



N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 56 Issue 5

January 2014

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, jlmthelen@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





Presidential Postings

Co-Presidents Kit Hein & Janice Walker

A new year is upon us and we're not sure we've finished with the old. We're dragging out the holiday season as long as we can. So here are the thankyou's: to the Holiday Extravaganza committee for a magical night of food, friends and fun. Special thanks to the III section for hosting the Layette Shower and



Muriel's elves at the Breakfast with Santa at Fair Oaks School.



There was even an impromptu gathering of AAUW and friends out caroling to the neighbors in the Rolling Green area.



All in all, it was a special time of year spent with special people.

And now on to a New Year of continuing our mission to work for equity for women and girls. The January calendar has many activities where you can exercise your talents, expand your knowledge, donate your money and even take your chances at winning a prize – all in the name of AAUW. Whether it's exploring in the Arctic with PH-MTZ AAUW, becoming aware of the "Unnamed Conspirator" with IBC, Mexican Train for LAF, Bunco in Benicia for Tech Trek, or "Farmacology" with the Concord Branch, there is more than enough to keep us all very involved. I hope you will keep your calendar handy and invite a friend to attend not just one but several of this month's events. See you there.

Kit and Janice

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

BRANCHES WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE COMMUNITY

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2014

1:30 – 4:00

Lafayette Library and Learning Center
3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd.

Contra Costa County Interbranch Council of AAUW
Presents:

**Sexual Assault: Naming the Unnamed
Conspirator**

A video and panel discussion about a very serious issue facing our society today. Details are given in the **flier at the end of this newsletter**. Invite friends and family.

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**** EVENING BRIDGE –** will be held at Eileen Bordenave's **Jan 6th at 7P**. We are thinking about moving the time and date (later on depending on concurrence of group), Jan.'s will be at Eileen's. Some of the ladies do not drive at night anymore and that means that someone has to pick them up, but I'll let you know when and if that happens. Elizabeth 210-0281
New email: bokeyd1106@gmail.com



GRAND SLAMMERS - Jan. 13, 2014

12:30 pm. Marlene DeLaurenti's house. Everyone is welcome. Please call or e-mail if you would like to play. 934-4171 mdl@astound.net



**** MORNING BOOKS** will meet on **Wednesday, January 8th, 10 am**, at Janice Walker's. We will be discussing *Heart of Darkness* by Joseph Conrad ~ our classic for the year. This short novel is about an ivory transporter down the Congo River in the late 1890's. Please note the change is date due to New Year's Day falling on the 1st Wednesday. In February, we will be reading and discussing Kate Morton's *The Secret Keeper*. Please join us for great discussions!



**** WALKING WOMEN** will walk in **January on the 14th and 28th** ~ Tuesday mornings at 9 am. On the 14th, we will meet in Zio Fraedo's parking lot and walk south on the Canal Trail. On the 28th, same location going north 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!!!



**** LUNCHIN' LADIES** will meet for **TEA** at the Camellia Tea Room in Benicia on **Tuesday, 21 January, 1 pm**. We will carpool, of course, so call, or email, Marlene Maksel if you would like to attend. If you have a restaurant you would like to try, please let Marlene know, too.



**** CULTURAL CONNECTION** will not meet in January as the month is already filling up! However, on Tuesday, February 11th we will try a tour to the California Museum in Sacramento for the "Ray Eames: A Century of Modern Design" exhibit. Save the date if you want to go ~ carpooling and other info will come later.



**** MATINEE IDLE** will be back on its regular schedule with a movie date on the **4th Thursday ~ January 23rd**. 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 film after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.



**** IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on **Wednesday, January 15th, 10 am** at Ginny Hargrave's. Please note the change in date!! Our topic will be to write about a memorable Christmas/Hanukkah celebration you've enjoyed. We love oral versions, too. Please come and share your memories!



**** EVENING BOOKS** will meet on **Monday, January 27th, 7 pm**, at Sally Whitsett's. We will be discussing our classic for the year ~ *East of Eden* by John Steinbeck. Everyone is familiar with this book, but it probably bears rereading. In February, we will be discussing *Sweet Tooth* by Ian McEwan.



**** GENEALOGY Jan., 18 - 10 a.m.** "Family Search and Family Tree . . ." Genealogy How to Class - This class and the instructor is highly recommended by local genealogists. Class and handouts are FREE
Concord Family History Center
3700 Concord Blvd.
Concord, CA
Instructor: Ralph Severson, Director of Oakland Family History Center.
For questions contact Jackie - Telephone 925-827-4720

Membership Matters

Gayle Miner – Membership VP

Half-Year Dues: Take 50-75 Percent off National Dues! Recruit new members right now at the half-off rate. National membership dues after January 1 are only \$24.50. This offer is valid through March 15 and applies to the current 2013-14 fiscal year, so the membership will expire June 30, 2014. And if you use the Shape the Future campaign during this same period to hold or participate in an event that's open to the public (For example the **Soup Supper or the Interbranch Council event on January 26**), the deal doubles! That makes national dues just \$12.25, meaning you can offer potential new members 75 percent off AAUW national dues! 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



What a Generous Group!

Twenty women gathered at Margi Alkire's in December for the annual Layette Shower to benefit needy new mothers in Contra Costa County.

At the end of the party, we packed two huge garbage bags (clean and shiny of course) of pajamas, onesies, play sets, outfits, sweaters, hats, socks, sheets, as well as blankets and quilts to go to Hillcrest Church. There was also a lovely stroller which will make some mother very happy. At Hillcrest the items will be combined into the layettes for the County.

While some of the items were hand-made, most were purchased, and they were all contributed with love. It was an amazing outpouring of consideration and thoughtfulness for others. We also thank the two who couldn't attend but sent their gifts beforehand.

The interest group, III (In Indelible Ink) graciously hosted this party.

Thank you all so much for your generosity.



JOIN US FOR A BRIDGE & GAME AFTERNOON

Thursday, Jan. 30, 2013

12:30-4:00

Brookview Clubhouse

1201 Monument Blvd., Concord

Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW is hosting an
afternoon of

Bridge

and

Mexican Train

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

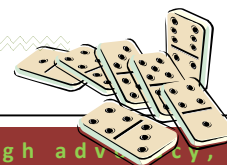
\$10 will be collected to benefit the
AAUW FUNDS (LAF)

Come for fun and stay for *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

Did you read about the Global Women's Projects in your latest issue of Outlook? Every woman who has been awarded an International Fellows grant, can now apply for an AAUW International Project Grant to launch a grassroots program in their home country. The projects range from educating children with disabilities to educating widows about their legal rights.

An International Fellow is a scholar from a country other than the U.S., who is pursuing an advanced degree in the United States. Now, those same awardees can bring their education and passion to help their countrywomen.




The grants are small ~ ranging from \$5,000 to \$7,000. Otgontugs Banzragch, of Mongolia, started a project to teach women the rudimentary building blocks of a better life ~ how to save, open a bank account, apply for a loan and/or start a business. Banzragch feels the success of this project is just a small step towards empowerment in a country where women hold no public offices.

SAVE THE DATE

SUNDAY, 9 MARCH 2014.

It isn't often you get something for nothing. Well, not exactly nothing ~ the price of the ticket is \$20/ea. BUT, for that \$20 you get a fine lunch/dinner at Tahoe Joe's and your AAUW Funds retains \$9 of that ticket.

Sunday, 9 March 2014 is the date for you to have lunch, go to dinner, or use  take-out at Tahoe Joe's on Contra Costa Blvd. in Pleasant Hill. The menu gives you a choice of 3 meats, with 2 sides, plus soup or salad.

So, plan a group meal ~ invite your neighbors and friends ~ the more, the merrier!

Tickets will be available at the Soup Supper on January 16th, or at any time from Marlene Maksel, 689-5439, or marlene@maksel.us.



Elena Noble, NoCal RFM
enoble4@astound.net

I am happy to report that Start Smart Classes may finally be taking hold in our three Community Colleges. Last month Elaine Groen, AAUW Concord, and I met with Chancellor, Dr. Helen Benjamin and the Board of Trustees of the Contra Costa Community College District. We presented them with the opportunity to offer Start Smart Classes which teach prospective job applicants salary negotiation skills in an effort to stem the wage gap between women and men. We are happy to report they were very receptive not only to our presentation, but in also becoming a University Partner with AAUW.

In addition, Cal State East Bay and the University of California at Berkeley have also set tentative spring dates to present Start Smart as well.

Having just had the opportunity to present a class at San Jose State with AAUW member Diane Trombetti, I can tell you the feedback from students after they have taken the course has been positive and rewarding.

If you have a particular school or site in mind for this program, please let me know.

Happy New Year to all AAUW members here and across the country, you make a big difference in the lives of many women.

COMMUNITY

Diane Peterson

PLEASANT HILL

11 Sat., 7:30 PM –
MDUSD
DVC



Honor Band Concert at

16 Thurs., 7 PM,
College Park HS Winter Band Concert, Multi-Use
Room

25 Sat., 6:30 PM

Mt. Diablo Hall of Fame Crab Feed supporting
MDUSD high school sports
programs, at Zio Fraedo's, contact



Lou Adamo at 212-9332 or
MDHSSHF.org

26 Sun., 2-5 PM,
Grand Opening of the New Community Center, 320
Civic Dr.

31 Sat., 8 PM
DVC Performing Arts, "Hamlet",

MARTINEZ

11 Sat., 10 am – noon
City hosts "Sustainable Citizen", free
eco-friendly workshop, City
Council Chambers, 525
Henrietta St.,



RSVP 372-3531 or
SCrsvp@cityofmartinez.org

Ongoing –

Soroptimist of Martinez Prom Dress Drive to
provide Alhambra High Students with dresses,
call Stacy Lompa for dress pick-up at 787-
3745 or Drop off dresses to June Rogers,
1875 Arnold Dr., Martinez



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 **Holiday Extravaganza**. See photos of our **Layette Shower** on the **Community Action Page**. Look for the pictures of the **Fair Oaks Breakfast with Santa**, also, 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

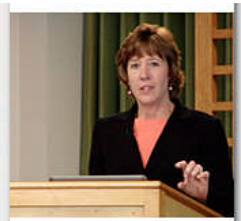
R U a CONSPIRATOR?



Sexual Assault

Naming the Unnamed Conspirator

A film with Anne Munch, J.D., followed by a panel discussion



- Examine societal attitudes
- Gain insight to challenge this “crime like no other”
- Learn how you can make a difference

Ms. Munch has twenty five years of experience as a career prosecutor and advocate for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. She owns Anne Munch Consulting, Inc. which provides training and consulting in sexual assault, domestic violence, and stalking. She directed the Ending Violence Against Women Project, a statewide multi-disciplinary training and technical assistance project in Colorado, and works extensively in the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response programs for the US Armed Forces.

Sunday, Jan. 26, 2014, 1:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Lafayette Library and Learning Center

3491 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette

Free Open to the Public Refreshments

Questions? Contact Diane at dbellrettger@gmail.com

Sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW) of Contra Costa County



Benicia-Vallejo AAUW
American Association of University Women
presents...



BUNCO NIGHT



"Bunco is a social dice game involving 100% luck and no skill."
No experience necessary!

Saturday, January 25, 2014

Doors open @ 6:15 - BUNCO starts PROMPTLY @ 7 PM

Benicia Senior Center
187 East L Street

REFRESHMENTS...PRIZES

Advance Tickets \$15
(\$20 at the door)

For advance tickets, CONTACT Kit Hein at 228-7503 or kjhein@comcast.net
or mail a check to

Benicia-Vallejo AAUW, PO Box 1876, Benicia, CA 94510

Make check payable to "Benicia-Vallejo AAUW"

For more information,
contact Mary at: 707-745-0808
A fundraiser for AAUW's Tech Trek scholarships,
educational programs, and community projects.

AAUW CONCORD INVITES YOU TO...

Join us as we welcome author **Daphne Miller**, who will discuss her newest book.

Farmacology: What Innovative Family Farming Can Teach Us About Health and Healing

January 11, 2014, 2 pm to 4 pm

In *Farmacology*, practicing family physician and renowned nutrition explorer Daphne Miller brings us beyond the simple concept of "food as medicine" and introduces us to the critical idea that it's the farm where that food is grown that offers us the real medicine. By venturing out of her clinic and spending time on seven family farms, Miller uncovers all the aspects of farming that have a direct and powerful impact on our health. Bridging the traditional divide between agriculture and medicine, Miller shares lessons learned from inspiring farmers and biomedical researchers and artfully weaves their insights and discoveries, along with stories from her patients, into the narrative. The result is a compelling new vision for sustainable healing and a treasure trove of farm-to-body lessons that have immense value in our daily lives.



Daphne Miller, M.D., is a practicing physician, author, and professor of family medicine at the University of California, San Francisco. For the past decade, her writing and teaching has explored the frontier between biomedicine and the natural world. Her widely acclaimed first book, *The Jungle Effect*, chronicles her nutrition adventures as she travels to traditional communities around the globe. Miller lives in Berkeley, CA.

Rakestraw Books will be selling books at the library for Daphne to sign.

PLEASANT HILL – MARTINEZ AAUW 2012– 2013 LEADERSHIP TEAM

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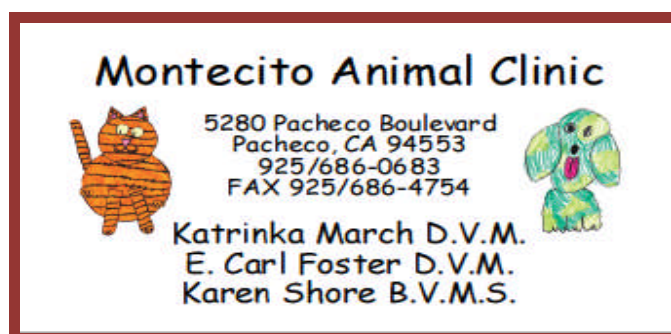
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1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95833

<http://aauw-ca.org/>

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



January 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6  Evening Bridge	7	8  Morning Books Board Meeting	9	10	11 Mtz "Sustainable Citizen" Workshop "Farmacology" with Concord AAUW MDUSD Honor Band Concert
12	13  Grand Slammers	14  Walking Women	15  In Ink In Indelible	16 5:30 – Soup Supper 	17	18 Geneology How to Class
19	20	21  Lunchin' Ladies	22	23  Matinee Idle	24	25 Benicia Bunco for Tech Trek
26 CCC IBC PRESENTS  "NAMING THE UNNAMED CONSPIRATOR"	27  Evening Books	28  Walking Women	29	30  LAF GAME DAY	31 DVC "Hamlet"	

Save the date: Feb. 11-Calif. Museum; March 9-Tahoe Joe's; April 8-Equal Pay Day