

Boston Herald
9/25/66

TODAY'S CLUB PROFILE

She's Dartmouth's Absentee Rooter!

By BARBARA BURNS

For a Dartmouth rooter, Mrs. Francis A. Sarnie, Sr., sees precious few football games.

It used to be — when Francis, Jr., Class of '57, was halfbacking for the Dartmouth Indians — that she would stay away from games deliberately.

"My husband would go and I'd stay home for fear of seeing my son get hurt," she admits.

Now she still stays home — to baby sit with four grandchildren while her husband, son and daughter-in-law watch Dartmouth play ball.

MRS. SARNIE is seldom out of touch with the Hanover campus, however, because she is president of the only Dartmouth ALUMNAE group in the world.

"That's right," she chuckles. "The board of the college granted alumnae status to the Dartmouth Women's Club of Boston about 30 years ago."

The club whose main purpose is to raise scholarship money for Dartmouth students, was founded in 1930, Mrs. Sarnie says.

Originally named the Dartmouth Matrons' Club, it was for wives only. But the name seemed too staid for the lively auxiliary — and its lively fund-raising projects. So along the way, the club voted to change its name, invited mothers of students to join them and continued an energetic round of bazaars, balls, raffles, fashion shows, Christmas sales and all the et ceteras, for the scholarship cause.

Mrs. Sarnie joined the club when her son was a sophomore and she visited the campus often. She and her husband were willing chaperones for fraternity parties at their son's Phi Gamma Delta house.

"WEEKEND TRIPS to Dartmouth are lovely," she says. "It's a nice drive to Hanover and the campus is beautiful."

Just this weekend, in fact, Mrs. Sarnie presided over the women's yearly meeting at the college. The club membership stands at 180 now, with women from Massachusetts and New Hampshire in the majority. The roster will grow this fall when mothers of incoming freshmen receive their bids to join.

The club meets monthly at various locations and the sessions are mostly about scholarships.

"We've given over \$30,000 in loans and scholarships to date," Mrs. Sarnie says, explaining that the club has concentrated, in recent years, on scholarships alone.

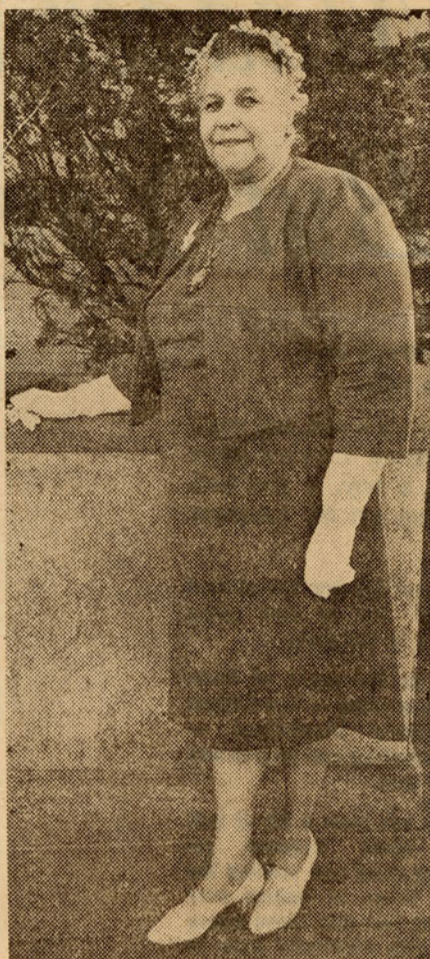
"Our financial help has no strings attached," she says. "We give a full scholarship each year and the college decides what student needs it the most."

"You know, tuition has actually doubled at Dartmouth since my son started there in 1953. And I know that's the case in colleges everywhere."

"I don't see how young people get through these days; most of them have to take out loans of some kind."

TO KEEP UP with tuition costs, the Dartmouth Women have stepped up their fund-raising efforts. They have collected and published a treasury of recipes, favorites of their Dartmouth men.

Having cleared printing costs with cookbook sales already, the women are



(Herald Staff Photo by Al Bradley)

MRS. FRANCIS A. SARNIE, SR.

optimistic. Popular on campus and off, the book includes a scallops recipe of Mrs. Alan B. Shepard whose husband was in Dartmouth's Class of '13 and whose son was America's first man in space.

Mrs. Sarnie's own recipes printed are for baked Italian lasagna and for Ricotta cheese pie.

A past president of the Massachusetts Federation of Women's Italian Clubs, she was also an officer of the Italian Women's Club of Boston, but resigned the post to concentrate more fully in her Dartmouth club duties.

Living in West Medford, Mrs. Sarnie is a past president and still a member of the Medford Italian Women's League. She belongs to the Medford Catholic Women's Club.

A 1962 **RUNNER-UP** in the Massachusetts Mother of the Year selection, Mrs. Sarnie is therefore a Merit Mother and as such has been invited to conduct a discussion group for young mothers in Medford.

The groups, sponsored by the Merit Mothers, give young housewives and working mothers the chance to compare ideas, talk out problems, learn from each other.

"They're doing fine," Mrs. Sarnie says of the new groups. "I hope to pick up with them when I'm through as president of the Dartmouth Women's Club."

Boston born, Mrs. Sarnie graduated from normal school in Fitchburg. Before her marriage, she taught drafting, dress design and sewing at Boston Trade School for Girls.

The senior Sarnies have five grown children: Claire, a music teacher; Elizabeth, a registered nurse; Robert, a career Navy man instructing jet helicopter pilots; John, a member of the Washington, D. C., capitol police force; and the other Dartmouth alumnus in the family, Francis, Jr., a field representative locally with an international business machine company.