



Volume 59 Issue 10

July/August 2017

## Celebrating Together! 136 years

Members, Spouses and Friends welcome!

70 years - Martinez Branch -- 60 years - Pleasant Hill Branch -- 6 years - Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch TOGETHER!

Date: July 22, 2017

Location: Hobert Residence

1040 Vaca Creek Road, Martinez

Time: 5:00 pm

Marinated Prawns served with Onion & Peppers

Bruschetta with Pomodoro Al Forno

Cheese, Fruit & Vegetable Platter with Dips

Grilled Filet Mignon served with Cabernet Sauce

Grilled Cedar Plank Salmon Filet

Savory Asparagus Bread Pudding

Rosemary Roasted Baby Red Potatoes

Salad of Roasted Beets, Tangerines, Walnuts, Goat Cheese, and Mixed Lettuces served with Tangerine Vinaigrette

Caesar Salad

Artisan Breads and Sweet Butter

Bundt Cakes served to each table

Coffee, Tea and Water

**BRING WINE OR BEER IF YOU WISH**

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

# OF RESERVATIONS \_\_\_\_\_ AT \$40 EACH, TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECKS PAYABLE TO: **AAUW Pleasant Hill – Martinez Branch**

RETURN TO: Gayle Miner  
125 Price Lane  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

**LIMITED TO 80**

**DEADLINE – SATURDAY, JULY 15**





## PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

As our branch begins anew this summer, let us pause to reflect upon the ways in which we collectively have fulfilled the mission of “advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research” this past year.

Our entertaining and informative *programs* included a presentation of the BART bond measure from Election 2016, a talk about the history and preservation of the Red Oak Victory Ship in Richmond, a lively presentation about the birds of Midway Island and plastic pollution which threatens them, an educationally interactive program about black artists and spirituals with a baked potato bar thrown in, a local political activist who spoke about the Electoral College and his experience at this year’s inauguration, and a potluck with an AAUW Fellow who elaborated on her research about the US invasion of Iraq and its impact on cultural heritage . We thank Program Co-chairs Gayle Garrison and Nancy Hobert as well as International Advocacy Co-chairs SarahJoy Haynes and Marge Munger for such insightful events.

This year we awarded *Local Scholarships* to five very deserving young women from Alhambra and College Park High Schools. In addition, we helped send SIX middle school girls to *Tech Trek* camp at Sonoma State University this summer. It was a privilege to meet these young women and hear their future plans at our May 20 end-of-year brunch. Our AAUW Fund committee selected a stellar young woman to attend the *National Leadership Conference for Student Leaders* in Maryland. All of this would not be possible without the generosity of our membership and the leadership of our chairpersons Marie Cattalini and Carol Walsh (Local Scholarships), Diane Coventry and Trinkia March (Tech Trek), Harriet Burt and Helen Pereira (AAUW Funds). Heartfelt thanks to all of

you.

For the 2017-18 year, our executive committee honored Trinkia March with the *Barbara Newachek Award*. Taste of Fall co-chairs Sherrie Moore and Marlene De Laurenti were *named gift honorees* by AAUW Fund. These three ladies epitomize the AAUW mission through their steadfast leadership and it was our privilege to present these awards to them.

Now, on to the present and future! Elena Noble installed our new executive officers in theatrical fashion using Ancient Greek masks at our May 20 brunch. Thank you to all continuing and new officers for accepting your positions! And thank you to those who helped organize the brunch, brought food, etc. Our new year got off to a positive start on June 14 when we held a joint board meeting at Claudia Bass’ house. Committees are moving forward in planning for the coming year. Please consider joining one of these committees – meeting dates can be found further in this newsletter. We encourage you to save **September 16** for our *Welcome Brunch* and **May 19, 2018** for our *Spring Fundraiser*. More details will be forthcoming....

Through increased participation, we bring added vitality to help reach our objectives. We hope more of you will become involved in our branch in some way - by joining an interest group, serving on a committee, accepting a position on the board or bringing in new members. Of our new members who joined our branch last year - some serve on the board as appointed officers and participate in committees. We currently have four open positions – *Community (Pleasant Hill)*, *Games for LAF and Tech Trek*, *International Advocacy (Soup Supper)* and *Tech Trek Co-Chair to help Diane Coventry*. These positions can be shared between co-chairs and committees can be formed to distribute the work load. The Soup Supper in January is a very popular and fun event; we would love to have one or two people spearhead a committee to make this event come to fruition. Those who are interested in taking on any of these positions, please contact Jennifer or Claudia.

We also would love to get together with all of you this summer at our *136<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration* at Nancy and Kent Hobert’s lovely home on **July 22!** We will be celebrating 70 years of the Martinez Branch, 60 years of the Pleasant Hill Branch and 6 years as a combined Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch.

Together, let’s make it a great year!

Jennifer and Claudia



**Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW  
SEPTEMBER WELCOME BRUNCH**

**Saturday, September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**10:00 AM to 12 Noon**

**Marilyn Thelen's Home**

**5318 Stonehurst Drive**

**Martinez, CA**

**925-228-2600**

**PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS WELCOME**

- ◇ Listen to Tech Trekkers talk about camp
- ◇ Make new friends and greet the old
- ◇ Check out the Interest Section offerings
- ◇ Pick up your 2017-2018 Directory
- ◇ Bring a friend/prospective member

**RSVP to:**

Bea Ball at (925) 825-3622 or [beaball@att.net](mailto:beaball@att.net) or  
Elva Valli at (925) 228-8056 or [wevalli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wevalli@sbcglobal.net)

**RSVP by:**

**MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 11<sup>th</sup>**

**Bring a sunhat.**

**Directions to Marilyn's home:**

From Highway 4: Take Alhambra Ave exit and go **SOUTH** on Alhambra Ave. Turn **RIGHT** onto Alhambra Valley Rd and go 1.3 miles. Turn **RIGHT** to stay on Alhambra Valley Rd and go 0.8 miles. Turn **RIGHT** onto Vaca Creek Rd and go 100 yds. Turn **LEFT** onto Stonehurst Dr and go 0.2 miles. 5318 is the first house on the **RIGHT**.

From Gregory Ln/Grayson Rd: Take Grayson Rd up to the cemetery. Turn **RIGHT** onto Reliez Valley Rd and go 2.2 miles. Continue straight ahead onto Alhambra Valley Rd and go 0.8 miles. Turn **RIGHT** onto Vaca Creek Rd and go 100 yds. Turn **LEFT** onto Stonehurst Dr and go 0.2 miles. 5318 is the first house on the **RIGHT**.

## INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



**\*\*MORNING BOOKS** will not meet in July or August.

We will resume meeting in September on Wednesday the 6<sup>th</sup>, 10 am, at a location to be announced later. Our book for discussion will be Gill Paul's *The Secret Wife*.



**\*\*IN INDELIBLE INK** will not meet in July or August.



**\*\*LUNCHIN' LADIES** will meet on Tuesday, **AUGUST 15**, 11:30 am, at farmer's almanac in Danville. Please let Marlene know by the 13<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in lunching then. Also, please tell Marlene if you are interested in this section ~ and if you have an idea for a great restaurant it would be fun for us to try.

This section will not meet in July.



**\*\*EVENING BOOKS** will not meet in July or August.

In September, this Interest Section will meet on Monday the 25<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm at Linda Robbins. Our book for discussion will be Amor Towles' *A Man from Moscow*.



**\*\*MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, July 27 on our regular 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday. Call Marlene 925-689-5439, if you have any suggestions for a movie. We always discuss the film after over coffee, other liquid refreshment, or frozen yogurt ~ sometimes, lunch!

This Interest Section **WILL** meet in August on Thursday, August 24<sup>th</sup>.

### SUNSHINE

Gayle Garrison

When a member needs a get well card, sympathy card, or just a thinking of you, please let me know.

Gayle Garrison  
[tarheel61@excite.com](mailto:tarheel61@excite.com) or call 925-798-7528

## OTHER GROUPS



### **\*\*MAH JONGG**

COME PLAY MAH JONGG!

Mah Jongg meets at 12:30 PM on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup>, at Brookview Clubhouse.

We will also meet at 12:30 PM on Friday, August 18<sup>th</sup>, also at Brookview Clubhouse.

There is a \$2.00 per person charge for the clubhouse rental. If you don't know how to play Mah Jongg, but would like to learn, we will be happy to teach you.

Reservations are a must each month, so contact Suzanne Salter at 925-935-0861,

email: [seabear2@msn.com](mailto:seabear2@msn.com) OR

Gayle Miner at 925-349-6795,

email: [gayle.miner@yahoo.com](mailto:gayle.miner@yahoo.com)

We play on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month We would love to have you join our group.



### **\*\*GRAND SLAMMERS** will play

bridge on Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 at Brookview Club House. Each player pays \$5, with \$3 for Local Scholarship Fund and \$2 for room rental. All levels of players are welcome, members and non-members.

Contact Gayle Garrison at 925-798-7528 or

[tarheel61@excite.com](mailto:tarheel61@excite.com) if you would like to play.

## BOOK EXCHANGE - 2nd CALL

This is your annual opportunity to join the BOOK EXCHANGE! Read up to 12 hardbacks published in 2017 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 contact Mary Hanlon @ 925-934-3528 (Home) or 925-286-2223 (Cell) or [mkhbibliophile@aol.com](mailto:mkhbibliophile@aol.com) 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.

## FROM THE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Harriett Burt

Hello everyone from Washington DC. Convention ended Saturday morning, June with a good session on membership retention but before I go into that, here's a few other headlines.

First and foremost, Abigail Lewis, head of special projects, answered a question at the Town Hall general session about Tech Trek from a young member from Alabama who is totally committed to the program and concerned that it would go away. Ms. Lewis replied that National is committed to a national program but it's a federalism thing. Nat'l feels that some things are better done by the states. 'But we are not letting it go,' she stressed. The state is in charge of the fiscal part because it works better.

Afterwards, I asked if there would be interference with successful programs like ours....she said not, noting that we are organized as a state program where all the other camps are Lone Rangers. I asked if our TT chairs could talk with her if they had questions and she said yes and gave her email--[lewisa@aauw.org](mailto:lewisa@aauw.org). And whether we can still make a tax deductible donation to Fund but pass it through our camp first is still being worked on...maybe special projects would be the loophole ....I actually thought it already was being done that way.

The keynote speakers were outstanding. Judy Woodruff was delightful and candid. The two pollsters, Celina Lake and Linda Duvall, were excellent commentators on the unusual state of our politics. And Joan can tell you about hearing and meeting Justice Sotomayor.....I do believe she (Joan) has washed her right hand by now.. there is a funny story to go with it.

I collected some very good ideas on attracting and retaining new members which I will share. By and large it was quite worthwhile although I could have gotten by without the themes and the costumes in a couple of the sessions :). Thanks for sending us!

## Spring Installation and Awards Photos



Four of our 6 Tech Trek Campers



Our 2017-2018 Elected Board is installed



2016-2017 Elected Board and Appointed Officers



**NCCWSL** (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders)

Shia Stennis, our 2017 award recipient

Hello and Good Morning!

The conference was wonderful and I was so thankful to be a part of it. Many of the speakers there touched a lot of topics to get different conversations started. They brought up real issues that I found each and every one of us could relate to. Many issues touched on what it feels like to be in school studying a very male dominated major like myself. Issues that touched on the discrimination women face every day in school, work, and everyday situations. It was eye-opening for me. I enjoyed the awards ceremony very much as four powerful women were awarded the Women of Distinction; Danielle Feinberg, Rosie Rois, Amanda Nguyen, and Crystal Valentine. They were amazing women who all had very different stories, but I could connect very deeply with each one. I saw some qualities in them that I had, which is inspiring to know that I could make a difference like them.

Many of these issues I knew about, but did not know the logistics and details of the women's wage gap. Attending the Negotiating Your Wage after understanding the facts of the wage gap made it more crucial that I attend the workshop. It was one that I enjoyed very much. For all of the workshops that I attended, the information was clear and detailed to make the information easier to understand. Some of the other workshops that I attended were for Self-Care and Activism. I went to the self-care workshop with my friend, Rosemary, who is going into social work and is very big on self-care. To me it was interesting to see how many people believed that self-care was important, but not many women took the time for self-care. Another conference I attended was Amy Oestreicher, who told her story of being in a coma, having 27 surgeries and surviving sexual assault. She then took her love of performing and directed and starred in a one woman musical about her life, Gutless and Grateful. Something that really stuck with me was when she said that "...human spirit feeds off of hope, and hope is fuel that we can cultivate for ourselves." To me it was beautiful to hear her story.

I met many girls there that welcomed me in the different activities going on inside and outside of the conference. If I were sitting alone at breakfast many girls would include me and ask if I wanted to sit with them. I plan to keep in touch with each one that I connected with at the conference. We all exchanged phone numbers and social media accounts to keep in touch. I attached some photos of me and some other girls at the conference.

I cannot thank you enough for helping me experience this conference, and the beautiful and amazing women that lead and attended the conference.

Thank you,  
Shia Stennis



## Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Read about the Local Scholarship and Tech Trek girls on the **Community Action Page**. On the **About Us Page**, see the new Board, the Barbara Newacheck Memorial Award Winner, and the AAUW Fund Named Gift Recipients. View pictures from our May Brunch on the **Photos Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org> for all of this and more. Remember to press F5 to get the most current version of each page. Forward any questions or comments that you may have to the webmaster, located on the **About Us Page**.

**Sherrie Moore, webmaster**

### 2018 FUNDRAISER

Marlene De Laurenti and Janice Walker

If you attended our fundraiser, *A Taste of Fall*, last October you know it was a huge success. In May committee members, along with our co-presidents, gathered to assess the value of repeating a similar fundraiser and the overall assessment was a positive response to do it again. Thus, with Board approval we are moving ahead to hold a spring fundraiser on Saturday, May 19, 2018 from 3–6 PM at the home of member Cheryl Buscaglia. Make a notation now to mark your 2018 calendar!

In an effort to begin the planning, etc. for this event, a committee meeting will be held on Monday morning, July 17, at 10:30, at the home of Janice Walker, 524 Monti Circle, Pleasant Hill. As you know, it takes many hands to put on such an event. We hope you will be able to offer your assistance so that we can repeat the success we had with *A Taste of Fall*.

Please contact us, co-chairs, Marlene De Laurenti, ([mdl@astound.net](mailto:mdl@astound.net) or 925-934-4171) or Janice Walker ([sandjwalk@comcast.net](mailto:sandjwalk@comcast.net) or 925-827-3374), if you would like to be a part of this process! We hope to see you July 17!

## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Bea Ball and Elva Valli, Membership VPs

Your grateful membership VPs are sending many KUDOS to all members of Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW who have paid their dues for 2017-2018. We appreciate it very much and can now proceed with necessary reporting to AAUW National. If you have not yet paid, please send a check for \$87.00, made out to AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch to Bea Ball, 94 Rolling Green Circle, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Delaying this step could mean that we won't be able to get your name and contact information into next year's directory.

On a festive note, plans are under way for our Welcome Brunch. It will be from 10:00-12 noon on September 16, 2017 and will be held at the perfect place for a brunch, Marilyn Thelen's. The planning process began by setting the date, the location, and forming committees. Some of you have already signed up to help and many have volunteered to help in more than one capacity. More help will be needed as this event requires many hands and ideas. A planning meeting is scheduled for July 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:30, again at Marilyn's. We will be contacting those of you who have expressed an interest in helping. We will continue to ask for help as it will be needed for Set-up, Clean-up, Food and Decorating. Elena Noble has volunteered to organize the refreshments and will need volunteers to help, and Barbara Minneman has volunteered to take care of decorations. So you see, we're moving right along and would love to have you help us to make this a successful event.

Remember the date is September 16<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM and RSVPs will be necessary no later than September 11<sup>th</sup>.

To volunteer please contact:

Bea Ball 925-890-0202 or Elva Valli 925-228-8056

Please welcome our newest members:

Bridget Pinson  
6525 Parkdale Plaza  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(H) 925-228-2138  
(C) 925-812-6231  
Email: b.pinson@comcast.net  
Cal State Dominguez Hills  
Bachelor of Science - Nursing

Gael Rodgers  
400 Lenox Court  
Pleasant Hill, CA 94523  
(H) 925-932-0879  
UC Berkeley  
BA History/Anthropology

## PROGRAMS

Bambi Barker and Sally Figueiredo

PLEASE JOIN YOUR PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIRS, BAMBI BARKER AND SALLY FIGUEIREDO, FOR OUR FIRST COMMITTEE MEETING.

WHEN: Wednesday, July 12  
TIME: 4:30 p.m.  
WHERE: STATES COFFEE  
609 Ward Street / Martinez

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

Bambi 925-229-1720  
Sally 925-890-0675

**AUGUST BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2017**

**7 PM**

**Location TBD**

**Copy deadline for the**  
**September 2017 N.E.W.S. is:**

**Friday, August 25<sup>th</sup>**

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero

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



## EDUCATION

Gayle Duncan

Jobs in California are changing at a rapid pace. The skills, needed by the workers that fill these jobs, need to be continually updated. As a result, this puts pressure on all schools in the state, especially the community colleges. The community colleges prepare 2.1 million students, on 113 campuses, to enter or advance themselves in the workforce. To cope with the rapidly changing job requirements, the state's community colleges began a restructuring program in 2013. They worked closely with businesses that wanted to hire new employees and created course schedules that allowed students to work and take classes. The community college system is going to spend one billion dollars, in the next five years, to achieve that goal. The Institute for the Future was asked by the colleges to evaluate the changes they have put in place so far. The results were very favorable and showed progress. However, the colleges have to realize that this restructuring is a work in progress and must continue to evolve based on the ever changing job market. Programs are being created to introduce a student to a specific job market, then they spend a year working in that field learning the basics, then they return to school to learn skills to move into an entry level job in that particular field. Students are earning money and the colleges are building relationships with employers. Once a student gets a degree that is not the end of the learning process. With technology advancing faster than the curriculum being offered, the system lets any college use curriculum that has been approved at other colleges, instead of waiting for the slow, decentralized approval process. Also, the state bureaucracy is slowing down these new measures. Schooling is still based the traditional values of learning. New ideas and programs are thought by some as risky and are slow to be accepted. Many students attend community colleges to take a few classes to learn new skills that will get them a promotion. Funding unfortunately is based on the number of students that attend school full time. A committee is looking into other alternatives to award funding. One issue that is being addressed is deciding which classes to add and which classes to scale back. There is also the issue of preparing students for technology jobs that haven't even been created yet. The community colleges are becoming increasingly invaluable because they are attempting to implement programs that will address the skills the ever changing job market demands. The system is working to find an acceptable balance that truly benefits all students.

## LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS RECIPIENTS

At our May Brunch, college scholarship awards were presented to five students from local schools. Each recipient was honored by members, family, and friends. Five very deserving High School Seniors were recognized for excelling in their high school years, not only with excellent grades, but also in community service and leadership ability. They were each awarded a \$1,000 AAUW scholarship in recognition of their achievements. This year's recipients of Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW Scholarships are Jessica Singh, Amy Nguyen, and Hayoun Lim from College Park High School, and Sarah Emigh and Morgan Azevedo from Alhambra High School.

In the Fall, Jessica, who is interested in Biochemistry, is going to UCLA, and Amy is headed to Long Beach State with a major in Biology. Hayoun will attend UC San Diego to study Mechanical Engineering. Sarah is off to Chico State University and would like to go into the Nursing field. Morgan will attend UC Santa Barbara with a major in Communications.

Our branch is proud to award these young women our 2017 scholarships. We have strongly supported the Local Scholarship Fund in many ways. Two of the fundraisers were A Taste of Fall and a Silent Coffee Klatch, which you generously supported.



L to R: Jessica Singh (College Park), Amy Nguyen (College Park), Hayoun Lim (College Park), Sarah Emigh (Alhambra High). Not pictured: Morgan Azevedo (Alhambra High)



## **Sarah Nevada Ross Dunlop**

**May 25, 1918 – May 2, 2017**

**Resident of Pleasant Hill - Member of PH-M AAUW - Mother of Member SarahJoy Haynes**

Sarah Dunlop (98) of Pleasant Hill, CA passed on May 2, 2017 at home. She was the daughter of John Paul Ross and Anna Josephine Anderson. She graduated from Sacramento High School in 1934 at 16. Sarah graduated from San Francisco State University with a BA, a Master's Degree and Administration degree in Education. She served 25 years as a teacher, resource teacher and an administrator for the Mt. Diablo Unified School District. Sarah was married to William Wallace Dunlop for 63 years. Sarah is survived by three loving children, Dr. David W. Dunlop of Indonesia; Roy W. Dunlop of Arkansas; and SarahJoy D. Haynes of CA; two brothers and two sisters, eight loving grandchildren, and ten great grandchildren. Sarah loved china painting, stitching, gardening, exercising at the YMCA, taking violin lessons, and traveling. A memorial service was held at the Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church, June 24, 2017 at 4 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Hospice of the East Bay or Meals on Wheels.

## **2017 BARBARA NEWACHECK MEMORIAL AWARD**

Janice Walker

Barbara Newacheck was a dynamic member of the Pleasant Hill Branch who embodied the values of AAUW. She passed in 2004 and in 2005 the Barbara Newacheck Memorial Award was established to honor a member who, like Barbara did, advances the mission of AAUW through her contributions to the Branch and beyond.

This year's individual has been a member since 1990. Since then she has held many positions within the Branch, including the office of president at two different times. She is a lifelong resident of Martinez and has made contributions to the community through her business and her ongoing involvement with Alhambra High School.

Nineteen years ago she was on the cutting edge of the Tech Trek program when she volunteered to be an instructor for Northern California's first Tech Trek camp at Stanford. Since then she has been a regular staff member of Tech Trek camps throughout Northern California and has even volunteered to be a dorm mom. Throughout the years she has always been ready to step in wherever there has been a need.

She is a woman of many titles: wife, mother, volunteer, band and orchestra member, who happens to play four different musical instruments, veterinarian and active AAUW member. She is Trinka March!

Due to a prior commitment, Trinkka was unable to attend the end of the year brunch on May 20<sup>th</sup>, so the 2017 Barbara Newacheck Award was presented to Trinkka on May 10<sup>th</sup> at the monthly board meeting.



Science is powerful! 'Camp encourages girls to pursue careers in STEM fields', is the title of the article in The Press Democrat, the local Sonoma paper. Check out the link <http://www.pressdemocrat.com/news/7125231-181/camp-encourages-girls-to-pursue>

I was thrilled to have the opportunity to hang out at camp for 3 days this summer as a class monitor. Of the 90 girls attending, we were fortunate to be able to send 6 girls this time. A week and a half before camp, our branch was notified that another branch had a girl cancel, so we quickly jumped in with our alternate, Jailynn Lozano from Martinez Junior High. She was even quoted in the Press Democrat newspaper.

The accompanying photo was taken by Trinka at camp. We finally were able to get them all in one location. Some of you may have met a few of them at the May 20<sup>th</sup> brunch. From left to right, top to bottom, our campers are: Ellie Schichnes, Jasmine Kimbrough, Kira Funk, Mia Puljiz, Jailynn Lozano, and Dee Lara (with the cast, that didn't slow her down!)



Our 6 girls at Tech Trek Sonoma State Camp

I hope you will plan to attend our Fall Brunch September 16, at Marilyn Thelen's home, when our campers will report back about their camp experience. I can vouch for them that it was a busy, action packed week. As a class monitor I attended the field trips to Laguna Wastewater Treatment Plant and Sonoma County Water Agency at Russian River. I also helped out and took pictures during the classes and workshops. One of the classes was Chemistry, taught by Felicia Yu from Concord High School. The girls were conducting investigations to prove the Law of Conservation of Mass with chemical reactions. Other classes included hot air ballooning, electricity, biology wet lab, engineering, roller coasters, marine mammals, tree ecology, and cyber security. This year the campers were not allowed to have cell phones. No one complained and I observed our girls much more interactive with each other all the time. The adults took photos and posted them on a private Facebook Group page, which I know the parents appreciated, looking at the number of 'likes' and comments that responded.



Diane and Trinka at Tech Trek

I would like to acknowledge and congratulate our Tech Trek Sonoma State Camp directors Rory Keller and Jeanne Benedetti for another successful, fabulous camp experience. I am sure this will be a highlight in the lives of all the girls in attendance. A personal thank you to Trinka, the 'energizer bunny' being a dorm mom (for ten girls!), going on field trips, teaching the veterinarian workshop, and encouraging me to be a part of this great camp experience.

Thank you again for your support and donations, without them we wouldn't be sending girls to camp. Remember Tech Trek will be hosting a fundraiser in November - Painting with a Twist, in Pleasant Hill., details to follow.

## 2017–2018 LEADERSHIP TEAM

### July/August 2017 and beyond

- July 10** Grand Slammers Bridge, 12:30 pm  
Brookview Clubhouse
- July 12** Program Committee, 4:30 pm,  
States Coffee, Martinez
- July 13** Budget, 7 pm, Trinka March's home
- July 17** Welcome Brunch Committee, 9:30 am,  
Marilyn Thelen's home
- July 17** 2018 Fundraiser Committee, 10:30 am,  
Janice Walker's home
- July 21** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm  
Brookview Clubhouse
- July 22** Celebrating Together! 60 + 70 + 6  
5 pm, Nancy and Kent Hobert's home
- July 24** Fund Committee, 1:30 pm, Ginny Hargrave's
- July 26** Bocce Tournament Committee, 7 pm,  
Helen Pereira's home
- July 27** Matinee Idle, Marlene Maksel
- Aug 9** Board meeting, 7 pm,  
Rolling Green Clubhouse
- Aug 15** Lunchin' Ladies, 12:30 am,  
farmer's almanac, Danville
- Aug 18** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm  
Brookview Clubhouse
- Aug 24** Matinee Idle, Marlene Maksel
- Aug 25** September 2017 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba
- Sep 6** Morning Books, 10 am, Location TBD
- Sep 16** Welcome Brunch, 10 am,  
Marilyn Thelen's home
- Sep 25** Evening Books, 6 pm, Linda Robbins' home
- May 19, 2018** 2018 Spring Fundraiser, 3 pm,  
Cheryl Buscaglia's home

#### Presidents

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

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

#### Vice Presidents - Program

Bambi Barker 229-1720 [fanciphree@comcast.net](mailto:fanciphree@comcast.net)

Sally Figueiredo 890-0675 [sallyfigueiredo@comcast.net](mailto:sallyfigueiredo@comcast.net)

#### Vice Presidents - Membership

Bea Ball 890-0202 [beaball@att.net](mailto:beaball@att.net)

Elva Valli 228-8056 [wevalli@sbcglobal.net](mailto:wevalli@sbcglobal.net)

#### Vice Presidents - AAUW Fund

Barbara Chambers 229-5837 [ccrecbarb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ccrecbarb@sbcglobal.net)

Marlene Maksel 689-5439 [marlene@maksel.us](mailto:marlene@maksel.us)

#### Secretary

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