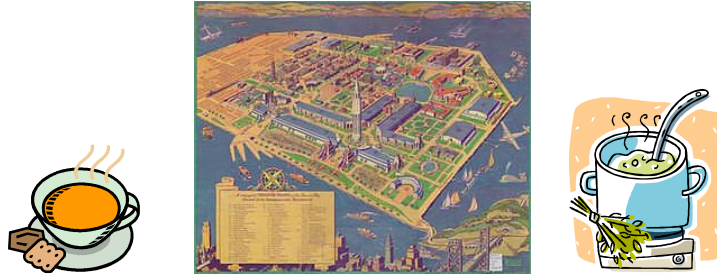


# Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

January 2013



**Annual Soup Supper and International Speaker**  
**Wednesday, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 - 9:00 pm**  
Hillcrest Congregational Church, 404 Gregory Lane  
Pleasant Hill

**Speaker: our own Elena Noble**  
**Slideshow of the 1939 Treasure Island,**  
**Golden Gate Exposition**

Email or Call Kit de Gear to make reservations:  
[kdegear@gmail.com](mailto:kdegear@gmail.com) 609-8150  
by January 12th

Invite spouses, significant others and friends  
Bring your own soup bowl and spoon  
Drinks will be provided

**Each person must either contribute:**

- **A pot of soup, bread or dessert to serve 8 to 10 people**
- **OR pay a \$5 donation at the door**

## A Black and White Thank You

The Black and White Ball turned out rosy due to the wonderful hard working chairs and committee members. I want to send a big bouquet to each of you who helped to make this year's event such a success. We received lots of positive feedback.

These are just a few samples:

"Good food, great looking tables, fantastic singing by the Quintessentials, fun, fun game and great people."

"What great appetizers-that was a spread worth repeating!"

"I don't recall when I've had more fun than last night's party."

Thanks to each and every one of you. We couldn't have done it without an outstanding committee.

Please check the web site for photos taken by Sherrie Moore. Go to AAUW Pleasant Hill and click on photos.

*Sandy Wolfe*



## **Il Messaggero**

Co-Presidents Marilyn Thelen & Janice Walker

Bright and welcoming, bountiful and wonderful, all are words we can use to describe this year's Black and White holiday party. Those who attended know what a fabulous evening it was! Sandy Wolfe and her committee are to be congratulated for providing an evening that exceeded expectations!

We also had a very informative meeting with our two mayors at the end of November. John Hanecak, mayor of Pleasant Hill, and Rob Schroder, mayor of Martinez, freely reported on their respective cities and were open to questions that encompassed a variety of issues. Shelley Jacobson and Sherrie Moore organized the evening assisted by Harriet Burt and Marlene Maksel, who provided introductions of our mayors. Thank you, everyone!

This month's general meeting, on January 16, is our annual soup/supper international night. Our own Elena Noble will be featured, providing a presentation on the 1939 Treasure Island Golden Gate Exposition. Be sure to read the additional information elsewhere in this newsletter and plan to join us.

If you are like us, you are amazed that we have turned the calendar page to 2013! Where did 2012 go?! We hope that before 2013 slips through your fingers, you will involve yourself in AAUW one step further this year than last, be it recruiting a new member, volunteering to assist at an event, replying via email to support an AAUW position. This year make it a point to increase your involvement. Not only will you feel satisfied, you'll be a contributor to furthering women in a positive way. You'll be a part of making things happen!

Happy New Year! We wish you nothing but the best in 2013!

Marilyn and Janice

### ***BOARD MEETING***

***Wednesday, January 9, 2013  
Rolling Green Club House  
7 PM***

## **March and April Programs**

\*\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 11:30 am**

**NorCal Sisters in Crime -  
Author panel luncheon**



El Tapatio Restaurant  
40 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill

\*\*\*\*\*



**Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm**

**Joan Morris - Contra Costa Times  
Columnist  
Brookview Clubhouse**

## **Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website**



Check out the prizes at the December Black and White Ball. What a gala event. Locate the photos from our Meet the Mayors November Program. Find our upcoming events on the Program Page. See the new SAM (Student Art & Music) program pictures on the Community Action Page. Look for the listing of our branch Interest Groups to contact the chair of that committee.

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.

Marilyn Tubbs and Sherrie Moore

## INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



### \*\*BRIDGE

**Evening Bridge** – will be at the home of Elizabeth DiPietro (210-0281) **January 7th at 7P**. All members will be notified prior to the date.



### **Middle of the Road Bridge**

We are not beginners anymore! If you are not a beginner or an expert this group is for you. We meet at various members' homes on the second Friday of the month. We will play **Jan. 11** at Marilyn Thelen's and **Feb. 8** at Marlene De Laurenti's. Call the hostess to RSVP.



### \*\*MORNING BOOKS

will meet on Wednesday, **January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10 am**, at Margi Alkire's. We will be discussing *The Dry Grass of August* by Anna Jean Mayhew. Likened to *The Help*, reviewers say it is beautifully written with wonderful dialogue and complex characters. In February, we will be discussing our classic, *Rebecca*, by Daphne Du Maurier. Please join us for a great discussion!



### \*\* WALKING WOMEN

will try to walk every other Tuesday (provided it isn't raining!) So, the **January** schedule should be the **8<sup>th</sup>** and **22<sup>nd</sup>**, 9am. On the **8<sup>th</sup>**, we will meet at the P. H. Library and walk south on the East Bay Regional Park Trail. Please call, or email, Marlene Maksel, if you are planning to be there so we won't go off without you!!!



### \*\* CULTURAL CONNECTION

will combine with LUNCHIN' LADIES for January. The venue will be the Noontime Concert at S. F.'s Old Saint Mary's Cathedral on California St. The date is **Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>** and the program starts at **12:30 pm**, a donation of \$5 is requested and it lasts just over 30 minutes. ARCA Ensemble will be performing a composition by Faure and one by Ravel. AFTER the concert, we will go to lunch at Sam's Grill on Bush. Please let Marlene Maksel know before the 12<sup>th</sup>, so reservations can be made at the restaurant. We will travel by BART, leaving from Lafayette BART around 11:15 am.



\*\* **LUNCHIN' LADIES** see CULTURAL CONNECTION.



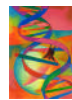
\*\* **IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on **Wednesday, January 9, 10 am**, at Margi Alkire's. Our topic will be to write about your favorite location. We would love to hear your story and we like hearing **oral** versions, too! We don't critique your writings, so there is no pressure. Please come!



\*\* **EVENING BOOKS** will meet on **Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm**, at Eileen Bordenave's. We will be discussing *Destiny of the Republic* by Candace Mallard. This is about James Garfield; his election as President of the United States, the attempted assassination of his life, subsequent death, and the nation's corrupt political establishment. Please join us for a great discussion.



\*\* **MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on **Thursday, January 24<sup>th</sup>**, back to our regular 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. 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.



### \*\*GENEOLGY

FREE class  
"New or Returning Genealogists in the Digital Age" -  
Bonnie Mattson, Instructor  
**January 19, 2013, 10 - 11:30 a.m.**  
Concord Family History Center, 3700 Concord Blvd.  
For questions call Jackie 925-827-4729

## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Second annual Poetry Out Loud Contest at College Park High School. The contest will be held at **5pm on Thursday, January 17**.

If you have an interest in poetry recitation and would like to be a judge or help in some other way, please **contact Kit Hein** at **925-305-6301** or **925-228-7503** as soon as possible.

Poetry Out Loud is a national competition sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and The Poetry Foundation. You can read more about the program at [poetryoutloud.org](http://poetryoutloud.org)




## Membership Matters

Reba Siero and Elena Noble VP's

### **AAUW 2013 New Orleans**

Are you ready for a new year where women will have more of a voice than ever before? In the United States Senate alone, there will be 20 woman senators sitting at the table lending their voice to the national conversation. If you think that does not change things, think about this, they have to upgrade and expand the woman's restroom in the senate chamber to accommodate their needs!! Yikes, we'll bet the founding fathers did not think of that one!

This year AAUW's National Convention will be held from

June 9-12<sup>th</sup> in the great city of New Orleans.  Two of the most vocal woman in the country will be Keynote Speakers. Lilly Ledbetter, whose perseverance is responsible for President Obama signing the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Restoration Act into Law, and Melissa Harris-Perry, host of her own Saturday morning hour on the cable channel MSNBC. Take a moment to log on to AAUW.ORG and click on the National Convention Site. By registering early, you can save quite a bit of money, and find the most convenient hotel accommodations to the convention, not to mention a cheaper plane ticket. Think about making it a GIRLS ROADTRIP with some of your AAUW sisters.

## AAUW-CA Board News

### Please Update Contact Information

To conduct our state election, membership records are used from AAUW's Membership Services Database. It is very important for branches and individual members to ensure the correct contact information is listed there.

Individual members can update their own contact information. Access the Member Center at

[http://www.aauw.org/member\\_center/](http://www.aauw.org/member_center/)

You'll have to copy and paste the address into your URL.



While you're there, check out all the other features of the national website, especially the AAUW Experience under "About AAUW".

### Member Survey

By now you should have received your copy of the Winter, 2013 *OUTLOOK*, the award winning magazine of AAUW. Please complete the member survey that is enclosed ASAP. AAUW really does listen to its members and their concerns. You can also complete the survey on the website. Don't wait for the deadline. Do it now before you forget.

*You Are Invited*

To

*Our Traditional Layette Shower*

*Friday, January 25*

*10 a.m.*

*Margi Alkire's Home*

*51 Rolling Green Circle, Pleasant Hill*

We put together a layette or two for needy mothers, selected by Contra Costa County social services through the facilities of Hillcrest Congregational Church.



What we need for our layette:

diapers, clothing, receiving blankets, crib sheets, booties, blankets, sleepers, shirts, hats, blankets, stuffed animals, or whatever you think a baby might need during its first year! The items should be unwrapped, new or used, purchased or made-by-you.

All welcome! Just come!

Hosted by the In Indelible Ink Interest Group



## Fair Oaks School News

### *Breakfast with Santa*

The volunteers not only showed up, did a GREAT job, but were essential to getting the food on the serving table and served to over 350 parents and children. We had: Jean DeGregory, Ken Hamberg, Judi's substitute-for-the-event, Cathy from Idaho, Roger and Muriel Fry. Huge thanks for their willing professional labors. We did a bit of reminiscing when Christmas pageants were part of our worlds.

### *Betty Crocker Education coupons*

Here is another way to help our Fair Oaks School; they collect Betty Crocker Education coupons to get items for the students/school. Please collect them and I will be happy to take them to Fair Oaks. Thanks for your support.

Muriel Fry



## Community

### Pleasant Hill

Marlene Maksud

#### **E-Waste Recycling Event**

**Saturday, January 5**, 9 am to 1 pm  
DVC on Golf Club Road in P. H.

#### **New Senior Center Grand Opening**

**Saturday, January 5**, 1 – 4 pm  
233 Gregory Lane, P. H.  
Raffles, Treats, Live Music and More

#### **42<sup>nd</sup> Annual Community Awards Night**

**Thursday, January 17**, 5:30 pm Social Time  
Back Forty Texas BBQ  
Dinner at 6 pm; Program at 7:15 pm  
Tickets are \$40/person and can be reserved by  
calling Katrina at 691-5645

### Martinez

Harriett Burt

The season for crabfeeds!



**Saturday, January 12**, 6 p.m.  
34<sup>th</sup> Annual **Boys and Girls Club of Diablo Valley Crab Feed** at the Club, 1301 Alhambra Avenue, Martinez. All-you-can-eat crab plus pasta, salad and bread. (chicken or pasta for non-crab eaters arranged in advance). Tickets cost \$50 per person and may be obtained by calling 925-228-2896, ext 102.

**Saturday, January 26**, Annual **Martinez Lions Club Crab Feed** at the Shell Club House, Pacheco Blvd at Arriba Street. Tickets are \$40 per person. Call Barbara Chambers at 925-229-5837 for tickets or more information.

**Saturday, February 9**, Annual **Martinez Historical Society Crab Feed** at the Shell Club House on Pacheco Avenue at Arriba Street.



Tickets are \$40 per person.  
Contact Marlene Thompson at 925-228-7065 or Annie Holter at 925-372-8710 for tickets or more information.

**Saturday, February 9**, **Soroptimist International of Martinez Crab Feed** at the Oakwood Athletic Club in Lafayette. Tickets are \$45 per person. Call June Rogers at 925-228-2302 for tickets or more information.

## Tech Trek

Trinka March



In Support of Tech Trek 2013 we will be going to:  
**The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee!**

**Jan 26, 2013 8pm**  
**DVC Main Stage**

Tickets are \$30. Please indicate if you qualify for a senior ticket- we get a break on the cost!

Please RSVP to Trinka March 372-8420 or  
DrTrinks@sbcglobal.net by 1/12 so I can get a  
block of tickets together.



Directed by Lisa Drummond  
Book by Rachel Sheinkinc / Music & Lyrics by William Finn

"This fun, quirky musical comedy is spelled W-O-N-D-E-R-F-U-L" –  
NY Times

"...a super smart show that is also a bona-fide crowd-pleaser" –  
The Wall Street Journal

H-I-L-A-R-I-O-U-S! That's the way to spell this smash-hit musical comedy about six young people in the throes of puberty vying for the spelling championship of a lifetime. Along the way they learn that winning isn't everything and losing doesn't necessarily make you a loser. With its enormously appealing cast of loveable misfits, nerds, and neurotics, THE 25th ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE perfectly captures the angst, exhilaration, and heartache that makes growing up so painful and so wonderful.

If you cannot join us for the evening- please consider sending a contribution for the Tech Trek fund- thank you!!



### Save the Date

The Northern LAF Luncheon will be March 16, 2013 at the Embassy Suites, 150 Anza Blvd, Burlingame. Watch for details on the CA-AAUW website.

## \$TART \$MART

Elena Noble and  
Marilyn Tubbs



The Wage Project and the \$tart \$mart Program were featured recently in a New York Times article titled:

**"How to Attack the Gender Wage Gap? Speak UP"**

<http://www.nytimes.com/2012/12/16/business/to-solve-the-gender-wage-gap-learn-to-speak-up>

Annie Houle, the National Director of the **WAGE Project**, ( Remember, WAGE stands for Women ARE Getting Even) was interviewed by **Business Day** as she was giving a \$tart \$mart Class to undergraduates in The Bronx, New York.

The word to women is out there; don't let the chance to speak up pass you by. And, since it appeared in the New York Times, not just women are recognizing that the pay gap is significantly hurting American families. Those hiring woman, should also expect woman applicants to ask for the same salary and benefits that men do. If you get a chance log onto the NY-Times article and see what a class in salary negotiation looks and sounds like.

### **THANK YOU TO THE N.E.W.S. SPONSORS:**

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Please send copy to Kit Hein  
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Jean Simutis [jeansimutus@csueastbay.edu](mailto:jeansimutus@csueastbay.edu)



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The "In Indelible Ink" interest section wrote a serial over the summer. Each of us wrote a scene and passed it along to the next person. It actually turned out pretty well and we would like to share it with the members. (Maybe it will encourage some new people to join us.) We'll send one scene each month to keep you interested□ (There are 7 scenes altogether.)

## ***A SMILE SAID IT ALL (Summer, 2012)***

Serial written by the members of  
Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW  
In Indelible Ink Interest Section

(Scene 4 -- Marilyn Tubbs)

And Peter closed his eyes for a moment and began to reflect on his old chums. There was Alan Bales and Richard Harris. Ah! My drinking chums. What a great time we had. I think about them every single day.

Suddenly, he became startled at the sound of a commanding deep voice behind him. It was clear that he was still thinking about his favorite chums. He opened his eyes, turned in his seat and gazed at the beautiful figure who had stepped out from behind the curtain. Did he recognize her?

At that very moment, he felt a treacherous, stabbing pain in his lower abdomen. A gut trembling pain he had not felt since he had overcome the treacherous cancer of the abdomen he recovered from in the 70's. The pain that had caused him to give up his beloved vodka. Perspiration, tingling dizziness overcame him. He slowly slid out of his chair and onto the floor. The last thing he remembered was someone saying to him, "Peter, it's been..." The room became dark and he quickly lost consciousness. He had felt that eerie kind of feeling before. He couldn't move or talk. Was he dying? What caused this?

The young red-haired man with the blue/green eyes who had greeted him when he entered the hall jumped up and raced to the noted actor lying on the floor. He could feel a faint pulse, then whipped out his cell phone to call 911 for a medic team or an ambulance. Even though Peter had recently retired from acting, and was about to turn 80 years, he had apparently been in fairly good health in recent years.

During all the excitement, the woman rushed forward, laid her parcel on the table and stood looking at Peter with a wistful, concerned facial expression. She appeared to be frightened over the episode. In a matter of minutes, an ambulance arrived. As the medics poured over Peter, the group of attendees moved back to give them room to check the patient.

As the medics were checking his vitals, Peter apparently awakened and with a puzzling, wondering affect, he replied in a garbled tone of voice. "What happened? Where am I?" He was unable to focus his vision. He was able to repeat his name to the medics and was rushed off to the nearest hospital for a more complete diagnosis.

As the medics rolled the gurney out the door, the lovely mature lady with the deep voice suddenly burst out in unstoppable tears and yelled out, "I didn't expect this to happen. Poor Peter!", as she rushed over to pick up her parcel on the table and hurried out the hall door.

# January 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2  Morning Books	3	4	5  PH Senior Center Opening
6	7 Evening Bridge 	8  Walking Women	9  I. I. I. BOARD MEETING	10	11  Middle of the Road Bridge	12  Mtz. Boys & Girls Club Crab Feed
13	14	15  Cultural Connection	16  Soup Supper	17  CPHS Poetry Out Loud	18	19  Concord History Center
20	21	22  Walking Women	23	24  Matinee Idle	25  Baby Layette Shower	26  Putnam County Spelling Bee
27	28  Evening Books	29	30	31		

SAVE THE DATE: Mar. 6-Sisters in Crime; April 17-Joan Morris



Pleasant Hill – Martinez Branch  
533 Roanoke Dr.  
Martinez 94553

Membership – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy 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.