



VOLUME 53 ISSUE 8

APRIL 2011

## Pleasant Hill Branch N.E.W.S.

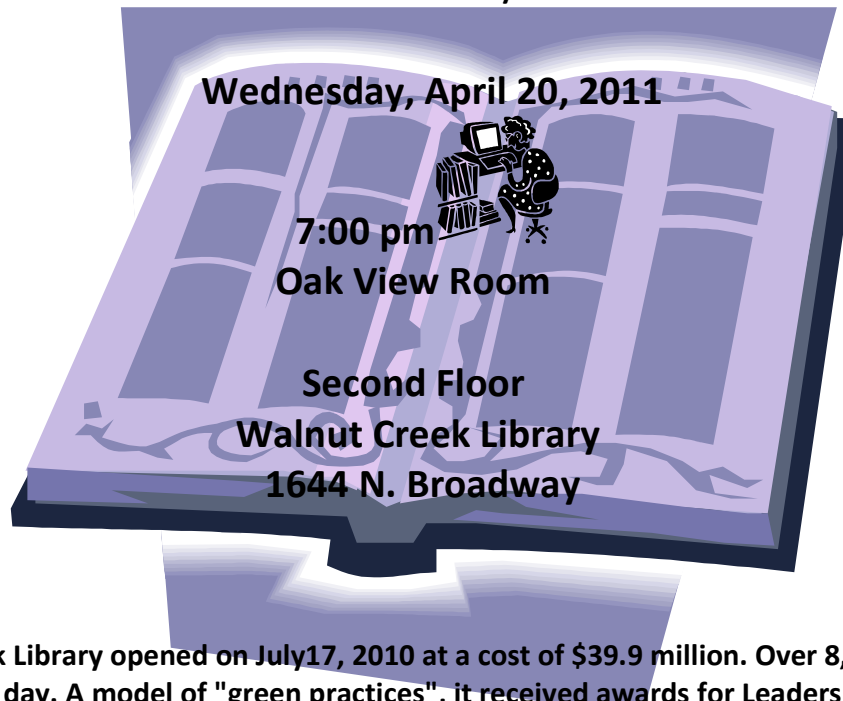
Now/Events/Women/Success

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy,  
education, philanthropy and research

### Walnut Creek Library: An Amazing New Community Resource

Bob Brittain

Friends of the Library Treasurer



The new Walnut Creek Library opened on July 17, 2010 at a cost of \$39.9 million. Over 8,500 people visited the library on the first day. A model of "green practices", it received awards for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Bob Brittain will talk about the construction process, the "green" aspects of the new building, the distinctive artwork throughout the building, and other engaging information about this community resource.

Bob Brittain is a "Volunteer Extraordinaire" Board of Directors of the Walnut Creek Library Foundation, California Bluebird Park, Recreation and Open Space

underground garage and 20 surface lot elevator is available at all levels. We self-guided tour around the library, or The library closes at 8:00pm.



for the Walnut Creek community: Open Space Foundation, Walnut Creek Recovery Program, and Walnut Creek Commission.

There are 120 spaces in the Library's spaces. Parking is free after 6:00pm. An encourage you to come early to take a take the tour after the presentation.



## Presidential Duo Report

We've recently had two great programs that lend themselves to "action" on our part. In February, we heard Elizabeth Kristen, an attorney with the Legal Aid Society, tell us about Title IX. Because of the financial constraints on the Mt. Diablo and Martinez School Districts, we can't go to the administration and demand equality in playing fields, more timely schedules for competitions, better uniforms, etc. But, what Kristen suggested was providing support for our women athletes by attending their competitive events. Softball is just starting and we are in the process of trying to get schedules for the girls' events at College Park and Alhambra High Schools. Would you be interested in supporting our local female athletes by attending a softball game?? I will be sending out a schedule as soon as I have them.

In March, we heard Sr. Caritas Foster speak on Human Trafficking. We all know bits and pieces of this dreadful crime, but Sr. Caritas brought it closer to home when she said BART is a great recruiting ground. Other cases of indentured servitude have happened in our county. The problem seems overwhelming, but Sr. Caritas said if we **ALL** do one small thing, it will make a difference. We can use our dollars to support safe house and shelters for trafficked persons ~ they can use BART cards, gift cards for clothing, telephone cards, etc. If you are a person who "has everything," and doesn't know what to tell your loved ones to get you for your birthday, Christmas, etc., tell them to give you a gift card that you will then pass on. Also, buy fair trade products ~ a really easy way to provide a living wage for those involved in the coffee, tea and candy trade. Above all, keep your eyes and ears tuned to anything strange that you might see or hear, and notify authorities.

The Duo

## 2010- 2011 Leadership Team

### Presidents:

Jean Hambleton 798-2344  
Marlene Maksel 689-5439

### Vice Presidents Program:

Ginny Hargrave 798-2370  
Jeannette Holmes 942-0801

### Vice Presidents – EF:

Waiting for a volunteer

### Vice President's Membership:

Suzanne Salter 935-0861  
Marti Martin 229-3574

### Vice President – LAF:

Kathy Searles 228-5700

### Secretary:

Gayle Garrison 798-7528

### Treasurer:

Marilyn Tubbs 939-6220

### Newsletter Editor:

Kit Hein 228-7503

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May/June & July/August are combined issues.

AAUW Help Line: 800/326-AAUW

<http://www.aauw.org/>

### CA AAUW Office

Amanda Hawkins,

Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper

Email: [office@aauw-ca.org](mailto:office@aauw-ca.org)

Web Page: <http://www.aauw-ca.org/>

### **Congratulations to the following elected officers for 2011-2012:**

**Co-Presidents:** Kathy Searles and Marilyn Thelan

**Program V.P.s:** Gretel Holit and Sally Whitsett

**Membership V.P.s:** Reba Siero and Marti Martin

**V. P. Education Fund:** Marlene DeLaurenti and Alana MacDonald

**V.P. LAF.:** Pat Harris

**Secretary:** Joy Barden

**Treasurer:** Jill Anderson

If you are interested in serving on any committee positions for Leadership Team 2011-12 go to [aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org) for information on job descriptions and how to apply. The deadline is June 10, 2011.

Vitas are available for 2011-2013 candidates for state offices. Copies may be obtained from Shirlee Thompson, parliamentarian, if you wish to peruse same. Elections will be held at the AAUW-CA convention (April 8-10) at the Irvine Marriott.

## INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**\*\* MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 10 am, at Janice Walker's. We will be discussing *The 19<sup>th</sup> Wife* by David Ebershoff. The book is based on Brigham Young's 19<sup>th</sup> wife and is a story-within-a-story. One reviewer said the author relates the way Mormon history continues to affect present-day policies and realities. Please join us for a great discussion. In May we will be featuring Eudora Welty and you may read any of her books.



**\*\* IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 10 am, at Marilyn Tubbs'. Our topic will be "A Thing(s) that Annoy(s) Me." We all have triggers that the actions of others set off in us ~ let us know what yours are. Even if you don't want to write anything, come and hear what others have written. We hope to see you!



**\*\* NIMBLE FINGERS** Nimble Fingers will meet at Suzanne Salter's on Thursday, April 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Please join us for sharing of exciting projects, for lessons in knitting and crochet as well as for guidance on any other interesting crafts. Some ideas from past meetings include beading, quilting, and cross-stitch. Give Janet or Suzanne a call if you can join us or email Suzanne at [seabears@msn.com](mailto:seabears@msn.com) or Janet at [jspringsullivan@aol.com](mailto:jspringsullivan@aol.com)



**\*\* MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, April 28<sup>th</sup>. We usually attend a matinee at a local theatre. Call Marlene (689.5439) if you are planning to attend, or if you have any good suggestions for a movie. We always discuss the movie after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.



**\*\* EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at Sally Whitsett's. We will be discussing an oldie, but a goodie, by Nelson DeMille ~ *Charm School*. This is a spy novel at its best! See you there??!



## **\*\* BRIDGE**

**Monday Night Bridge** will play April 4 at 7:00 at the home of Gayle Garrison. If you would like to play, please call Gayle or Elizabeth DiPietro or e-mail. We will have two tables so, if you want to play, you need to be "quick".



**GRAND SLAMMERS** will play on April 11 at 12:30 at the home of Marlene DeLaurenti. Please call or e-mail Gayle Garrison if you would like to play.



## GENEALOGY

Sat., April 16, 2011

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. (Registration at 8:00 a.m.)

Sonoma County Genealogical Society  
2011 Spring Seminar

Wells Fargo Center for the Arts Santa Rosa

SPEAKER: Christine Rose

TOPICS: Addicted to Courthouses:  
Leaping to Erroneous Conclusions  
Using Little Known and Neglected

Sources: A Potpourri

Solving the Problem in 25 Hours or Less

COST: \$30 non-members pre-registration must be received before April 8

Also, an additional \$12 for box lunch

CHOICES: Turkey on Whole Wheat, Ham on Rye, or Green Salad

\$35 Admission fee at the door on April 16

CONTACT: Audrey Phillips, Registrar, 96 Eastside Circle, Petaluma, CA 94954-3609 - Tel. 707-763-4492

NOTE: There are no lunch facilities near the Wells Fargo Center. It is recommended you either purchase the \$12 box lunch (when pre-payment is sent) or bring a bag lunch. Bring a pad and pen for notes. Also, dress in layers because the temperature in the Center has a wide variance.

**If you have any questions or would like a copy of the flier please call/email Kay Ernst**

## **Membership Matters**

Dear Friends,

I have exciting news to share with you! As you may recall, in 2010 Great Nonprofits (GNP) named AAUW a top-rated nonprofit based on reviews and ratings by people whose lives had been touched by AAUW. Now, in recognition of our great work and the five-star rating we received, AAUW has been invited to be a partner in GNP's 2011 Women's Empowerment Campaign.

So far, more than 50 people have reviewed and rated AAUW by sharing some of their individual accomplishments and AAUW's important role in their lives. These reviews, featured on AAUW's GNP web page highlight examples of AAUW's work to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

As a member, you play an important role in the AAUW story. This is a chance to tell your part of that story. Please read what others have written about AAUW and join them by writing your own review.

<http://greatnonprofits.org/reviews/aauw-1/?emc=lm&m=51276&l=5&v=1220759>

(ed. Note: This is not a hot link. You will have to copy and paste the address into the URL.)

Warm Regards,

Linda D. Hallman, CAE  
AAUW Executive Director

P.S. I hope I can count on you. The more reviews AAUW gets, the higher we move on the list of women's empowerment organizations.



• • •  
A special thank you to all of you who sent cards, donations and sympathy after my mother passed away. One day I'll tell you about how she initiated my membership in AAUW. I will miss her. Kit  
• • •

## **Community**

Jill Anderson

### **Senior Live Well Forum**

Friday, April 9<sup>th</sup> 8:30 AM – 2 PM

Pleasant Hill Community Center

Entertainment, humor, and education packed into a fun and inspiring day.



Includes continental breakfast, lunch, door prizes, raffles, and giveaways.

### **Bay Area Bluestocking Festival of Authors**

Saturday, April 16<sup>th</sup>

Literary Women, Pleasant Hill Recreation & Park District's long-running enriching program has become a tradition for book-lovers in Pleasant Hill – and it usually sells out quickly. To have your name put on the interest list, call 676-5200.



### **Family Fun Triathlon**

Sunday, April 17<sup>th</sup> 9 AM Ages 8 to adult

1 Santa Barbara Road

Join Pleasant Hill Recreation for a non-competitive, family-fun, fitness triathlon event which incorporates swimming, bicycling, and running!

<http://www.pleasanthillrec.com/events4.html#Triathlon>

### **Chamber of Commerce Mixer**

Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>

5:30-7:30 PM

Magoo's Grill 1250 Contra Costa Blvd.

### **The City of Pleasant Hill - Celebrating its 50th year in 2011**

There are many activities that are currently being planned by the 50th Anniversary Committee. If you are interested in participating in any of these programs or events, or wish to suggest other activities, please contact Martin Nelis, Public Information Officer, by phone at (925) 671-5229 or at [mnelis@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us](mailto:mnelis@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us)

## Public Policy

Susanne Rheingruber

### **State Budget Disagreements Continue**

The Legislative Conference Committees in both the Senate and Assembly completed their work in early March, after altering some of the cuts proposed by Governor Brown. The cuts already agreed upon have dealt a huge blow to services to the poor, elderly and disabled in California.



As proposed by the Governor, a major budget assumption is the continuation of temporary taxes that were enacted in 2009 and due to expire June 30, 2011. The budget was to be voted upon the week of March 7. However, Republicans have demanded that Governor Brown commit to a number of reforms in return for their vote to put Tax Extensions on the June Ballot.

AAUW CA supports the Tax Extension, as well as a number of reforms, as outlined in AAUW CA's Position Paper on the California Budget 2011-2012: However, proposed reforms require legal and financial analyses, discussion, and negotiation, thus taking time to implement. California requires revenues now, and if the Tax Extension is not on the ballot and not approved by voters, additional cuts of \$12 billion will be required. K-12 Education will be a major target for additional cuts, and result in even greater reductions in the quality of education in the state. A cuts-only approach to achieve a balanced budget is an unreasonable solution, and harmful to all state residents.

All AAUW members should be concerned about the partisanship that is so divisive both in California and in Congress. Sign up for Action Alert on the website, and communicate with your elected representatives. Demand that they engage in reasonable dialogue and compromises that will constructively move California forward!



### **AAUW CA Public Policy Committee Update**

The state Public Policy Priorities have been developed for 2011- 2013, and will be voted on at the AAUW CA Convention. The committee also reviewed over 70 bills in the current legislative session, and took positions on 45 of these that are related to the Priorities. You can find a list of these bills on our state website in the Forms & Documents Section under Public Policy. Please do sign up for Action Alerts on the AAUW CA Website, to receive notices about contacting your legislators when bills we support are coming to a vote.

## Tech Trek and LAF

Alhambra High School Drama Club  
presents

# Grease

Friday, April 15, 2011

7 pm

Performing Arts Building  
Alhambra High School  
150 E Street, Martinez

Join AAUW on Friday evening at 5:30 pm at Trinka and George March's home: 650 Linden Lane, Martinez, for wine and cheese before the show. Then go on to the Alhambra High School Drama Club's Spring Musical presentation.

Tickets are \$20 each for the April 15 pre-show party and show ticket.

For information and tickets contact: Pat Harris 228-6263 [patriciaharris4@mac.com](mailto:patriciaharris4@mac.com)  
Make your checks payable to: PH AAUW

*Send them to: Pat Harris, 10 Kim Ct, Martinez, CA 94553*

### **Proceeds to Tech Trek and LAF**

An alternate show date is Thursday, April 21 at 7 pm (no pre-show party) and tickets are \$15 each.

*PHAAUW N.E.W.S. and lots of other branch information can always be found at*

<http://www.aauw-ph.org>

*Great new website for CA Tech Trek*

<http://www.aauw-techtrek.org/>

THE 11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# AAUW Garden Tour

Friday, May 6 & Saturday, May 7

10:00 A.M. — 4:00 P.M.

## Seven Superb Gardens Danville, Alamo & Walnut Creek

Adults \$30  
\$35 after April 30

Seniors 65+ \$25  
\$30 after April 30



### TICKETS & MAP

Mail check by *April 30* payable to  
*AAUW Funds\** with a business size,  
self-addressed stamped envelope to:

AAUW Garden Tour  
400 Cliffside Drive  
Danville, CA 94526

*\*501c3 tax deductible charity*

Tickets (cash or check only) are also  
available M-F 9-6 & Sat 9-5 *after 4/1* at:

East Bay Flower Company  
206 Sycamore Valley Road West  
(Danville Livery)

### FURTHER INFORMATION

*gardentour@aauw.daw.org*

Tena: (925) 837-0826

*No children under 12 please*

### *Light Refreshments*

*Proceeds benefit aspiring women scholars*

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

# Life in the Lafayette Garden

A Benefit Tour by  
JOHN MONTOMERY LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

Saturday, May 14, 2011  
11 am - 4 pm

\$25 Ticket includes:

- A Tour of Five Inspiring Gardens
- Outdoor Cooking and Urban Farming Demos
- Light Refreshments & Live Music

*100% of the tickets sold by AAUW-OML will fund AAUW Tech Trek Scholarships*

Tech Trek, a program of AAUW California, is a science/math camp designed to bring interest, excitement, and self-confidence to girls who will enter 8th grade in the fall. This week-long camp will be held on the Stanford campus this summer.

[www.aauw-techtrek.org](http://www.aauw-techtrek.org)



Mail completed form to: AAUW- Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette Branch  
Garden Tour 2011  
PO Box 6705  
Moraga, CA 94570-6705

Please include a stamped, self-addressed business size envelope for ticket(s).  
A tour map and garden descriptions are on the donation ticket.

*For information call Pat at 925-376-5155*

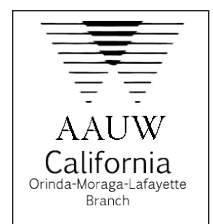
*Tear off and mail in*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

# Of Tickets \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_



Make check payable to "AAUW-OML" with "Tech Trek" on the memo line  
AAUW (American Association of University Women) is a national organization of more than 100,000 members who seek to advance equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

# April 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Monday Night Bridge 7pm 	5	6 Morning Books 10am 	7	8 AAUW CA	9 CONVENTION
10 	11 Grand Slammers 12:30pm 	12	13 In Indelible Ink 10am 	14 Nimble Fingers 10am 	15 GREASE 7PM 5:30 WINE&CHEESE 	16 Genealogy 9am 
17 PH Rec Family Triathlon	18	19	20 Walnut Creek Library 7pm 	21	22	23
24	25 Evening Books 7pm 	26	27	28 Matinee Idle 	29	30

SAVE THE DATE: MAY 6&7 Danville/Alamo/Walnut Creek Garden Tour

MAY 14 Orinda/Moraga/Lafayette Garden Tour



Pleasant Hill Branch  
533 Roanoke Dr.  
Martinez 94553

Membership – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. AAUW is open to all graduates of two year accredited colleges with AA degrees and/or accredited four year colleges or universities. In principle and practice AAUW values and supports diversity. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.