

"How do you like this new shoot that the dormant ivy is putting out? The staff thinks a live, sociable publication coming out every two weeks will be a new interest and a helpful means of spreading ideas, opinions, and college news of all kinds. It may also serve to keep friends and alumnae in closer sympathy with our organizations and plans."

With these words the first Salemite introduced itself to Salem College on November 17, 1920. As I assume the position of editor my thoughts have turned towards the past, towards the history and traditions of Salem and the paper which represents and reflects all of our achievements, aspirations, pride and love for our school. In that first issue of *The Salemite* I found the feelings and spirit of a young paper that though distant in years, is still at the heart of our paper in 1979. Just as they struggled to publish a paper which stood for those it served, we attempt the same feat today.

I believe that nothing depicts the self-image and spirit of a collegiate student body better than their paper. The Salemite is much more than a four-page weekly newsheet to fill empty box space. It is also much more than a small obscure staff mysteriously printing a paper which portrays only their thought. The Salemite is your college newspaper. It is yours as solely and solidly as what you learn in classes and what you share with friends during your years at Salem. You, the students, are *The Salemite*, without you it would be non-existent.

Like all other organizations on campus the paper can only be at its best when you are. The "image" of Salem College, a phrase so often discussed and questioned is simply-us, the student body. What you give to Salem is what you will leave with. Hopefully, you will leave with more than a diploma and a few boxes of books. You will take with you the memories of accomplishments through co-operation, of maturity acquired through work and of the special friendships and sharing which have strengthened you to leave and face whatever may lie beyond the Square. In a sense, you will never really leave because what you have given will remain with you always.

My thoughts have not only been on our past. The first Salemite gave me a stronger sense of from where we have come and an assurance of how far we can go. In our fifty-ninth year *The Salemite* is by no means approaching its twilight years. Each issue of the paper is as young and healthy as the students it proudly represents.

Laura Castellanos del Valle

**THE SALEMITE**

Printed by Lindsay Publishing Co. and published every Friday of the College year by the Student Body of Salem College.

Volume LXI  
Number 13

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Salemite staff meetings every Tuesday,  
3:30 p.m. Salemite office.

The following dates have been set for room drawing:

Singles and Triples	Monday	April 9	12:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Seniors	Tuesday	April 10	10:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Juniors	Wednesday	April 11	10:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.
Sophomores	Thursday	April 12	10:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m.

Dear Editor,

Elections Week has brought to the surface a concern that I have had all year - **WHAT IS HAPPENING TO OUR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS?** Where is the interest and enthusiasm that makes our clubs fun and productive rather than a burden? To put it bluntly, our college community has recently been plagued by that deadly disease called "negativism." It is a disease that has spread throughout our student body, faculty, and administration. This year it has been evident that the college has placed a great deal of emphasis on strengthening the academic life of Salem. This is indeed a necessity. However, in the process we have lost sight of something that is equally essential to a good liberal arts education - student organizations and student involvement.

Being involved is not holding an office, it is simply a state of mind. If a person has spirit, and if she cares about Salem's future, then she is as much involved as anyone else. I realize that my reference to "school spirit" is giving some folks a good laugh, but in most cases, laughter hides the fear of being honest. Is it a crime to care and to want to be a part? Actually, not becoming involved because of fear is the crime.

I ask that everyone take advantage of the extracurricular activities Salem has to offer. SGA fees give a student an automatic membership to all clubs. It is everyone's opportunity to participate and to enrich themselves and Salem. I am urging anyone who wants to help to join a club, and anyone who loves Salem to speak out. If we all become victims of "negativism," Salem will not last. The future of our college lies within the few positive attitudes we have left. Please be positive and let's make next year's student organizations lively, worthwhile, and a vital part of our educational system.

Jean Fleming

Dear Editor,

The din is deafening, the screams are ear-piercing. I'm in an auditorium filled with shrieking high school students. The applause is enthusiastic, to say the least. The students are applauding some of their own -- who have just won -- a football game? NO. A TV game show? NO! A third place prize in Latin poetry recitation? You betcha! Once more, Salem has something of which to be extremely proud -- language professors who have cared enough and had enough initiative and creativity to develop a phenomenon which is now five years old, Salem College Language Day.

On Saturday, March 17, early in the morning, buses began unloading in front of the FAC, disgorging excited students from 22 area high schools, some from as far away as Garner, N.C., and Danville, Va. They piled noisily out of vehicles of all shapes and descriptions laden with guitars, costumes, scripts and music. They settled in every nook and cranny of the FAC listening to last minute instructions and rehearsing down to the wire. And all morning they competed intensely in poetry recitations, singing groups and drama in four languages; French, German, Latin and Spanish.

Then at 2:00 p.m. approximately 800 of the original 1000 students (of whom many had left for afternoon jobs) thronged into the Hanes Auditorium to participate in the crowning event of the day, the presentation of Awards. It was such a thrill to hear young people so excited about academic endeavours. Hanes Auditorium was jam-packed full of students and bleachers sharing in anxious anticipation the announcements of awards.

It was an exciting day the culmination of many long hours of preparation by the language faculty. Salem College can well be proud of her language professors, especially Dr. Alphonso Villarino, who conceived of this innovative celebration of language studies in our area schools.

Joan Tolmie  
Continuing Ed Student

The Chatham Selection Committee has chosen the following Salem Honor award recipients:

Chatham Scholars: Kelly Solms - Springfield, Va., Liz Denton - Rockville, Md.

Salem Scholars: Frances Barnes - Rock Hill, S.C., Margaret Poindexter - Statesville, N.C., Judy Watson - Kinston, N.C., Jody Wood - Waynesville, N.C.

Salem Scholar Alternates: 1st - Janelle Brown - Raleigh, N.C., 2nd - Lisa Atkins - Kernersville, N.C., 3rd - Leigh Salter - Opelika, Ala.

**STATEMENT OF PURPOSE**

The following Statement of Purpose was sent to the Executive Committee of the Board of Trustees:

The foundation of a Salem education is a strong liberal arts program which provides broad, rigorous intellectual training. The faculty, aware of a changing, complex world, prepares the student to adapt to the needs of the future, as well as to know the past. Because the student must meet the challenge of satisfying work during her lifetime, the College integrates career preparation into the liberal arts curriculum. For every Salem woman, leadership skills, both intellectual and social, are an important result of her years at Salem.

For over two hundred years the basic commitment of Salem College has been to the education of women. The contemporary mission includes the preparation of students for positions of leadership in the modern world. Primarily a residential college of six hundred students of traditional college age, Salem also welcomes mature women into degree programs and continuing education classes.

Salem emphasizes individual intellectual and moral integrity in its code, in its close relationships among students and between students and faculty, and in its sense of moral and humane community. The concern for personal wholeness is reflected in those values that informed and motivated the Moravians who founded Salem: honorable dealings, a free and inquiring spirit, loving and caring human relationships, a desire to serve, a tolerant disposition, faith in God. True to its religious heritage, the Salem community promotes an atmosphere of spiritual, racial and cultural freedom.