



# N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 57 Issue 1

September 2014



## Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW SEPTEMBER WELCOME BRUNCH

Saturday, September 6, 2014  
10:00 AM to 12 Noon

Gayle Miner's Backyard  
125 Price Lane  
Pleasant Hill, CA  
(925) 349-6795

### PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS WELCOME

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. Come sign up for the interest groups that appeal to you and enjoy the morning with PH-M AAUW.

#### RSVP to:

Claudia Bass [cbasslancer29@aol.com](mailto:cbasslancer29@aol.com) or (925) 372-8679

Alana Macdonald [alana88@gmail.com](mailto:alana88@gmail.com) or (925) 933-4427

Space is limited, so an **RSVP** is a must by:

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1<sup>st</sup>**

Please try to carpool and park on the street. Flat shoes are advised and sunhats are suggested.

#### Directions to Gayle's house:

From Contra Costa Blvd: Take Gregory Lane heading West. Turn left on Price Lane - 3<sup>rd</sup> street on the left after the traffic signals. Look for the white fire hydrant on left side (if you get to Hillcrest Church you have gone too far).

\*Drive to nearly the end. You will see the house directly in front of you through the gateway. Park on the street outside the gate, and walk in through the gate to avoid a parking nightmare. You can park on Price Lane or Theo.\*

From Pleasant Hill Road: Turn onto Gregory Lane going East. Follow Gregory past Hillcrest Church. Price Lane is the block after the church. Look for the white fire hydrant. Turn right on Price Lane and follow directions between \* \*.



## **Presidential Postings**

Co-Presidents Katrinka March & Gayle Miner  
Coming Together In One Place

When we come together in one place for an AAUW event we come for many purposes. We come to be informed about and to discuss current AAUW issues. We come together to listen to speakers and panel discussions. We come to be entertained and to talk with friends, we come to share a meal together and we come together to raise monies for Tech Trek, college scholarships, and other AAUW causes at various fundraisers throughout the year.

We also come together in smaller groups to work on various committees and to attend interest sections. These committees and sections are open to all interested members. We hope you will join a section or two that interests you this year. If you are new to AAUW this year, don't be shy. Just call the section leader listed in our newsletter to join or talk to someone at the Welcome Brunch on September 6. Most section leaders will be there with information for you to join an interest section. We also hope you will sign up to be on a committee when the call goes out during the year.

We hope you will attend the outstanding General Meetings being planned and also support our fundraisers by your attendance during the year. It is through our fundraisers that we raise the funds to send girls to Tech Trek and give young women going on to college scholarships. We need to earn \$8,000.00 this year to make this happen.

You will have many opportunities to come together with other PHMAAUW members this year: General Meetings, Fundraisers, Interest Sections, and Committees. You'll be glad you did. We know we were. LET'S HAVE A GREAT YEAR TOGETHER!

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### HELP WANTED

We still have a vacant position on the board: Pleasant Hill Community.

Won't you consider this position to help keep us informed about "doings" in the Pleasant Hill

Community. Thank you, Nancy Hobert, for covering Martinez. Please call or email Gayle Miner or Trinka March if you are interested in this position.

Trinka and Gayle

## **Summer Social Thank you's**

Whatever event our branch puts on is always a team effort. This year's summer social was no exception. Although I personally received many thank you's and congratulations, I must extend those wishes to many people. Thanks so much for a wonderful evening, excellent food, and collegial friendships to Susanne, Herb, Gayle, Janice, Alana, Sandy, Claudia, Janet, Beth, Judi, all the folks who helped with set-up and clean up and, of course, my wonderful and talented husband, Paul. Even Jim Alkire helped out by celebrating his 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with us. Thank you, Margi. I truly couldn't have done it without all of you.

Kit Hein



**SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING:  
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2014  
7 PM  
Home of Trinka March**

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**Copy deadline for the October 2014**

**N.E.W.S. is:**

**September 15th**

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero [rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

## INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**\*\*MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10 am, at Joan Foster's. PLEASE let the hostess know you are planning to attend! We will be discussing *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. The story is about a young man who loses his mother in a freakish accident at 13 years of age and how her death and a great work of art impact his life. In October, we will be reading *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. Please join us for a great discussion!



**\*\*EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, September 22, 7 pm, at Marge Munger's. Please let the hostess know if you are planning to attend. We will be discussing *Americanah* by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie. The book is about a Nigerian couple who move to the West ~ one to the US and the other to London. It is a remarkable novel of race, love and identity. Please join us for the discussion.



**\*\*MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, September 25<sup>th</sup>. 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.



**\*\*CULTURAL CONNECTION** will not meet in September. If anyone is interested in arranging a tour of "Rosie the Riveter" Visitor Center, please contact Marlene at marlene@maksiel.us.



**\*\* IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 10 am, at Marlene Maksiel's. Our topic will be to write about "My Favorite Beverage." Something from Starbucks, a favorite wine, something from your childhood no longer available, etc. Use your imagination, or write something from real life. We love oral versions, too. Please come and share your story!



**\*\* LUNCHIN' LADIES** will go to Piatti's in Danville, Thursday, September 18<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm. Please let Marlene know if you are planning to attend, so reservations can be made ~ cut-off date will be September 15<sup>th</sup>. If you have a restaurant you would like to try, please let Marlene know ~ we need some unique suggestions.



**\*\* BOOK EXCHANGE- LAST CALL**  
Don't miss your annual opportunity to join the BOOK EXCHANGE! Read up to 12 hardbacks published in 2014 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 or Email [mkbibliophile@aol.com](mailto:mkbibliophile@aol.com) with your selected title and author **PRIOR** to purchasing your book. Deadline for joining is September 15, 2014.

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.

## INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS (cont.)



**\*\* MAH JONGG** – a new interest group – Friday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 at the Brookview Clubhouse. \$2.00 per person. Bring your set, if you have one, and remember your card. All players welcome. Contact **Sherrie Moore** if you would like to play.

229-4177      [sherriemoore@sbcglobal.net](mailto:sherriemoore@sbcglobal.net)



**\*\* NIMBLE FINGERS** – a revived interest group – Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 10:30 at **Suzanne Mesetz**' Rossmoor home. Bring your sewing, knitting, mending, or any craft. If you like, bring a bag lunch. Everyone is welcome. Contact **Suzanne** for more information.

283-3050      [gmasm39@yahoo.com](mailto:gmasm39@yahoo.com)

### **AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch 2014-2015 Proposed Budget**

<b><u>RECEIPTS</u></b>		<b><u>Budget</u></b>
Dues (Budget 115 members)	\$	9,545.00
N.E.W.S. Newsletter	\$	50.00
<b>Total Budgeted Receipts = \$9595.00</b>		

<b><u>DISBURSEMENTS</u></b>		<b><u>Budget</u></b>
Directory	\$	175.00
Dues (State & National)	\$	7,475.00
Hospitality (Coffee, Tea, etc.)	\$	30.00
IBC (InterBranch Council) - Annual Dues	\$	50.00
Insurance – Annual	\$	390.00
Membership	\$	50.00
N.E.W.S. Newsletter	\$	290.00
Operating Expenses	\$	200.00
Program	\$	935.00
<b>Total Budgeted Disbursements = \$9595.00</b>		

As approved at August 13, 2014 board meeting for vote by branch members at the September 6, 2014 general meeting.



## *Festa Italiana*

*Saturday October 4<sup>th</sup>*

*3:30 - 6:30*

*Viano Winery*

*150 Morello Avenue, Martinez*

*Wine Tasting 3:30 - 4:45*

*Italian Dinner and Raffle 4:45 - 6:30*

*Ticket Donation \$38.00*

*A Benefit for AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez  
Providing Scholarships for Women*

*For Tickets:  
please call before Sept. 28<sup>th</sup>*

*Marge Munger 925 687-9773 or  
Gayle Garrison 925 798-7528*





## AAUW FUNDS

Marlene Maksel & Laurel Gaiser

### SCARVES!!!

If you haven't yet purchased your beautiful pure silk scarf, designed and dyed by Reba Siero along with Muriel Fry and Laurel Gaiser, you aren't too late! Scarves are still available. However, your AAUW Funds committee is looking for other ways to market the scarves, outside the membership. So, if you still want one, please call Laurel at 322-8676.

### NORTHERN CALIFORNIA FELLOWS LUNCHEON

This is a wonderful annual luncheon event where you can hear the stories of several women who have been touched by YOUR generosity in making contributions to the Fellowships, Grants and Research programs of AAUW.

The venue is the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville on Sunday, 2 November, noon to 3 pm (registration at 11:30 am), \$40/each, and the deadline for reservations is October 22<sup>nd</sup>.

You will be amazed and proud when the recipients' report on the varied studies they are following and the gratitude they feel towards AAUW. We support women and girls through education and this is a prime example of that goal.

Call or email Marlene Maksel regarding reservations.

#### **OML Branch Opening Meeting**

On Tuesday, September 16, 2014, the local Orinda-Moraga-Lafayette (OML) Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) will showcase its activities and branch priorities. Discussion groups, advocacy issues for women and girls, book clubs, golf, movies, and volunteer opportunities are some of the activities to be highlighted.

The event will be held at the Holy Trinity Serbian Orthodox Church at 1700 School St., Moraga, CA. Exhibits display at 9:00 am, followed by a light breakfast and discussion of branch priorities, with wrap up by 11:30. The event is open to the general public. Gail Chesler [gailchesler@gmail.com](mailto:gailchesler@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Alana Macdonald & Claudia Bass

First of all, we would like to thank all of those that have renewed their membership. Most have renewed for this year. Also welcome to the new members as we start our year of various and fun activities. Speaking of activities, we are in the planning stages for the September Brunch. I am sure all of you have received the flyer. Please RSVP as soon as you can to Claudia Bass; at [cbasslancer29@aol.com](mailto:cbasslancer29@aol.com) or 372-8679 or Alana MacDonald at [alanam88@gmail.com](mailto:alanam88@gmail.com) or 933-4427. This will be very helpful for planning. Thank you to those that have responded. Also if anyone wants to help just let us know. We especially need help with the food so please contact us to see what you would like to bring.

The September Brunch is also a kickoff for getting new members. Feel free to invite friends or family that could be perspective members to attend as guests. This will give them an opportunity to learn about AAUW and what it can offer to them. If you do invite a guest please give Claudia or Alana their name so we can welcome them.

Looking forward to seeing you at the BRUNCH!!!!

### *SAVE THESE DATES*

- Oct 4** Festa Italiana, Viano Winery, Martinez 3:30 to 6:30 pm (see page 5)
- Oct 15** Branch General Meeting, 7 pm
- Oct 25** Tech Trek Game Day, Brookview Clubhouse, 1 pm
- Nov 2** No. Cal. Fellows luncheon, Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville, noon to 3 pm
- Nov 16** Tech Trek fundraiser, Tahoe Joe's, lunch or dinner



## Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill- Martinez branch. See pictures from our Summer Social on the **Photos Page**. On the **Community Action Page**, see photos of two of our members who received awards from our local communities. Check out all of our activities on the **Interest Group Page**. Find photos of all of our members on the **Members Page**. Need to look up information about our branch for the past seven years? Go to the **Newsletter Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org> for all of this and more. Forward any questions or comments that you may have to the webmaster, located on the **About Us page**.

**Sherrie Moore, webmaster**

### It's Time to Sign Up for Emeritus College Fall Session

DVC Emeritus College provides affordable classes for people 50 and over. Courses are held at JFK University, Rossmoor, and Diablo Valley College. The 2014 fall session is packed with interesting, thought provoking classes starting the week of September 15 on a wide variety of subjects including photography, astronomy, writing, history and philosophy to name just a few. Tours of the Niles Silent Film Museum, the USS Hornet, and a History of Walnut Creek walking tour are also available. Emeritus is the place to expand your mind

without the stress of homework and tests. To receive a brochure by mail call (925) 969-4316 or you can view the entire 2014 fall brochure online at [www.dvc.edu/emeritus](http://www.dvc.edu/emeritus). Priscilla Tudor

## Education

Ilene Linsen

Much has been written and reported about the influx of unaccompanied minors arriving in the U.S. from Central America during the past months. A recent article which appeared in the Contra Costa times discussed this phenomenon as it relates to education, specifically in California. The article states that 200 newcomers from Central America have enrolled in San Francisco Unified this year added to 420 who enrolled last year. Oakland Unified reported that 340 Central American students enrolled in their schools. The numbers are much smaller in Contra Costa schools with only 19 Spanish speaking (Central American?) students reported by Mt. Diablo Unified.

The article details what various schools are doing currently and what they are planning to do meet the needs of these young newcomers. Mt. Diablo acknowledges the multiple needs the new students have and offers numerous services through its homeless outreach program, including free school meals and access to other food, clothing, shelter and access to health and dental care.

The number of Central American newcomers nationwide is about 62,000 since October, while the number arriving in California since January is 3,900. Only New York and Texas have received more Central American students than California. Schools throughout the U.S. will doubtless be struggling into the indefinite future to muster the creativity and resources to meet the exceptional needs of these young people, especially as long as violence and unrest in their home countries motivate them to leave and seek safety and better living in the U.S.

[http://www.contracostatimes.com/education/ci\\_2\\_6325121/central-american-kids-join-bay-area-classrooms-after](http://www.contracostatimes.com/education/ci_2_6325121/central-american-kids-join-bay-area-classrooms-after)

Ilene [emlisa@comcast.net](mailto:emlisa@comcast.net)

## Tech Trek Tidings

Janice Walker

Are you ready?! Once again our Branch's goal is to send four middle school girls to Tech Trek Camp next June. To do this we need \$3600 and with your help we will achieve our goal! So plan to participate with us this year as we hold events that will help secure the funds we need, as well as providing you with an enjoyable experience.

Our first event will be Game Day on Saturday, October 25, starting at 1:00 PM at Brookview. If you are a player of bridge, mahjongg, Mexican train, or any game in which you can get a group together, do plan to join us. Pat Harris will be chairing this first event for Tech Trek. More information will be in the October newsletter. Watch for it!

Also mark Sunday, November 16, and join us for lunch or dinner at Tahoe Joes on Contra Costa Blvd or use take out for the destination of your choice. A \$20 ticket gives you soup or salad, vegetable and potatoes with your choice of chicken, steak or ribs that will give us an \$8 contribution toward Tech Trek. Those who attended last March's fundraiser dinner for AAUW Funds know it's a fun time with a delicious meal and an easy way to support our goal.

We're also planning a fabulous tea for next Spring. More information about that event will be available in later newsletters.

If none of these events works for you and you would still like to support our efforts, you can always donate directly to Tech Trek by making your tax deductible check out to "AAUW CA Special Project Funds", marking "Tech Trek" on the memo line and sending it to me, Janice Walker, 524 Monti Circle, PH 94523. I need to complete the paperwork to accompany your check to assure that our branch gets credit for your donation toward our camp fees.

If you attend our kickoff Brunch on September 6, you'll hear our 2014 recipients share their experiences from last June's camp. As in past years, I am sure their enthusiasm will confirm how valuable our efforts are to provide this opportunity to further women's involvement in the STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) areas and by doing this we are making a difference!

Support Tech Trek! See you at the events!

## Public Policy

Kit Hein

The following has been summarized from the Public Policy page on [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org). You can be a direct recipient of this information by subscribing to Action Alert at [www.aauw-ca.org](http://www.aauw-ca.org) Click on Public Policy>AAUW Action Alerts. The information in ( ) indicates where the bill is as of Aug. 20. Bills in Concurrence must pass out of the house of origin by Aug. 30. Governor Brown has until Sept. 30 to sign.

*AAUW California has had a successful session so far. Opposed bills have failed, most supported and sponsored bills continue to be active with some disappointments in failing to repeal the Maximum Family Grant for CalWORKS recipients and additional increases to the minimum wage. We expect successful outcomes with supported bills to enforce Title IX for high school athletics (SB 1349 – governor's desk), extend Title IX protections to pregnant and parenting graduate students (AB 2350 – governor's desk), provide sexual harassment protections for unpaid interns (AB 1443 – governor's desk), and remove barriers to full contraceptive coverage under the Affordable Care Act (SB 1053 – back from the assembly for concurrence).*

Join me for **Get Out The Vote!** I would like to form a committee to explore how PH-MTZ AAUW can help with local voter registration and education on the Propositions once the ballot is set. Please call (228-7503) or email ([kjhein@comcast.net](mailto:kjhein@comcast.net)) to let me know that you want to help with this project.

### **Calling All Title IX Champions!**

From the August LAF Express

Nominate an AAUW branch or member for our Title IX Champion award! We've seen AAUW members do [amazing work](#) to ensure that students' rights under Title IX are secured. You investigate Title IX compliance; assemble lists of Title IX coordinators; promote more just sexual assault policies; and help teach students, parents, educators, coaches, and administrators about Title IX's requirements. The U.S. Department of Education simply cannot enforce Title IX alone, and your work goes a long way to making school and sports fairer for women and girls. Now we want to recognize, celebrate, and publicize your wonderful contributions!

Nominate an AAUW branch or member to be a Title IX Champion by sending a brief summary of the nominee's Title IX work and a picture of the nominee or Title IX event to [laf@aauw.org](mailto:laf@aauw.org). Title IX Champions receive an award (pictured above) to display on their branch's website, and we'll post their stories on the Title IX Champion web [page](#). Nominate a champion today!



## Martinez Community

Nancy Hobert

### Sept. 13

Vintage Glamour Fashion Show and Lunch  
6 Robinsdale Road, Martinez  
\$25 for reservations or information call 228-2233

### Sept. 14

Martinez Community Jam  
Carpenters' Hall – next to Les Schwab's  
Free admission – live music...food...family fun

### Sept. 18

Chamber Mixer – Connolly & Taylor - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

### Sept. 27 & 28

Bay Area Blues Festival - 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.  
Main Street, Martinez

### Sept. 27 Martinis on the Plaza Gala

Ygnacio Plaza, 525 Henrietta St, Martinez  
For tickets or Information phone (925)228-2345

### Oct. 17, 18, 19, 24, 25, 26, 31

*"The Adams Family – a New Musical Comedy"*  
The Campbell Theater, 636 Ward St, Martinez  
(707) 649-1053

### Oct. 25

Martinez Mayors Cup 2014 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Golf Classic  
hosted by Martinez Chamber of Commerce  
and Main Street Martinez  
(925) 228-3577



## PH-MTZ AAUW

## 2014–2015 LEADERSHIP TEAM

### Presidents:

Trinka March 372-8420 [drtrinks@sbcglobal.net](mailto:drtrinks@sbcglobal.net)  
Gayle Miner 349-6795 [gayle.miner@yahoo.com](mailto:gayle.miner@yahoo.com)

### Vice Presidents - Program:

Harriett Burt 372-8038 [hjburt1940@comcast.net](mailto:hjburt1940@comcast.net)  
SaraJoy Haynes 372-9211 [plumleather@aol.com](mailto:plumleather@aol.com)

### Vice Presidents - Membership:

Claudia Bass 372-8679 [cbasslancer29@aol.com](mailto:cbasslancer29@aol.com)  
Alana Macdonald 933-4427 [alanam88@gmail.com](mailto:alanam88@gmail.com)

### Vice Presidents - AAUW Funds

Laurel Gaiser 322-8676 [lagaiser@comcast.net](mailto:lagaiser@comcast.net)  
Marlene Maksel 689-5439 [marlene@maksel.us](mailto:marlene@maksel.us)

### Secretary:

Helen Pereira 685-0757 [helenmp45@aol.com](mailto:helenmp45@aol.com)

### Treasurers:

Jennifer Apkarian 228-2027 [apkarian1@att.net](mailto:apkarian1@att.net)  
Kathy Heath 228-1976 [Kmamh1894@gmail.com](mailto:Kmamh1894@gmail.com)

### Newsletter Editor:

Reba Siero 228-8211 [rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

Pleasant Hill – Martinez AAUW N.E.W.S. is published 10 times a year by and for AAUW. May/June & July/August are combined issues.

**Copy deadline for October 2014 N.E.W.S. is Sept. 15th**

Please email copy to: **Reba Siero**

[rebasiero@yahoo.com](mailto:rebasiero@yahoo.com)

### Webmaster

Sherrie Moore 229-4177

[www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org](http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org)

### AAUW C C C Inter-branch Council Chair:

Position currently vacant

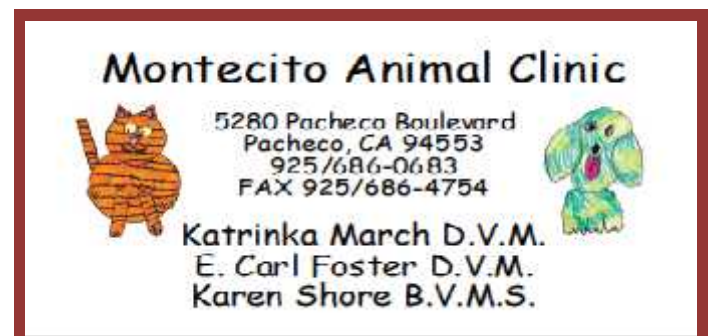
### California State office of AAUW:

1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100

Sacramento, CA 95833

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

## N.E.W.S. SPONSORS



# September 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6  Welcome Brunch
7	8	9	10  Board Meeting	11	12	13
14	15 N.E.W.S. Deadline	16 OML branch meeting	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

# October 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4  Festa Italiana
5	6	7	8  Board Meeting	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 General Meeting	16 N.E.W.S. Deadline	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25  Tech Trek Game Day
26	27	28	29	30	31	

**Save the Dates:** Nov 2 - Nor Cal Fellows Luncheon, Danville; Nov 16 - Tahoe Joe's Tech Trek fundraiser