



PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

A HAPPY, HEALTHY NEW YEAR TO ALL OF YOU! I hope your holidays were relaxing and filled with friends and family, health and love. Now, we are beginning a new year – 2022. In January, we have important business to conduct - we begin the process of selecting a new Executive Board. That selection process is done by the Nominating Committee that was elected by the general membership. Our Parliamentarian, Helen Pereira will guide the Nominating Committee in this process. In this new year, please ask yourself “How can I help AAUW fulfill it’s goals?” There are many ways to help our organization, but the main one is volunteering your time. Please seriously consider serving on the Executive Board, it isn’t as hard as it sounds and you get to work with amazing people. So, if the Nominating Committee contacts you, please say YES to an Executive Board position. New people mean new ideas for us to try. After their official election, the new Executive Officers will begin to fill empty slots on the other parts of the board. They are: Appointed Positions and Appointed Officers. Look in your Directory to see all of the ways you can help our branch for the coming year.

Please stay safe in these trying times.

Gayle Miner, 2021-22 Co-President

SOUP SUPPER CANCELLED

FOR NOW

It is with great regret that we have cancelled/postponed our January Soup Supper. We’ve done it out of an abundance of caution and concern for the safety of our AAUW members.

A huge **Thank You** goes to our Soup Supper Committee volunteers. Sherrie Moore, Claudia Bass, Suzanne Salter and Diane Coventry worked very hard to plan this year’s Soup Supper event. We realize that everyone loves this January gathering of people and soups, but we felt that the risk of being a super spreader was too great, hence the cancellation/postponement.



Pleasant Hill-Martinez (CA) Branch

Advancing equity for women and girls
through advocacy, education, philan-
thropy and research

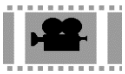
INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** met on January 5th, 10 am, at Carol Walsh's. We discussed *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nuff. In February we will discuss our classic selection, *The Good Earth* by Pearl S. Buck. Please plan to join us!



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on January 24th, 7 pm, at the Brookview Clubhouse. We will discuss our classic selection, Hemingway's *The Old Man and the Sea*. In February our book will be *This is How It Always Is* by Laurie Frankel.



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

A **Great Decisions** section is not going forward at this time. Thanks to those who expressed their interest in one.

OTHER GROUPS



****MAH JONGG** will meet on Friday, January 21st at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. Next month, we will meet on February 18th. Please let Suzanne Salter know if you plan to attend. Her contact information is:

Suzanne Salter

seabear92020@outlook.com

(925) 988-0322 cell)



****GRAND SLAMMERS**

For information, contact:

Marlene DeLaurenti at mdl@astound.net or (925) 934-4171



PH-M AAUW

ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER

Wednesday, January 12, 2022, 10 AM

Don't forget! The 2022 Layette Shower will be on Wednesday, January 12, at 10:00 AM, in person, at Janice Walker's, 524 Monti Circle, PH. You may want to consider carpooling as it will be garbage day and bins will be on the street. Layette items will benefit the Hillcrest Layette Program, which requests anything a little one can use, except newborn, NB, and under 7lbs sizes. Please email me, sandjwalk@comcast.net, to let me know you intend to be a part of the shower. If you can't participate on the 12th but would like to make a contribution, you can drop it off prior to the shower or let me know you have an item and we can arrange a pickup. Thank you to the members who have already contributed this way. Due to the fact that I have young grandchildren I am hoping you'll be vaccinated when you attend, or, be wearing a mask. Our Layette Shower is a great way to make a positive beginning to the new year! I hope you'll join me!

Janice Walker

AAUW FUND REPORT

Jennifer Apkarian and Claudia Bass, AAUW Fund VPs

Thanks to everyone who responded to the solicitation letter. Everyone was so generous. 36 checks in the amount of \$4,010.00 were sent directly to national AAUW Fund to support their various programs. One of the programs that AAUW Fund supports is the NCCWSL Leadership Conference (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders), an experience which empowers women to create meaningful impact on campus, mobilize their community, and prepare for personal and professional success after graduation. NCCWSL will educate young women about today's most pressing issues, help develop and expand upon leadership skills, and allow them to make lifelong connections with peers across the country. Currently there is not any information available of what format NCCWSL will be in 2022. The conference is still in the planning stages, and we do not know if it will be in person or virtual. Those DVC students we sponsored in past years reported getting a lot out of the experience and were thankful they had the opportunity. It has been our pleasure to sponsor them and we look forward to sponsoring new students in future years.

The AAUW Fund committee will start planning for Game Day to possibly be held during the last week of March. More details will be coming.

Our Fall Kinders fundraiser sold out quickly. Thank you to everyone who purchased gift cards. It was so nice to see the enthusiasm towards the new sales format. Our committee will consider repeating the fundraiser in the spring.

Our next meeting will be January 17, 2022 at 2:30 pm at Claudia's. We would love to have new members on the committee. Let Jennifer or Claudia know if you are interested.

Again a big thank you to all those who have supported AAUW Fund and the mission of AAUW.

Jennifer Apkarian at (925) 228-2027 or apkarian1@att.net or
Claudia Bass at (925) 372-8679 or cbasslancer29@aol.com

JANUARY BOARD MEETING

JANUARY 12, 2022

7 PM

ZOOM

**Copy deadline for the
February 2022 N.E.W.S.**

Friday, January 28th

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasiero@yahoo.com

(925) 917-1061

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

TECH TREK TIDINGS

Diane Coventry

Welcome to 2022 and our new beginnings. We are focused and moving forward with planning for on-site in-person Camp Sonoma this summer. One of our branch tasks is to form a Fundraising Subcommittee of the Tech Trek Committee. The cost of camp has increased to \$1,100, per camper. Our branch has requested our usual 6 spots.

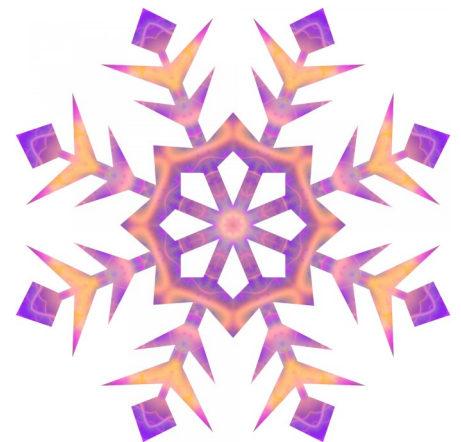
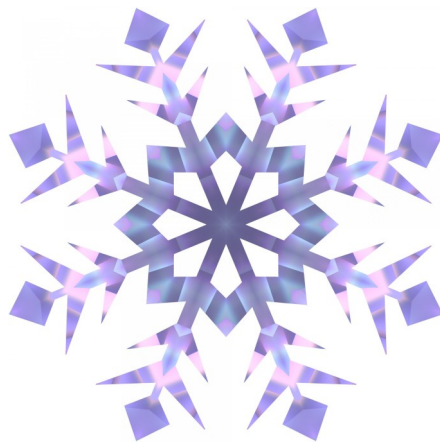
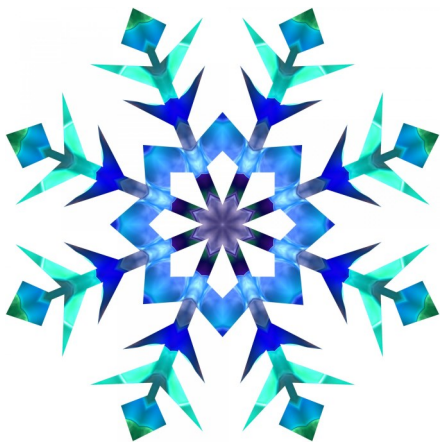
We have several ideas for fundraising. Proposed potential fundraisers are a DVC performance in the Spring (Virginia is becoming very proficient at these, as is Katrinka), Painting with a Purpose (the Danville/WC branch did a virtual one in their area, another possibility), Flamingo Flocking, Build a Tech Trek Girl (asking for donations to build a virtual camper). There are also Kiwanis and Marathon Petroleum grants to apply for. In September of 2020 there was a great AAUW webinar "Show Me the Money, Creative and Fun Non-Contact Fundraising Ideas". Here is the link [Show Me the Money: Fundraising Ideas For a COVID World - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](https://www.aauw-ca.org/show-me-the-money-fundraising-ideas-for-a-covid-world)

Another project is to form a Teck Trek Alumni Group (TTAG). This will likely be conjunction with other local branches, IBC perhaps. We hope to keep in contact with former Trekkers and offer our continued support. Another webinar to check out Another project is to form a Teck Trek Alumni Group (TTAG). This will likely be conjunction with other local branches, IBC perhaps. Another webinar to view show in November 2020 - [Keeping in Touch With Your Tech Trekkers - and Why You Should - AAUW California \(aauw-ca.org\)](https://www.aauw-ca.org/keeping-in-touch-with-your-tech-trekkers-and-why-you-should). AAUW CA Tech Trek Committee is working on helping branches with forming TTAG groups.

We are looking for additional members to join our committee. Let me know if you are interested in being a part of our group and specifically fundraising. We are still waiting for updated camp information, forms, etc. from AAUW State Tech Trek Committee, hopefully this month. We will make contact with our middle schools after Winter Break.

As always, thank you for supporting Tech Trek.

Diane Coventry diane.coventry@yahoo.com



PUBLIC POLICY

Women's Reproductive Rights - Where Are We Now?

by Claire Noonan, AAUW CA Public Policy

By January 22, 2022, the 49th anniversary of the Roe v Wade decision, SCOTUS (the Supreme Court of the United States) will have heard arguments on Texas SB 8 legislation banning pregnancy termination after six (6) weeks and Mississippi's legislation (Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization) to ban abortion after fifteen (15) weeks.

What are the issues? For Texas, it isn't about the constitutionality of the legislation, i.e. the fundamental right decided by Roe v Wade. Instead, a decision will be made on the tactics used by the Texas legislature - delegating their enforcement duties to citizens - to preclude lawsuits against the State.

The decision on the Mississippi legislation will be straightforward. One, SCOTUS could overturn Roe v Wade. Two, the court could limit legal standing to challenges on state law, e.g. doctors wouldn't be able to challenge on behalf of patients. Three, new legal standards for the evaluation of abortion regulations may be created so states aren't required to show that the benefits of an abortion ban outweigh the undue burden to patients – reversing Planned Parenthood v Casey. (*Women's Health Policy*, 11/21/2021)

One hundred six (106) state laws have been passed to restrict abortion in 2021. Activists, like AAUW, are bringing lawsuits before the Supreme Court. AAUW has submitted an amicus brief for Dobbs vs. Jackson Women's Health Organization as to the constitutionality of the Mississippi law.

In addition, the ACLU and others have brought lawsuits against other Mississippi abortion-related legislation like regulations for informed consent, a waiting period before the procedure, and ban on telemedicine visits.

Surveys show that 60-70% of Americans approve of abortion in all or most circumstances. Only 20% think abortion should be illegal in all circumstances. (*New York Times, Upshot* (5/19/2021)). AAUW and AAUW California stand with the majority, and the time to act is now. We must pressure the Senate to pass the [Women's Health Protection Act](#). The legislation must become law in this session. Unfair changes in representation have occurred with redistricting. Votes in the 2022 mid-term elections that would elect representatives who would vote for this bill could be suppressed.

Detailed information on the current position for women's reproductive health is available from the [Guttmacher Institute](#).

2021-2022 LEADERSHIP TEAM

January - February 2022

- Jan 5 Morning Books, 10 am, Carol Walsh's
Jan 12 Layette Shower, 10 am, Janice Walker's
Jan 12 Board meeting, 7 pm, ZOOM
Jan 17 Fund meeting, 2:30 pm, Claudia Bass'
Jan 19 Soup Supper, Cancelled due to Covid upturn
Jan 21 Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
Jan 24 Evening Books, 7 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
Jan 28 Newsletter deadline
Feb 2 Morning Books, 10 am, TBA
Feb 9 Board meeting, 7 pm, TBA
Feb 18 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



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Karen Shore B.V.M.S.
Cindy Pieper D.V.M.

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