

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## March 2014 Newsletter

President: Victoria Sullivan

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

I hope you enjoyed last month's speaker. Jack Rakove's attitude toward presidential power and the vicissitudes of the political arena left me pondering who would want the job of President of the United States. I would say that the Woman's Club of Palo Alto is a much more mellow and forgiving group of constituents, in my experience. Except possibly when we consider the issue of the budget and the ominous threat of raising dues.

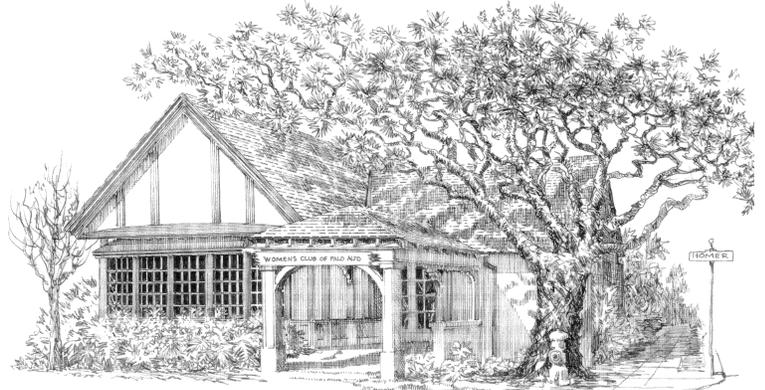
If you have an opinion about how to maintain our club lifestyle without raising the dues, let your voice be heard. Our **Annual Business Meeting** is **March 20, 2012** at the Clubhouse 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Come and be part of the solution. From my modest "Discretionary Fund", I am offering **free pizza** to the first 100 people who show up! Besides the Business Meeting on March 20<sup>th</sup>, there are several other exciting events that you really should support and attend. Our wonderful Speakers' Series, **Landmark Leaders 2014**, presents "Women in Politics": Tuesday March 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30-9 pm at the clubhouse. **Mary V. Hughes**, the founder of Close the Gap CA, **Susan Hammer**, former mayor of San Jose, and **Rebecca Sive**, author of *Every Day is Election Day* have all devoted their talent and energy to encouraging more women to take leadership roles.

**The Painted Chair Project** comes to a glorious finish at the end of the month, March 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. I think the finished chairs are really exciting, fun, and so creative. I got to participate in a small way, sort of like a sous chef, by painting some kiddie chairs as background for the artist, and them sealing her fun drawings so the paint will survive child (ab)use.

Throughout this month there are book groups, a film group, knitting, and bridge playing going on. Plus the Drop-in Social is the second Tuesday, March 10<sup>th</sup>, from 5-7 PM. Come join in and enjoy your membership.

Vicki Sullivan

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



### Wednesday, March 19th Luncheon Program: What's Good or Not So Good About Education in Our State?

Dr. Michael Kirst is president  
of the California State Board of Education

HOSTED BY EMILY RENZEL AND CHERIE DONALS

11:30 Member and Guest Sign-in

12:00 Luncheon is Served, President's  
Welcome; Business Meeting

12:30 Program & Dessert

Luncheon is offered at \$5.00 for members and \$10.00  
for guests. E-mail Emily Renzel at [Marshmamma2@att.net](mailto:Marshmamma2@att.net)  
to reserve for a guest or if you need a vegetarian meal.

### Come one, come all! The Painted Chair

A Fundraiser collaboration of the Woman's Club  
of Palo Alto and the Pacific Art League

Sat., March 29th, 6-9 PM at the Woman's Club  
\$35. in advance; \$40. at the door or buy tickets at:  
<http://womansclubofpaloalto.org/painted>

Our wooden chairs have been transformed by local  
artists into works of art. Come to the Gala to bid on the  
chairs and enjoy wine, hors d'oeuvres and entertain-  
ment. Support your Club at this creative and colorful  
event! (Fri., March 28, Exhibition of Chairs; 6-8 PM at  
the Woman's Club, free and open to the public.)

For more info and to volunteer, contact Sue Krumbein,  
Lolly Osborne, or Eileen Brooks

## Summary of WCPA Board Meeting February 5, 2014

**Membership** 21 people are on our waiting list.

**Audit Report** (Anne Ercolani) For the FY ending May 2013, we changed to Quickbooks and retained Jack Morton. Tax reports now reflect more the book record.

As of Dec. 2012, luncheon chairs are turning in receipts. Some have given money back. Also, membership dues includes the \$25 paid in lieu of paying luncheon costs. However, the club did not vote on that, so the \$25 should not be shown as dues. Dues are \$150, not \$175. The \$25. should be categorized as offset of luncheon income. Also, there is some misunderstanding about accounting. Checks received in May but deposited in June need to be recorded in the prior year. Expenses need to be recorded in the year incurred, not when checks clear. The bank. Bookkeeper is fixing this.

Recommendations: 1. Audit should be done by the end of September before the return is filed in November 2. Any new Treasurer should be given training by the out-going treasurer and others.

**Luncheon Report** (Lolly Osborne) Table cloths and aprons needed- probably paid for by the monthly \$850 allocations, not by House & Grounds. Four members did not participate or pay required fee. After receipt of official letter, Two have paid and two have not responded.

**Centennial Committee** (Lolly Osborne) 20 chairs completed -- will be 80. \$500. allocated from the budget used for publicity. The committee is distributing postcards and created a sandwich board. Peninsula Art League members have done all the design work.

**Property Management Working Group** Meg Monroe thought it was helpful. She upped the bookkeeper's hours and will put the rental facilitator cost in in the budget. There is a prospect for hiring a rental facilitator. Hiring will be done by a sub-committee of the board.

**Rentals Report** (Donna Bohling) Board needs to decide how much the Club wants from rentals. Key question is how to balance rental income with membership's use of the club? Membership needs to be in agreement. The house can be rented a lot more - would need to hire help. Need to answer the questions first before deciding what to do. New contracts average about \$11,000 per month. Can rental costs be raised? Need current info about comparable venues. There is some tiered pricing for continuing customers. Rentals are at maximum for a volunteer staff. New Internet site helps continuing customers, but no one able to manage it. Currently 12 active people on the committee. Not pursuing new business. Could choose not to rent on Tuesdays and Mondays, to reserve for member activities. Or could do

only full price rentals. Lots of options. A small group of people are shouldering the load. Donna Bohling and Eileen Brooks are stepping down as Rental Chairs in May. Discussion of paying a club member to be a rental facilitator. Also need someone on-call during the rentals for issues that come up. Meg Monroe will estimate hours for a facilitator and propose a job description. There is a need for someone to show the House in May.

It is suggested that maybe the interest groups could be responsible for some aspects of fundraising. A short term solution is to raise cost of lunch, \$10 is suggested. Need to decide the amount we think we need - then figure out how to obtain it. Raise Membership, increase lunch cost, add more rentals, do some fundraising?

**Friendship Working Group** Annette Glanckopf prioritized suggestions for the report. How do we get more people involved? VS reminded sponsors to invite their sponsored members to join them at lunch. Annette will put together a subcommittee to work on options.

**New Business** Vicki is looking for help in preparing the newsletter. An editor is needed especially for pages three and four. Jackie Schoelerman will help Meeting adjourned at 7:00 PM *Margo Ogus*, Recording Secretary

### Woman's Club Annual Business Meeting

March 20, 2012 at the Clubhouse 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Presenting the Finance Committee's Recommendations for the Fiscal Year 2014-2015 Budget. Light refreshments. Come early to review the new budget.

### Landmark Leaders: Women in Politics

Where are the women, why is progress stalled, why does it matter if our political leadership is male-dominated, and what do we need to do? What is the potential policy impact of Citizens United, and how might it affect women? Here's your opportunity for a look behind the scenes in politics.

**Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 7:30pm - 9 pm; featuring:**

**Mary V. Hughes**, Founder, Close the Gap CA and The 2012 Project, and President, Hughes Co., a Palo Alto based strategic communications and political consulting firm

**Rebecca Sive**, author of *Every Day is Election Day: A Woman's Guide to Winning Any Office from the PTA to the White House*, HuffPost Contributor, U. Chicago public policy lecturer

**Susan Hammer**, former Mayor, City of San Jose

All programs open to the public. Limited seating. The Woman's Club @ 475 Homer Ave, Palo Alto 94301  
Tickets will be available at the door the day of the program for \$25.

## Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements & Events

### HISTORY CORNER

#### When Phones Were a Luxury

Because of the current old-wooden-chairs art project, we have been paying attention to the 1930s. Lolly Osborne asked me for club information from that time, when it is thought the chairs were purchased. Her question brought up two connections for me.

One, I have a booklet titled "*What Have Women Done?*" - in which one quote is "We can vote, but how will we eat?" In that depression decade, women's pay for fulltime jobs barely paid for food for one person with nothing left over for housing, and the hours were long. I once wrote a book-length study of the California Woman's Suffrage Movement, and appreciated the idea that voting hadn't yet helped women enough ten years later.

The second connection is that I could not find the 1930's club minutes, so I realized that we need an index of our fine collection of original materials, past and present. I plan to do that, and would appreciate assistance, if anyone would like to volunteer. *Jeanne McDonnell*

**MYSTERY BOOK CLUB** meets Thurs., March 13th 6-7:30 pm at the clubhouse. Be sure to read *The Beekeepers Apprentice* by Laurie R. King. If you stopped reading Sherlock Holmes years ago, you are in for a treat. Contact is Deanna Dickman.

**CINE CIRCLE** meets Thursday, March 13, at the clubhouse at 7:30 P.M. Our movie is *Nebraska*, a black and white story of a father and son on a road trip, traveling to gain a prize. We will also discuss the Oscars!

**BOOK GROUP** On March 25, 7:15, we will discuss *By Blood* by Karen Ullman. It's set in San Francisco in the 1970's. We meet the fourth Tuesday at the club unless a rental requires a change of date or venue. This spring we are reading books that members have liked or want to read. April will be *And the Mountains Echoed* by Khaled Hosseini; May, *The French Lieutenant's Woman* by John Fowles; June, *Persuasion* by Jane Austen.

*Jeanne McDonnell*

**HOUSE & GROUNDS** We owe Sue Krumbein a huge thank you for serving as Chair of H & G for the past 3 years. I am taking her place and I appreciate your help in making this job manageable. A reminder to all interest groups: you are responsible for cleaning up after all meetings at the Clubhouse. This includes putting away all tables and chairs, kitchen clean up, disposal of trash in the outside dumpster, insuring that ALL doors are locked upon departure. Each interest group has a designated person listed in the Yearbook/Directory who will be contacted if there is a problem. *Christine Shambora*

**PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE** In February, 13 Philanthropy Committee members were busy with site visits, interviewing 11 local non-profit organizations to be considered for grants. On March 10, the committee meets to discuss and select the final 5-7 organizations to receive the Club philanthropy grants. The list of finalists will be forwarded to the Club Board of Directors for approval.

*Jackie Schoelerman & Rezvan Moghaddam*

**HISTORY WALKS:** APRIL 24th – Thurs. SF Pacific Heights Walk, Carolyn Reese as our leader. 8:31am train & bus to neighborhood walk. Sack lunch in Lafayette Park. RSVP to [lolly@osbofamily.com](mailto:lolly@osbofamily.com) JUNE 3rd - Tuesday - Foothill College Campus tour. Docent led walk followed by lunch on campus. 9:30 AM @ Parking college lot. RSVP to Lolly. More info to follow

**WEBSITE MANAGER** Interested in learning to be a Webmistress? Have you already "dabbled" but want to learn more? We are looking for someone to manage our professionally-developed and easy-to-maintain new website. If you can use Microsoft Word or Apple Pages, then you CAN do this! Be the first person "in the know" about all club events! To receive full training in Squarespace, the online development tool used by our club, send an email to [webmaster@womansclubofpaloalto.org](mailto:webmaster@womansclubofpaloalto.org) or Contact Donna Bohling.

**FEDERATION NEWS** The January District meeting in Campbell, featured Santa Clara County Forensic Anthropologist, Lorna Pierce. Creepy, but very, interesting! Next meeting is March 10 in Hollister. Speaker is Ursula Anne Fischer Smith, author of *Picking Tomatoes When the Sky was in Flames – Growing up in Germany during WWII*. All District clubs volunteer and donate – our own Outreach Committee (thanks Annette G. for the kick start and idea) made 53 fleece scarves and sent them to a Federation club in Torrington, CT for distribution to the freezing homeless in Litchfield County. True sisterhood and teamwork! Contact Eileen Brooks for more Federation info – [eibrooks@hotmail.com](mailto:eibrooks@hotmail.com)

### Our March 19<sup>th</sup> Luncheon Speaker

Dr. Michael Kirst is president of the California State Board of Education from 1997-1981 and now from 2011, both under Governor Jerry Brown. Dr. Kirst will talk about the successes and failures our schools have experienced in this state – and the myriad issues facing the educational community. His title is "California K-12 Education – Successes and Challenges." Come and hear a national authority on education.

# Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Tuesday March 11, 7:30-9 pm Landmark Leaders 2014 presents “Women in Politics”:** at the Clubhouse

**March 6 and March 20, Beginner Bridge,** 10 am – noon, at the Clubhouse.

**March 6 and March 20, Advanced Bridge,** 2:15 – 4:15 pm at the Clubhouse.

**Wednesday March 5, Board meeting,** 5-7 pm at the Clubhouse.

**Tuesday. March 11, Drop-in Social,** 5-7 pm, at the Clubhouse.

For more information, contact Celiene O’Hara, 650-367-8122.

**Wednesday, March 12 and March 26, Outreach,** 9:45am to 12 noon  
@ Haven Family House for donation sorting.

**Thursday, March 13, Mystery Book Club,** 6-7:30 pm at the Clubhouse.

*The Beekeepers Apprentice* by Laurie R. King. Contact Deanna Dickman, 650-326-1796

**March 13, Ciné Circle Thurs.,** 7:30 pm. after Mystery Book Group at the Clubhouse. We will discuss *Nebraska*

**March 19, Luncheon,** speaker: Michael Kirst, President of State Board of Education

**Tuesday March 25, Book Group,** 7:15 pm at the Clubhouse. *By Blood* by Ellen Ullman Contact: Anne Ercolani

**Wednesday March 26, Outreach Meeting,** 4 pm at the Clubhouse

**Friday March 28, The Painted Chairs Exhibition,** 6-8 pm at the Woman’s Club of Palo Alto, free and open to the public.

**Saturday March 29, The Painted Chairs Fundraiser,** 6-9 pm at the Clubhouse, \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door.



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