



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 64 Issue 9

May/June 2022



**PLEASANT HILL MARTINEZ AAUW**

## *End of Year Brunch*

June 4, 2022 • 10 AM  
Marilyn Thelen's Home  
5318 Stonehurst Drive, Martinez

Tech Trek Campers will be present  
Officers for the upcoming year will be sworn in

Cost is \$5.00/member for a catered brunch to  
be paid the day of the event

**PLEASE EMAIL BOBBI HORACK AT  
HORACKB@COMCAST.NET  
TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT**





## PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

As we come to the end of our challenging AAUW year, it is good to look back on what we have done. I first want to give a huge thank you to my Co-President, Reba Siero, who worked so hard to keep us up to date and connected with all things technical and virtual. She kept us connected with National, State and the Inter Branch Council. We worked well together and were a good balance. I will miss her support and calming manner.

Our Program VP's, Bobbi Horack and Sally Whitsett, brought us interesting and informative programs throughout the year that we got to attend in-person and/or virtually. Our Welcome Back Brunch in September was held at Nancy Hobert's lovely home, it was one of our first in-person meetings after a long time of virtual only meetings. It was a delightful and happy experience and a kick off for our year.

Our Membership VP's, Barbara Minneman and Karen Winters kept track of our membership and welcomed new members to our branch.

AAUW Fund VP's, Claudia Bass and Jennifer Apkarian, led their committee in fundraising for National endowments and fellowships. They also held two Kinder's Gift Card fundraisers so they could send a DVC student to the National Conference of College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). They also held a Game Day to raise funds for the Legal Advocacy Fund (National).

Susan Peterson Trebino, our Secretary, took copious and accurate minutes of board and general meetings. She has done an outstanding job this year for our branch. Trinkia March, our Treasurer, kept track of our funds, incoming and outgoing and was always available when we needed a check or to turn in money from fundraisers.

We also had fundraisers held by Local Scholarship chairperson, Virginia Hewgley and Tech Trek Chairperson, Diane Coventry to support their programs of giving \$1,000 scholarships to high school senior young

women and sending seventh grade girls to Tech Trek camp at Sonoma State. Then there was the Layette Shower chaired by Janice Walker. Lots of sweet baby clothes were collected to donate to needy families through the Hillcrest Congregational Church. We didn't get to meet in person, but the baby clothes were collected just the same and delivered by Janice. Our Interest Groups continued to meet throughout the year, despite Covid.

You have now elected a new board for 2022-23. The new board remains the same as last year's board with the exception that Carolynn Barcklay will replace Jennifer Apkarian as Fund Co-VP. We thank Jennifer for her work as a Fund VP and we welcome Carolynn to work with Claudia Bass in the new year 2022-23.

I want to thank the 2021-22 board for their service to AAUW and to our Pleasant Hill Martinez branch. You gave your valuable time and energy so that our branch could be successful in it's endeavors. I also thank you for your willingness to continue in your board positions for another year.

Pleasant Hill Martinez Branch of AAUW has been invited to speak about the workings of AAUW at the May 19<sup>th</sup> luncheon meeting of Kiwanis in Martinez. Gayle Miner (Board), Diane Coventry (Tech Trek), Virginia Hewgley (Local Scholarship) and Claudia Bass (Fund) will all speak that day about what AAUW is all about and what we do as a branch to advance equity for women and girls.

Our last event of the year is our End Of The Year Brunch at Marilyn Thelen's home on June 4 at 10:00 AM. It will include the Installation of Officers for the coming year. RESERVATIONS ARE A MUST for this event. Call Bobbi Horack at (925) 437-4927 (cell only) if you would like to attend. There will be a small charge to cover the expense of the food. See the front page of this Newsletter for details.

It has been a challenging year, but we got through it with lots of enthusiasm and success. I look forward to serving as your president for another year and also working with an amazing group of women who serve on your AAUW Board and head our Interest Groups. It is my hope that others will step forward and serve as well.

Gayle Miner 2021-22 Co-President

## INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



**\*\*MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 10 am, in the Brookview Clubhouse. We will be discussing Kristina Baker Kline's book about Australia's early beginnings, *The Exiles*. Gayle Garrison will host the event with Joan Foster and Sara Tancredy as co-hostesses.

In June, Morning Books will again meet at the Brookview Clubhouse for our "used to be" annual potluck luncheon. Sign-ups for salads and accompaniments will be taken at the May meeting. So, save Wednesday, June 1, 11:30 am for a potluck luncheon. Since we postponed February's book, we will be discussing Pearl S. Buck's *The Good Earth* ~ our Classic selection for the year, after lunch. We look forward to seeing you at both events!



**\*\*MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> **AND** on Thursday, June 23. Movies, of course, will be chosen later. Please call or email Marlene Maksel if you are interested.

### 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

## OTHER GROUPS



**\*\*MAH JONGG** will meet on Friday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on June 17<sup>th</sup> and again on July 15<sup>th</sup>, both 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

### *MAY BOARD MEETING*

*MAY 11, 2022*

*7 PM*

*TBA*

**Copy deadline for the**

**July-August 2022 N.E.W.S.**

**FRIDAY, July 1<sup>st</sup>**

Please email copy to:

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

(925) 917-1061

# In Memoriam

In memory of Alana MacDonald, a long-time member of Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW, her Coffee Group has donated \$500 to Local Scholarships in her name.



## AAUW FUND REPORT

Our spring Kinder's \$20.00 Gift Certificate Card sale ended April 9, 2022. Thank you to everyone that bought gift cards which made the sale a huge success. For the spring sale we had a profit of \$522.00 and for the fall sale a profit of \$505.00 totaling \$1,027.00 for the year. That will cover a DVC student to attend the NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders) conference in 2023.

The NCCWSL Conference is fast approaching. It will be held virtually on May 24<sup>th</sup> through 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Unfortunately, no applications from DVC were turned in to attend NCCWSL. The committee was disappointed but looks forward to selecting a student to attend NCCWSL in 2023, hopefully in person.

Our next two AAUW Fund Committee meetings will be on May 23rd and July 18th at 2:30. We look forward to our new AAUW Fund Co-VP Carolynn Barcklay joining us to help chair the committee for 2022-2023. On a personal note, it has been a pleasure serving as AAUW Fund co-VP with Claudia Bass the last two years. I would also like to express appreciation to our committee members who have worked so hard for AAUW Fund: Gayle Miner, Helen Pereira, Marlene Maksel and Cricket Hamilton. I look forward to continuing on the committee next year. If you are interested in attending future meetings contact Jennifer, Claudia or Carolynn. We welcome new committee members!

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

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

Carolynn Barcklay at (925) 682-7552 or [cbarcklay@hotmail.com](mailto:cbarcklay@hotmail.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 pictures from our **April Program** and **Game Day** 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**

### Nominating Committee Report

The election of officers for the 2022-2023 year was held at the General Meeting on April 20th. The Executive Officers elected are as follows:

Presidents: Gayle Miner

Program Vice Presidents: Bobbi Horack and Sally Whitsett

Membership Vice Presidents: Barbara Minneman and Karen Winters

AAUW FUND (EF) Vice Presidents: Claudia Bass andCarolynn Barcklay

Secretary: Susan Peterson Trebino

Treasurer: Trinkia March

Please note that we still need someone to help Gayle Miner as a Co-President.

Elected Officers will be installed at the June 4th Brunch Meeting.

Thank you,

Helen Pereira

Parliamentarian

(925) 285-1766

# LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS

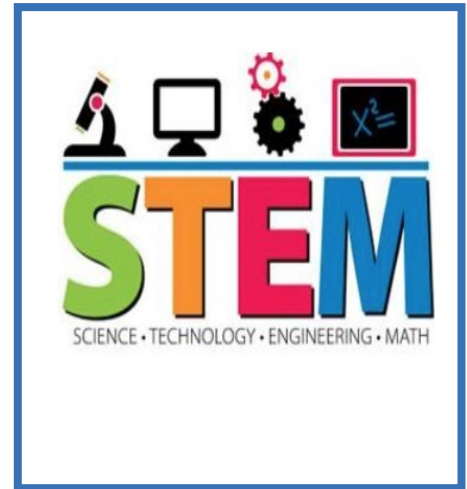


Thanks to everyone who participated in our fundraising efforts this year! Our annual Coffee Klatch raised \$3800, and our share of the DVC play fundraisers so far is \$345. We are still waiting to hear about the proceeds from our dining fundraiser at Red Robin. A nice surprise was the \$500 donated in memory of Alana MacDonald by her Coffee Group!

Thanks also to the other members of the Local Scholarship Committee - Carol Walsh, Sherrie Moore, Shelley Jacobson, and Karen Winters, for taking the time to read all the applications and have the in-depth discussion necessary to make our final decisions. We had applications from 15 smart, talented, and community-oriented students. It was extremely challenging to narrow it down to just a few recipients this year. Eventually, we selected five young women to receive scholarships – Abigail Yeates and Rosalind Deilke from College Park High School, as well as Samantha Ramos Alva, Victoria Gilbert, and Mia Puljiz from Alhambra High School. The awards will be presented to the students at their Senior Awards Nights in late May. I hope you will all be able to meet these extraordinary young women when we honor them at our End of Year Brunch June 4th.

*Virginia Hewgley*

# Tech Trek Tidings



## Northern California 2022 Tech Trek at Sonoma State University.

This year, middle school teachers from Martinez Junior High School, Pleasant Hill Middle School, Sequoia Middle School, and Valley view Middle School nominated 20 girls for our Tech Trek STEM camp. 16 girls applied, and we interviewed 10 of them. It was quite a challenge to narrow it down to six candidates and 2 alternates - These young women were all extraordinary! Some of them did not have much previous exposure to STEM, but they were ready and willing to try out something new. After much discussion, the Tech Trek Committee chose Anvi Channaveer, Sanvi Panda, and Georgia Paulsen from Sequoia Middle School, Audrey Anderson-Ruiz from Valley View Middle School, Natalia Andres from Pleasant Hill Middle School, and Sarah Bunch from Martinez Junior High. Dylan Farrar and Abbie Wang from Martinez Junior High are the alternates. Congratulation to these young women! They have been invited to our Spring Brunch, and we look forward to introducing them to our members.

Isabella Martinez, our 2016 trekker, will be joining us at camp again, but this time as a senior counselor. She is completing her first year at UCSD in the chemical engineering program. She was able to negotiate the start date for her summer internship in order to be at Tech Trek. We're so excited to have her back in a new role.

Thanks to Tech Trek committee for all your work in selecting these girls, and thank you, members, for your financial support so we can continue to send girls to Camp Sonoma.

Are you interested in being a class monitor at Tech Trek during the week of June 20 - 24? There are morning and afternoon shifts available each day. You can see the schedule and sign up here: [Class Monitor Sign-up](#) or call Virginia Hewgley @ 925-768-4417 for more information.

## PUBLIC POLICY

From Denise Burian  
OML DEI Coordinator  
STEM Conference Chair

4/24/22

To IBC members - please note last paragraph. Assemblyman Grayson was very interested in supporting your fundraisers, especially around Tech Trek and scholarships. He wants to be invited to your fundraisers and will attend if he can, if you are in his district.

Lisa Simone from DAW Branch and I met with Grayson during Lobby Day. He was very supportive of our positions and legislation we presented. It was also great to meet Lisa. I wrote this up in case you want to say anything about it in your newsletter.

### AAUW-CA Lobby Day

The annual AAUW-CA Lobby Day was held on April 13th. It was exciting to be part of the all Branch effort to lobby all CA senators and Assembly members. I was part of a team that met, in person, with Tim Grayson, Assemblyman for AD 14. I live in AD14, as does Lisa Simone who is a member of the DAW Branch. He was very kind and receptive to the discussions of the bills we lobbied for, all of which he is supporting. We informed him that AAUW has 600 members in Contra Costa County and Vallejo/Benicia (in his District), and 300 of those members are in his district. He was impressed with that.

We discussed AB 1968, which had just passed the Assembly and is being considered by the Senate. This bill instructs the UC and CSU systems to establish consistent policies and procedures related to handling sexual harassment cases for all campuses. AB 92, the Child Care Family Fees bill, which seeks to waive family fees for childcare for lower income families through September 2024. And we discussed AB 1666, authored by Assemblywoman Rebecca Bauer-Kahan - "Protection for Reproductive Health Providers and Patients". This bill seeks to prohibit a resident from Texas for example, to file a suit in CA to seek penalties allowed in Texas against those who provide abortion services or assist a patient in seeking abortion services in CA. And it prohibits the satisfaction in a CA court of a judgement rendered in another state under that state's law.

We told him about Tech Trek, Scholarships, and the STEM Conference at Saint Mary's and he wants to support our Programs. Assemblyman Grayson requested information about fundraisers any Branch in his District are having and he will attend if he can, and provide financial support. He would like to sponsor a Tech Trek camper so please contact him about our fundraisers. Grayson's district is currently Benicia-Vallejo, Concord, Clayton and half of Walnut Creek. As of January 2023, he will lose Benicia-Vallejo and Walnut Creek, and gain all of East County.



## 2021-2022 LEADERSHIP TEAM

### May-June-July 2022

- May 4** Morning Books, 10 am, Brookview Clubhouse  
**May 11** Board Meeting, 7 pm, TBD  
**May 13** Ways and Means, 11 am, Brookview Clubhouse  
**May 15** Three Sisters, 2:30 pm, DVC  
**May 20** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse  
**May 23** Fund Committee meeting, 2:30 pm, TBD  
**May 26** Matinee Idle  
**Jun 1** Morning Books, 11:30 am, Brookview Clubhouse  
**Jun 4** End of Year Brunch, Marilyn Thelen's  
**Jun 8** Joint Board Meeting, 7 pm, TBD  
**Jun 17** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse  
**Jun 20 - 24** Tech Trek - Sonoma State  
**Jun 22** Matinee Idle  
**Jul 1** Newsletter deadline  
**Jul 15** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse  
**July 18** Fund Committee meeting, 2:30 pm, TBD

#### 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)

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#### Vice Presidents - AAUW Fund

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

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

#### Webmaster

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[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)

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# MAY

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

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

### Montecito Animal Clinic



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