



N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 56 Issue 8

April 2014

Women in Community Colleges – Access to Success



Featuring Dr. Helen Benjamin, Chancellor,
Contra Costa County Community College District

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

7 p.m.

Brookview Community Room, 1201 Monument Blvd

Dr. Helen Benjamin, chancellor of the Contra Costa County Community College District (4CD), will speak at the PH-Mtz branch meeting on April 16, 2014. She will open with remarks about the recently completed national AAUW study, “Women in Community Colleges – Access to Success” and then present a profile of the women connected in the district as students and as employees along with the increased opportunities and services available to them and the challenges they face. She will also touch on a bond measure on the June Primary ballot to provide funding for technology-based infrastructure and facility upgrades on all campuses. Read more about Dr. Benjamin on page

No reservations necessary. The public is invited so bring friends, family, and, especially, prospective members. Light refreshments will be served.

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Presidential Postings

Co-Presidents Kit Hein & Janice Walker

Our March luncheon, organized by Harriett Burt and Elena Noble, was a lovely start to the Spring season. The Lemongrass Restaurant's cuisine was delicious and our panelist of women entrepreneurs, including our own Tech Trek chair, Katrinka March, provided insight into the world of women business owners. It was a great opportunity to share a wonderful meal with friends and hear what it's like for women in the business community. Thank you, ladies!

As mentioned in last month's column, April 8 is Equal Pay Day. It's the day when women's wages for 15+ months of work equal the wages men earned within a 12-month period. If you are a retiree like we are, you may wonder: What does this have to do with me? But what about your daughters, daughters-in-law and granddaughters? Do you think they should have to labor an additional 14 weeks for equal pay? If you don't think that's fair then be sure to contact your Congressional leaders to let them know that the Paycheck Fairness Act, signed by President Obama five years ago, needs to become a reality in 2014!

If you've recently bought a stamp, pumped a tank of gas, shopped at the grocery store or bought a plane ticket, then you know prices have gone up. The trickle effect of increased costs has also extended to AAUW CA despite efforts to economize. Even though it is a volunteer organization, there are still operational expenses that cannot be avoided and require additional funds.

Starting April 12 through May 2, we are asked to vote for a secretary and five director positions at the state level, as well as a \$4.00 increase in the state dues. Unlike the US postal system, AAUW CA has not had a dues increase for 10 years. Few organizations can make that claim. This year a dues increase is a necessity and you are asked to show your support by voting "Yes" on the dues increase.

Last year about 25% of our membership voted. This year we hope many more members of our Branch will participate in voting. In early April you will be sent your personal AAUW pin number via email. (You may already know it from last year's voting.) Please use it to vote. If you are uncomfortable with the process, we will be happy to assist you in any way we can. If you give us your pin number and permission, we'll even be willing to do it for you! So show your support and vote! AAUW needs you, not only as a member, but as an active member!

You may have noticed in your recent copy of *California Perspective* that AAUW CA President, Alicia

Hetman, has invited us to join her in her new campaign to "Be More! Do More! Give More!" As AAUW members, Alicia challenges us to "Be More" by living each day committed to excellence in all we do, no matter what that may be. She asks us to "Do More", not only by involving ourselves with AAUW, but also striving to help make the world a better place for all. Alicia advises us to "Give More" by asking ourselves what we can do to make a difference either by giving more of our time, more of our resources, or actively inspiring others to share our vision through AAUW membership. An opportunity is at hand to accept Alicia's challenge. It is by voting in the election mentioned above and voting "Yes" for the dues increase. It's an easy way to "Be More! Do More! Give More!" We hope you'll take the challenge!

One last reminder, our state convention takes place later this month at the LAX Marriott. Late registration is still available for the convention convening April 11- 13.

This month we are back to Wednesday evening for our general meeting. On April 16th we will welcome Helen Benjamin, Chancellor of the Contra Costa College District. More information regarding this program is at the front of this newsletter. We look forward to seeing you there!

Kit and Janice

**APRIL BOARD MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2014
7 PM
Roanoke Community Clubhouse
785 Roanoke Dr., Martinez**

LAST CHANCE FOR CONVENTION
*It isn't really your last chance, but the deadline for regular priced registration for AAUW-CA convention has been extended to March 31. That should only be 3 days away if this newsletter is on time. Remember, the branch will pay \$199 towards registration, up to \$150 for transportation, and \$20 per diem for up to Two members. Check out the AAUW-CA website <http://www.aauw-ca.org/> for more information and call my cell 925-305-6301 as soon as you decide "Yes, I want to **Energize AAUW-CA***

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**** EVENING BRIDGE –** There was no information as of press time. Evening Bridge typically meets on the first Monday which will be **April 7**. Contact Elizabeth 210-0281 bokeyd1106@gmail.com or Gayle 798-7528 tarheel61@yahoo.com for exact time and location.



GRAND SLAMMERS - April 14, 12:30 pm, at Marge Munger's. All players welcome. Contact Marlene DeLaurenti if you would like to play. 934-4171 mdl@astound.net



**** MORNING BOOKS** will meet on **Wednesday, April 2nd, 10 am**, at Beth Madruga's. We will be discussing *Quiet* by Susan Cain. Are you an extrovert ~ or an introvert? Who has contributed more to our society through the years? In May, we will be reading and discussing *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom. Please join us for great discussions!



**** WALKING WOMEN** will walk in **April** on the **8th and 22nd** ~ Tuesday mornings at 9 am. On the 8th, we will meet at Marlene's and walk northeast on the newly finished Iron Horse Trail. On the 22nd, same location going south on the Iron Horse Trail. Please call, or email, Marlene Maksel, if you are planning to be there so we won't go off without you!!! And, if you have other trails that don't require a lot of travel time, please let Marlene know.



**** MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies **April 24th**. 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 film after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.



**** LUNCHIN' LADIES** will not meet in April. Go on the Cultural Connection trip and join that group for lunch at Assemble. If you have a restaurant you would like to try, please let Marlene know ~ we need some unique suggestions.



**** IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on **Wednesday, April 9th, 10 am**, at Marlene Maksel's. Our topic will be to write about "Running Late." Do you know someone who is perpetually late? Does it matter? Use your imagination, or write something from real life. We love oral versions, too. Please come and share your stories!



**** CULTURAL CONNECTION** will go to the Rosie the Riveter Museum in Richmond at the old Ford Auto Plant on **Wednesday, 30 April**. There is no fee. After you have indicated your interest in going, carpools and times will be established. There is a nice restaurant there, also ~ Assemble. You can look at it online. Please let Marlene Maksel know if you are interested in seeing the museum so final plans can be made. An estimated timetable might be departure at 9:30 am ~ return (after lunch) by 3 pm.



**** EVENING BOOKS** will meet on **Monday, April 28th, 7 pm**, at Marge Munger's. We will be discussing *God's Hotel* by Victoria Sweet. This is a story about Laguna Honda Hospital in S. F. Sweet was a physician at the hospital for more than 20 years. Reviews call the book "beautiful and unique"; "captivating"; and "radical and inspiring." Join us for a great discussion.



Membership Matters

Gayle Miner – Membership VP

TIME TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Our Membership Renewal Campaign will begin on April 16, 2014 at our general meeting. Membership renewal letters will be distributed to current members attending that evening. Those not able to attend will receive their renewal letters by mail or hand delivered by the Membership VP, Gayle Miner. Please try to return your dues by JUNE 1, 2014 or earlier. Renewal letters include an addressed envelope to the Membership VP for your convenience. You will need to add a stamp.

When dues trickle in over the Summer and into August, it is difficult to set our budget for the coming year. Please try to do your part by returning your dues to renew your membership in AAUW by JUNE 1, 2014. In this way, you will be assured that you will be included in the 2014-2015 directory.

IMPORTANT

Included with the renewal letter is a white form to fill out if any of your personal directory information has changed. Please fill out only the information that has changed. If your information has not changed, you do not have to fill out the form. Return the form along with your dues check in the envelope provided for you.

If you have any questions about dues or the information form, feel free to contact Gayle Miner at (925) 349-6795 OR email at gayle.miner@yahoo.com. REMEMBER: JUNE 1 2014 is the date that dues are due. Thank you in advance for renewing your membership in this outstanding PHMAAUW organization. It is the membership of outstanding organizations that makes the organization outstanding!

SUNSHINE

Our good wishes to Janet Sullivan for a speedy recovery. While on a family trip, Janet fell and broke her arm in three places.

As your Sunshine person, please let me know if anyone needs a card or any assistance.
Gayle Garrison 798-7528 tarheel61@excite.com

Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Sherrie Moore, webmaster



Our website includes the latest information about our branch. Check out the photos from our March Program with Local Women Business Owners at Lemongrass on the Programs and Photos Page.

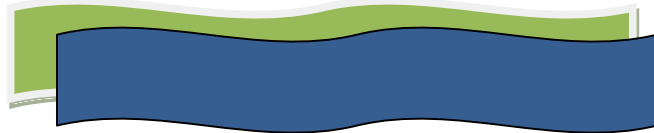
Elena Noble won our website contest. Congratulations! Go to the About Us Page to see pictures from the SAM Program at Fair Oaks.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org>.

AAUW FUNDS

Marlene Maksel & Laurel Gaiser, Co-VPs

Did you forget to get your Admiral Blue or Leaf Green scarf ~ hand dyed by Reba, Muriel and Laurel?? On April 8th, the scarves are headed for State Convention at LAX Marriott. If you don't want to travel all that way to get a scarf, you can contact Laurel Gaiser 322-8676, and get one now.



WAGEPROJECT.ORG

Elena Noble No Cal RFM/ AAUW

The UC Berkeley Start Smart class has been rescheduled for Saturday April 5th. There was such an overwhelming response that a larger room had to be obtained, and there is now a waiting list. As of today, three AAUW and two Berkeley Staff members are going to be trained as facilitators for the program. Stay tuned to hear the feedback from students.

Does it feel like a long time since **December 31st 2013**? Well, **Tuesday, April 8th 2014**, is **Equal Pay Day**. Women doing the same job as some men, will finally match their male counterparts in salary.

In real money, that gap can cost a woman and her family well up to **One Million Dollars** in her working lifetime.

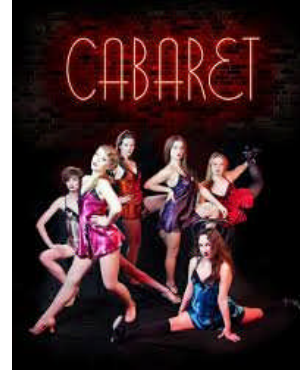
The good news is the Pay Gap has narrowed from 77cents to 82 cents for white woman. But as they say, "The Struggle Continues!"

Anyone interested in becoming a facilitator for \$tart \$mart Class can contact me at:

enoble4@astound.net

925 787 2410 cell

THEATER FOR TECH TREK



April 25th, 2014 - 7pm

**Alhambra High School
Performing Arts Theatre**

presented by the Drama Club of
Alhambra High School

Wine and cheese party before the show:

5:30pm

at the home of Trinkka and George March
650 Linden Lane, Martinez

\$30 for the evening and to support Tech Trek
Please send **check**, payable to PH-Mtz AAUW,
by **April 18 th**

to Trinkka March, 650 Linden Lane, Martinez
so we can have tickets reserved.

It is based on John Van Druten's 1951 play I Am a Camera, which was adapted from the short novel Goodbye to Berlin (1939) by Christopher Isherwood. Set in 1931 Berlin as the Nazis are rising to power, it is based in nightlife at the seedy Kit Kat Klub, and revolves around the 19-year-old English cabaret performer Sally Bowles and her relationship with the young American writer Cliff Bradshaw.

A sub-plot involves the doomed romance between German boarding house owner Fräulein Schneider and her elderly suitor Herr Schultz, a Jewish fruit vendor. Overseeing the action is the Master of Ceremonies at the Kit Kat Klub.

COMMUNITY

Diane Peterson

MARTINEZ

- 12 Sat. noon – 4 PM** Bay Area Craft Beer Festival at Waterfront Park
www.bayareacraftbeerfestival.com
- 12 Sat. 10 am – noon**, Mini Motorland @ John Muir Amphitheater, ages 2-5 yrs., reservations call 372-3510
- 15 Tues. 10 am – noon** Cemetery Tour, adults only, learn about local personalities 372-3510
- 19 Sat. 10 -11:30 am** Lion's Club Easter Egg Hunt, Waterfront Park Grass Area, ages 2-9
- 26 Sat. 7:30 am – 1 PM**, Clean Up Day Downtown, donuts, coffee and lunch for all volunteers, call 408-1338
- 26 Sat. 10 am – 4 PM** John Muir's Birthday-Earth Day Celebration, , 4202 Alhambra Ave., speaker, live music, silent auction,
www.MuirEarthDay.org or call 228-8860 ext. 0
- 26 Sat. 6 – 9 PM** Citizen of the Year Awards dinner, @ the Martinez Event Center, 524 Main St., awards include Educator/Teacher of the Year, Call 228-2345 or John@martinezchamber.com
- Ongoing Sat.** "Martinez Street Eats", **11 am – 3 PM**, Food Trucks at the Marina Parking lot, tables & chairs and music provided

PLEASANT HILL

- 3,4,11,12 7 PM**, "Little Shop of Horrors", College Park HS **also Tuesdays April 8 & 9 @ 4 PM**
- 5 Sat. 10 am – 4 PM**, Urban Farm Expo & Plant Sale @ Roger's Ranch Heritage Center, 315 Cortsen Rd., www.rodgersranchurbanfarm.org.
- 6 & 13 2:30 PM** "Noises Off", a comedy presented by DVC @, and **also on Fridays at 8 PM**
- 19 Sat. start times vary by age group**, "Egg" Citing Egg Hunt, free entertainment, pre-registration required, call 682-0896

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY

- 5 & 12 Sat. 10 am to 3 PM** Contra Costa Master Gardeners 3rd Annual Great Tomato Sale, at Our Garden at Shadelands Dr. & North Wiget Lane, Walnut Creek, www.ccmg.ucanr.edu

EDUCATION

Claudia Bass

MDUSD Seeks Input on How to Spend Public Funds

College Park HS, Thursday, April 3rd at 6:30 p.m.

Local Control Funding Formula, or LCFF, funds districts more fairly than in the past by creating a base funded on a per pupil basis that is the same across the state. To assist districts with figuring out how to use LCFF funds to best serve students, and to make sure the three groups of students get the support they need, districts must create a Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP). MDUSD is holding a series of meetings to solicit input and feedback on the LCAP.

You can also email to LCAP@mdusd.org. Additional information at MDUSD.org under Strategic Plan/LCAP. Please make sure your voice is heard!

29 Tues. 7 -9 PM, Common Core Forum – Pro/Con Panel Discussion moderated by the Pacific Justice Institute, Pleasant Hill Community Center.

Of the 46 states that initially agreed to adopt the Common Core Standards Initiative, 30 of them now have legislation pending to rescind it. Come to the Forum on April 29th to hear a balanced debate on what the Common Core Standards are and some of the issues these states have encountered.

AAUW www.tinyurl.com/mvcs942 or call Denise Pursche (925) 693-0899 (ed. Note: AAUW supports Common Core Standards)

It's Not to Late to Sign Up for Emeritus College Classes

DVC Emeritus College provides affordable classes for people 50 and over, There are some interesting, thought provoking classes starting in April and May as well as tours of the California Railroad Museum and the Ruth Bancroft Gardens, plus a hike of the Marin Headlands. Emeritus is the place to expand your mind without the stress of homework and tests. Don't miss out. To sign-up by credit card call the Emeritus Office at (925) 969-4316 or mail in your registration with a check. If you need a registration form, call the Emeritus Office and we will mail a form to you. You can view the entire 2014 Spring Brochure online at www.dvc.edu/emmeritus.

2013– 2014 LEADERSHIP TEAM

** Dr. Helen Benjamin (con. From page 1)

A member of the West County AAUW branch, Dr. Benjamin is enthusiastic about her own experience on an AAUW People to People Program trip to South Africa. Now in her ninth year as Chancellor, she began her career in the District in 1990 as Dean of Language Arts and Humanistic Studies and has held progressively higher positions including District Vice Chancellor, Educational Programs and Services, interim President of Los Medanos College and President of Contra Costa County.

Respected on both the state and national levels, she serves as president-elect of the Chief Executive Officers of the California Community Colleges and is currently a member of the American Association of Community Colleges 21st Century Initiative-Implementation Team Steering Committee on Student Financial Assistance.

Locally she serves on the board of the Kennedy-King Memorial College Scholarship Fund and the Contra Costa County Workforce Development Board. Don't miss Dr. Benjamin's talk on **Wed., April 16.**

** SAVE THE DATE

End of the Year Brunch



Saturday May 31st
10:00- 12:00 pm
Brookview Clubhouse

- *Installation of Officers*
- *Barbara Newachek Award*
- *Introduction of Tech Trek Girls*

Harriett Burt and Elena Noble Program VP's

** Innovative Fund Raiser-This weekend

Tech Trek Shred-Fest March 29, 2014 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
@ AAAAA Rent-A-Space 455 Moraga Road, Moraga

State-of-the-Art #Cross-Cut# Shredding will be done at 5A Rent-A-Space in the Shred Defense Truck starting at just \$5.00 per file box.

All proceeds fund AAUW-OML Tech Trek girls.

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<http://aauw-ca.org/>

PH-MTZ 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.
E. Carl Foster D.V.M.
Karen Shore B.V.M.S.**

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch
The 14th Annual AAUW
Garden Tour



Five Superb Danville & Alamo Gardens
Light Refreshments & Drawing

AAUW FUNDS Benefit for
Aspiring Women Scholars*

Adults \$30 Seniors 65+ \$25

After May 3rd prices increase \$5—Adults \$35 and Seniors \$30

Friday and Saturday
May 9th and 10th, 2014
10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND TICKETS PURCHASE

Visit our web site: <http://daw-ca.aauw.net/garden>

E-mail contact: daw.aauw@gmail.com

*A 501(c)(3) charity. Your donation is 95% tax deductible.
Please, no children under 12 or pets.





Join us for AAUW Concord's Second Annual

Art and Wine (and Beer) Walk

Saturday, May 10, 2014, 1:00 to 4:00 pm

Participants will stroll around Todos Santos Plaza and Salvio Square while enjoying fine wines, craft beer, and appetizers, viewing beautiful art, and meeting local artists.

Tickets are \$20 per person in advance and \$25 at the door; participants must be 21 or older. Tickets will be available through noon on May 9 at <http://concord-ca.aauw.net>. Final details will also be posted on that web site. All attendees must begin at E. J. Phair Alehouse, the starting location, to receive a wine glass, wristband, & map of participating locations. For questions call (925) 363-4438.



Organized and sponsored by Concord (CA) Branch **American Association of University Women**). All proceeds will go toward educational scholarships for local girls and women.

Participating businesses include:



Featured Wineries: Climbing Monkeys, Four Fools Winery, Harney Lane, Nimium, Renegade Winery, Sterling Albert

Featured Breweries: Ale Industries, Black Diamond, EJ Phair, Hop Grenade

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2  Morning Books	3 \$ Funds for education @ CPHS	4	5  Start Smart Training  Master Gardeners' Sale
6	7  Evening Bridge	8 Walking Women \$Equal Pay Day	9  In Ink Board Meeting	10	11 AAUW-CA CONVENTION	12 AAUW-CA VOTING BEGINS  Master Gardeners' Sale
13 "Noises Off" @ DVC	14  Grand Slammers	15	16 Dr. Helen Benjamin 	17	18	19  MTZ Lions Easter Egg Hunt PH Egg Citing Egg Hunt
20	21	22  Walking Women	23	24  Matinee Idol	25  CABARET FOR TECH TREK	26  John Muir's Birthday
27	28  Evening Books	29 Common Core Forum	30  Cultural Connection			

Save The Dates: May 9&10 – D-A-WC Garden Tour; May 10 – Concord Art&Wine Walk; May 31 – PH-MTZ End of Year Brunch