



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

Volume 50 Issue 4

December 2007



PLEASANT HILL AAUW'S 50TH BIRTHDAY

We are having a celebration

**You are invited
to a luncheon**

**Saturday, February 9, 2008
11 am to 2 pm**

**Contra Costa Country Club
801 Golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill, CA**

\$25

Above is a preview of the invitation you will receive in the mail
for the PH AAUW 50th Anniversary

So ~ look in your mail box in January 2008
and remember to return the enclosed reservation card.

**You are invited – and are welcome to bring spouses, friends, children, parents and all.
We hope to have a BIG party!**

2007 -2008 Board

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Marlene Maksel

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Judy Onopchenko

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Marlene DeLaurenti

Sandy Wolfe

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Vice President – LAF:

Gayle Garrison

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Ish Mendonsa

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Marilyn Tubbs

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Lorilei Self

Copy deadline for the
January N.E.W.S. is due on
December 15th.

Please send copy to Marilyn
Tubbs- email:
marclin@comcast.net
Web Site:
<http://www.aauw-ph.org>

PITHY PRESIDENTIAL PROSE

Co President's Kay Ernst & Marlene Maksel

Our November general meeting
was informative as well as fun.
Appraiser, Sunny Trammell, was a
terrific speaker and really knew
her business. It was interesting to
learn about our treasured antiques.



For a second year, Margi Alkire
will be hosting the Playreading interest group Layette Shower on
Wednesday, December 18. See the article below for details.

Marlene and I hope all of you have Happy Holidays and a Joyous
New Year.

Kay

**A PHAAUW DAYTIME
CHRISTMAS PARTY
FOR ALL**



BABY LAYETTES

**Wednesday, December 18, 10:00 am
at Margi Alkire's,**

Playreading is hosting a Christmas get-together to support the
Hillcrest Congregational Church layette program.
Look forward to good fellowship, great refreshments and a fun time.
Please come! Suggested items that are needed for the layettes:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Receiving blankets | Crib sheets |
| Undershirts (3-6 mo & larger) | Disposable diapers |
| Booties or soft shoes | Jama-blanket sleeper |
| Hooded terry knit towel | Bibs/ Socks |
| Wash Cloth/ Bar Ivory soap | Drawstring bottom gowns |
| Pacifiers | Soft, stuffed animal toy |
| Crocheted or knit afghans | Boy/Girl Outfits |

Nominating Committee Members:

From the Board:

Kit Hein, Diane Gartner and Marlene Maksel as alternate

From the Membership:

Elizabeth DiPietro, Alvera Welsh, Jean DeGregory and Ginny
Hargrave as alternate. *Eileen Bordenave, Parliamentarian*

PHAAUW 's 50th Anniversary Slogan!

**CELEBRATE THE PAST!
LOOK TO THE FUTURE!**

Save the dates---More to follow:

- Wednesday, January 16, 2008
Annual Soup Supper ~ Hear Shannon & Dick Merrill talk about their trip to Anartica.
- Saturday, February 9, 2008
50th Anniversary Celebration Luncheon
Contra Costa Country Club

Interest Group Meetings:

MORNING BOOKS. Will meet on Wednesday, December 5, , 10 am at Bea Ball's. We will be discussing Water for Elephants by Sara Gruen. This is a different kind of story involving the circus and an old man's memories. In January we'll be reading Digging to America by Anne Tyler and the choice for February is French by Heart by Rebecca Ramsey. Don't miss these stimulating discussions!.

IN INDELIBLE INK will meet on Wednesday, December 12 , 10:00 am at Marilyn Tubbs. Our topic is "The First Eighteen Years of My life." ~do you detect a theme here? Come on you Genealogists ~ let's hear your story! Of course, since this is a writing group, maybe you'd like to do a fictional version! All is acceptable

MATINEE IDLE will go to the movies on Thursday December 20th-a week earlier than the usual due to Christmas. We usually pick the movie at the beginning of that week, so please call Marlene if you are interested. We always have coffee (sometimes lunch if it is an early movie) after the movie to discuss it.

EVENING BOOKS will not meet in December. Our next meeting will be on Monday, January 28th, 7 pm at Sally Whittsett's. We will be discussing Dragon Bones: A Red Princess Mystery by Lisa See. This is a thriller by the popular author of Snow Flower and the Secret Fan. Please phone Sally if you plan to attend.

NIMBLE FINGERS will meet on Friday, December 21st , 10:30 am @ Suzanne Salter's. Bring your handiwork and come join this friendly, helpful group.

EVENING BRIDGE will meet Monday, December 3rd @ Elizabeth DiPietro's., 7:00 pm.
Meeting place will be announced.

GENEALOGY Wednesday, December 12 at 1:00 p.m. we will meet at the LDS Family History Center on Concord Blvd. They have several computers there that are connected to Ancestry.com and there is no charge. (Ancestry.com now costs \$300 per year.) We will be working on our individual projects.

NO BOARD MEETING IN DECEMBER.

Happy 50th Anniversary PHAAUW

..Remembering PHAAUW.....

(During the 80's & 90's).....

1983 California CSD became a Region with 184 branches and over 27,000 members. The VanGogh "Iris" sold for 53.9 million; Nat'l Museum of Women in the Arts opened in D.C.; the Dow Jones went over the 10,000 mark for the first time and we suffered through the Columbine School incident.

In our branch the speakers were still a vital part of the general meetings program and the sections were in full swing and for a good part of the time the Baby-sitting Co-op was a vital section.

For some years we had the English Spode China sale accompanied by a nice cup of tea, the annual Christmas party with cookies and recipes and the marvelous very British salad Luncheon concluding the end of the year's book section. Everyone wore hats, gloves, medals of rank and of course the very elegant lady Sue Cheek 'pouring'.

And you imagine we had a speaker in the early 80's that taught us just what to do in case of an earthquake!! Are you still not prepared??

A group of members begin to monitor the County Board of Supervisors; we attended the Legislative Days in Sacramento and were awed by the amount of legislative speakers as well as the obvious respect given AAUW. We now had our own legislative representative in Arlene Black and a quiet force in Sacramento.

Culturally we continued to see the best and finest in our area including trips to Fioli; in those days also there was always a small informative meeting to learn of the next cultural adventure~discussing teakwood and Chinese ceramics followed in a week with a trip to the Chinese Cultural Center in SF.

Play reading kept making an annual appearance and through the years tested the waters with "Ordinary Women in Extraordinary Times".

And don't forget the very humorous "Ladies Luncheon"

By the end of our decade six of our members had been earned the Pleasant Hill Citizen of the Year award and four had been nominated. Moneymovers Investment study sections; and who could forget the many District meetings the newly elected officers attended from Fremont to Napa.

At the turn of the century we began to wonder about that New Year's Eve and all the foreboding that went with it. However, we knew that ,we as a branch, would continue our struggle for the advancement of women and girls through education.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all and to all a Good Night!!!!

Ginny

Sunshine

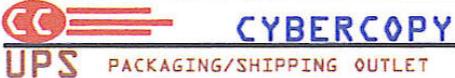
As a branch, we try to remember members and former members with cards.

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

Thanks to our NEWS Supporters

MONEYMOVERS INVESTMENT CLUB
will meet on Monday, December 10th, 6:00 pm
for our annual Christmas party at the home of
Ginny Hargrave's 52 Rolling Green Circle, PH.



SIKANDER ZAIDI
MANAGER

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Condolences to Rachel Holmes on the death of her husband Ollie. Ollie served two terms as mayor of Peasant Hill and was a strong community supporter of AAUW projects. We shall all miss him.

And to Janet Sullivan whose mother passed away in October in New Jersey.

Our thoughts and prayers are with you both.

Community Affairs:

Don't forget Wednesday, December 12, 2007 the Chamber Christmas party at the Aegis Residence on Oak Park Blvd in Pleasant Hill @ 5:30 pm. Make reservations at the Chamber office. **DON'T MISS THIS ONE!**

If you cannot think of anyone to give a gift to remember the girls at Juvenile Hall!

Ginny Hargrave

Contact information for Sunny Trammell, Appraiser

Email: suntram@rcn.com
Mobile phone: 650-341-4342

Public Policy:

Fair Pay Restoration Act

AAUW members have been very supportive of the Fair Pay Restoration Act (S.1843).

However, AAUW asks you to take action on this legislation again to show a critical mass of support at this time and send a strong signal to your senators that pay discrimination will not be tolerated.

The Supreme Court's decision in the Ledbetter v. Goodyear case in May severely limited the victims of pay discrimination to sue under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. The Fair Pay Restoration Act restores the law to how it was previously applied to be consistent with Congress' intent.

Although the wage gap has narrowed over the years, success in closing the gap remains elusive and the Supreme Court's recent decision in the Ledbetter v. Goodyear case will make it even more difficult for women workers and employees of color to close the wage gap.

TAKE ACTION! Urge your senators, Diane Feinstein and Barbara Boxer to co-sponsor the Fair Pay Restoration Act at:

http://capwiz.com/aauw/issues/alert/?alertid=10409586&queueid={capsize:queue_id}

If your senators have already signed on as co-sponsors, you will be able to send them a thank you message.

Shirlee Thompson, Chair

Activities in other branches:

Amador Branch:

Thursday, January 10, 2008

Antoinette May, author of *Pilate's Wife* will speak at the Sutter Creek Community Church, 33 Church St, Sutter Creek. 3-5 pm

Info: Lani Chapman, Program co chair
209-245-6052

Plan to attend:

AAUW-CA 2008 Convention

April 4-6, 2008

Sonoma County Doubletree Inn
Rohnert Park, CA

Convention 2008 focuses on the new
Association Mission:

To advance equity for women and girls through
advocacy, education and research

Educational Foundation:

Did you know the AAUW Educational Foundation recently received an award? The Independent Charities of America recognized our Foundation as one of the best non-profit organizations in America for meeting the high standards of public accountability and program effectiveness.

The Foundation has a distinguished history of advancing educational and professional opportunities for women in the US and around the globe. One of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women, the Educational Foundation provided more than 250 fellowships, grants and special awards to outstanding women in the 2007 -08 academic year. EF provided a total of \$4.1 million this year as we continue our efforts to support women.

Legal Advocacy Fund

The Legal Advocacy Fund is currently supporting 18 cases. 100% of LAF contributions are used toward the implementation, administration and support of LAF programming. Keep a lookout for the release of LAF's newest research report scheduled for publication in the next couple of months. The report examines complaints of sexual harassment filed with the Dept of Ed Office for Civil Rights (OCR) by students from higher education institutions and studies OCR's response to those complaints.

If you would like to make a donation to the Legal Advocacy Fund, you can make it a tax deduction for your upcoming taxes if you donate before Jan. 1, 2008.

Gayle Garrison, Chair

On AAUW's web homepage, click on Education and you will learn more about our Fellowships, Grants and Awards; Campus Action Projects; the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders; National Girls Collaborative Project; Grassroots Programs. The Fellows Alumnae Network; LAF Plaintiff Travel Grants, Directory of Fellows and Grant Recipients and a complete list of AAUW applications and deadlines are posted in this section. To learn more about research reports funded by the AAUW Educational Foundation you can click on the Research tab.

Membership:

What is one of the greatest benefits of belonging to AAUW?

Knowing that you belong to an organization that keeps the promotion of "education and equity for all women and girls, lifelong education and positive societal change" as the main focus. Let's pause and take a look at what that means in terms of commitment:

What have we done lately on behalf of all women and girls?

- *When the Dept of Education established a commission that threatened to dismantle the enforcement provisions of Title IX, the law banning sexual discrimination in education, AAUW mobilized a nationwide outcry to help protect this landmark civil rights law.*
- *We awarded over \$4 million in grants and fellowships to over 250 extraordinary women for the 2006-07 academic year.*
- *We represented women and girls by protecting Social Security from privatization, promoting a fair and independent judiciary, and advocating for full funding of the NO Child Left Behind Act, improved student aid in the Higher Education Act, and better gender equity provisions in the Perkins Vocational Education Act.*
- *In 2006 we published our nationally acclaimed research: Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus, followed in 2007 by Behind the Pay Gap, the report that brought pay equity to the forefront, showing that just one year out of college, women working full time already earn less than their male colleagues, even when they work in the same field.*
- *And our branches carry this work to the grassroots- thousands of programs every year are held throughout America, again, with the goal of promoting education and equity.*

Since its first meeting in 1881, the AAUW women have been a catalyst for change. Today, with approximately 100,000 members, more than 1,000 branches, and 500 college/university partners committed to education and equity, AAUW members across the country contribute to a more promising future and provide a powerful voice for women and girls – a voice that cannot and will not be ignored

You strengthen that voice.

December 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat			
<i>Happy Holidays!</i>						1			
Tech Trek BookFair Barnes & Noble 9 am - 11 pm	2	Evening Bridge 7:00 pm (Site to be determined)	3	4	Morning Books 10:00 am @ Bea Ball's	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	In Indelible Ink 10:00@Marilyn Tubbs Genealogy 1 pm @ LDS Family History Center Chamber Mixer 5:30 pm	12	13	14	15		
16	17	Christmas Layette Party 10:00 am @ Margi Alkire's	18	19	Matinee Idol (Call Marlene for info) Note date change	20	Nimble Fingers 10:30 am @ Suzanne Salter's	21	22
23	24	No Evenng Books	 Christmas Day	25	26	27	28	29	
30	 New Years Eve	31	<i>Celebrate the Past! Look to the Future!</i>						



18 Monivea Place
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523-2518

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.