



Blue Ridge Chapter

Wellesley College Alumnae Association

ALAN SCHECHTER FEATURED SPEAKER FOR WELLESLEY COLLEGE BLUE RIDGE CLUB'S SPRING MEETING AT THE MILLER CENTER PUBLIC FORUM

The Blue Ridge Club of the Wellesley Alumnae Association announces its spring meeting on April 7, 2006 at 11:00 a.m., that we will cosponsor with the Univ. of Virginia's Miller Center Forum of Public Affairs, to bring you a talk by Wellesley College's own Alan Schechter. Alan Schechter has been a professor at Wellesley for 44 years, and former Chair of the Political Science department. He was appointed Professor Emeritus at Wellesley in 2003. Alan continues to direct Wellesley's Washington Internship Program in D.C. and teaches a course entitled "Washington Decision-Making". (Many of us had him as a political science professor at Wellesley, where he taught for 44 years). The talk will be held at the Miller Center at 2201 Old Ivy Road, Charlottesville, VA 22904-4406.

The Miller Center also is hosting a luncheon to honor Alan and the local Wellesley Club following his speech and to give us the opportunity to talk one on one with Alan. We are accepting reservations to the luncheon, **for which space is quite limited, on a first come, first served basis**, so please, give me a call or email **today** to get your reservation in! If we are oversubscribed for lunch, we will notify those we are unable to accept. These events are free – so please make an effort to come and give Alan a great turnout!

Alan will discuss whether soft power can be an effective instrument of diplomacy in the current global environment. He spent nine years on the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board, and is an expert on public diplomacy. President Clinton appointed him to the Board in 1994 for a three year term, and he was reappointed in 1997 and again in 2000. He served as vice chairman and chairman of the Fulbright Program from 1997-2001. Alan has published several books and numerous articles, and has received many honors for research and teaching during his career, including awards from the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Institute of Mental Health and the Ford Foundation, among others.

The Miller Center Forums are open to the public and we are expecting this to be a packed house. Wellesley alums that have made reservations will be seated together in the front rows of the forum. Our club also has invited the local Smith College Club to this forum in a joint spring meeting, so we should have quite an interesting discussion.

We hope to see you there. It should be great fun! Please let us know if you can attend (by return email or call) to save a place for the Forum and/or lunch. Let us know if you want to share, or need, transportation. RSVP Email: pbeaz@earthlink.net.

Please fill out the form on the last page even if you cannot attend the Forum and send it to Jean with your email address as that enables us to send these notices by email (free!) rather than by post. You will get them faster and it keeps our expenses down. If you do not have email, please send us your current mailing address to avoid returned mail. Since it is dues time again, please mail your dues check to Jean Minehart payable to the Blue Ridge Wellesley Club at the address on the last page.

CLUB NEWS AND WELLESLEY UPDATES

BLUE RIDGE WELLESLEY CLUB BOOK AWARD SPONSORS SOUGHT

Each year, the Blue Ridge Wellesley Club sponsors book awards at local high schools. The awards are given to young women in their junior year with outstanding academic potential and a strong record of community service. In addition to honoring these excellent women, the program helps Wellesley identify worthy potential applicants and more generally strengthens Wellesley's ties to high schools in our area. Last year, our club awarded books at nineteen schools in Charlottesville, Lynchburg, and the Shenandoah Valley. Book award winners receive a lovely copy of *The Norton Book of Women's Lives* in a special blue dust jacket with the Wellesley seal. A list of the 2005 Book Award recipients, who graduate this spring, is included at the end of the newsletter.

The book award program is currently our club's most significant expense, and so we are seeking individual alumnae to sponsor books for area schools. Sponsors are recognized with a card inside the award book. If you would like to sponsor an award, please send a check for \$17.00 made out to the Blue Ridge Wellesley Club to Jean Minehart, 1714 Yorktown Drive, Charlottesville, VA 22901. Include with your check your name, year of graduation from Wellesley, address, and school preference (if you have a preference). Questions? E-mail Marianne Montgomery, Book Award Chair, at mmontgomery@virginia.edu.

OFFICER ELECTIONS/PARTICIPATION

It's the time of year when we fill our officer positions to keep our Club running smoothly. Realizing the hectic lives we all seem to lead, we would like a number of people who can fill each of our committee and officer positions to make each of the jobs less time consuming. We are in short supply for officers. If you are able to offer *any* time, perhaps to share an office, it would be greatly appreciated. If you can assist in a college fair, in giving a book award to your local high school, creating newsletters or rounding up newsworthy articles, conducting an interview with a prospective student or assuming a position of leadership as an officer, we have a place and roles, large and small, for everyone who can help out. We will elect new officers and also amend our antiquated Bylaws at our spring meeting.

CLUB IDEAS – WE NEED YOUR INPUT

We have been working hard to figure out ways to revitalize our Club and to make it what our members want. Some of our thoughts range from a book club, a member activities column in our newsletter, a local Mother's network, potluck dinners and bring your favorite hor d' oeuvres cocktail party. Do you have any ideas for the Club? What activities would you attend? Please think about other "niche" programs that you would be interested in attending or developing and let us know. Your officers can serve as catalysts for such events – putting people in touch with each other and assisting with resources for mailings, refreshments, etc., so please don't be shy. Please drop a line or call if you think any or these ideas are good or if you have others to suggest. We'd love to hear from you. Better yet, we'd love it if you can give a few hours to make it happen!

WELLESLEY ONLINE

Through the Wellesley College Alumnae Association On-Line Community, permanent email, message board, chat room and yellow pages are available to all alumnae. The permanent email address is a forwarding address that never changes even when you change jobs or email providers. Message boards are available for posting your own messages or to read messages posted by others on a variety of topics. The chat room provides a place to chat with other community members. The yellow pages allow you to search services and goods offered by other Community members or to place an ad for your own business. In order to take advantage of these member only features, alumnae must register for the community and establish a User ID and password. Registration is free

of charge. To register for the online alumnae Connections Community, go to the college website at <http://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/WLS/homepage.cgi>.

WELCOME TO WELLESLEY ALUMNAE NEW TO OUR AREA

Please join us in welcoming the following alumnae who have recently moved into our area:

Rebecca Galbraith '79, Erin McTigue '97, Janelle Richard 2003, Marta White 2002, Susan Woodward '74 and Mrs. Edward Yost (Janet Clark) '53.

IT'S ANNUAL DUES TIME!

It's time for us to collect club dues for this year. Our dues help cover the cost of mailings (we mail to 135 people!), book awards (which totaled 19 last year), an event for winners, recruitment functions for new students to Wellesley and social events for students interested in attending Wellesley, among others. Dues are \$20 annually and \$12 for graduates of five years or less. No dues are charged for graduates of one year or less and for honored graduates (50 years or more). **Additional voluntary contributions, to help us support these functions will be heartily welcomed at any time. Please send your checks along with any updated information to Jean Minehart at the address on the last page.**

Having a good turnout at our meetings is important to us to keep the Wellesley spirit alive. We generally charge members at cost for our brunches, luncheons and teas, rather than use our limited funds. Our sole source for funding all the other things we do, absent fund raising events, is through our dues. We are a small club and really need your participation. What we are able to accomplish (or not) reflects on Wellesley. Help us keep the spirit alive and help Wellesley in its effort to give to others the Wellesley experience we were so fortunate to enjoy.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Changing your address? Phone number? Name? Let the College (and us) know! Email or call one of your officers and either email your update to Wellesley at updates@alum.wellesley.edu, log onto <https://www.alumniconnections.com/olc/pub/WLS/directory.html> or contact the Alumnae Office at 106 Central Street, Wellesley, MA 02481.

BLUE RIDGE WELLESLEY CLUB NEWSLETTER

August 20, 2006 is the Deadline to send in information/news for our fall Newsletter.

DIRECTIONS TO THE APRIL 7, 2006 MILLER CENTER

FROM THE NORTH AND WASHINGTON, D.C.:

From Washington, D.C. the trip to Charlottesville is 110 miles. Take 66 West to Route 29 South (at the Gainesville Exit). Take Route 29 into Charlottesville's city limits. Just past Hydraulic Road, get into the far right lane. Take the exit for 250 West and 29 South Bypass.

Go past the exit for Barracks Road. Take the next exit (which is indicated by small, white signs) for Route 601 to Ivy. Take the second left just before the railroad bridge onto Old Ivy Road. Go .7 miles and turn left at the Miller Center sign. It will be the last possible turn before the railroad overpass.

FROM THE EAST:

Take 64 West to Charlottesville, exiting at 118-B onto the Route 29 North bypass. Take the second exit (250 E). Turn right at the end of the exit ramp onto 250 East (also called Ivy Road). At the first traffic light, turn very sharply left onto Old Ivy Road. Go under the train overpass. The Miller Center is the first driveway on the right.



DUES TRANSMITTAL FORM

PLEASE DETACH AND SEND ALONG WITH YOUR DUES CHECK TO:

Dues are \$20 annually and \$12 for graduates of five years or less. No dues are charged for graduates of one year or less and for honored graduates (50 years or more)

**Jean Minehart, Treasurer
1714 Yorktown Drive
Charlottesville, VA 22901-3034**

*****UPDATED WELLESLEY BLUE RIDGE CLUB DIRECTORIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE MILLER CENTER FORUM.*****

Name _____ Class _____ **Email*** _____

Address _____ Phone _____

\$ _____ enclosed as a contribution to the Blue Ridge Chapter of Wellesley Alumnae Association.

\$ _____ enclosed for 2005-6 Club dues.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTION AND/OR DUES!