



Pleasant Hill-Martinez (CA) Branch

# N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 58 Issue 4

December 2015



## PH-MTZ AAUW RAZZLE DAZZLE HOLIDAY PARTY



**Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup> 6-9 pm**

Crowne Plaza  
45 John Glenn Drive, Concord

Sit down dinner (no-host bar) and entertainment

Choose turkey, potatoes and stuffing OR chicken, asparagus and rice pilaf dinner  
Meal includes a glass of wine, water, ice tea, salad, rolls and butter, and dessert and coffee  
Vegetarian meal available upon request

**\$50 per person, checks to PH-M AAUW**

By December 7<sup>th</sup> (no exceptions), RSVP and send your check to:

Marlene Maksel  
1201 Monument Blvd. #12  
Concord, CA 94520



Reserve early

Bring your spouse and/or friends, plenty of parking  
Entertainment by the Alhambra High School String quartet





## PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

Happy Holidays to all!

This is often a time we reflect upon our accomplishments of the past year- and there have been many. If you want every detail please visit our very comprehensive website so well maintained by our webmaster Sherrie Moore!

We have helped several young girls directly to further their education. We were able to send an amazing young woman to NICWSL leadership conference, we were able to continue our support for our national funds which reach out to women in academia who need our help, to women hoping to further their advanced degrees. We have done a lot!!

We have lost a few precious members this year and that is always sad. We owe it to them to continue our mission and our vision to keep pressing to make this world a better place. AAUW women have always been educated and motivated; let's help each other stay that way.

We have had fun in the interest groups and in our fantastic fund raisers that just happen to be quite social. On a pure social note we hope you will be joining us at the holiday party December 11<sup>th</sup>! Many of us have made new friends in AAUW that will serve us well and have managed to bring our like-minded friends into the fold there is always room for more! Bringing new members adds creativity and inspiration to continue our good deeds.

We also have a new venue to expand our ideas and horizons as AAUW Interbranch has a new website and will be sharing ideas and events, so one more place to

visit in the comforts of your own home, while expanding your AAUW knowledge. Check it out!

<http://ccc-ibc-ca.aauw.net/>

Please bookmark it... and take a quick tour around! You'll notice there is a Members Only section. The password (case sensitive) is: **ccc-ibc**

To add our own branch events we simply contact Sandy Kirkpatrick ([sandykirkpat@earthlink.net](mailto:sandykirkpat@earthlink.net)) and Michelle Koski ([mkphantom26@hotmail.com](mailto:mkphantom26@hotmail.com)) (IBC chair and vice chair) with an e-mail flyer and/or description of our event (anything that is open to the public).

Trinka and Gayle

### Nominating Committee for 2015-2016

The Nominating Committee for 2015-2016 was elected at the general meeting in November.

The members from the board are:

- Joan Foster
- Reba Siero
- Jennifer Apkarian, alternate

The members from the general membership are:

- Jeanne McGinnis
- Margie Pruitt
- Marilyn Thelen
- Sandy Wolfe, alternate

Joy Barden, Parliamentarian

**DECEMBER BOARD MEETING:  
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 9, 2015**

**7 PM**

**Home of Trinka March**

**Copy deadline for the January 2016 N.E.W.S. is:**

**December 28th**

Please email copy to:

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

## INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



**\*\*MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10 am, at Joan Foster's. PLEASE let your hostess know if you are going! And, please plan to CARPOOL. We will be discussing *The Art Forger* by B. S. Shapiro. Is the Degas painting real, or forged? This is an intriguing mystery that keeps you guessing right to the end. In January, we will be discussing *The Rosie Project* by Grame Simson. Please plan to join us for great discussions!



**\*\*IN INDELIBLE INK** will not meet in December. In January, our topic assignment will be "My Favorite Toy." We welcome oral versions as well as written and we do NOT critique your writings. Please come and try out this Interest Section.



**\*\*LUNCHIN' LADIES** will not meet in December. Feedback would be appreciated if anyone would like to see this Interest Section continue. Perhaps there is a different day of the week that is more convenient for you? Please let Marlene know your thoughts and interest ~ marlene@maksel.us



**\*\*EVENING BOOKS** will not meet in December. In January, we will be reading *The Whip* by Karen Kondazian. Please plan to join us for the discussion then.



**\*\*MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup>. We are combining November and December due to the holidays, **SO NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATES!** 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.

## OTHER SMALL GROUP GATHERINGS



**\*\*MAH JONGG** Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1:00 at the Brookview Clubhouse. \$2.00 per person. Bring your set, if you have one, and remember your card. Snacks are welcome. Contact **Sherrie Moore** if you would like to play. 925-229-4177 [moreshherrie@comcast.net](mailto:moreshherrie@comcast.net)

## Fun and Friendship!!! Annual Layette Shower

Benefiting new mothers in need  
in Contra Costa County

We are meeting at  
Susanne Rheingruber's home.  
14 Pillon Real  
Pleasant Hill

January 27, 2016  
10 AM

Bring lightly used or new baby needs as gifts  
(do not wrap) and enjoy your friends.

RSVP to:  
Gayle Miner 349-6795  
Susanne Rheingruber 945-0347

## REQUEST FROM THE TREASURER

Joan Foster

If you need a check, it must have all of the information before I issue the reimbursement or pay the vendor's bill. Also, I will not process any receipt or disbursement without the required form from our web site. That form **MUST** be filled out completely. If you need a check quickly, I am usually in Martinez every Thursday in the late afternoon. If you are sending me money, please email me that you have sent it and I will acknowledge it when I receive it. Thanks.

# Fair Oaks Elementary School

2400 Lisa Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

Breakfast with Santa  
Saturday, December 12, 2015  
9am-11am

We will need a few people to help with serving breakfast.

### We also can use donations for our raffle:

- Gift cards
- Baked goods
- Gift baskets

### Items for theme baskets:

- Baking theme
- Family dinner theme
- Game night theme
- Reading night theme
- Movie night theme

The deadline for Gift cards and Basket items is Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> to Muriel Fry's home, 1235 Barott Road, Lafayette, or to the Fair Oaks office, 2400 Lisa Lane, Pleasant Hill.

The baked goods can arrive at the school on Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

## TECH TREK TIDINGS

Janice Walker

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Tahoe Joe's fundraiser. Eighty-four tickets were sold netting over \$300 profit for both Tech Trek and Funds. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible!

If you are looking for any tax deductible donations as you end the calendar year direct contributions to Tech Trek qualify. Checks can be made out to "AAUW" and sent to me. I then forward the checks to Rory Keller, the CA treasurer for the Sonoma State University camp. The money then gets credited to our account before it is sent onto National.

I wish you all Happy Holidays!



## Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. See pictures from the November Program on the **Photo Page**. Check out our upcoming programs and events on the **Program 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**

## AAUW FUNDS

Harriett Burt and Helen Pereira  
AAUW Funds VPs

“Sunday at Tahoe Joe’s with AAUW Family and Friends” is now part of history. 84 tickets were sold raising a total of \$678.72 to benefit Funds and Tech Trek. Thanks to all who bought tickets and enjoyed food and fellowship on a cold late fall evening.

The annual Fund solicitation letter is receiving a good response as checks continue to come in. So far members have sent in \$2595 in contributions to the various AAUW funds. If you haven’t written your check yet, you have until December 31. If you have misplaced the letter that lists some of the Funds, email Harriett or Helen and we’ll get you the information you need.

As Holiday shopping gets started, we still have a few of the lovely silk scarves Muriel, Reba and Laurel created. The number is dwindling so get out your gift list and check it twice because there’s someone on it who would love either a blue (10 remaining) or green (7). Call Harriett to reserve yours and send a check to Helen for \$25. After the Soup Supper, whatever is left can be used for gifts to speakers.

As you start marking down events for 2016 in your new calendar or your online one, write down Game Day on Wednesday, March 30, 2016 at Brook view.

Watch next month’s N.E.W.S. for an update on the ‘crazy idea’ the Committee is pursuing to raise lots and lots of money and publicity for AAUW Funds!

Fund History: 75 years ago AAUW’s War Relief Committee officially begins to raise money through a war relief fund to assist European scholars and university women displaced by the occupation and no longer able to continue their work. The committee works tirelessly with the academic community to find teach positions for the women at schools and universities in the United States. Individual branch members also participate by signing immigration affidavits of support. In its inaugural year, the War Relief Committee raises \$29,950 for distribution with 350 branches contributing. Their efforts helped many women and saved many lives.

## UPCOMING PROGRAM

### Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW February General Meeting

Graciela Tiscareño-Sato, a highly-decorated military veteran, bilingual STEM Consultant to K-12 school districts and a sought-after speaker on environmental entrepreneurship, leadership, innovation and the Latino educational crisis and solutions, will be the speaker at the February general meeting. She is the author of 5-time award-winning *Latinnovating: Green American Jobs and the Latinos Creating Them*, the first book showcasing Latino-led innovation and entrepreneurship in the green economy.

Ms Tiscareño-Sato will share her remarkable journey from her early years growing up in a large family, the daughter of Mexican immigrants, through her graduation from the UC Berkeley School of Environmental Design, her career in the Air force, her Master’s Degree from the School of Global Commerce at Whitworth University in Spokane with the help of an AAUW Career Development Grant, the creation of her own company, Gracefully Global, and, if that weren’t enough, her writing, speaking, and mentoring.

Don’t miss this inspiring presentation on February 17th at 7:00 at St. Andrews Church in Pleasant Hill.

Priscilla Tudor, Program Co-VP

## **SUSAN KLINDT RANDALL - In Memoriam**

Resident of Martinez, CA, Native of Billings, MT, Oct. 8, 1939-Oct. 30, 2015 (Age 76)

Susan Klindt Randall passed away on Friday evening, October 30th, after a brief illness. Susan was born in Billings, Montana, graduated from Billings Senior High School and earned a degree from San Jose State University.

Susan's enthusiasm for life led her to reach out in service through a wide variety of organizations--Kiwanis, Interfaith Council, American Association of University Women, Battered Women's Alternatives, P.E.O. Sisterhood--to name only a few. She had a passion for helping people, for supporting and enjoying the arts, for working toward a more just world, and for learning new things every day.

Susan is survived by her husband, Douglas; devoted children Kent Randall (Jennifer) of Martinez and Sara Ghisletta (Eric) of Martinez; grandchildren Samuel, Ellen and Jake Randall of Martinez and Russell, Reid and Caroline Ghisletta of Martinez. Preceded in death by her parents Blanche Whitney and Allen Klindt; Siblings, Frederick "Fritz", Lynette and Sylvia.

Susan has left a legacy of love to her family and friends, has left a lasting mark on her community and has inspired many others who knew her only briefly. A constant joy was the rich time she was able to spend with her grandchildren. Her life was lived with courage and honesty, and Susan will be missed and remembered with gratitude by all whose lives she touched.

An interfaith Celebration of Susan's life was held on November 13th at the LDS Chapel in Pleasant Hill.

Those who so desire may make memorial donations in memory of Susan to the Martinez Education Foundation, P.O. Box 933 Martinez, CA 94553.



### **11th Annual Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek Branch of AAUW's Holiday Home Tour**

Friday and Saturday, December 11 and 12, 2015

Bring your friends and join us for our fabulous Holiday Home Tour. We will showcase five beautiful, festively decorated homes in Danville and San Ramon.

Tickets are \$35 each. A senior discount of \$5 will be offered through Saturday, December 5th.

To purchase online: Visit our web site <http://daw-ca.aauw.net/hht2015>.

To purchase via US Mail: Send a check postmarked by December 5th payable to Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW with a self-addressed stamped #10 business size envelope to: AAUW Holiday Home Tour, P.O. Box 996, Alamo, CA 94507.

To purchase in person: Visit East Bay Flower Company, 206 Sycamore Valley Road W. Mon-Sat 9-5. (cash or check only).

Your ticket purchase will help send 12 middle school girls in the Danville, Alamo and Walnut Creek communities to a one-week Tech Trek math-science camp for girls in a university setting and help fund local women receive their college education.

Please, no children under 12 or pets. Tour tickets are not tax deductible.

Questions: [aauwhht@gmail.com](mailto:aauwhht@gmail.com)

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Alana Macdonald and Claudia Bass  
Membership VPs

It is always sad to lose a member due to passing away. We say good-bye to Susan Randall and all that she contributed to AAUW. She was a named gift-honoree for the Martinez Branch in 1995-96. We send our condolences to her family.

We are coming to the end of the year 2015. Next month will be 2016 and membership dues will change. If someone joins from January 1 to March 15, 2016, dues will be \$52.50 and will be good through June 30th. Also if someone joins at an event "on the spot", dues for this time period is \$40.25. The Soup Supper in January would be a perfect time to bring a perspective member.

After March 15<sup>th</sup> dues are the full amount and good through June 30, 2017.

So we encourage members to invite guests to the January Soup Supper. It would be a great time to join with a substantial savings.

As a branch we have our own records for our membership and at the national level they do also with our input. So if you have any changes in address including email and phone numbers please let us know. We can then update this information to the national data base. Thanks.

For those members who do not drive and would like to come to the meetings or events, the following is a list of volunteer drivers. Please contact them if you need a ride. If you would like to volunteer to be a driver please let Claudia or Alana know.

Helen Pereira: 925-685-0757; 925-285-1766, Martinez

Trinka March: 925-372-8420, Martinez

Suzanne Salter: 925-988-0322, Pleasant Hill

Muriel Fry: 925-937-4709, Lafayette

Priscilla Tudor: 925-798-4095, Martinez

Claudia Bass: 925-372-8679, Martinez

Thank you to those who have volunteered to be drivers.

Alana Macdonald, [alanam88@gmail.com](mailto:alanam88@gmail.com)

Claudia Bass, [cbasslancer29@aol.com](mailto:cbasslancer29@aol.com)



## December 2015/January 2016 Calendar

- Dec 2** Morning Books, 10 am, Joan Foster
- Dec 3** Matinee Idle, Marlene Maksel
- Dec 4** Deadline for Gift Card and Basket items for Fair Oaks' Breakfast with Santa raffle
- Dec 7** Deadline for Holiday Party reservations
- Dec 9** Board meeting, 7 pm, Trinka March
- Dec 11** PH-M AAUW Holiday Party, 6 to 9 pm, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Concord
- Dec 11-12** 11th Annual Holiday Home Tour, Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW
- Dec 12** Breakfast with Santa, Fair Oaks Elementary School, 9 to 11 am
- Dec 18** Mah Jongg, 1 pm, Brookview Clubhose
- Dec 28** N.E.W.S. deadline, Reba Siero
- Jan 27** Layette Shower, 10 am, Susanne Rheingruber



### PH-M 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.  
Karen Shore B.V.M.S.  
Cindy Pieper D.V.M.

## 2015-2016 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:

Susan Lawson 285-4430 [susanelawson@comcast.net](mailto:susanelawson@comcast.net)

Priscilla Tudor 790-4095 [ptudorlcsw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ptudorlcsw@sbcglobal.net)

### Vice Presidents - Membership:

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Alana Macdonald 933-4427 [alanam88@gmail.com](mailto:alanam88@gmail.com)

### Vice Presidents - AAUW Funds

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

### Secretary:

Jennifer Apkarian 228-2027 [apkarian1@att.net](mailto:apkarian1@att.net)

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### Newsletter Editor:

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

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**Copy deadline for the January 2016 N.E.W.S. is December 28th.** 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

Sandy Kirkpatrick 707-745-2484

[sandykirkpat@earthlink.net](mailto:sandykirkpat@earthlink.net)

### CCC IBC website

<http://ccc-ibc-ca.aauw.net/>

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