

**Mount Holyoke College Class of 1964**  
*After the Middle Ages Comes the Renaissance!*  
**Reunion 2019: Class History**

**Alumnae Association Meeting**

**1964 CLASS HISTORY**

**55th REUNIION 2018**

**WHEN WE ARRIVED ON CAMPUS:**

In 1960, life on campus was very much as it had been in the 1950's. The college took its "in loco parentis" responsibilities very seriously, and we lived in a lovely cocoon, sheltered on this beautiful campus. Dorms had house mothers and curfews, and we were expected to wear skirts to dinner. Twice a week we had gracious living, including candlelight, and on Friday afternoons, house mothers served tea from silver tea services.

The Cold War was a fact of life, but did not seem to affect us.

**HISTORICAL EVENTS:**

John F. Kennedy was elected in November, 1960. We were thrilled by his inaugural exhortation "Ask not what your country can do for you, but what you can do for your country," and many of us felt called to a life of public service.

In 1962 came the Cuban missile crisis. Nuclear missiles had been discovered in Cuba, and the US seemed on the brink of nuclear war with the Soviet Union. It was a terrifying week before a negotiated disarmament was reached.

On November 22, 1963, President Kennedy was assassinated. None of us will forget where we were that day. We sat glued to the one television in each dorm, watching as the nation mourned and a riderless horse marched slowly down Pennsylvania Avenue.

The role of women was changing dramatically. The Pill became available in 1960 (although only to married women). Betty Friedan came to campus to read from *The Feminine Mystique*.

## **IN OUR FREE TIME:**

We played bridge in the dorms after meals, and spent a lot of time at Glessies, the coffee shop/pharmacy/bookshop presided over by Romeo Grenier. We loved Romeo so much that we asked him to be an honorary member of our class.

We biked and walked around campus. Three times around Upper Lake with a favorite boyfriend meant you were sure to marry him.

Ellen Manfredonia Nutter  
1964 Class President









