



Pleasant Hill Branch
N.E.W.S
Now/Events/Women/Success

Volume 51 Issue 6

February 2009

Danville-Alamo AAUW, Zeta Zeta Chapter of Delta Kappa Gamma and Pleasant Hill AAUW
Present

International Fellow Night

with

Linjun Fan

Tuesday, February 17

Scott's Seafood Grill & Bar, Walnut Creek

5:30 pm Social time with an open bar

6:00pm Meeting & program

With support from the AAUW Educational Foundation, Linjun Fan, an international fellow, will soon complete her MA in Journalism at UC Berkeley. Linjun has filmed and edited video stories on the Beijing Olympics and created "Albany Today", a community news website in Albany, CA, that is used as a model by the Journalism School of UC Berkeley for training students and providing community services.

Reservation deadline Feb 9

\$32 check made out to DKG/AAUW Reservations

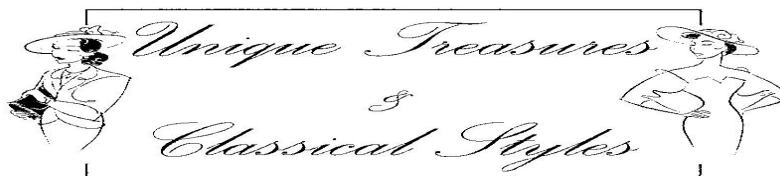
Denise Dolan, PO Box 551, Alamo, CA 94507

Mark your dinner choice on the check

Imperial Salmon (mascarpone cheese and spinach, leek and lemon cream sauce)

or

Sliced chicken sienna (wild mushrooms, leeks and fontina cheese, toastd poppy seed-dijon beurre blanc)



**Pleasant Hill American Association of University Women
Presents**

**A Luncheon & Vintage Fashion Show
Featuring Goodwill Bags**

Saturday, February 28, 2009 at 11:30 AM

**Hillcrest Congregational Church
401 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill**

Tickets \$30 benefiting the AAUW Educational Foundation Fellowships

Tickets and information contact Sandra Wolfe

925.228.2633 rffwolfeman@sbcglobal.net

Check out the Pleasant Hill AAUW Web Site
<http://www.aauw-ph.org>

KIT'S KORNER



Do we still call the Educational Foundation the “heart of AAUW”? Is February still EF month because of all the hearts and valentines? If not, then it looks like PHAAUW is reviving a tradition. This month we all have the opportunity to listen to a Fellow who is receiving EF funding and another opportunity to raise the funds for more women to achieve their academic goals. Please read the announcements carefully and I will expect to see many of you at each of these events. Please call me (228-7503) if you need a ride.

As I write this the nominating committee for this year has not been finalized. When it is, these hardworking folks will be calling on each and every one of you to step forward and support your organization. I have been extremely proud of the board this year. Every one of the elected officers has served more than twice as an elected officer of this branch, most of them and many of the appointed officers as president. Perhaps this is the year for something new. How many of you have not served on the board ever, or perhaps in the last 5 years? Where are the members who have participated on committees and are now ready to step up to a leadership position? Please, don't wait to be called. Offer your services now. Or, if you are reluctant to “toot your own horn”, please accept when you are called and continue in the tradition of a strong PHAAUW. *Kit*

CATCH THE WAVE AT CONVENTION 2009 MISSION IN MOTION

“Riding the Waves of Change”

April 24 – 26, 2009

Nominating Committee

The Pleasant Hill branch 2009-2010 nominating committee consists of the following members: Marlene Maksel, Marilyn Tubbs with Ish Mendonsa as alternate from the board and Margi Alkire, Suzanne Rheingruber, Suzanne Salter and Kit DeGear as alternate from the membership.

The Nominating Committee will meet on Thursday, February 5th at 7:00 pm at Marilyn Tubbs' home, 18 Monivea Place, Pleasant Hill. Please contact one of the above members if you would like to be an officer in our branch for next year. Our president's message this month spells it all out for you.

Ginny Hargrave, Parliamentarian

2008 – 2009 Board

President's Team

President:

Kit Hein 228-7503

Vice President's Program:

Bea Ball 825-3622

Eileen Bordenave 944-5528

Vice President's – EF:

Marlene DeLaurenti 934-4171

Sandy Wolfe 228-2633

Vice President's Membership:

Margi Alkire 827-2940

Diane Gartner 798-0798

Vice President – LAF:

Victoria Maat 933-4432

Secretary:

Ish Mendonsa 680-2749

Treasurer:

Suzanne Salter 935-0861

Newsletter Editor:

Kit Hein 228-7503

Marilyn Tubbs 939-6220

Pleasant Hill AAUW N.E.W.S. is published ten times a year by and for the American Association of University Women. May/June & July/August are combined issues.

Assoc Help Line:

Pamela Peete,
Office Coordinator
CA AAUW Office
P.O. Box 160067
Sacramento, CA 95816

Ph: 916-448-7795

Fax: 916-448-1729

Email: Office@aauw-ca.org

Web Page: aauw-ca.org

IBC Chair:

Debbie Cummings –

Email:

Debbie94565@yahoo.com

Copy deadline for March N.E.W.S. is due on February 15th.

Please send copy to
Marilyn Tubbs,
18 Monivea Pl, PH or
email marclin@comcast.net

MEMBERSHIP:

Welcome to new member Linda Mayo
Address 150 Grove Circle, Pleasant Hill
Phone: 937-0804 email: mayolk@aol.com

Linda has been an AAUW member-at-large and has decided to join our branch. She is a member of the Mt Diablo Unified School District Board having served since 1997.

We are pleased to have you as a member Linda.

Address changes for your AAUW directory:
Gayle Miner

125 Price Lane, Pleasant Hill 94523

Email: gayle.miner@yahoo.com

Email update for Alana Macdonald

Alanam88@gmail.com

Remember - our Membership Committee (you!) is still active! Call Margi (827-2040) or Diane (798-6708) with your suggestions!

SUNSHINE:

As a branch, we try to remember members and former members with cards.

If you know of someone who needs a get well, sympathy, or just thinking of you card, please let me know. I will send one ASAP. *Gayle Garrison*

Interest Group Meetings:

MORNING BOOKS will meet on Wednesday, February 4th, 10 am, at Marilyn Tubbs', 18 Monivea Place, P.H.. We will be discussing Run by Ann Patchett..This book takes place all within a 24 hour period and has several themes, one of which points out to what lengths we will go to protect our children. Our March book title is still being decided, but it will be worthy of a great discussion.. Don't miss these exciting reads!

IN INDELIBLE INK will meet on Wednesday, February 11th, 10 am, at Marlene Maksel's.. The assignment will be to write a Valentine Haiku. Remember a Haiku doesn't rhyme, just present an image and is usually 3 lines with 5 syllables in the first line, 7 in the second and 5 in the third. Try it! Try it! We are a very supportive group and don't criticize what you've written. Come on and try us out!

EVENING BOOKS meeting will be on Monday, February 23, 7 pm at Marge Munger's, 1201 Monument #17 in Concord. We will be discussing Elizabeth Gilbert's Eat, Pray, Love. Set against the backdrop of three cultures, this book is insightful and has wit, intelligence and exuberance. Please join us for a great discussion.

FRUGAL FOODIES is in the process of naming a restaurant for February 22nd @ 6:00 pm.. Call Suzanne Mesetz for info (283-3050).

MATINEE IDLE will go to the movies on Thursday, February 26th. We usually pick the movie at the beginning of that week, so please phone Marlene (689-5439) if you are interested. We always have coffee, or something, after the movie to discuss it.

EVENING BRIDGE will meet on Monday, February 2nd, 7:00 pm @ Eileen Bordenave's.

NIMBLE FINGERS will meet on Friday, February 20th @ Suzanne Salter's, 275 Appalachian Dr. PH. Please let Suzanne know if you plan to attend.

BOARD MEETING will meet at Alana Macdonald's, 233 Western Hills Drive on Wednesday, February 11, 2009, 7:15 pm.

PLAYREADING will meet at Marilyn Tubbs' 10:00 am Tuesday, February 17th

GENEALOGY has scheduled a meeting on Thursday, February 12th at the Central Library in PH. Plan to go to lunch following the meeting. Call Kay Ernst for info

WAYS & MEANS meeting, February 4, 4:00 pm @ Kathy Wheeler's, 218 Oak Manor Plaza, Mtz. to discuss branch funding transfers.

Thanks to our NEWS Supporters

MONEYMOVERS INVESTMENT CLUB
will meet on Monday February 9, 2009, 7:00 pm @ Margi Alkire's, 51 Rolling Green Cir, PH..



UPS PACKAGING/SHIPPING OUTLET

SIKANDER ZAIDI
MANAGER

1200 Contra Costa Blvd Suite, E
Pleasant Hill, Ca 94523
Ph: (925) 688-2326
Fax: (925) 688-2328

e-mail: cybercopy@sbcglobal.net

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW has been working closely with the President-elect Obama's transition team to ensure that breaking through educational and economic barriers for women is on the top of his agenda. Below are some of the issues submitted to the transition team by AAUW.

- Recommendations for pay equity and workplace opportunity legislation.
- Recommendations for improving access to higher education.
- Recommendations for improving girls' and women's opportunities in STEM fields.
- Recommendations for the No Child Left Behind Act reauthorization.
- Recommendations for family friendly work-life policies.

These recommendations may be read in full by going to

www.aauw.org/advocacy/issue_advocacy/transition.cfm

In addition, AAUW recently led coalition efforts to bring 41 women's organizations to submit letters to President-elect Obama urging him to appoint more women than his predecessors to his cabinet and other political appointments.

The letter also asks Obama to restore and strengthen all offices that in past administrations have played a fundamental role in protecting and advancing women's issues and opportunities.

Marlene Maksel, Chair

A Message From EF (Educational Foundation)

Do you ever wonder what exactly happens to the dollars we send to the EF Fund each year? Research and Project Grants include both Career Development Grants, which support growth in current or changing careers and Community Action Grants, which support individual, branch and state projects that further our mission by promoting education and equity for women and girls are a primary focus. Grants and fellowships are awarded both nationally and internationally.

In the next couple of newsletters we will share some personal stories of the impact these grants and fellowships have made.

Sandy and Marlene

Save the Dates: More to follow: Tuesday, March 17, 2009

In Honor of Women's History Month

"An Evening with Rachel Carson" ,

A 55 minute film about women who have done good acts for the environment.

Hillcrest Congregational Church 7:00 pm

No admission charge.

TECH TREK

Tech Trek committee members are delighted with the results of the Barnes & Noble Book Fair held from December 6-12 to earn money to send three middle school aged girls to this year's Science and Math Fair at Sonoma State University.

The total earnings were \$1,158.25!!!

PHAAUW members working the table that day were: Victoria Maat, Muriel Fry, Jean DeGregory, Marlene Maksel, Kit Hein, Margi Alkire, Diane Gartner, Jean Hambleton, Marilyn Tubbs, Gretil Holit, Judy Onopchenko, and Kathy Searles.

Also lending a hand were our three young women who went to camp last year: Michelle Vasquez, Dakota Valdez, and Amy Roaldson.

A big thank you to everyone who volunteered to sit at the table and pass out vouchers and to all who came by to do some early Christmas shopping or shopping for the Fair Oaks Elementary book drive. It was a well rewarded total group effort!

Kathy Searles, TT Chair

AAUW-CA is committed to a diverse membership:

Our definition of diverse groups includes differences in age, gender, religion, sexual preference, physical challenges, education level, and economic status. An excellent tool to use as a starting point is the Adelante Diversity Book List and resources in your community or local college/university. Included with each month's recommended reading or programming idea will also be community groups that branches can contact for greater understanding and with whom to partner for joint programming.

SF AAUW LAUNCHES ESSAY CONTEST

The San Francisco AAUW branch has launched an essay contest as part of our branch's 125th anniversary celebration. The contest was first announced in the San Francisco City College newspaper, but it is open to any woman who wishes to enter. The essay is limited to 500 words and is on the topic of pay equity, either your own experience with it, or Senator John McCain's comment about it, which is set forth below.

Last April when Senate Republicans filibustered the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, a statute aimed at overturning the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling in Ledbetter's case severely restricting remedies for gender-based discrimination in the workplace, Senator John McCain said that if women want better-paying jobs, they just need more "education and training."

More information about the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act may be found at the AAUW website: www.aauw.org.

- 1st prize is \$500 and a chance to speak at our 125th anniversary celebration on March 21 at San Francisco State University.
- 2nd prize is \$300
- 3rd prize is \$100

Essays should be submitted by email to Andrea Laudate at mamalaudate@yahoo.com by **February 14, 2009**. Please contact Andrea if you have any questions. The essays will be judged by a member of the English Department at San Francisco City College and by our AAUW board.

PRESIDENT SIGNS LEDBETTER BILL

Thanks to the hard work of AAUW Action Network and our coalition partners, President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law on January 29, 2009.

Contra Costa County Office of Education Info:

The Contra Costa County Office of Education has two events coming up that are mainly geared toward those individuals who are working on their teaching credential or teachers needing to be qualified under the "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) program.

1. **Teacher/Certificated Staff Recruitment Fair- February 28th, Alhambra High School – 8:30 am - 11:30 am. Anyone interested in a teaching career is invited to attend.** Opportunities will be available for school counselors, speech therapists, school psychologists and substitute teachers.

2. **Classes are offered by CCC Office of Education and Solano County Office of Ed to help prepare for taking the CA Subject Examinations for Teachers (CSET).** Classes begin in January & March for Single Subject English, Math, Science, Social Science & PE as well as Multiple Subjects Science & Math.

For more info www.cccoe.k12.ca.us/supe/hr/hr_cset.htm.

Yvonne Papeman, CSET Asst, CCC Office of Ed

Mt. Diablo Unified School District Parcel Tax:



Anyone who reads the newspaper these days knows that MDUSD, along with most other school districts in California, is facing severe budget reductions for the next few years. All but "absolutely necessary" spending has been frozen for the 2008-2009 school year, millions of dollars of reductions have already been made to the 2009-10 budget with more in sight, and the news from Sacramento doesn't look good for the future.

But local communities can do something to help their schools. MDUSD will be proposing to put a parcel tax on a June ballot. A steering committee has been formed, a survey is currently being conducted to test the waters of what the public will support and community groups are being asked to step forward with help in a campaign. As there are three branches of AAUW whose members reside in MDUSD and two or three more that have some members in MDUSD, the issue was brought up at the most recent IBC meeting. Members are being asked to be aware of the campaign and offer support when it is called for.

For further information, contact Kit Hein (228-7503)

2009 AAUW National Convention. Plan to attend. June 26 – 28, 2009 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand and Suites Hotel, St. Louis, Mo. For more information about National Convention registration, please visit www.aauw.org/convention

February 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Evening Bridge 7:00 pm @ Eileen Bordenave's	3	4 Morning Books 10:00 am @ Marilyn Tubbs' <hr/> Ways & Means mtg 4:00 pm @ Kathy Wheeler's	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 In Indelible Ink 10:00 am @ Marlene Maksel's Board Meeting 7:15 pm @ Alana Macdonald's	12 Genealogy Tour 10:00 am Central Library in Pleasant Hill Info: Kay Ernst	13	14 
15	16  President's Day	17 Playreading 10:00 am @ Marilyn Tubbs' EF Fellow Dinner 6:00 pm @ Scott's Restaurant WC	18	19	20 Nimble Fingers 10:30 am @ Suzanne Salter's	21
22 Frugal Foodies 6:00 pm Call Suzanne Mesetz for info	23 Evening Books 7:00 pm @ Marge Munger's	24	25	26 Matinee Idle Call Marlene Maksel for info	27	28 Luncheon & Vintage Fashion Show (Goodwill Bags) 11:30 am @ Hillcrest Church



Pleasant Hill Branch
18 Monivea Place
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Membership – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. AAUW is open to all graduates of two year accredited colleges with AA degrees and/or accredited four year colleges or universities. In principle and practice AAUW values and supports diversity. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.