

May, 2007

Dear Members;

I want to start off by thanking all of you for being such a wonderful group to work with over the past three years. I am at the end of my third term as president and thus have reached my term limit. I have enjoyed my time in this role tremendously – I have met or heard from many of you during this time and I am, as always, in awe of the wonderful diversity and generosity of this group.

When I became president I had a few simple goals for the club in mind. I wanted us to be one of the top clubs and I wanted us to be financially stable. I am happy to say that through the hard work of the board and our many volunteers we have reached these goals. Our Club is one of the top clubs in the world in terms of number of activities held each year between our monthly activities, our three book groups and our volunteer activities. We are also among the top three in the world for the number of book awards we give to our local high schools. Financially, thanks to our dues paying members, we are operating so that we are not only able to fund our activities but also to give a club donation to the college each year. I know that the new board will continue to grow our club and reach even loftier goals in the coming years.

I hope many of you can join us at Barbara Monks' house on June 16th for annual meeting picnic where we will be electing our new board. This is always a wonderful event filled with good food and good company. If you are interested in taking a more active role in the club please read ahead, we have several board positions to fill and we are always looking for more volunteers to help.

Recently a number of you volunteered to assist in our various admissions activities – our tea for accepted students and our annual rose delivery. Thank you to everyone who volunteered to make our potential new students feel welcome.

Please take a few moments to read through the upcoming events and activities taking place. We hope to see you all soon.

Sincerely,

Jerri Barrett '83

Board Members Needed

We are working to set up a full slate of board positions and are still missing members to fill two key roles - **Secretary** and **Membership Chairperson**. The **Secretary** attends the board meetings and documents the meeting minutes for those meetings. The **Membership Chairperson** reaches out to alums who are new to our area, invites them to attend meetings, and maintains our master list of alums living in our club's territory. If you are interested in filling one of these roles please contact Jerri Barrett at jerrib@mindspring.com or 408-249-7001.

Admissions Update

Mount Holyoke received 3,168 applications for the Class of 2011 -- a new College record! This year, we had 16 acceptances from the Peninsula and South Bay and four from the Monterey and Santa Cruz areas. We're still waiting to see how many plan to attend, but we've had 6-10 per class for the past five years.

Thank you to all alumnae who interviewed students, represented Mount Holyoke at College fairs, attended events for prospective students, donated and presented book awards to high-achieving high school students, delivered flowers to accepted students, or told any young woman about your experiences at MHC. Added together, all these little jobs had a big impact.

Special recognition goes to Sharon Nelson-Barber '74 for coordinating one of the nation's most active book award programs. Thank you for continuing this long-standing Peninsula Club tradition. We wish to extend another very special "thank you" to Anne Raphael '62 for supplying roses and coordinating deliveries to our accepted students. This personal touch is unparalleled in college admissions and we're very proud to stand out in such a positive way.

It takes a determined army of staff members and volunteers to recruit a class of bright, ambitious, well-rounded women. Way to go!! If you are interested in joining the admissions team to help with the Class of 2012, please contact one of our two Alumnae Admissions Reps: Ann Lyles MacPhail '91 - annlyles@yahoo.com (Peninsula/South Bay) Cristina Ilangakoon '95 - cilangak@yahoo.com (Monterey/Santa Cruz).

Book Awards

March began our Book Awards program. Recipients of the MHC Book Awards are young high school women in the junior class who have produced an excellent academic record and who have exhibited qualities of leadership and service in their school communities. They are enrolled in academically challenging college preparatory programs that include Advanced Placement and/or Honors classes. Last year our Club awarded twenty-six young women in our region. All Club members can participate in the program via sponsorship.

Sponsorship Opportunities

We invite anyone interested to sponsor an award for the cost of \$25 each. Each book is personalized with a bookplate that identifies the donor and recipient. You can target an award to a specific high school in the club region. You may make an award in honor or celebration of a loved one or in memorial to someone. It is possible to sponsor an award as a group. For example, classmates might want to donate individually to jointly sponsor a class of 19xx or 20xx book award. Please contact Sharon Nelson-Barber (snelson@wested.org) if you would like to participate and for more information.

MHC Peninsula Club Bed and Breakfast

Do you have MHC friends or know MHC students who want to visit the Bay Area? Our club sponsors two B&B homes both of them within public transportation to San Francisco and San Jose. The atmosphere is homey. The price is right, and all the proceeds are donated to the College. For reservations, contact Marilyn Bauridel by email to mbauridel@ursu.com or by phone at (650) 493-1364.

The B&B program is for short-term overnights (1, 2 or 3 nights), not lengthy visits. Please contact Marilyn at least a week in advance. An advance deposit may be required, and a 24-hour

cancellation notice is expected. Cost is \$35 for a single or \$60 for a couple. However, we especially welcome current students who are applying for jobs or graduate school in this area, and will offer much lower rates for students. Payment is by check payable to MHC Club of the Peninsula, and it will go to the Alumnae Scholar Fund.

UPCOMING CLUB EVENTS

Mother's Day Hike

Sunday, May 13th 1 to 4:30 pm

Why not give Mom a wildflower treat for Mother's Day? The flowers in the afternoon sun should be prettier than any table bouquet. The fresh air, friendly company, butterflies, and birds are an added bonus. Bring your cameras for pictures of Mom among the flowers. Docents Bill and Marilyn Bauriedel (Mount Holyoke alumna) will lead you on the Bay Area Ridge, Hawk, and Ancient Oaks Trails for a total of about 5.5 miles with approximately 300 feet of elevation gain. Meet at the Russian Ridge Preserve parking lot on the northwest corner of the Skyline Boulevard (Highway 35) and Page Mill/Alpine Road intersection (across Skyline Blvd. on the right). Those driving from I-280 on Page Mill Rd. should allow approximately 35 minutes travel time to the parking lot. This event is sponsored by the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District; no reservations required -- just show up!

Annual Meeting

Saturday, June 16, 1 - 3 P.M.

Come join us for a fun and relaxing afternoon as we enjoy a picnic lunch and discuss the club's plans for the coming year. We will be holding elections, doing a quick status on the 2006/2007 year and planning for next year. Please bring a dish to share. Beverages will be provided. If you need a ride please let Barb (info below) or Jerri (408-249-7001) know and we'll be happy to arrange for rides. RSVP to Barbara Monks 408.997.8131 or bcmonks@gmail.com. This event will be held at Barb Monks' home, 1518 Montalban Drive, San Jose , 95120

Book Clubs

Peninsula book group (San Jose to Belmont area)

This group always welcomes more members. The group will meet next on Saturday, May 26th, from 2 pm to 4pm at the home of Joanne Hiratsuka Petersen. Please contact Joanne (phone: 408-536-6948 or email joanne.hiratsuka@gmail.com) to RSVP and to obtain directions. They group will be discussing Barbara Ehrenreich's "Dancing in the Streets."

DUES

Members are encouraged to send in dues payments for 2006-2007. If you are not sure if you have paid, just check our web site at www.mhcpeninsula.org/Membership.htm. For members of the class of 1957 and earlier and the classes of 2006 through 2001 dues are \$10 per year. All other classes are \$20 per year. There are three ways to pay:

- 1) PayPal: log on to <http://www.paypal.com> and send your payment to mhcpen@gmail.com.
- 2) The Peninsula Club website: log on to <http://www.mhcpeninsula.org/Membership.htm> and click on the Membership and Contributions page
- 3) USPS: Make your checks out to MHC Club of the Peninsula and mail your dues to Jill Breckenridge, 2505 Coronet Blvd, Belmont CA 94002.

Your club dues are tax deductible and Jill will be happy to send you a receipt for your taxes.