

Ellen Snortland
National Women's History Alliance
Wednesday, March 16, 2021 - 7 pm
ZOOM



As March is AAUW's Women's History Month, we are pleased to have as our guest speaker for our March 17th meeting Ellen Snortland, writer, director, and producer of the award-winning feature-length documentary film "Beauty Bites Beast," based on her ground-breaking book with the same title. As a member of the National Women's History Alliance, Ellen has been a long time women's rights and self-defense advocate and instructor. Her passion in life has been to teach women and girls how to set boundaries, personally and culturally. She earned a degree from Loyola Law School, co-founded the first all-female theater company in the early 70's, acted in and directed several TV shows during the 80's, attended the 4th United Nations World Conference on Women in Beijing, the 2001 World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa, and annual UN meetings as an NGO delegate and journalist, and served as a Goodwill Ambassador for the National Women's History Project. Performed world-wide, her comic memoir show, "Now That She's Gone," features growing up as a Norwegian American. Ellen has served on several boards including Consumer Watchdog, IMPACT Personal Safety, and 50-50 Leadership, a non-profit that envisions more women and girls in leadership positions. She now lives in Altadena, CA, with husband Ken Gruberman, a Grammy Award-winning music supervisor.

Harriett and Helen



officers for you to vote on. The complete slate of officers is listed in this newsletter. I also want to give a huge thank you to our Nominees for saying YES when asked to serve on the board.

Sometimes members say no to serving on the Nominating Committee, but it always inspires me that those who do serve manage to come up with an amazing slate of people who are willing to do the jobs required that make our AAUW branch run smoothly. Where would we be without people willing to give their time and effort to PH-M AAUW? Thank you Nominating Committee and Nominees for saying YES!

I look forward to being able to meet with all of you in person at future meetings. I miss that aspect of AAUW so much, as I am sure you do, too.

Gayle Miner, 2020-21 Co-President

gayle.miner@yahoo.com

PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

I can't believe it is March already. I hope all of you are doing well and staying safe.

Between April 7 and May 17 all AAUW members nationwide will have the opportunity to vote on an important bylaws amendment that will eliminate the college degree requirement for membership in AAUW. Here is the rationale for the proposed by-laws change: The degree requirement creates a barrier to women who do not hold a college degree. By eliminating this requirement, AAUW can become a more diverse and inclusive organization, better aligned with the needs of women today. Your vote on this matter is important.

Also, we have AAUW California state elections coming up. The voting period for state elections is April 16 to May 7, 2021. Please vote in both the national and state elections when you are notified to do so.

Our local PHM branch election is also coming in April. I want to give a HUGE thank you to our Nominating Committee who all said yes when asked to serve. The committee consisted of: Joan Foster, Barbara Chambers, Sharon Wilson and Penny Harris, alt. from the General Membership and Reba Siero, myself, and Claudia Bass, alt. from the Executive Board. Thank you ladies for your enthusiastic work in creating a slate of Executive Officers for the 2021-2022 year. There was much discussion and many telephone calls and emails to create this slate of



HELP WANTED

Our AAUW Branch has openings for the following officers and positions on the board that need to be filled:

Appointed Officers

Parliamentarian

Community

Education

Public Policy

Communications

Appointed Positions

Historian

Major Fundraiser

Let us know if you can help!



ATTENTION BOOK LOVERS

On Monday, April 26, 7 pm, via Zoom, Evening Books will meet to discuss Tori Whitaker's debut novel, *Millicent Glenn's Last Wish*.

THE AUTHOR WILL BE JOINING US!!!

Thanks to member, Sharon Wilson, Tori Whitaker will be joining us on Zoom to speak about her book and answer any questions you might have.

Please let Marlene Maksel know by April 20th so your name can be added to the Zoom link list. Call (925) 689-5439 or email marlene@maksel.us.

**PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN INTERESTING EVENING WITH
A BOOK REVIEW AND DISCUSSION.**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Slate of Candidates for the 2021-2022 Year

President: Gayle Miner and Reba Siero

Program Vice Presidents: Bobbi Horack and Sally Whitsett

Membership Vice Presidents: Barbara Minneman and Karen Winters

AAUW Fund (EF) Vice Presidents: Jennifer Apkarian and Claudia Bass

Secretary: Susan Trebino

Treasurer: Trinkia March

The election of our Executive Officers for the 2020-2021 year will take place via email and phone call during the week of April 12 to 16. Gayle Miner will collect the votes and report to the branch on Wednesday, April 21, at our general meeting (details in the April N.E.W.S.). If there are "nominations from the floor", with the permission of the candidate(s), please let Gayle Miner and Reba Siero know so that they can be added to the election slate. Special thanks is extended to the following members of the nominating committee for their time and effort: Barbara Chambers, Joan Foster and Sharon Wilson, with Penny Harris as alternate from the General Membership and Gayle Miner and Reba Siero, with Claudia Bass as alternate from the Executive Board, and to the above candidates who have stepped forward to offer their time and effort for the benefit of the Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch.

INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** met on March 3rd, via Zoom at 10 am. We will be discussing *There, There* by Tommy Orange. In April, we will be reading *American Spy* by Lauren Wilkinson. We need a volunteer to lead the discussion!



****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will not meet in March. When the weather is warmer, maybe we will try outdoors at a restaurant.



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on March 22nd, via Zoom at 7 pm. We will be discussing *Why They Marched* by Susan Ware.



****MATINEE IDLE** will not meet in March.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

SarahJoy Haynes and Kathleen Woulfe
Membership VPs

Lifetime members news:

Members who belong to AAUW for 50 consecutive years are honorary members & continue their membership without any dues responsibility.

Congratulation to Ish Mendonsa for achieving 2021-2022 lifetime membership.

Our branch is honored with a total of 7 participating lifetime members. In addition to Ish they are:

Shirley Thompson
Delores McDonald
Marlene Maksel
Margi Alkire
Nancy Hobert
Harriett Burt

SarahJoy Haynes, (925) 586-9493

plumleathr@aol.com

Kathleen Woulfe, (925) 372-7726

kathleendwoulfe@aol.com

OTHER GROUPS



****MAH JONGG**

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We usually play on the 3rd Friday of the month, at 12:30 pm. We would love to have you join our group, as soon as we are able to meet again. There is a \$2.00 per person charge for the clubhouse rental. If you don't know how to play Mah Jongg, but would like to learn, we will be happy to teach you.

Reservations are a must each month.

Contact:

Suzanne Salter at (925) 935-0861,

seabear92020@outlook.com

Gayle Miner at (925) 349-6795,

gayle.miner@yahoo.com



****GRAND SLAMMERS**

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We are a social bridge group, which usually plays on the second Monday of each month at 12:30 pm at the Brookview Club House. We are not meeting until it is safe to do so.

Each player pays \$5, which covers \$3 for our Local Scholarship Fund and \$2 for facility use. All player levels are welcome, members and non-members.

Contact Marlene DeLaurenti at

mdl@astound.net or (925) 934-4171 if you are interested in playing.

MARCH BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 2021

7:00 PM

ZOOM

Copy deadline for the

April 2021 N.E.W.S.

Friday, March 26th

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero

rebasiero@yahoo.com

(925) 917-1061

AAUW FUND REPORT

Jennifer Apkarian and Claudia Bass, AAUW Fund VPs

In ordinary years, our branch would get together in March for Game Day which supports LAF. Our ladies would enjoy fun and laughter by playing BRIDGE, MAH JONGG and MEXICAN TRAIN. But 2020 and 2021 have been far from ordinary so we have had to postpone Game Day indefinitely. We miss the camaraderie of this event but hope we can have it in person some day in the future or perhaps even in a reimagined form virtually.

According to the AAUW Fund 2020 Final Contribution Report our branch contribution to AAUW Fund is \$7,566.00. Thank you so much for your generosity. This helps AAUW carry out a variety of programs and activities, including encouraging and training college women to run for student government and political offices and providing young women grants and fellowships. These donations also help young women attend our National Conference for College Women Student Leaders. As reported in our previous newsletter, we will be sending TWO exceptional young women, Bryanna Nicole King and Desiree Maurino to the virtual NCCWSL conference in May, 2021.

In 2021, \$100.00 was donated to our branch AAUW Fund for NCCWSL. In memory of Ginny Hargrave, we have received \$275.00 for national AAUW Fund and for our branch AAUW Fund \$775.00. Both Jennifer and Claudia have notified the family of the donations. We are so grateful to Ginny for her numerous years of dedication to our branch and to AAUW Fund. We miss her dearly.

Since our fall Kinder's sale was so successful and sold out quickly, this spring we will be selling Kinder's Tickets again. Sales will begin in mid-April and last four weeks after that. We will once again include a mail order option for your convenience. More information and a mail order form will be included in the April newsletter.

The AAUW Fund committee has selected our named gift honoree whose name will be announced at our meeting in early June.

Our next committee meeting is Monday, March 15, 2021 at 2:30 via Zoom. If you are interested in attending let Jennifer or Claudia know and you will be sent the meeting link.

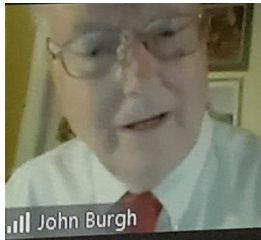
Jennifer Apkarian at (925) 228-2027 or apkarian1@att.net or

Claudia Bass at (925) 372-8679 or cbasslancer29@aol.com





Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Check out the Zoom photos from our virtual February Program on the **Photo Page**. Meet our NCCWSL representative on the **About Us Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org> for all of this and more. Remember to press F5 to get the most current version of each page. Forward any questions or comments that you may have to the webmaster, located on the **About Us Page**.

Sherrie Moore, webmaster



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

SUNSHINE

Gayle Garrison

Sunshine likes to send cards to members, however, I do not always know who is ill or might just need a "thinking of you" card. Please call and let me know, as several calls are better than none.

Gayle Garrison
tarheel61@yahoo.com or (925) 798-7528

2020-2021 LEADERSHIP TEAM

March and April 2021 and beyond

All meetings virtual

- Mar 3** Morning Books, 10 am, Zoom
Mar 10 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Zoom
Mar 11 Local Scholarship Fundraiser, Zachary's Pizza,
Pleasant Hill, 11:00 am to 8:30 pm
Mar 15 Fund Committee Meeting, 2:30 pm, Zoom
Mar 17 General Meeting, 7 pm, Zoom
Ellen Snortland, NWAH
Mar 22 Evening Books, 7 pm, Zoom
Mar 24 Equal Pay Day
Mar 28 April 2021 newsletter deadline
Apr 7 Morning Books, 10 am, Zoom
Apr 14 Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Zoom
Apr 12 to 16 Branch election of officers via email and
phone
Apr 21 General Meeting, 7 pm, Zoom
Apr 26 Evening Books, 7 pm, Zoom
Apr 27 May/June 2021 newsletter deadline
Jun 5 End of Year Brunch, Installation, 10 am, Zoom
(Tentative)

Presidents

- Gayle Miner 349-6795 gayle.miner@yahoo.com
Reba Siero 917-1061 rebasiero@yahoo.com

Vice Presidents - Program

- Harriett Burt 209-0800 hjburt1940@comcast.net
Helen Pereira 685-0757 helenmp45@aol.com

Vice Presidents - Membership

- SarahJoy Haynes 586-9493 plumleathr@aol.com
Kathleen Woulfe 372-7726 kathleendwoulfe@aol.com

Vice Presidents - AAUW Fund

- Jennifer Apkarian 228-2027 apkarian1@att.net
Claudia Bass 372-8679 cbasslancer29@aol.com

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- Reba Siero 917-1061 rebasiero@yahoo.com

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March 26th. Please email copy to:

rebasiero@yahoo.com

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www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org

AAUW C C C Inter-branch Council

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debbie94565@yahoo.com

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Please, write any checks to the branch:
AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch

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

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