

Pleasant Hill Branch

N.E.W.S

Now/Events/Women/Success

Volume 51 Issue 5

January 2009

Why do schools want to recruit and enroll foreign students?

What is the impact they have not only culturally but financially to the region, state and the nation?

Lin Larson who is the Coordinator of International Admissions at St. Mary's College (and a former P.H.A.A.U.W. member) will discuss these issues as well as the process of recruiting and the student's process of: applying, getting a Visa and their life once they get to campus.



Plus our **Annual Soup Supper**

Wednesday, January 21, 2009
6:30 - 9:00 pm
Hillcrest Congregational Church

404 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA

*Spouses, significant others and friends are invited
Please bring your own soup bowl and spoon
Bread and drinks will be provided*

Each attendee may choose to provide one of the following:

A pot of soup to serve 8 to 10 people

A dessert to serve 6 to 8 people

A \$5 donation at the door



Please RSVP to Kit DeGear by Monday, 1/19/09 (609-8150) or wdegear@comcast.net

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

KIT'S KORNER

With the holidays almost over and the decorations put away, we can begin to concentrate on what's to come in the New Year.

As has been the tradition for many years in PHAAUW, we start with our International Soup Supper. Years ago each branch had an International Relations Chair (now it is International Advocacy) and AAUW was a strong member of the International Federation of University Women. CA-AAUW sponsored the IFUW Convention at Stanford University. Great Decisions was a section that PHAAUW sponsored each year for the benefit of our whole community.

Times change and life goes on. But our interest in global affairs and how we can support women and girls around the world has not changed. There is a section of the Association website (AAUW.org) titled "International Corner". Have you seen it? Right now articles about the 60th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, AAUW's partnership with CARE and their "Education is Powerful" essay contest (a member from the Santa Rosa, CA branch was the winner), and the announcement that AAUW "has gained special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council, which initiates reports, makes recommendations, and promotes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms..." are all right there for you to read. From the link that goes to the CARE website you can view several video clips about support from that organization for women in developing countries, and their connection with AAUW on a partnership for International Women's Day to promote A Powerful Noise, a documentary that "...follows three extraordinary women – in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Mali and Vietnam..."

(www.apowerfulnoises.org)

AAUW continues to support their International Fellowships through the Educational Foundation. The 2008-2009 summary shows a total of 75 fellows representing 122 countries and totaling **\$1,486,000.**

Our branch will revive our sponsorship of a Pleasant Hill Great Decisions group this year. Read more about that later in this newsletter and come to the soup supper to sign up. See you there.

Kit



CATCH THE WAVE AT CONVENTION 2009 MISSION IN MOTION

"Riding the Waves of Change"

April 24 – 26, 2009

[Hilton San Diego Mission Valley](#)

901 Camino del Rio South, San Diego, California

2008 – 2009 Board

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

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

MEMBERSHIP:

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, January 7th, 10 am, at Margi Alkire's.

We will be discussing Paulo Coelho's *The Devil & Miss Prynn*.. This is an allegorical tale about temptation and the struggles between good and evil and the pick for February is *Run* by Ann Patchett.. . Don't miss these exciting reads!

IN INDELIBLE INK will meet on Wednesday, January 14th, 10 am, at Margi Alkier's.. The assignment will be to write a children's story. Sounds easier than it is? Try it! We are a very supportive group and don't criticize what you've written. Come on and try us out! Genealogy, bring your memoirs – one of your own stories from childhood, perhaps.

EVENING BOOKS meeting will be on Monday, January 26th, 7 pm at Marti Martin, 1653 Sunhill Ct, Martinez.

We will be discussing Michael Chabon's *The Yiddish Policeman's Union*. What if the Jews were not settled in Israel in 1948, but in Alaska? This novel has comic moments as well as a mystery, all set in the cold lands of Alaska. Please join us for a great discussion.

FRUGAL FOODIES is in the process of naming a restaurant for January 25th, 6:00 pm.. Call Suzanne Mesetz for info.

MATINEE IDLE will go to the movies on Thursday, January 22nd. 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, January 5th, 2009 @ 7:00 pm. Place to be announced. Phone Elizabeth DiPietro for info.

NIMBLE FINGERS will meet on Friday, January 16th, 2009 10:30 am @ Sandy Wolfe's. (228-2633) Please let Sandy know if you plan to attend.

BOARD MEETING will meet at Kit Hein's on Wednesday, January 14th 2009, 7:15 pm.

PLAYREADING will meet at Marilyn Tubbs' 10:00 am on Tuesday, January 20th. Come join us.

Thanks to our NEWS Supporters

MONEYMOVERS INVESTMENT CLUB

will celebrate the holidays on Monday January 12th, 2009, 7:00 pm @ UBS Financial Services, 2185 N. California Blvd. Ste 400, WC, CA



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Local Scholarship Update!

Thanks to the following members, along with their spouses, who worked the poll precincts on November 4th election day: **Margi & Jim Alkire, Jean Hambleton, Marlene Maksiel, Ish Mendonsa, Kathy Searles, Marilyn & Clint Tubbs.**

Your efforts were greatly appreciated. Their endeavors added \$500.00 to our local scholarship fund this year.

This exciting news leads me to extend our benefit fund invitation to each of you.

January launches the 11th year of our campaign to fund local scholarships awarded to young ladies from College Park High School and Diablo Valley College.

In keeping with our policy we do not compete with EF, LAF or Tech Trek to fund-raise at the same time or in the same manner. In fact, we try to run a "non-event" fund-raiser. At the January Soup Supper you will receive your "non-event" invitation. You will receive yours in the mail if you are not at the January meeting. We hope it will tickle your funny bone and inspire you to send a healthy check to the Local Scholarship Fund. Thanks for your help.

Susi Weight, Chair

Hillcrest Layette Shower

A big thank you to the fifteen generous members who came to the Hillcrest Layette party at Margi's in December.

The group ate (thanks to the Playreading Interest Group), played games (congratulations to Ginny Hargrave for winning at Bingo), and oohed and aahed over the cute baby clothes. It was a fun time with the worthy purpose of collecting baby clothes for needy new babies.
(Margi Alkire)

Exciting Project @ Fair Oaks

Elem:

(Coordinated by Muriel Fry & Fair Oaks faculty)

On Wed., Jan 21, 2009, Fair Oaks will have a meeting focusing on Math. We will have dinner with families, give some awards, play some math games (dominos, math war with cards) {this will be with children (and some adults) teaching the parents how to play} and at the end of the evening, families will take home something to use at home.

Cheryl Champion, Principal, found a Math work book for parents to help children with at home.

I am hoping PH AAUW will have several members there to assist with the game playing part. I could stage a photo of members and Mrs. Champion with the Math treats we will give to families. Contact Muriel if you are able to help in this endeavor.

We will do a reading evening (children reading to parents and parents reading to children) in March on a similar format for the evening. Mrs. Champion believes there will be about 70 families in attendance.

The funds for the 'give away' will be from the "cash gift" Muriel was given plus donations of good children's books.

We send our sympathy to our long-time member Maxine Walden over the death of her husband, Lee, on December 14. Lee always supported AAUW and enjoyed our social events. Our hearts and prayers go out to Maxine at this time.

Join the AAUW Action Network

Anyone with an e-mail address can subscribe to the AAUW Action Network, a group of AAUW members and supporters committed to mobilizing citizens on issues affecting women. Discover what's happening in Washington and what you can do to influence the outcome. Using Two-Minute Activist, it takes just two minutes to make your voice heard – one minute to read, one minute to act. AAUW members and supporters can also find detailed information on legislation currently under consideration in Congress and write letters to the editor of their local paper.

GENEALOGY

Although most of our meetings are field trips, and there will be some announced in next month's bulletin, here is a poem for you: (Kay)

Ancestors

If you could see your ancestors
All standing in a row,
Would you be proud of them?
Or don't you really know?

Strange discoveries are often made,
In climbing the family tree,
Sometimes one is found in line
Who shocks the progeny.

If you could see your ancestors
All standing in a row,
Perhaps there might be one or two
You wouldn't care to know.

Now turn the question right about
And take another view.
When you shall meet your ancestors
Will they be proud of you?

Anonymous

November Board notes

- Marlene Maksel and Marilyn Tubbs will be the board representatives to the 2009 Nominating Committee, with Ish Mendonsa as the alternate;
- EF and LAF assessments and contributions have been submitted for the 2008-2009 year;
- January will be a General Meeting with election of nominating committee members from the General membership;
- February meeting will be at Scott's with an International Fellow from China as the speaker.
- All email members should be receiving Martinez Branch newsletters

And questions regarding board happenings or requests to be put on the agenda for the next board meeting should be addressed to Kit Hein 228-7503.

PH AAUW Great Decisions

Resumes

Several members have expressed an interest in resuming our sponsorship of a Pleasant Hill Great Decisions group. Because of the time constraints of the traditional 8 week format set by the Foreign Policy Association, we are proposing to hold once a month evening meetings on each of the 8 topics.

Members of our branch will act as discussion leaders but the group will be open to all members of our community and will be advertised as such. Featured topics: *U.S. & rising global powers, Afghanistan/Pakistan, energy & the global economy, the Arctic, U.S. & Egypt, global food supply, Cuba after Castro, and universal human rights.*

If you are interested in participating, please sign up at the January Soup Supper or call Kit Hein at 228-7503. You can access the website at http://www.fpa.org/info-url_nocat4705/info-url_nocat_show.htm?doc_id=363131 for more information and to pre-order (before Jan. 7) or buy your briefing book.

Save the Dates: More to follow: **Tuesday, February 17, 2009**

Our February general meeting is a combined meeting with Danville/Alamo Branch and Delta Kappa Gamma - Dinner meeting featuring an EF Fellow speaker from China at Scotts Seafood Grill & Bar, WC.

Saturday, February 28, 2009

Goodwill Bag Ladies Luncheon/Fashion Show Educational Foundation Fundraiser at Hillcrest Congregational Church in Pleasant Hill. Don't miss this

Wednesday, January 21, 2009, 5:30 – 7:30pm

Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce Mixer at Mr. Lucky's Restaurant in Pleasant Hill. RSVP to Ingrid @ 925-687-0700.

(Lots going on that day – no room on the monthly calendar.)

January 2009 Sign Ups for SAM volunteers

Plans are in the wind with our industrious and talented member, Mary McGhee, for another SAM (Student Art & Music) program at Fair Oaks. Teachers are enthusiastic for these types of programs. She has an exciting Monet program scheduled. Volunteers will be needed on the following dates & times:

Am K classes are 9:50 – 10:50 am

Am & pm classes are as follows:

10:10-11am

11:15-12:15pm

1:00-1:45 pm

January	2009	
Tue	Wed	Fri
	14 am (K)	16 am & pm
20 am & pm	21 am (K)	23 am & pm
	28 am & pm	30 am & pm


Contact Marilyn Tubbs (939-6220) if you can help on any of these days. We would like to have at least 2 volunteers for each session.

2009 AAUW National Convention
Breaking through Barriers
AAUW

June 26–28, 2009
Renaissance St. Louis Grand and Suites Hotel
St. Louis, Missouri

That's June 26 – 28, 2009 at the Renaissance St. Louis Grand and Suites Hotel, St. Louis, MO. **January 15th** is deadline for AAUW's Best Value National Convention registration. Best Value registration is the same price as the '07 Early Bird member registration. AAUW members belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance. For more information, please visit www.aauw.org/convention.

January 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
							
	4 Evening Bridge 7:00 pm Place to be announced	5	6	7 Morning Books 10:00 am @ Margi Alkire's	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 In Indelible Ink 10:00 am @ Margi Alkire's Board Meeting 7:15 pm @Kit Hein's	15	16 Nimble Fingers 10:30 am @ Sandy Wolfe's	17	
18	19 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	20 Inauguration Day Playreading 10:00 am @ Marilyn Tubbs	21 International Soup Supper 6:30 pm @ Hillcrest Church	22 Matinee Idle Call Marlene Maksiel for info	23	24	
25 Frugal Foodies 6:00 pm Place to be announced	26 Evening Books 7:00 pm @ Marti Martin's	27	28	29	30	31	



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.