



Pleasant Hill Branch
N.E.W.S
Now/Events/Women/Success

Volume 51 Issue 11

September 2009

Oh What a Beautiful Morning!



10 a.m.

Rolling Green Circle Pool Area
(Gregory to Brandon to Rolling Green)

Save your place by contacting

Margi Alkire

827-2940

red-bird51@comcast.net

or

Suzanne Salter

935-0861

seabear2@msn.com



GUESTS AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS WELCOME

Presidential Team Report



Summer is almost over and we've enjoyed the Summer Social at Kit and Paul Hein's home. Now, we're looking forward to our big Kickoff brunch/meeting on Saturday, 19 September ~ details are on the front page.

This kickoff to the new branch year is important to everyone. This is the place where you will hear about all the Interest Sections; the upcoming fund-raisers for Local Scholarships, EF, LAF and Tech Trek; programs, both planned and in the planning stages; a Holiday party; a chance to meet new and prospective members, etc. THIS IS A MUST ~ be sure it is on your calendar.

All of the Interest Sections begin in September, too, so check out the ones in which you are interested and put the meeting dates and times on your calendars.

See you soon!

The Team

BOARD NOTES

- 65 paid members and more expected
- Tickets on sale for Festa Italiana
- AAUW opposes SOAR
- Mandatory changes to the bylaws
- No progress on Martinez Branch becoming a satellite

PUBLIC POLICY

Marlene Maksel, Chair

Before AAUW can endorse the proposed Health Care Reform bill, there are three key elements that must be included. They are; (1) an end to the practice of "gender rating"; (2) coverage of women's reproductive health services; and (3) access to and coverage of preventive services and care.

Because AAUW stands firmly by the belief that the country should provide an excellent education for all children, not private school vouchers for a fee, AAUW is opposing Sen. Joe Lieberman Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR). This bill would extend and expand a school voucher program costing \$14 million for 1,700 students in the District of Columbia.

Contact your members of Congress on these two issues.

WAYS AND MEANS MEETING

The Ways and Means Committee will meet at the home of Kathy Wheeler on Fri., Sept. 4, at 4pm. Ways and Means coordinates the calendar for all fundraisers. Please plan to attend if you or your committee are planning events that need to be placed on this calendar. Call Kathy at 925-229-1963

2009 – 2010 Leadership Team

Presidents:

Jean Hambleton 798-2344
Ginny Hargrave 798-2370
Marlene Maksel 689-5439

Vice President Program:

Waiting for volunteer

Vice President's – EF:

Alana MacDonald 933-4427
Lynn Murphy 935-2109
Suzanne Rheingruber 945-0347

Vice President's Membership:

Margi Alkire 827-2940
Suzanne Salter 935-0861

Vice President – LAF:

Victoria Maat 933-4432

Secretary:

Gayle Garrison 798-7528

Treasurer:

Marilyn Tubbs 939-6220

Newsletter Editor:

Kit Hein 228-7503

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Copy deadline for October N.E.W.S. is August 15th.

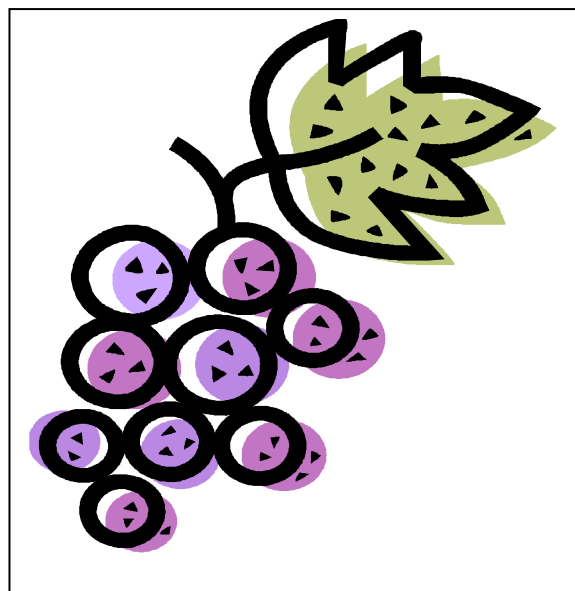
Please send copy to Kit Hein
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*IMAGINE you are on a Tuscan hillside,
The late afternoon sun turning the
Surrounding vineyard gold and red.*

*You chat with the winemaker while
he pours his family's wine.*

*You taste from your complimentary
crystal wine glass.*

You can be there!



FESTA ITALIANA

**Saturday, October 17, 2009
3:30-6:30**

**Viano Winery
150 Morello Avenue, Martinez**

**Wine tasting 3:30 – 4:30
Italian Supper 4:30 – 6:30**

Donation \$30.00

**A benefit for Pleasant Hill AAUW Educational
Foundation, providing scholarships for women.**

Please call for tickets before October 10

Lynn: 935-2109 or Alana: 933-4427

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

Margi Alkire and Suzanne Salter

CONGRATULATIONS to MURIEL FRY on being awarded a 50 year honorary membership by AAUW. Muriel joined in 1957—so has been a member of our organization for more than 50 years. She has been a very hard-working member, active at the Branch, State, and National levels. We are very happy you are in our branch, Muriel!



Former President Kit Hein presents the award certificate to Muriel at the May IBC meeting.

Membership thinks we will have approximately 70 members this year, and are waiting on a few more checks to arrive. Thanks to all of you who paid—and to the three brave souls who paid on line!

The **directories** will be passed out at the September 19 brunch (so be sure to attend!). We want to have all the members joining well before that, so that their information will be in the directory. If you need to make any late address or phone changes, please tell Marlene Maksel, our excellent directory director.

Our next effort will be to get some **NEW** members. If you have any names of prospectives, please contact Margi or Suzanne.

IN SYMPATHY

- ❖ Our sympathy to Karen Henry over the loss of her mother on July 2.
- ❖ Long time member Rachel Holmes passed away on Aug. 29 after a short illness. Our condolences to her family.

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS

BRIDGE

We are going to try a new bridge group as a fund raiser. We will play on the second Monday of the month, Sept. 14 at 12:30 at the home of Gayle Garrison. Each player will pay \$3.00. Please call G. Garrison, 798-7528 or e-mail tarheel61@excite.com on or before Sept. 9.

MORNING BOOKS will meet on Wednesday, Sept. 2, 10am at Marti Martin's. Our discussion will be on *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle* by David Wroblewski. This is a modern-day take on Shakespeare's "Hamlet," and should make an interesting discussion. Late word has been that it isn't yet out in paperback, so check the libraries and friends who may have copies. In October we will be discussing *The Wild Trees: A Story of Passion & Daring* by Richard Preston.

IN INDELIBLE INK will meet on Wednesday, Sept 9th, 10 am at Marlene Maksel's. The topic will be to write about a snapshot, photo, or painting ~ bring the picture with you. The story can be fiction, or a true story ~ use your imagination if you don't know the background, or know only part of it. **THINK SERIOUSLY** about joining this group. We have a lot of fun and we don't criticize anyone's writing! If you don't want to write this time, come anyway and **LISTEN** in!

EVENING BOOKS will meet on Monday, 28 Sept. 7 pm at Linda Robbins' at 2442 Lariat Lane, W. C. We will be reading *Daughter of Persia* by Sattareh Farman Farmaian. Farmaian is the 15th of 36 children and was born in Iraq in 1921. Read her fascinating story and come for an equally fascinating discussion.

MATINEE IDLE will go to the movies on Thursday, 24 September. Call Marlene (689-5439) if you are planning to attend, or if you have any good suggestions for a movie. A light discussion, over coffee or other liquid refreshment, usually follows.

BOOK EXCHANGE - LAST CALL

Join the BOOK EXCHANGE! Read 12 hardbacks published in 2009 for the cost of only one! We have almost filled 2 Exchange lists and are working on a third. Don't miss out! (You can purchase 2 or 3 books to join all the Exchanges and double or triple your reading pleasure!)

Call Mary Hanlon @ 934-3528 with your selected title and author PRIOR to purchasing your book. Please call by Wed., Sept. 23rd, since we plan to begin exchanging books on October 1st.

COMMUNITY

Jill Anderson

Pleasant Hill Community Service Day

LESS TALK, MORE ACTION!

Become a part of something really special!

Pleasant Hill's FIFTH annual Community Service Day on Saturday, September 26, 2009. Last year, more than 800 volunteers worked on 23 projects citywide!

<http://www.ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us/> For more information 671-5229

Pleasant Hill Library

From August 17 to September 4 from 9 AM to 5:30 PM (excluding Sundays) in the Shipping and Receiving Area (75 Santa Barbara Rd) the library will be giving away FREE used books that are no longer needed. They ask you to bring grocery bags. For more information 646-6423.

Hear ye, hear ye!

Our branch has the **Display window at the Pleasant Hill Library**

reserved for the month of November.

What shall we put in it?

How shall we advertise ourselves?

Who will help?

Call Margi with your ideas and to volunteer. 827-2940 or red-bird51@comcast.net



**EF Committee meeting Tues.,
Sept. 1st, 10am at Suzanne
Reingruber's house. Anyone
who wants to help with the
Festa Italiana is encouraged
to attend. Lots of hands make
light work.**

Call Suzanne 945-0347



LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Victoria Maat

We Are Honored

Thank you to all who have dedicated their time and money to help California become one of the top EF and LAF contributors in the country.

Representation at State LAF Committee

As a new member of the State LAF committee, I will be able to pass along information to you as this committee makes plans for this coming year. Watch for additional news!

Californians Are Urged to Support:

Did you know that four out of five current cases are located in California? Supporting the plaintiffs' cases against three Feather River Community College and the Regents of the State of California **makes our fundraising even more important.** For more information on the case, please go to:

<http://www.aauw.org/advocacy/laf/cases/casesupp.cfm>

Case Support Travel Grant

State LAF Liaisons can apply for the Case Support Travel Grant (formerly known as the Plaintiff Travel Grant) to have speakers connected to LAF-supported cases speak at their state or regional meetings. Eligible speakers include past and current LAF-supported plaintiffs, their lawyers, and related experts.

If any Pleasant Hill branch members would like to see any speakers connected to our various LAF cases, please contact me via email, juju-bee@pacbell.net and I will apply for a grant.

Reminders

Sexual Assault on Campus Project: LAF is crafting a manual and a "Program in a Box" focused on campus sexual assault policies in collaboration with the AAUW Research Department, Harvard University law professor and Title IX expert Diane Rosenfeld, and Students Active for Ending Rape (available this Winter).

Gloria Weston Campus Outreach: If you would like to receive funding for an LAF Campus Outreach Program in your community, please fill out the form on the campus outreach page and send it to laf@aauw.org. For more information:

<http://www.aauwoml.org/GloriaWestonFund.html>

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to LAF to help balance the scales of justice for women. Please contact Victoria Maat, juju-bee@pacbell.net, to make a contribution.

Budget to be voted on at the Sept. meeting. If you have questions, please contact Marilyn Tubbs, Treasurer.

Pleasant Hill Branch AAUW
2009-2010 Proposed Budget

INCOME

Net dues (60 x \$18)	\$1,080.00
C&C Carryover	1,000.00
From Reserves	<u>825.00</u>

TOTAL INCOME **\$2,905.00**

EXPENSES

Conference & Convention	\$1,000.00
Administration & Office	100.00
Community/Chamber	175.00
Communication	50.00
Directory	100.00
EF Assessment	60.00
Hospitality	75.00
IBC Dues	30.00
Insurance	225.00
Membership	75.00
N.E.W.S.	250.00
Program	600.00
Web page incl PO box	165.00
LAF	0.00
Tech Trek	0.00
Local Scholarship	<u>0.00</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES **\$2905.00**

September 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 10AM – EF COMMITTEE	2 10AM - BOOKS	3	4 4PM – WAYS & MEANS	5
6	7	8	9 10AM – IN INDELIBLE INK 7PM BOARD	10	11	12
13	14 12:30 - BRIDGE	15	16	17	18	19 10am - BRUNCH
20	21	22	23 BOOK EXCHANGE DEADLINE	24 MATINEE IDLE	25	26 PH COMMUNITY SERVICE DAY
27	28 7PM - BOOKS	29	30	<u>OCT. 17</u> FESTA ITALIANA	<u>OCT. 25</u> EF FELLOWS LUNCHEON	

