emotional and honest memoir, Places in the Bone, had awed me and I wanted to make sure I did the author justice in my interview. I thought long and hard about questions I wanted to ask. But in the end it was Red Sox that broke the ice. After our initial introduction, I questioned how much time she had so I wouldn't keep her too long. She replied, "As long as I don't miss the opening pitch for the Sox game, I have as much time as you need." With a response like that, I knew that we would have a great conversation!

While at Wheaton, Carol majored in European History with a concentration (equivalent to a minor) in English. While Professor Knapton was her favorite teacher, at Wheaton because of his passion of French history, English classes were her favorite subject. I asked Carol if English was her favorite, why did she not start writing until her 30's. She explained that because of her childhood and upbringing, her creative self had been stifled. The thought of writing poetry and sharing it with classmates was terrifying to her.

Carol Dine wrote her first poem at the age of thirty and in essence hasn't stopped writing since. She explained that writing for her is therapeutic, helping her through an abusive childhood, a strained relationship with her son and three bouts of cancer. These are all topics she reveals in her book, Places in the Bone. After reading her book you know intimate parts of her life, to which she describes that since the publication, the book has become a part of her life, not her entire life. Carol further explains that there is life beyond cancer and abuse. She has moved onto to believe that she is a survivor, teacher and writer.

Carol is a professor of creative and memoir writing at Suffolk University in Boston. She enjoys teaching memoir because it allows her to see her student's wider story. Memoir writing is about language and image, not only confession, as poetry sometimes can be. While

she uses her own book to illustrate examples of memoir writing, she encourages her students to think of their own lives and what inspires them.

Outside of teaching, Carol attends writing retreats, which she says have been extremely helpful. The ability to get away from her daily routine and totally focus on writing allows her creativity to stay in peak form. Sharing with other writers, artists and musicians gives her a chance to not only work on her new work but also explore other mediums. Because writing isn't linear, there are no guarantees regarding what a writer produces. Before publishing her work she wrote poetry, but with her books she feels validated as a writer. Carol states that she writes because it's like breathing; it's who she is. Regardless of if she had been published, she would have kept writing.

Carol's current project is writing a manuscript in the voice of Vincent Van Gogh. With a grant, she was able to go to the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam to view the original letters the artist wrote to family and friends. From this experience she was able to create a collection of poetry reflecting Van Gogh's voice to describe his process of creating his artwork.

Carol Dine is an extremely busy, successful and happy alumna. With two books of poetry and a candid memoir published, Carol is looking forward to the publication of her new manuscript. She continues to speak at cancer awareness events, giving personal accounts of her own battles with breast and bone cancer. Carol feels that Wheaton gave her a sense of self by intellectually stimulating her. She also is proud to say the Wheaton taught her the value of friendships. My time spent talking with Carol was enjoyable, enlightening and most importantly, we got done in time for the start of the baseball game!

For more information please visit:

<http://placesinthebone.com/caroldine/>