

# NOB HILL NOTABLES

## NHA Fall 2009 Stimulus

*A Note from Your Membership Director*

I am pleased to report that we have almost 40 new members who have joined the NHA for 2009!! Welcome to each of you. We are also proud that we have been able to secure membership from 4 new wonderful business members: Russian Hill Dog Grooming, Brownies Hardware, Ruth's Chris Steakhouse and Whole Foods.

It is truly a pleasure and a privilege to be a member of the Nob Hill Association. To underscore this belief we launched for the first time the two highlighted membership cards.

We strongly encourage you to place this card in your wallet for quick reference. This card acts as an integral part of the wonderful Fall Stimulus program NHA just announced as you need to show the participating business member your card to be entitled to the designated incentives and discounts.

Please note the membership cards were issued to all members who have paid their dues to date for 2009. If you have any friends you would like to join NHA please do not hesitate to contact me at (415) 771-1787. I would be happy to forward membership materials to them!

Best Regards  
Mary Kay McNulty

PS Your editor eager to see if her card actually worked presented it after her manicure/pedicure at Recharge Salon. She was rewarded with a 15% discount!

NOB HILL ASSOCIATION	
	MEMBER 2009
235 MONTGOMERY STREET SUITE 930 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104 TEL: (415) 346 - 8720	

NOB HILL ASSOCIATION	
	LIFE MEMBER
235 MONTGOMERY STREET SUITE 930 SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104 TEL: (415) 346 - 8720	



### ANNOUNCING THE NOB HILL ASSOCIATION'S 81<sup>st</sup> ANNUAL MEETING

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY  
AND ENJOY YOUR NEIGHBORS  
AT THE HISTORIC MARK HOPKINS HOTEL

It is not just a party, although it is a grand evening--the NHA's 81st Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Mark Hopkins Hotel November 23 at 6:00 p.m. in the Room of the Dons and the Peacock Court with spirit and spirits and tasty treats amid the murals by Frank van Sloun and Maynard Dixon depicting early California. The evening promises to be a lovely prelude to the holiday season as well as the annual business meeting of the Association.

The meeting will feature awards to the Firefighter of the Year as well as to the San Francisco Firefighters Toy Program, the Police Officer of the Year and to Grace Cathedral for their Stained Glass Windows Lighting Project. NHA officers will discuss the Association's accomplishments and the Hill's future plans. The annual reception will follow.

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# Happy Holidays on Nob Hill



## NOB HILL HOLIDAY TREES LIGHT UP NOVEMBER 30 CEREMONY WILL RING IN OFFICIAL START OF HOLIDAY SEASON ON NOB HILL

Herb Kritz and Elizabeth Woodall have generously donated \$2,500 towards the Huntington Park Holiday Lighting Fund, which will be used to upgrade the system to more efficient and consistent lighting.

The hill that is San Francisco's ambassador to the world will signal the start of the Christmas season Monday, November 30 when Supervisor David Chiu throws the switch on the Huntington Park Christmas tree at 6 p.m.

The Nob Hill Association and the Huntington Hotel have jointly sponsored the annual Dorothy Fritz Cope Tree Lighting Ceremony for years, making it one of San Francisco's oldest and most enduring traditions. The Nob Hill Association has been helping to keep Huntington Park beautiful since 1928.

The ceremony is a truly local event, embracing family and the city's can-do, pioneering spirit. In 1945, real state developer Eugene Fritz turned his Huntington Apartments into the Huntington Hotel, and five years later stunned the male-dominated industry by transferring ownership to his daughter, Dorothy Fritz. It was Dorothy Fritz's hard work that made the Huntington Hotel the must-stay address for generations of royalty, celebrity, and people with supremely good taste. Today, the ownership and operation of the landmark hotel remains in the hands of family members including Association Board members John Cope and Catherine MacMillan. It is the only hotel on Nob Hill not owned by a chain.

A no-host cocktail party celebrating the lighting will take place from 4:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Big Four Restaurant of the Huntington Hotel. The San Francisco Girls Chorus will start singing carols at 5:30 p.m. The ceremony will be held rain or shine. In case of rain, festivities will be moved inside Grace Cathedral.

*Nob Hill Association and the Huntington Hotel  
Dorothy Fritz Cope Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony  
Monday, November 30, 2009  
4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.*

## CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS & THE HOLIDAYS *Help those in need this holiday season*

*This year, visitors to Grace Cathedral are encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item or new article of warm clothing, such as a scarf, hat or pair of mittens, for Bay Area residents in need when they attend a Grace Cathedral Christmas concert or event. Donations should be placed in specially marked barrels located in the cathedral's Narthex (entry way).*

**Monday, December 7, 7 p.m.**

A Brass & Organ Christmas, featuring The Bay Brass and organist Jonathan Dimmock

**Saturday, December 12 and 19, 11 a.m.**

A Family Holiday Sing-Along, featuring Pacific Boychoir

**Saturday, December 12, and Sunday, December 13, 3 p.m.**

**Saturday, December 19, and Sunday, December 20, 3 p.m.  
Monday, December 21, 7 p.m.**

A Cathedral Christmas, featuring Grace Cathedral's Choir of Men and Boys

**Thurs. and Fri., Dec. 17 and 18, 7:30 p.m.,**

American Bach Soloists, Handel's Messiah

**Thursday, December 31, 7 p.m. and 10 p.m.**

Quintessential Chaplin, a program of his classic comedy shorts accompanied by organist Dorothy Papadakos

*Tickets for all Christmas concerts on sale now  
[www.cityboxoffice.com](http://www.cityboxoffice.com) or 415-392-4400*

*Visit [www.gracecathedral.org/calendar](http://www.gracecathedral.org/calendar) for other events*

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



David Lefkowitz

### APPREHENSION, GRATITUDE, AND HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON

The following headlines appeared on Wells Fargo's Monthly Economic Outlook:

August 2009 – The Recovery is beginning to take shape

September 2009 – The Recovery will take time to build momentum

October 2009 – The Recovery will be agonizingly slow

With the Dow (as of October 23) at around 10,000, up 52% from 6,547 on March 9, we are happy that our portfolios are looking fuller, and anxious that this trend may not continue. In short, we are apprehensively optimistic.

In our own neighborhood, we are also apprehensively optimistic about Live Nation/Masonic Auditorium's request for a Conditional Use Permit. The outcome of this matter will affect every resident on Nob Hill. As such, I strongly recommend that all NHA members attend the upcoming Board of Appeals Hearing, December 9th, 5pm. City Hall, Room 416, One Dr. Carlton B. Goodlet Place. Your attendance matters!

While little appears to have happened in moving forward with our plans for the renovation and maintenance of Huntington Park, much activity is occurring behind the scenes. We are in the research phase for establishment of a Special Huntington Park Landscaping and Maintenance District, to be funded by the Nob Hill property owners. With the city reducing its Parks and Rec. budget annually, the community will ultimately bear responsibility for keeping our neighborhood centerpiece healthy and beautiful. This solution may be our best option in doing so; more information will be shared as it becomes available.

Grace Cathedral was recently the victim of a malicious and destructive de-facing of its historic east-facing bronze doors. Neighbors are horrified that such an act can occur on Nob Hill, reminding us that now, more than ever, we must be ever aware of our surroundings and what is happening around us, so please, invite your neighbors to join you when you go out for a stroll, and stay safe.

I cannot say enough about the herculean efforts around establishment of the Nob Hill Stimulus Plan, and the wonderful participation by our neighbor-businesses. There are many new Business Members who have joined the Association as a result of this program. Special thanks go out to Phil Alford (Community Events Chair), and Mary Kay McNulty (Membership Chair) for bringing enthusiastic member participation, and enabling all to benefit from this worthwhile campaign. Be sure to carry your NHA membership card with you; it is your invitation to save, when patronizing our NHA business members!

We are in the closing months of an historic year in our neighborhood. The change I described earlier this year has begun to affect the way we live on the Hill, and we can take heart in our ability make that change work for the betterment of our community. We joke about it, we worry about it, we question it, but our neighborhood and our friends are closer than we were just a couple of years ago. We appreciate being individuals, and we like sharing our ideas and concerns with others of similar interests.

And perhaps that may be the best message this Holiday Season...to unite as a community in order to become a model for the change to come, and to use the best in each of us to accomplish that goal. To all the members of the Nob Hill neighborhood, I send my warmest wishes for a happy and healthy 2009 Holiday Season.

## The Nob Hill Association

*Founded in 1928, the mission of the Nob Hill Association is to preserve  
the beauty and history of Nob Hill and Huntington Park*

**OFFICERS:** President, David Lefkowitz • Vice President, James Fotenos • Treasurer, Lori Lefkowitz • Secretary, Joan Moon  
• Director of Communications, Fran Hildebrand  
• Publication Contributors, Anthony Malandra, Mary Kay McNulty, Syndi Seid

# Fall ...on the Hill

## GRACE CATHEDRAL

Sunday November 8, 3 p.m.

**Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance** is a special service that honors all who have suffered and died in conflict in the service of their country and to all who mourn them. It takes place every year on the Sunday closest to Veteran's (Armistice) Day complete with poppies falling while "Amazing Grace" is played on the bagpipes.

Cost: Free

Friday, November 20, 7 p.m.

"**Last Chance for Eden**," screening of this insightful and groundbreaking film exploring issues of racism and sexism in the workplace through the eyes of nine men and women. Discussion with director Lee Mun Wah after the screening.

Cost: Free, donation appreciated.

Sunday, November 22, 7 p.m.

"**Save Me**," screening of the 2007 film directed by Robert Cary about a young gay man forced into a Christian-run ministry in an attempt to "cure" him. Discussion with film blogger Jason Leroy after the screening.

Cost: Free.

## ORGAN RECITALS

Grace Cathedral's Aeolian-Skinner organ constitutes one of the great marriages of organ and building in the United States, if not the world. The world's greatest organists have vied for the opportunity to play this magnificent instrument. for 75 years. The series continues through March 28.

Sun., November 22, 4 p.m.

David Hatt, St. Mary's Assistant Cathedral Organist

Cost: Free

## RITZ-CARLTON

### THE LOBBY LOUNGE'S NEW BLOODY MARY MENU

October 2009 is the 75th anniversary of the Bloody Mary cocktail, the special new drink menu salutes and expands on this popular libation. The Lobby Lounge's new Bloody Mary menu includes everything from the *Classic or Spicy Bloody Mary*, to the *Sizzling Caesar (Super Spicy Clam-Juice Enhanced)*

Raw Bar menu offered Wednesdays from 5 to 7 p.m., features a selection of fresh oysters and shellfish, complemented by optional paired wines and, of course, Bloody Mary's.

For more information call (415) 773-6198

## NOB HILL SPA SALE & TRUNK SHOW

Wednesday, November 11, 6pm

The spa will be featuring a 50% off sale in the hotel's Tobin Room, and a trunk show in the Spa Boutique featuring jewelry designers Mabel Chong and Char Maassen, handbag designer Ada and others.

[www.nobhillspa.com](http://www.nobhillspa.com)

## WHOLE FOODS

New business member Whole Foods celebrates the holidays with a special coupon offer. Whole Foods will distribute coupons between November 18 through 25 entitling shoppers who spend \$25 or more in one trip to get a free 365 Everyday Value brand frozen pizza. They can do this repeatedly between November 27 and December 13.

The Nob Hill Association invites any individual or business that shares our mission to preserve and improve the Nob Hill neighborhood and Huntington Park to join.

Please fill out the information, and mail to:

The Nob Hill Association, 235 Montgomery Street, Ste. 930, San Francisco, CA 94109

I am paying by check (Please make your check payable to the Nob Hill Association)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I am paying by credit card. Please complete the following information:

Card Type:

Visa

Mastercard

Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues \$60

Business \$80

Life Membership \$1000

Life Membership  
\$500 thru December 31, 2009

Donation \$\_\_\_\_\_

THANKYOU!

For more information visit: [www.nobhillassociation.org](http://www.nobhillassociation.org)

# INVITATIONS TO ENJOY THE HOLIDAYS ON THE HILL!

## HUNTINGTON HOTEL

### 85TH ANNIVERSARY PACKAGE

Celebrate with this exclusive package - a nod to the history of this luxurious boutique hotel. Experience the result of a collaboration between two iconic San Francisco family-owned and operated brands – the Huntington Hotel and Mulholland, maker of luxury leather goods. The 85th Anniversary Package includes:

- One-night stay in the Mulholland Suite,
- Mulholland luxury leather garment bag as a take-home gift
- Bottle of champagne upon arrival
- Complimentary access to the Nob Hill Spa's indoor pool, Jacuzzi, steam and sauna rooms, outdoor patio, yoga studio and workout room
- Chauffeur sedan from the hotel to Downtown and the Financial District  
(available 8am-4pm Monday – Friday)

*Rate: \$850 (a value of more than \$1,700)*

*Tax and gratuity not included in package rate.*

*Available through December 30, 2009*

## THE FAIRMONT HOTEL

### NUTCRACKER HOLIDAY TEA

In the Laurel Court Restaurant and Lounge on Saturday and Sunday from November 28, 2009 - December 27, 2009. Holiday Tea will also be served on November 27 and December 21 thru December 24. The Laurel Court will house a gingerbread winter wonderland where children will enjoy a special holiday tea menu. Children will receive a Nutcracker toy and a gingerbread house to decorate with the help of the Fairmont Tea Fairy.

*Seating 1:30 pm to 4:40 pm*

*\$49 plus tax and service for adults and children*

*includes a glass of champagne for adults.*

*Reservations: 415-772-5260*

### FAIRMONT GREAT ROOM PACKAGES

Go to the Fairmont website for both great room packages starting at \$199 and all their holiday activities.

[www.fairmont.com/sanfrancisco](http://www.fairmont.com/sanfrancisco)

### HUNTINGTON HOLIDAY LIGHTS PACKAGE

The Huntington invites guests to experience the Huntington Hotel Lights Package. It features a Park View Room facing the holiday lights in the trees of Huntington Park, directly across from the hotel.

This package includes:

- One-night stay in a Park View Room
- Holiday cookies with tea or coffee service upon arrival
- A bottle of champagne
- Continental breakfast for two each day in the Big 4 Restaurant or from Room Service
- Complimentary access to the Nob Hill Spa's pool, Jacuzzi, sauna, steam room, and fitness facility

*Rate: \$395 per night for a Park View Room.*

*Tax and gratuity are not included.*

*Available November 30 – December 31, 2009.*

## THE STANFORD COURT

### HOLIDAY TEA

December 19 and 20 in the Nob Hill room overlooking the California and Powell Cable Car lines. Offering sandwiches, scones and of course smoked salmon. A visit from Santa and games to keep little ones entertained.

*Tea is \$40 for adults and \$15 for children.*

*Reservations call 415-989-3500*

## THE CITY CLUB OF SAN FRANCISCO

The City Club of San Francisco invites small business to enjoy their holiday party and leave all the planning to them. This is the perfect event for groups who wish to enjoy the ambiance of The City Club for their office holiday gathering but don't have the large guest list to fill the rooms, nor the time to devote to the planning. The City Club has partnered with Denon & Doyle and Sidepocket to combine the sophisticated elegance of a band and the great dance music of a DJ. It's the best of both worlds... It's "SideSpin".

**WHO:** Minimum of 6 guests; maximum —please call.

**WHERE:** The City Club of San Francisco, 155 Sansome St.

**DATE:** Tuesday, December 15, 2009 **TIME:** 6pm - 11pm

**PRICE:** \$150 inclusive per person **RSVP:** By December 1, 2009

*RSVP by calling 415.362.2480, or complete our online reservation form:  
[http://www.cityclubsf.com/grand\\_holiday\\_party.html](http://www.cityclubsf.com/grand_holiday_party.html)*

## RITZ-CARLTON

### SAN FRANCISCO NAMES

#### RAUL SALCIDO GENERAL MANAGER

Hotel executive Raul Salcido has been named General Manager for The Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco.

Salcido joins the hotel from The Ritz-Carlton, Istanbul, where he has served as the award-winning property's general manager for the past two years. Under his leadership, The Ritz-Carlton, Istanbul has achieved numerous accolades in 2008 and 2009, including a top ranking by Condé Nast Traveler as the "Best Overseas Business Hotel".

Raul Salcido's career with The Ritz-Carlton began in 1993 at The Ritz-Carlton, Cancun and progressed to management positions of increasing responsibility with The Ritz-Carlton properties in Washington, DC, Dearborn, Palm Beach and Orlando Grande Lakes. His most recent international background has also included Hotel Manager posts at The Ritz-Carlton, Santiago and The Hotel Arts, Barcelona.

"Joining the team at The Ritz-Carlton, San Francisco is a true honor and privilege," said Salcido. "I look forward to becoming part of a team that has consistently set new standards for service, and I also look forward to engaging with the Bay Area hospitality community. I can think of no better place to live and work than San Francisco."



#### HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY

Wednesday, December 2, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Complimentary and open to the community.



#### TEDDY BEAR TEA IN THE LOBBY LOUNGE

Friday, November 27 through Thursday, December 24

Children and their favorite stuffed animals gather for traditional Teddy Bear Tea with Binky the Elf. Holiday storytelling, balloons and a visit and photograph with the cuddly Ritz-Carlton Teddy are complemented by a small teddy bear to take home and a special tea experience of hot chocolate, teddy bear cut-out cookies and assorted sandwiches. A portion of proceeds will benefit The Greater Bay Area Make-A-Wish Foundation.

*Two seatings: 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. Christmas Eve 3:30 p.m.*

*\$80 per guest excluding tax and gratuity*

*Reservations: 415-773-6198*



#### WINTER WONDERLAND WREATHS

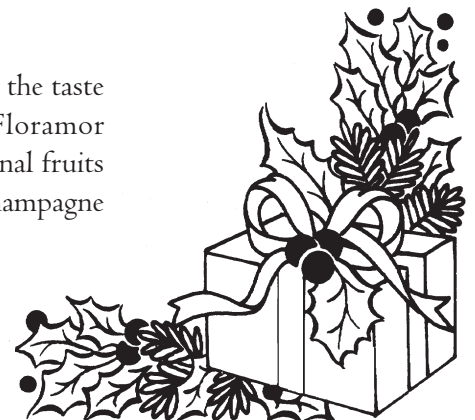
##### & CHAMPAGNE LUNCH

Thursday, December 3

Envelop your senses with the smell of fresh evergreens, the sounds of Christmas carols and the taste of a farm-fresh holiday lunch in this special wreath-making class with San Francisco's Floramor Studios. This class will include the basics on wreath making, how to decorate with seasonal fruits and nuts, and tips on preserving your wreath for the entire season. Class includes glass of champagne and lunch plus your created wreath to take home.

*11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.*

*\$100 per guest (adults only), including tax and gratuity.*





*This article is the first in a series we are introducing to our members to better acquaint them with our business members. As residents of Nob Hill we share not only such a wonderful and beautiful neighborhood but one that is blessed to have local businesses that provide a unique array of services. We encourage our members to support them. These articles are meant to provide a unique insight into their history on the hill and to perhaps highlight services they offer which we may not be aware that they offer. It also is meant to introduce a unique profile of the individual behind the business.*

## STEPHEN CORNELL AND BROWNIE'S HARDWARE, A SAN FRANCISCO INSTITUTION SINCE 1905

By Syndi Seid

**Stephen Cornell** and **Brownies Hardware** are perhaps two of San Francisco's greatest assets! Both were born and raised in San Francisco with an unwavering passion and love for everything San Francisco.

Stephen Cornell was born at Mt. Zion Hospital where at the time his family lived in Nob Hill. He matriculated through Redding Elementary School, James Denman Junior High School, and Lowell High School. He is married to Marilyn Brown and they have two children Chris and Lauren.

Through the years Stephen has nurtured a passion for all things San Francisco. He collects historic photographs and other printed memorabilia from San Francisco's glorious past, especially Polk Street history. His corner store window is dedicated to displaying old articles, ads, logos, and other historic memorabilia. If you have items you would like to contribute to this display, stop by the store to have your item photocopied (so you won't have to give up your precious keepsakes) and Stephen will be happy to include it in the window display.

Stephen enjoys collecting **old San Francisco school yearbooks**. Do you have one accumulating dust someplace? Donate it to Stephen's collection of over 500 yearbooks... with full visiting rights anytime!

Brownies Hardware was founded in fall 1905 by Edgar Brownstone, hence its name. In 1950, Stephen's father Leeland Cornell and his partner Fred Arndt took the business on, with Stephen being its third owner since 1974. All three owners believed in being active in the community and have served as president of the Polk Street Merchants Association several times.

When Stephen's father and his partner took over the business, there were only two partners and one employee. Now Brownies Hardware has one owner and over a dozen employees, who on the average have worked at Brownies for 9 years.

Brownies only hires San Francisco residents who are asked not to drive, but to only take public transportation to work. It provides full medical and dental, sick leave, and vacation benefits to its employees, while at the same time maintaining reasonable prices for all its products and services. It does not hire summer help, believing in hiring for the long-term and year-round. Stephen is proud of the fact they have not had to lay off anyone during this down-turn in the economy and is most grateful to all its customers —like you —for their continued patronage and support.

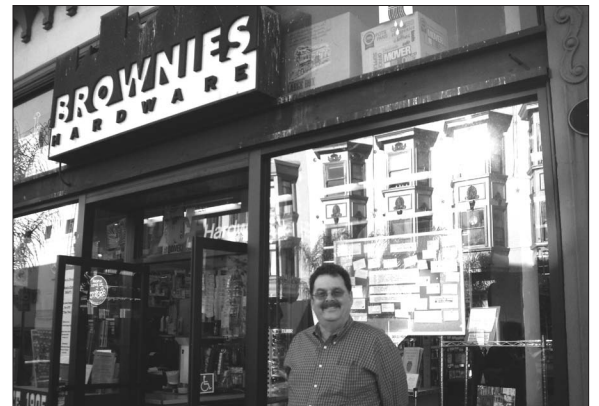
When asked what makes Brownies Hardware unique, Stephen's immediate response was its neighborhood friendly, personalized customer service. Stephen knows most residents are apartment and condo dwellers who do not have space to keep lots of items and tools, and often do not drive. Brownies will do almost anything to help with your household needs! I bet you did not know:

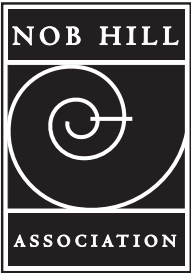
- You could have **things ordered and delivered** when you can't carry items home?
- You can **rent a drill** or other tools for "do it yourself" small projects?
- Brownie's is a convenient location to **purchase city service items**, such as a **Fast Pass** or Meter Card, as well as being the **place to recycle latex paint** and other **hazardous materials**, such as **batteries and florescent lights**?
- If you are a **Nob Hill building/apartment owner** you are **eligible to receive discounts and to open a special House Account** at Brownies?

All these convenient services and much more are at Brownies Hardware, 1563 Polk Street.

Finally, for new and renewed Nob Hill Association members, Brownies Hardware has generously provided each member with a **15% discount coupon**, located in your new membership packet. If you haven't already received your new membership packet, please contact us.

*(Syndi Seid is a Nob Hill Association board member and founder of San Francisco-based Advanced Etiquette Worldwide. . . a business dedicated to providing international business and social etiquette and protocol training and consulting. ([www.AdvancedEtiquette.com](http://www.AdvancedEtiquette.com)))*





Nob Hill Association  
235 Montgomery Street, Ste. 930  
San Francisco, CA 94104

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US POSTAGE  
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San Francisco, CA  
PERMIT #1734

*Come to  
Board of Appeals meeting  
December 9  
— see President's letter*

# NOB HILL NOTABLE MEMBERS

## BUSINESS MEMBERS

American Concrete  
Brownies Hardware\*  
Club One at the Fairmont  
Ron Crosetti Design Studio  
Eduardo P. Dolhun, M.D.\*  
Ellis-Brooks  
Falcon Associates, Inc.  
Friends of Dorothy Travel  
LeBeau Nob Hill Market  
Lefkowitz & Co. CPA  
D. J. Mehler Collections  
Mark Hopkins Rental Condos  
Muratore General Contractors  
Nob Hill Masonic Center, Inc.  
Nob Hill Gazette  
Nob Hill Florist

## HOTELS

The Fairmont  
The Huntington Hotel  
Inter-Continental Mark Hopkins  
Renaissance Stanford Court  
The Ritz-Carlton

Recharge Spa of Nob Hill  
Russian Hill Dog Grooming\*  
Ruth's Chris Steakhouse  
S. F. Community Music Center  
San Francisco Residence Club Inc.  
Saint Francis Hospital Foundation  
Sproule Lane Property Group  
Swan Oyster Depot  
The Comstock Apartments  
Twins Hill  
1200 California Corp.  
University Club  
Vendetta Men's Apparel &  
Vintage Cuban Cigars  
Whole Foods\*  
Xavier & Hahn, CPA

## SPECIAL MEMBERS

Pacific Union Club  
Saint Francis Memorial Hospital

\* Denotes New Member

## NEW MEMBERS 2009

Heidi Stern  
Barbara Westfield  
Kate T. Noerr  
Brent & May Johnson  
Priya Sanger

*Become a **LIFETIME MEMBER**  
for \$500 thru December 31, 2009!*

*We appreciate the support of the mentioned business members  
and are delighted to list our new individual members.  
For membership information about the Nob Hill Association please call  
(415) 346-8720 or visit our website at [www.nobhillassociation.org](http://www.nobhillassociation.org).*