



# N.E.W.S.

**Now/Events/Women/Success**

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

**Volume 64 Issue 2**

**October 2021**

**Dr. Adam Clark, Ed. D.  
Superintendent of Mount Diablo Unified School District**

**October 20, 2021 – 7p.m.**

**St Andrews Presbyterian Church**

**1601 Mary Dr**

**Pleasant Hill, CA 94523**

Welcome to our speaker Dr. Adam Clark Ed.D. , Superintendent of the Mount Diablo Unified School District. We are happy to have this in person meeting. The branch will be following state and local guidelines for gatherings. Proof of vaccination is required, as is wearing a mask throughout the meeting. We will try to broadcast this meeting via Zoom for those who are not comfortable meeting in person, or who haven't been vaccinated.

Dr. Clark has been a leader in all facets of his over 20 year education career. He has taught elementary school in West Contra Costa Unified School District. He later transitioned into administrative roles for the first time in Contra Costa County serving as middle school vice principal, elementary school principal, middle school principal and high school principal. Once he transitioned into District office roles, he served as the Assistant Superintendent of Administrative Student Services in the Liberty Union High School District and as the Associate Superintendent of Educational Services in the Antioch Unified School District. Before being appointed to lead Mt. Diablo Unified School District in 2020, Dr. Clark served as superintendent for three years in the Vallejo City Unified School District.

Dr. Clark will be talking about the many challenges that face education currently. He will show the complexity of balancing factors and retaining excellent education standards for our students and teachers in our schools.

See you on Wednesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>.

Bobbi and Sally



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through advocacy, education, philan-  
thropy and research**



## PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

This has been a busy few weeks for me, so I will leave it to you to read all the news printed here. There are several good events coming up, including our October meeting, the Fund Events, Interest groups, and the Local Scholarship fundraiser below!

Reba Siero, 2021-22 Co-President

# A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

*Fundraiser for Local Scholarships*



**By William Shakespeare**

**Adapted and Directed by Nicole Hess Diestler**

“The course of true love never did run smooth” Experience Shakespeare like you’ve never seen it before! Mischievous fairy Puck enters our contemporary world and leads a young gamer obsessed with music videos, playlists, and YouTube into Shakespeare’s classic world of mystical wilderness and complicated romances. Deep in the neon lit forest, the gamer encounters a quarrelling King and Queen, a troupe of bumbling actors, and four runaway lovers. Fast-paced action, modern music, magic, and a touch of classic theater will make this an evening you won’t soon forget.

Join us Sunday, November 7, at 2:30 PM for this new take on a classic Shakespeare play! Tickets are \$30. Contact Virginia Hewgley (925-768-4417 or [vhewgley@astound.net](mailto:vhewgley@astound.net)) by October 28th if you would like to join us!

*All proceeds go to the Local Scholarship Fund to benefit college-bound seniors at Alhambra High and College Park High.*

## INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



**\*\*MORNING BOOKS** met on Wednesday, October 6, 10 am, at Margi Alkire's. We discussed *Across That Bridge* by John Lewis. In November, we will be reading and discussing *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett.



**\*\*EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, October 25th, 7 pm at the Brookview Clubhouse. If you are planning to attend, please respond to Marlene Maksel. The list of books has been chosen, but not yet put in order of dates. All attendees will be notified by email as to the book title for October, as that will have been decided at the September meeting.



**\*\*MATINEE IDLE** is on hold for the present time. We normally meet on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month. If you are interested, please call or email Marlene Maksel.

## OTHER GROUPS



**\*\*MAH JONGG** will meet on Friday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on November 19<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 PM. Please let Suzanne Salter know if you plan to attend. Her contact information is:  
Suzanne Salter  
[seabear92020@outlook.com](mailto:seabear92020@outlook.com)  
(925) 988-0322 cell)



**\*\*GRAND SLAMMERS**  
For information, contact:

Marlene DeLaurenti at [mdl@astound.net](mailto:mdl@astound.net) or  
(925) 934-4171

## AAUW 2021 FUND EVENTS

Hear AAUW grant recipients' personal stories and their studies.

When: October 23, 2021- 10am; October 30, 2021-10am and November 7, 2021-1pm.

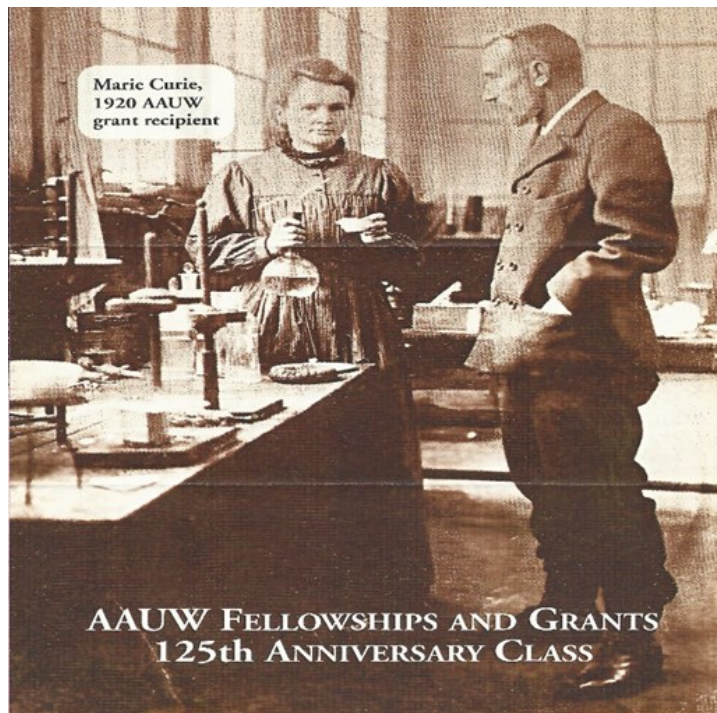
Format: Virtual

Where: In the comfort of your home

Cost: Free but donations accepted

Sign-up: at [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org) ; scroll down to AAUW 2021 Fund Events- click on "read more", which will get you to the registration page. Pick your day to attend.

(Picture from Muriel Fry's archives)



# AAUW FUND REPORT

Jennifer Apkarian and Claudia Bass, AAUW Fund VPs

It was so nice to see so many members at the Welcome Brunch and interface in person. Many of you picked up your directories and by now you should have received them with the AAUW Fund Solicitation letter. In the past everyone has been so generous, and it is appreciated. National is encouraging donations to be sent to unrestricted funds to give them more flexibility at providing programs that are needed to promote equity for women and girls. The scholarship endowments are in excellent shape and will be for many years to come. Any type of donation of your choosing is greatly appreciated.

Hopefully, we will be doing another Kinder's coupon sale sometime this fall. Information will be forthcoming.

Currently there is not any information of what format the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) will be in 2022. As you know with Covid-19 and the delta variance everything is uncertain. We do not know if it will be in person or virtual. We have a credit with Alaska Airlines for \$546.80 which will expire on 12/31/21. Unfortunately, Alaska Airlines does not give refunds. If anyone is interested in booking a flight with Alaska and would like to use the certificate of credit, contact Claudia or Jennifer. You would pay AAUW Fund, and we may even offer a discount. This would help in getting some of our money back. Thank you in advance for taking us up on the offer.

Part of AAUW Fund is offering grants to women to pursue advanced degrees. In the past the recipients would present their personal stories and what they are studying at the CA AAUW Fund Luncheon. Since it has gone virtual the luncheon is now **AAUW 2021 Fund Events**. It is interesting to hear their stories and their studies. Last year we heard studies about frogs, social justice, and ecological issues. In the past some of the recipients received part of their grant from Martinez Branch endowment which was exciting. It is nice to see where our donations go and how appreciative these women are for the grant.

**AAUW 2021 Fund Events** will be held on October 23, 2021, at 10am, October 30, 2021, at 10 am and November 7, 2021, at 1:00 pm. It will be virtual, and you need to register. To do that go on the CA AAUW website at [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org). Scroll down to AAUW 2021 Fund Events and click on "read more". You will then see the registration page and pick the day you want. It is free even though donations are appreciated. Hopefully, many of you will participate.

Jennifer Apkarian at (925) 228-2027 or [apkarian1@att.net](mailto:apkarian1@att.net) or

Claudia Bass at (925) 372-8679 or [cbasslancer29@aol.com](mailto:cbasslancer29@aol.com)

## Membership Roster correction:

Gail Soldavini address is:  
336 Maryal Rd (not 338)  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

## 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](mailto:tarheel61@yahoo.com) or (925) 798-7528



## Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Check out the photos from our September Brunch on the **Photo Page**. Find our upcoming Programs and activities on the **Program 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**



## PUBLIC POLICY

### **2020-21 Legislative Session Winding Down – How Did AAUW California-sponsored Bills Fare?**

Kathi Harper, Co-Chair Public Policy, AAUW California

Not particularly well, as it turns out! We started the year off with 39 bills we selected for varying degrees of support. We chose one bill to co-sponsor, AB 92, with four additional bills for top-priority attention (“A” level bills), five bills for “important” status (“B” level bills), twenty-two bills for low- (“C”) level attention, and seven bills to “watch.”

Over-all, 28 of our 39 bills have been designated “2-year” bills, which means they are dead for this year and likely will be taken up again in 2022. Our advocate, Kathy Van Osten, has explained that this is because Senate and Assembly leadership set a limit of just 12 bills that a member could move to the second house, so members had to pick and choose what would they wanted to move forward.

Some of our bills did not make the cut. Four of our five “A” bills, along with our co-sponsored bill, and four of our five “B” bills, did not make it through. These include AB 22, AB 92, AB 737, AB 966, AB 1361, and SB 245. However, several of them were converted into the Budget and Budget “trailer bills,” which will provide funding for childcare. Although we were not entirely successful in getting AB 92 passed (establishing a sliding scale for family fees for childcare through 2023), the state budget includes \$60 million for one year of relief for all families using subsidized childcare, increased reimbursement rates for childcare providers, and funding for 206,000 new childcare slots.

We are pleased that several bills have passed and been sent to the Governor, and we are working hard to secure his signature on these bills: AB 62 and AB 367, as well as 3 of our “C” level bills: AB 123, AB 1074, and AB 1461.

Thanks again to all our members who participated in Lobby Day and/or weighed in at critical junctures on social media. For descriptions of each of these bills and/or more information on their status, visit our Bill Tracker on the AAUW California website, Public Policy/Legislative Advocacy/Bill Tracking.

***OCTOBER BOARD MEETING  
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2021***

**7:00 PM**

**ZOOM**

**Copy deadline for the  
November 2021 N.E.W.S.  
Thursday, October 28<sup>th</sup>**

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero [rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

(925) 917-1061



**SAVE THE DATE**

**PH-M AAUW**

**ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER**

**Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 10 AM**

**At the home of Janice Walker**

**More info to come!**

## 2021-2022 LEADERSHIP TEAM

### October - November 2021

- Oct 6** Morning Books, 10 am, Margi Alkire's  
**Oct 13** Board Meeting, 7 pm, Zoom  
**Oct 15** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse  
**Oct 20** General meeting, 7 pm, St Andrew's  
Presbyterian Church,  
Dr. Adam Clark, Ed. D., Superintendent of  
Mount Diablo Unified School District  
**Oct 23** Fund "Meet the Fellows", 10 am, Zoom  
**Oct 25** Evening Books, 7 pm, Brookview Clubhouse  
**Oct 28** November 2021 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba  
**Oct 30** Fund "Meet the Fellows", 10 am, Zoom  
**Nov 3** Morning Books, 10 am, TBA  
**Nov 7** Fund "Meet the Fellows", 1 pm, Zoom  
**Nov 7** Local Scholarships fundraiser, 2:30 pm, DVC  
**Nov 15** Fund meeting, 2:30 pm, Jennifer Apkarian's  
**Nov 17** General meeting, 7 pm, TBA  
**Nov 19** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse



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

### PH-M 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.  
Karen Shore B.V.M.S.  
Cindy Pieper D.V.M.

#### Presidents

Gayle Miner 349-6795 [gayle.miner@yahoo.com](mailto:gayle.miner@yahoo.com)  
Reba Siero 917-1061 [rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

#### Vice Presidents - Program

Bobbi Horack 228-2263 [horackb@comcast.net](mailto:horackb@comcast.net)  
Sally Whitsett 689-5493 [sswhits@gmail.com](mailto:sswhits@gmail.com)

#### Vice Presidents - Membership

Barbara Minneman 229-1827 [blminneman@comcast.net](mailto:blminneman@comcast.net)  
Karen Winters 408-5721 [karen.winters@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karen.winters@sbcglobal.net)

#### Vice Presidents - AAUW Fund

Jennifer Apkarian 228-2027 [apkarian1@att.net](mailto:apkarian1@att.net)  
Claudia Bass 372-8679 [cbasslancer29@aol.com](mailto:cbasslancer29@aol.com)

#### Secretary

Susan Trebino 228-1492 [strebino@gmail.com](mailto:strebino@gmail.com)

#### Treasurer

Trinka March 372-8420 [drtrinks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drtrinks@sbcglobal.net)

#### Newsletter Editor

Reba Siero 917-1061 [rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

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[rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

#### Webmaster

Sherrie Moore 229-4177

[www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org](http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org)

#### AAUW C C C Inter-branch Council

Debbie Cummings, Chair

[debbie94565@yahoo.com](mailto:debbie94565@yahoo.com)

<http://ccc-ibc-ca.aauw.net/>

#### California State Office of AAUW

1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95833

[office@aauw-ca.org](mailto:office@aauw-ca.org) (916) 448-7795

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

#### AAUW National Office

[connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) (800) 326-2289

<http://www.aauw.org/>