

The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

November 2014 Newsletter

President: Victoria Sullivan

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members:

Welcome to autumn in Palo Alto. The temperature's cooled but the Giants were hot!!

November Linens Drive at our Luncheon: Please remember to bring single or double bed sheets to our November luncheon. They will be delivered to Haven Family House (HFH) in Menlo Park, an interim housing complex for formerly homeless families. .

Our November Luncheon speaker is Alison Gass, associate director for Collections, Exhibitions, and Curatorial Affairs at Cantor Museum. New to the Cantor, Ms. Gass is revered as a curator of contemporary art. She is overseeing the museum's extensive exhibitions and collections programs, and will talk to us about her fascinating work at Cantor.

Providing grants to non-profit organizations is part of our history, with small awards in the early years. Our focus today is nonprofits targeting women and children. The Philanthropy Committee does due diligence in screening applications and making site visits to organizations that you nominate. Don't leave the process to someone else. Nominate a worthy, local organization. Pick up a grant application at the November luncheon or on the Club's website. From now to January 15, you can submit grant applications to the committee. Questions? Contact co-Chairs, Jackie Schoelerman or Rezvan Moghaddam.

Lastly, please know that any organization thrives due to new members, and member participation. Volunteering for leadership roles strengthens this club and ensures that new ideas keep coming, helping this club to evolve and yet keep its history. We have some tough decisions to make in the coming months. Rentals are wearing out the rental committee volunteers and creating wear and tear on the clubhouse. Do we slow down rentals? Increase the dues to compensate for the lack of rental income? Let your voice be heard! Join a committee or an interest group! Meet new friends by riding a bike, taking a history walk, joining us on Museum Friday, or at least dropping in at the monthly Tuesday Night Social!!

—Vicki Sullivan



Wednesday, November 19th Luncheon

Program: "A Behind-the-Scenes Look at the Cantor Art Center"

Alison Gass, Associate Director for Exhibitions

HOSTED BY GLORIA HOM & NANCY MACLEOD

11:00 AM Member and Guest Sign-in

11:50 President's Welcome, Luncheon is Served

12:30 Program & Dessert

LUNCHEON is offered at \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for guests. E-mail Gloria Hom to to reserve for a guest or if you need a vegetarian meal. at dghom@yahoo.com

Look Inside!

- Board Minutes
- History Corner •
- Committee & Interest Group News •

www.womansclubofpaloalto.org

**Summary of Executive
Board Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2014
Treasurer Reports**

A new format of the report now includes monthly reports of the operating budget, the capital budget, restricted donation reserve fund and a report of the status of the Club's assets and liabilities.

Finance Officer Reports and Action. The policies and procedures on which there was consensus and which were adopted by a Board vote were:

Approved funding for a capital project may be carried over to the next fiscal year for completion if the project is still necessary and the progress toward completion is sufficient to insure the project can be completed.

If a member pays directly for a service that the Club requires and wishes it to be a donation, she submits the paid invoice to the Treasurer and requests that the payment be a donation. This is then a restricted donation.

When a member passes away, The Treasurer will allocate \$50 from the Memorial line item to the Philanthropy Reserve Fund to be allocated for philanthropy grants. The Membership Chair shall send a note to the family informing them of the remembrance.

Future items for the Finance Officer to return with suggested policies/procedures were: Cost overruns on approved capital projects: Board should approve the amount of contingency for each capital project based on the project size. Supervision for cost over-runs should be based on the size and cost of the project.

Adding to Capital projects during the year: Based on agreed-to need, the Board should have the authority to add capital projects to the adopted, funded capital projects list during a fiscal year.

Allocation of unrestricted member donations for Historical Preservation. The Board agreed that this item needed more discussion.

Rentals: penalty for abusing 'early entry' opportunity and rentals to non-profits were deferred to a Subcommittee on Rentals appointed later in the meeting.

Year End Financial Statement. Finance Officer Meg Monroe presented a brief 37% over budget projection and expenses were 6% under budget projections. The rewiring of the house had been completed and \$63,000 was carried over to the FY14-15 Capital Budget to complete the ADA access ramp project. She noted that thanks to Leika Kerjriwal (last year's Treasurer) and Gwen Barry (this year's Treasurer) we have this essential document for preparing the FY 15-16 budget. She directed the Board to look closely at the various line items for which they had responsibility to be sure that they agreed

**November Luncheon Outreach Collection
For Haven Family House:**

Twin/Full Sheet Sets (new or gently used)
Bed Pillows (new)

Help a homeless family settle into clean, fresh beds!
For Holiday Card Signing:

Bring any leftover or new non-religious Holiday cards to the Nov. Luncheon for Mon., Dec. 1 card signing.

For info: A. Ercolani or E. Brooks

with the numbers. Lolly Osborn pointed out that she would like to review the net income number shown for the Painted Chairs fund raising event. Meg noted that she and Gwen would be happy to work with Lolly. Meg suggested that if anyone else had questions or concerns they should contact her.

NEW BUSINESS.

ADA Ramp Vicki Sullivan and Carol Lippert presented oral summaries of the process for the building permit for the ADA Ramp from the City of Palo Alto. We are ready to begin construction. There is an opposing opinion from two members concerned that the ramp does not comply with accessibility requirements. The Board visited the site to observe the details and a discussion of the issues followed. A motion to a) to proceed with the construction of the ADA access ramp as permitted by the City of Palo Alto, 2) to instruct the President to sign the contract and 3) to approve a 15% contingency expense to the project, passed unanimously. The Board considered all the issues, visited the site, understood the project and decided unanimously to proceed with the project as permitted by the City.

Rental Issues and Related Resignation of House and Ground Chair There is concern about the abuse of the Club occurring with certain rentals, the impact of too many rentals on the facility, the resulting hardship to our housekeeper, Silvia Lamarque and the resignation of Christine Shambora, H&G Chair. A committee composed of members from the Board, rentals, finance, and house and grounds committees has been formed to address the issues and consider alternatives for action. The committee will be chaired by Margo Ogus and includes board members: Margo Ogus and Lolly Osborne; Finance: Meg Monroe; Rental Committee: Carol Lippert/Joanne Jones (shared position), Joan Zwiep and House and Grounds: Lisa Sten, Emily Renzel, and Christine Shambora to share one position.

—Marlene Prendergast, Recording Secretary

Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements & Events

History Corner

A National Woman's Party held its first convention 4 years after women throughout the nation got full and equal voting rights, 13 years after California. They claimed at the convention that the government was not treating women equally. To form a Congressional "woman's bloc," they chose 6 women across the nation to run for office. The winners would create the bloc.

A 1924 New York Times article mentioned the Party's Student Council. A girl from George Washington U said that at U of Delaware, all women had to study domestic science for a year. At U of Vermont, women were not permitted to take a complete course to certify as medical doctors. The article reminded me of Jane Stanford. She invested many years and dollars in founding and developing the university. She set a limit of 500 on the number of women students. After reading about the National Woman's Party, I realized that Jane had figured out a way to get women admitted to the college without causing trouble by a bloc against equal education. Our club cared about education. In 1924, one use of our 8 year old clubhouse was to let schools use it for plays and other programs. —*Jeanne McDonnell*

Tuesday Drop-in Social: During the Dec. 9 Social, the Avenidas Ukelele Band will perform (along with all attending socialites) Christmas songs as other ditties. Come share in the fun and celebrate the Holiday Season.

Museum Fridays: Nov. (Legion of Honor) and Dec. (Grace Cathedral and Lunch at LuLu) trips are fully booked. Space available on the Jan. (Asian Art Museum), Feb. (Anderson Collection at the Cantor) and March (Ai WeiWei on Alcatraz) trips. April/May trips tbd. *E. Brooks, D. Bohling, G. Bechtold for info*

The Philanthropy Committee met in October to review the grant process and timeline. Grant applications will be available at the November luncheon and on the website. Members can submit grant application forms to the committee for consideration from Nov. 17 - Jan.15. *Jackie Schoelerman and Rezvan Moghaddam, Co-Chairs*

History Walks: Join us on the following dates:

December 2, Tuesday, Coit Tower Murals and Stairway Walk. Climb up the Filbert steps to see the parrots of Telegraph Hill, followed by a tour of the Coit Tower murals. Depart California Ave. train @ 8:31am. Train, bus and walk. Wear sturdy shoes, bring water and bag lunch.

February 3, Tuesday, Levi Stadium. Private Tour of stadium, architecture, art collection, boxes & garden. Carpool to Levi parking lot. Meet @8:45am Charleston Ave. @ Hwy. 101 lot by REI. Tour fee \$25. Lunch TBD.

March 31, Tuesday, Sutro Baths, Cliff House & Adolph Sutro Heights, Tour led by a Golden Gate Nat'l Park Ranger. Carpool to Sutro Baths public parking. Meet @8:30am @parking lot by IKEA EPA (near MacDonalds). Fee: \$25. Lunch @ Beach Chalet or Cliff House, bring \$\$.

May 5, Tuesday, Stanford Engineering & Science Quad. Led by Stanford Design and Architect Department Docent. Meet at 10am @ Fountain by Hewlett Packard Buildings. Park @ Panama garage, self pay park. Approx. 2 hour walking tour. Lunch @ Clark Building Café.

RSVP to lolly@osbofamily.com if you plan to attend any tours. All involve walking and stairs; need sturdy shoes and water. Details to follow as date nears. Fees for some walks to be sent to Lolly Osborne, 887 Loma Verde, PA, 94303. Sue Krumbein & Lolly direct all tour activities.

Rentals Committee Update: Reminder – You are all invited to the Rentals Committee Happy Hour at 5pm on Friday November 7 at Il Fornaio. Do not forget that our least busy days for rentals are Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. See you all at the Happy Hour!

Cine' Circle has changed its meeting times. We will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 6:30-8:30 pm at the club. We will meet November 12 to discuss *Pride*, a film inspired by a true story about a National Union of Mineworkers strike aided by a London-based group of gay and lesbian activists. —*Rezvan Moghaddam*

Steinway Grand Piano: Thank you to all who contributed to our fundraiser to repair our heritage piano. We raised over \$3500. from 28 donors. Repair is estimated to cost more than \$6000.00. If you still want to contribute please send a check made out to the Woman's Club of Palo Alto and put Piano Fundraiser on the memo line. Mail it to 475 Homer Ave, PA 94301, addressed to "Woman's Club/Piano Fundraiser". This is a tax deductible contribution. Please contact Christine Shambora for more info.

Mystery Book Club meets 2nd Thursday of the month from 6-7:30. November Book is *The Dinosaur Feather* by S.J. Gazan. The November 13th meeting is at Sandy Voorhees' home, 165 Primrose Way, Palo Alto. 6:00-7:30 pm, NOT at the Clubhouse. December Book is *Big Little Lies* by Liane Moriarty, Thursday, December 11th at the Clubhouse 6-7:30 p.m. The December book is only in hardback and e-readers. There is a hardback copy to pass around. Notify Sandy Voorhees if you want to read it next.

Townie Bike Group will meet up on Thursday, December 4 at 11 at Bowden Park, at the foot of N. California at the bike/pedestrian tunnel on the east side of the tracks. We'll bike to Los Altos for lunch. Fast and slow bikers accommodated!

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Wednesday, Nov. 5, Board Meeting, 5 - 7 pm at the Clubhouse.

Thursdays, Nov. 6 and 20, Intermediate and Advanced Bridge, 2:15 – 4:15 pm at the Clubhouse,
contact Nancy Bjork at ncbjork@gmail.com

Fridays, Nov. 7 and 21, Knit & Stitch, 2-4 pm
Call Sarah French for location at 650 329-9091

Tuesday, Nov. 11, Drop-in Social, 5-7 pm, at the Clubhouse,
For information, contact Celiene O'Hara, 650-367-8122.

Wednesdays, Nov. 12, Outreach, 9:45 am to 12 noon.
Work at Haven Family House. Contact Anne Ercolani at ajecpa04@yahoo.com

Wednesday Nov. 12, Ciné Circle, 6:30 -8:30 pm at the Clubhouse to discuss *Pride*.
Contact Rezvan Moghaddam at 650 571-1794

Thursday, Nov. 13, Mystery Book Club, 6-7:30 pm at Sandy Voorhees' home
Book: *The Dinosaur Feather* by S.J. Gazan. Contact: Deanna Dickman at 650-326-1796

Wednesday, Nov. 19, Monthly Luncheon, Speaker Alison Gass, "A Behind the Scenes Look at Cantor Arts Center"

Wednesday Nov. 19, Outreach Meeting, 1 pm at the Clubhouse, following the luncheon
Contact Eileen Brooks at eibrooks@hotmail.com

Tuesday, Nov. 18, Investment Club, 6-8 pm at the Clubhouse.
Questions? Ask Rosemary Busher

Tuesday, Nov. 25, Book Group, 7:15 pm at the Clubhouse.
Book: *The Man He Became* by James Tobin, Contact: Anne Ercolani at ajecpa04@yahoo.com

Thursday, Dec. 4, Townie Bikers, Meet at Bowden Park, at the foot of N. California.
11am at to ride to Los Altos for lunch.

The Woman's Club of Palo Alto
475 Homer Avenue
Palo Alto, CA 94301



www.womansclubofpaloalto.org

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement