



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 61 Issue 1

September 2018

Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW SEPTEMBER WELCOME BRUNCH

Saturday, September 15, 2018

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 2018-2019 Directory
- ◇ Bring a friend/prospective member

RSVP to:

Beverly Diefenbacher

925-768-8608

thediefs@comcast.net

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 second 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 second house on the **RIGHT**.



PRESIDENTIAL GRAPEVINE ~~

WOW!! Our Brainstorming Group should be renamed the Energizers!! In our efforts to increase our very important social activities and blend them with our ongoing charitable fundraising events, this wonderful group has come up with the following Fun Charged Events

Have a Look!! JOIN IN!!

1. Magic Dinner Show ~~ Nancy Hobert & Sherrie Moore, October 19th
2. Holiday Dinner Party ~~ Margi Alkire & Marlene Maksel, December 7th
3. Macy's Fashion Show Fundraiser ~~ Elena Noble & Kathleen Woulfe, Next Spring
4. Wine, Coffee, Tea, Apple Cider, etc. Socials ~~ Sandy Wolfe, TBA

LET'S DO IT!! Now it's time for everyone to get involved!! Check out our Newsletter and find which event/events interest you, call the chair and join us!!

If you haven't already, it's time to check out our Web Page!! Our Webmaster, Sherrie Moore, does an incredible job keeping it current with pictures and all our happenings!! Check out <https://aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org/>

Sherrie currently developed a wonderful postcard size letter describing our purpose and functions to be handed out at our September Membership Brunch!! We are very appreciative. Thanks, Sherrie!!

Our Start Smart Advisor, Elena Noble, is constantly on the go setting up programs at our various Colleges and Jr. Colleges all over the state teaching our girls how to negotiate for fair and equal treatment in the workplace. Nicely done, Elena!!

I hope you have calendared our Membership Brunch on September 15th. Our Co-Membership Chairs, SarahJoy Haynes and Claudia Bass, have been working hard to make it a success. Come and hear what our inspired Tech Trek Students accomplished during their summer camp!! Those doing the inspiring are our Tech Trek Advisors, Diane Coventry and Trinka March. Diane has done a great job in preparing them for camp. Our own, Trinka March, since the beginning of Tech Trek (over 20 years ago) has always participated, very generously, offering her time and veterinary skills at the various college classes. A huge thank you to Trinka and Diane!!

Our AAUW Board Meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month!! Everyone is welcome to attend. Our next Board Meeting is Wednesday, September 12th, at 1:30 p.m. at Rolling Green Clubhouse in Pleasant Hill!!

Read our impressive, professional Newsletter that our chair, Reba Siero, sends out each month!! It's chock full of everything that we're involved in!! I'm looking forward to seeing everyone at our September Brunch!!

Sincerely,
Marilyn

SAVE-THE-DATE

Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW

Holiday Party

Friday, December 7, 2018

Brookview Clubhouse

The committee will be meeting soon---
and will be planning lots of fun for you
in December!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Claudia Bass and SarahJoy Haynes, Membership VPs

Many thanks to all of you for renewing your membership! Well done! We welcome you again and hope you'll continue to enjoy everything our AAUW branch has to offer.

The Welcome Brunch will be held at Marilyn Thelen's on September 15, at 10:00 A.M. The Brunch Committee is in the middle of organizing the September event. The plans are progressing well, but the committee would be happy to accept any additional help from the members. Contact Beverly Diefenbacher if you can help with set-up, menu items, or clean-up. It would be greatly appreciated. This event offers the perfect opportunity to bring and introduce friends and family to AAUW. All are welcome.

Please RSVP as soon as you can to:

Beverly Diefenbacher at 925-768-8608 or thediefs@comcast.net

Claudia Bass at 925-372-8679, cbasslancer29@aol.com

SarahJoy Haynes at 925-372-9211, plumleathr@aol.com

Program Extra! - Save the Date - Wednesday, November 7 at 2 pm

We have a great program planned for Wednesday, November 7 at 2 pm! Betty Reid Soskin, famous icon of the Rosie the Riveter National Historic Site, will be the speaker at our November Branch meeting. Because of commute traffic and her age, she preferred an afternoon meeting which also suits our members who prefer not to drive at night.

In addition we will invite the women's group at St. Andrew's Church, Martinez Lioness, Chapter GX of PEO and the Martinez Woman's Club plus any suggestions you may have for other groups in Pleasant Hill you think might be interested. St. Andrew's has 200 chairs so you can bring friends as well. Men are welcome.

She will talk about her life experiences and bring copies of her book, "Sign My Name to Freedom", which is very interesting and enlightening. She has led a fascinating life, one incident of which took place at Gregory Gardens School. Admission is free.

So Mark Your Calendars!!! Meanwhile, the **League of Women Voters will send one of its experts to our October 17 general meeting to update us on the ballot propositions** in preparation for the November 6 election. As newspaper copy editors write, 'mor to kum' about that.

Harriett and Nancy



INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, September 5, 10 am, at Margi Alkire's. We will be discussing Kristin Hannah's *The Great Alone*. The story is about a teenage girl caught in her parent's toxic marriage ~ with the beauty and wildness of Alaska around her. In October, we will be discussing Mahrin Hamid's *Exit West*. Plan to join us for great discussions!



****IN INDELIBLE INK** will on Wednesday, the 12th, 10 am, at Ginny Hargrave's. Our topic will be "What I Did this Summer." Maybe you took a trip, maybe you just read some books, or maybe you had interesting company. Please join us! We would welcome some new writers! We like oral versions, too.



****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will meet on Tuesday the 18th, 1 pm, at Il Fornaio, 1430 Mt. Diablo Blvd. in Walnut Creek. Please let Marlene know before the 16th if you plan to attend so reservations can be made. Also, please give her suggestions for other restaurants it would be fun for us to try.



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, September 24, 7 pm, at Diane Peterson's. We will be discussing A. J. Finn's, *The Woman in the Window* ~ reminiscent of Hitchcock's "Rear Window." In October, we will read Mary Shelley's, *Frankenstein*, as our Classic for the year. Please join us!



****MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, the 27th. Call Marlene (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!

Please, write any checks to the branch:
AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch

OTHER GROUPS



****MAH JONGG**

COME PLAY MAH JONGG!

Mah Jongg meets at 12:30 PM on Friday, September 21st, at Brookview Clubhouse. New 2018 cards will be used.

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. Contact: Suzanne Salter at 925-935-0861, seabear2@msn.com
Gayle Miner at 925-349-6795, gayle.miner@yahoo.com
We play on the 3rd Friday of the month We would love to have you join our group.



SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2018

1:30 PM

At Rolling Green Clubhouse

Copy deadline for the

October 2018 N.E.W.S. is:

Monday, September 24th

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasioero@yahoo.com

925-228-8211

AAUW FUND REPORT

Gayle Miner and Diane Coventry, AAUW Fund VPs

The Fund Committee met in July and made the following decisions: 1) We will again send a woman student from DVC to The AAUW National Conference for College Woman Student Leaders (NCCWSL) at the University of Maryland in late May, 2019 and raise the funds to do so, 2) We will be selling Kinder's Coupons again this November or December in time for the holidays. Look for an announcement of dates in a future Newsletter, 3) We will sell our Fund Bookmarks at the Fall Brunch for the bargain price of \$5.00 per 10 bookmarks. These bookmarks help you keep track of your loaned personal books. Our Kinder's and Bookmark fundraisers will help us raise the funds to send our DVC student to NCCWSL. 4) Game Day will be held on March 29, 2019.

On another note, the 2018-19 AAUW Northern California Fund Luncheon is ready for your reservation. It will be held on Sunday, October 7, 2018, 12 noon to 3 pm, at Crow Canyon Country Club and the cost is \$45.00 per person. Reservations are all online through Eventbrite, and can be paid with PayPal or credit card. Here is the link to buying your tickets:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2018-aauw-fund-fall-luncheon-east-bay-tickets-48462672157>

Please call Diane Coventry or Gayle Miner if you wish to attend this informative luncheon. There are offline reservation options, too. The speakers will be the 2018-19 AAUW Fellows/Grant recipients. There are thirty women studying in California this year, so there will be several speakers at the luncheon. Please join your fellow AAUW members for an inspirational afternoon.

Applications for 2019-20 Fellowships and Grants are now open. If you know of a woman pursuing post graduate studies to further her career or working on a program to benefit women and girls, point them in the direction of AAUW Fellowships and Grants applications. Deadlines run from November to December.

Lastly, in the new 2018-19 Directory that you will be receiving at the Fall Brunch will be a solicitation letter from AAUW Fund requesting a donation in the areas of Educational Opportunities, Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF), and other entities. The letter explains all about the funds. These grants and fellowships represent one of the oldest and largest single sources of non-institutional funding for women working towards a graduate degree. In the past you all have been most generous in your donations, we hope you will be generous and support AAUW Fund again this year.

The next Fund meeting is Monday, September 17 at 2:30 PM at the home of Ginny Hargrave. If you would like to join us, please call Gayle Miner 925-349-6795 or Diane Coventry 925-293-4699.

BOOK EXCHANGE - LAST CALL

This is your annual opportunity to join the BOOK EXCHANGE! Read up to 12 hardbacks published in 2018 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 with your selected title and author **PRIOR** to purchasing your book(s). DEADLINE for joining is Friday, September 21.

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.



Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Check out the pictures of our Local Scholarship and Tech Trek girls on the **Community Action Page**. Find our newly installed officers, Barbara Newachek winner, and the Named Gift Recipients on the **About Us Page**. Look for our upcoming activities on the **Program 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

TECH TREK TIDINGS

Diane Coventry

We will be seeing our Tech Teck 2018 Campers at the Welcome Back Brunch on Sept. 15. Hope you can make it to hear about their experiences and all the fun they had. If members are interested in viewing the pictures taken at Tech Trek Camp 2018 at Sonoma State here is the link for the AAUW Petaluma Branch. Their website has many of the pictures that directors, dorm moms, class monitors and visitors took during camp. <https://www.aauwpetaluma.org/Tech-Trek/2018pictures/index.php>.

Our next Tech Trek Committee meeting is Sept. 6, Thursday at 7:00 at my house. We will discuss the year plan and talk about ways to engage and keep in contact with former Trekkers.

News Flash!!! I have accepted the position of Co-Director for Tech Trek Camp at Sonoma State University. My partner Co-director (Patsy Knight from Petaluma Branch) and I will be responsible for preparation, coordination and supervision of camp at Sonoma. I have been promised many supportive team members and resources to be successful and not too stressed out! Looking forward to another exciting year with Tech Trek.



AAUW Pleasant Hill- Martinez Branch

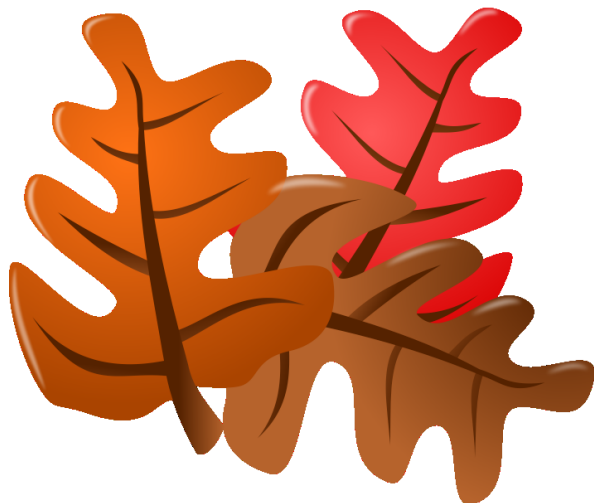
2018-2019 Proposed Budget

Revenue:

Membership Dues	\$1602.00
Discretionary	\$1043.00
<hr/>	
Total Revenue	\$2645.00

Expenses:

Directory	\$200.00
Hospitality	\$75.00
IBC Dues	\$50.00
Insurance	\$500.00
Membership	\$125.00
Newsletter	\$150.00
Program	\$925.00
Website	\$100.00
Sunshine	\$25.00
Conference and Conventions	\$300.00
Start Smart	\$175.00
State Raffle Registration	\$20.00
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Total Expenses	\$2645.00



TREASURER

Trinka March

Our budget is laid out before the membership each year so we can vote on it. We think our budget is reasonable and responsible. We spend money on the things we need to do to keep our branch going from year to year. Some of our expenditures are more fun than others. We do enjoy gathering each month for our programs and while we have found some amazing people to come share their stories with us at very reasonable costs, it does cost us a marginal fee for the space to meet. The expenditures like insurance are less fun, but still quite necessary.

The reality is that our budget is solely funded by our membership dues and while we pay dues to the tune of \$97 each year, only \$18 of that is our branch dues. At the time we put our budget proposal together we had 89 members on the books. The reality is that that many members does not generate the funds that we need to run the branch. We have had the privilege to have a surplus in the bank in the past few years so have pulled discretionary funds from the bank to make up the remainder of what we need to fund our budget, but at the rate we are pulling these discretionary funds we will run out in another 5 years.

We need to discuss how to make up the revenue to fund our year to year needs for our branch. We have been very good at fund raising with our generous members for our various projects such as the AAUW funds, Tech Trek and Local Scholarships, but those funds we cannot use for our day to day operation of the branch. How would you like to fix this problem? The dues for another 60 members would do it. Can you find a friend that would enjoy AAUW? A fund raiser just for our basic needs? An imaginary fund raiser? To increase dues? We do need to come up with a solution to this and now is the time to start the dialog.

Trinka March

drtrinks@sbcglobal.net

2018–2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM

September 2018 and beyond

- Sep 5** Morning Books, 10 pm, Margi Alkire's
- Sep 6** Tech Trek Committee, 7 pm, Diane Coventry's
- Sep 7** Ways & Means, 1 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
- Sep 12** In Indelible Ink, 10 am, Ginny Hargrave's
- Sep 12** Board meeting, 1:30 pm,
Rolling Green Clubhouse
- Sep 15** Welcome Brunch, 10 am,
Marilyn Thelen's home
- Sep 17** Fund meeting, 2:30 pm, Ginny Hargrave's
- Sep 18** Lunchin' Ladies, 1 pm, Il Fornaio, WC
RSVP to Marlene Maksel before Sept 16th
- Sep 21** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
- Sep 21** Deadline for joining a Book Exchange
- Sep 24** Evening Books, 7 pm, Diane Peterson's
- Sep 27** Matinee Idle, Marlene Maksel
- Sep 24** October 2018 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba
- Oct 7** AAUW Fund Fall Luncheon, East Bay, 12 pm,
Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville
- Oct 17** October meeting, 7 pm, St Andrew's,
League of Women Voters, ballot measures
- Oct 19** Magical Evening Dinner Show, 7:30 pm,
California Magic Club, Martinez
- Nov 7** November meeting, 2 pm, St Andrew's
Betty Reid Soskin (special date and time)
- Dec 7** Holiday Party, Brookview Clubhouse
- Mar 29, 2019** AAUW Fund Game Day

President (July, August & September 2018)

Marilyn Thelen 228-2600 jlmthelen@comcast.net

Vice Presidents - Program

Harriett Burt 372-8038 hjburt1940@comcast.net

Nancy Hobert 228-7271 nhobert@aol.com

Vice Presidents - Membership

Claudia Bass 372-8679 cbasslancer29@aol.com

SarahJoy Haynes 372-9211 plumleathr@aol.com

Vice Presidents - AAUW Fund

Diane Coventry 293-4699 diane.coventry@yahoo.com

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

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