



Since 1971



◆ January – March, 2013 ◆

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P.O. Box 1002, MENLO PARK, CALIFORNIA 94026-1002

650/330-2522

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Annual Dinner in Honor of Jean Bone

You might be interested in learning how this “Annual Dinner” came about. Back in 1980, Dr. C. H. Lowe—former Menlo Park resident and outstanding Chinese scholar; international librarian and author—had adopted MPHA as a hobby. His main interest was to research the Chinese community living in Menlo Park during the late 1800s into the 1900s. He then suggested to Jean Bone that it would be nice to have a Chinese dinner/celebration in honor of not only Chinese New Year but also of the rich Chinese history in Menlo Park. The dinner was a success and continued through the years.

Naturally you can imagine the Board’s reaction in learning that Ten Fu Restaurant was closing. The question then was where to go. Fortunately, a new Chinese restaurant has opened in its place—*Fey Chinese Restaurant*.

The Board decided to keep this tradition going for another year. The annual Chinese Dinner will be at *Fey’s* (located at the old Ten Fu location) 1352 El Camino Real, Menlo Park, near the intersection of Valparaiso Avenue. There is ample parking in the back of the restaurant using the El Camino entrance.

So mark those calendars for **March 3 at 5:00 pm** and come prepared for an

evening of good food and good company. Guests are always welcomed. We are hoping to have a good turnout. The price is the same this year: \$25 per person.

A reservation form for the dinner is found on Page 7 of this newsletter. We encourage you to respond quickly in order to provide the restaurant early notice.

By the way, 2013 is the Year of the Snake. The Snake is intuitive, introspective, refined. They are attractive people who do not become flustered easily. They are graceful people, exciting and dark at the same time.

Contemplative and private, the Snake is not outwardly emotional. He can appear cunning and reticent and works very modestly in the business environment. The Snake will plot and scheme to make certain things turn out exactly as they want them to. They are not great communicators. *Well, this is a trait you won’t find with our group.* 🐍

2013

President's Message

It was a pleasure to see so many of you at Annual Meeting and Speaker event in November. President Dick Angus opened the meeting with a warm welcome to members, speaker and guests. He introduced the four nominees—Lydia Cooper, Patty Hjelm, Larry Johnston and Bill Weseloh—and all were approved by the membership present to another three year term. Following the short meeting was our guest Speaker, William Johnson.



We wish to thank Mr. Johnson, publisher of the *Palo Alto Weekly* and owner of *The Almanac*, for his timely talk. He presented some startling insights and challenges with respect to the future of newspapers. For a very long time, newspapers have been the means by which local history has been recorded as it happens and have been preserved in printed form as a primary source for researching history. But print newspapers in the U.S. are rapidly losing both readership and revenue. Younger people are not reading newspapers

and are not expected to begin reading them as they grow older. Classified and other advertising is rapidly being lost to online sites such as Craig's List or lost altogether. Thus the age of print newspapers as classically published seems certain to end.

We should be concerned to find a viable means to continue the newspaper's historic function of preserving a record of our community.

Mr. Johnson's talk was followed by a lively question and answer period.

Board Member, Gil Workman, outlined for the audience the MPHA activities that took place during 2012:

February	The Annual Chinese Dinner
May	Recognition of Frank Helfrich culminating with a presentation and Commendation at the City Council Meeting
June	The Clock Tower Celebration Attendance at the Menlo Park Block Tower Annual Ice Cream Social
August	MPHA outreach at the Farmers Market and at the Friends of the Library Book Fair
October	The visit from our Ireland guest, Gerry Hanley
November	Annual meeting and speaker, William Johnson

It was a good year for MPHA and will continue to be so in 2013. 🍷

Menlo Park Host Lions Club History

Chartered on March 4, 1938

By Gail Gavello



The Menlo Park Host Lions Club is the oldest service organization in Menlo Park. It was originally founded by key local Menlo Park businessmen and retired citizens who wanted to help those in need and the community. Being a member of Lions Club International makes it a part of the largest nonprofit service organization worldwide.

The highest priority of the Lions Club is to help the sight impaired, blind or those in need of hearing assistance. It supports the Lions Eye Foundation which has supplied sight services such as surgeries, eye exams, glasses, magnifiers and large print library books. The Lions Hearing Foundation has provided extensive hearing assistance and camperships to needy children with sight and hearing challenges.

The Club provides assistance to many local community groups including youth and seniors making a difference. Our assistance extends also to the communities of East Palo Alto and San Mateo County Unincorporated. There are many joint service projects that are shared with other area Lions Clubs, as well. The Club continues to be active in rebuilding and renovating homes, and providing excess fruits and vegetables from local farmers markets to local facilities such as Little House, St. Anthony's and Bread of Life. Some examples of the Menlo Park's projects are:

Little House eye exams and glasses
Vista Center sight assistance
Sequoia YMCA programs
Project Read Menlo Park Library
Recording for the Blind
Rebuilding Together
Wilderness Camp for Deaf
Student Speakers Contest
Bread for Life
Lions Eye Foundation

Lions Hearing Foundation
Habitat for Humanity
Holiday Toys for Tots
Palo Alto/Menlo Park Farmers Markets
Food Booth Fund Raisers
Veteran's VA fishing trips
Farmers' Market Sunday
Canine service dogs
St. Anthony's
Hearing Aids

We have always valued our long standing relationships with other Clubs. In 1962 the Menlo Park Live Oak Lions Club was formed being sponsored by the Menlo Park Host Club, thereby adding a daytime opportunity to meet. In 1938 the Palo Alto Club was the most appreciated sponsor of the Menlo Park Host Lions Club. On June 16, 2005 the East Palo Lions Club was chartered and sponsored by the Menlo Park Host Lions Club. The East Palo Alto Lions Club helped out on the Concourse d'Elegance and a variety of community projects. It ended on June 30, 2011. The Peninsula Veterans Lions Club at the Menlo Park Veterans Administration Hospital was sponsored by the Burlingame Lions Club and chartered on April 4, 2012. The goal is to help veterans in addiction programs at the V.A. Hospital during their life transition period. They are assisting with Stanford Athletic events. Historically, the mission of these spirit filled clubs has continued to enjoy following the Lions motto "we serve."

The Lions always look to the future in ways they can serve the community. New members over 18 are welcome, and any man or woman can help. Various activities or meetings can be enjoyed as schedules allow. Find more information by contacting P.O. Box 275, Menlo Park, 94026-0275 or 650-593-6372. 🐾

Lions Club is in need of volunteers to help out at the Farmers Market boxing food for various charities. If interested, please call Harry Harrison at 650 327-6520.

The *IRELAND IN MENLO PARK* Visit

Greater than the sum of its parts

By Gil Workman

In August, when Gerry Hanley's first e-mail was received at MPHA—telling of his 1988 meeting in Galway, Ireland, with former Menlo Park Mayor Peg Gunn and of his wish to pay a return visit—many of us envisioned showing our guest around the town, an exchange of more photographs, memorabilia and history anecdotes tying the 1850's to the present.

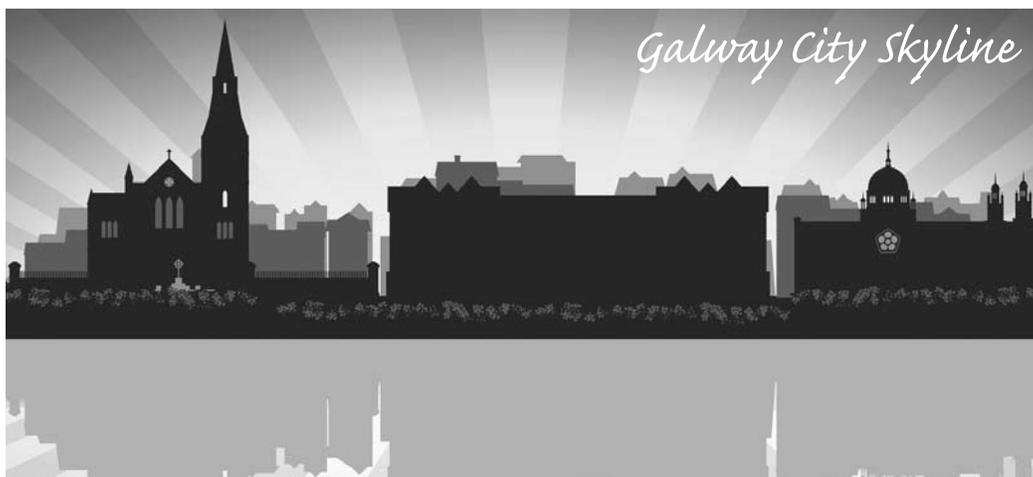


But when Mr. Hanley stepped down from the train on Tuesday morning, October 16, he set in motion a comprehensive event that brought together many different elements of our two Menlo's and laid a framework for greater growth of friendship and ties between Menlo Park in California and Menlo Park in County Galway, Ireland.

On hand to greet Gerry (we all were quickly on a first name basis) were MPHA Board members Frank Helfrich, Dick Angus, Jim Lewis, Jym Clendenin, Tom Carter, and Gil Workman. In addition, *The Almanac* was giving its full

support to covering the "Ireland in Menlo" event, and we met reporter Barbara Wood, who had visited Galway on her 1983 honeymoon, and photographer Michelle Le. History and local journalism complemented each other for the rest of the day. Soon we all melded with the Menlo Park Chamber of Commerce as President Fran Dehn and Councilman Peter Otakhi was introduced to the group. She offered the Chamber's meeting room for our initial "press conference" where Gerry described his interests for the visit and answered our questions about *his* Menlo.

A little before 11am, Jim Lewis led us across Ravenswood, past the Library to the Civic Center, with spirited descriptions by each member of the group of various aspects of city government—the Council meetings, the Recreation buildings, the Police Department, the City Manager system. As we paused for photos before the Administration Building, we were introduced by Jim to Menlo Park's Assistant City Manager, Starla Robinson, and to Chip Taylor, the City's Director of Public Works. We all were deepening our understanding of our town far beyond Oliver and McGlynn's 1850s gate.

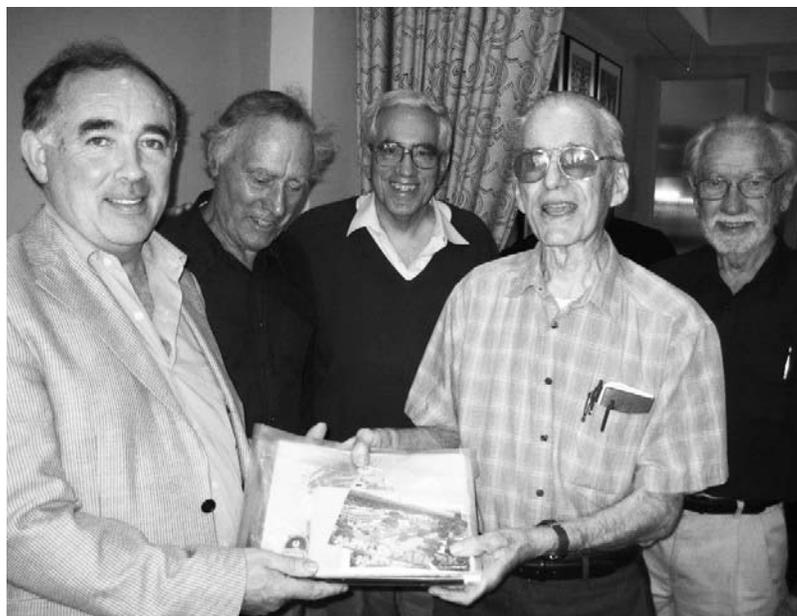


After driving Gerry through the heart of the business district, Jym, Gil and Barbara showed him parts of Menlo's residential area en route to luncheon at the Menlo Grill in the Stanford Park Hotel. Here the friendship circle of the two Menlo's grew as Mayor Kirsten Keith sat across from our guest, and Fire Chief Shappelhouman chatted with the Chamber President. Joining us for lunch was Moyra Malone, a college friend of Gerry's from Ireland who now works at SRI.

Who is the Patron Saint of Ireland? Why, St. Patrick, of course! So several of us took our first inside tour of St. Patrick's Seminary and grounds after lunch and again our appreciation for our town today was enhanced, as well as our understanding of its history. Did you know the Seminary was established over a century ago, and the main building constructed in 1904? Michelle Le was on hand there to again record part of our visit in photographs. (See her impressive shot of Gerry and Jim in the October 24 issue of *The Almanac*.)

Included in our tour of Menlo was a stop at Starbuck's on El Camino to see the plaque indicating the approximate location of the original gates. The plaque is located at the parking lot entrance to Starbuck's.

Gerry Hanley had several associations with Stanford University, so by the middle of a sparkling clear afternoon he, Jym, Barbara and Gil were enjoying the vistas of the campus, Palo Alto, and Menlo Park from atop Hoover Tower. Since Gerry is an engineer by profession and Jym Clendenin a retired physicist from SLAC, our final destination was that National Laboratory along Sand Hill Road clear out to Whiskey Hill Road and the starting point for that two-mile-long accelerator tube. Hurrying back past the day's starting point at the train station, our guest from Galway was able to take a short rest before attending Mayor Keith's "State of the City" address at the Stanford Park Hotel.



Two days after his whirlwind "Ireland in Menlo" day, Gerry wrote briefly how happy he was to finally have fulfilled his wish to visit here: "...I warmed to you very easily and felt at ease quickly. From the moment I saw the station house there was a little magic to each place visited." I am sure I speak for all who participated in that day's events that we all now feel closer to "Menlo in Ireland" and our town's connection with our mid-19th century origins.

As a serendipitous bonus from Gerry's October visit, several people from Menlo Park had the opportunity to learn more about our City. As Jim Lewis observed in an e-mail to Mr. Hanley, "Memories are made of this...." 🍀

COMMENTS

The Gate Post welcomes comments from our readers on published articles, suggestions you might have, or anything in between. Please e-mail Lydia (ledioli@yahoo.com) or send a letter to the Association Office.

In the December issue of **The Gate Post**, three names were inadvertently left out. My apologies...here I thought that all angels are perfect. Obviously not! So thank you to the following for letting me know. 🌸

Andy Amstead
Theresa and Al Genevro
Marion Compston

*Thank
You!*

**We welcome a new member: Todd Rich.
Thank you, Todd, for your support.**



Diane Lovegrove Bader sent Frank a book that she wrote, *Menlo Park Memories, A Memoir from the 1940s*. Diane shares her memories of what it was like growing up in a small town when life was simpler and, as she said, “a kinder, gentler time to grow up.” If you are an old-timer, you will reminisce with Diane: the King’s Highway, Church of Nativity and Fr. McKeon, shopping in downtown Palo Alto, Play Day at St. Joseph’s, trading cards, and many more memories.

If you wish to obtain a copy of Diane’s book, please call Frank at 650 330-2522. 🌸

Archival News

Thank you! We really appreciate every donation to MPHA. It helps to preserve Menlo Park history. The following was received during 2012.

- PTA, Menlo Park special collection – two boxes of minutes and records covering 1924-1980
- A 20” x 30” aerial photo of Menlo Park by Ben and Sue Hatfield
- Menlo Players Guild, Ken Uhland special collection of playbooks, notes and scripts
- Menlo Park Oral History interviews, in three loose-leaf binders
- Portrait of Jeanne Bone
- Jul 2012 – *Ramparts Magazine* – partial collection from Duke Douglas
- “A Nite in Old Menlo” 1940, framed signed poster with signatures – donated by the Lion’s Club

If looking through your “archives” and you find a Menlo Park treasure, consider donating it to our collection.

Menlo Park Plaque No. 15

By Jym Clendenin

The City of Menlo Park, a Tree City USA community, proudly uses the Oak tree as its special symbol. In 1985 the California Arborist Association adopted a magnificent Coast Live Oak (*Quercus agrifolia*) that is located between the Library and the Child Care Center on the Civic Center campus. A bronze plaque at the base of this tree marks the occasion.





YEARLY DUES

The membership dues envelope is enclosed. This is your chance not only to renew your membership, but perhaps to up-grade your category. Your tax-deductible dues are our principal source of revenue, so you can appreciate what an important roll you play in supporting your historical association. Please continue to give us your support and discover the pleasure of helping to preserve the heritage of Menlo Park.

Did you ever think of a membership as a gift for relatives or friends—those “hard to buy for” people? Or how about giving them our book *Beyond the Gate*? Promote our Association. This is another way of introducing friends and relatives to Menlo’s vibrant past. Invite them to become a member, and join those who care about Menlo Park and learning about its history.

RESERVATION FORM Fey Chinese Restaurant

Sunday, March 3, 2013, 5:00 pm

Number _____ @ \$25 each Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Name: _____

Guest: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Please make checks payable to: MENLO PARK HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

**Please send check and form to: MPHA
Box 1002
Menlo Park, CA 94025**

For more information: (650) 330-2522

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE

See You at Fey's



Since 1971

P.O. Box 1002
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Phone: (650) 330-2522
MPHistorical@yahoo.com
<https://sites.google.com/site/mphistorical>

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<i>Individual Memberships (per person)</i>	
Student	\$ 3.00
Senior	10.00
Regular	15.00
Pioneer-Founder	25.00
Life – <i>one time only</i>	200.00

<i>Group Memberships</i>	
Family	\$ 25.00
Patron/Sponsor	100.00

2013

ANNUAL DINNER
MARCH 3, 2013 • 5:00 PM
FEY CHINESE RESTAURANT

TO CONTACT THE MPHA
PHONE NUMBER: (650) 330-2522
E-MAIL ADDRESS: mphistorical@yahoo.com