

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## October 2011 Newsletter

President: Eileen Brooks

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### President's Letter

Back into the swing of things –

The Board Retreat in August (held at the Pacific Art League upstairs in the Norton Gallery) was a rowdy success. We turned our attention towards ourselves rather than out to you, as once the year begins, it is always all about you. We renewed our commitments to supporting and encouraging each other, the theory being that an engaged and enthusiastic Board equals an engaged and enthusiastic membership.

Our September 8<sup>th</sup> New Member Orientation and Reception was a great kick-off to the new year. New members heard a lively history of our club and bios of three pushy and accomplished early members. (I guess that's the way to get things done – some things never change.) We brought our new members on a mini-tour of the clubhouse – backstage and into the quirky, little passageways, the Bride's Room, the kitchen and office and, of course, our beautiful bathrooms. Then, great food and wine in the Ballroom, a club timeline, the historic stage screen unfurled, Committees and Interest Groups on display and the general membership greeting all – a very festive and warm welcome. The classic "a good time was had by all."

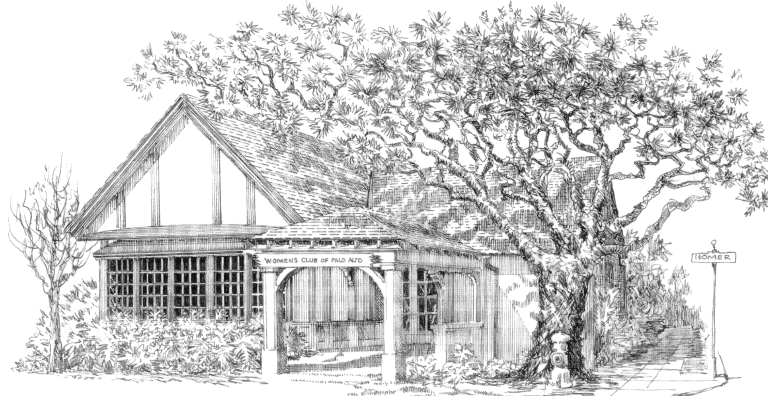
Please make a special effort to continue to welcome our new members – you'll know them by the Rose Banner across the top of their nametags.

A couple of new newsletter features:

- Board Business – what the Board is up to.
- Planning for the Future – a monthly update about this ongoing, vital WC project and how we all fit into it.

Let's settle in for a fantastic year.

-Eileen Brooks



**Wednesday, October 19**

**Happiness Through Compassion**  
**Dr. James Doty, M.D.,**  
Professor of Neurosurgery

Founder and Director of CCARE, Center for  
Compassion and Altruism Research and Education,  
Stanford University  
HOSTED BY ELIZABETH MODER-STERN  
AND DEBBIE NICHOLS

**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. Email Debbie Nichols for guest reservations or if you need a vegetarian meal at: [dnichols@cbnorcal.com](mailto:dnichols@cbnorcal.com). NOTE: Guests for this luncheon limited to 5. First reserved, first served. Email Debbie early!**

### Look Inside!

- Book Group • History Corner •
- Outreach Donations List • Board Business •
- Planning for the Future Update •
- In Memorium •

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

## Book Group

### Tuesday, October 25, 7:30 p.m.

at the Clubhouse

We will discuss *Annie Dunne* by Sebastian Barry, the second in our fall series of books with subject matter relating to Ireland and England.

Subsequent books are:

November *22 Britannia Road* by Amanda Hodgkinson

December *Half a Life* by V. S. Naipaul

January *The Hand that First Held Mine* by Maggie O'Farrell

New members welcome. Contact Jeanne McDonnell [jfmcd@aol.com](mailto:jfmcd@aol.com)

— *Jeanne McDonnell*

## Board Business

### September, 2011 Board Meeting

- Set up a Communications team to assess efficient and effective ways of: getting WC info out to members, putting a workable system in place; assigning responsibilities; exploring Publicity options.

- Established a Membership task force to expand Membership Chair duties into a committee to look at new ideas and possible events to expand engagement of our new members and general membership.

- Finance Committee will meet to come up with ways to get budget/finance info out to the general membership in an easy-to-understand format. The Committee will also start looking at 3-5 year financial planning.

Board meeting Agenda and Minutes are available for general membership review. Please contact Eileen Brooks, President: [eibrooks@hotmail.com](mailto:eibrooks@hotmail.com)

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## History Corner

### Centennial Celebration of Proposition 4

In last month's History Corner, Jeanne McDonnell described how our first president, Dr. Mary Grafton Campbell, led the Club in support of women's suffrage. In October of this year, California women can celebrate the centennial of the historic passage of Proposition 4, an amendment to the California constitution approved by voters in a special election on October 10, 1911. California was the 6<sup>th</sup> state to enfranchise its female population. Almost immediately, California women began to register to vote; in the May, 1912 election, a higher percentage of eligible women voted than men. In a recent commemoration of women's suffrage by the League of Women Voters, Mayor Sid Espinosa acknowledged and praised the "courage, common cause and teamwork" of women such as Dr. Campbell. To learn more about how California is celebrating this important milestone, visit the website <http://www.ca2011centennial.com/> Links on the Home page provide rich information about the suffragist movement in California.

— *Peggy McKee.*

## To Have Better Parking Karma

Carpool or park in the Cowper Street Garage or ride your bike.

## Community Outreach

### 2nd Annual

## October Donation Luncheon

### Haven Family House GREATEST NEEDS

#### NEW

Socks & Underwear - all sizes, M/W/C  
Kitchen & Bathroom Cleaning Supplies  
Bed pillows  
Toilet paper, light bulbs

#### NEW or GENTLY USED

Kitchenware  
Table and desk lamps  
Sheets, blankets and comforters,  
(twin, full and queen)

**Bring items to the October 19th Lunch**  
Fill our Donation Tables!

For donations of large furniture pieces, call  
Maria at Shelter Network, 650.685.5880  
to arrange for a free pickup.

## Committee and Interest Group Updates

### Planning for the Future

The Woman's Club has embarked on a strategic planning process. Be sure to take part. You will have received an email with a link to SurveyMonkey. You'll be asked about issues of importance to you, and if there are things you would be willing to work on. **Fill out the survey and let us know what you care about.** The Club belongs to all of us, and we want it to work for all.

### History Walks

Golden Gate Park hike on Oct. 25th. Details to follow via emails to those interested. Contact Lolly @ [lolly@osbofamily.com](mailto:lolly@osbofamily.com).

### Bridge

1st and 3rd Thursdays

Join the fun - there is a place for every level player!

**Add your name to the Bridge email list!**

Contact Mary Haverstock - [mgh956@gmail.com](mailto:mgh956@gmail.com) or (650) 325-5259

**3 playing options:**

**10:30 to Noon** - *Beginning Bridge Lessons* with Instructor Prue Saunders - **\$15 per person** Players with little or no Bridge playing experience welcome!!

**Noon to 2:00** - *Open Play* (just come and enjoy free play)

**2:00 to 4:00** - *"Players Bridge"* with Instructor Prue Saunders - **\$15 per person**

Prue will give a brief lesson supported by handouts. The bridge conventions such as Stayman, Jacoby transfers, Roman Key Card, Drury, Jacoby 2NT raise, Bergen will be covered. There will be 4 structured boards relevant to the topic and some random hands.

### Community Outreach

October is the month for our Haven Family House donations. Please bring items to the Oct 19<sup>th</sup> lunch. Critical needs are new pillows (99 cents at Ikea!), kitchen and bath cleaning supplies, new underwear and socks – all sizes for adults and children.

Our committee is 18 members strong and still looking for new members. We volunteer at Haven Family House the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wed. of each month. Contact Donna Bohling [donna@bohling.com](mailto:donna@bohling.com) if you want to give it a try.

### Philanthropy

**Save the date:** The Philanthropy Committee is excited to announce our 2nd year Nancy Cassidy Children's Concert at the club on **February 11, 2012** benefiting the club's nonprofit grant recipients.

### Knit and Stitch

The knit/stitch group will meet on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of the month from 1-3pm, location to be announced. Contact Christine Shambora ([christine@theshamboras.com](mailto:christine@theshamboras.com) 650 868-7523) with questions.

\*\*\***THANK YOU**\*\*\*

### TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!

Please patronize and thank these local businesses for their kind generosity. They donated to our Board Retreat and New Member Reception.

Bon Vivant • Fleming's Steakhouse

Hobbee's • Il Fornaio

In Full Bloom • MacArthur Park

Osteria • Palo Alto Creamery

Piazza's • Stanford Floral

**A SPECIAL OFFER FOR WC MEMBERS**  
**10% off your dinner cost when you mention**

**Bobbi Fox or the Woman's Club at**

**Bon Vivant**

**Through January, 2012**

### In Memorium

### Edith Fleming Kaiser Age 93

Edith was a past President of our Woman's Club, serving in 1965-66. She was an Executive Secretary for General Motors, an avid golfer and sang in her church choirs and community choruses. Edith and her husband, Carl, traveled extensively and in 2003 they moved to DeLand, FL. Though Edith's health had been in decline for several years, she still enjoyed having her Woman's Club of Palo Alto monthly newsletter read to her. She died on August 30, 2011.

The Woman's Club has contributed \$50. in her name to our Philanthropy Fund.

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Tuesday, October 11 - Drop In Social** 5:00-7:00 pm at the Club House  
Hosted by Celiene O'Hara 367-8122

**Tuesday, Oct. 18 - Investment Club**, 6:15 pm at the Clubhouse. Call Carol Martin 408.923.2492

**Wednesday, October 19 Luncheon - Dr. James Doty, MD**, Professor of Neurosurgery, Founder and Director of the Center for Compassion and Altruism Research and Education, Stanford University

*Happiness Through Compassion*

HOSTED BY ELIZABETH MODER STERN AND DEBBIE NICHOLS

**Tuesday, October 25- Book Group** at 7:30 pm at the Club House  
Call Jeanne McDonnell 321 5260

**Thursday, Oct.27 - Ciné Circle and the Reel Buffs** - Movie and meeting time TBA.  
Hosted by Melaine Hennessey and Jeanne Aufmuth. Call Melaine at 650.326.0776 for info



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

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement