

THE CATS' TALE

History Club of Los Gatos

A women's philanthropic and social organization since 1897

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Community • Social • Philanthropy

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Farewell President's Message from Jamie Schwarzfeld

I am thanking you for the privilege of serving as president of the History Club of Los Gatos for the past two years. All of you, my sisterhood, have journeyed with me. I have traversed bumps and potholes along the way.

Neal, my best friend and husband of 49 years passed away. The process of diagnosing my breast cancer was drawn out for months. Initially, all diagnostic factors were minimal, but as time went on the prognostic tests became more serious. Having a BRACA mutation has caused me to worry about future genetically related cancers for my family. The tragic drowning of our 22-year-old great-niece who was a NOAA observer and crew member on a Gloucester, MA fishing boat was my last trauma. Without the Presidency of HCLG, I could easily have withdrawn into a shell.

The responsibility of monthly messages to our membership has been cathartic. I have openly journaled with you looking over my shoulder. Serving as your president and hearing your words of compassion as I have shared my intimate thoughts has kept me from my natural tendency to withdraw.

I want to thank each and every one of you for your companionship navigating this journey. You are my community. You have helped me anchor my identity as a Californian and a proud member of the History Club of Los Gatos.

Jamie

Member Birthdays

May Birthdays

Rebecca	Yates	5/7
Anne	Fisher	5/13
Lea	Blekhman	5/15
Cindy	Gjers	5/16
Jan	Gleason	5/17
Orla	MacLean	5/23
Jean	Stroud	5/27

Upcoming Event - May 20th at 1:30 PM



Join us for a historic “Pie Crawl” as we gather to celebrate the History Club of Los Gatos and enjoy the President’s Annual State of the Club Address. Savor a variety of delicious pies while connecting with fellow members in a warm and festive setting.

Our Red Basket collection at this event will support Turning Wheels, an organization dedicated to providing children with safe, new bicycles—helping foster lifelong habits of exercise, outdoor activity, and independence.

There are several easy ways to contribute:

- Bring cash or a check to the May event
- Donate via PayPal using “foundation@historyclublogatos.org” and note “Turning Wheels”
- Mail a check payable to HCLG Charitable Foundation (please include “Turning Wheels” in the memo) to:
Therese Wiese, 6206 Lean Avenue, San Jose, CA 95123

Thank you for helping us make a meaningful impact while we celebrate together!

Field Trip - May 27th

Join us for a delightful day exploring the beauty and history of Gamble Garden in Palo Alto. This charming historic estate, once the home of the Gamble family of Procter & Gamble, is now a treasured public garden known for its seasonal blooms, beautifully maintained grounds, and welcoming atmosphere.

- 🕒 **Meet-Up:** HCLG parking lot at xx:xx AM for carpooling
- 🕒 **Tour Begins:** 11:00 AM
- 🍽️ **Lunch:** To follow the tour (location to be announced).

Interested? Please contact Cathy Beltran at 408-772-2111 to reserve your spot.



Calendars

■ MAY 2026

					1	2
3	4	★	★	7	8	9
10	11	12	★	14	15	16
17	★	19	★	21	22	23
24	25	26	★	28	29	30
31						

5	11:00 AM	HCLG Foundation Board of Directors Meeting (via Zoom)
6	9:00 - 11:00 AM	HCLG Board of Directors Meeting (at the Clubhouse) New and Current Board Members
13	11:00 - 12:30 PM	HCLG Board Member Luncheon (at the Clubhouse) New and Current Board Members
18	3:00 PM	SIG: TV, Movie and Book (via Zoom)
20	1:30 PM	General Membership - Dessert Social (at the Clubhouse) State of the Club & Installation of Officer
27	TBD	Field Trip - Gamble Garden

Inspiration - by Jubie Jaramillo

April was named after the Latin word, aperire, which means “to open”. April symbolizes new beginnings as flowers bloom, days grow longer and warmer weather invites us outside. April gives us a sense of renewal. Let’s make the most of the possibilities it offers us!



Brick Fundraiser
Our brick project is on going.
Bricksrus.com/donorsite/hcolg



Community Outreach

shine

Creating New Friendships - One Blanket at a Time

If you happened to be within a 10 block radius of the History Club on April 13 or 14, you might have wondered what all the lively commotion was about. And if you'd wandered a little closer, you would have recognized familiar voices - laughing, chatting, and working - accompanied by the clatter of measuring tapes and the steady hum of electric scissors. Blanket Bash, Season 4, Episode 1, was in full production mode.

By Tuesday noon, 44 blankets had been tied, folded, and packed, each one carrying warm wishes to new friends at Shine Together. We had so many extras that we were able to share blankets with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, the organization that builds bunk beds for children in need.

On Thursday morning, April 16, we brought 20 finished blankets to Shine Together's beautiful new building where they now offer a wide variety of services to young mothers and their children. We spent the day making 4 blankets alongside the moms, getting to know each other as we worked. At the end of our time together, each mother received a finished blanket as a gift. We also were pleased to present a check for \$895.00 to the Director, Deyanira Tellez.

The gratitude and the warm welcome we received were truly gifts to us - and they hold the promise of a lasting friendship.

Thank you to our members and volunteers who worked on this project: Jan Amaral, Lucy Amico, Anna Arnaudo, Cathy Beltran, Toni Blackstock, Hazie Campsey, Marylyn Copper, Debbie Donlon, Mairead Donohue, Pauline Ferrito, Anne Fisher, Karen Hirano, Patty James, Sue Lassetter, Karen Logan, Karen Lorenz, Orla MacLean, Celeste Martin Melehan, Mary Grace Miller, Kathy Mlinarich, Vikki Pearce, Patti Peters, Tenly Petrino, Cindy Rasp, Jamie Schwarzfeld, Billie Sgarlato, Jean Stroud, Rebecca White, Therese Wiese and Krissy Wilson.



Community Outreach

Call for Assistance - Floral arrangement - May 8th

The Bill Wilson Center is organizing a Youth Voices Film Screening Benefit. This event aims to showcase the creative talents of young individuals, providing them with a platform to express their perspectives through film.

To help make the event a success, the Center is seeking a few volunteers to assist with preparing the centerpieces for the benefit.

If you are available to volunteer for approximately two hours on **Friday, May 8th**, please reach out to Maireaddo@aol.com to express your interest and obtain further details.



Save the Date - American Red Cross Drive - July 23rd

Save the Date! Thursday July 23, 2026. Everyone had such a good time in December at our last Red Cross Blood Drive, we decided to do one this summer before the high school is back in session. To sign up to donate blood, go to redcrossblood.org/give.html/find-drive. Enter our zip code 95030 and scroll down to July 23.

Yes, it is a little early to be getting volunteers, but we wanted to make sure you got this on your calendar! Community Outreach will be looking for volunteers to help with signing in and to chat with donors at the "cookie and juice" tables. Shifts are 7:30am to 11:30am, and 11am to 3pm.

Contact Therese (theresewiese@gmail.com) to volunteer.

Yes, you can work one shift, and donate in the other, which we hope you will do!



Ways and Means

The History Club is delighted to present an Art Showcase and Sale, organized by the Ways and Means Committee, celebrating the creativity and talent of our local artists. A wide variety of works—including watercolor, acrylic, oil, and mixed media—will be on display and available for purchase.

This special event is free and open to the public. Participating artists will generously donate 25% of their sales to benefit the History Club of Los Gatos, supporting our programs and initiatives.

We invite you to help spread the word—bring your friends, neighbors, and family to enjoy this vibrant community event. Watch for reminders on social media, in local newspapers, and on flyers around town. Light refreshments will be served at our newly renovated patio bar.

Join us on May 17 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM at the Clubhouse to support both our talented artists and the Club's fundraising efforts.

In addition, two large original paintings by the late Nick White are currently on display and available for purchase at the Los Gatos Coffee Roasting Company. Club member Rebecca White has generously donated these beautiful pieces as part of our fundraising efforts. Stop by, enjoy a cup of coffee, and take a look.

P.S. To help amplify this event, if you are so inclined, please share on Facebook or Instagram.



Ways and Means

Looking forward - HCLG Fashion Show - September 16th

What can we say? The History Club of Los Gatos is stepping back in time for a truly grand event – a Fashion Show to remember. Imagine an inspiring runway featuring styles from beloved local boutiques such as J.McLaughlin, Kismet, and another exciting local favorite, all paired with an elegant three-course meal.

Mark your calendars and join us in supporting the club while helping make this event a standout success. This is a club-wide event, so be sure to save the date - September 16th. Assisting with the event is also a wonderful way to fulfill your volunteer commitment.

Please share the news with your friends and contacts to help amplify this unforgettable occasion.

A portion of the proceeds will benefit Dress for Success, an organization that supports more than 6,000 women in Santa Clara County as they advance through their professional journeys.



Club Business - Annual Dues

Annual Dues for July1 2026 through June 30, 2027, Club Year

Dues statements are sent out in April with payment due by June 15.

Dues are:

Regular member \$70
Associate member \$85
Affiliate member \$70
Nonresident \$45
Gold member \$0

Membership Categories:

Regular members are required to serve on, at a minimum, one Hostess Event and one Fundraiser and Community Outreach activity each Club Year

Gold members are those who have belonged to the club for 50 years. They have full rights of membership. They will be exempt from serving on committees, serving on fundraisers and paying dues.

Special status not obligated serve. Must apply to the Board of Directors to change to these categories.

Associate a member for 15 years or more or a regular member for 5 years and reach the age of 85.

Affiliate a temporary status for members in good standing for at least three years who are facing a general emergency or medical situation. Available for a year.

Out of Area (Nonresident) for members who have moved out of the area. To become Non-Resident Member, applicant must have been a regular member for one or more years and must apply to the Board for change in status.

Please mail your dues to HCLG c/o Pat Baker, 16661 Kennedy Rd, Los Gatos, CA 95032. Or pay in person at our May event. If you wish to use PayPal please add a \$3 convenience fee. treasurer@historyclublosgatos.org

