Palo Alto Republican Women Club Presents:
Fashions of Yesteryear & Summer Tea
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DATE: Thursday, May 21st
TIME: 2:00 to 4:00PM
PLACE: Channing House
850 Webster Street
Palo Alto — 11th Floor
MODELS: Elena, Helen, Imogene, Judy, Karla, Marge, Nancy, Patty, Rebecca
PRICE: Cost is $35.00, additional donations are appreciated.
This is the only fundraiser for the year
RSVP: Jo’Anne Zschokke
2285 Oberlin Street
Palo Alto, CA 94306
Please reply by May 14th

Lorraine Blackburn — FASHIONS OF YESTERYEAR

Lorraine has been collecting antiques of varying kinds for many years. In 1976 while cleaning out her grandmother's closet, she came across a black velvet hat. Thinking it to be a 1920's cloche, she brought it home, only to discover that it was a 50's rendition of the cloche. But the collection was off to a start! Suddenly hats started "jumping" out at her wherever she was, estate sales, antique stores and private sales. The hat collection grew to about 150 but somehow it never seemed appropriate to wear a vintage hat with a contemporary outfit. It seemed like it would be fun to combine the vintage clothing/hats with her husband's hobby of collecting classic automobiles and to wear the fashion to match the era of the car.

Growing up in San Francisco where a hat and gloves were a necessity, she had always admired the well-dressed women of the City. Even though their auto collection only encompasses the 30's and 40's, there were so many lovely examples of earlier clothing, she had to "make a home" for them too.

Lorraine studied under the late Ruth Stockley for five years. Ruth, having been the foremost authority on the design and construction of 20th century millinery and fashion. Under Ruth's tutelage, she was able to repair, renovate and date many of her finds. Later Lorraine was instrumental in the repair and cataloging of the hat collection at the Harris-Lass Living History Museum. Her collection now extends from millinery of the 1860s to clothing from the 1870s through the 1950s as well as the accessories.

Over the past few years, Lorraine has produced programs for the Classic Car Club of America, Packard Auto Club, Burlingame Women's Club, Sutter Creek Presbyterian Church, Questers State Convention, Washington Hospital Auxiliary, Montalvo and various other charitable groups throughout Northern California.

This extensive collection has come from all parts of the U.S. and is a chance to see the changing roles of women and history reflected through women's fashions.