



Volume 55 Issue 1

Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

September 2012



Festa Italiana

Saturday, September 29, 2012

3:30 – 6:30 pm

Viano Winery

150 Morello Avenue, Martinez

Wine Tasting 3:30 – 4:30

Italian Supper 4:30 – 6:30

Donation \$35

A benefit for
Pleasant Hill – Martinez AAUW
providing scholarships
for women

Please call for tickets before
September 22nd:
Joy Barden 935-7118
Marilyn Thelen 228-2600

Editor's note: September is a busy month for PH-MTZ AAUW and space in the N.E.W.S. is tight. As the September Membership Brunch flyer was sent out previously, I took editorial license to put it on page 2 so that the Festa notice and the Brunch flyer could each appear as they were submitted to me, with the addition of directions on the Brunch flyer. Please read each carefully and mark your calendars. Kit

PH-MTZ Branch

Welcome Brunch

Saturday, Sept. 15th

10:00am to 12:00

**Marilyn Thelen's
Home**

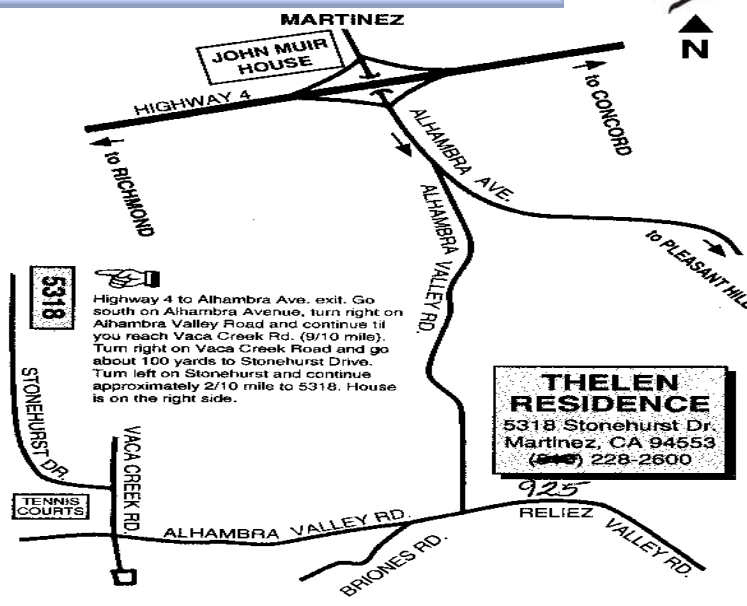
5318 Stonehurst Dr.

Martinez, CA

See directions below



Our Annual Welcome Brunch is a time to reconnect with old friends, meet new members, and hear from our young students about their Tech Trek Experience. In addition, HOT new interest groups have been added to give you an even wider choice of participation. So, come and enjoy the morning. And, if you know someone, (including recent graduates), who may be interested in AAUW, bring them along as well.





Il Messaggero

Co-Presidents Marilyn Thelen & Janice Walker

Here we are at the advent of another AAUW year! During the summer your Pleasant Hill-Martinez Board has been busy planning the programs and activities for the coming year. Two not-to-be-missed events occur this month. The first is our Welcome Brunch on Sept. 15th, being held at Marilyn's lovely home, and the second is Festa, our annual fundraiser for scholarships, at the Viano Winery in Martinez, on Sept. 29th. Be sure to check out the detailed information in this newsletter regarding both functions and plan to attend!

If you were present at the Summer Social then you know how enjoyable our functions can be. In July over 60 members and guests gathered at Nancy Hobart's beautiful home to share a lovely evening of friendship and delicious food. Nancy and her committee provided all of us with a lovely evening!

Have you clicked on our own website: <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org>? Sherrie Moore and Marilyn Tubbs have done an outstanding job displaying pictures, listing members and providing information about our Branch. There's a calendar of upcoming programs and events as well as an archive of past newsletters. Check it out!

The summer Olympics have recently completed and if you watched any of the games, you might have heard a commentator refer to this year's Olympics as the "year of the women". The effects of Title IX were evident as women played a vital part helping our country achieve 104 medals, of which 46 were gold and 29 of them were earned by women athletes.

So, are you ready? Together we can continue the momentum of the women Olympians. Probably not by doing the balance beam or swimming 200 meters at record pace, but by our membership and participation in this organization, AAUW. That way we ensure that the goals benefiting women, obtained in the past, prevail in the future, including Title IX!

A great year awaits! See you Sept. 15th!

Marilyn & Janice

**Hello All Past-Presidents of PH-MTZ. Remember: Sept 15 is our first meeting of the new year. *Wear your Past-President Pin. Say "thank you" to the members and wear it.
*OR: what is your favorite fund?? GH**

Budget

Jill Anderson

The following budget was approved by the board and will have a final vote by the general membership at the September brunch.

2012-2013 PROPOSED BUDGET

INCOME

Net dues (95x\$18)	\$ 1,710.00
From Reserves	\$ 640.00
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 2,350.00

EXPENSES

Administration & Office	\$ 150.00
Community/Chamber	\$.00
Directory	\$ 150.00
Hospitality	\$ 75.00
IBC Dues	\$ 50.00
Insurance	\$ 300.00
Membership	\$ 250.00
Parliamentarian	\$ 25.00
N.E.W.S.	\$ 150.00
Program	\$ 600.00
Facilities	\$ 500.00
Web Page	\$ 100.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 2,350.00



Save these dates to attend the new Programs in the upcoming year ---

* **Wed October 17th** at 7:00 pm at the Brookview Clubhouse

Meet **Leslie Stiles**, a sustainable caterer. She will give us a cooking demonstration of a Thanksgiving side dish, and lead a discussion of simple, healthy and delicious cooking using locally grown, seasonal produce.

* **Wed. November 28th** at 7:00 pm in the Pleasant Hill Council Chambers

Meet with **John Hanecak**, the current mayor of Pleasant Hill, and **Rob Schroder** the mayor of Martinez. Forward any questions to us that you have about our community.

* **Holiday Party on Friday, December 14th**. Details will follow.

Check out all of the programs on our AAUW website at <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org>.

Sherrie Moore and Shelley Jacobson



Membership Matters

Reba Siero and Elena Noble, Membership VP's

Welcome back to all. As this publication goes to press, our branch membership is 80 strong, with 10 new or returning members. There are still 23 who we have yet to hear from. Please send in your dues ASAP, so we can get your name in the directory.

As noted in the announcement of this newsletter, we will be having our annual Membership Brunch on the 15th of September from 10:00am to 12:00pm.



Our thanks to Marilyn and Jim Thelen for once again offering their lovely home to host our Welcome Brunch. As noted in the flyer, if you know anyone you would like to introduce to AAUW, especially recent graduates, please invite them to attend our brunch. It is an excellent opportunity for prospective members to attend an AAUW function and see what we are all about. Please let us know, and we will send them a personal invitation.



This year with documentaries like *Miss Representation* tackling subjects such as Bullying, Sexual Harassment, and Human Trafficking, young members more than ever need to know the full measure of belonging to AAUW. You can give the gift of membership to a young graduate simply by going on line and submitting their name. If their school is a co-sponsor of AAUW, the membership is free. If not, there is a discount for new graduates up until December of 2012 for only \$17.00. Go to aauw.org, and click on **Member Benefits** to guide you through.

From long time member, Margi Alkire:

"Jim and I were in Washington DC this July and saw this wonderful AAUW exhibit on voting in the Newseum!"



Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW

Website

Marilyn Tubbs and Sherrie Moore

Please check out the new look and feel of our Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW website. **Martinez is now part of our name!** We have added more photos of our members and of Pleasant Hill and Martinez. Also included are new pictures from the Summer Social. Look ahead to the Programs for the upcoming year. We have new interest groups as well. Peruse the listing of all our past presidents for Martinez and Pleasant Hill. Need to find information in a previous newsletter? Find it on the website.

For all of this and more, just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org>. Any questions or comments that you may have can be forwarded to the webmaster located on the About Us page.



ADOPT-A-POLL VOLUNTEERS

The June Primary Election poll volunteers raised \$495.00 for our [Local Scholarship Fund](#). We now have an opportunity to work the November Election and add more funds to this worthy cause. I have received the application from the Election Department and am hoping some of you will consider volunteering to participate in the Adopt –A –Poll program. We need at least 8 people plus an alternate for each polling place. One polling place would be wonderful, two would be even better. There is a deadline for submitting the application, so please email me or call me soon if you would like to participate or if you have questions about this project. **Elva Valli**, vevalli@sbcglobal.net, (925)228-8056



INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**** MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, September 5th, 10 am, at Susanne Rheingruber's. We will be discussing *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles. This debut novel is about "prewar café society" in New York and is "influenced by Fitzgerald and Capote." In October the book will be *Caleb's Crossing* by Geraldine Brooks. Please join us for a great discussion!



**** IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, September 12th, 10 am, at Ginny Hargrave's. During the summer we had the task of writing a serial. Ginny started it and Marti Martin ended it. Please come and hear how seven people wrote one story! Our regular assignment will deal with memoirs. For September, we are to write about our first childhood memory. We would love to hear your story and we like hearing **oral** versions, too! We don't critique your writings, so there is no pressure. Please come!



**** EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, September 24th, 7 pm, at Linda Robbins, 2442 Lariat Lane in Walnut Creek. We will be discussing Jamie Ford's *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet*. This novel is truly bittersweet, as it chronicles the Japanese in Seattle taken into internment, and the aftermath of that action. Please join us for a great discussion.



****BOOK EXCHANGE**

LAST CALL

Don't miss your annual opportunity to join the **BOOK EXCHANGE!** Read up to 12 hardbacks published in 2012 for the cost of only one! You buy one book; then each month you receive a new selection from another member of the Exchange.

We have 3 Exchange lists and there are still a few spaces remaining. Don't miss out! (You can purchase 2 or 3 books to join all the Exchanges and double or triple your reading pleasure!)

Please call Mary Hanlon @ 934-3528 with your selected title and author **PRIOR** to purchasing your book. Please call by Monday, September 24th, since we plan to begin exchanging books on October 1st.



**** MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, September 27th. We usually attend a matinee at a local theatre. Call Marlene (689.5439) if you are planning to attend, or if you have any suggestions for a movie. We always discuss the movie after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.

"NEW" INTEREST SECTIONS

What interests you???



**** LUNCHIN' LADIES** will debut in October ~ watch your N.E.W.S. This section will require some research as we would probably like to eat at a restaurant which gives separate checks ~ and if our group is too large, we might have to have two tables. If you have any ideas, please call, or email, Marlene Maksel.



**** WALKING WOMEN** will try a first, short jaunt on Monday, September 10th, 9 am. We will gather at Hillcrest Center on Morello Avenue and walk south on the Canal Trail. Maybe we'll stop for coffee at The Little Red Bistro ~ or, just keep walking! This is a new group that should meet regularly and perhaps a schedule can be made on the 10th. Please call, or email, Marlene Maksel, if you are planning to be there on the 10th!!!



**** CULTURAL CONNECTION** will go to the Oakland Museum, 1000 Oak Street, on Wednesday, September 19th to see the acclaimed exhibit, "1968". The museum opens at 11 am and regular admission is \$12 ~ Seniors, \$9. Because some people may want to drive and some may want to take BART, we will plan to meet **in front of ticket booth** at 11 am. After viewing the exhibit, lunch is available at the Blue Oak Café in the museum. If you are interested in seeing the exhibit, please call Marlene Maksel (689-5439), or email marlene@maksel.us. **NOTE:** This Interest Section may vary in dates and will not always meet on a Wednesday.

JOIN US FOR BUNCO



Monday, October 29, 2012

1:00-4:00

Brookview Clubhouse

Join us for a fun filled afternoon with the entertaining game of Bunco.

It is easy to learn (Bunco is very similar to the dice game Yahtzee).

\$10 will be collected to benefit the AAUW FUNDS (LAF)

Cash prizes will be awarded and dessert will be served during the break.

Call or e-mail **Pat Harris** to reserve your spot!

228-6263 or patriciaharris4@mac.com



“Miss Representation”

Sherrie Moore

Do you know how mainstream media portrays women?? Would you be shocked to learn that women in positions of power and influence are under-represented? Are you aware that the collective message from our media is that a woman's power lies in her youth, beauty and sexuality? Jennifer Siebel Newsom wrote, directed and produced a film on this very subject, which premiered at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. The film features provocative interviews with politicians, journalists, entertainers, activists and academics, while gathering facts and statistics about the persuasive force our media has in shaping cultural norms. Teenage girls tell their stories and the resounding message is that a woman's value is NOT in her capacity as a leader.

The film is **Miss Representation** and will have two showings in our area sponsored by our sister AAUW branches. The Benicia-Vallejo AAUW branch is partnering with a coalition of educational and service community organizations to host a **free** screening at **California Maritime Academy's Rizza Auditorium in Vallejo on Thursday, September 20th at 7 pm.** A panel discussion will follow exploring the ways women can overcome gender-based societal and institutional barriers. **In Lafayette**, the screening of the film will be at the **Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church at 49 Knox Drive on Sunday, September 23rd at 4 pm.** This showing, too, will be followed by a discussion. This event has an admission charge of **\$10/person.** You can register at www.lopc.org.

This presentation is vital for everyone ~ especially mothers and daughters. Please come and bring a young woman.

Link to more information about the film:
<http://www.missrepresentation.org/the-film>

\$tart \$mart

Marilyn Tubbs & Elena Noble

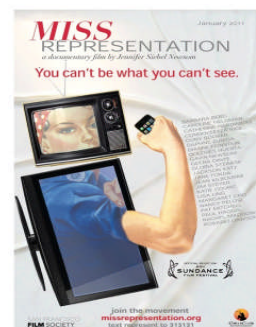
Through the Inter Branch Council, the **\$tart \$mart** program is now in the process of being implemented at three local campuses of Higher Education. **Saint Mary's College, Cal State East Bay Contra Costa, and The Maritime Academy in Benicia** are all prospective sites to begin conducting classes on salary negotiation strategies for recent graduates. At this time, three Branches are involved with the **\$\$** program here in Contra Costa County. **Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette, Pleasant Hill-Martinez, and Concord**, have trained members ready to begin conducting classes. Marilyn and I are very excited to begin meeting with students and faculty members. We want to thank Deana Vick Davidson (OML), and Elaine Groen and Jean Simutis (Concord) for initiating the project last year and getting Annie Houle from the **WAGE PROJECT** out to California to train us.

As an AAUW member, you can help by asking the newly, or about to be employed, if they negotiated their salary. If not, direct them to wageproject.org for some helpful tips on how to get the best offer possible. It is no mistake that women make far less than men in a lifetime, but it is a mistake to let it continue.

WOMEN EARN 77¢ FOR EVERY \$1 A MAN EARNS

OVER HER LIFETIME, A WOMAN WILL LOSE BETWEEN \$700,000 AND \$2 MILLION. DON'T LET THAT HAPPEN TO YOU.

=pay talk it up.
The WAGE Project
www.wageproject.org



COMMUNITY

Pleasant Hill

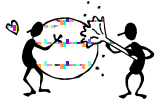
Marlene Maksel

Wine Walk:



Friday, September 7th, 5:30 to 8 pm
\$20 includes glass and map to
restaurants and businesses pouring wine and
offering hors d'oeuvres. Music in the Plaza, located
between Sweet Tomatoes and Jack's.

8th Annual Community Service Day:



Saturday, September 22nd,
7:30am to 3 pm. Start at the P. H. Park
on Gregory for a free pancake breakfast
courtesy of the P. H. Lion's Club and get a
t-shirt, too. To volunteer to work on a project, email
www.pleasant-hill.net/CSD for your project!

10th Annual "Art, Jazz & Wine Festival":



Saturday, October 6th from 10 am to
6pm and Sunday, October 7th from 10 am to
5pm in downtown Pleasant Hill on Crescent
Drive. There will be music, crafts, art, fun for children
and wine/beer.

AAUW – CA

** Our website, www.aauw-ca.org, is currently
undergoing many updates as new board members take
over the pages from their successors. Please check the
website frequently in the next few
weeks. We apologize for pages that are
out of date and we will update them as
soon as new information is received. We also want to
hear from you when you see links that don't work,
errors or anything else you wish to comment about.
Thanks for your patience.



** Welcome to our new state office manager, Roxy



Villa!

** Visit aauw-techtrek.org to see photos and videos
from your camp, posted as they are received.

** Eleanor Stem Allen Memorial SPEECH TREK 2012-
2013 • Topic: SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN SCHOOLS . . .
big deal?



** Six college & university campuses have joined
AAUW as partner members since July 1. Congratulations
for great recruiting.

A Message from the AAUW

President (edited for brevity)

It's back-to-school time, at least according to
advertisers. The sales are everywhere, even though it
feels like summer just started yesterday. Most of us are
also seeing lots of political advertisements, too. Now
that Congress is in summer recess, not to return to our
nation's capital until after Labor Day, campaigns are in
full swing in anticipation of the November elections.

The AAUW Action Fund's "It's My Vote: I Will be Heard"
campaign and back to school are merging in a very
important way. Why? Because AAUW branches
nationwide have adopted the effective tactic of
attending college freshman orientations, fall new
student events, move-in days, and other activities to
ensure these newly relocated millennials are registered
to vote.

This is very happy marriage between voter registration
and college campuses. According to HigherEdJobs, the
federal Higher Education Act requires that registration
materials be readily accessible on college and university
campuses. Many colleges now promote web pages to
help students register. They've also provided some
other great ideas for registering students that our
AAUW states and branches could easily adopt, such as:

- * Include voter registration information and forms in
"welcome packages" for newly-admitted students, and
make voting information visible in college dorms and
university classrooms.
- * Hand out voting information to students as they
wait in line for their college ID photos (we all remember
how long that line can be!). Some college
administrators shaking hands in those lines ask, "Are
you registered to vote?" which can be especially helpful.
Apparently administrators and professors are even
more persuasive in getting young people to register
than we are!

Our friends at the Brennan Center also have state-
specific information critical to students. Other guidance,
consistent with federal requirements under the Higher
Education Act, can help you pitch these ideas to your
local campuses. In this way, AAUW is providing a real
service to our college/university partners, both
recruiting more of them and helping the millennial
generation have a real impact this fall.

Yours in AAUW,
Carolyn Garfein
President

NOTES FROM YOUR EDITOR

Kit Hein

*You may not have noticed on the first page of this edition of the N.E.W.S. but this is the first issue of the new volume (year). Although our AAUW fiscal year begins on July 1, and all new officers have been busy working since then to provide you with all things AAUW this coming year, this is the first edition with 2012-2013 officers listed.

*It is also the LAST edition that you will receive if your name does not appear in the Directory that will be distributed at the September Brunch – indicating that 2012-2013 dues have not been paid. You should still have time to get that done if you act as soon as you read this and call Reba Siero at 228-8211.

*Each month when I send this out I receive at least one return message that you have not been able to open the .pdf file. I do the best I can with my limited tech knowledge to get it out to everyone. If it becomes a serious problem, I will be happy to add you to our snail mail list but, in trying to keep expenses down, we will try everything else first. Just let me know. Email recipients should receive their copy NO LATER than the 1st of each month! Snail mail can be a day or two later.

*We are again accepting personal advertisements to be placed in the N.E.W.S. You will see 2 of them on this page. The board voted that a business card size is \$50/year (10 issues).

*If you have questions about events or articles, please contact the person whose name is given (most of the names and contact numbers will be in the column to the right of this message). I can only handle N.E.W.S. problems and questions.

*Thank you to all who send Kudos each month. Here's to another great year with PH-MTZ AAUW N.E.W.S. Kit

2012– 2013 Leadership Team

Presidents:

Janice Walker 827-3374
sandjwalk@comcast.net

Marilyn Thelen 228-2600
jlmthelen@comcast.net

Vice Presidents Program:

Shelley Jacobson 930-9941
shelley19@comcast.net

Sherrie Moore
sherriemoore@sbcglobal.net

Vice Presidents - Membership:

Reba Siero 228-8211
rebasiero@yahoo.com

Elena Noble
enoble4@astound.net

Vice Presidents – AAUW Funds

Marlene DeLaurenti 934-4171
mdl@astound.net

Alana MacDonald 933-4427
Alanam88@gmail.com

Patricia Harris 228-6263
patriciaharris4@mac.com

Secretary:

Joy Barden 935-7118
joy_barden@yahoo.com

Treasurer:

Jill Anderson 932-2063
anderson216@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editor:

Kit Hein 228-7503
kjhein@comcast.net

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Please send copy to Kit Hein
kjhein@comcast.net

AAUW Help Line: 800/326-AAUW

CA AAUW Office

Office Manager: Roxy Villa

Email: Office@aauw-ca.org

Web Page: aauw-ca.org

AAUW Contra Costa County Inter-branch Council (CCC-IBC) Chair:

Jean Simutis jeansimutus@csueastbay.edu



W.F.G.
Marilyn Tubbs
Associate
License: 0H53896
office: 925.689.2751
mobile: 925.457.9267
fax: 925.689.2906
marlin@comcast.net
2280 Diamond Blvd.
Suite 510
Concord, CA 94520
11315 Johns Creek Pkwy.
Johns Creek, GA 30097
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September 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5 <u>Morning Books</u> 	6	7 PH Wine Walk	8
9	10 <u>Walking Women</u> 	11	12 <u>In Indelible Ink</u> 	13	14	15 <u>MEMBER BRUNCH</u> 
16	17	18	19 <u>Cultural Connections</u> 	20 <u>Miss Rep. @ CMA</u> 	21	22 PH Community Service
23 <u>Miss Rep @ LPC</u> 	24 <u>Evening Books</u> 	25	26	27 <u>Matinee Idle</u> 	28	29 <u>FESTA</u> 
30						

SAVE THESE DATES: Oct. 6/7 - PH Art, Jazz, Wine; Oct. 17 - Sustainable Eating; Oct. 29 - Bunco



Pleasant Hill – Martinez Branch
533 Roanoke Dr.
Martinez 94553

Membership – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy 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.