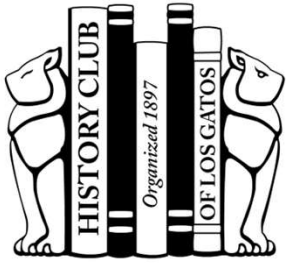


History Club of Los Gatos

A women's philanthropic and social organization since 1897



Community • Social • Philanthropy

President's Message From Jamie Schwarzfeld

The Season of Gluttony is upon us! It runs from Halloween to New Year's Day. I have been very successful losing weight with Weight Watchers, and I vow to make a pre-holiday resolution to continue this journey. I will have to reframe my mind-set to accomplish this goal. The History Club is serving as my boot camp for this training. All end of the year Club events are high caloric (or in WW lingo-High in Points): the Cookie Exchange, the Willow Street fund raiser, the See's Candy fund raiser, and the Holiday Luncheon.

In this issue:

- Calendar
- Upcoming Events
- Member News
- Club Activities
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Community Outreach
- Philanthropy
- Editor's Corner

I was pleased with my approach to the Cookie Exchange. I focused on the camaraderie, decorations, and cookie displays. I drank a protein shake just before arriving and had several cups of coffee prior to approaching the tasting table. I spoke to bakers about their treats and chose 3-4 intriguing cookies to sample. I filled my goodie box to the brim, left it in my car, arranged to pick my granddaughter up from her guitar lesson and drove her home with her treasured box of treats. At Willow Street, I had only a fish starter and experienced an overwhelming vicarious pleasure as my grandchildren enjoyed their dinners and desserts.

I plan to be mindful of each upcoming Holiday gathering employing all my senses. Scrumptious food is an integral part, but the guests, table setting, decorations, floral arrangements, music and aromas will fill me with just as much pleasure.

This is a quote from the wonderful feel-good movie, *Tortilla Soup*:
“Do you know why we click glasses before drinking?...It's so that all the five senses are involved. We touch the glass. We smell the drink. We see its color. We taste it. Hearing is the only sense that doesn't participate unless we create it.”



CHEERS & BON APPETIT
ENJOY YOUR FESTIVITIES, FAMILY, FRIENDS & FOOD

Jamie

Calendars

december 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT				
		1	2	3	4	5	6	2	11:00 AM	HCLG Foundation Board of Directors Meeting (via Zoom)
								3	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	HC Board of Directors Meeting (at the Clubhouse)
7	8							6	9:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Los Gatos Holiday Parade (Parade and the Clubhouse)
								8	3:00 PM	CANCELLED SIG: Chatty Cats (via Zoom)
14	15							10	12:00 PM	General Membership Holiday Lunch (at the Clubhouse)
								15	3:00 PM	SIG: TV, Movie and Book (via Zoom)
21	22							18	3:00 PM	SIG: TED Talk (via Zoom)
								30	10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Activity Day (at the Clubhouse)
28	29							30	12:30 PM - 2:00 PM	Book Discussion - Mother Daughter Murder Night by Nina Simons, moderator Pat Baker (at the Clubhouse)

january 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT				
					1	2	3	2	8:00 AM - 2:00 PM	Red Cross Blood Drive (at the Clubhouse)
4	5							6	11:00 AM	HCLG Foundation Board of Directors Meeting (via Zoom)
								7	10:00 - 12:00 PM	HC Board of Directors Meeting (at the Clubhouse)
11	12							12	3:00 PM	SIG: Chatty Cats via Zoom (at the Clubhouse)
								14	1:00 PM	SIG: The Crafty Group (at the Clubhouse)
18	19							15	3:00 PM	SIG: TED Talk (via Zoom)
								19	3:00 PM	SIG: Tv, Movie & Book (via Zoom)
25	26							21	10:00 AM	General Membership Meeting Brunch
								28	0.375	Field Trip - Location TBD

Upcoming Event

December Hostess Event - *Sparkle Through the Season*

Wednesday, December 10th at 12:00 PM

The Holiday Luncheon Committee warmly invites you to a festive seasonal celebration. Join us for good company, holiday cheer, and a joyful afternoon with friends and guests.

Event Details

Date: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 12:00 PM (Doors open at 11:30 AM) at the Clubhouse

Menu: Chicken Crepes, Salad, Rolls, and Red Velvet Cake.

Vegetarian option available—please indicate when you RSVP.

Cost: \$30 per person (check) -\$33 per person (PayPal)

Enjoy a special holiday performance by the **Los Gatos High School Chamber Women's Choir.**

To Reserve Your Spot:

By Check:

Mail payment to: Pat Baker 16661 Kennedy Road, Los Gatos, CA 95032

Make checks payable to HCLG.

By PayPal:

Send payment to treasurer@historyclublosgatos.org

Include the note: *"Sparkle Through the Season."*



December Birthdays

LeAnn Clinton	Dec. 1
Catalina Rupert	Dec. 1
Faustene Heilman	Dec. 3
Kathy Cerrito	Dec. 12
Mary Grace Miller	Dec. 17
Kathie Gaylord	Dec. 22
Marylyn Copper	Dec. 26
Mairead Donohue	Dec. 30

Inspiration - by Jubie Jaramillo

“ Blessed is the season
which engages the whole world
in a conspiracy of love.”

- Hamilton Wright Mabie

Cookie Exchange - By the Numbers

On November 17th, the club gathered for the 5th annual HCLG Cookie Exchange, filling the air with the sweet aroma of sugar and creating a festive Cookie-Monster-themed atmosphere. Members sampled cookies made from treasured family recipes and bold new creations.

Special thanks goes to Lorraine Leipold & Hazie Campsey for their Hostess with the Mostest extra help, and heartfelt appreciation to every member who participated.

This year’s exchange brought together **32** members who displayed **128** dozen cookies—an impressive **1,536** cookies shared and enjoyed.

A shout-out to Tenly Petrino for inspiring the addition of the Red Basket, which collected **\$160** in generous donations for The Family Giving Tree.



Welcome our newest member- *Patti Peters*

Patti grew up in Los Gatos and graduated from LGHS. Now living in Livermore, she often returns to Town as President of the Los Gatos High School Alumni Association and is excited to deepen her roots by joining the History Club.

A UCLA graduate with a California Teaching Credential, Patti is a retired high school math teacher with three grown sons and four grandchildren. Each fall she visits Cincinnati, where her eldest coaches for the Bengals.

Patti looks forward to building community connections in the club. Look for her riding in the LGHS Alumni bus during the Christmas parade. Her mentor is Pauline Ferrito.

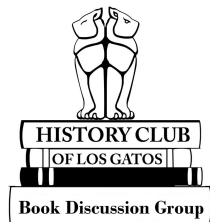


Book Discussion Group

Hope to see everyone December 30 for Activity Day and our book discussion. Please note, December 30 is a Tuesday, not our normal Wednesday.

December 30, 2025 (note, this is a Tuesday)	Mother Daughter Murder Night by Nina Simon. Moderator Pat Baker
April 29, 2026	Darker Than the Sky by Matt Tracy. Moderator Mairead Donohue
July 29, 2026	TBD

Our discussion will begin at 12:30 PM. Come at 10:00 AM for the Activity Day Games in the foyer with Mary Daily. And of course, bring a brown bag lunch. Friends are always welcomed and encouraged! For any of you who are new to the History Club, Activity Day occurs four times a year, in the months with five Wednesdays. We play board games such as Rummikub and Dominoes, or you can bring a game suggestion to add. Don't know how to play? We will teach you! Love to read? Are you on Therese's book discussion email? If not, ask her (theresewiese@gmail.com) to add you.



Social Get Togethers

Don't forget we offer several wonderful social gatherings—both in person and via Zoom. Reach out to the chair members for more information or to join a group. Event dates and details can be found on the Club Calendar (page 2).

SIG Groups & Activities

- **The Chatty Cats** - Mary Daily
- **The Crafty Group** - Vikki Pearce
- **TV, Movie & Book Group** - Mary Daily
- **TED Talks SIG** - Mary Daily
- **Book Club** - Therese Wiese (details above)
- **Field Trips** - Cathy Beltran
- **Activity Day** - Therese Wiese (details above)



BLOOD DRIVE

Hi everyone - the Community outreach committee is looking for volunteers to help with our Red Cross Blood drive - Friday January 2, 2026. Please note - all of these jobs are seated jobs. Email Therese to volunteer, or for more information.

We have two shifts available - 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM. I need five volunteers per shift. Jobs include helping people sign in and sitting and chatting with donors at the "cookie and juice" table while they wait their 15 minutes. Last year was fun, and the time passed quickly chatting with people. BTW - I know we have some nursing and medical people in our membership. So to be clear, no, we are not responsible for that end. We just get the fun social pieces of the drive.

If you worked last year, you might remember parking was a challenge (as always). But this year, we picked a date that the high school is not in session, so that should be an improvement. And...if you worked the sign-in table last January, I would love to have some of you back - make the learning curve for everyone a little quicker!

In addition, please let friends and family know about our drive. We collected 30 units of blood last January, and we would like to exceed that this time. To donate, go to www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=95030 and scroll down to January 2. (Or go to www.redcrossblood.org and enter our zip code 95030).



Philanthropy

Our Designated Dollars collection for January 2026 will be going to **Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP)**, an organization that provides beds for families with children ages 3 to 17. We love their tag line - "No Kid Sleeps On The Floor In Our Town".

SHP (shpbeds.org) was founded in 2012 and is a nationwide non-profit organization. Our Designated Dollar collection will be used in Santa Clara county only (shpbeds.org/chapter/ca-san-jose/). We are very happy that the President of the San Jose chapter, Ed Donlon, will be one of our speakers at the upcoming Past President's lunch. The San Jose chapter began in July 2025 and just gave away their 100th bed in November! Check out their Facebook page for fun photos of their bed-building - facebook.com/SHPSanJose.

How do people find SHP? Their staff work with local agencies, social workers, and schools to help identify children who do not have a bed. Applicants are vetted by SHP staff. Recipients can get either a twin bed or bunk twin beds, that include a mattress, pillow, sheets and comforter. To donate to Designated Dollars, bring cash or check payable to HCLG Charitable Foundation to the January coffee, mail a check payable to HCLG Charitable Foundation to Therese Wiese 6206 Lean Ave San Jose CA 95123, or make a PayPal payment to foundation@historyclublogatos.org note SHP.



Friendly reminder of the Brick Fundraiser

Our brick fundraiser is still open for business! If you've thought of a tribute or gift idea, please go to www.bricksrus.com/donorsite/hcolg



Editor's Corner

As we reflect on this season and the close of another meaningful year together, I am filled with deep gratitude for the friendship that defines our club. In every gathering—whether we are sharing stories over coffee, exchanging cookies, diving into lively discussions, or lending our talents to support others—I am reminded of how powerful it is to be part of a community built on friendship and generosity.

I am especially grateful for the ways we give back—through kindness, service, and collective action. Whether contributing to local families needs, supporting our town's traditions, or uplifting community organizations, we continue to demonstrate that when the Club comes together with purpose, the impact is felt far beyond our clubhouse walls.

Thank you for the joy you bring to our club. Here's to an even greater 2026!

If you have any suggestions to make this Cats' Tale or future Cats' Tales more engaging, please let me know.

With appreciation,

Mary Grace Miller

I share this cartoon that was created at a party I attended. A talented artist using an iPad created this in 15 minutes. I am interested to hear if you think it looks like me.

