

The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

June 2012 Newsletter

President: Eileen Brooks

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

President's Letter

Let's see...any highlights from 2011/2012?

September – New Member Orientation and Reception - well attended and enjoyed by all. Great kick-off to the year. New, comfy chairs!

October – Members' Donations to Haven Family House - in-kind donations worth \$3500. "History Walks" debuts with a guided CG walk. Subsequent walks include The Presidio, Grace Cathedral and Lauriston Villa.

November – New Eldercare Support Group begins. Bridge is big. Planning for the Future member online survey nets clear club Goals.

December – Volunteering for Vets WC members sign 450 cards for the Palo Alto VA Vets. Evening Holiday Cocktail Party is a huge hit - Pot Luck and plenty of wine.

January – Rentals pulls in \$7400. WC gets a Facebook page - like us!

February - Sold out Nancy Cassidy Concert rocks the WC. Members create Valentines for Vets. New landscaping courtesy of a Garden Club grant.

March – 2012/2013 Speaker Series planning blasts off. The Book Group yuks it up with Humor books.

April – Members only, full house Luncheon to hear Dr. A. Verghese. Strategic Plan rolls out at a high energy evening event.

May – We award \$14,000 in Philanthropy grants. The Kitchen Tour committee engages 65 WC members. More Volunteering for Vets – cards for Memorial Day.

June -Our Club is happy. Our Club is healthy. We break for the summer with good thoughts all around.

These are only highlights – I could go on and on. You all have contributed so much towards making this Club hum along, every day, at a wonderful and enjoyable clip. It continues to be an honor and a privilege for me to serve as your President.

Eileen Brooks



Wednesday, June 20

Rekindling the Spark of Civic Imagination

Susan Stuart Clark,

Founder of Common Knowledge,
"putting the public back in public policy"

Budget Approval

HOSTED BY VALELRIE HAMILTON & JEAN PRESSEY

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
and \$10.00 for guests. Email Valerie to reserve
for a guest or if you need a vegetarian meal at:
vhamil1947@aol.com*

Look Inside!

- Special Evening Budget Meeting •
- Book Group • History Corner
- Board Business • Kitchen Tour •
- Evening Social •

www.womansclubofpaloalto.org

Book Group

Tuesday, June 26, 7:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse

This is the last in our series of humor books, *Lunatics*, by Dave Barry and Alan Zweibel. We will also make a final decision on our fall series about Korea so that members can purchase their books and start reading over the summer. If you are not on the email reminder list, contact Jeanne McDonnell in case a change of date or place has been needed.

— *Jeanne McDonnell*

History Corner

Sorosis, America's First Professional Women's Club

By the end of the 19th century, women were not content to be relegated to the "separate" or domestic sphere ordained for them by men. Rebuffed in her attempt to attend an all-male dinner, Jane Cunningham Croly founded Sorosis, America's first professional women's club, in 1869. In the next decades, a movement spread as women organized to improve their communities and, of course, secure the vote. In 1889, Jane Croly urged her "sisters" to form a federation; thus was born the General Federation of Women's Clubs, comprising about 60 clubs across the nation.

As we know, the Woman's Club of Palo Alto was founded in 1893 and joined the GWFC in 1898. Our club, like many others, expanded, flourished, and experienced challenges when women entered the work force; however, it is presently thriving! Other clubs have not been so fortunate. The Winnetka Club (formerly the Winnetka Women's Club) was founded in 1908 by reform and civic-minded women in their Chicago suburb. In 1911, they purchased a beautiful Victorian home and made it their clubhouse for the next century. I was saddened to read that Winnetka was unable to help the Winnetka Club, and it had to sell its clubhouse earlier this month. The buyers will, to use a Palo Alto term, "scrape" it.

We have much to be thankful for as our club, with its historic clubhouse, continues to provide friendship and a rich array of activities for us to enjoy.

— *Peggy McKee*

Free 3 Hour Parking is always available at the Cowper Street public parking garage, across from the Garden Court Hotel. While the weather is fine, park there and take a lovely stroll to our Clubhouse for meetings and luncheons.

Or, carpool. Or, ride your bike.

www.womansclubofpaloalto.org

Board Business

May, 2012 Board Meeting

- The Board discussed the 2012/2013 Budget draft presented by Barbara Spreng, Finance chair. A special evening meeting was approved (June 6) for the general membership to review the Budget (after minimal adjustments to the draft by the Finance committee.)
 - The Rentals Committee reported \$6100. in income for the month of April. The Board approved the Rentals committee recommendation that our full day rental fee be increased from \$2000. to \$2300.
 - The Board approved the nomination of Sarah French to Honorary Membership.
 - The Board approved date changes/additions to the 2012/2013 Club Calendar year: Nov. meeting changed to Nov. 14, Evening Holiday Party will be Dec. 14, Dec. Luncheon will be Dec. 19, April 17 meeting will be an evening meeting.
 - Donna Bohling, WC Webmistress and Board Director, will meet with the Rentals Committee to explore technology options for the rentals process and procedures.

Complete Board meeting Agenda and Minutes are available for general membership review. Please contact Eileen Brooks, President. eibrooks@hotmail.com

2012/2013 Budget Review Special Evening Meeting

Wednesday, June 6, 6-7 p.m. at the Clubhouse

Barbara Spreng, Finance chair, will present the 2012/2013 draft Budget at a special evening meeting. This is your opportunity to ask questions. An electronic version of the Budget will be sent to the general membership before this meeting.

The new Board will vote on the Budget at the June 13 Board meeting and the general membership will vote on it at the June 20th Luncheon.

Light snacks provided. Contact Barbara Spreng for more info at bspreng@gmail.com

Rave Reviews for the Kitchen Tour

Great Teamwork from 55 club members made this year's tour a resounding success! People were thrilled to be able to view more of each home than just the kitchens. Raffle tickets were great sellers due to the value of the items. Gross income for day of tour—\$3500, prior to tour – \$7745. Expenses still coming in so it is too early to calculate our net income. A more detailed report to follow in an email blast. — *Bobbi Fox*

Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements and Events

Community Outreach

We had a LOVELY give-away at Haven Family House Saturday, June 5th. Thirty families were served and each received a gift bag containing your donations of shampoo, dish liquid, new sponges for the kitchen, toilet paper, bars of soap, garbage bags, toothpaste and at least 4 toothbrushes. Additionally, we organized and set up a "shopping" area for adults and kids - lots of new clothes, children's shoes, toys, new books, stuffed animals, and games were given away. Lolly Osborne had an active children's art table going and Sue Krumbein read books with the youngsters. We thank these local dentists who graciously donated toothbrushes to our give-away: Dr. Chris Lindsey, Dr. Roshan Emam, Dr. Kevin Low and Whitney Lorenz. Check back in the September Newsletter for information about our Community Outreach plans and projects for the fall.

Thanks to our members who gave generously to Haven Family House. Please, consider joining our group. We have a lot of fun and will be recruiting at the New Member Orientation and Reception in the fall.

Philanthropy Committee

Our May Luncheon Philanthropy Grants totaled \$14,000! Each of our seven non-profit organizations was awarded \$2000. towards their worthy efforts. Hurray for them and hurray for us!

House and Grounds

This year was a busy one for H & G. We did all our regular maintenance, AND we re-landscaped the corner and prepared for and did some of the work to finish off landscaping along Homer Avenue. We also hired an expert to do a thorough house inspection. We learned a lot about the condition of the clubhouse and the projects we have to do right away, as well as those to plan for in the future. Of course, this includes a new roof, but also updating the kitchen, improving the foyer and front porch, and cleaning out the space underneath the house. We have worked closely with the Finance Committee to plan for funding future projects. Every time I'm at the clubhouse, I'm reminded of what a lovely place it is and how lucky we are to own it, regardless of the time, energy, and money that it takes. I hope you feel the same way! *Sue Krumbein*

Check out our Website!

www.womansclubofpaloalto.org

Contact our webmistress, Donna Bohling, with comments and/or suggestions.

Bridge

June 7 and 21: 10:30 to Noon - Continuing Beginners
 Bridge with Prue
 2 to 4 - Open Play
 2 to 4 - Players Bridge with Prue

Please contact Leika Kejriwal at leika.kejriwal@gmail.com if you would like to be added to the Bridge Group mailing list.

Eldercare Support Group

The Woman's Club Caregiver Support Group's next meeting will be on Thursday, June 14, 11:00 to 12:30 in the Boardroom at the Clubhouse. Join us to share stories, resources and feedback. It's a great way to make new friends within our WC community. Our situations, caring for a spouse, self, parent, are varied. The need for empathy and understanding are the same for all of us. New people are always welcome. Contact: Cathy Dolton at cathyjd@comcast.net.

Investment Club

Investment Club Seeking New Member

Do you have an interest in learning about the stock market? WCPA has an Investment Club that was formed in 1998 with several original founding members still active. We have weathered two major stock market dips and consistently invest every three months. Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the clubhouse, where we form friendships and learn about investing. Each member (limited to 15) is responsible for tracking designated stocks with a shared stake in our investments. We are actively looking for a new member to join us and welcome guests to find out how it goes. Interested? Contact Jana Stevens, Pat Sanders or Rosemary Busher for more information

Knitting Group

The Knitting Group meets the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, from 1 – 3 p.m. For more info, contact Sarah French at 650.329.9091.

Monthly Evening Drop-in Social

Tuesday, June 12, 5 – 7 p.m. At the Clubhouse

Stop by and enjoy appetizers and wine and free-flowing conversation with your club mates. Nourish old friendships and make new ones!

\$5. gets you appetizers and wine. Contact Celiene O'Hara celienet@aol.com for more info

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CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday, June 6 - Evening 2012/2013 Budget Review 6-7 pm at the Clubhouse.
Contact Barbara Spreng at bspreng@gmail.com

Thursday, June 7 - Bridge, Beginners w/Prue, 10:30 am-noon; Players w/Prue and Open Play, 2-4 pm at the Clubhouse. Contact Leika at leika.kejriwal@gmail.com

Tuesday, June 12- Drop-in Social - 5-7 p.m. at the Clubhouse.
Contact Celiene O'Hara at celienet@aol.com

Wednesday, June 13 – Incoming/Outgoing Board Meeting, 5-7 pm at the Clubhouse.

Thursday, June 14 - Eldercare Support Group, 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse.
Contact Cathy Dolton at cathyjd@comcast.net

Thursday, June 14 - Cine Circle and the Reel Buffs - 7 pm at the Clubhouse. Movie TBA.
Hosted by Melaine Bales Hennessey and Jeanne Aufmuth. Call Melaine at 326.0776 for info.

Tuesday, June 19 - Investment Club, 6:15 pm at the Clubhouse. Call Jana Stevens at 650.327.0370.

Wednesday, June 20 – Luncheon – Budget Approval; Rekindling the Spark of Civic Imagination
— **Susan Stuart Clark**, Founder of common Knowledge, "putting the public back in public policy."
Hosted by Valerie Hamilton and Jean Pressey.

Thursday, June 21 - Bridge, Beginners w/Prue, 10:30 am-noon; Players w/Prue and Open Play, 2-4 pm at the Clubhouse. Contact Leika at leika.kejriwal@gmail.com

Tuesday, June 26 – Book Group, 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse. Call Jeanne McDonnell at 321.5260.



The Woman's Club of Palo Alto
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Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement