

Volume 65 Issue 3

November 2022

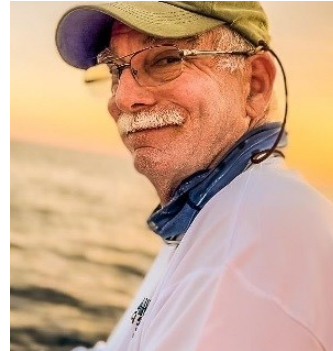
Brian Lindblom - CERT

Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 7 pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

1601 St. Mary's Drive, Pleasant Hill

or on Zoom!



We are pleased to have Mr. Brian Lindblom speak to us about **CERT**, the **Community Emergency Response Team**.

Mr. Lindblom has recently retired as the Director of CERT and has been involved with the local programs since 2009. He will be explaining the many of the importance of safety in our lives. His PowerPoint presentation will be very enlightening.

We are all familiar with the current drought conditions in our area, earth quakes and other emergency issues in the Martinez & Pleasant Hill areas that are danger. Safety is paramount and there are many trained graduates of the CERT program residing in our communities to help in case of emergency.

Jingle and Mingle is coming!

Our 2022 Holiday Party for Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW!

Date: Saturday, December 3, 2022

Place: Brookview Clubhouse

Time: 5 p.m. with dinner at 5:46 p.m.

Bring your own favorite beverage.

Price: \$50.00

Reservation details and more are on page 4.

From your fun-loving committee: Margi Alkire, Sandra Wolfe, Bea Ball, Beverly Diefenbacher, SarahJoy Haynes, Shelley Jacobson, Beth Madruga, Marlene Maksel, Ish Mendonsa, Janet Sullivan, and Marilyn Thelen



PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

It is vital to our PHM Branch that we have people from the General Membership serve on the Nominating Committee; it is in our bylaws. Please consider serving on this important committee to help nominate officers for the 2022-23 year. If you are interested in serving, please contact our Parliamentarian Helen Pereira at (925) 685-0757 or (925) 285-1766 cell. She will be happy to talk to you about what is involved in serving on the committee.

Our new Communication chair, Virginia Hewgley, has been trying to get the word out about our branch and what we do by starting an AAUW Facebook account and an Instagram account as well. More importantly, Virginia will be sending out an online survey to all of our members that is only 4 questions long. Her note is also in this newsletter, on page 10. This survey will help the AAUW Board better meet the needs of our members. So, please answer the 4 survey questions and respond with your thoughts. We want to bring you programs that you are interested in and that follow AAUW Guidelines. At our first Fall General Meeting in October, we had a disappointing 12 attendees and 3 attending on Zoom. A big thank you to those who did attend to hear Helen Rossi talk about the process of and unique approach to the rebuilding of Martinez schools.

If you have suggestions for future programs, do not hesitate to send your ideas to Bobbi Horack or Sally Whitsett, our Program VPs. Maybe your idea will boost attendance! Bobbi and Sally are working on getting an AAUW Fellowship grant recipient to speak sometime in the new year.

Our November 16 General Meeting is about Emergency Preparedness. Are you prepared for an emergency? Come and find out.

Two big events are coming in December and January. First, our **Holiday Party, Jingle and Mingle**, on December 3 at BrookView Clubhouse and on January 18, our popular **International Soup Supper** at St. Andrew's Church. Look for more information in your monthly newsletter about how to reserve your place.

Our first **Lunchin' Ladies** interest group met at the Crescent Bistro on October 24. **Lunchin' Ladies** is trying to become a monthly interest group again after a long Covid shutdown. Let me (Gayle Miner) know if you are interested in joining us. We are going to meet on the third Monday of each month for lunch out. I hope you can join us on days that you are available. Reservation information is included on page 3.

Please remember to fill out our AAUW survey, it will help to improve programs and communication for our AAUW Branch. Have a delightful Thanksgiving with family and friends.

Gayle Miner
2022-23 President

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



INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday the 2nd, 10 am, at Janice Walker's. We will be discussing Marie Benedict's *The Personal Librarian*. This book is based on a true piece of history and should provoke a good discussion. Please let Janice know if you will be attending. In December we will be reading Dominic Smith's *The Last Painting of Sara de Vos*. Please plan to join us!



****MATINEE IDLE** will take a recess due to the holidays and will plan to view a movie in January on the 4th Thursday ~26th. You will be notified of the movie, time and place on the Monday before the 26th. Please call Marlene Maksiel if you are interested in attending.



NEW!!

****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will go to lunch on:

Monday, November 21 at 12:30 at

The Cooperage, Lafayette

Monday, December 19 at 12:30 at

Wence's, Pleasant Hill

Reserve your space by the Monday BEFORE each date with Gayle Miner, (925) 349-6795 hm. or (925) 788-3272 cell, so she can make reservations in a timely manner.

SUNSHINE

Gayle Garrison

If you know of any member who needs a bit of sunshine, please let me know!

Gayle Garrison

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

OTHER GROUPS



****MAH JONGG** will meet on Friday, November 18th at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on December 16th at 12:30 PM. 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 De Laurenti at mdl@astound.net or (925) 934-4171

NOVEMBER BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 9, 2022

7 PM

Virginia Hewgley's home and Zoom

Copy deadline for the

December 2022 N.E.W.S.

TUESDAY, November 22nd

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasiero@yahoo.com

(925) 917-1061



JINGLE AND MINGLE

**Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW
Holiday Party**

**Saturday, December 3, 2022
Brookview Clubhouse**

**1201 Monument Blvd, Concord, CA 94520
Please carpool as parking is limited**

**5 p.m. Bring your own drinks
(wine glasses provided)**

Choose your table seats and enjoy appetizers

**5:46 p.m. Dinner is served, provided by
CATERING BY CYNTHIA**

**Filet mignon (vegan or vegetarian option available
upon request), salads, bread, coffee, iced tea**

6:30 Dessert

Music by “ANY WEDNESDAY”

Followed by the famous Box Game!

Price: \$50 per person Please send your check to:

Marlene Maksel, 1201 Monument Blvd, #12, Concord, CA 94520

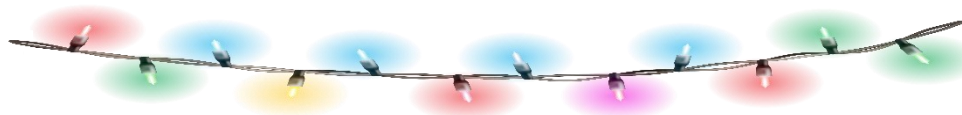
by SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2022

and indicate if you prefer a vegan or vegetarian meal

Make your check out to: AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez

Your check is your reservation!

Spouses and friends are welcome!



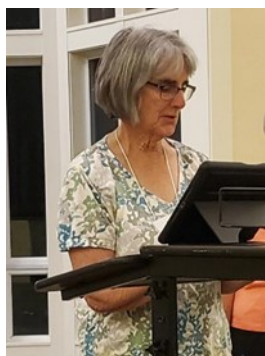
Committee Members (who just like to have fun!)

Margi Alkire, Sandra Wolfe

**Bea Ball, Beverly Diefenbacher, SarahJoy Haynes, Shelley Jacobson Beth Madruga,
Marlene Maksel, Ish Mendonsa, Janet Sullivan, Marilyn Thelen**



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 **October Program** on the **Photo Page**. See our current list of Programs, Activities, and Fundraisers 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



SAVE THE DATE

PH-M AAUW

ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER

Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 10 AM

At the home of Janice Walker

More info in December!

PUBLIC POLICY

**Remember to
VOTE!!**

**By mail or
In person**

AAUW FUND REPORT

Claudia Bass and Carolynn Barcklay, AAUW Fund VPs

The response to the solicitation letter has been excellent. To date we have a total of \$2,830 with 31 contributions. Contributions can be made until December 16th. Thank you for being so generous, contributions to these funds support the heart and goals of AAUW.

The sale of Kinder gift cards is in full swing. You can purchase the gift card for \$20 and receive \$20 to purchase **any** Kinder item. There are seven Kinder locations in the Bay Area and AAUW receives \$4.50 for each card sold. These make great gifts for the holidays! If you want a few of these gift cards, contact Gayle Miner, Claudia Bass, or Carolynn Barcklay. The cards will also be available at various AAUW gatherings and meetings until November 18th.

There is one more Zoom meeting on November 12th for the AAUW CA Fund Event and it is from 10AM until noon. You must register for the event on the CA website, www.aauw-ca.org. The fellowship recipients give interesting presentations, and it will be worth your time.

We would encourage you to join our committee and help support the various activities that benefit women on a national and local level. Our next meeting is on Monday, November 14th at 2:30 at Claudia's home. Please contact Claudia Bass or Carolynn Barcklay, and let us know if you are interested.

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

Carolynn Barcklay at (925) 682-7552 or cbarcklay@hotmail.com



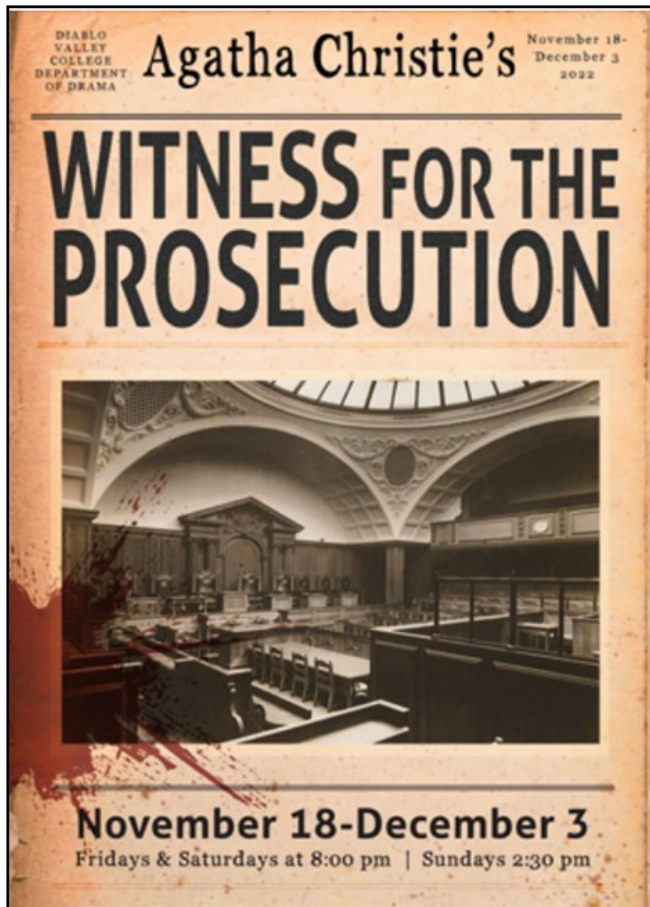
Nominating Committee Report

It is now time to be working seriously on the election of those who will serve on the Nominating Committee this 2022-2023 year. The Committee is comprised of 3 members from the General Membership and 2 members from the Board. Also necessary are an alternate member from each of the two groups. If we have the required number of candidates by the November General Meeting, the Nominating Committee can be elected. If we do not, the election will then take place at the January General Meeting, which is our Soup Supper, as we do not have a General Meeting in December. Please consider being a part of the Committee. It meets in January to work on the selection and election of our elected Board members, the final election being held in April. I really need your help, as does our Branch, and appreciate all of you willing to give just a little time to the important work of the organization.

Thank you,
Helen Pereira, Parliamentarian
(925) 285-1766

Witness for the Prosecution

Fundraiser for Local Scholarship and Tech Trek



By Agatha Christie
Student Director TBD

Leonard Vole stands accused of murdering a rich widow. The stakes are high with shocking witness testimony, impassioned outbursts from the dock and a young man's fight to escape the hangman's noose. Generally regarded as one of Christie's most accomplished plays, this suspenseful thriller keeps audiences guessing until the very end.

We are getting a group together for Sunday, November 20, at 2:30 pm in the Arena Theater at DVC. Tickets are \$30. Contact Virginia Hewgley (925-768-4417 or vhewgley@astound.net) by **November 11** if you would like to join us.



International Soup Supper
Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 6 PM
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill

Please join us for hearty, homemade soups, breads, and desserts at our AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch Annual International Soup Supper.

Coffee, water, and tea will be provided

Be sure to bring your own soup bowl and spoon.

Dinner starts promptly at 6PM, and remember that spouses, partners, and friends are most welcome.

Our speaker for the evening is Evelyn LaTorre. Evelyn joined the Peace Corps upon graduation from Holy Names and was assigned to Peru where she taught PE, English and organized 4-H clubs. She married her husband, a Peruvian university student in Cusco, Peru, in June 1966. She worked twenty years as a School Psychologist for the Fremont and San Jose Unified School Districts. Evelyn was named Director of Special Education for San Jose Unified in 1990. She concluded 32 years' work in education in 2002 after eight years as a Special Education Administrator for the Contra Costa County Office of Education.

**Let us know if you would like to bring
a pot of soup serving 10-12 people or bread or dessert
OR pay \$10. All guests pay \$10.**

Contact Suzanne Salter 925 988-0322 or seabear92020@outlook.com

to pay and indicate number of guests

RSVP & pay by January 12th (make checks to AAUW Pleasant Hill - Martinez Branch)

Hope to see you there!





SAM at Fair Oaks in February/March

Would you like to be a SAM volunteer? We are creating a curriculum for our SAM (Study Art and Music) Program for Fair Oaks Elementary School for February/March. Our lesson plan always includes an artist and a composer.

Your duties will be pretty simple -- help us set up and clean up and then admire the work of the students. We will teach TK (Transitional Kindergarten) thru 5th grade, and 2 Special Ed classes (SDC).

We are planning a workday in February where we will prepare the materials for the students.

Please let us know if you would like to volunteer. So far, we have 19 volunteers on our list. It is lots of fun and rewarding.

Sherrie Moore, Barbara Minneman, and Helen Pereira



Gourmet to Go Fundraiser



We hope that you enjoyed your dinner of Chicken Piccata with wild rice pilaf, Italian chopped salad, roll and butter, and chocolate decadent brownie. We appreciate your support for our Gourmet to Go fundraiser on October 5th.

Thank you to Classic Catering for providing the dinners for us. Forty-three dinners were purchased, and we made a profit of \$950, which was divided between funds for Tech Trek, Local Scholarships, and AAUW Fund.

We are considering another similar fundraising dinner in the Spring. Please tell us your thoughts.

Committee: Sherrie Moore, Janice Walker, Marlene de Laurenti, and Gayle Miner



Dear Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW members,

This year California AAUW is really focusing on ways to increase membership and involvement in our organization. Our branch board is also making membership and involvement a priority. Our membership has decreased by about 20% over the last few years, and we are having difficulty recruiting volunteers for board positions and appointed positions. We realize that so many of you have held many these positions over the years and feel a need to step back and let “others” take the lead, but unfortunately, we don’t have a lot of “others” to do that right now! However, we’re pretty sure all of you are still just as passionate about AAUW’s mission to create equity for women and girls as you always have been, and we appreciate your ongoing support for our branch projects like Local Scholarship, Tech Trek, SAM, Layette Shower, etc.

I volunteered for the Communications position this year because I am concerned about how the COVID pandemic has accelerated the natural metamorphosis of our organization and really put us behind the eight ball as far as needing to find more modern ways to communicate and get the word out about this wonderful organization. So far I have set up a Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100085429830742>) and an Instagram account (@phm_aauw) for our branch, and I’m in the process of learning the rules for Nextdoor. I hope you will like and follow these accounts. I’m pretty new to all this, so any suggestions you have for me are more than welcome!

I have also created a survey for our membership to see what kind of communication we need to be focusing on, and to gather ideas for making our organization more visible in our community and attractive to new members. The survey is only four questions long, so it should not take much of your time. It will ask for your email, but I’m only asking for that so I can contact you if I have questions about your responses - it won’t result in any spam. Please take the time to answer these questions to help guide us in our efforts this year!

<https://forms.gle/zV7rYbddcY8Zy88V7>

Virginia Hewgley

Communications, Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW

2022-2023 LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nov/Dec 2022/Jan 2023 & beyond

- Nov 2** Morning Books, 10 am, Janice Walker's home
Nov 8 Election Day
Nov 9 Board Meeting, 7 pm, Virginia Hewgley's home
Nov 12 AAUW CA Fund Event, 10 am, Zoom
Nov 16 General meeting, 7 pm, CERT - Brian Lindblom
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church/Zoom
Nov 22 December N.E.W.S. deadline
Dec 3 Holiday Party, Jingle and Mingle, 5 pm,
Brookview Clubhouse
Happy Holidays to everyone!
Dec 27 January N.E.W.S. deadline
Jan 11 Layette Shower, 10 am, Janice Walker's home
Jan 11 Board Meeting, 7 pm, Trinka March's home
Jan 18 International Soup Supper, 6 pm,
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Feb/Mar SAM at Fair Oaks



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.

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Karen Winters 408-5721 karen.winters@sbcglobal.net

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rebasiero@yahoo.com

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www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org

AAUW C C C Inter-branch Council

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