Hello, SPRING!

I always find it amusing to begin the first newsletter of the semester with a “welcome to spring” when we all know that the spring equinox is still a month away. In truth, it is winter. But it feels like summer. And on campus, it IS spring. Academic spring.

Women are in the news a lot these days, many women are in the streets marching, protesting, demanding equal rights. And women are saying “me too.” It is an exciting time for us all. Happy GALentine’s Day!

It has been an exciting time for the University Women’s Association, too, and we have had some of our most successful events in the past few months. We had a good crowd for the tour of the Guild Dogs for the Blind campus in November, and most of us stayed afterward for the very emotional graduation ceremony. On December 2, 45 people attended the Holiday Luncheon at the St. Francis Yacht Club – the most we have had at a holiday luncheon in many years. Again this year, the weather cooperated and we were able to enjoy the fabulous views from the sunny deck. It is always a very special celebration. We planned a last-minute Valentine’s Day Tour of the SF Ferry Building, and it sold out. We are looking forward to sampling many chocolates and cheeses and other decadent treats d’jour on Valentine’s Day – a day for lovers of chocolate!

Looking ahead, March 26 is our private tour of the Oakland Zoo with Elogeanne Grossman as our guide. Elo is a UWA member and a friend, a retired SFSU staff person, and in addition to all of that she is a volunteer at the Oakland zoo and is the docent representative on the California Conservation Society Board of Trustees. She describes her association and service to the zoo as a “source of pride,” and she looks forward to sharing her knowledge with fellow UWA members. Also this spring, join us for a Sunday matinee performance of “HAIR” on campus on April 29 at 2:00 p.m., followed by a post-show talk. May 1 is the date of our annual Spring Luncheon at the Vista Room, where we honor the UWA Scholarship Recipients for 2017-18. And we are still working on plans for a lecture and power-point presentation to celebrate 100 years of Jane Austen, by Dr. DiAnn Ellis. Dr. Ellis taught at SFSU for 34 years and is a passionate student of British History. Watch for it in May or June. One last thing, if you have forgotten to send your dues for 2017-2018, please do so now. The attendance at our events is up, but our membership is down. We need and appreciate your ongoing support.

Read on, for additional information about these items, and more. . . .
TOUR THE OAKLAND ZOO
MONDAY, MARCH 26 at 10:00 a.m.

Elogeanne Grossman will guide us on this back-stage tour of the Oakland Zoo, around the zoo grounds and into some places that are generally off-limits to the public. Elo is a retired SFSU staff member as well as a zoo volunteer and the docent representative on the California Conservation Society Board of Trustees. Our tour concludes with a gondola ride to the new zoo Landing Café which offers chef-inspired cuisine and breathtaking views of six Bay Area counties. Lunch is optional and no-host, but the gondola ride and zoo admission are included in the cost of this tour. Our discounted rate for the docent-led tour is $15/person, plus $10/car for parking.

A VISIT WITH PUPPIES

GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND, NOVEMBER 11
The tour of the Guide Dogs campus in San Rafael was one of the most memorable tours we have ever taken. They divided our large group of 23 participants into two groups for the walk through the extensive campus and puppy training center. Even though we were cautioned in advance that tour groups rarely get to see the puppies, because it was graduation day several of the puppies were available for adulation. There is probably nothing more adorable than a guide dog puppy. Most of us stayed for the graduation ceremony following the tour. It was an emotional ceremony where the families who raised the puppies turned over the now fully-trained guide dogs to their forever companions. The visually impaired people who received the dogs shared their experiences. One young man who lost his vision recently was getting his first guide dog, and some of the older people had retired several dogs and told stories of how much they loved these amazing dogs and how the dogs had changed and enhanced their lives. The training process is arduous, and some of the dogs who do not have what it takes to become guide dogs are switched to different career paths to become other service animals, rescue dogs, or breeders. The campus is currently undergoing renovation and expects to open a new puppy training facility in two years. By popular demand, we will most likely plan a return visit after the new center opens.
HOLIDAY PARTY

HOLIDAY LUNCHEON AT THE ST. FRANCIS YACHT CLUB, DECEMBER 2. Our thanks once again to Tim and Donna Ryan who are members of the St. Francis Yacht Club for being the official hosts of our luncheon and enabling us to have our second very successful Holiday Luncheon at this wonderful venue. Again this year, we were blessed with a glorious day so that we could enjoy the beautiful views from the outside decks. Special guests were Susan Fox-Wolfgramm, UWA President from 1993-95 and 1999-2001, and her former neighbor Janet Cuschieri. Susan moved to Hawaii after she left SFSU. Once again the Yacht Club served an excellent lunch with some lovely desserts, and Lin Ivory (that’s me) made 45 little elf shoes filled with Oreo cookies as “party favors” for the guests. It was a lovely day from beginning to end.
THANK YOU FROM DAVID TSENG

In the last newsletter we announced with sadness the passing of our dear friend, Gloria Tseng, on August 27. I want to share an excerpt from a note I received from David Tseng, Gloria’s son. “My mother was very proud of her association with the UWA, dating back to 1962 when we first arrived in San Francisco and Mom received a letter from the Women’s Faculty Club, UWA’s predecessor organization, to ask if she needed anything to set up her household. Through the years, Mom participated in countless UWA activities and enjoyed them all (as only she could). The UWA cruises were a special delight for her, and reflected her unique sense of adventure and enthusiasm for new adventures. But most important to Mom were the many friends...who, collectively, made UWA a second home for my beloved mother....”

We have received $1,500 in donations for the UWA Scholarship Endowment Fund in memory of Gloria. If you would like to make a contribution in her name, please send a check payable to “UWA” to Connie Tallerico, 280 Dundee Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080. Indicate on the check that the donation is in memory of Gloria Tseng.

Student applications for the Gloria Spencer UWA Scholarship are being accepted now through March 17. If you know of a high achiever in need of financial assistance, please direct them to the Office of Student Financial Aids for information.

REMEMBERING ELINOR CHARLESTON

Elinor Charleston died on November 27 at the age of 101. She graduated from SF State Teacher’s College and Munson Secretarial College in 1937, the same year she married her husband William W. Charleston who became Chief of the Physical Plant of SFSU in the early 1950’s. She was first active in the UWA (then the Faculty Wives Club) when her husband was at SFSU, and she served as President from 1968 to 1970. After Bill retired in 1974 they joined the SFSU Retirement Association. After his passing in 1985, Elinor joined the Doelger Senior Center in Westlake, where she spent many hours as a volunteer. In 2012 she was named Daly City’s Unsung Hero Volunteer of the Year. Elinor joined us on a Walking Tour of the Golden Gate Bridge in 2012, still looking vigorous and spry in her 90’s.

OUR VALENTINE’S DAY FOODIE TOUR OF THE FERRY BUILDING IS SOLD OUT! (AND WE THANK YOU.)
SAVE THESE DATES

- **Sunday, April 29, at 2 p.m.**  UWA Theatre Party, a student performance of HAIR at McKenna Theatre followed by a post-performance talk, open to the public.
- **Tuesday, May 1 at 11:30 a.m.** The annual SPRING SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON where we introduce and recognize the UWA Scholarship Recipients for 2017-18.
- And watch for a seminar and power point presentation, **JANE AUSTEN 101** by Dr. DiAnn Ellis, retired SFSU faculty and a passionate student of British History. TBS, May or June.

A GENTLE NUDGE.... IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RENEWED YOUR 2017-18 UWA DUES, PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO DO SO TODAY. CAN’T REMEMBER IF YOU SENT IN A CHECK THIS YEAR OR NOT? CONTACT CONNIE TALLERICO, MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR, cftallerico@gmail.com. The UWA relies on membership dues and contributions for financial support, to help offset the cost of some of our events and to provide free lunches for scholarship recipients at our Spring Luncheon. Annual scholarship cruises and individual member contributions provide funding for student scholarships each year. Our social events throughout the year provide a variety of opportunities for members of the campus community to meet and participate in entertaining and educational activities both on- and off-campus. Members receive advance notice of all of these activities through our newsletter and announcements. Please take a moment to fill out this form and mail your check(s) to Connie Tallerico, UWA Membership Coordinator, at the address printed below. We appreciate your continued support.

UNIVERSITY WOMEN’S ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM

**Name:** (Dr./Mrs./Ms.) __________________________________________

**Husband/Wife/Partner Name:** ______________________________________

☐ I am a member of the SFSU: ☐ Faculty ☐ Administration ☐ Staff

☐ My spouse/partner is a member of the SFSU: ☐ Faculty ☐ Administration ☐ Staff

☐ I am retired. ☐ My spouse/partner is retired. ☐ I would like to join the UWA as a “FRIEND.”

[Note: Women who are not affiliated with SFSU and men may join as “Friends of the UWA.”]

**Address** ____________________________________________________________

**City/State/Zip** __________________________________________________________

**Home Phone** ____________________________________________________________

**Cell Phone** ____________________________________________________________

**Campus Phone (If applicable)** _____________________________________________

**Campus Dept. (If applicable)** _____________________________________________

**E-mail Address** __________________________________________________________

☐ Check here if you do NOT want to receive our newsletter via e-mail. *(We will send it by US Mail instead.)*

☐ Check here if you do NOT want your home/campus address, phone numbers, and/or e-mail address published in the UWA Directory *(for distribution to UWA members only).*

**2017-2018 Membership Dues:** $ 40.00

**Gloria Spencer UWA Scholarship Endowment Fund:** $

*Please include one check for dues and a separate check for scholarships, both payable to the “UWA”. *(This is a SFSU Foundation requirement.)*

Send completed form and check(s) to our Membership Coordinator:

Connie Tallerico, 280 Dundee Drive, South San Francisco, CA 94080.