



Pleasant Hill-Martinez (CA) Branch

N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 57 Issue 2

October 2014



Festa Italiana

Saturday October 4th

3:30 - 6:30

Viano Winery

150 Morello Avenue, Martinez

Wine Tasting 3:30- 4:45

Italian Dinner and Raffle 4:45- 6:30

Tickets \$38.00

*A Benefit for AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez
Providing Scholarships for Women*

For Tickets:

*please call
Marge Munger 925 687-9773 or
Gayle Garrison 925 798-7528*





Presidential Postings

Co-Presidents Katrinka March & Gayle Miner

What a beautiful day we had to officially start off our AAUW year! We all thank Gayle and her family for graciously hosting this year's brunch in their own backyard. And many thanks to all who organized, set up, provided wonderful muffins and frittatas and iced tea. All four of our Tech Trek girls were on hand to share just a window of their experiences at camp. So proud of these girls for reaching towards their dreams and how amazing that we can help support their explorations into the STEM fields.

We also heard about the many things that our members are arranging for the group, including new interest groups (Mah Jongg), renewed interest groups (Nimble Fingers) and interest groups like books and In Indelible Ink that have been going strong for a while. If you are interested in any of these fun groups, please contact one of the members involved.

Our big fundraiser is coming up quickly. I hope you have your tickets for Festa as this is always a fun time and there are many good programs including AAUW funds, Tech Trek and local scholarships that benefit while you enjoy the company of your friends, and the latest from our local Viano winery. If you are inclined, I hear there are some wonderful raffle prizes to be had as well. As AAUW members we are always involved in the community in so many ways and we try to stay connected and informed. This month the AAUW program will help us understand the propositions for the upcoming election so don't miss this good opportunity to learn with your friends.

Later this month we have the opportunity to just simply get together to play games while still supporting our fund raising for Tech Trek.

Thank you Marlene Maksel once again for your production of the directory- if you don't have yours yet- please see the membership duo of Claudia Bass and Alana Macdonald.

We value each and every one of our members and know that you each have something unique to bring to the group. Enjoy our programs; support our funds to provide opportunities in education and legal support for women. Lend a hand for something you believe in. We hope to see a lot of you this year!

Trinka and Gayle

SAVE THESE DATES

- Oct 4** Festa Italiana, Viano Winery, Martinez 3:30 to 6:30 pm
- Oct 15** Branch General Meeting, Propositions pros and cons, Brookview Clubhouse, 7 pm
- Oct 25** Tech Trek Game Day, Brookview Clubhouse, 1 pm
- Nov 2** No. Cal. Fellows luncheon, Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville, noon to 3 pm
- Nov 16** Tech Trek fundraiser, Tahoe Joe's, lunch or dinner

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING:

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2014

7 PM

Home of Trinka March

Copy deadline for the November 2014 N.E.W.S. is:

October 20th

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasiero@yahoo.com



October Program

Election Time is Coming

October 15, 2014 at 7p.m.

Brookview Club House
1201 Monument Blvd
Concord, CA 94520

Come hear the Pros and Cons on the
Propositions for the coming election
Presented by the League of Women Voters

The parking is an issue, please car pool if possible.



Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill- Martinez branch. Check out the pictures from our September Brunch on the **Photos 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

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, October 1st, 10 am, at Sandy Wolfe's. PLEASE let the hostess know you are planning to attend! We will be discussing *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. This is a novel about abandoned children who were shipped from the east to the Midwest between the late 1800's and 1929. The father of one of our former member's was actually on the Orphan Train. In November, we will be discussing *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. Please join us for a great discussion!



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, October 27th, 7 pm, at Linda Robbins' house, 2442 Lariat Lane, W. C. We will plan to car-pool. Please let the hostess know if you are planning to attend. We will be discussing *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd. The book is about slavery and women "whose struggles for liberation, empowerment, and expression will leave no reader unmoved." Please join us for the discussion.



****MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, October 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.



****CULTURAL CONNECTION** will not meet in October. In November a trip is tentatively planned for the Contemporary Jewish Museum in S. F. Lunch will follow at the deli in the museum. Details in November N.E.W.S.



****IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, October 8th, 10 am, at Ginny Hargrave's. Our topic will be to write about "A Favorite Nickname ~Your Own, or Some Else's." Write about how the nickname came to be used. Also, bring a photo of family or friends (the older the better) to exchange. Interpretations of the photos will be the topic at our November meeting. We love oral versions, too. Please come and share your story!



****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will go to Corners Tavern in Walnut Creek, Tuesday, October 21st, at 1 pm. Please let Marlene know if you are planning to attend, so reservations can be made ~ cut-off date will be October 19th. This restaurant received a good write up in the Times recently ~ replaces the old Bing's. If you have a restaurant you would like to try, please let Marlene know ~ we need some unique suggestions.



****MAH JONGG** is a new interest group – Friday, October 17th, 1:00 at the Brookview Clubhouse. \$2.00 per person. Bring your set, if you have one, and remember your card. All players welcome. Contact **Sherrie Moore** if you would like to play.

229-4177 moresherrie@comcast.net



****NIMBLE FINGERS** is a revived interest group – won't be meeting in October. Look for information on the November meeting in the next newsletter. Bring your sewing, knitting, mending, or any craft. If you like, bring a bag lunch. Everyone is welcome. Contact **Suzanne** for more information at 283-3050 or gmasm39@yahoo.com



****GRAND SLAMMERS** will meet Monday, October 13th at 12:30 at hostess, Suzanne Mesetz' home, 2132 Golden Rain Rd., ENT. 13, W.C. Contact Marlene DeLaurenti if you would like to play.

mdl@astound.net 934-4171

AAUW FUNDS

Laurel Gaiser and Marlene Maksel
AAUW Funds Co-Chairs

LAF UPDATE: Yes, the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) is part of AAUW Funds!! Some of us have been following three cases at the Feather River Community College for several years. The principal litigant spoke at a Fellowships/LAF luncheon a few years ago. AAUW has supported these plaintiffs since 2007.

Former staff members of the college allege sex discrimination and retaliation for complaining about the discrimination. The allegation was regarding a violation of Title IX. In August 2009, a judge ruled in favor of all three plaintiffs. But in 2010, the full State Personnel Board rejected the judge's decision. The plaintiff's attorney appealed the case to the Plumas County Superior Court.

That judicial body overturned the SPB's ruling, siding with the judge and the plaintiffs and asked the SPB to reconsider. But, that next phase may not start for two more years!

Your donations to LAF (#3999) help support these plaintiffs and other like them who are struggling against injustice in the academic world.



Our wonderful 2014 Tech Trek girls

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Alana Macdonald and Claudia Bass
Membership VP's

Our Welcome Brunch was a big success! We all enjoyed the lovely weather in the beautiful outdoor venue at Gayle Miner's home. The home cooked food provided by our members was delicious. The Tech Trek girls were so enthusiastic about their camp experiences and very appreciative of our providing this opportunity for them. We also heard about many of the great activities and projects being planned for us this year. We visited with old friends and met new ones. We now have 115 member; our largest membership ever!

First, a big thank you to Gayle Miner and her son, Art, and daughter-in-law, Mel, for hosting this event. We truly appreciate it! We would also like to thank the many volunteers who cooked, set up, helped in the serving, and cleaned up afterward: Margi Alkire, Jennifer Apkarian, Georgette Armstrong, Bea Ball, Joy Barden, Harriett Burt, Muriel Fry, Laurel Gaiser, Penny Harris, Kit Hein, Nancy Hobert, Jesse Inouye, Shelley Jacobson, Carole Larson, Ilene Linssen, Marlene Maksel, Trinkka March, Sherrie Moore, Elena Noble, Helen Pereira and Susanne Rheingruber. We hope we didn't leave anyone out! You're all awesome!

And a warm welcome to these new members:

Gayle Duncan
4401 Indigo Ct
Concord, CA 94523
925-825-9152 (H), 925-872-7554 (C)
duncangayle3@gmail.com

Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI (BA History)
Chapman University, Sacramento State University
(Education Specialist)

Carol Walsh
653 Byrdee Way
Lafayette, CA 94549
925-229-3234
baricarol2@gmail.com

University of Connecticut, CT (BS Physical Therapy)

Diane Gartner is a returning member. Welcome back!

Carin Lucich is a new member. Welcome!

Details to come in the November newsletter.

PUBLIC POLICY

Kit Hein

For the November 4, 2014 Election, six propositions have qualified for the ballot. The AAUW CA Public Policy Committee has studied the ballot measures in the context of the approved AAUW CA Public Policy Priorities – 2013-2015, and has taken positions on four. AAUW CA recommends that members study the detailed Voter Information pamphlet with pros and cons, soon to be mailed to registered voters, as well as read the full text of the propositions on the Secretary of State website:

<http://vig.cdn.sos.ca.gov/2014/general/pdf/>

Proposition 1 : Water Quality, Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014. AAUW CA supports the passage of this initiative.

Proposition 45: Healthcare Insurance. Rate Changes. Initiative Statute. AAUW CA recommends an oppose position on Proposition 45.

Proposition 46: Drug and Alcohol Testing of Doctors. Medical Negligence Lawsuits. Initiative statute. AAUW CA opposes this initiative and recommends a NO vote.

Proposition 47: Criminal Sentences. Misdemeanor Penalties. Initiative Statute. AAUW CA recommends a support position on this initiative.

Paycheck Fairness Act

It's business as usual in Congress with the same partisan bickering over the Paycheck Fairness Act. Educate yourselves and be sure your senators hear how you feel about their recent votes. Both Senator Feinstein and Senator Boxer supported the bill. Please thank them for standing for women by going to the **Two-Minute Activist** page on the state website. If you are not already signed on to get these messages directly to your own email, now is the time to do so. <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>

Hello Bay Area ! Free Furniture

An AAUW-Sacramento member overseeing the move of a hospital facility in Santa Rosa has multiple floors of furniture in excellent condition for anyone willing to come and collect it. Beautiful oak bookcases, tables and chairs, desks and credenzas, and more.

EDUCATION

Ilene Linsen

This Sunday's Contra Costa Times reminds us that, "Back to School isn't just for kids". The article which bore this subtitle referred to a certain retiree who is now taking yoga, pilates, bridge lessons and along with other activities participates in **OLLI**, the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. If you've never heard of OLLI, now is your chance to get the scoop. OLLI is for us (most of us) and describes itself as follows:

... designed for "inquiring adults" age 50 and above, exploring new areas of knowledge and traditional disciplines through courses, lectures, and events. There are no examinations or grades. The Bernard Osher Foundation supports 117 OLLI programs in 48 states.

We are fortunate to have OLLI programs in two nearby schools, UC Berkeley and Cal State East Bay. The Berkeley classes meet not only in Berkeley, but also in Lafayette. If this interests you, go to www.osherfoundation.org to get general information. From there you can go to the OLLI Cal State and OLLI UC Berkeley sites. At the Berkeley site you'll find such diverse offerings as: "Joy of Singing", "From The Japanese American Internment", "Football, Our American War Game", "Digital Photography", etc.. You'll also see that OLLI sponsors group travel, interest circles, speaker series and an ever-changing menu of special events. All this sounds perfect for energetic, inquiring, intellectual AAUW members. As for me, I'm exhausted just writing about it.

An elegant solution for anyone needing to replace losses from the recent earthquake in Napa County; students, newlyweds, even theatre groups and other non-profits; anyone who wants it. The only cost is your time.

For details or more information, including photos of what is available, please contact Margaret Leonard at 916-847-7554 or email her at ml-acupuncture@sbcglobal.net She and her team would prefer to offer this furniture to those who will appreciate it rather than see it go to waste - literally.

Thank you
Marilyn Schaeffer

TECH TREK TIDINGS

Janice Walker

As stated in last month's newsletter our goal is once again to provide four more middle school girls with the fantastic experiences you heard about at last month's Brunch by sending them to Tech Trek camp next June. This month we have Game Day on October 25 as our "kick-off" fund raiser. Detailed information regarding this event is listed in this newsletter. Check it out and join us for an afternoon of fun and games. Also mark November 16 on your calendar and enjoy a lovely meal at Tahoe Joe's. Tickets for \$20 are on sale now. For every ticket sold Tech Trek keeps \$8. See "Save the Date" for more information.

Looking forward to seeing you at both!

MARTINEZ COMMUNITY Nancy Hobert

Free eight-week guitar course Mondays, Sept. 29-Nov 24, Martinez Library, 740 Court Street. Guitars not provided guitars for practice. Teaches ages 8-18 to play. 15 student limit. Registration required – 646-9900

Oct. 4 Pre-run Pasta Dinner- 6-8 pm at the Shell Clubhouse, 1635 Pacheco, Martinez. \$15 per person; 6 and under free. Special games and activities for kids from 6 to 7 pm.

Oct. 5 Martinez 12th Run for Education 5K or 10K – registration at www.runsignup.com or 7-8 that morning. Begins at the Plaza on Main Street

Oct. 10 Alhambra Homecoming Parade "Habitats – Where in the World Would You Live" 3:00 on Main Street

Oct. 11 Martinez Historical Home Tour – sponsored by the Historical Society.

Visit up to 7 private homes built in the early 20th century. Visit www.martinezhometour.com

Oct. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31 "The Adams Family – a New Musical Comedy" at The Campbell Theater, 636 Ward St, Martinez (707) 649-1053

Oct. 25 Martinez Mayors Cup 2014 29th Annual Golf Classic hosted by Martinez Chamber of Commerce and Main Street Martinez (925) 228-3577

JOIN US for AN AFTERNOON of FUN and GAMES

Saturday, October 25

1:00 - 4:00

Brookview Clubhouse

1201 Monument Blvd., Concord

Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW is hosting an afternoon of

Bridge Mexican Train Mahjongg

Mahjongg groups of 4 will need to bring their own Mahjongg sets.

\$10 will be collected to benefit
Tech Trek

Come to play, come to socialize,
come to have dessert,
come to support Tech Trek!

Call or email Pat Harris to reserve your spot!
228-6263 or patriciaharris4@mac.com
Open to members and non-members alike.

Save The Date

Ready for a day out of the kitchen? Enjoy a Sunday free from the stove on November 16 when you purchase a \$20 ticket for take-out, lunch or dinner at Tahoe Joe's on Contra Costa Blvd. in Pleasant Hill. Your ticket gives you the choice of chicken, steak or ribs along with soup or salad, potatoes and a vegetable. All for \$20, of which Tech Trek receives \$8.

So, gather the family, gather the friends, and join fellow AAUW members as we take a break from cooking and support Tech Trek!

Tickets are available from Janice Walker, 827-3374, or sandjwalk@comcast.net.

"A Taste Of Walnut Creek 2014"

17th Annual Restaurant Walk

"The Original Walking Tour of Downtown Walnut Creek Restaurants"

Tuesday, October 7, 2014 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

BENEFIT FOR AAUW OML'S TECH TREK CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS

Ticket books available from
AAUW OML 925.631.0668

\$30--Make checks out to:

AAUW OML Community Outreach Fund, Inc.

(Add \$2 for postage if requesting tickets be mailed)

Send checks to Gail Chesler before Sept. 30:

2914 Fyne Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94598

SAVE THE DATE: THE WALNUT CREEK RESTAURANT WALK, Tuesday evening October 7

More than 25 restaurants will be providing delicious samples from their menus.

For \$30, you will receive a book with coupons for each of the participating restaurants.

Ticket sales will benefit our OML Tech Trek Fund Empowering Young Girls in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM)

For questions contact:

Sandy Fox-Sohner at 925-631-0668.

ps - It's fun to plan the evening "sampling" with your friends

PH-M AAUW N.E.W.S. SPONSORS

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.



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Copy deadline for November 2014 N.E.W.S. is October 20th Please email copy to: Reba Siero

rebasiero@yahoo.com

Webmaster

Sherrie Moore 229-4177

www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org

AAUW C C C Inter-branch Council Chair:










Position currently vacant

California State office of AAUW:

1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95833

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

October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Morning Books 10am 	2	3	4 Festa Italiana 3:30 – 6:30pm 
5	6	7	8 In Indelible Ink 10am Board Meeting 7pm 	9	10	11
12	13 Columbus Day Grand Slam- mers 12:30pm 	14	15 General Meet- ing 7pm Propositions pros and cons	16	17 Mah Jongg 1pm 	18
19	20 November N.E.W.S. Deadline	21 Lunchin' Ladies 1pm 	22	23 Matinee Idle 	24	25 Tech Trek Game Day 1 – 4pm 
26	27 Evening Books 7pm 	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

Save the Dates: November 2 - Nor Cal Fellows Luncheon, Danville; November 16 - Tahoe Joe's Tech Trek fundraiser