

# *The Woman's Club of Palo Alto*

## *December 2010 Newsletter*

Co-Presidents: Christine Shambora, Sandra Pearson

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### **Presidents' Letter**

The warmth that filled the room at our November luncheon was infectious. Was it the tone set by our friendly greeters? The new "fast track" check in? The lovely table settings with bronze and yellow mums? The sun streaming through the windows? Perhaps it was a bit of all of the above – and more. Your graciousness in welcoming our newcomers, your generosity in bringing children's books for Literacy Month, and your willingness to participate. I can't remember when we've had so many important announcements in one meeting – buy your tickets to the December Fiesta by December 8; sign up for yogilates now; Nancy Cassidy will be presenting a children's concert to benefit Philanthropy February 5; the knitting group welcomes more participants (especially quilters), the walkers encourage you to join them, and it's not too late to continue your volunteer efforts at Haven House or contribute books at the December meeting. Thanks, too, for your feedback on the bicycle rack and cups and saucers. We as a Board, the Committee Chairs and Interest Groups value your involvement.

Luncheon participation is the one area where our chairs struggle each month. If you have not yet served this year, please take a moment now, check your directory for the month you are assigned, and note it on your calendar. If you cannot serve in the month you are assigned, it is your responsibility to exchange with a friend. It is also important that you inform both luncheon chairs so they are clear on the switch. We came close this month to not having enough cupcakes and sliders because some members "forgot" or arrived with food after the luncheon was over! We realize that unexpected or extenuating circumstances do occur that prevent members from

*(continued on page 3)*



**Wednesday, December 15**

### **Holiday Fiesta A Musical Evening**

Spanish cuisine by Chef Jeff Machado

Music by guitarists Ken Brown Duo

Features Paella and Tapas.

Desserts complements of WCPA senioritas

*This is a "share the chair" event-more seating will be provided but please remember to mingle*

HOSTED BY PATRICIA DAVIS, SUSAN HARTZELL  
& REZVAN MOGHADDAM

**Evening begins at 6:00**

**Reservations Required by December 8.**

*See Insert for more information.*

### **Look Inside!**

Book Club, History Corner,  
Philanthropy Fundraiser Plans, Kudos Corner,  
Community Outreach, Knit/Stitch Group  
Philanthropy Application and Holiday Party  
Information



## Book Group

Tuesday, December 28

7:30 p.m. at the clubhouse

### *Hateship, Friendship, Courtship, Loveship, Marriage* by Alice Munro

This Munro collection of short stories is the fourth in our Canadian author series. We always save our lightest book of the fall reads for December, possibly a month of serious overload. We figured that getting around to just a few stories might suffice if need be. Munro has specialized in this genre so she knows how to do it. January 25th book will be *Who Has Seen the Wind* by W.O. Mitchell.

Jan. 25 W. O. Mitchell, *Who Has Seen the Wind*

—Jeanne McDonnell,

(Contact me for questions or if you are not on email list.)

### Save the Date for a Fun(d)raiser!

Renowned children's singer and Woman's Club member Nancy Cassidy will delight children and adults alike at a special concert to raise funds for the Philanthropy Committee on Saturday morning, February 5th. Tickets will be on sale at our December 15th holiday party along with Nancy's CD's which will make perfect holiday gifts! Tickets are \$10 each. CD's \$15 with a portion going to the Club! Please contact Jean Dawes ([jean@dawes.com](mailto:jean@dawes.com)) or Liz Lillard-Bernal ([lizandal@earthlink.net](mailto:lizandal@earthlink.net)) to volunteer if you can help organize this wonderful event.

### KUDOS CORNER

**Cherie Donald** for completing the audit of the 2009-10 financial records

**Silvia Lamarque**, our custodian, who has done such a wonderful job caring for our clubhouse this past year

**Barbara Klein and the Program Committee** for providing such interesting and relevant speakers for our monthly luncheons.

## History Corner Determination Finally Did It

Westerners should be proud that they took the lead in women's gaining full and equal voting rights with men. California had the honor of being the sixth state to enfranchise women. It would be several years before any state east of the Mississippi gained that distinction.

Our Women's Club archives contain a hard-cover notebook dedicated to the Constitution and By-laws of the Independent Equal Suffrage League of Palo Alto, President, Emily Elliot Pardee Karns Dixon, who was also twice president of the Club. There had been suffrage organizations in the state for many years, but this Independent League geared up to do its best to convince Palo Alto men to vote yes when the Woman Suffrage Amendment came up for a vote. Although the vote statewide was only slightly in favor, a larger majority of Palo Alto men supported woman suffrage in the October 10, 1911 special statewide election. Dixon and other workers went door to door, among other tactics, to promote the cause in town.

Organizers of the League brought in Professor Green for advice. One of his points was to invest their energy in that special election, "not waiting until the Presidential election, when the danger of swamping the amendment would occur." Two Palo Alto ministers, Father Gleason of St. Thomas Church and Rev. Carl M. Warner, also helped. Father Gleason referred to countries where women already had full voting rights—Australia, New Zealand, Norway, Finland, Isle of Man, Tasmania, and he listed also others with municipal suffrage. He wanted to assure advocates that this voting anomaly functioned comfortably elsewhere.

After the California victory, it took nine more years of hard work before the 19th Amendment passed nationally by which United States joined other nations of the world that got there first. We'll celebrate that California Centennial big time next year.

—Jeanne McDonnell!

*Presidents' letter continued*

fulfilling their obligation but we hope this will be the exception rather than the rule.

We hope everyone joins their committee with a positive attitude knowing it's a chance to meet some new members and make new friends. Most of you seem to prefer "homemade, creative" luncheons, but we cannot continue this practice (and our bargain price) without the participation of everyone. Our luncheon chairs and committees deserve a huge round of applause. Let's all continue to support this wonderful tradition.

The December Fiesta will give us all a chance to relax, and enjoy the mellow music and fine drinks and Spanish specialties. See you all there!

Have a warm and wonderful holiday season!

—Sandra and Christine

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**Knit n' Stitch Group**

The group has settled on a regular meeting schedule so we encourage you to mark your calendars and join us when you can. We have expanded the group to include anyone who does any kind of needlework and we are especially encouraging quilters to join us. We will meet on the first and third Fridays of the month. For reasons of comfort and lighting we have decided to meet in members' homes. On Dec. 3rd we will meet at Delia Laitin's home from 1:00-3:00pm. On Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> we will meet at Christine Shambora's home. Please rsvp to Delia if you plan to attend on December 3rd and contact Christine Shambora if you wish further information.

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**Yogilates Anyone?**

We're investigating the possibility of offering a members-only Yogilates class next year. The class will focus on traditional pilates mat work with a twist of yoga. A ten-week program is under consideration, tentatively scheduled to begin the first week of January. The class would meet at the Club on Tues. or Thurs. afternoons for one hour sessions. Actual days and times will be determined by participants. Cost for the series of 10 sessions is \$100. Class is appropriate for all fitness levels and limited to 20 participants. Interested members contact Melaine Bales Hennessey via email (melainehennessy@gmail.com) or phone (650-326-0776). Thanks!

**Outreach Committee**

On Saturday, November 20, at 10am, members of the Outreach Committee held their first Clothing Boutique at Haven Family House. We posted flyers to let residents know about the event, and on Saturday morning at 8:30am we set up the community room with women's clothes, the laundry room with men's clothes, the hall with equipment, toys and books, and the actual clothing closet with children's clothes. Residents were clearly excited, as they arrived well before 10am to check things out and began to shop at 9:50am. They went home with everything from infant equipment to men's jeans and sweatshirts, from books and toys to toddler outfits, from toiletries to women's pants. The event was a great success. We intend to hold the next Clothing Boutique in February.

Many of us have gotten quite involved with Haven Family House. Some members baked for and attended a Gratitude Gathering in mid-November at which those living at HFH expressed their gratitude for the things they have, the people in their lives, the help they are getting at HFH. They also received a basket containing various items to use at Thanksgiving, including a roasting pan, decorations for the table, some kitchen utensils, and dish towels.

During the month of December, our committee will put together baskets for all 24 apartments at HFH, so if you want to make donations to those baskets, check the website for items that we are going to include. You can drop those items off at Sue Krumbein's house, 2371 Bryant Street, PA, on the front or back porch.

The Outreach Committee is very pleased to be supporting Haven Family House this year. We will continue to work there, periodically collect goods, and be on the lookout for good projects that will be of interest to all of you. Let us know if you want to join us, as we can always use another pair of hands!



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## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

**Wednesday, December 1** - Board Meeting 5:00 pm at the Club House

**Tuesday, December 7 - Drop In Social 5:00-7:00 pm at the Club House**  
Hosted by Celiene O'Hara 367-8122. .

**Wednesday, December 15 - Holiday Fiesta at 6:00 pm** featuring guitarists Ken Brown Duo  
**with Paella, Tapas and Delicious Desserts** Reservations needed by December 8  
HOSTED BY PATRICIA DAVIS, SUSAN HARTZELL & REZVAN MOGHADDAM

**Thursday, December 16** - Cine'Circle and the Reel Buffs at 7:00 pm at the Club House  
This month's movie *To be announced later in an email*  
Hosted by Melaine Bales Hennessey and Jeanne Aufmuth. Call Melaine at 650-326-0776 for more info.

**Tuesday, December 28** - Book Group at 7:30 pm at the Club House  
Call Jeanne McDonnell 321 5260



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

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement