WELCOME GUSTIE!

Welcome to our
Gustavus 50-Year Class Reunion!
We are pleased that you are able to be a part of this special 1961 class event. This time will give you an opportunity to let all the years fade away and remember, like yesterday, your time as a Gustie! Enjoy renewing old friendships, sharing stories, pictures and memories of this special place.

You were a part of our past and now you are a bit of our future.

Enjoy your Gustavus 50th Anniversary Weekend!

Go Gusties!
Reunion Weekend 2011

1961 Gathering Place: Linner Lounge, O.J. Johnson Student Union

Friday, May 27

1 -7 p.m. Registration
Jackson Campus Center

1:30 p.m. Campus Tour
Meet at Admission Office, Campus Center

Granlund Tour
Meet at Christ Chapel

2:30 p.m. Seminar
Alumni Hall, Johnson Student Union
Richard Leider ’66 – The Power of Purpose

4 p.m. Class of 1961 Memorial Service
Christ Chapel

4:45 p.m. Class of 1961 Photo
Old Main Steps

5 p.m. Class of 1961 Reception
The Dive, Johnson Student Union

6:30 p.m. Class of 1961 Banquet
Alumni Hall, Johnson Student Union

8 p.m. Class of 1961 Post Banquet
The Dive, Johnson Student Union

Saturday, May 28

7-9 a.m. Breakfast a la Carte
Evelyn Young Dining Room, Jackson Campus Center

7:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Registration
Jackson Campus Center

9 a.m. Seminar
Alumni Hall, Johnson Student Union
Dr. Michael Blaese ’61 – Genes as medicines, new tools in the fight against disease

10 a.m. Refreshments & Conversation
Alumni Hall, Johnson Student Union

10:30 a.m. Seminar
President Jack R. Ohle – College Update and Sesquicentennial Preview

12 p.m. Alumni Luncheon for 50 Year Club and Class of 1961
Campus Center Banquet Rooms

2 p.m. Seminar
Alumni Hall, Johnson Student Union
Jim Gilbert ’62 – Discover Our Natural World

3 p.m. Class of 1961 Gathering
Linner Lounge, Johnson Student Union

Campus Tour
Meet at Admission Office, Campus Center

Granlund Tour
Meet at Christ Chapel

Arboretum Tour
Meet at Melva Lind Interpretive Center

3:30 p.m. Vesper Service
Christ Chapel

4:30 p.m. President’s Reception
Campus Center Banquet Rooms

5 p.m. Alumni Banquet
Campus Center Banquet Rooms

8 p.m. Gustavus Symphony Orchestra Concert
Christ Chapel
SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING
Deceased 1961 Classmates:
(* not pictured)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dick Nybo</td>
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<td>Deanna Johnson Sharstrom</td>
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<td>John Pluto</td>
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<td>Joseph H. Borchert</td>
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<td>Marjorie Erickson-Geisler</td>
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<td>Ronald C. Swanson</td>
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<td>Joseph M. Peterson</td>
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<td>Rodney Golberg</td>
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<td>Sandra Miller Nelson*</td>
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<td>Stan Davies</td>
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<td>Allen Roalson</td>
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<td>Paul N. Thompson</td>
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<td>Sally Johnson Audiss</td>
<td>8/7/2004</td>
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<td>Mary Towley Swanson</td>
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<td>Ron Koch</td>
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<td>David A. Hasslen</td>
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<td>Judy Fischer</td>
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<td>Arlene Anderson Nunn</td>
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<td>Gene Lampi</td>
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<td>Carol Burgess Juers</td>
<td>10/13/2006</td>
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<td>R. John Van Deusen</td>
<td>4/14/2007</td>
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<td>Milton O. Gustafson</td>
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<td>William R. Olseen</td>
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<td>Paul Johns</td>
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<td>Don A. Bjorklund</td>
<td>6/1/2009</td>
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<td>Ned L. Larson Jr.</td>
<td>4/2/2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan Wenlund Weir</td>
<td>8/11/2010</td>
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<tr>
<td>Janet E. Cumming</td>
<td>9/12/2010</td>
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</table>
A Campus Map is included on the next page.

All parking lots are unrestricted parking for the entire weekend. Please do not park along Campus Drive in front of residence halls or along yellow curbs.

Locations of key buildings:

C. Charles Jackson Campus Center – (H-4)
   Registration & Information Center (lower level) 507-933-7590
   Banquet Rooms
   Evelyn Young Dining Room
   The Book Mark (campus book store)
   Hillstrom Museum of Art

Alfred Nobel, Hall of Science – (E-3) Wallenberg Auditorium

O.J. Johnson Student Union – (G-3)
   Alumni Hall (top level)
   Linner Lounge (main level)
   The Dive (lowest level)

Christ Chapel – (F-3)

Lund Center – (H-5)

Campus Safety, Norelius Hall – (J-4)
   Phone: 507-933-8888
Class of 1961 Statistics

Tuition = $375-450/Semester
Room = $70-$135
Board = $120 - $200
Books/Lab & Special Fees = $40 - $80

Enrollment:
Campus Population = 1148
Freshman Class Size = 371
Graduation Size = 182

Class of 2011 Statistics

Tuition = $33,100
Room = $5,400
Board = $3,000
Fees = $760
Books & Incidentals = $2,170 (estimated)

Enrollment:
Campus Population = 2393
Freshman Class Size = 675
Graduation Class Size =

Full-time undergraduates represent 41 states and 19 foreign countries
Racially underrepresented students: 380, 15.6%
International students enrolled in degree programs—46
86% of students studying on campus live in college housing

Admissions:
Applications received from 3,213 prospective students for a first year class of 614
35% of first year students were in the top 10% of their high school graduating classes
Composite ACT (middle 50%): 25 - 29

Retention Rates:
92.7% of first-year students return for the following fall semester.
81.2% graduate within 4 years

Financial Assistance:
69% of Gustavus students receive need-based financial assistance

Faculty:
Full-time faculty of 199; 87 part-time
97% of full-time faculty hold the terminal degree in their fields
Student-to-faculty ratio is 11:1

Student Life:
Daily chapel services (not mandatory), and seven student-run religious organizations
Community service programs recognized by six Governor’s Commendations, with better than 55% student participation

Athletics
Intercollegiate program of 13 women’s and 12 men’s sports, with 27% student participation
75% participation in more than 30 intramural & 9 club sports

Fine Arts
40% participation in fine arts programs

Alumni
24,949 located, living alumni residing in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands, as well as 61 other nations
Gustavus Adolphus College warmly welcomes the Class of 1961 back to “The Hill” and hopes you will have an enjoyable weekend with longtime friends. We thank you for your return to campus, for your support of the College, and for your lives of leadership and service that have brought honor to this College. Congratulations on the 50th Anniversary of your graduation and becoming members of the 50 Year Club!
A Few Words About the Alma Mater

The words were written in 1917 by John Helmer Olson ‘19
The music was composed by A.W. Anderson.

In 1916, the staff of College Breezes (predecessor to the Gustavian Weekly) sponsored a contest “to stimulate student talent in writing of a worthy college song”. Gustavus Adolphus College annuals record at least two earlier attempts (see p. 128 in Manhem, 1904, and p. 175 in Breidablick, 1912), but this new song was to become the “official” Gustavus song.

The 1915-1916 term ended without much response to the contest, so the College Breezes extended the contest into the 1916-1917 term, and it was only then that John Helmer Olson, a sophomore at the time, submitted his lyrics. His entry was selected (research has turned up evidence of only two other entries) and was printed in the January 1917 issue of College Breezes. He was an active writer while a student at Gustavus and became editor of the school newspaper during his junior and senior years.

John Helmer Olson, a member of the class of 1919, would later be ordained in the Lutheran church and serve for many years as pastor of First Lutheran Church of St. Peter. His “Alma Mater” was sung and formally dedicated to him in 1923 at the half-time of one of the first basketball games held in the college’s then new gymnasium.

The winning entry was to be set to music by Professor August Waldemar Anderson, head of the music department at the time and director of the band and several choruses. He composed the setting in the key of A flat which is still used today.

August Waldemar Anderson, known as A.W. Anderson, worked in the Gustavus Music Department from 1909-1921. In 1910, he served as Director of the Conservatory. He came to Gustavus after studying Piano and Theory with George N. Morse in Worcester, MA, 1897-1901, studying piano with Felix Fox and Theory with W.E. Knowlton, 1902-1904; and studying Organ with Everett Truett, 1903-1905 in Boston.

Contributors: Steven Waldhauser ’70, Director of Editorial Services
Jeff A. Jenson, College Archivist, Academic Librarian & Assistant Professor

Rewrite By Stephen Lundgren Class of ’60

Gustavus Adolphus, we’re singing your song.
We don’t understand it, haven’t all along.
We sing it and wonder, what is a rune?
And carved or uncarved, what’s it do’in in your tune?

Gustavus Adolphus, thy Alma Mater song
Makes no sense completely, and comes on so strong

Gustavus Adolphus, your song’s a battle cry.
But who are we fighting, and may we ask you why?
The words are a jumble, obscure doublespeak.
And who in the heck cares if our phalanx is weak?
1. Gustavus Adolphus remember thy past! Let songs of thy triumphs be borne on the blast, O'er prairie and mountain forever let fame carve.

2. Thrice Hail! Alma Mater! Thy children are true, We love thee forever. Our love we renew. We stand by thy standard, Our phaeton is strong, Thy runes of glory, Thy deeds round thy name, Gustavus Adolphus, Stand firm in the fight. Plant proudly thy banner On victory's height.

Chorus.

Words by John Olson.
Tempo de marcia.

Music by A. W. Anderson.
The Remember Song

1. Remember the times you've had here, Remember when you're away.
2. Remember Gustavus Choir... Remember when you're away.

Remember the friends you've made here, and don't forget to come back some day.
Remember the songs you've sung here, and don't forget to come back some day.

Remember the hills and valleys... the skies so heav'n-ly blue, For you belong to Gustavus College... and Gustavus belongs to you.
Remember the joyous spirit... the memories deep and true, For you belong to Gustavus Choir... and the Choir belongs to you.
Come on you Gusties, fight on, fight on. Shout out the battle cry of victory. Come on you Gusties fight to the end, fight on for dear old G – A – C. Gusties fight on tonight, Gusties fight on tonight, Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight, Fight. Gusties fight on, Gusties fight on tonight. Gusties fight on. Beat 'em, bust 'em, that's our custom, Gusties fight on!
Class of 1961 Lists of Gustavus activities

The lists below are generated from our records and are intended to provide information and celebrate honors and engagement of classmates with the College. Inadvertent omissions and errors are inherent with lists and we ask for your understanding. Please inform the Office of Alumni Relations with any corrections.

Board of Trustees

- Paul Hanson 1989-1998
- Ron Koch 1994-2003

Class Agents

Class agents communicate with class members to develop and maintain class unity and serve as a liaison between the class and the College.

- Curt Brandland 1961-1965
- Dennis Freeman 1965-1969
- Jim and Patti Maedl Krough 1973-1975
- Virgene Grack Sehlin 1975-present

Alumni Board

The Board of Directors represents a variety of classes and serves all former students working towards maintaining a life-long relationship with the College through information and involvement. The Board establishes policy and reviews and supports programs and activities conducted by the Alumni Office staff that supports the mission of the Association and the College.

- Nita Swanson Anderson 1976-1982
- Arlyn Kettner 1983-1986
- Virgene Grack Sehlin 1989-1995

First Decade Award

First presented in 1968, the First Decade Award recognizes “early professional achievement”.

- Karen Halverson Carlson 1971
- Paul Hanson 1971

Distinguished Alumni Citation

The Distinguished Alumni Citation recognizes outstanding and exceptional professional achievement, such as to bring unusual honor to the individual in his or her field of endeavor. Criteria appropriate to selection shall include the difficulty of accomplishment; quality, creativity, and distinctiveness of performance; recognition by professional peers; and lasting contribution to the world of ideas and affairs. While the citation is a professional award, humanitarian achievements may also be weighed.

- Mary Nelson 1973 – Religion
- Milton Gustafson 1979 – Government Science
- Paul Hanson 1982 – Religion
- Mike Blaese 1983 – Medicine
- Paul Thompson 1993 – Education
Gustavus Heritage Partnership
The Gustavus Heritage Partnership recognizes individuals who have thoughtfully and generously included a gift to Gustavus in their estate plans.

Nita Swanson Anderson       Ted Johns
Karen Westman Carlson       Stu Johnson
Sally J. Enstrom            Marcee M. Muller
Betty J. Estesen            Carole Paulson Olson
Bruce A. Gray               Robert W. Schwartz
Dale H. Gustafson           Sidney Sehlin
Joan Miller Hoffman         Virgene Grack Sehlin
Alice Nelson Holm            Ralph Swenson
Paul L. Holm

Hall of Fame
The Athletics Hall of Fame was established in 1978 to recognize Gustavus student athletes, coaches and benefactors who have distinguished themselves in the field of athletics while at Gustavus.

Ron Zaniewski  2000

Gustavus Library Associates
A friends-of-the-college organization dedicated to the support and advancement of the Folk Bernadotte Library.

Karen Westman Carlson
Jean Stenstrom Eidsvold
Dennis Freeman
Bruce Gray
Joan Miller Hoffman
Stu Johnson
Jim Krough
Patti Maedl Krough
David Linne
Jan Huntington Nelson
Judy Fairbanks Sandberg

Reunion Committee Members
Planning and preparing for the 50th Anniversary Reunion were the following dedicated classmates. Thank you to all of them for making this weekend special.

Nita Swanson Anderson       Kathy Moody Buegler       Karen Westman Carlson
Lorraine Sandvig Carlson    Nan Dahl Carlson          Judy Johnson Chaffee
Jean Stenstrom Eidsvold    Jan Sanftner Elvekrog     Sally Enstrom
Pat Ecklund Fick            Dennis Freeman             Carol Olson Heath
Stu Johnson                 Joanne Larson Karvonen    Jim Krough
Patti Maedl Krough          Miriam Lind Lagus         Jo Linnee
Julie Nelson Neyhart        Judy Carlson Olson         Judy Fairbanks Sandberg
Virgene Grack Sehlin        Kathy Bunde Thorsell     Bruce Warner
Ruth Hilgendorf Weber       Jim Wiberg
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parents of Gustavus Students/Alumni</th>
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<tr>
<td>Jerome Anderson</td>
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<td>Nita Swanson Anderson</td>
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<td>Paul &amp; Alice Nelson Holm</td>
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<td>Douglas Holmen</td>
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<td>Ted Johns</td>
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<td>Jim Knoble</td>
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<td>Bob &amp; Carrie Olson Lamphere</td>
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<td>Ron Langness</td>
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<td>Mary Erickson Lindahl</td>
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</table>
David Linne 1989  David Linne
1991  Jonathan Linne
Dottie Van Campen Mau 1989  Steve Mau
Christine Olson Misewich 1993  Nicole Misewich Brown
Carol Anne Magnuson Moberg 1986  Mark Moberg
Jan Huntington Nelson 1984  Lonnie Gummow
Carole Paulson Olson 1994  Johanna Olson
1990  Erik Olson
Judy Carlson Olson 1987  Jenny Olson Linder
Wayne Otto 1992  Melissa Otto Rossow
Judy Fairbanks Sandberg 1988  Stacey Sandberg Wickman
1989  Betsy Sandberg Borseth
Sidney & Virgene Grack Sehlin 2002  Jonathan Sehlin
1988  Scott Sehlin
Corrine Goplin Slaughter 1987  Scott Malm
1989  Chad Malm
Janice Gardner Strand 1984  Jennifer Strand Larson
1991  Sarah Strand-Paul
1983  Susan Strand Vickerman
Gloria Eckberg Swenson 1996  Carolyn Swenson
Doriann Fredrickson Thompson 1983  Julie Jacques
1984  Sara Thompson
Kathy Bunde Thorsell 1991  Maria Thorsell
1990  Erik Thorsell
Donald Vodegel 1988  Suzanne Vodegel Wing
Bruce Warner 1996  Andrew Warner
Dave Wettergren 1989  Doug Wettergren
Jim Wiberg 1993  David Wiberg
1996  Kymm Wiberg Durocher
Ron Zaniewski 1989  Lisa Zaniewski Blevins
UPPER-CLASS RESIDENCE POLICIES

You are responsible for all policies contained in these pages. Read this information thoroughly and keep for further reference.

CLOSING HOURS

Monday through Thursday ........ 10:00 P.M.
Friday and Saturday ............... 12:00 P.M.
Sunday .................................. 10:30 P.M.

1. FIFTEEN MINUTES GRACE

Each resident is given 15 minutes of "grace" per semester. If one is detained and cannot return by the hour specified, CALL THE DORMITORY!

A one-night weekend campus will be issued automatically for every 5 minutes beyond the fifteen minutes grace allowed. If the penalty is not taken on the date specified, it will be doubled. Any case may be appealed to the House Council if the girl considers her reasons valid.

On occasions when all-school activities last later than 10:00, residents are allowed a period of 15 minutes from the close of the event for returning to the residence hall.

2. CAMPUSES

During a campus the resident is confined to her room from 7:00 P.M., until the closing hour. She does not receive callers, telephone calls, nor special lates during the campus. She is not to be in the smoker and she is to sign in at 7:00 and each succeeding hour until closing. She may be granted a night off provided she is willing to make up two extra nights after her regular campus ends. She is permitted to attend fraternity and sorority banquets without consequence.

3. SPECIAL LATES

Special late permissions (1:00 A.M.) must be pre-arranged with the Assistant to the Dean of Students 24 hours in advance. (Such lates are granted primarily for cultural events in the cities.)

4. EVENING SIGN OUT PROCEDURES

A. Any absence from the residence hall after 8:00 P.M., on any evening must be signed out at the desk. If this is not possible, call the dormitory before 10:00 P.M.

B. Any girl coming in after 10:00 P.M., that has not signed out will lose her "grace" minutes and will have a "late" taken away; a girl coming in at 11:30 that has not signed out will be given a campus of Friday and Saturday nights.

C. Any lengthy absence from the campus during the day (field trips, etc.) should also be signed out.

D. Any girl taking an additional late exceeding the designated number shall be given one week-end night campus.

5. OVERNIGHTS

A. Residents are to fill out a sign-out slip at least 24 hours in advance of their departure. If there is any unavoidable delay in returning, CALL THE DORMITORY!

B. Any girl leaving for the weekend without signing out will be given a campus of two week-end nights for every night involved.
C. No overnight privileges are granted for St. Peter or Mankato. Any exception must be granted by the Dean of Students. Girls may stay overnight in a Mankato dormitory, provided a written statement is brought back as verification.

D. No overnight permissions will be granted on the nights of banquets.

E. No resident is to sign out for an overnight between Monday and Thursday without receiving personal approval from the Head Resident or Miss Jacquelyn McKenna. They will be interested in full discussion of plans before any permission can be authorized.

6. PROPER ENTRANCES

All entrances except the front doors are considered illegal entrances between 7:00 P.M., and 7:00 A.M. If it is necessary to enter or leave before 7:00 A.M., arrangements should be made with the counselor assigned to open the dormitory that morning.

7. QUIET HOURS

Quiet hours are to be observed Monday through Thursday from 8:00 P.M., through 10:00 A.M., except between 10:00 and 10:30 P.M. Typewriters are to be used in rooms only between 7:00 A.M., and 11:30 P.M. Record players and radios, out of consideration for others, are to be kept at low volume. Phone calls, excepting emergencies, will not be received after 11:30 P.M. Residents are not to answer telephones after closing hours.

8. SMOKING

Anyone found smoking in any other than designated areas will be given an automatic campus of two weeks.

Women students are not allowed to smoke in public areas on campus. Each residence hall will have the prerogative of deciding whether or not girls may smoke in their rooms.

9. LIQUOR

Any evidence of the use of intoxicating liquors by any woman resident will be reason for her immediate referral to the Office of the Dean of Students. The college is opposed to the use of intoxicants on the part of any member of the Gustavus family -- students, faculty and staff members, alumni or visitors. It specifically forbids the possession or consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus, and construes as non-conformity to college policy the presence of any student in an establishment the primary purpose of which is the dispensing of liquor. Students who violate college policy in regard to the use of intoxicants are liable to disciplinary action by the Standards Committee.

10. HEALTH SERVICE PROCEDURES

A. The Head Resident should be notified in case of illness. Residents should report illnesses to the office of the dormitory before 10:00 A.M.

B. Girls receiving health excuses from classes for any part of the day are expected to remain in the dormitory for the whole day. The excuse is automatically cancelled for the day if she should go out in the evening.

C. Students having any more than slight illness are requested to report such illness to the Health Service. A physician is in the Health Service from 1:00 P.M., to 2:00 P.M., Monday through Friday.

D. Girls having chronic illnesses, such as heart conditions, respiratory difficulties, etc., should notify the Head Resident.

E. Health excuses will not be given to residents following weekends (especially holidays and special events) which have simply left students tired.
11. BABY-SITTING

Babysitters are expected to return to the dormitory by 12:00 midnight. You must sign out on the regular sign-out sheet, and indicate the name, address, and telephone number of the home where you are babysitting. Only one girl is allowed the late permission.

12. DRESS

Street clothes are a must in public areas during the hours when the dormitory is open for receiving phone calls and/or callers. When on desk duty, residents must wear a skirt. Discretion and good taste in clothing is strongly encouraged! No slacks, bermudas, shorts, or jeans are to be worn on Sundays in public areas, except for outings. Robes are to be worn at all times when a resident is outside her room. No bermudas or slacks are allowed in the cafeteria except on Saturdays; infringers will be sent from the dining room.

13. GUESTS

Guests are subject to the same rules and regulations as residents. They must register at the desk of the dormitory.

14. DESK DUTY

Each resident is periodically assigned to a two-hour period of desk duty; assignments are made on an alphabetical basis. If you cannot be on duty during the time assigned, you must find a substitute! If there is no one at the desk important calls may be missed.

15. MEN IN THE DORMS

Men are not to be, excepting unavoidable circumstances, in women's residence halls until after noon. Men are not allowed in the smoker; nor in any areas beyond the main lounge.

Girls are not allowed beyond main entrances of men's dormitories except during official open houses; nor in men's off-campus units without approval of the householder and permission from your Head Resident. Girls are not allowed in the Uhler courtyard.

16. CALLING FROM WINDOWS

Residents are not to call from dormitory windows at any time. Curtains must be drawn after dark. The impression given to people passing by our dormitories is the only one some people might have of us, so let's try to make it a favorable one!

ALL RESIDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR WHATEVER TAKES PLACE IN THEIR ROOM!

17. KITCHEN

The kitchen is for your convenience. Wash all dishes used and leave the room in good order. You will enjoy the use of this room only if you exert care in keeping standards of cleanliness high.
Insert Weekly photo section here
So what can we say re nineteen sixty-one
   now that our fiftieth year has begun?
What things can be noted for us alumnæ/i
   of the last class of GAC’s first century?
It’s scarcely a matter of rank or renown
   that our class ring date reads the same upside or down.
A transitional class, perhaps we could say;
   came in under Ike but went out JFK.
(IImagine, back then we’d discuss and dissent
   re whether a Cath’lic should be president!)
An era of idealistic pursuits.
   Some grads were among the first Peace Corps recruits.
Rock music was new, but it didn’t yet reign.
   If someone played Mitch Miller, none would complain.
Protest songs not yet a popular fare;
   no Beatles, Bob Dylan, Pete Seeger, no HAIR.
Instead we were kids of an earlier age;
   Broadway show tunes on the Frost Weekend stage.
Hi-Fi was new, and L.P.’s (now called “vinyl”),
   and battery science had reached “Alkalinal”,
but stereo broadcasting did not appear
   until the 4th month of our commencement year.
Why do I mention these facts so bizarre?
   To tell grandkids how antiquated we are!
After all, we’re an agile, spry generation
   despite our half century since graduation.
You all surely remember without being told
   how 50-year grads in our day looked real old.
But in the event you enjoy “thinking old,”
   let me a few nostalgic pictures unfold—
Co-eds with dorm hours, in before 10!
   no such constraints imposed on the men,
still it was a rule which impacted us all.
   No girls? Might as well head back to Uhler Hall,
or New Dorm (for it was not Sorensen yet),
   hit the books, or the sack; which was it? I forget.
And chapel—required! How could it have been so?
   Religion class too; four years, as you know.
Though some didn’t like it, we’d have to admit
   the exposure did not likely hurt us a bit.
Remember when papers were due, how we griped?
   We knew nothing of “processing words”; we just typed!
In fact, think of all our blood, sweat and tears!
   With computers we would have been done in three years!
We non-Minnesotan had extra to learn;
some of your features were hard to discern:
your accents, your weather, lakes (ten thousand plus),
and no Garrison Keillor to explain you to us.
Lots more to recall from that long-ago age,
but I’ve already stretched this too far down the page.
Fifty years is a long time, there’s much more to say.
It can wait until we’re all together in May.

--Paul K. Hanson, Billings, Montana

A special class prayer: “God Bless Gustavus and my classmates. May we cherish the bread before there is none. Discover each other before we leave and enjoy each other for what we are while we have time.” Ron Zaniewski

Remembering October, 1957. Having survived September, we were no longer quite as green. Our Green Beanies had been discarded, (soon to be replaced by hats or scarves.) Hello Walk was full of the faces of friends we knew and faces of those who would become our friends in the coming years. Our mailboxes no longer challenged our memory and dexterity, instead becoming the bearers of all good things. (Unless it was a summons to explain our chapel cuts.) The Reds who, during freshman week, had struck terror in young female hearts from their couch in the heart of the Student Union, were now many of heroes on the football field and we cheered them on with enthusiasm. Hello Walk became ours. We were survivors. We were Gusties.

A small verse to commemorate our transformation

Tormented
Freshman, Overwhelmed
Studying, Obeying, Struggling,
Beanies, Books , Survivor, Senior,
Anticipating, Celebrating, Graduating,
Cool, Confidant
Tormentor

We would continue to be Gusties on campus and in our hearts for many years to come. Who would have thought the 50+ years would fly by so quickly?
In the ensuing fifty years so much has changed. Here we go, another verse.

No Laptop, Cell phone,
Blackberry, flat screen TV
How did we survive?

Actually, we flourished in the place we knew as Gustavus. Often I hear alumni say, “I would never have been accepted. I could never do what the class of 2011 is expected to do. I always answer, au contraire. We would have grown up in the system. We could do anything given the same back ground and training. We’re Gusties!

Well here it is, my final two verses, an attempt to succinctly describe the passage of time. I hope the Oh no! factor has not yet completely overwhelmed you.

Graduate, can’t wait
Get out, get a life, succeed
Return, reunion
Every five years
We reassure ourselves that
We’ve not changed a bit

Pat Ecklund Fick