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The Faculty Club Newsletter

May 2008

Message from the Club President

Coming Events

May

- 11th – Mothers Day Brunch
- 16th - Wine tasting on the glade

June

- 6th - Indian Prix Fixe Dinner
- 19th - Golden Girlfriends Lunch

July

- 18th – Jazz night again!

*“Don’t forget Mothers
Day Brunch at The
Faculty Club”*

Dear Fellow Members,

First, let me thank you for re-electing me to the Board of Directors of The Faculty Club for a second three-year term. And let me thank my fellow board members – I think – for voting me the privilege of presiding over the Club for the next year.

This is a wonderful institution, now ending its 106th year. It is so settled, so solid, so much a part of the campus landscape that we tend to take it for granted; but like any human institution, it takes a great deal of work to keep it going, and a very little inattention to cause irreparable damage.

As in most private clubs, much of the work of keeping the enterprise going is carried out by a small group of members. We would like to try to change that. The Club has six committees, all but one of which could use more hands. The amount of time involved is modest, but the payoffs can be great (and the work by and large is interesting). To find out more about any of the committees, please contact either me, cfaulhab@library.berkeley.edu, or the appropriate Chair:

Finance. Ed Revelli (Optometry), revel@berkeley.edu

Membership. Bill Lester (Chemistry and LBNL), walester@lbl.gov

Events. Jerry Lubenow (Institute of Governmental Studies),

julbenow@berkeley.edu

House. Phyllis Brooks (College Writing), phyllisbrookss@yahoo.com

Nominating. Stuart Russell (EECS), russell@cs.berkeley.edu

The one committee that is comfortably furnished with members, to no one’s great surprise, is the Wine Committee, chaired by Tony Adams, aadams@berkeley.edu. I am going to propose to my colleagues on the Board that we reward appropriate service on one of the other committees for a suitable period by making it a prerequisite for appointment to the Wine Committee.

The new Board had its first meeting two weeks ago, and we discussed with our nonpareil general manager, Felix Solomon, the list of projects that he would like us to take on during the coming year, ranging from upgrading and renovating guest rooms to finishing urgently needed external repairs to the building.

Message from the Club President

*“Wine tasting on the
Glade – May 16, 2008.”*

The latter is of particular concern, for safety reasons but also because, under a long-standing MOU originally signed by Chancellor Bowker, the campus is supposed to take care of the exterior of the building; the Club, the interior. We all know not only the size of the campus’s backlog of deferred maintenance but also the budget situation for next year. It seems clear to the Board that we will have to find some unusually creative means of dealing with such issues as the repair of the Seaborg deck.

Projects finished this year include the upgrade of coffee equipment as well as the coffee itself, new carpets in the bar and front desk area, and a host of invisible (but expensive) projects: a new steamer for the kitchen, a new heat exchanger in the basement.

The Board was particularly pleased by the implementation of an online reservation system for our guest rooms. The next step will be to extend the system to reserving meeting rooms and tables at lunch.

Thanks to Felix careful management, and the fine work of our controller, Syed, the finances of the Club are in excellent shape; we are ahead of budget in both expenditures and income this fiscal year. Please do take the time to say hello to Felix and give him your bouquets and brickbats. He is in the Club from morning until evening most days, making sure that everything is running smoothly. If there are problems, he wants to hear about them; because that’s the only way he can fix them.

The same goes for the Board: If there are problems, we want to know about them. If there are suggestions for improvements, for events, for programs, we want to know about those, too. **This is YOUR Club**. A cliché, I know, but true all the same.

We have a wonderful clubhouse and a wonderful staff to run it. We want to keep it in good condition and them happy. Please help us.

– Charles Faulhaber, Department
of Spanish and Portuguese & The
Bancroft Library

Mothers Day Brunch

You should by now have made your reservations for our annual Mothers day brunch on Sunday, **May 11th**. This is a great event for families with wide selection of foods and a strolling violinist. If you have inquiries about the availability of last-minute reservations, call Mayra at extension 2-224. The cost for the brunch is \$45.00 for adults and \$20.00 for children under ten.

Passage to India – with Felix

On **June 6th** join your friends for a culinary trip to the subcontinent, orchestrated by our manager and his loyal kitchen staff. Felix always surprises us with new delicacies and delights when he takes off his bright tie and puts on his chef's whites. Members in the know wait for this chance to enlarge their knowledge of world cuisine. Try it! Reception at 6 p.m.; dinner and entertainment, beginning 7 p.m. All-inclusive cost: \$40 per person. Reserve now: extension 224.

Art Show of the Month - May

Polly Pritkin Ryan is our artist of the month for May. Her first professional exhibition was in New York in 1941. She later (1951) earned a degree in Industrial Engineering here at Berkeley, but took time to study in the Art Practice department, with Chiura Obata in particular. After her 1983 retirement from engineering, she returned to her first love, painting. Her friends have put together a selection of her California watercolors to hang in her honor. Polly is delighted to have this show and is looking forward to coming from her retire-ment home to see it in place.

Golden Girlfriends Lunch

The final meeting of the academic year will be on **June 19th**. Jeanne Pimentel will share with us some of her experiences this spring when she visited New Orleans and took the opportunity to work on the reconstruction that is still going on there. All surviving spouses of Club members are eligible to join this welcoming group.

“Join us for our Passage to India dinner with Felix, our General Manager on June 6, 2008

Spring Wine Tasting on the Glade

On **Friday, May 16th** join your friends in our ever-popular Spring Wine Tasting from 5:30-7 p.m., to be followed by dinner and live music from 7 to 9 p.m. This is an occasion to introduce friends to the Club and at the same time repay some of your social obligations. Of course, you can come by yourself, just to wander in the late afternoon sunshine, discovering new wines as you snack on hot hors d'œuvres and chat with old friends. If you've never attended one of these events, you owe it to yourself to try it. Cost for a wonderful evening of wine, food and music is \$42.00 per person.

Jazz at the Club

Another perennial favorite! The San Francisco Feetwarmers are returning to the Club on **July 13th** for an evening of brilliant classic jazz. Seasoned professionals, the group is known for great arrangements and their driving four-beat rhythm gets the dancers on the floor. Enjoy this great group, along with a special dinner, for an all-inclusive \$35.

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.

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**Contributions and comments may be mailed
to the Editor, Phyllis Brooks, at the Club, or
by e-mail
to phyllisbrookss@yahoo.com.**

Board of Directors, 2008-2009:

**Charles Faulhaber, President
Catherine Koshland, Vice President
Ed Revelli, Treasurer
Bill Lester, Phyllis Brooks
Ken Ribet, Jerry Lubenow
Club Manager: Felix Solomon**

**Club numbers:
Telephone: 510-540-5678
Fax: 510-540-6204**

Reservations: Kerr Dining Room: Extension 0

**Parties: Extension 5
Club events: Extension 2-224**

E-mail: info@berkeleyfacultyclub.com

Website: www.berkeleyfacultyclub.com

Kerr Dining Room hours

Breakfast 7:30-10:00; Lunch M-F 11:30-1:30; Dinner M-F 5:00-8:30

Bar hours: M-F 11:30-1:30; Happy Hours 4:30-6:30; closes at 8:30 p.m.

Buffet lunch: 11:30-1:30 M-F

Guest accommodations available:

Reservations may be made at 540-5678, ext. 3, or through our website.

Membership Call Felix at ext. 0