

# The Woman's Club of Palo Alto

## January 2012 Newsletter

President: Eileen Brooks

Editor: Carol Hubenthal

### President's Letter

I had a fantastic Holiday, and hope you did, too. A wonderful month of family and friends – I especially marvel at the new friends I've made through the Woman's Club. Faces and smiles and names are all coming together for me. I love it.

Our first Coffee event went off very well – we signed cards in December for the Vets at the Palo Alto VA.

In January, I'll be meeting with the VA CEO and VA Voluntary Service guy and so, will have another VA project for us to contemplate/complete at a February Coffee event (tactile Valentine cards for blind Vets?)

In keeping with my hey-let's-give-it-a-shot-and-see-what-happens attitude:

January's Evening Drop-in Social

Tuesday, January 10, 5-7 p.m.

\$5. Gets you appetizers and a glass of wine.

In addition to the regular, free-flowing conversations, we'll be holding a Book Swap. Bring your already read books to talk about and trade.

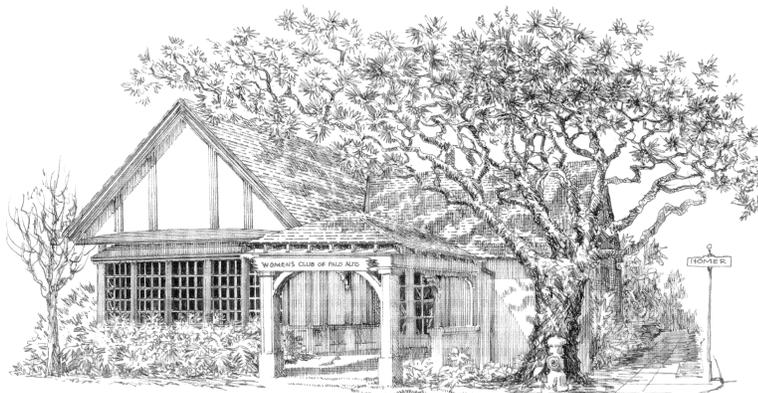
All WC Biz is humming along nicely. The Planning for the Future team is writing our recommended Plan for the Future. In January, we'll begin our 2012/2013 Budget process. The Philanthropy Committee is hard at work on the Feb. 11 Nancy Cassidy Concert (buy your tickets asap.) The corner landscaping will happen in March. The Kitchen Tour returns May 19 and promises to be another spectacular event.

The best ideas bubble up from you, so please keep them coming

*-Eileen Brooks*

### Suggestion Box

There is a Suggestion Box located on the table in the foyer during our regular monthly Wednesday Luncheons. Please feel free to contribute your ideas and/or concerns.



**Wednesday, January 18**

**Election of the Nominating Committee  
Program:  
Indigent Defence and its Challenges**

Mary Greenwood, Santa Clara County

Public Defender

HOSTED BY BARBARA SWENSON AND GAIL WOOLLEY

**11:30 Member and Guest Sign-in**

**12:00 Luncheon is Served**

**12:15 President's Welcome  
Program & Dessert**

*Luncheon is offered at \$5.00 for members, \$10 for guests. Email Barbara Swenson for guest reservations or if you need a vegetarian meal at: [barb@bpswenson.com](mailto:barb@bpswenson.com)*

### Look Inside!

- Book Group • History Corner •
- Board Business • History Walks
- Committee Updates • Nancy Cassidy Concert
- Evening Social •

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

## Book Group

**Tuesday, January 24, 7:30 p.m.**  
at the Clubhouse

We will discuss the fourth in our England-Ireland series. The book is Half a Life by V. S. Naipaul. We also voted online about what our topic will be for the Spring series, and chose humorous books. We have begun to assemble books to consider, and will make our final choice at the February meeting. If you are not on the email list, call Jeanne McDonnell in case a change in venue is necessary..

— *Jeanne McDonnell*

## Board Business

### December, 2011 Board Meeting

- Anne Ercolani completed and submitted her financial WC Audit for 6.1.10 – 5.31.11. Overall, the Audit is fine, with only 4 recommendations for bookkeeping adjustments. The Finance Committee will incorporate and complete those recommended changes in their 3-5 year Plan.
- The Board approved a comprehensive Marketing Proposal from the Rentals Marketing Committee. The full Proposal is on file in the WC office and available for review.
- Sue Krumbein, H&G Chair, submitted a formal Job Description for our House Manager. After discussion and amendments, the Job Description was accepted.
- The Communications task force submitted its final report. The Report included guidelines for email etiquette, website and database maintenance and Communications back-up training.

Complete Board meeting Agenda and Minutes are available for general membership review. Please contact Eileen Brooks, President.

*eibrooks@hotmail.com*

### The Rentals Committee is looking for a new member

Qualifications:

Likes meeting new people;

Likes making a sale;

Likes contributing 41% of the total Club income.

Contact Margaret Feuer at [portulaca@earthlink.net](mailto:portulaca@earthlink.net) or any member of the Rentals Committee.

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

## History Corner Hers, His, or Theirs

In August 1920, the Nineteenth Amendment extended women's voting rights to the entire nation. Fifty years later, many realized that voting hadn't fostered overall equality, one discriminatory factor being proper grammatical usage.

In Columbia University's Spring 2011 magazine, the author of a Letter to the Editor complained of several recent publications' "succumbing to the late feminist mania when 'his' or 'him' became anathema." Oddly, because I now play bridge at the Club, I next picked up a book of mine by Charles Goren, published in 1950. The opening sentence reads, "Before approaching the subject of the opening bid, the student must acquaint himself with...."

Another quote, in a recent article in California History magazine about Caroline Severance, founder of the Los Angeles Women's Club in 1878, explains how Progressives of her time described their politics as being "about doing some good for our fellow man."

Thank you, fellow activist women of the 1970s for promoting grammatical parity, among other important equalities!

*Jeanne McDonnell*

### In Memoriam Joan Johnston

Joan Johnston, a Palo Alto Woman's Club member since 2007, died on December 24 after a ten year battle with colon cancer. In addition to serving on the PAUSD school board from 1978 to 1986, Joan also contributed her leadership skills to a wide variety of non-profit organizations in our community. Most recently she served as Finance Chair on the Woman's Club Board from 2009-2011. She will be remembered for her wisdom, kindness and positive spirit. Joan was also a faithful member of the Woman's Club Knit/Stitch group. Even as she was confined to her home, knitting continued to bring her great pleasure. At Joan's request, her memorial service will be held at the Woman's Club, the date to be announced shortly.

## Committee and Interest Group Updates

### *The Woman's Club of Palo Alto* Presents

**NANCY CASSIDY**

in *KidsSongs*

**A NANCY CASSIDY CONCERT**

To Benefit the Club's Philanthropic Mission

**Saturday, February 11, 2012, 10:30 a.m.**

475 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto

Tickets \$10 to WC Members, CDs \$15/each

Order tickets via email: [cassidytickets@gmail.com](mailto:cassidytickets@gmail.com)

Make checks payable to

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

Attn: Philanthropy/Ginny Lear

Pizza, cup cakes, frozen yogurt and Jamba Juice  
drinks will be available for sale at the concert.

Tickets may be picked up on day of concert  
at will call

### MERRY TIME HAD BY ALL...

On December 16<sup>th</sup> our beautiful Club was the location of a spontaneous Holiday Party. We had an abundance of wonderful food and wine. Thanks to all for gathering to celebrate our friendship and to have so much fun doing it. Thank you to those who helped set up: Helen and Tom Gracon, Jean Pressey, Judi Swope, Sandy and Bill Voorhees and John Davis. Greeting and later pouring wine were Jan and Pete Heilman, Gloria Hom, Wynn Foster and Bill V. Helping in the kitchen and serving were Celiene O'Hara, Elizabeth Moder-Stern, Sandy V and Eileen Brooks. Sue Kemp lent her talent at the piano adding to the festivities. John D. and Don Rees sold \$700 worth of drink tickets helping the Club to make a small profit amazingly. Rick Brooks and Lollie Osborne took photos. Clearing and cleaning was done by many that saw what needed to be done and did it. If we missed recognizing your name, know that you helped to make the party great, and we appreciate each and everyone that contributed. We were thrilled with the turnout, the enthusiasm of members and guests, and the numerous suggesting that the Club house be used more frequently for fun parties. It was easy because of all the gals and guys that pitched in to help.

*Sarah French and Pat Davis*

### History Walks

We have planned 4 walks this 2011/2012 year. Goals are to enjoy a walking tour of a location of interest accompanied by some historic commentary. A group of women also find wonderful camaraderie in these gatherings. Comfortable walking shoes, water and a bag lunch are required. We will carpool or use CalTrain. A reminder will be sent prior to the event. We limit each event to 15-20 PAWC members.

**Please put this date on your calendar!**

**MARCH 6, 2012 SPRING ART WALK IN SOMA, SF** Sue Krumbein and "art hobby" sister, Marcia, will lead us on a tour into little known galleries, print shops, buildings and parks viewing art from a different and historic perspective. Crown Point Press, Yerba Buena Center & Park and several small galleries will be the focus of the walk. California Ave. train #227 @ 8:31am on March 6th, Tuesday. Bring lunch & water for a picnic in Union Square before returning to Palo Alto @ 3:10pm. Hope you will join us!

RSVP to Lolly Osborne 650-799-1958 or [lolly@osbo-family.com](mailto:lolly@osbo-family.com)

### Woman's Club Bridge

The Bridge Group will meet Thursday, January 5 and 19, at the Clubhouse.

Please contact Mary Haverstock [mgh956@gmail.com](mailto:mgh956@gmail.com) if you would like to be added to the Bridge Group mailing list

### Monthly Evening Drop-in Social

**Tuesday, January 10**

**5 – 7 p.m. At the Clubhouse**

Stop by and enjoy appetizers and wine and free-flowing conversation with your club mates. Nourish old friendships and make new ones!

**This month – Book Swap**

Bring your used books to talk about and trade.

\$5. gets you appetizers and a glass of wine

Contact Celiene O'Hara [celienet@aol.com](mailto:celienet@aol.com) for more info

### Address Changes?

Please check the 2012/2012 WC Yearbook to be sure your email address is correct. If it is not, please send your correct email address to our Membership Chair, Sandy Voorhees at [sandyvoorh@aol.com](mailto:sandyvoorh@aol.com).

## CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Tuesday, Jan. 10th - Drop-in Social and Book Swap** - 5-7 p.m. at the Clubhouse.  
More info from Celiene O'Hara at [celienet@aol.com](mailto:celienet@aol.com)

**Thursday, Jan. 12 - Cine'Circle and the Reel Buffs** – 7 pm at the Clubhouse. Movie TBA. Hosted by Melaine Bales Hennessey and Jeanne Aufmuth. Call Melaine at 326.0776 for info.

**Tuesday, Jan. 17 - Investment Club**, 6:15 pm at the Clubhouse. Call Carol Martin 408.923.2492.

**Wednesday, Jan. 18 - Luncheon – Indigent Defense and its Challenges** -, Mary Greenwood, Santa Clara County Public Defender. Election of Nominating Committee. Hosted by Barbara Swenson and Gail Woolley

**Tuesday, Jan. 24 - Book Group** at 7:30 pm at the Clubhouse.  
Call Jeanne McDonnell 321.5260.



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Palo Alto, CA 94301

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Friendship, Self-Improvement, and Community Involvement