

Hi, just a reminder that you're receiving this email because you have expressed an interest in Smith College Club of the Peninsula. Don't forget to add [thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com](mailto:thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com) to your address book so we'll be sure to land in your inbox!

You may [unsubscribe](#) if you no longer wish to receive our emails.



March 2014

# NEWS & NOTES

## Smith College Club of the Peninsula

This month we had several great events. **Jennifer Bock Hughes '84** hosted a wine tasting event led by sommelier **Lauren Kemp '05** that was attended by twenty five alumnae and their guests. **Susan Strom '04** organized another "Perfecting the Pitch" event for aspiring young entrepreneurs. **Maria Allo '68** attended new Smith president Kathleen McCartney's welcome reception and speech in San Francisco. See summaries submitted by our alums below.

Coming up in April, we will be hiking at Rancho San Antonio in Cupertino, sending off the spring care packages to current students, and talking to our newly admitted class of 2018 (26 of 51 selected!).

We now have three ways to stay connected with other Peninsula Smithies including a new Twitter account. You don't have to be a club member to join any of these groups. Please see below for details.

Lori Kahn '92 and Nisha Thatte-Potter '88  
SCCP Communications

## Recent Events

### Wine Tasting

The Wine Tasting Party hosted by **Jennifer Bock Hughes '84** at her home in San Mateo on Saturday, March 22, was a huge success! We had a delightful evening of wine tasting with **Lauren Kemp '05**, the talented head sommelier of Spruce restaurant in San Francisco, who graciously led this event for 25 Smithies and their guests. Lauren carefully selected red and white wines from around the world for our enjoyment during the five-course meal, offering both common and less common choices. She very artfully combined a pair of wines with each course and explained why the pairings made sense from the art and science of wine. For instance, we learned a lot about why acidity is useful when serving green vegetables. The group really enjoyed the wines and the tastings and interested conversation flourished. It was a really fun and informative evening and we hope to do it again soon.



## Welcome Reception for Kathleen McCartney, 11th President of Smith College

The San Francisco Jazz Center was filled with Smith Alumnae on Wednesday, March 19th, to meet new Smith President Kathleen McCartney. During the reception prior to her presentation, President McCartney made it a point to introduce herself to and visit with individual alumnae. A slideshow of photos taken during the reception can be found [here](#).

Her presentation addressed her goals as president of the college, including carrying to completion many of the programs, such as "Women of the World" begun by her predecessor Carol Christ. She came across as articulate, enthusiastic and very approachable. My sense listening to reactions following her speech was that most of the alumnae present were favorably impressed, and looking forward to her carrying out her agenda for making the college more visible, more diverse and economically stable.

## Perfecting the Pitch

Fifteen Smith College alumnae and Safe Shepherd team members met Thursday, March 13th, to review the 2014 Draper Business Plan Competition semi-finalist's pre-competition pitches. These 90 second pitches are one of the many exercises that Smith's Center for Women and Financial Independence is running to help students produce compelling and competitive business plans.

Videos of the pitches are on YouTube, if you didn't make the event, you can still view the pitches and provide feedback.

[You tube video](#)

[Feedback Forms](#)

Feedback from alumnae in attendance included:

"Discussing these pitches gives me a new perspective on my own business" and "it can be hard to mentor students you don't personally know, this was a great chance to lend a hand in a very manageable way!"

If you'd like to get involved with the Innovation club, please join the meet up (<http://www.meetup.com/Smith-College-Innovation-Club/>) or contact **Susan Strom '04** at [susankstrom@gmail.com](mailto:susankstrom@gmail.com).

## Upcoming Events

Hike at Rancho San Antonio, Cupertino

On Saturday, April 26th at 10AM we will be walking at [Rancho San Antonio in Cupertino](#). This is a great scenic, shady and moderate hike and everyone is welcome. We will be sending out an Evite closer to the date but for information you can send an email to hike organizer, **Mindy Chu '11**, at [thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com](mailto:thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com).

## Book Club Update



A good-sized group gathered to discuss *The Hare with Amber Eyes* by Edmund de Waal. Without exception, we liked it, although agreed that we wished there had been more description and photos of the netsuke. We also thought it could have stood a bibliography or reference notes. We admired the fact that the author, a renowned ceramicist, is such a good writer -- although perhaps this is not a surprise considering his many multilingual forbears. We remarked the extent to which he evoked various historical places and ambiance: many sensory details, "tactile vividness." We liked the structure, recreating family history through the journey of the netsuke. We talked quite a bit about the family's experiences with Nazism: the stunning rapidity with which the family was stripped of everything, and how accepting many were of the Nazi takeover. Clearly, a book with power to

provoke thought.

Upcoming books are:

April 16: *The Sisters: The Saga of the Mitford Family* by Mary Lovell

May 21: *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt

June 18: *Orange is the New Black* by Piper Kerman (Smith '92)

We meet every third Wednesday and we always welcome new members! Contact **Sally Smith '64** at [thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com](mailto:thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com) to get on the email list.

## How to connect to other Peninsula Smithies

We now have three ways to stay connected with other Peninsula Smithies. You don't have to be a club member to join any of these groups.

1. **Twitter:** We have a brand new Twitter account! Follow us [@PeninsulaSCC](#). This is a public account that will share event notifications and re-tweets from official college accounts. Since this will be visible to the public, this will not be used to give out names or specific address details about events.
2. **Facebook:** [The Smith College Club of the Peninsula Facebook Group](#) This is a closed group so that information shared there can be private. Just click on the join button and you can be added. This is primarily a social group and anyone can post upcoming event notifications (with details), pictures, memories, or anything you want to share with other area Smithies.
3. **LinkedIn:** [The Smith College of the Peninsula LinkedIn Group](#) This is also a closed group but all you need to do is click on the Join button to join. This group is primarily for networking with other local alums.

## Membership Update and Reminder

Annual membership dues are now payable for the fiscal year September 2013 through August 2014. We want to thank the 85 alumnae who have paid membership dues and the 39 members who also made additional charitable donations to support Club activities this year. We really appreciate your generous sponsorship!

To become a Club member for the current year, please select one of two options from our website [here](#) :

1. You can print out the membership form and mail it along with a dues check to the address listed, OR
2. You can fill out the membership form online and pay dues via PayPal.

We are an inclusive group and encourage all alumnae to join the Club and participate in our activities. ***Please note that the Club will waive membership dues for alumnae experiencing current financial hardships.***

Please note that the Club is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization which has been granted tax exempt status by both the IRS and the CA Franchise Tax Board. Contributions to the Club are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

*Only members receive Evites to all of our fun and interesting Club events, so be sure to join the Club so you receive these invitations too!*

## Community Notices

We welcome events that would be of interest to the Smith College Community. Please send them to [thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com](mailto:thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com) for consideration.

Stay Connected with Smithies



47 Linda Vista Ave., Atherton, CA · 94027

[Forward this email](#)



Try it FREE today.

This email was sent to [thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com](mailto:thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com) by [thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com](mailto:thepeninsulasmithclub@gmail.com) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Smith College Club of the Peninsula | c/o Jean Davidson | 47 Linda Vista Ave. | Atherton | CA | 94027-5428