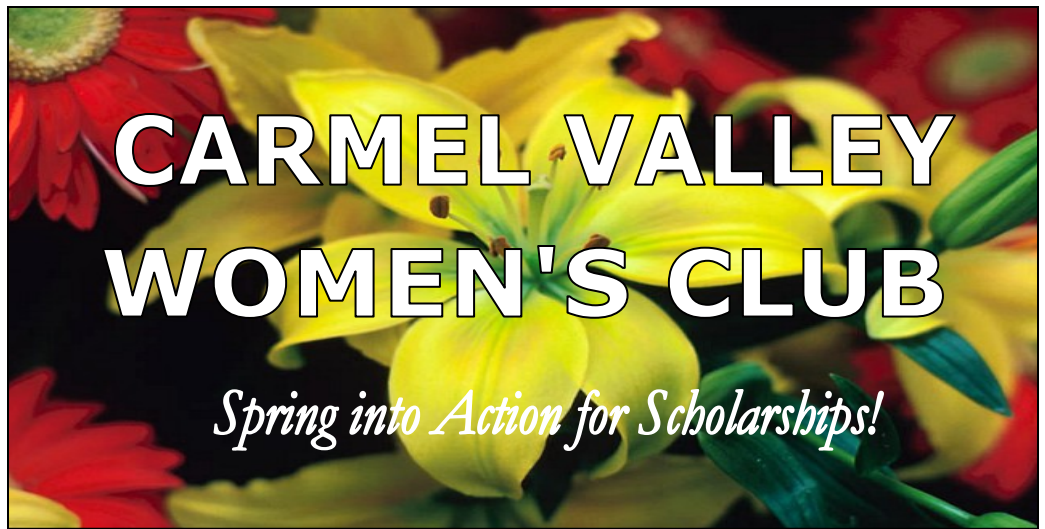


**February/
March 2022**

Upcoming Events



Luncheon Speakers Promise New Adventures in the New Year!



Dr. Catherine Hambley, speaker for March

DO you want to enhance your relationship with your partner, a business colleague, or a family member? You will want to meet Dr. Catherine Hambley, psychologist and founder of the new local consulting company, Brain-Based Strategies, whose mission is to help leaders and organizations maximize the potential of all their people, creating what is termed a “brain-friendly” culture. Dr. Hambley is highly qualified in the burgeoning field of neuroscience and its application to organizational leadership, management, development, education and consulting. She is

Principal Consultant at Brain-Based Strategies Consulting which focuses on brain science to improve engagement and drive productivity. She has provided solutions for Fortune 100 companies, in healthcare, transportation, mergers and acquisitions, to name a few, and she can help you translate brain science into practical tips and strategies that will dramatically improve your interaction with others. “The key to business success is to promote the human talent of its people,” she says, and she’ll demonstrate that on March 2nd, 2022, when she speaks on her subject, “Brains

Resiliency, Thriving Under Stress” Be prepared to learn a few new hints to improve relationships from a highly qualified leader in the neuroscience field.

Ms. Hambley will deliver her speech from the new Mika Sushi Restaurant, 9 Del Fino Place in Carmel Valley. Take your place at the luncheon to enjoy an appetizer of miso soup and a side salad of rice, sea-

weed, sunomono and fruit. Your entree is teriyaki chicken or beef bulgogi. And as if that weren’t enough, your sweet is Mochi ice cream. Bet you can hardly wait! The Date is March 2nd beginning at 11:30.

This luncheon is now sold out.



April speaker, District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni

APRIL’S speaker is Monterey County District Attorney Jeannine Pacioni, highly regarded

for her handling of numerous high-profile area criminal cases.

(Continued on page 3)

Pix from Years Past



In that we haven't had any photo ops for the past several months, your editor took a look at lunches of days past and offered you a look. Some in the photos have moved, some have renewed, but all have added a few years. It's a retro look, from 2007 to the present, for your viewing pleasure.



(Top left): Wendy Fields, Donna Stewart, Peggy Dickson, Christine Kemp, Judi Zaches, Linda Brown, Stephanie Byrne, Rebecca Kirk, Jane Strauch, Carole Heindrick, Pam Austin, Les Terry, Penny Wood, Sharon Pezzolo, Jacqueline Dickman, Leslie Epps, Marianne Conley, Patty Bimpis, Leslie Johnson, Marilyn Morgadinho, Vickie Spranza, Marti Myszak, Jean Hurd, Karin Strasser Kauffman, Sally King, Pinkie Terry

(Continued) Monterey County District Attorney as April Speaker

She will be speaking on Wednesday, April 6, at Rio Grill.

Her discussion will focus on the current status of the criminal justice system in Monterey County, and recent developments in the DA's office.

For 20 years as a prosecutor, she has tenaciously represented victims of crime in involving murder, gang crimes, vehicular manslaughter, assault, robbery, child molestation, adult sexual assault and elder abuse.

In 2018, she was elected and became the first female District Attorney in Monterey County. Her history is most impressive. She received her Bachelor of Science degree from Northern Arizona University and her Juris Doctorate degree from San

Diego School of Law. In 1990 she worked as a Deputy District Attorney for Kern County DA's office and she joined the Monterey County District Attorney's office in 1992.

Ms. Pacioni has devoted her entire legal career to the pursuit of justice, while handling virtually every type of criminal case prosecuted in Monterey County. In November of 2019, she was recognized by the Monterey County Women's Lawyers Association as the 2019 recipient of the Lady Justice Lifetime Achievement Award for Legal Advocacy and Community Service.

In 2001, she left to raise her family, returning after an 8-year sabbatical during which time she also served as a Grand Juror of

the Monterey County Civil Grand Jury and as president of the Junior League of Monterey County. She is a board member of the Monterey County Rape Crisis Center, the Monterey County Children's Council and the Child Abuse Prevention Council. She is a member of the Monterey County Bar Association, the California District Attorneys Association and the Monterey County Chief Law Enforcement Officer Association.

Ms. Pacioni has stated that "The mission of the Monterey County District Attorneys Office is to promote justice, ensure that the rights of victims are upheld by treating them with dignity, respect and compassion and aggressively fairly prosecuting those who violate the law."

Jeannine Pacioni has officially taken over the Monterey County District Attorney's Office, becoming the first female top prosecutor in the county's history, replacing Dean Flippo who served as DA for 28 years. "The criminal justice system is run by women," she said, adding that a majority of the county's judicial bench and prosecutors are women as well.

Heard enough? Anxious to learn more? Wanting to get involved in something like this yourself? Take the opportunity. Attend the April CVWC luncheon Wednesday, April 6th at Rio Grill. It'll be a learning experience.



Message From Our President

Hi, Ladies,

With a new year that did not start out as we all had hoped, we are moving through February, cautiously optimistic about the year ahead. We are resuming our regular lunch meetings for March and beyond, with interesting speakers to entertain and inform you.

As always, our scholarship program remains front and center, in our minds and actions.

Your board of directors voted in December not to have a fundraiser in April due to the uncertainties of the virus. But we still will need your help to raise money for our

young women scholars this year. Your generosity has always made a difference in our financial outcomes, and even without a fundraiser, if each member is willing to donate just \$100, it will be matched by the Terry Foundation, thus increasing our contribution and community impact.

This makes the difference in the future of these deserving young women. Watch for the letter and your chance to donate to our most beloved cause.

Best regards,

Kathy Kaminski

Monterey Symphony Reopens to the Public



After sequestering for the past two years, the Monterey Symphony is now in full musical swing, presenting a season of new conductors vying for the position of Music Director of this renowned orchestra which celebrates its 75th Anniversary this year.

The season opened last week with the first candidate, Donato Cabrera. He performed a new work created by our composer in residence, John Wineglass. He also conducted the Cello Concerto in E-Flat Major by Dmitri Shostakovich, a challenging work which featured cellist Julian Schwartz. The concert concluded with Tchaikovsky's melodic Symphony #5. Standing ovations accompanied all three works, as Maestro Cabrera beautifully handled phrasing and nuance.

The second concert will feature conductor Peter Bay in two performances Saturday and Sunday, March 19th and 20th. 7:30 is the time, and Sunset Center is the

place.

The last two concerts this season will be April 16th and 17th and will feature conductor Jung-Ho Pak who, incidentally, happens to reside part-time in Carmel Valley, and May 14th and 15th, with Jayce Ogren as conductor. The programs have all been hand-selected by the conductor participants, and all have offered concertgoers a wide selection by which to judge their many talents.

If you wish to be among the general public judges, call the symphony office, or go to the website, www.montereysymphony.org and join the exciting challenge.

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MUSEUM HOURS
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12—4 p.m.
Sunday
11 a.m.—2 p.m.



In Memoriam—Joy O'Rourke



The CVWC was sad to learn of the death of long-time member, Joy O'Rourke. She was also a resident member of Carmel Valley. Joy joined the CVWC in September of 2014, and she and her husband Larry attended numerous lunches and events for fund-raising as they shared good times.

It is with deep sadness we offer sympathies to Larry and family over her death.

The CVWC will be sending a donation of \$50 to the foundation of their choice in honor of Joy O'Rourke.



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Profiles: *Lucretia Butler*



"AHA," I hear you say, "Lucretia Butler. Isn't she a dancer? I thought she was also an actress, or maybe a theatrical producer—or was it a choreographer?" Actually, she's all of the above, and if you're ready, she can even sell your house right out from under you.

Multi-talented "Cretia" has earned that title from St. Louis to Hollywood to Carmel.

Her story begins in St. Louis, where she was born, and where she developed her love of the dance. Her dance instructor had been in Hollywood, and her ballet instructor was formerly with the famed Ballet Russe. "I had excellent training," she notes.

Thanks to her Hollywood dance teacher, she also had a chance to rub noses and steps with the likes of Gene Kelly and Gower Champion. And with the help of her ballet teacher, she was dancing en point at the age of 14.

Shortly after that, her family moved to Hollywood, where her father was involved with Paramount Studios. While still in high school, she talked herself into a job at Desilu Studios teaching body movements to actors. "How to sit, how to stand, how to cross your legs, how to move onstage," she said.

Her high school years were

spent at Hollywood Professional which allowed people in the business to pursue their careers and jobs while still completing their educations. It offered her every opportunity to excel in her many creative fields. One of the fields involved a certain gentleman she had met in the area. Chris Keehn was his name, and he was a good friend of her current boyfriend at the time. When Cretia and her boyfriend broke up, she asked Chris, as a friend, to escort her to her graduation dinner. That was their first date. The rest is history.

After high school, the two split up—he, to Stanford to obtain a Chemistry degree and she, to UCLA to pursue theater—but they stayed in touch, and dated occasionally over the next few years. When she was working on her masters, Chris came to LA for his occasional visit. It was the same time Cretia's roommate had decided to leave. As Cretia describes it, "Chris moved in and he never moved out." (They were married in 1976.)

In 1971, Cretia found work in Monterey and she and Chris moved to the area where she signed up as a drama teacher at North Salinas High School. She was also establishing herself as a teacher of dance, drama and choreography among different theater groups on the Peninsula. That was the same year actor/director Peter DeBono joined the staff of MPC. Cretia and DeBono had known each other in Los Angeles, so it was an easy crossover for her to get involved.

In 1978, Cretia was still working in the theater as a substitute

teacher and choreographer, but she was looking for something else. Meanwhile, Chris, who was employed at an agricultural laboratory in Salinas, was also ready for a change. She was eyeing real estate and he was considering construction.

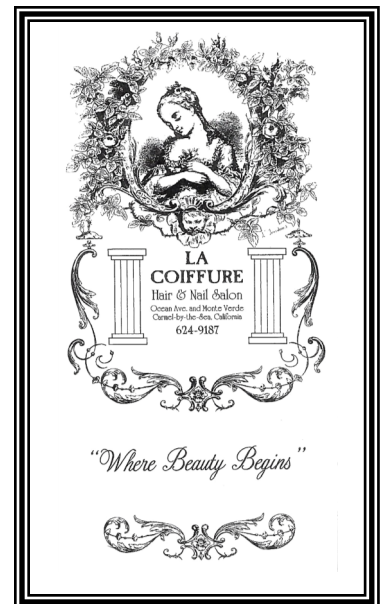
Cretia was not interested in a "big company" commercial agency. She liked the small, more intimate residential agency, preferably family-owned. Chris was facile in working with the county building personnel. He understood the techniques and how to iron out problems. In a way, Cretia reasoned, she and Chris could complement one another.

When a new agency came to town, David Lyng, Cretia found herself at home, saying, "I'm so happy I found a family operated company; it's just the right fit. I've spent seven great years with them." Meanwhile, Chris has formed his own company Casaterra Group, and handles all sorts of real estate projects.

But Cretia can't just drop choreography or dance. She's too locked in. So she takes on projects as they present themselves. She spent several years as director and choreographer of the Monterey Symphony Friends "Mystery Dinner" fund raising events which were originated by Marti Myszak. She still teaches dance—advanced class. And she still choreographs. "I wore many, many hats in the theater," she says, "and I can't just give it up. I love introducing children to the theater and teaching them to work as a team. It's my passion for life!"

In the back of her car you'll find a top hat and a cane. As she says, she wears many, many hats.

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Membership Renewal—Just Fill Out & Send in With Your Check

Carmel Valley Women's Club Renewal Application

Please fill out and return with \$40 dues payment to:

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Please note: Delivery by US Mail costs the Women's Club \$2.50 per copy (including postage). That's \$2.50 X 10, or \$25 per person per year that we can't give to our scholarship winners! Your email delivery is appreciated. ANNUAL DUES: Still just \$40.00! A bargain.

If you'd like to join on line, go to the website carmelvalleywomensclub.org or contact Pat Gray at pat@patgrayincolor.com.

Locals Prepare for an Evening With Biff Smith



THE enigmatic and entertaining jazz pianist Biff Smith returns to the Peninsula area for a live concert Wednesday, April 26th, when All Saints Church premieres its new series, Creative Spirits, in Carmel. The concert begins at 7 p.m.

Biff is considered a legendary composer at the piano as he improvises a musical journey, from his early days performing the classics, to a 24-year career in jazz.

Struck by the "jazz virus" in his youth, he turned to Brubeck, Miles Davis, Bill Evans and Thelonious Monk for inspiration. He then began to forge his own path in jazz. Biff's local history is record. He's a Monterey man, beginning in high school. He has extensive experience as a solo pianist playing at Pebble Beach Lodge, Spanish Bay, Monterey Plaza, Cibo's, Quail and other venues. He is one of the founding members of the jazz

quintet, Along Came Betty.

The group has appeared at the Monterey Jazz Festival, and he has recorded two albums on his own—*Biff Smith: Jazz Originals* and *Biff Smith: Solo Piano*. He teaches at the Berklee College of Music in Boston's summer program. Local students remember him fondly as a music teacher at Stevenson and Monterey High Schools.

Biff's plans for the evening are wide open, but he'll surely feature a number of his own compositions and throw in a few standards "just for fun."

Tickets for Biff's concert are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and youth. Following the concert, audiences are invited to meet the artist and enjoy light refreshments in the church's Seccombe Hall. For tickets, go to www.allsaintscarmel.org. All Saint's Church is located in Carmel, Dolores and 9th.

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Foundation Treasurer's Report

*The following is monthly Foundation report prepared by
CVWC Treasurer, June Dawson.*

CARMEL VALLEY WOMEN'S CLUB FOUNDATION Treasurer's Report February 7, 2022

	Expenses	Income
Bank Balance as of December 15, 2021	\$	8,153.33
Admin		
Atty Gen Registry of Charitable Trusts for Raffles	\$ (25.00)	
CA state sales tax for HE proceeds	\$ (393.00)	
Holiday Extravaganza		
Lunch payment	\$	55.00
Donation	\$	50.00
Auction Items	\$	83.00
Bank Balance as of February 7, 2022	\$	7,923.33
Future Income / Expenses		
Deposits for Future Events	(500.00)	
Emergency Relief Fund	\$ (2,000.00)	
	\$	(2,500.00)

Balance at CFMC is \$817.21.

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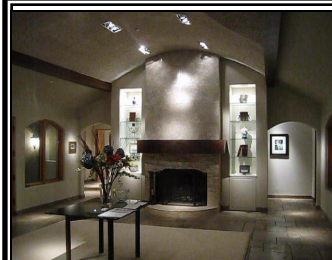


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Who's Returning to the CVWC...

THERE are many members who have recently climbed on board, some are returning, but there is a raft of newbies as well.

Welcome back to Patti Cordano-Smith, Christine Hallas, Marsha Kelly, and Joan Peak.



Our rampaging river early in December. Carmel Valley awaits the work of Mother Nature for more to come, hopefully, soon!



Who We Are...

THE Carmel Valley Women's Club is a social organization consisting of community-minded Monterey Peninsula women concerned with the welfare of Carmel Valley, the education of Carmel Valley's young women, and the individual needs of its membership.

Who's New?

WELCOME to new members of the CVWC, If you're interested in joining an active group of women donating time and funding to our community, call

Membership Chair, Judy Tschirgi, at 610-324-1361, or send an email, jtschirgi@gmail.com

CARMEL VALLEY WOMEN'S CLUB
P.O. BOX 407
CARMEL VALLEY, CA 93924