SNAPSHOTS OF SPRING

Honors Convocation

May 24. For as long as there have been Honors Convocations at SFSU, the UWA has been the official host. Our president, Lily Gee, is seated on stage with the university President’s Party and the honor students who are in the top 1% of the graduating class. We provide ushers and host the reception that follows the ceremony.

VOLUNTEER USHERS & LILY GEE, UWA PRESIDENT
Connie Tallerico, Renee Stephens, Stephanie Schwartz, Natalia Bremer, Lin Ivory, Agnes Valero, Lily Gee.

There is no baseball at AT&T Park today. Instead of the Giants in orange and black uniforms, AT&T is awash with purple and gold. The SFSU All Stars - the Graduating Class of 2017 - have taken the field, along with faculty in the colorful regalia of many universities. The students are moving on. The rest of us look forward to a few months of relative peace and quiet, an opportunity for rest and relaxation, intellectual pursuits, or travels and other adventures and challenges.

But before we switch gears, I thought this would be a good time to reflect on some of the highlights of spring semester that we have shared as members of the University Women’s Association.

If you know me at all, you know I love to “scrapbook.” So this is my UWA scrapbook for Spring, 2017.

(Many more photos are available at our website: uwa.sfsu.edu.)
On May 14, we saw a campus production of *Chicago* but came away without photos. Nonetheless, it was probably the best campus production I have seen in my long tenure at SFSU. Many talented students, destined for stardom. Kudos for the set designers and costumes, too.

The culminating event of spring semester for the UWA is the **Spring Luncheon** on May 3. The highlight was the introduction of the Gloria Spencer UWA Scholarship recipients for 2016-17, and the recipient of the Robert & Noreen Stollberg Scholarship. We look forward to seeing so many women from campus at the luncheon who sometimes find it difficult to get away during the week because of conflicts with work or classes.

We gave everyone in attendance a small succulent plant as a gift. Afterwards, one of the student honorees came up to me and very politely asked if it would be ok if she took one of the extra plants in addition to her own. She told me that on her way to the luncheon she had passed a plant sale where they were selling succulents. She really wanted one but didn’t have enough money to buy it. She said she couldn’t believe her eyes when she walked into our room and saw that we were giving them away! Of course I gave her a second plant -- but I was really moved by how happy she was with this small gift. Sometimes we forget what it was like to be a starving student.

"I am so appreciative of groups like the UWA that support students like myself. The scholarship I received this year has helped me to continue to dream big .... Thank you again for your support and for all that you do!"

--Morgan Ducey, UWA Scholarship Recipient (She was unable to attend the luncheon.)

"UWA continues to make a difference in students’ lives. And it is nice to be part of this celebratory event. I had a great time visiting with the students and some of our members."

--Mrs. Phyllis Wong, SFSU First Lady

**SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS, 2016-2017**

UWA President Lily Gee, Erica Levy, Maryam Khan, Alma Ceja, Nick Newton, and SFSU First Lady Phyllis Wong.
At the end of March, with lots of help from Lana Thomson, we enjoyed a delightful

RUSSIAN TEA at KATIA’S TEA ROOM.

This was a particularly unique and enjoyable outing, featuring several house-made Russian delicacies, both savory and sweet. And we were fortunate to have the benefit of Lana’s narrative, as she explained the meanings and traditions behind various foods, the ornate glass tea holders (podstakannik), and the samovar. Afterwards she led us across the street to a popular local bakery where we were able to purchase some of the goodies to take home with us.

And back near the beginning of the semester – early in March – we had a private tour of the

CONTEMPORARY JEWISH MUSEUM.

The exhibit was a fascinating collection of several artists’ interpretations of how their lives had been affected by stories that were passed down through the generations of their families. The pieces were in various media, all very different from each other but each with a personal and very poignant message.

And that takes us backward through the semester to its beginning.

(See page 4 for answer.)
I have a particular fondness for both the artist Degas and for vintage hats, and so the upcoming exhibit at the Legion of Honor spoke to me: “DEGAS, Impressionism, and the Paris Millinery Trade.” Join us on July 28 at 10 a.m. for a private tour of this exhibit. Watch for a flyer, coming soon, with details and reservation information.

For the animal lovers among us, we will be taking a private tour of the “GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND” facility in San Rafael on Saturday, November 11, followed by a Guide Dog graduation ceremony. What could be better than a doggie commencement! Save the date – and watch for an announcement in the fall.

And of course, we will end the fall semester with our annual Holiday Luncheon celebration, now held at the St. Francis Yacht Club in San Francisco. Save the date: Saturday, December 2, at 11:30. You won’t want to miss this, our most festive event of the year.

You can still sign up for the UWA 12-day Summer Cruise, leaving August 30, sailing from Rome to Venice. We have been making plans and signing up for shore excursions, and I can hardly wait for the cruise to begin. If you have been debating about it and still want to sign up, check out the flyer on our website, uwa.sfsu.edu. Or call travel agent Tom Fell, Jr. at 1-800-321-3355.

There may be a few more events for fall, too, but this is probably enough to whet your appetite.

And now it’s summer. Get out and Enjoy!