



N.E.W.S.

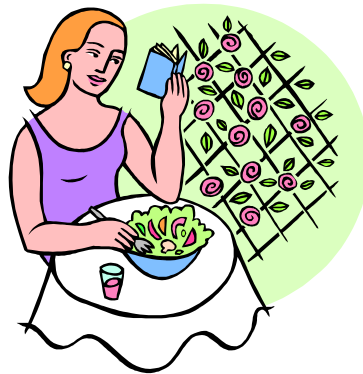
Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 56 Issue 9

May-June 2014

End of the Year Brunch **Saturday May 31 st** **Brookview Clubhouse** **10:00-Noon**



Please join us to honor and recognize:

- **Local scholarship seniors from Alhambra and College Park High Schools.**
- **Tech Trek Camp Girls from Martinez and Pleasant Hill Middle Schools**
 - **The 2013-14 Recipient of the Barbara Newacheck Award**
 - **Installation of our 2014-15 Branch Officers**
- **Due to the popularity of this event, please RSVP by May 27th**

RSVP: Elena Noble enoble4@astound.net

925 672 2470



Presidential Postings

Co-Presidents Kit Hein & Janice Walker

Once again our Program VP's, Harriett Burt and Elena Noble, have outdone themselves. The April program featuring Dr. Helen Benjamin, Chancellor of the Contra Costa Community College District, was enlightening and educational. Using the AAUW research report "Women in Community Colleges: Access to Success", Dr Benjamin showed the more than 30 members and guests who attended that AAUW continues to focus on equity for women and girls.

Preceding the program was our annual meeting, with election of officers for 2014-15 and a report from convention. Hopefully many members were enticed to start their Convention Fund now for the National Convention in San Diego, June, 2015. Conventions are for all members, giving us a chance to renew our commitment to AAUW and all that it stands for; as well as to see what AAUW is doing for us and the women and girls in our lives and our communities. Don't wait to be asked. Don't think that you have to be an officer to attend. Begin your convention fund now!

A very important beginning at state convention, and continuing on through May 2, is the voting for state officers and a ballot measure asking for a dues increase. All of you should have received a snail mail postcard with voting instructions or an email giving you the pin to access your individual ballot. PLEASE! If you have not received either one of these yet, call the state office immediately: 916-448-7795. Office administrator Kim Wilbur will be happy to assist you in your voting.

But the year is not over yet. As you read on page 1, Harriett and Elena have more in store for us at our *End of the Year Brunch* on May 31. Be sure to get your reservations in early as this is always one of our highest attended events.

This has been a remarkable year for both of us. We have been lucky to have worked with some amazing members in moving PH-MTZ Branch ahead in furthering the mission and promise of AAUW. It would take several pages to individually thank everyone so we want all of you who have done so much this year to know that we

appreciate every effort, large and small, that you have done for our branch and for AAUW.

Kit and Janice

***MAY BOARD MEETING:
WEDNESDAY, MAY 14, 2014
7 PM
Home of Janice Walker***

***JUNE JOINT BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 11, 2014
7 PM
Home of Janice Walker***

DUES ARE NOW DUE

By now you should have received your personal renewal letter from Membership VP Gayle Miner. Please write your check or go online to pay with a credit card as soon as possible. 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.

*Remember: All information for the directory will come from the application you fill out when you send in your check. Several members had incorrect information that had to be fixed with the national database. PLEASE proofread the Branch Directory and send corrections in with your check.



VOTE ONLINE NOW

**AAUW-CA APRIL 12-May 2
Dues increase State directors**



INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS

Remember, this is a 2 month edition of the N.E.W.S. Interest groups are listed accordingly.



**** MARATHON BRIDGE** – The end-of-year luncheon for 2013-2014 Marathon Bridge players will be held **Sat., June the 28th at 11:30 am** at the Brookview clubhouse. This is a potluck salad or dessert. Each person will need to bring either foodstuff plus \$3.00 for the rental and misc. items. Good Luck in all your bridge bids! ...prizes will be given for 1st winners and 'runner-ups'!



**** MORNING BOOKS** will meet on **Wednesday, May 7th, 10 am**, at Sherrie Moore's. We will be discussing *The Kitchen House* by Kathleen Grissom. The story is about an Irish girl who comes to a tobacco plantation at the turn of the 19th century. She works in the kitchen and house, but is never accepted by the black slaves.

In **June**, we will meet on **Wednesday, June 4th, 11:30 am**, at Susanne Rheingruber's. It will be a potluck luncheon and you must reply to Susanne ~ we will have sign-ups for potluck assignments at the May meeting. We won't be discussing a book, but there might be a quiz!



**** EVENING BOOKS** will not meet in May due to the Memorial Day holiday on our regular Monday date. HOWEVER, we will meet for dinner on **Monday, June 2nd, 6 pm**, at a restaurant to be announced later. Please call or email Marlene if you are interested, so reservations can be made. We will not be discussing a book.



**** WALKING WOMEN** will walk in **May on the 13th and 27th** ~ Tuesday mornings at 9 am. On the 13th, we will meet on Oak Park Blvd. (just west of the shopping center) and walk south on the Canal Trail. On the 27th, the same location going north on the Canal 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.

We will walk in **June on the 10th and 24th** ~ Tuesday mornings at 9 am. On the 10th we will meet in the Hillcrest Shopping Center parking lot and walk south on the Canal Trail. On the 24th, we will meet at the same location and walk north on the Canal Trail. Please let Marlene know if you are planning to walk.



**** MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on **Thursday, May 22nd**. Again, remember that we are the 4th Thursday, so it comes early in May. 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.

We will go to the movies on **Thursday, June 26th**. We will attend a local matinee and enjoy coffee, tea ~ maybe a sandwich ~ after and discuss the movie. Call, or email, Marlene if you are planning to attend.



**** LUNCHIN' LADIES** will go to the Blackhawk Grille in Danville on **Wednesday, May 21st at 1 pm**. After lunch, or before, you might like to browse through the many shops in the Blackhawk Plaza. Please let Marlene know if you are planning to attend, so reservations can be made ~ cut-off date will be May 19th. If you have a restaurant you would like to try, please let Marlene know ~ we need some unique suggestions.

We will not meet in June.

([INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS continued on next page](#))

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS (con.)

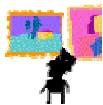
Remember, this is a 2 month edition of the N.E.W.S. Interest groups are listed accordingly.



**** IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on

Wednesday, May 14th, 10 am, at Ginny Hargrave's. Our topic will be to write about "Growing Things." You might think of plant life, but what other things do we "grow"? Use your imagination, or write something from real life. We love oral versions, too. Please come and share your stories!

We will have our last meeting until September at Wence's restaurant on Oak Park Blvd. We will meet at the restaurant at **11:30 am on Wednesday, June 11th**. There will be no writing assignment, but please come with ideas for topics for the 2014-15 year. Reservations should be made by the 9th of June ~ call or email Marlene, please.



**** CULTURAL CONNECTION** will **not meet in May or June.**



**** BOOK EXCHANGE- 1ST CALL**

This is your annual opportunity to join the BOOK EXCHANGE! Read up to 12 hardbacks published in 2013 for the cost of only one! You buy one book; then each month you receive a new selection from another member of the Exchange.

Please call Mary Hanlon @ 934-3528 with your selected title and author PRIOR to purchasing your book.

There have been 2 to 3 Exchange Groups for the past few years. Don't miss out! (You can purchase 2 or 3 books to join all the Exchanges and double or triple your reading pleasure!) Reserve your Titles - and your places in the Exchanges - now. We should begin exchanging books by October 1st.

AAUW FUNDS

AAUW Is a Top-Rated Charity



American Fellowships ~ This program is the oldest and largest of AAUW's fellowships and grants funding. It began in 1888, when women were discouraged from pursuing an education. Since that time, AAUW has provided \$90 million to upwards of 11,000 fellows and grantees.

Dissertation Fellowships offset a scholar's living expenses while she completes her dissertation. This fellowship must be used in the final year of writing the dissertation provided all course work has been completed and the research projects approved.

Postdoctoral Research Leave Fellowships assist scholars in obtaining tenure and other promotions by enabling them to spend a year pursuing independent research.

Summer/Short-Term Research Publication Grants provide funds for women college and university faculty and independent researchers to prepare research for publication.



MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Gayle Miner, Membersip VP

Please welcome the following new members and add their names to your directory:

Becky Pheng

501 Main Street
Martinez, CA 94553
cell: 510-734-8180
work: 925-387-0388
email: BECKYPHENG@gmail.com

Becky holds a BA in Political Science & Pre Law from CSUH and a MA in Public Administration from USF.

Cheryl Berger

1201 Monument Blvd. #42
Concord, CA 94520-4481
home: 925-825-1343
cell: 925-640-2436
email: cherberg4546@gmail.com

Cheryl holds a BS in Sociology and a MS in Education from Hunter College of the City University of New York. She also has a K-6 California credential and Community College Family Life Education credential.

Sandra Andre

1201 Monument Blvd. # 40
Concord, CA 94520
home: 925-363-3381
email: theandreshere@mchsi.com

Sandy holds a BA in English from University of Iowa and a multiple subject credential from San Jose State University. She spends part of each year in Iowa.

Lynne Heyne

2 Dover Court
Danville, CA 94526
home: 925-837-4250
email: lrheyne@sbcglobal.net

Lynne is a transfer member from the Danville Alamo branch and a former member of the Martinez branch. She holds a BA in Education from Chico State University and a lifetime teaching credential in general education.

Kay Schaefer

1041 Ulfonian Way
Martinez, CA 94553
Cell: 925-348-0741
email: kate.schaefer8@gmail.com

Kay holds a BSN Nursing from the University of Hawaii @Manoa and a MPA Health Services Administration from the University of San Francisco.

PLEASE DO NOT FORGET TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP BY OUR BRANCH DEADLINE OF JUNE 1, 2014.

Renewal envelopes were passed out at the April 16 general meeting. If you were not at that meeting, you will be receiving your renewal envelope by hand or snail mail during the next week or so.

GIVE-A-GRAD-A-GIFT!



Simply log onto:

www.aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift/

You will need the Grad's address and email to sign them up as well as your AAUW membership number.

COMMUNITY

Diane Peterson

MAY

PLEASANT HILL

3 Sat., Farmer's Market, 9 am – 1 PM, live music by Oak Grove, downtown 1



18 Sun., Wine, Women & Shoes, 2:00 – 5 PM, benefitting PH Recreation & Park District and Contra Costa County Hospice, at the PH Community Center, 14 & 1

www.cccwinewomenandshoes.com

31 Sat., Citywide Garage Sale, 8 am – 4 PM, info
www.pleasanthillgaragesale.com

MARTINEZ

3 Sat., Spring Wine Stroll, 2 – 5:30 PM, downtown, contact www.mainstreetmartinez.org

10 Sat., Martinez Blues by the Bay Festival at the Waterfront Amphitheater, 115 Tarantino Dr., 12:00 – 9:00 PM, www.cityofmartinez.org

14 Wed., Full Moon Ranger Guided Walk on Mt. Wanda,  **7 PM, call (925)228-8860 for reservations**

16 Fri., Friday Farmer's Market, 4 – 8 PM, the 800 block of Main St.

17 Sat., Peddlers Fair, 8 am – 4 PM, downtown, call (925) 228-3577 or
www.martinezpeddlersfaire.com

CONCORD

10 Sat., Concord AAUW Art & Wine and Beer Walk, Todos Santos Plaza, start at EJ Phairs, 1 -4 PM



JUNE

MARTINEZ

13 Fri., 7:30 PM, Full Moon Ranger Guided Walk on Mt. Wanda, call (925) 228-8860 for reservations

14 & 15 Sat. & Sun., 8th Annual King of the County BBQ Challenge & Music Festival, Waterfront Park Marina, info. Phone (925) 228-2345

PLEASANT HILL

7 & 8 Sat. & Sun., 9 am, Relay for Life, Pleasant Hill Middle School, benefitting American Cancer Society info. at PH Relay for Life Website or contact
Kealoha.pomerantz@cancer.org

28 & 29 Sat. & Sun., 3 PM – 10 am Family Camp Out at Pleasant Hill Park, 3 PM – 10 am, info at
www.pleasanthillrec.com, bring tent, sleeping bag, chairs, etc., \$15 per person includes hot dogs & hamburgers for dinner and donuts & coffee for breakfast

LAST CHANCE TO VOTE

By the time this newsletter comes out there will only be a few days left to vote in the AAUW California State election. Every member should have received an email or a snail mail ballot. If you have already voted, thank you. If you have not had the time, please do so before May 2. If you have not received notification from the state office call them now. Our branch has entered into a friendly contest with other branches of Contra Costa County IBC to see which branch can get the highest percentage of members to vote. We had 25% last year. Let's go for 95% this year!!

EDUCATION

Claudia Bass



Elena Noble \$start \$smart NoCal RFM

Our Local Community Colleges Need You

How can we improve our local community colleges, which enable students of all walks of life to pursue higher education? On June 3, 2014 a bond measure will be on the ballot designating money to improve the facilities at Contra Costa College, Diablo Valley College, Los Medanos College and satellite sites in San Ramon and Brentwood. Improvements would include updating classrooms so they are able to meet the technology demands in education and become part of the 21st century. This would result in expanding opportunities for science and career training programs as well as others. Also the bond measure would help with compliance of ADA by making the campuses more accessible to people with disabilities. Last the funds would be used for replacing old infrastructures such as sewage lines, ect. On a personal note I have used classrooms in the Engineering Technology building (slated for improvement) at DVC and believe me it does need it.



If you want more information you can go on the community college web site at www.4cd.edu. Or you can contact Timothy Leong, public relations at tleong@4cd.edu or call (925) 229-6823.



Be sure to vote on June 3rd and seriously consider the bond measurement for community college improvements.



April has been an exciting month for getting the word out on the **WAGE GAP**. On Saturday April 5th, **\$start \$smart** Wage Negotiation was presented to Thirty-two **UC Berkeley** and **Mills College Students**. **AAUW Berkeley** elected to contribute funds to buy a three year contract for **UCB**, which will allow the classes to be held at the convenience and discretion of the career center. The young women in the class were more than interested in discussing the **WAGE GAP** by asking important and stimulating questions about earning equal pay for equal work. One of the students even asked how she could become a facilitator herself. At the same time five new facilitators were trained which included college staff members from Berkeley (2), UC Merced (1), AAUW (2) members.

The following week on April 10th, an introductory, one hour class was also held at the **University of Santa Clara**, for *The Leavey School of Business Conference*, "**Map Your Path to Success**". A full three hour class will be held on May the 10th at the same site with AAUW members from San Jose and Santa Clara in participation.

At our General Meeting on the 16th, **Chancellor Helen Benjamin** of *The CCCCD* indicated that **Peter Garcia, Dean of DVC** will be contacting us to set up classes. All in all, an exciting and fulfilling month for **AAUW** and **The WAGE Project**. Many thanks to those who have given their time and energy to the project, their voices are making a difference in the lives of woman and their families.

Any questions about The Start Smart Program, or becoming a facilitator, please contact me by email: Enoble4@astound.net.

AAUW LAF Express -- April 2014

Supreme Court Hears Arguments in Cases Challenging Contraceptive Coverage

On March 25 the U.S. Supreme Court heard appeals in two lawsuits filed by business owners who challenged the Affordable Care Act's requirement that all employers include contraceptive care in their health plans.

Both cases, *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby Stores* and *Conestoga Wood Specialties v. Sebelius*, were filed by for-profit business owners who claim that because they are religiously opposed to the use of contraception, they should not be required to offer employee insurance plans that cover contraceptive care.

AAUW believes that for-profit businesses should not be exempt from providing health care coverage to their women employees, and we have signed on to amicus briefs in support of the Affordable Care Act's contraceptive care requirement. Look for more information once the Supreme Court issues a ruling in a few months.

Supreme Court Reaffirms Protections against Domestic Violence

In an opinion authored by Justice Sotomayor, the Supreme Court recently clarified a law intended to protect victims of domestic violence. The case, *United States v. Castleman*, concerns a federal statute that bars anyone convicted of a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence from possessing a gun. The statute defines misdemeanor crime of domestic violence as a misdemeanor (1) that is committed by someone who has a child with the victim of the assault and (2) that includes, as an element of the crime, the use or attempted use of force or the threatened use of a deadly weapon. The law closes a significant loophole.

The court ruled that a conviction qualifies as a misdemeanor crime of domestic violence as long as the use of physical force is an element of the crime; the crime does not need to include violent force in order to qualify. AAUW strongly believes in freedom from violence for all, and we applaud the court's ruling.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to LAF to help balance the scales of justice for women.

2013– 2014 LEADERSHIP TEAM

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PH-MTZ AAUW N.E.W.S. SPONSOR

Montecito Animal Clinic





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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.

May 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
V	O	T	E	AAUW ¹	CA ²	3
4	5	6	7  Morning Books	8	9	10  Concord AAUW Wine Walk
11	12	13  Walking Women	14  In Indelible Ink Board Meeting	15	16	17  Mtz Peddlers' Fair
18  PH Wine, Women &Shoes	19	20	21  Lunchin' Ladies	22 Matinee Idol 	23	24
25	26	27  Walking Women <u>Deadline:</u> <u>Brunch</u> <u>Reservations</u>	28	29	30	31  End of Year Brunch

June 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1  DUES ARE DUE	2  Evening Books	3  CC Community Colleges	4  Morning Books	5	6	7  PH Relay for Life
8 Relay (con.)	9	10  Walking Women	11  In Indelible Ink Joint Board Meeting	12	13	14  King of the County BBQ
15 Tech Trek Social	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24  Walking Women	25	26 Matinee Idol 	27	28  Marathon Bridge luncheon
29  IBC LEADERSHIP TRAINING	30					