

Hearths & Crafts

Calling Miss Marple

by Dr. Richard Craft

Everyone loves a good mystery, especially one where the culprit is still on the loose and apprehension of the perpetrator seems remote.

Ever since the *EHS* class of '74 painted its graduation year on the rock face of the mountain facing the school, the tradition has been carried on faithfully. The class of '04 did a stand out job in red, white, and blue, and it stood the test of winter.

What happened next was a school prank of all school pranks that crystallized what has been a wet boring summer into a cause célèbre that forever threatens tradition. What is even more exciting is that, forever more, the sacredness of sentimentalists will always be open to the whimsical actions of a creative few.

We all awoke one morning several weeks ago to an astonishing sight. There, on the mountain side, the proud **04** had been transformed overnight into **74** in anticipation of their reunion that weekend. Word spread like wildfire evoking a smile at the

ingenuity of former students, now adults, who still have lots of school spirit. To add to the mystery, a PowerPoint presentation was left at the doorstep of the class president to be viewed by all. It was a daring move initiated by those who, to this day, remain anonymous, in spite of the many inquiries made to come up with the culprit(s).

Commentary included preliminary plans, telephone calls, buying the paint and supplies, thanking the previous classes for leaving the ropes from which to hang on while they painted (it's very steep), etc. Plenty of hints were given and, guess what, they are no closer to the answer than at the beginning! It might be called the perfect crime, and I for one love it. Was he, she, they of the class of '74? No one confessed. Was it an earlier graduate who had a relative in the class of '74? No one knows. A mention was made of the 1972 yearbook but all leads have ended at a blank wall. Closure would be nice, but I don't see it anytime soon. The perpetrators have probably gone underground and are waiting for the heat to die down.

Regardless, the reunion was a

smashing success, the best ever, with fifty-one in attendance. I spoke to Steven Jargowsky ('74), in from Tampa, Florida. He remarked, the first place he looked upon entering Ellenville was up on the mountain, since he was one of the crew that began this tradition. He said that words could no express his emotion when he saw the **74** – he was utterly amazed.

Well, the class of '05 is upon us and by now that number is proudly emblazoned on the rock face. The only problem is that from June of '05, the class should mount a guard on the old **Smiley Road** if they wish to maintain their influence until '06 takes over. Fame is so fleeting. ☆

Fall Colors

by Elyssa Garcia

I look around,
And guess what I see...
Beautiful colors spying on me.
First I see a red;
Then a yellow pokes out, too.
Some orange and some brown...
Fall came right on cue.
All these pretty colors mix together...
They form rainbows on the trees.
I want this gorgeous sight to stay...
No winter for me please! ☆

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