

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## September 2014 Newsletter

President: Victoria Sullivan

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

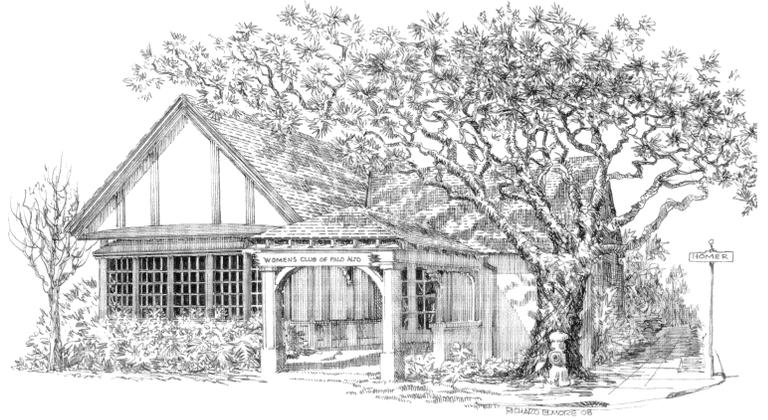
Welcome to another year of monthly luncheons, bridge playing, book and movie chats, Outreach activities, knitting, History Walks and Evening Drop-in Socials. Two new groups will add to our fun, a town biking gang, and a monthly museum tour. Judith Steiner and Shannon McEntee will help us get out and around town on our bikes. September's Friday Museum Tour will take us to the DeYoung Museum. Can't get away during the day? Consider attending the Monthly Drop-in Social, Tuesday, Sept. 9 at 5 pm at our clubhouse. More activities are listed on page 3. All these groups are designed to entice you to spend time with your fellow members. So don't just come to lunch once a month. Most of us are well behaved at lunch. Our real selves come out at smaller group activities!!

The theme of my presidential year is to encourage more members to get involved in our club. According to my research, more than 60% of the women who drop out of the Woman's Club do so in the first three years of membership, and those same women rarely attended luncheons, except when they were on a lunch committee. Soooo, get involved, and encourage members to join you in an activity. Come welcome 20 new members at the New Member Reception, Wednesday, September 10, 6:00 PM. New members have a distinctive name tag, so welcome them at our September Luncheon.

When you visit the clubhouse next, peek at the kitchen! Thanks to Emily Renzel, Harriet Berner, Sue Krumbain, and Christine Shambora, we have a new sink, back splash, and counter top, designed to upgrade, yet maintain the look of an older kitchen. Former member, Barbara Carlitz, helped steer us to the right selections.

The speaker for our September luncheon, Larry Magid, should help us protect our privacy in today's world. Oh, by the way, our wonderful Outreach Committee, with Back to School in mind, is asking us to bring paperback books for early readers to the September luncheon. All K through 3rd grade students need to read at home to improve their reading. *10 Books a Home* will give out our books in their highly successful tutoring program. I will see you at lunch!!

*Vicki Sullivan*



### Wednesday, September 17th Luncheon

Welcome to New Board Officers

### Program: Is the NSA Spying on You?

Are your passwords secure? What must you know to live in today's tech world? Larry Magid, our speaker, is a technology journalist and an Internet safety advocate. Mr. Magid serves as on-air tech analyst for CBS News, is co-director of [ConnectSafely.org](http://ConnectSafely.org) and founder of [SafeKids.com](http://SafeKids.com).

HOSTED BY KAREN FRY & MARY LOUISE JOHNSON

**11:15 AM Member and Guest Sign-in**

**11:50 President's Welcome, Luncheon  
is Served**

**12:20 Program & Dessert**

LUNCHEON is offered at \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for guests. E-mail Karen Fry at [karenfry@mac.com](mailto:karenfry@mac.com) to reserve for a guest or if you need a vegetarian meal.

**Look Inside!** • History Corner •  
• Committee & Interest Group News •  
• Board Minutes •

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

## June Board Meeting

(held on May 28, 2014)

**Treasurer's Report for May** Expenses mostly stayed in the budgeted amounts. Calendar year is 6/1 - 5/31. The board accepted the Treasurer's Report.

**Fund-raising Strategy Report** This working group was set up 3 years ago. The Fund-raising group all had experience with raising funds for non-profits. Two ideas emerged: fund-raising enhances the goal of friendship and community; and fund-raising is a key to diversifying income sources. Before you can ask people in the community, 100% of members need to contribute in one way or another. Report includes a definition of fund-raising, states the club's needs and objectives, and offers suggestions about how we might reorganize the board and club for fund-raising. The current member views the club as a social and community service club. Different groups have different expectations. We need to look at membership and responsibilities – what does it mean to be a member? Recommendations were to increase communication with a multi-faceted education program for members, maybe using the January luncheon meeting. Maybe add a 3rd VP on the board in charge of fund-raising. There will be seed money next year for members who need startup funds for fund-raising ideas.

**Membership Strategy Report** Once people have joined and been welcomed, that's it – other organizations continue to check in on them. Sponsors need to do more, a suggestion of the Membership Working Group. We also need to know if we are losing longer-term or shorter-term members

**Rental Rates Increase** It looks like we have increased rental to \$400. more per all-day rental, but the fee now includes the set up and break down which had been a separate, optional item. One goal is to get a professional contractor as an emergency contact person for each rental. And that's included in the cost. This increase in rent will not increase the revenue. The increases were approved by the finance committee. The Board approved an increase in the rental rates to \$3,000 for all-day rentals, and to \$300 per hour for hourly rental.

**Status of ADA Ramp Project.** We have given two contractors a smaller set of plans so they can begin to estimate cost and ask questions. Carol Lippert is trying to limit the time that the space is not rentable to the time the kitchen is closed. The biggest concerns are getting the permit from the City and controlling the price. A motion was approved to create a committee composed of the President, Treasurer, Finance Officer, Chair of House and Grounds, and the Access Ramp Project Manager. They will review construction bids submitted and select the best for the construction. Should all viable bids exceed the funds allocated for the project, the President and Finance Office shall pool the [www.womansclubofpaloalto.org](http://www.womansclubofpaloalto.org)

Board via email to determine if additional funds should be allocated and identify the source of the funds. Approval of the budget amendment would require agreement of a majority of the elected Board members.

**On-call emergency** The Board approved the Chairs of Rentals and House and Grounds to hire a company to provide 'on-call emergency' service to the club for the next three to four months (June-September). They will report their experience to the Board in October and whether to continue this approach or present details of a different agreement.

**Allocation of Painted Chair Funds** was deferred to September.

**New Interest Group,** Townie Bikers Group, was approved.

**Landmark Leaders Report** Two inquiries have been received about tying the local 'Lean In' group into Landmark Leaders. One person who inquired is not a member. Held over to September for further discussion.

**AED** The purchase and installation of an AED was approved. Annette Glanckopf will arrange a demonstration and training.

**Rental Report** This month the rental committee signed 5 new contracts for a gross revenue of almost \$10,000 and net revenue of \$8,300. That averages two rentals per month in the next year. The rental committee is beginning to gel as a group, and the monthly report is providing more information. Recruiting of new members to help with rentals is on-going. There is a need for two committee members per month to cover the duties of rentals.

## History Corner

The Northern California Chapter of the Institute of Classical Architecture & Art recently created the Julia Morgan Award to recognize architects, designers, artisans, and students for excellence in support of the classical tradition. The article about Julia Morgan refers to her as nationally renowned.

Sara Boutelle's biography of Julia Morgan is a favorite of mine, as are trips to Hearst Castle. Morgan was in her early 20s when our Club originated, and she was still working to get accepted to study architecture, which at the time was not considered an appropriate course of study for women. I have visited the Berkeley City Club, which, like Hearst Castle, has a fabulous swimming pool, and have done tours of several houses and public buildings she designed. Palo Alto has the former center for veterans that became a Palo Alto Civic Center and later a restaurant, across from the University Avenue train station. Many of her buildings serve their owners well to this day. Julia Morgan deserves to have an award named after her.

*Jeanne McDonnell*

## **Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements & Events**

### **New Member Orientation and Reception**

**Wednesday, September 10th at the Clubhouse.** New members and sponsors attend an orientation from 5-6 pm. General Membership Reception is from 6-7 pm. Please join in welcoming our new members, and come learn about and sign up for interest groups and Committees, hear the history of our great building, and enjoy appetizers and wine.

### **ATTENTION**

#### **September Luncheon Donation**

Please bring early reader books to the September 17th Luncheon. We will donate the books to **10 Books A Home**, in support of their proven, successful program. Collection baskets will be in the foyer. Thank you for caring about your community. *Your Community Outreach Committee*

**Book Group** September 23rd, 7:15 at the Clubhouse. We discuss *River of Doubt* by Candace Millard, an account of Teddy Roosevelt's dangerous exploration of an Amazon tributary. The fall book selections, all biographies or memoirs, are: Oct: *Empress Dowager Cixi: The Concubine Who Launched Modern China* by Jung Chang; Nov: *The Man He Became, How FDR Defied Polio to Win the Presidency* by James Tobin; Dec: *The Man Without a Face, The Unlikely rise of Vladimir Putin*, by Masha Gessen; Jan: *My Beloved World: Sonia Sotomayor*. Join us!

**Mystery Book Club** meets the second Thursday, Sept. 11th 6-7:30 pm at the clubhouse. The book is *Murder in the Marais* by Cara Black. It is the first in a series, each based in a different arrondissement in Paris. Detective Aimee Leduc and her partner René work together to solve a murder in the historic Jewish quarter. The October book is *The Dinosaur Feather* by S. J. Gazan, a Danish author. The very insular world of scientists at the University of Copenhagen are investigating dinosaur evolution. Of course, there is a murder. Contact: Deanna Dickman or Sandy Voorhees.

**Townie Bikers** Learn to feel comfortable biking around town! And go on some good rides with good food at the end. Get acquainted/planning meeting on October 1 at 11:00 AM at Judith's home, 1515 Cowper, just south of Churchill, with your bike (or without if you don't have one yet.) For those wanting to buy bikes or equipment, Mike's Bikes will give us a "team" discount. Email us with your interest and we'll send you a little survey to help in planning our rides. [jsteiner@jsteiner.org](mailto:jsteiner@jsteiner.org) or [shannonmcentee@gmail.com](mailto:shannonmcentee@gmail.com)

*Judith Steiner and Shannon McEntee*

**Museum Fridays** Hello Art Lovers! Your Museum Fridays organizers (Eileen Brooks, Ginny Bechtold and Donna Bohling) have already planned several trips. All we need now is your commitment! Here are the details –Museum Fridays will be the 2nd Friday of each month, September through May. Book it on your calendar now so you don't miss! We will hire a bus, and round-trip cost of the bus will be \$25. Each excursion will depart from the Cal Ave train station at 9 am sharp. We will return at 3pm. When ever possible, a lunch reservation will be made for our group, either at the museum or a nearby restaurant. September 12th we will visit de Young Museum: Modernism from the National Gallery of Art, featuring paintings by the masters of the post-war world: Ellsworth Kelly, Roy Lichtenstein, Robert Rauschenberg, Jasper Johns, and Frank Stella, among others. October 10 we will visit Oakland Museum of CA: Inspiration Points: We will view the very best in California landscape art from the museum's holdings, works by Ansel Adams, Thomas Hill, David Hockney, Arthur Mathews, Richard Misrach, Albert Bierstadt, Imogen Cunningham, Edward Muybridge, Edward Weston, Chiura Obata, and more. November 14th we will travel to the Legion of Honor to see Houghton Hall: Portrait of an English Country House. This grand country house was built in the 1720s by Sir Robert Walpole, Britain's first prime minister. This exhibition captures an intimate look inside Houghton Hall. Highlights include works by British painters Thomas Gainsborough, Sir Joshua Reynolds, 17th century tapestries, Sevres porcelain. December 12th, our Grand Tour of Grace Cathedral includes many areas of the church not seen by casual visitors such as the interior of the Chapel of Grace, the Vestry to view the collection of vestments, the Gallery with sweeping views of the nave, and a walk up the 94 stairs to the top of the South Tower for a unique view of the San Francisco skyline.

**Tuesday Night Social:** The first social of the new year welcomes you on Tuesday, Sept.9th 5-7pm at the Clubhouse. Stop by to socialize with your club mates. \$5.00 gets you wine and appetizers. Contact Celine O'Hara for more information. [celienet@aol.com](mailto:celienet@aol.com)

**Ciné Circle: Thursday, Sept. 11, 7:30-9:00 pm.** We will discuss the movie "A Most Wanted Man," Philip Seymour Hoffman's last movie. The story involves three different spy rings competing to snare a rogue terrorist, who is seeking asylum in Germany.



## Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, Sept. 3, Board Retreat**, 12:30-3:15 at the clubhouse.

**Wednesday, Sept. 3, Board Meeting**, 3:30-5 pm at the clubhouse.

**Thursdays, Sept. 4 and Sept.18, Intermediate and Advanced Bridge**, 2:15 – 4:15 pm at the clubhouse,  
contact Nancy Bjork at [ncbjork@gmail.com](mailto:ncbjork@gmail.com)

**Tuesday, Sept. 9, Drop-in Social**, 5-7 pm, at the Clubhouse,  
For information, contact Celiene O'Hara, 650-367-8122.

**Wednesday, Sept. 10, New Member Orientation**, 5-6 pm.

**Wednesday, Sept. 10, New Member Reception**, 6-7:30 pm.

**Wednesday, Sept. 10 and 24, Outreach**, 9:30am to 12 noon.

Work at Haven Family House. Contact [eibrooks@hotmail.com](mailto:eibrooks@hotmail.com)

**Thursday, Sept. 11, Mystery Book Club**, 6-7:30 pm at the clubhouse.

Book: *Murder in the Marais* by Cara Black. Contact: Deanna Dickman, 650-326-1796.

**Thursday Sept. 11, Ciné Circle**, 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse. The movie to watch is *A Most Wanted Man*

**Sept. 12, "Museum Friday"** DeYoung Museum: Modernism from the National Gallery.

Leave at 9 AM from the Cal Ave train station. Contact Eileen Brooks.

**Tuesday, Sept. 16, Investment Club**, 6-8 pm at the Clubhouse. Questions? Ask Rosemary Busher

**Wednesday, Sept. 17, Monthly Luncheon**, Speaker: Larry Magid on-the-air tech analyst for CBS News.

**Tuesday, Sept. 23, Book Group**, 7:15 pm at the Clubhouse.

The book is *River of Doubt* by Candace Millard Contact: Anne Ercolani

**Wednesday Sept. 24th, Outreach Meeting** 4 pm at the clubhouse



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

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement