

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## May 2015 Newsletter

President: Victoria Sullivan

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### President's Letter

Dear Fellow Members,

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, a new Woman's Club Board will take over, with Carol Lippert as your president. So my tenure as President is finished this May. I want to thank all of you for encouraging me and supporting me as your president for the last two years.

I especially want to thank my Board members and other club members who made my job sooo easy. Board members offered thoughtful opinions on tricky issues, and they supported decisions after careful consideration of different points of view. Both Marlene Prendergast and Carol Lippert worked diligently as 1<sup>st</sup> vice president, asking questions, explaining issues, reminding me about tasks. Annette Glanckopf and Lolly Osborne worked tirelessly as Membership Chairs, so that we have a strong membership and a waiting list. Leika Kejriwal and Gwen Barry were very valuable treasurers, helping me understand details of the budget. Invaluable to me has been Meg Monroe's expertise as finance officer for two years. Finance is not my forte, and Meg has patiently walked me through the financial health of our club. The directors over the last 2 years kept track of different aspects of our club. I have really appreciated Margo Ogus' help on the newsletter, and Jan Heilman's and Sandy Voorhees' work as Greeters. Thank you to Jackie Schoelerman and Rezvan Moghaddam for detailed investigations that resulting in our philanthropy grants. Hilary Jones sent words of cheer to ill or grieving members. Joan Zwiép informed us about rental issues, and Sylvie

*(President's letter continued on page 4)*



### Wednesday, May 20th Luncheon Installation of Officers Program: Philanthropy Awards May Luncheon will have a "new look"!

We will use auditorium seating, Philanthropy recipients will make presentations about their work, Business will be conducted and lunch will follow, "cocktail style". Stations will be used to serve food. Mingle, sit in small groups and chat with club members.

HOSTED BY BEA GARSH AND LOLLY OSBORNE

**Remember**  
**Dues need to be received by June 15**

### Look Inside!

- Board Minutes Summary
  - Committee News
  - Interest Group News
- History Corner
- Calendar of Events

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

- 11:15 AM** Doors open for visiting  
**11:30** President's Welcome,  
**11:40** Philanthropy Program Begins  
**12:15** Business Meeting,  
Installation of Officers  
**12:40** Lunch - Food stations in Fireside  
Room and ballroom. A few  
tables up for those in need

LUNCH is offered at \$10.00 for members and \$15.00 for guests. E-mail Lolly Osborne to reserve for a guest or for a vegetarian meal at [lolly@osbornfamily.com](mailto:lolly@osbornfamily.com)

## Woman's Club of Palo Alto Board Meeting Notes, April 1, 2015

The following actions were taken or discussion was held:

1 The board approved the plaque recognizing the building's placement on the National Historic Registry;

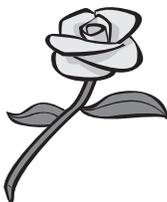
2 For the May luncheon, Lolly Osborne will set up seating auditorium style with finger food buffet to enable people to visit with and hear from the Philanthropy Grantees;

3. For member renewal for next year, there was discussion of the contents of the renewal form and a reminder of the June 15 deadline.

### *And now a word from our sponsor, Next Year's Budget:*

At the May luncheon you will be asked to approve next fiscal year's budget. At their April meeting the Board approved the proposed budget for **FY15-16**. The approved FY15-16 Budget will be sent by e-blast to all members on May 7, 2015. After the Business Meeting March 19<sup>th</sup>, the income figures changed significantly because of an updated lower rental income projection. The Board noted that the FY15-16 budget is not providing money to increase the building reserve as needed. Members need to be more aware of their 'ownership' of the income issue and of the critical need for capital funding if the Clubhouse continues to serve the members' needs. For this year, the Board voted to ask each member, along with their dues, to contribute to funding the approved FY15-16 Capital Projects.

In the fall, the Board-appointed committee to balance revenue sources will make recommendations to the Board, which will not become effective until June 2016. The FY2015-16 expected shortfall has prompted this request for immediate member contribution, so that we avoid using the maintenance/structural reserves next year when there are no savings from the Operating Budget.



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## The FY 15-16 Organization Budget Summary

**Operating Budget:** The proposed Operating Budget is balanced with projected income of \$107,725, estimated expenses of \$106,705, and savings to the Building Reserve of \$1,020 (a **97% reduction** in savings from FY14-15). The major changes from last year are: a significant reduction in projected rentals income (from 3.0 to 1.5 full fee rentals/month); the addition of a part-time clerical assistant to support rentals; no participation in the GFWC convention (suggested at the Business meeting); and an increase in Special Meeting, Social, Hospitality funding to respond to increased member participation. All other estimated expenses remained about the same or were slightly less than the current year.

The major impact of the reduction in rentals income is the loss of savings for the building reserve. Because of some pending major repairs, the Board has been pursuing a three year program to increase building reserves \$30,000 a year by maximizing rentals income. It is clear from the FY15-16 budget (the third year) that this goal will not be met in FY15-16. The reasons for the lower rentals income projection include a slight raise in rental fee, and a change in renter requirements, lowering the number of event attendees allowed in order to reduce physical impact on the clubhouse. The changes in rental requirements also placed the Clubhouse in a different local rental niche.

**Capital Program:** Capital Budgeting begins with creating the Capital Program for the next year. In January, the Board approved a 7-item, \$22,800 Capital Program. After the reduction in rentals income, the Board revised the FY15-16 Capital Program to three items: replacement of the sewer lateral (\$7,700), upgrade to the audiovisual system (\$5,000) and replacement of the refrigerator (\$2,100) pending review by House and Grounds; this reduced the adopted FY15-16 Capital Program to \$14,800.

**Capital Budget:** The Capital Budget addresses the allocation of the club's savings. The money remaining after the restricted donations and approved FY15-16 Capital Program is allocated among three reserve funds. For FY15-16 it is proposed that the \$267,661 remaining to allocate be divided: 25% to the operating reserve, 0.5% to the emergency reserve, and 65% to the maintenance/structural reserve. \$10,000 remains unallocated to provide for a cash cushion since monthly income and expenses occasionally do not match. —Meg Monroe, Finance Officer

## Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements & Events

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE** May Luncheon Collection, for the Mobile Shower and Laundry Unit in East Palo Alto, serving the mid-peninsula homeless: Washcloths (Ross - 6/\$3.99), toothbrushes, combs and travel size shampoos, toothpaste and deodorant. The Outreach Committee will make individual hygiene packets that will be given to homeless clients as they enter the Mobile Shower Unit. Please help - We all know how wonderful it feels to be clean! *Contact E. Brooks. No Outreach Committee Meeting May 27.*

**Outreach Volunteering** at Haven Family House continues the second and fourth Wed. of each month. *Contact A. Ercolani.*

### Upcoming Outreach Activities/Events:

**May 6** – Preparing Haven Family House (HFH) annual Mother's Day meal – we need Outreach members to set up and serve the meal. This is a wonderful event that warms the hearts of all included!

**May 13** – HFH volunteering, 9:45am – noon

**May 27** – HFH volunteering, 9:45am – noon

**MUSEUM FRIDAY** Friday, May 8. \$25. DeYoung Museum. Join us for our last Museum outing of the season - the spectacular traveling collection from the National Galleries of Scotland - Botticelli to Braque. *Contact E. Brooks, D. Bohling or G. Bechtold*

**CINÉ CIRCLE** will meet on Wednesday, May 13 at 7PM at the Club. Film TBD. Inquiries to *Shannon Griscom & Rezvan Moghaddam*

**BOOK GROUP** We will meet the fourth Tuesday, May 26th, 7:15 at the WCPA. For this series, Pulitzer Prize Winners, May 26, Linda Anderson will lead our discussion of *Breathing Lessons* by Anne Tyler. On June 23, Cathy Dolton will be our leader on *The Optimist's Daughter* by Eudora Welty. At the May meeting, we will choose books for autumn, continuing with Pulitzers. This time we will choose from fiction and non-fiction, 2 from each category, and a third from one or the other. *Jeanne McDonnell*

**MYSTERY BOOK CLUB** Thursday, May 14th 6-7:30 p.m. at the WCPA. We will discuss the Louise Penny book, *Still Life*. Set in a small town outside Montréal, this is the first of eleven Inspector Armand Gamache novels. June's book is *The Sixth Lamentation*. William Brodrick, the author, is considered a master of historical re-creation, precision plotting, and morally complex characters. The story is a convergence of the Holocaust, Christian forgiveness, and moral authority. It is the first in the Father Anselm Series.

**PHILANTHROPY COMMITTEE** visited 11 non-profit organizations recommended by club members. Six organizations were selected to receive the Club annual grants: **Able Works, Adolescent Counseling Services, Day Break - a program of Star Vista, Foothill College Veterans Resource Center - a program of Foothill De Anza Foundation, Sequoia Adult School Scholars, and StreetCode Academy - a program of Live in Peace.** Please join us May 20 at the Club luncheon to meet representatives of these nonprofits and learn more about their community services. *Jackie Schoelerman and Rezvan Moghaddam, Philanthropy Co-Chairs*

**PERSONAL RECORD KEEPING SEMINAR** **MAY 20**, immediately following luncheon, Joann Meredith will present a seminar on personal record keeping. If your financial and personal records are scattered about in shoeboxes and folders, this seminar will provide the tools, and the incentive to get organized. The Gift of Organization is for those who want to bequeath well-organized records for heirs as well as those who want to know where things are when needed. The short seminar is free. A workbook may be purchased for \$20.00 on or before May 20. After that, the cost is \$25.00. All profits will be donated to Star Vista. Contact Joann with to order. 650 325 4152

### HISTORY WALKS

**MAY 5th, Tuesday, 10am** History Walk WCPA - STANFORD Science And Engineering Quad Tour led by John Barton, Director of Stanford Architecture Program, 9:30am meet at Panama Parking Garage (self pay). Directions to parking: Embarcadero becomes Galvez, Galvez to Campus Drive, turn right go 1 mile to Panama ( sign on the right says Governors Rd.) turn left to parking structure. We will meet their. Allow time on meter for lunch to follow. Contact: [lolly@osbofamily.com](mailto:lolly@osbofamily.com)

**June 6, Saturday** Oakland Art Deco Walking Tour, "Guys and Dolls Walk" (spouse & friends!) Sue Krumbein & Joyce Rice docents. Details in second email.



## Committees, Interest Groups, Announcements & Events

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

Way supported our finance officer and was a strong contributor on the finance committee. Louise Beatie supported the first VP by collecting data that cemented our non-profit status. Lisa Sten was liaison to H&G and helped greatly with an illumination study to improve the lighting in our ballroom. Ann Ercolani and Diana Wahler donated their time as our auditors for financial matters. The Luncheon Chairs over the past two years, Connie Fasani and Lolly Osborne last year, and Betsy Bechtel and Barbara Swenson this year, have worked hard overseeing and supporting the monthly Lunch Chairs. Carol Hubenthal has been the unbelievably patient, thoughtful, gifted editor of this newsletter. The Gavileers said "yes" anytime I asked for consultation or for wine pouring. The biggest lesson I learned from my two-year tenure as WCPA President is the following: Say YES when someone from the nominating committee or our president asks you to help out in a leadership capacity. We may be an all-volunteer organization, but directors, committee chairs, and officers of this organization get amazing support from the rest of our membership.

Because of an expected reduction in rentals income for FY 2015-16, the Board realized there would be no savings for the building reserve at the end of FY 2015-16. For this reason, the Board is asking each member to make a one-time-only \$75.00 contribution to next year's Capital Program. This program includes replacement of the sewer lateral, upgrade to AV equipment, and possibly a replacement of the refrigerator, all of which will directly benefit you as a member. Thank you in advance for your help.

My goal during my presidency has been to encourage all of you to be more active in our woman's club. I know from your attendance at various activities that more of you are participating in our Outreach activities, 2 book groups, the Ciné Circle, our gentle biking group, monthly museum tours, our history walking tours, knitting, bridge playing, and Second Tuesday Drop-in Social. So check the calendar on page 4, meet up with fellow members, and make new friends at our on-going activities. See you at lunch!

—Vicki Sullivan

### History Corner The Carolands

As our Club House approaches its centennial, I thought it would be interesting to look at another signature Peninsula building that is celebrating its 100 years in 2016 as well. In 1912, Harriett Pullman Carolan, heiress to the Pullman railroad car fortune, and her husband Francis Carolan hired French architect Ernst Sanson to design a 98 room chateau on their 550 acre estate in Hillsborough. She wanted her dream house to excite "wonder and admiration." And Sanson envisioned Carolands, his masterpiece, as an American Renaissance/Beaux Arts "great house" of the "gilded age," every bit as grand as Filoli, built in 1915. For all of these grandiose dreams, Harriett Pullman Carolan separated from Francis, rarely lived at Carolands, left California, and sold the property, after which it, sadly, went into decline. Countess Lillian Remillard Dandini rescued the chateau in 1950; she lived there and entertained lavishly, but by the 1970s, she lacked the funds to maintain it properly and willed it to Hillsborough for use as a "musical, artistic and literary center." The Town could not afford its upkeep either, and the beautiful chateau deteriorated, was vandalized, and almost demolished. Even though it was recognized as a California Historical Landmark, it seemed that Carolands would not survive, especially after experiencing damage in the 1989 Loma Prieta earthquake. Fortunately, a 1991 Hillsborough Designer Showcase event held at Carolands revived interest in the chateau. In 1998, new owners, Charles Johnson and Dr. Ann Johnson undertook extensive renovation and meticulous restoration. The Johnsons lived in the chateau for several years and then donated it to the Carolands Foundation "to preserve it for charitable purposes." For a stunning slideshow of Carolands, visit < <http://carolands.org/>

—Peggy McKee

**Remember that dues need to be received by June 15.**

## May Calendar of Upcoming Events

**Friday, May 1 and 15, Knit & Stitch**, 2-4 pm. Call Ginny Noh for location

**Tuesday, May 5, History Walk**, Stanford Science and Engineering Quad Tour led by John Barton, Director of Stanford Architecture Program, 9:30am. Meet at Panama Garage. Contact: [lolly@osbofamily.com](mailto:lolly@osbofamily.com)

**Wednesday, May 6, Board Meeting**, 5-7 pm at the WCPA.

**Wednesday, May 6, 5:30-7PM.** Woman's Club serves dinner to mothers at Haven Family House.

Contact: [lolly@osbofamily.com](mailto:lolly@osbofamily.com)

**Thursdays, May 7 and 21 Bridge** 2:15 – 4:15 pm at the WCPA. Other Thursdays, practice bridge at members' homes. Locations TBD. Contact Nancy Bjork [ncbjork@gmail.com](mailto:ncbjork@gmail.com)

**Friday, May 8, Museum Bus** to DeYoung Museum. Contact Eileen Brooks, Donna Bohling, or Eileen Brooks

**Tuesday, May 12, Townie Bikers**, Meet at 11AM, west end of California Ave. tunnel to bike around campus with lunch at the Stanford Faculty Club. Fast and slow riders welcome! Contact Judith at [jsteiner@jsteiner.org](mailto:jsteiner@jsteiner.org)

**Tuesday, May 12, Drop-in Social**, 5 pm, at the WCPA. Celiene O'Hara, [650-367-8122](tel:650-367-8122)

**Wednesday, May 13**, House and Grounds Meeting 4:30

**Wednesday, May 13 and 27, Outreach**, 9:45 – Noon. Committee will sort donations at Haven Family House.

Contact: Anne Ercolani [ajecpa04@yahoo.com](mailto:ajecpa04@yahoo.com)

**Wednesday, May 13, Ciné Circle**, 7:00-8:30 pm at the WCPA. Movie *Far From the Madding Crowd* Just Released. Contact Shannon Griscom or Rezvan Moghaddam

**Thursday, May 14, Mystery Book Club**, 6-7:30 pm at the WCPA. Book: *Still Life* by Louise Penny.

Contact: Deanna Dickman at [650-326-1796](tel:650-326-1796)

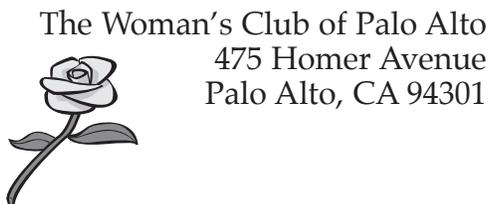
**Tuesday, May 16, Investment Club**, 6-8 pm at the WCPA. Questions? Ask Rosemary Busher

**Wednesday, May 20, Monthly Luncheon**, Philanthropy Awards, Installation of Board Officers.

**Wed. May 20, 1:30 PM**, Joann Meredith Seminar on personal record keeping, in the office.

**Tuesday, May 26, Book Group**, 7:15 pm at the WCPA Book: Anne Tyler's *Breathing Lessons*,

Contact: Anne Ercolani at [ajecpa04@yahoo.com](mailto:ajecpa04@yahoo.com)



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Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement