

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## March 2015 Newsletter

President: Victoria Sullivan

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

I hope you enjoyed last month's speaker. Dr. Max McGee has an incredible store of background knowledge about preparing students for the future careers our high school graduates will eventually pursue. At our March luncheon, Jane Stocklin and Susan Woodman will show slides and outline the steps that led to our Palo Alto show place, wonderful Gamble Garden. Our speakers have dedicated many volunteer hours to creating Gamble Garden as a public garden and an educational platform for school children and adults.

IT'S THAT TIME OF YEAR . . . .

It's time for the **Annual Business Meeting** for members of the Woman's Club. Mark the date on your calendars: **March 19, 2015, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m.** Each year the Board reviews with the membership where we've been, where we're going, and what we think it is going to take to get us there. This year is no exception. We will have three presentations with opportunity for you to comment.

As your President, I will review my goals for this organization and the year's accomplishments.

Finance Officer Meg Monroe will present the Finance Committee's proposed budget for next year, Fiscal Year 2015-16.

Members of the recently Board appointed committee to evaluate the various alternatives for the Club to balance revenue sources will report on their progress.

Everyone will be notified by e-mail when the Finance Committee's proposed budget for next year is available on the cloud. Printed copies will also be available at the March luncheon. Our club needs your participation and insights. Put **March 19 at 5 p.m.** on your calendar! Be there or be square. If you have an opinion about how to maintain our club lifestyle without raising dues, let your voice be heard. Come and be part of the solution. From my modest "Discretionary Fund", I am offering **free pizza** to the first 200 people who show up!

Besides the **Monthly Luncheon on March 18<sup>th</sup>** and the **Annual Business Meeting on March 19<sup>th</sup>**,

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**Wednesday, March 18th Luncheon**  
**Program: "A 99 & 44/100% Look at**  
**Gamble Garden:**

**A History of the Gamble Family"**

Jane Stocklin and Susan Woodman,  
Gamble Garden members

HOSTED BY CHERIE DONALD AND EMILY RENZEL

**11:00 AM Doors open for visiting**

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

**12:20 Business Meeting**

**12:30 Program & Dessert**

**LUNCHEON is offered at \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for guests. E-mail Emily Renzel to reserve for a guest or for a vegetarian meal at marshmama2@att.net**

### Look Inside!

- History Corner •
- Board Minutes Summary • Committee News
- Wanted: Newsletter editor for June •
- Interest Group News •
- Centennial news • Calendar of Events

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

*(President's letter continued from page 1)*

there are a number of other exciting events that you really should think about attending. I rode with the Townie Bikers last month and I enjoyed a wonderful excursion along the shoreline to Mountain View. This month the route takes us along Atherton's quiet streets to a lunch spot on the Alameda. "Still Alice" will be discussed by the Ciné Circle Wednesday, March 11. Julianne Moore just won the Academy Award as Best Actress for her sensitive portrayal of a woman with early-onset Alzheimer's disease. If you didn't sign up already, you missed the Museum Bus going to Alcatraz to see the Ai Weiwei Exhibit. There's also the History Walk, going to explore the Sutro Baths on March 31. Our newest members are putting on a BUNCO Night on March 26. It should be lots of fun, and another opportunity to share a meal with club members. Throughout this month there are book groups, a film group, knitting, and bridge playing going on. Join in and enjoy your membership. Through the Woman's Club you will 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!! See you at lunch!

—Vicki Sullivan

### **Woman's Club of Palo Alto Executive Board Meeting Minutes February 4, 2015**

Jack Morton, WCPA accountant, presented and answered questions regarding the WCPA tax return. The report as presented passed unanimously. Margaret Feuer showed plans for a plaque indicating our status on the National Register of Historic Places. Feuer asked for and got an allocation of \$1500 to cover the costs of the plaque. Feuer will return with exact details of style, size, and cost. Lolly Osborne, Co Chair of the Centennial Committee presented general proposals for our 2016 celebration. Lolly wants our members to be excited, participating, and well-informed about any Centennial plans. The Board expressed pleasure with some of the initial ideas for the Centennial. There were no amendments to the minutes as presented. Barry reviewed the budget and answered questions about the total cost of the exterior ramp and delight in the restoration of the Steinway piano. The treasurer's report passed unanimously. Lolly Osborne reported that there are eighteen women on the WCPA waiting list at this time. The 2014 class is planning a Bunco Dice Game on March 26. Tickets will cost \$15. The event is billed as a friendship-raiser for members and friends. Chair Margo Ogus reported that the

### **History Corner The Great War**

Even though the United States did not enter World War I until 1917, events commemorating its trials and tribulations have been all over the media since 2014. The Hoover Institution presently features a powerful exhibit, "Women and the Great War," through March 21. It's worth a trip. It is a familiar story to many Peninsula residents how, in 1917, the government "leased 25,000 acres of land in and around Menlo Park to establish a...training center called Camp Fremont." Menlo Park became a "boom town" as recruits from all over the West poured into the area to train as part of the 8th Infantry Division in preparation for deployment to France. At Camp Fremont, soldiers honed a variety of skills. Rifle drills took place at what is now the intersection of Foothill Expressway and Page Mill Road and artillery practice in present-day Foothill Park and the Pearson-Arastradero Preserve. The ladies of the Woman's Club of Palo Alto sent aid for Belgian Relief and sponsored entertainments for the troops. Late in the war, as part of the Allied Intervention, 5000 soldiers went from Camp Fremont not to France as originally planned but to Vladivostok, Russia, with a dual role: if possible to help the anti-Bolshevik forces; encourage Russia to continue its military efforts against the Central Powers. Neither effort turned out to be successful, and the American doughboys spent two miserable winters in Eastern Siberia. Camp Fremont closed down shortly after the war. According to Jerry Lawrence and Brian Bondurant in their "War Relics in the 'Valley of Heart's Delight,'" as recently as 2008 Palo Alto park rangers uncovered a 75mm artillery shell beside a deer trail in the Pearson-Arastradero Preserve.

—Peggy McKee

Committee On Revenue Sources and Equity is proceeding apace. The committee has interviewed thirty-one Club members regarding revenue sources. They will also do a brief survey of all members. The Committee will report at the March General Meeting and make a presentation to the Board before the end of the Board year. She asked that Board members attend the March meeting to hear the discussion so as to act with awareness when the report comes to the Board.

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(Board Minutes continued from page 2)

**ACTION ITEMS**

Policy Re Division of Fundraising Funds between Historic Preservation and Philanthropy (Cash Grants): Adopted a definition of 'Historic Preservation' as follows" 'Historic Preservation' is to maintain the appropriate contents and character of the house." The Board adopted the following procedure for allocation of funds raised by the membership. " All fundraising events held by members of the Woman's Club of Palo Alto shall be considered to be for the benefit of the whole Club; and the Board shall decide the division of any funds raised by each fundraising event. Each fundraising event or activity shall be approved by the Board." It was determined that the procedure would allow those undertaking a fundraiser to come to the Board early in the process and ask that funds from their event be directed to a designated item and the Board should approve the dispersal when the event is initially presented to them. The Board has the right, based on current need of the Club, to allocate any funds raised to the projects most needy at the time. The final action by the Board regarding fundraising was the following motion: That the \$6,613.30 income received from the Painted Chairs Event (FY12-14) shall be allocated to Historic Preservation.

Direction to Finance Committee on FY15-16 Budget Issues. The Finance Committee is working on the FY15-16 Budget and brought forward to the Board several items for direction.

**1. Membership in the Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce.** The Board directed that the Club renew its membership in the PA Chamber for FY15-16; and that the President should appoint a liaison between Club and Chamber for clear communications.

**2. Monthly Newsletter.** The Club should continue next year the e-mail based newsletter distribution established this year. Mailed newsletter will be provided to members at no additional cost, only on request to the Membership Chair.

**3. Fundraising/Program Seed Money.** The Board accepted the definition of Fundraiser as 'an event whose intention is to raise more funds than it costs to put it on.' The Board's definition of Program is 'an event that aims to educate/enlighten members or community and plans to cover expenses from fees charged.'

**4. Loma Prieta Youth Conference.** Club budget next year will include a scholarship for this Federation led and sponsored event. Local youth groups

need to be aware of this opportunity. Hopefully a young Palo Alto woman could represent the Club. The President will select a member next year to promote this local opportunity.

**5. Kitchen Amenities.** This expenditure will be separated from the Luncheon line item in FY15-16. The Board directed that next year purchasing coffee and tea shall be paid for from the \$850 monthly allocation. All other support 'staples' (salt, pepper, sugar, etc.) would still be considered a Kitchen Amenity, along with replacement of cooking equipment, cooking supplies, crockery.

**6. Philanthropy Grants.** The Board directed that philanthropy grants should not be tied to a percentage of the operating budget. The amount given to Philanthropy in the operation budget will be determined each year. This amount is supplemented each year by donations made by members.

**7. In Memoriam Gifts.** The Board directed that In Memoriam Gifts by the Club to philanthropy to recognize deceased members should be increased from \$50 to \$100.

**8. Future Use of the Fireside Room.** There are no funds this year to install a gas fireplace in the Fireside Room. Rather House and Grounds Committee (H&G) should be charged to look into use of the area, how to facilitate that use, list total costs, including, if appropriate, the refitting of the fire place. A gas fireplace is on the capital inventory for the Fy15-19 investment period, estimated at \$10,000.

**9. Increase in the Janitor's Wage.** The Board directed that the hourly and monthly stipend of the Janitor, a contractor to the Club, be increased. There were two recommendations, one from H&G (4% or \$26/hr) and one from the Finance Committee (8% or \$27/hr). Half or more of the janitor's income is from rentals, set up/take down and clean up, all paid by renters. The Board also endorsed double time (\$52/hour) for any clean up that taking over 4 hours.

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**WANTED**

• **Newsletter Editor** for June newsletter due to

• travel. I have enjoyed producing it for 16 years but

• would love a break. I use *InDesign* but have a tem-

• plate in *Pages*. If anyone can do the June newsletter

• or would like to either take over or share the work

• going forward, please contact Carol Hubenthal at

• 328-7341 or carolhubenthal@mac.com. Thanks!

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## Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements & Events

### Annual Business Meeting:

**Thursday, March 19, 2015,**

**at the Clubhouse**

(food will be served).

Come listen and voice your opinion.

### March Luncheon Program:

"A 99- 44/100% look at the Gamble Garden – a history of the Gamble family". We will hear from two knowledgeable Gamble Garden volunteers. Susan Woodman has volunteered at Gamble Garden for more than a decade. She is the author of the book: Gamble Garden: Landscape of Optimism. She has devoted the last five years to its creation. Jane Stocklin is a long time-volunteer at Gamble Garden serving in numerous Board positions over the last 25 years. Currently, she co-chairs the Endowment and Docent Committees.

**Also at the March Luncheon, The Outreach Committee will collect Kitchen/Bath items for kids who have aged out of the Foster Care system.** They are setting up house for the first time and they have NOTHING! Please bring NEW Bath Towel Sets, Cookware, Utensils, Dishes, Flatware and Glassware Sets. Thank you so much for the generosity of all WC members who contribute to our monthly Luncheon Collections. These collections help to justify our Club's 501(c)3 non-profit status.

**Volunteering at Haven Family House** continues on the 2nd and 4th Wed. of every month - 9:45 am - noon. The Outreach Committee meets the 4th Wed. of the month at 4:30 at the Clubhouse. Contact E. Brooks.

**Mystery Book Club** meets on Thursday, usual time: 6 - 7:30 p.m, at the clubhouse. The March book is *Eva's Eye* by Karin Fossum.

**BUNCO NIGHT March 26th 7-9 @ clubhouse \$15.** This event is sponsored by the Class of 2014. It will be a fun night of socializing and rolling dice. Food, drinks and prizes will be part of the evening. Please send \$15 to reserve a spot to Carol Diamond, 2349 Carol Ave. Mtn. View 94040.

**Townie Bikers** Tuesday, March 10, Meet at Judith Steiner's house. for 11AM ride to Atherton, quiet neighborhood streets mostly, with lunch on Alameda de las Pulgas around noon. Both fast and slow riders welcome! Sorry you missed last month's beautiful ride along the shore line in view of Moffet Field, with lunch at a hard to find hot spot in MV. For this month's ride, contact Judith at [jsteiner@jsteiner.org](mailto:jsteiner@jsteiner.org)



**Book Group** Tuesday Mar. 24, 7:15 pm, at the Club, we will discuss *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy, 2nd in our Pulitzer Prize Winner Series. Jeanne McDonnell will lead the discussion. Future books are: April 21, Edith Wharton, *The Age of Innocence*; May 26, Anne Tyler, *Breathing Lessons*; June 23, Eudora Welty, *The Optimist's Daughter*. Discussion leaders are, in sequence, Sue Kemp, Jeanne McDonnell, Ellie Heister, Linda Anderson, Cathy Dolton. We meet at the Club Tuesdays, 7:15 pm the week after the Lunch gathering.

**Rentals Committee** would like to thank Leslie McLaren & Ginny Bechtold who are doing the screening and showing during the month of February. Also a huge thanks to Carol Diamond and Wynne Furth who had an exceptionally busy January. Wynne booked 3 new contracts! Well done, Rentals Team.

**History Walk** Tuesday, Mar.31, at Sutro Baths.- Golden Gate National Park Ranger will be our docent as we walk the area of the baths, the Cliff House and Sutro Heights property. Lunch follows at the Beach Chalet. \$25 cost + lunch. Send a check to Lolly Osborne, 887 Loma Verde PA 94303. 28 members attended Levi Stadium Tour and lunch. From a docent we were able to hear about building costs; view private box areas, art collection, garden roof and LEED architecture; followed by a great lunch.

**Centennial Celebration 2016** -Committees are forming to make plans for a year of celebrating. Topics: Fashion, History, Rededication of building, Music, Flowers & Gardens. Please contact Sue Krumbien or Lolly Osborne to participate in our plans.

**Ciné Circle** The selected film for our March meeting is *Still Alice*. If you haven't seen the film yet, it will be at Aquarius at least till March 5th. We meet Wednesday, March 11, at 7pm at the Club.

## March Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Wednesday, March 4, Board Meeting**, 5 - 7 pm at the Clubhouse.

**Thursdays, March 5 and 19 Bridge** 2:15 – 4:15 pm at the Clubhouse. On other Thursdays, practice bridge at members' homes. Locations TBD Contact Nancy Bjork at [ncbjork@gmail.com](mailto:ncbjork@gmail.com)

**Friday, March 6 and 20 , Knit & Stitch**, 2-4 pm. Call Sarah French for location, 650 329-9091

**Tuesday, March 10, Townie Bikers**, Meet at Judith Steiner's house. for 11AM ride to Atherton, lunch on the Alameda, noon. Fast and slow riders welcome! Contact Judith at [jsteiner@jsteiner.org](mailto:jsteiner@jsteiner.org)

**Tuesday, March 10, Drop-in Social**, 5-7 pm, at the Clubhouse. For information, contact Celiene O'Hara, 650-367-8122

**Wednesday, March 11 and 25, Outreach**, 9:45 –Noon. Committee volunteers will sort donations at Haven Family House. Contact: Anne Ercolani at [ajecpa04@yahoo.com](mailto:ajecpa04@yahoo.com)

**Wednesday, March 11, Ciné Circle**, 7:00 -8:30 pm at the Clubhouse. Movie: *Still Alice*  
Contact Shannon Griscom or Rezvan Moghaddam

**Thursday, March 12, Mystery Book Club**, 6-7:30 pm at the Clubhouse. Book: *Eva's Eye* by Karin Fossum. Contact: Deanna Dickman at 650-326-1796

**Friday, March 13, Museum Bus** to Alcatraz and Ai Weiwei Exhibit @LARGE, 8:00 am – 3:45 pm  
Contact Eileen Brooks (Sorry – sold out!)

**Tuesday, March 17, Investment Club**, 6-8 pm at the Clubhouse. Questions? Ask Rosemary Busher

**Wednesday, March 18, Monthly Luncheon**, Speakers, Susan Woodman and Jane Stocklin, "A 99 44/100% Look at the Gamble Garden: A History of the Gamble Family".

**Bring kitchen and/or bath items to help aged out Foster children set up a first apartment.**

**Thursday, March 19, Business Meeting**, All members encouraged to attend, 5:00 – 7:00 PM at the Clubhouse, light supper included.

**Tuesday, March 24, Book Group**, 7:15 pm at the Clubhouse. Book: *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy, Contact: Anne Ercolani at [ajecpa04@yahoo.com](mailto:ajecpa04@yahoo.com)

**Wednesday March 25, Outreach Committee Meeting**, 4:30 pm, the Clubhouse. Contact Eileen Brooks

**Thursday, March 26, BUNCO Night** 7:00 – 9:00 at Clubhouse. Sponsored by the Class of 2014.

Send \$15 to reserve a spot to Carol Diamond, 2349 Carol Ave. Mtn.View 94040.

**Tuesday, March 31, History Walk**, Sutro Baths & Tour, Golden Gate National Park. \$25 cost + lunch at the Beach Chalet. Send your check to Lolly Osborne, 887 Loma Verde PA 94303



The Woman's Club of  
Palo Alto

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

Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement