DEAR ALUMNAE,
I am delighted to present this semester’s undergraduate newsletter, not off the presses and hopefully straight to your inbox! As before, the Alumnae Office has been generous enough to distribute this to all Shakespeare alumnae whose email addresses they have on file. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please forward your information to wesslelysshakespeare@gmail.com.

Here on campus, the semester is in full swing. After a fantastic tea season led by Vice President Kendra Vosh ’17, we welcomed five new members into the Society. Earlier this month, we hosted the amazingly talented Actors from the London Stage to chat and decompress after the opening night of their traveling performance of A Midsummer Night’s Dream. Two weeks ago, we celebrated St. Crispin’s Day, and this past weekend we got into the Halloween spirit with a special appearance at President Bottomly’s Trick-or-Treat event and our yearly Haunted House.

For a list of upcoming events, see below.

I would also like to extend our heartfelt thanks for your donations to fund the roof repairs this summer. It was so exciting to return this fall to see a brand new, watertight roof on this house! We’ve all come to hold so dear. Here’s to a new generation of memories, magic and theatre to be created under this roof by Shakespers to come!

In Faith and Service,
Rowan Winterwood ’16 (S)
Undergraduate President

FROM THE DIRECTOR
This semester’s play is Twelfth Night. As part of my senior honors thesis following a year of research abroad, the play is based on a series of workshops exploring early modern rehearsal and performance techniques. We are interested in finding out how Shakespeare’s rehearsals worked, and how the plays were built to work with that kind of process. The cast is bravely soldiering ahead, using past scripts instead of full scripts, stripping themselves into corsets, learning Original Pronunciation, and even doing live music on stage. It’s fascinating to imagine what Shakespeare’s company’s actors must have felt like: there’s a huge element of improvisation in this kind of rehearsal process that I’m finding to be very joyful and exciting. I’m having a wonderful time in rehearsals, and we’re excited to share the play with you. If music be the food of love, play on!

-Kate Bussert ’16 (130)
Director, Twelfth Night

ST. CRISPIN’S DAY
On the evening of October 23rd, we gathered in the meeting room for a long night of movie-watching, laughter and eager anticipation. Armed with popcor, hot chocolate, candy games and blankets, some members made it through the late night awake, while others slept until dawn. Then, reaming ourselves with the name of Crispin, black-eyed and happy, we set out to probe sonnets and speeches at the traditional spot (right). Abroad undergrads gathered with recent alumni in Stratford-upon-Avon to celebrate from across the pond (above).

HALLOWEEN HAUNTED HOUSE
In honor of Halloween, members staged a spooky and tragic scenes from Shakespeare’s canon to present to the campus. This year, we had the special opportunity to perform one of our scenes at President Bottomly’s house as part of her Halloween party. To the left, Claudia (Madie Farris ’19, 1) confuses No air while Hamlet (Lina Brennan ’18, 59) contemplates revenge. After they loosen last Thursday, we had an incredible turnout to our official event on Halloween day, bringing dozens of students, faculty members and locals on tours through the house to see scenes from Macbeth, Richard III, Romeo and a Midsummer Night’s Dream. King John! Join us for more to come and also sold homemade apple cider donuts and other treats, raising just enough money to cover an entire dues scholarship!

SAVE THE DATE
Twelfth Night
Thursday, November 12 & 18 8:00 PM
Friday, November 13 & 20 8:00 PM
Saturday November 14 & 21 8:00 PM
Sunday, November 15 & 22 6:00 PM
Traditions Tea
Sunday, December 6 3:00-5:00 PM

SPONSOR A SHAKER
With dues at $75, many undergrads request scholarships to cover their expenses. We are committed to providing every member with the help they need, but our scholarship fund has dried up quickly. If you would like to help, you may donate using the PayPal link included in this email or on our Facebook, and a member will write you a personal letter in thanks.

IT IS TO BE MADE ALL OF FAITH AND SERVICE.

Follow us on Facebook and Twitter (@wellsecshakespeare) for more updates. Contact the undergraduate president at wesslelysshakespeare@gmail.com.