

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, March 3** - Board Meeting 5:00 pm At Susan Hartzell's house.

**Tuesday, March 9** - Drop In Social 5:00-7:00 pm

Hosted by Celiene O'Hara 367-8122. Call Celiene for location.

**Thursday, March 11** - Cine'Circle and the Reel Buffs at 7:00 pm at Mary Dowley's,  
Assigned movie The Hurt Locker. Hosted by Melaine Bales and Jeanne Aufmuth.

Call Melaine at 650-326-0776 for more information.

**Wednesday, March 17** - Luncheon at 11:30 am

Board Nominations, Meg Waite Clayton, lawyer, author, Truth in Fiction: How the History of Palo Alto in the 1960s and 70s shaped the writing of the Wednesday Sisters

HOSTED BY EMILY RENZEL

**Tuesday, March 23** - Book Group at 7:30 pm at Sue Kemp's

Call Jeanne McDonnell 321 5260

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



[www.womansclubofpaloalto.org](http://www.womansclubofpaloalto.org)

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## March 2010 Newsletter

Co-Presidents: Christine Shambora, Sandra Pearson

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### Presidents' Letter

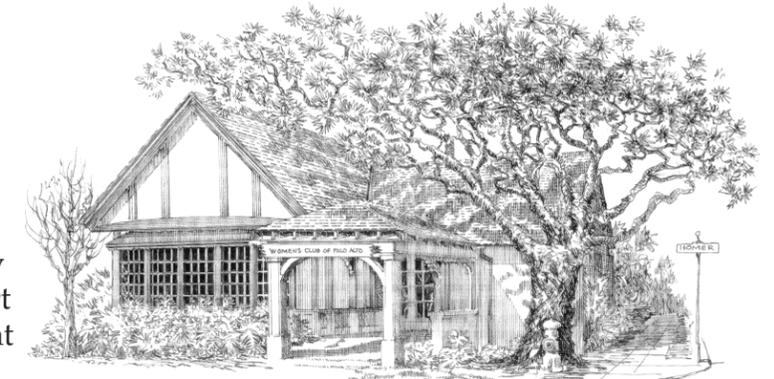
The three main sources of revenue for the Woman's Club are rental income, dues, and fundraising in that order. This year over 60% of our budgeted income was forecast to come from rentals. The bad news is it looks like we will fall short of that number by approximately \$10,000 this year. The good news is, in the short term, due to careful spending it will not present a financial problem for us this year.

For the past several months both the Board and the Finance Committee have been tracking our income for the year. One of our main challenges has been the difficulty in forecasting rental income and its fluctuations due to economic conditions. Recognizing our dependence on rental income calls attention to the risk of putting "too many of our eggs in the rental basket". In other words, if we depend too heavily on rental income we may be financially vulnerable to changing economic conditions. It is the opinion of the Finance Committee and the Board that budgeted income from rentals should be no more than 50% of total income. We are then left with the question how do we bring our income sources into better balance? The answer seems to lie with our most reliable and predictable source of income: dues.

In a separate report included in this newsletter you will find an extensive report from Joan Johnston, Finance Chair. Please read this report that gives a detailed explanation and analysis of our finances including the costs of membership. It looks at options for increasing income and cutting expenses and the rationale for increasing dues.

At the March meeting members will be asked

*Presidents' letter continued on page 2*



**Wednesday, March 17**

**Meg Waite Clayton**

*Author of the novel Wednesday Sisters  
about Palo Alto real life history*

*Sponsored by the History Committee  
in honor of the 30th Anniversary of  
National Women's History Month*

HOSTED BY EMILY RENZEL

**11:30 Member and Guest Sign-in**  
**12:00 Luncheon is Served**  
**12:15 President's Welcome  
Program & Dessert**  
**Luncheon is offered at \$5.00 for members, \$10  
for guests. Call Emily for guest reservations:  
321-4165**

### Look Inside!

Book Club, History Corner,  
Outreach Report, Art Contest, Kitchen Tour,  
More Cine Circle Information  
Important Notice about Construction  
In Memoriam plus An Important Insert:  
Finance Chair's Report, Directory Information

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## Book Group

**Tuesday March. 23, 7:30 p.m.**

at Sue Kemp's

### Confucius Lives Next Door:

What Living in the East Teaches Us About Living in the West, by T. R. Reid, is the book we will discuss in March. The remaining books on our spring series are:

April- *Sky Burial* by Xinran Xue

May-*The Piano Tuner* by Daniel Philippe Mason

June-*Under the Dragon* by Rory MacLean

-Jeanne McDonnell,

### Reminder: Guest Policy for Luncheons and Dinners

It is a continuing challenge to plan for the number of attendees at our luncheons and dinners. Therefore the Board has reinstated the policy of requiring members bringing a guest to call ahead and notify the luncheon Committee hostess for that month no later than 48 hours before the date of the luncheon. The Board also decided to limit any guest to attending only one luncheon or dinner per year. This month please call Emily Renzel at 321-4165.

### PRESIDENTS' LETTER continued from page 1

to increase dues to \$150 per member for 2010-2011. We will still accept requests for waivers of the increase due to financial hardship. We hope you will support this recommendation. It was a difficult one to come to but the Board believes it is the responsible and prudent action to take on behalf of the club.

Cordially,

Sandra and Christine

## History Corner Gilman Street Downtown

How I wish Gilman Street had been named after the wondrous Charlotte Perkins Gilman. Our notable club member of the early 20th century, Alice Park, went after the City Council to list the street's name as honoring that author, to no avail. Women had no vote in California until 1911, so possibly their inferior political status influenced the decision.

Alice Park cared so much about history that she deposited her papers with the Huntington Library in San Marino and the Hoover Institution archives. I care so much about history that I read Gilman's book, *Women and Economics: A Study of the Economic Relation Between Women and Men*, published first in 1898, reissued five times in the next decade, and most recently in 1994.

Women's club members should be proud of this quote: "The woman's club movement is one of the most important sociological phenomena of the century ... indeed, of all centuries ... marking as it does the first timid steps toward social organization of these so long unsocialized members of our race. Social life is absolutely conditioned upon organization ... Their main relation to society was an individual one ... The only form of organization possible to women was for long the celibate religious community ... and now the whole country is budding into women's clubs ... The sense of human unity is growing daily among women ... One of the most valuable features of this vast line of progress is the new heroism it is pouring into life." Her point was that women had been confined to the home, men worked together, socialized together.

For a book so influential in its time, *Women and Economics* is barely known today, partly, perhaps, because of its outdated language, such as "sex-prejudice, social evolution, division of labor on sex-lines ... a conspicuous monotony, prominent modesty...." Still worth reading though.

—Peggy McKeel

## The 2nd Annual Palo Alto Woman's Club Student Art Contest

**Saturday March 6, 2010, at Art For Well Beings  
2460 Park Blvd. # 3 - Palo Alto.**

(Park and California -enter from parking lot behind Kinkos)

Winners of our contest will be judged at The Woman's Club District art contest on Monday March 8, 2010 and winners will go on to the State contest. For more information contact Judy Gittelsohn, 776-8297.

### SAVE THE DATE 2nd Annual Kitchen Tour Saturday, May 15, 2010

5 Fabulous Palo Alto Kitchens

Tickets available at March 17 Meeting \$30.00

The committee's goal is 2 tickets per member. Treat a friend, bring a family member and support our one major fundraising event of the year.

For more information contact  
Debbie Nichols – 650.329.8558

### DO YOU LIKE TO HIKE?

So does Hedy McAdams and she is looking for a co-leader to help revive the Woman's Club hiking group. This was a very successful club interest group and just needs some shared leadership to get it going again. Please contact club member Hedy McAdams to let her know you are interested and would like to help get things going again.

### CinéCircle

Thursday, March 11 - Cine'Circle and the Reel Buffs at 7:00 pm. at Mary Dowley's house. Our March meeting will be a spirited two-parter – one a discussion of in-your-face Oscar hopeful THE HURT LOCKER (available on DVD) and two a juicy recap of the Oscar ceremony itself which unspools on Sunday, March 7. Hosted by Melaine Bales and Jeanne Aufmuth. Call Melaine at 650-326-0776 for more information.

## In Memoriam

**Carolyn Long** passed away December 11, 2009. A Woman's Club member since 2000, Carolyn taught in Palo Alto secondary schools for decades. She loved walking on the beach, playing bridge, and traveling the world.



## Community Outreach

At the March 17<sup>th</sup> luncheon, the Outreach Committee is looking forward to sharing with you the work we've done over the last year. Before you sit down for lunch, we hope you'll take the opportunity to look at our display. It will include information about the program we've established and what we plan to do in the future. Committee members will be there to answer questions and let you know about the work of the committee, a group you might consider joining.

—Sue Krumbain,

### SAVE THE DATE ITEMS:

**Chinese New Year's Dinner and entertainment hosted by Gloria Hom and Mings. March 14, 2010 at 6:00 pm.** \$50 per person. To secure your reservation please mail a check to Gloria by March 8th. Further questions contact Gloria.

**True Elegance, a Benefit Tea Sunday, April 25, from 2 to 5 p.m.** "A few years ago, Woman's Club of Palo Alto generously donated a one-time use of their clubhouse to a silent auction held at the Loma Prieta District Convention. Trynie Hermary of GFWC Peninsula Hills Women's Club entered the highest bid. For her one-time use of the clubhouse, her club will be presenting "True Elegance", a benefit tea Sunday, April 25, from 2 to 5 p.m. in the ballroom of the Woman's Club of Palo Alto, 475 Homer Ave. Donations of \$40 per person (\$300 for a table of eight) will benefit Shelter Network and the Redwood City Education Foundation. For tickets call Kit Fragulia, (650) 388-6371."