August 2019

Dear Alumnae:

Our alma mater is flourishing! The celebration of Chatham Hall’s 125th anniversary, which started on Charter Day in February 2019, continues through Charter Day 2020. Especially exciting is the arrival of our new rector. The investiture ceremony for Rachel Connell will be held Oct. 18, 2019. This year, Chatham Hall will welcome another remarkable woman to campus for the Polly Wheeler Guth ’44 Leader in Residence program—award winning historian Doris Kearns Goodwin. Reunion will be held May 1-3, 2020. We encourage alumnae of all years, not only those ending in -0 and -5 to join us on campus.

It’s not just that Chatham Hall is demonstrating its longevity—it’s also poised for a strong future. This year, Chatham Hall’s enrollment is robust. The dorms on the second story of Yardley Hall, renovated and occupied in 2018-2019 for the first time in decades, were dedicated as the Suzanne Walker Buck Wing during the May 2019 reunion. As always, the greatest strength of Chatham Hall is its student body—engaged, smart, creative, resourceful, caring and athletic young women who are doing amazing things.

While the school is constantly changing to deliver relevant, cutting edge education, Chatham Hall’s commitment to integrity, personal responsibility and ethical standards, embedded in the Honor Code and Purple and Golden Rule, is still at the heart of, well, the school’s “heart.”

We’re entering the fourth year of our five-year innovative Strategic Plan, titled “Empowering Girls to Better the World.” We are continuing to engage girls locally and globally. Chatham Hall adopted the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals, joining entities around the world to commit to these significant values and practices, including the Episcopal Church of the United States of America. You can find a copy here. (Indeed, the school has already had many significant, exciting changes since my daughter graduated in 2014!) Several special programs proposed by students, such as the Global Certificate and Maker Space, are becoming realities.

I encourage you to join Chatham Hall Connect, if you have not already. (There’s a link to do so at the upper right-hand side of this page.) And, if you have joined, please post photos and news to this social media platform specifically for Chatham Hall alumnae. You can also stay abreast of school news by following Chatham Hall and Chatham Hall Alumnae on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, in addition to checking the website: www.chathamhall.org.

As an alumna, you are automatically a member of the Alumnae Association. The Alumnae Council is the smaller group whose officers serve both organizations. This year, we have 30 members, ranging from the Class of 1958 to the Class of 2014! These intelligent, creative, energetic and giving women engage with our alma mater, helping to stay connected with our classmates and the alumnae body. It’s a lot of fun, not just to meet other alumnae but also to stay in touch with the excitement and energy on campus. The Alumnae Council meets on campus twice each year. Year-round, we work to promote the school’s legacy and future with the goal of encouraging all alumnae to support and promote Chatham Hall.

I am honored to serve as your Alumnae Council President, and I hope you will join us in supporting Chatham Hall as we honor our past and embrace our future.

Esto Perpetua,

Pace Cooke Emmons ’77 P’14

P.S. I welcome your suggestions, feedback and questions. My email address is pacemail01@gmail.com.