



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, December 6 - BOOKS, INC. FUNDRAISER,
Town and Country Village, 5:00 - 8:00 pm. 20% of all proceeds donated to the Woman's Club.

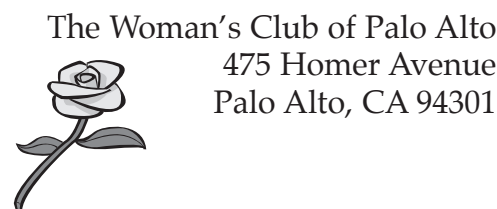
Tuesday, December 8 - Drop In Social 5:00-7:00 pm
Hosted by Celiene O'Hara 367-8122

Thursday, December 10 - Cine'Circle and the Reel Buffs at 7:00 pm at the Club House. This month's assigned movie is TBA. Please check your inbox for additional details. Hosted by Melaine Bales and Jeanne Aufmuth. Call Melaine at 650-326-0776 for more information.

Monday, December 14 - Book Group at 7:30 pm
Call Jeanne McDonnell 321 5260

Tuesday, December 15 - Tentative Special Board Meeting at 5:00 pm

Wednesday, December 16 - HOLIDAY PARTY 6:00 pm
Evening Festive Holiday Party
HOSTED BY LINDA BADER, DONNA BOHLING & JENNIFER KLECKNER



The Woman's Club of Palo Alto
475 Homer Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301

www.womansclubofpaloalto.org

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement

The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

December 2009 Newsletter

Co-Presidents: Christine Shambora, Sandra Pearson

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

Presidents' Message

Counting our blessings.....

How fortunate we are to have a community of women committed to sharing their time and talents. In the midst of this holiday season, we realize how grateful we are to all of you for creating a warm and caring environment each time we come together. Our fall luncheon committees have all set a high bar for delicious meals and charming centerpieces. And the program committee has brought us stimulating speakers. Wasn't it wonderful to hear Cecile Andrews extol the virtues of "less is more" and "slow is beautiful"! If you haven't already done so, be sure to make your reservations by December 2 for the Evening Gala on the 16th.

The Community Outreach Committee is so grateful for your generosity in providing books to school communities in need and for your thoughtful contributions to the Battered Women's Shelter. Small acts of kindness do make a difference.

Within this past month, there are a few women whose contributions consistently go above and beyond. Without the hard work of the Rental Committee Chairs (Emily Renzel, Margaret Feuer and Elizabeth Moder-Stern), our financial statements would be in the red. They set up appointments, show the house, write contracts, follow up with the caterers, and bird dog any problems that arise. The Bathroom Remodel project continues to move forward thanks to the dedication of Aino de la Rosa and Delia Laitin who are masterminding the permit process and soliciting bids as we go to press. Jana Stevens has deftly overseen all of the House and Grounds improvements. For us, one of the most touching examples of what qui-

Presidents' letter continued on page 2



Wednesday, December 16

Festive Holiday Party

An evening meeting

Reservations Required by Dec. 2

HOSTED BY LINDA BADER,
DONNA BOHLING & JENNIFER KLECKNER

6:00-9:00 pm

Holiday Festive Party

\$15.00 for members, \$20 for guests.

*Advanced registration required
by December 2nd. Look inside for details.*

Look Inside!

Book Club, History Corner,
Outreach Report, Club Fundraiser at Books Inc.
Details about the Holiday Party
on December 16th

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Book Group

Monday, December 14, 7:30 p.m.

Rabbit Proof Fence

by Doris Pilkington Garimara

Biography/memoir in our Australian series: *Rabbit Proof Fence*, Doris Pilkington Garimara (daughter of one of the sisters in the story). There also is a movie of this book. We choose short books for December when members are holiday-busy, and adjusted our usual date of the fourth Tuesday to Monday, the second week, December 14, 7:30 p.m. at the Club. New members welcome. If you are not on email reminder list, check with Jeanne McDonnell on possibility of a place/date meeting change.

-Jeanne McDonnell

Presidents' letter continued

etly goes on behind the scenes, occurred at a recent House and Grounds Committee Meeting. Some members expressed concern over the condition of the flower beds along the front of the house. There was unanimous agreement that they needed to be replanted, but the lack of funds to do so squelched the plan, until Pat Davis quietly offered to pay her gardener to plant the cyclamen.

Finally, we give thanks to the Presidents and Boards who have preceded us. Not only have you willingly shared your expertise and insights as we've assumed our new roles, but you've also laid a strong foundation for a vibrant Woman's Club.

Wishing you all a very happy holiday season,
Sandra and Christine



Kitchen Tour 2010

Save the Date: May 15, 2010 and call now to volunteer your services. For more information call Co-Chairs Elizabeth Moder-Stern (325-6057) or Debbie Nichols (328-5998).

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History Corner

Mary Ishbel Lockey

The Woman's Club of Palo Alto has served Palo Alto's women for more than a hundred years. So has Castilleja School, founded in 1907 by Mary Ishbel Lockey on the advice of and with the encouragement of Stanford President David Starr Jordan. Miss Lockey was born in Montana in 1872 and graduated from Stanford in 1902. Dr. Jordan and Miss Lockey were both part of the Progressive Era in education that advocated the founding of college preparatory schools for boys and girls. Critics of preparing girls for higher education feared that studying difficult subjects like algebra would make them "unfit for motherhood." Miss Lockey trod the fine line between offering girls the same classical curriculum that boys were studying and preparing them to be good wives and mothers. She chose a "dual system" that would achieve both goals--rigorous academic subjects in combination with courses in "Domestic Science" and "Domestic Arts." Castilleja's early catalogs affirmed that each student's course of study would help to "develop systematic and scholarly habits of thought" and would also give "particular attention...to training in social customs, grace of manner, and refinement of speech."

In 1907, 68 girls enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade, to be taught by 20 teachers and administrators, all with college degrees. They attended classes at 1121 Bryant Street before Miss Lockey purchased the present site (1310 Bryant) in 1910. As the school's prestige grew, Castilleja added a boarding department. Miss Lockey's passion and strategies were successful in that in that Castilleja graduates, for several years, were admitted "without examination to Stanford." Today, into its 2nd century, Castilleja educates 400+ young women in grades 6-12. Many of them still aspire, successfully, to Stanford as their first choice, but they must take all of the requisite exams.

Peggy McKee

*Appreciation to Heather Pang and Sara Croll,
Castilleja: Celebrating a Century, 2007

BOOKS, INC. FUNDRAISER
Shop for holiday gifts and books at
BOOKS, INC.,
Town and Country Village
on Sunday, December 6, 2009,
from 5:00 - 8:00 pm.
20% of the proceeds
from all sales during that time
will be donated to the Club!

Everything in the store is included. It's a great opportunity to do your holiday shopping and benefit the Club at the same time. Tell your friends and happy shopping!

Community Outreach

The Community Outreach Committee has been busy this fall. After collecting over 200 children's books at our October and November luncheons, we distributed 90 books to the library at Belle Haven School, 100 books to St. Elizabeth Seton School, and 30 picture books to the child care room at the Rosalie Rendu Center. All three organizations were delighted to receive a windfall of beautiful books. The variety was terrific, reflecting the understanding among our members of the literacy needs of children.

Then on Friday evening, November 13, we held the second Be the Change event, this time featuring the Support Network for Battered Women. Paula Keane, their outreach director, and Vici Kelley, a woman who used their program, spoke about what they offer and how important their program is in our community. In commenting to our co-presidents, Pat Davis said, "The two speakers were truly inspirational, moving and believable."

The club was generous to the Support Network, donating \$550 in cash, \$350 in gift cards, and purchases of pins and cards totaling over \$800. In addition, members and friends brought diapers, blankets, sheets, towels, games, toys, baby clothes and many other items. The table overflowed!

The Committee will meet in December to evaluate and then plan for spring. If you have input please get in touch with Vicki Sullivan or Eileen Brooks, co-chairs. We look forward to bringing you more outreach programs in 2010.

Woman's Club Holiday Party

Wednesday December 16, 6-9pm

As we go to press we have received over 125 reservations for the December Holiday party. If you haven't gotten yours in yet please hurry to your mailbox and send a check made out to the Woman's Club (\$15/member & \$20/guest). Mail checks by December 2nd to Christine Shambora, 1565 Castilleja Ave, Palo Alto, 94306.

You have questions and we have answers:

- **Will there be enough to eat?** *We assure you even though this is not technically a "dinner" you will not leave hungry!*
- **Are men/spouses invited as guests?** *We welcome all genders as guests, husbands, boyfriends, girlfriends or significant others. Just remember one guest per member.*
- **What if I need to rest my feet during the evening?** *We will have plenty of seating as well as tables.*
- **Will beverages be served?** *Everyone will receive a drink ticket for one free glass of wine or sangria. After that, the charge will be \$5 per glass. We have selected quality wines so we hope you won't be disappointed. The Gaveleers (Club past presidents) will be selling wine and Sangria as a fundraiser so your money will be going to a good cause.*
- **What shall I wear?** *This is a holiday party so party attire is appropriate.*
- **Will there be entertainment?** *We are very fortunate to have engaged the jazz band "Late Notice", a group of seven very talented musicians, who will wow you with talent.*

More questions? Contact Christine Shambora (650) 328-2865 or email christine@theshamboras.com

Please notify Pat Davis, Sunshine Chair, if you hear of members experiencing illness or difficulties so she be in touch to offer support.

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