

Graduates Association

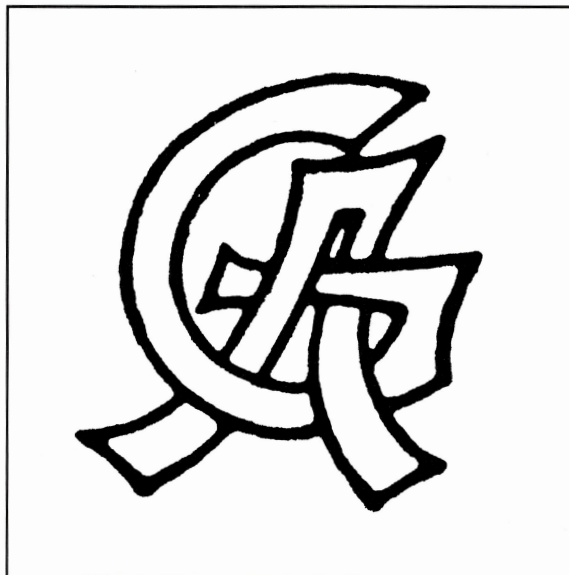
A BRIDGE TO THE FUTURE

by Sarah Magavern Donaldson '79

The year of 1995 marks a transition for the Buffalo Seminary and its alumnae activities. It is the year in which Graduates Association graciously steps down from one hundred nineteen years of service as the school's alumnae organization. Replacing Graduates will be an open alumnae organization that is without dues and extends membership to anyone who has attended The Buffalo Seminary for at least one year and left in good standing.

Graduates Association was initially founded in response to an invitation sent in 1876 by the Board of Trustees to all alumnae to meet to help organize "a proper celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the School." According to Minerva Abbott Noyes, Class of 1855 and first president of Graduates, seventy women of "character, individuality, and ideas" responded "in obedience to this summons, ...and almost before we knew it we were a regularly formed Association." Working with "much merriment, good will and vigor" for four months, they organized an immensely successful silver anniversary celebration that lasted for 1 1/2 days. Although their work was officially over on June 7, 1876, when the ceremonies closed with *Auld Lang Syne* (the last two verses of which were improvised by Dr. Chester), the women were not ready to disband. So a few

days later, at what should have been one of their last meetings, they voted to remain a permanent society and decided that their society should be "literary in



character and that our aims should be to promote the interests of the school." Thus, Graduates Association was born.

Graduates Association has touched the life Buffalo Seminary and each of its graduates in countless ways. It built two chapter houses; bought the Bidwell property on which the school presently stands; raised more than half the amount necessary to build the school; built an addition to the school that included an art studio, gymnasium and West-Chester Hall; and contributed to the purchase of the Larkin property. Graduates

Association also established the Graduates Scholarship, which is given to an incoming student every four years. In addition, it established the Graduates Supper, which honors the current graduating class and reunion classes. And throughout its history, it has sponsored education programs for its members, providing in its early years a broad range of continuing education courses for its membership.

Graduates Association, *semper fidelis*, always striving to promote the interests of the school, has recognized that the best way to serve the school now is to make room for a new association, The Buffalo Seminary Alumnae Association. But The Buffalo Seminary and its family will be forever rich because of the traditions and contributions of Graduates Association. Join The Buffalo Seminary in remembering the history of Graduates Association and the memories it has created for the School and in thanking Graduates Association for its steadfast loyalty and support for, lo, these many years.



1876

Graduates Association was formed to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the School.

Graduates Association

Graduates Association and Board of Trustees. Nine years later, Graduates Association assisted in the acquisition and furnishing of Larkin House.

1976

The Candle Sale project of Graduates Association was started. This fundraising effort helped support in the past the Graduates Association and The Buffalo Seminary. The Candle Sale will continue to be held by the new alumnae organization in order to preserve the Graduates Association Scholarship.

1990

Graduates Association sponsored Semtiques, an antiques auction which raised \$25,000 to benefit

the School.

1994

Board representatives of Graduates Association participated on the Buffalo Seminary's strategic planning subcommittee for alumnae affairs. The charge of this subcommittee was to assess the effectiveness of Graduates Association in meeting the current needs of the school and its alumnae.

1995

The Board of Graduates Association voted to dissolve the organization in order to support the formation of a new alumnae association for The Buffalo Seminary. Graduates is sure that the new alumnae association will

continue to "promote the interests of the school" with as much "merriment, good will and vigor" as it has.



Members of the Class of 1995—the Alumnae Association's newest members

Presidents of Graduates Association

1876-88	Minerva Abbott Noyes '55	1923-25	Mary McWilliams Reed '91	1959-61	Madeleine Breinig Reid '33
1888-90	Alice Hopkins Gardner '59	1925-28	Elsa James Garvin '00	1961-62	Elizabeth Trevor Fernbach '32
1890-91	Charlotte Lockwood Wright '63	1928-29	Millicent White Pierce '16	1962-63	Katherine Noble Fairbairn '??
1891-92	Mary Tiffit Plimpton '59	1929-31	Carrie Benson Bush '92	1963-64	Eleanor Fairbairn Heckman '38
1892-93	Charlotte Mulligan '63	1931-32	Charlotte Guild Zink '00	1964-65	Aline de la Plante Lenahan '32
1893-94	Harriet M. Buck '86	1932-34	Isabel Morey Eames '92	1965-66	Barbara Jane Dold Downey '32
1894-95	Charlotte Lockwood Wright '63	1934-36	Marion McNulty Dillon '22	1966-67	Janice Roberts Fretz '49
1895-96	Elizabeth Gowans Hopkins '62	1936-37	Margaret Russell Sheldon '12	1967-68	Amy Armitage Campbell '25
1896-97	Alice Hopkins Gardner '59	1937-38	Helen Coatsworth Osborn '10	1968-70	Elizabeth Parker Sanders '48
1897-99	Charlotte Lockwood Wright '63	1938-39	Florence Knox Oliver '20	1970-71	Dorothy Doane Scott '26
1899-00	Jeannette Swan Ward '82	1939-40	Dorothy Lipp House '15	1971-73	Bette Treiber Boeckel '41
1900-01	Lucy Lynde Hartt '63	1940-41	Mary Hutchison Hopkins '18	1973-75	Mary Elizabeth Bayliss Oshei '38
1901-03	Jeannette Swan Ward '82	1941-43	Frances Farnham Sweet '14	1975-76	Dorothy Doane Scott '26
1903-04	Elizabeth Lewis Preston '80	1943-44	Sally Preston Hemenway '09	1976-78	Martha Heintz Chmiel '86
1904-06	Kate Tremon Bush '66	1944-46	Florence Knox Oliver '20	1978-80	Margaret Miller Wincenc '35
1906-07	Isabel Morey Eames '92	1946-47	Evelyn Klune Thayer '19	1980-81	Ruth de la Plante Simons '28
1907-08	Emily Newman Walbridge '72	1947-48	Josephine Meisner Waterman '26	1981-82	Ann Upson Porter '30
1908-10	Josephine Wilhelm Hard '91	1948-49	Margaret Pooley Browne '16	1982-83	Barbara Cowan Hyde '43
1910-11	Elizabeth Dickson Young '66	1949-50	Hannah Brock Falk '21	1983-85	Katherine Crandell Bassett '50
1911-14	Mary McWilliams Reed '91	1950-51	Angeline Hayes Barney '17	1985-87	Nancy Lenhart Cecilia '43
1914-17	Carrie Benson Bush '92	1951-52	Helen Coatsworth Osborn '10	1987-89	Catherine Flickinger Schweitzer '71
1917	Edith Ovens Danforth '91	1952-53	Sally Preston Hemenway '09	1989-91	Elizabeth Reed Dann '52
1917-18	Kate Barton Conover '68	1953-54	Dorothy Lipp House '15	1991-93	Brigitte Barrell '75
1918-20	Grace Hendee Mitchell '89	1954-55	Constance M. Fuller '12	1993-95	Memo Oshei '74
1920-22	Elizabeth MacNeil Olmsted '98	1955-57	Elizabeth Doran Fisk '28	1995-	Sarah Magavern Donaldson '79
1922-23	Alma White O'Brian '94	1957-59	Louise Montgomery Kurtz '23		