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The Faculty Club Newsletter

November 2008

Coming Events

November

- 14th – Winemaker's Dinner
- 20th -- Golden Girlfriends' lunch
- 20th - Science for President

December

- 10, 11 & 12th – Christmas Parties

January

- 16th – Crab Feast
- 27th -- Golden Girlfriends Lunch
- 30th - Winemaker's dinner –
Scholium project

*"Become a member at
The Faculty Club and
enjoy 15% discount on
food and beverages"*

Message from the Manager

Dear Member,

I can't believe it's already November, and that means Thanksgiving! I want to wish you and your families a happy holiday, full of warmth and good companionship.

I also want to thank all those members who turned out for the great evening with our chief monk, Milton Williams. The Events Committee and I are always pleased when the Club's offerings meet with member approval. Watch for further events and mark your calendars early. Invitations to the Christmas parties were mailed out during October, and the staff and I are already preparing for them. Be sure to get your reservations in early!

The House Committee has been busy looking at different carpets for our public rooms and we'll keep you informed as the work progresses.

As always, I am available to help you with all Club related issues, so please feel free to contact me. If you have any ideas for new member events, let me know and we will try to incorporate them into the 2009 calendar.

-Felix Solomon, Manager

Winemaker's Dinner: La Crema

Another in the Club's renowned series of gourmet dinners and private tasting of premium wines, this time with Melissa, the winemaker for La Crema Winery, on Friday, **November 14th**.

Specializing in Burgundian varietals, this Winery, founded in 1979, produces premium Chardonnay and Pinot Noir as well as a limited amount of varietal-specific wines. Creating intensely flavored Char-donnay and Pinot Noir requires the grapes that La Crema seeks where appropriate soils meet the cool coastal fog that allows long hang time and slow ripening of grapes. The result is small, intensely flavored berries which provide the elegance and balance that mark La Crema wines. Enjoy a fine dinner, especially designed around these highly regarded wines. Reception at 6:00; dinner at 7:00. \$70 per person, all inclusive. Reserve at ext. 2-224.

Message from your President

Dear Fellow Members,

Over recent months your Board has been deliberating over ways to preserve the long term health of the Club, and especially of the clubhouse. We are now taking the following measures:

*“Winemaker’s dinner
November 14, 2008.”*

1. Early in the New Year we will install an online billing system. Monthly statements and the newsletter will come by e-mail, and you’ll be able to pay bills through several online mechanisms, including online banking. This will save the Club about \$12,000 annually in staff and mail expenses. You will, of course, be able to opt to receive your bill and newsletter by regular mail
2. On January 1st we are moving to a single dues level of \$16 per month for all current faculty and staff - a slight decrease for staff and full professors and a slight increase for associate and assistant professors (many of whom have, in fact, been promoted since they joined the club). Emeriti and alumni dues will remain the same. The change will result in an initial small decrease in total revenue, which we hope to make up by attracting new members. This change will also save staff time and expenses.
3. The clubhouse has serious deferred maintenance and ADA access problems. With the help of the campus Capital Projects staff, we have commissioned a comprehensive study of our building’s physical condition, to be paid for jointly by the Club and the campus, in order to develop a five to ten years schedule for addressing these problems. Preliminary estimates of total costs run to over a million dollars.
4. To help defray these costs we have received permission for the Club to participate in the campus’s \$3 billion capital campaign, “Thanks to Berkeley.” Over the next months we shall try to solicit direct gifts - not easy in our current challenging economic environment - as well as ask you to think about charitable gift annuities or other ways to include the Club in your estate plans.

Enjoy the Club. And do let me or any of the other Board members know how we and it can serve you better.

- *Charles Faulhaber, President*

Art Show of the Month - November

Our art show for September features the work of Dr. Tom Conkle. He has displayed a variety of oil paintings at the Club over the past several years. His hobby, after retirement as a research Forest geneticist, is travel combined with art. November's paintings include Bay Area scenes and flowers from his El Cerrito home.

Golden Girlfriends

The next lunch meeting of this group of surviving spouses of Club members (and members in their own right) will be on **November 20th**. Our guest speaker will be Jason Marsh, general editor for *Greater Good* magazine. Greater Good highlights ground-breaking scientific research into the roots of compassion and altruism. It fuses this science with inspiring stories of compassion in action, providing a bridge between social scientists and parents, educators, community leaders, and policy makers. The remaining meetings for the academic year will be on Jan. 27, Mar. 24, May 26, and July 30. Lunch costs \$17, with an extra \$5 charge for wine. Reserve by calling 540-5678, ext. 2-224.

Physics for Future Presidents

The Events Committee, under Jerry Lubenow, has worked with Felix to plan individual events of interest to members, including lecture-discussions on varied topics.

On Thursday, **November 20th**, Professor Richard Muller (Physics), will talk on **Physics For Future Presidents**. Imagine you are the President and a terrorist has planted a dirty bomb in midtown Manhattan. What do you do?

By the time you get this message we will know who will be faced with making such decisions, giving a special piquancy to this program in which Rich will discuss his new book based on his renowned course for non-science students.

With the new president elect waiting to take the oath of office, Rich will talk about what he needs to know in five crucial policy areas: terrorism, energy, nukes, space, and global warming. Reception, discussion: 5 to 6:30 p.m. Reserve now at extension 2-224. \$15 fee includes the wine and cheese reception; Stay on for a Bargain dinner in the Kerr afterwards. This is a Berkeley Sym-phony performance evening, so subscribers can make a big night of it!

*Annual Christmas
Parties*

December 10, 11, & 12

Christmas Parties

By now you should have received your invitation to the greatest event of the Club year - so great it extends over several days!

The Moose is already practicing for the event, singing in the Great Hall at midnight. The boar's head is being vacuumed, and the Monks are coming out of their cells to check the state of their formal robes. This year the Christmas party will take place on **December 10th, 11th, and 12th**.

Remember that all reservations are handled on a first come, first served basis.

Football at the Club

Every Saturday that Cal plays at home during the football season the Club is open for pre-game lunches and drinks, as well as post-game snacks and cocktails. Beat the crowd, arrive early, get your team spirit flowing, and enjoy a short walk to the stadium. Then celebrate afterwards. The season's well under way! **GO BEARS!**

Buffets, Breakfast, Bargain Dinners

The popular Friday evening bargain **Fish Dinner** (\$13.99!) continues. Come by and try it soon. The **Breakfast Special**, a bargain at \$2.99, will continue, as will the regular weekday **Bargain Dinners**: from 5 to 6:30. Enjoy a great meal for only \$13.99. See the Club notice board for the menu of the month.