



N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 56 Issue 4

December 2013



AAUW PH-MTZ HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA



Saturday, December 14th 6-9 pm



1201 Monument Blvd.

Brookview Clubhouse, Concord

Appetizers, drinks, dinner and entertainment

\$32 per person, checks to PHMAAUW



By December 6th, RSVP and send your check to:

Marlene Maksel

1201 Monument Blvd. #12

Concord, CA 94520



Bring your spouse and/or friends
Seating is limited, reserve early



Breakfast With Santa

A Last Minute Holiday Request from Fair Oaks School

Saturday, Dec. 7th

9am-11:30am

Would love helpers to serve breakfast!

Also: Someone who loves to take pictures, OR, if you can't make it on the day, how about raffle donations (family time themes i.e. cooking, reading, games etc), a basket of goodies, gift cards, services, etc.

Contact Muriel **NOW** (937-4709 or mnrfrv@comcast.net) if you can help our adopted school.



Presidential Postings

Co-Presidents Kit Hein & Janice Walker

If you joined us for our November general meeting, you heard Assembly member Susan Bonilla's informative talk regarding California's education budget and the new common core program which is being instituted in schools across California and the nation. The initial common core program focuses on language arts and mathematics, but as the chair of the Assembly Select Committee on Increasing the Integration of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Ms. Bonilla's goal is to eventually expand the program to the area of science as well. Appreciation is extended to our Program VPs, Harriett Burt and Elena Noble, for arranging this timely program.

AAUW California is doing its own part in promoting STEM. Our highly successful Tech Trek program was designed for this very purpose: to foster interest in science, technology, engineering and math in middle school aged girls in the hopes that their interest will be sustained and lead to college pursuits in these fields. This program has been so well received that National is now promoting other states to follow our lead in establishing similar Tech Trek programs.

AAUW's roots go back to 1881 when Marion Talbot led 65 women college graduates to form the Association of Collegiate Alumnae. Over the years other collegiate women's groups joined forces and in 1921 this alliance became the American Association of University Women. Today over one hundred and fifty thousand members and supporters comprise AAUW. Like all organizations AAUW continues to strive not only to maintain that membership but to also enlarge its numbers. So in this "season of giving" why not consider the gift of an AAUW membership? We know how far women have come, but we also know how far we need to go. Equal pay, equal opportunities in education and the workplace, increased representation in government and leadership positions, even achieving the presidency of our country, are all goals still facing women of today. So think about your daughters, daughter-in-laws, granddaughters and the future you wish for them. AAUW can help make it

happen!

And making it happen is what our Winter Social committee is doing! We hope you'll join us on December 14 for the evening.

However you celebrate this festive season, we wish you the very best! Happy Holidays!

NO BOARD MEETING IN DECEMBER

***JANUARY BOARD MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, JAN. 8, 2014
Janice Walker's Home
7PM***

Kit & Janice

FROM THE PARLIAMENTARIAN

At the November General meeting the following members were elected to the nominating committee for 2014:

From the board: Gayle Miner, Alana Macdonald and Claudia Bass (alternate).

From the general membership: Jeanne McGinnis, Marge Munger, Marilyn Thelen, and Carole Larson (alternate).

The nominating committee will meet early next year to create a slate of officers to be elected for the next fiscal year (2014-2015).

The names of the nominees for elected office shall be published and sent to every member at least 15 days prior to the annual branch meeting.

Nominations may be made from the floor with the consent of the nominee.

I thank these generous members for agreeing to serve on this committee. And thanks in advance to those who are contacted and agree to serve the branch as an elected officer next year.

Reba Siero, Parliamentarian

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**** EVENING BRIDGE –** We will be playing our monthly Monday night bridge at Suzanne Mesetz's home, on **December 2nd at 7P.** Sorry I missed announcing the last 2 months; I seemed to forget, than it was too late!! I'll try to do better in the future.
Elizabeth Elizabeth 210-0281



****MORNING BOOKS** will meet on **Wednesday, December 4th, 10 am**, at the Brookview Clubhouse with Ish and Marlene as hostesses. We will be discussing Tracy Chevalier's *Remarkable Creatures*. The story involves two historical women as they look for, and find, important fossils on the coast of England. In January, we will be reading and discussing *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad. Please join us for great discussions!



**** WALKING WOMEN** will be walking just once in **December on the 10th ~ Tuesday morning at 9 am.** On the 10th, we will meet in Zio Fraedo's parking lot and walk south on the Canal Trail. Please call, or email, Marlene Maksel, if you are planning to be there so we won't go off without you!!!



**** MATINEE IDLE** will have a change of dates because of the upcoming holidays. We have combined November and December and will go to the movies on Thursday, **December 5th.** We usually attend a matinee at a local theatre. Call Marlene (689-5439), if you are planning to attend, or if you have any suggestions for a movie. We always discuss the movie after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.



**** LUNCHIN' LADIES** will not meet for lunch in December. We will get together in January ~ if you have a restaurant you would like to try, please let Marlene know ~ marlene@maksel.us



**** CULTURAL CONNECTION** will not meet in December, as this is a very busy month for everyone. In January, we will try to take a tour to the California Museum in Sacramento for the "Ray Eames: A Century of Modern Design" exhibit. Date, times, transportation info will come later.



**** IN INDELIBLE INK** will not meet in December. Instead, everyone is invited to the annual **Layette Shower at Margi Alkire's, 10 am, on the 11th,** our normal meeting date. Our January meeting date will be changed to the 15th ~ watch this publication for info.



**** EVENING BOOKS** will not meet in December. In January, we will meet at Sally Whitsett's to discuss *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck ~ our classic for the year. More info later.

Annual Layette Shower

Wednesday, December 11



10 a.m.

Margi Alkire's home
51 Rolling Green Circle
Pleasant Hill



The In Indelible Ink interest group has again agreed to host the



Branch annual layette.

All baby items are welcome: purchased or hand-made, new or gently used. Our Branch assists the County with this project which provides layettes for disadvantaged women.

Jean Hambleton will give us the story of how this project got started.

Membership Matters

Gayle Miner – Membership VP

Did you know that the U.S. government has shut down 17 times and that four of the 17 (three in 1977, one in 1979) were over a disagreement about women's health care? The more we learn about the persistent threat to women's rights, the more grounded we are in AAUW's work. Our membership is our reassurance that every woman and girl has a voice; decisions made today will certainly impact all of us sooner or later, and we must speak out together to demand what we need.

When prospective members are introduced to AAUW, they're impressed by our work on Capitol Hill; our research in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); and the hundreds of local programs AAUW members are conducting across the country. As member recruiters, you can find what piques their interest and share what AAUW means to you.

We currently have 110 members thanks to all of our member recruiters - that's you! Please let Gayle Miner know if you know of someone who might be interested in joining PHMAAUW.

Gayle's email address is: gayle.miner@yahoo.com

Gayle's telephone number is: (925) 349-6795

IMPORTANT REMINDER

If you change your email, telephone number, or address, please let Gayle Miner know so that she can change your information in the PHMAAUW records. She will also put your new information in the Newsletter so members can change it in their Membership Directory. Thank you for helping PHMAAUW keep up to date.

PLEASE ADD TO/CORRECT YOUR DIRECTORY

Celeste Graham cqgraham@yahoo.com

Gayle Garrison 1201 Monument Blvd. #75
Concord 94520

Elizabeth DiPietro Bokeyd1106@gmail.com

Our prayers and sympathy go out to Jill Anderson whose father passed away recently.



SAVE THE DATE ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER

January 16, 2014



There are a few changes this year so be sure to Look for full details in the flier at the end of this Newsletter!



JOIN US IN A BRIDGE & GAME AFTERNOON



Pleasant Hill-Martinez is hosting an afternoon of

Bridge and Mexican Train

Thursday, Jan. 30, 2013

12:30-4:00

Brookview Clubhouse

If you have a group of 4 who wish to play Mah Jong, we will happily provide the table

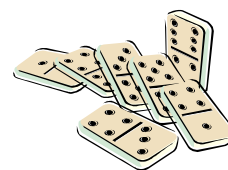
\$10 will be collected to benefit the
AAUW FUNDS (LAF)

Come for fun and stay or ***dessert!***

Call or e-mail Pat Harris to reserve your spot!

228-6263 or patriciaharris4@mac.com

Open to members and non-members alike.



AAUW FUNDS

Marlene Maksel & Laurel Gaiser, Co-VPs

Do you know the Mission Statement of AAUW? Can you recite it from memory? It is published every month at the top of your issue of N.E.W.S. and states,

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

Pretty sweet and simple, but packed with a lot of meaning. One of the faces of AAUW Funds is the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). The main thrust of the fund is to combat sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace. You might be surprised to learn that 20% of all LAF cases have originated in California.

The Gloria Weston Campus Outreach Fund was established in 2004 and helps create opportunities for education and discussion of topics on equity, discrimination and tenure at California universities and colleges. This fund is especially dear to our hearts as Gloria is a long-time member of the Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (OML) branch.

When you designated your monetary gift to LAF (#3999) you have supported this project, which helps protect students from discrimination, harassment, and assault through on-going campus programs.

So, THANK YOU!

WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT AAUW FUNDS



Coming at the annual January Soup Supper ~ hand-dyed scarves in AAUW colors! Be the first to own a beautiful scarf in the new AAUW colors of Admiral Blue and Leaf Green. No scarf is exactly like another ~ each is unique. The scarves will be on sale at the Soup Supper on January 16 at Hillcrest Church. Each scarf will probably sell for \$25. You will want to get one to complement your wardrobe at that time, as we will be taking the remainder to AAUW CA convention in



April. Dyers are Reba Siero, Muriel Fry and Laurel



SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, 9 MARCH 2014.

On that day, you can enjoy a sumptuous dinner at Tahoe Joe’s in Pleasant Hill on Contra Costa Boulevard. You can go for lunch, dinner, or you can use take-out. The ticket, which will cost \$20/ea is for just the one day only, but includes a choice of 3 meat entrees, Mountain Mashers, green beans, and a choice of soup or salad.



Plan a party; bring friends; have a reunion; celebrate a birthday ~ the ticket is good all day from 11 am until 9 pm. More info will follow in January 2014.

PUBLIC POLICY

From AAUW-CA President, Alicia Hetman:

An Opportunity to work on a Title IX project

" Center for Research on Women and Families (CCRWF) is the host of the Women’s Policy Summit to be held on January 16, 2014 at the Sacramento Convention Center. This Summit will offer a



training session to train attendees on how to assess Title IX compliance in the public schools - not a full-blown evaluation, but just an assessment of six priority indicators focusing on sports.

The AAUW CA goal is to inspire at least 10 AAUW CA



branches to commit to evaluating the high schools in their own communities." If this sounds like something you would like to be a part of, let Kit Hein or Janice Walker know.

ADVOCACY

To follow Supreme Court cases that are related to AAUW public policy priorities, go to

<http://www.aauw.org/2013/11/01/scotus-preview/>

COMMUNITY

Diane Peterson

MARTINEZ

1 Sun., 4-6 PM, Holiday Open House at the Martinez Historical Society, 1005 Escobar St.

6 Fri. 1-9 PM, Sat. 7th & Sun. 8th 10 am-5 PM, Holiday Frolic & Snow Park, Main Street Plaza, VOLUNTEERS are needed call 372-3510to volunteer or for info.; 20 tons of snow-saucers provided, ice-skating, Santa, & Holiday Light Parade on Fri. at 6:30 PM on Main St.



6 Fri., 3-5 PM, Holiday Frolic Gingerbread House at the Martinez Museum, 1005 Escobar St.

7 Sat., 10 am-3 PM, Holiday Crafter and Vendor Faire, Hidden Valley Elementary, 500 Glacier Drive

8 Sun., 8-10 am, Breakfast with Santa, Martinez Senior Center, 818 Green St., call 370-8770 adults \$3.50,

14 Sat., 2:30-4:30 PM, Las Posadas, free bilingual program of music, history and holiday traditions, including a holiday piñata, at the Martinez Adobe on the grounds of the John Muir National Historic Site, for info:



hale_sargent@nps.gov

14 Sat., 6:30-8:30 PM, Martinez Historical Society Holiday Tea at the Veterans Memorial Building, 930 Ward St., purchase tickets at the Martinez Museum, \$10

PLEASANT HILL

4 Wed., 5-8 PM, 6th Annual Light Up the Night, Downtown, 6 PM Holiday Tree Lighting, Santa, free carriage rides, hot chocolate and cookies, music by College Park groups and others, holiday treasure map & prizes



14 Sat., Breakfast with Santa, 2 sessions 8:30-9:45 & 10:15-11:30, at the Senior Center, preregister by Dec. 10, \$8.50.

NEIGHBORING BRANCHES

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch

Holiday Home Tour

Five Festive Alamo Homes

Welcome You

**Friday and Saturday
December 13th and 14th, 2013
10:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

**Adults \$30 Seniors 65' \$25
Prices go up \$5 after December 6th**



For further information and to buy tickets:

<http://daw-ca.aauw.net/programs/holiday-home-tour>

OR EMAIL:
aauwhht@gmail.com



BENICIA-VALLEJO AAUW PRESENTS

BUNCO NIGHT

Saturday, January 25, 2014

doors open @ 6:15

BUNCO starts PROMPTLY® 7 PM

Benicia Senior Center

187 East L Street

Advance tickets \$15

\$20 at the door

**For more information and/or tickets,
contact**

Kit Hein kihein@comcast.net or 228-7503

**(consider carpooling if going across the
bridge is a challenge)**

**A fundraiser for AAUW's Tech Trek
scholarships,
educational programs, and community projects.**



ANNUAL SOUP SUPPER

You will need hot soup when you hear the adventures of Martinez teacher, Rona Zollinger, in the Arctic! She will share her experiences on the National Geographic Explorer at the top of the world with 24 hours of sunlight a day in the middle of an ice field at 83.5 degrees north of the Arctic Circle!

Date: Thursday, January 16, 2014
Time: 5:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Place: Hillcrest Congregational Church
404 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill



Spouses, significant others and friends are invited.
Please bring your own soup bowl and spoon!
Bread, butter, tea and coffee will be provided

IMPORTANT: Each attending MEMBER can choose one of the following:

1. PROVIDE A POT OF SOUP TO FEED 8-10 **OR**
2. PROVIDE A DESSERT TO SERVE 8-10 **OR**
3. PAY \$10.00

NOTE: ALL GUESTS PAY \$10.00 EACH

Please RSVP to: Marilyn Thelen, jlmathelen@comcast.net 228-2600 or
Elva Valli, wevalli@sbcglobal.net 228-8056

And let them know if you plan to attend, bring guests, and what you are bringing: soup, dessert or \$10.





Pleasant Hill -

Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill- Martinez branch. On the **Photo Page**, check out pictures from our last two programs. In **October** we visited the **Galindo House**, and the **November Program** featured our State Assemblywoman, **Susan Bonilla**.

Also see photos of our **SAM (Student Art Music) Program** on the **Community Action Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org> for all of this and more. Forward any questions or comments that you may have to the webmaster, located on the About Us page.

Sherrie Moore, webmaster

2012– 2013 Leadership Team

Presidents:

Janice Walker 827-3374 sandjwalk@comcast.net

Kit Hein 228-7503 kjhein@comcast.net

Vice Presidents - Program:

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Elena Noble 672-2470 enoble4@astound.net

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PH-MTZ AAUW N.E.W.S. SPONSOR

Montecito Animal Clinic






5280 Pacheco Boulevard
Pacheco, CA 94553
925/686-0683
FAX 925/686-4754



Katrinka March D.V.M.
E. Carl Foster D.V.M.
Karen Shore B.V.M.S.

December 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Holiday Open House, Mtz Historical Society	2  EVENING BRIDGE	3	4  MORNING BOOKS PH Tree Lighting	5  MATINEE IDLE	6 Mtz Holiday Frolic & Snow Park	7  FAIR OAKS' BREAKFAST WITH SANTA
8 Breakfast with Santa, Mtz Senior Center	9	10  WALKING WOMEN	11  LAYETTE SHOWER	12	13 D-A-WC AAUW Holiday Home Tour	14  HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA
15  N.E.W.S. DEADLINE	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31 				

SAVE THE DATE: Jan. 16-Soup Supper; Jan. 25-B-V Bunko Night; Jan. 30-Bridge&Games; March 9-Tahoe Joe's