



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 5

January 2019

International Soup Supper

Our Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch will hold its Annual International Soup Supper on Wednesday, January 16, 2019 followed by our speaker, Budd MacKenzie. Thirteen years ago Budd MacKenzie decided to *do something* for Afghanistan. He became a global citizen activist who realized he could make a difference in what was then the fifth poorest country in the world. MacKenzie, a 71-year-old lawyer, relates the remarkable story of his work helping Afghans rebuild their lives and country. He recently published a book, *Off the Couch, Into the War for Hearts and Minds*. It is available on Amazon.com and the website www.trustededucation.org.

Please join us for hearty, homemade soups, breads, and desserts. Coffee, tea, and water will be provided but be sure to **bring your own soup bowl and spoon**. Dinner starts promptly at 6 PM and remember that spouses, mates, and friends are most welcome. Each AAUW attending member may provide a crockpot of soup serving 10-12, bread, dessert, or pay \$10 at the door.

Wednesday, January 16, 2019 at 6 PM

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill



Thank you to those who have already committed to bringing a soup (with ladle), bread, or dessert. However, we do need more individuals to provide soup, bread, or desserts. Contact Donna DiBetta or Margie Pruitt if you would like to bring one of these items.

Please RSVP by January 10th as to your attendance and # of guests (at \$10 each).

Co-chair – Donna DiBetta (925-228-5606) ddibetta@sbcglobal.net

Co-chair – Margie Pruitt (925-372-8789) mlpruitt@comcast.net



Thank you!



PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

Happy 2019!! I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday filled with family, friends and fun. Boy, our Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW branch had a very busy December. We started the month off with the ending of the Kinder's tickets sales. Thank you, Jennifer Apkarian, Harriet Burt, and Gayle Miner as well as all the members who sold (and bought) tickets for helping and supporting the Kinder's Tickets fundraiser. On December 1, we also had the pleasure of watching some of our own members "strut their stuff" and walk the runway modeling fashions at the Walnut Creek Broadway Macy's. Thank you Elena Noble, Sherrie Moore and Kathleen Woulfe for spearheading this fundraiser as well as thank you to the models and members, friends and family who attended the fashion show to make this first time event a success.

I am told that the December 7 Christmas Social "Candy Cane Lane" was fabulous--wonderful fellowship and fantastic food! Thank you Margi Alkire, Marlene Maksel, Bea Ball and their committee for planning and arranging this event. Next, thank you Susan Rheingruber for hosting the Annual Layette Shower on December 12. This was another opportunity to have fun while doing a great service.

Now, on to the New Year--The Board meeting will be on Wednesday, January 9 at 2:00 p.m. at Marilyn Thelen's home, 5318 Stonehurst Dr. in Martinez. On January 11, Sandy Wolfe will be hosting a second "for a purpose" scholarship fundraiser. The theme for this

fundraiser will be Cider and Cookies with a Purpose Contact Sandy to RSVP at

925-228-2633 or Rfwolfeman@sbcglobal.net.

Our January 16 meeting will be our Annual Soup Supper. Please make sure you contact Donna DiBetta or Margi Pruitt to let them know what yummy soup or dessert you plan to make. Our speaker for the meeting will be Budd MacKenzie. He is the author of the book "Off the Couch and Into the War for Hearts and Minds". He will tell us about his experiences in Afghanistan. Remember to bring your own bowl and spoon.

In February, we will get back to business and have a presentation and discussion about a raise in our branch dues.

To wrap up, I am excited about serving as your president for the next 3 months and wish each of you a healthy and happy new year.

Barbara Chambers

**JANUARY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 9, 2019**

2:00 PM

At Marilyn Thelen's home

Copy deadline for the

February 2019 N.E.W.S. is:

Sunday, January 27th

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasiero@yahoo.com

925-228-8211

INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, January 2, 10 am, at Beverly Diefenbacher's. We will be discussing *Before the Poison* by Peter Robinson. It is described as a "man's obsession with a decades-old crime which leads him down a dark and winding path." Mystery and intrigue! PLEASE let your hostess know if you will be attending. In February we will be reading *The Firebrand and the First Lady* by Patricia Bell-Scott. Plan to join us for great discussions!



****IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, January 9, 10 am, at Ginny Hargrave's. The theme will be "Christmas Decorations." How you decorated in the past, how you're decorating now ~ and what about the future? Are we discarding unused decorations, or can we not bear to part with them ~ use your imagination. Please join us! We would welcome some new writers! We like oral versions, too.



****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will meet on Tuesday the 15th, 1 pm, at Fatty Maddie's in PH. Please call before the 14th so reservations can be made. And, please give Marlene suggestions for some restaurants it would be fun for us to try.



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, January 28, 7 pm at Sharon Wilson's. We will be discussing Delia Owens' *Where the Crawdads Sing*. This is a mystery, a coming-of-age narrative and a celebration of nature. Please let your hostess know if you are planning to attend. In February, we will be discussing *Mrs. Poe* by Lynn Cullen. Please join us!



****MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, January 24. Details will come by email the Monday prior. 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!

OTHER GROUPS



****MAH JONGG**

COME PLAY MAH JONGG!

Mah Jongg meets at 12:30 PM on Friday, January 18th, 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. 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.

Cider and Cookies With a Purpose

In November we raised \$150 for scholarships and had a wonderful time with our Wine and Cheese with a Purpose. We hope you can join us on Friday, January 11, 2019 for Hot Cider and Cookies with a purpose. A \$10 donation to scholarships will be collected at the door. This is a fun place to relax, ward off the winter chill and chat with old and new members. Be sure to R.S.V.P. so we have enough cider and cookies.

Hope to see you in January to have a good time for a good cause.

Date: January 11th

Time: 3:00-5:00

Where: 156 Elderwood Drive,
Pleasant Hill

RSVP: Sandy Wolfe

925-228-2633

Rfwolfeman@sbcglobal.net



Dear AAUW Members,

Thank you to the 53 members and guests who walked down Candy Cane Lane with us on December 7. It was wonderful to stroll into the beautifully decorated Brookview Clubhouse -- truly a winter wonderland.

We enjoyed delicious appetizers (along with wine and sparkling cider), a fantastic dinner and yummy desserts, all prepared by Catering by Cynthia (Cynthia Espinoza of Martinez). Guests came resplendent in red and white, and our tables were decorated with red and white too, so it was a beautiful evening.

Then Sandra Wolfe did her magic! She had us fascinated and amazed as she drew names, offered prizes, switched boxes, and threw in other offers. We were utterly confused and delighted.

What a night! Thank you for coming. See you at the party next year!

From the Committee Members:

Marlene Maksel
Shelley Jacobson
Marilyn Thelen
Beverly Diefenbacher
Ish Mendonsa
Sandra Wolfe
Bridget Pinson
Bea Ball
Jennifer Apkarian
Margi Alkire



SUNSHINE

Gayle Garrison

Our deepest sympathy to Suzanne Mesetz and her family, on the passing of her husband, Tom. Tom was always supportive of AAUW. At one event he led our group in singing. Suzanne and Tom were part of the section, Frugal Gourmet - more frugal than gourmet, but always a good time.

Also an expert in income taxes, Tom gave several members information on taxes....freely. All of us who knew Tom will miss him. A memorial is planned for early January. Details will be sent to branch members.

Gayle Garrison

tarheel61@yahoo.com or 925-798-7528

AAUW FUND REPORT

Gayle Miner and Diane Coventry, AAUW Fund VPs

The next meeting of the AAUW Fund Committee will be held on Monday, January 21, 2019 at 2:30 PM at the home of Ginny Hargrave. Please call Gayle Miner (925) 349-6795 or Diane Coventry (925) 293-4699 if you would like to attend. We welcome your input. So far this year we have raised monies for National AAUW Fund through our annual September solicitation letter. We have also raised funds for our local endeavors through the Bowling Blast Tournament and the Kinder's coupon sale. With the profits of these two fundraisers we will be able to send a DVC student to the University of Maryland for the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL). Through the application process at DVC, the NCCWSL Committee, headed by Helen Pereira, has selected Lili Eshtevan to attend the NCCWSL conference in the late Spring. More details about Lili will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Be sure to mark your calendar for our Game Day fundraiser to be held on Friday, March 29 at 12:30 PM at Brookview Club House. More details about Game Day will be in the March Newsletter. Besides our regular games of Mah Jongg, Bridge and Mexican Train, we are planning to have some board games as well.

Thank you all for your continued support of AAUW Fund, both on a national level and locally. Have a very happy and healthy 2019!

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Claudia Bass and SarahJoy Haynes, Membership VPs

Since we were in the throes of the busy holiday season it has been quiet for membership in December.

For the New Year we will be having our popular soup supper in January. This is a great time to invite guests and potential members to see what our branch is all about. Just a reminder to look for the new member dots on their name tag and say hello.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the Soup Supper.

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

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



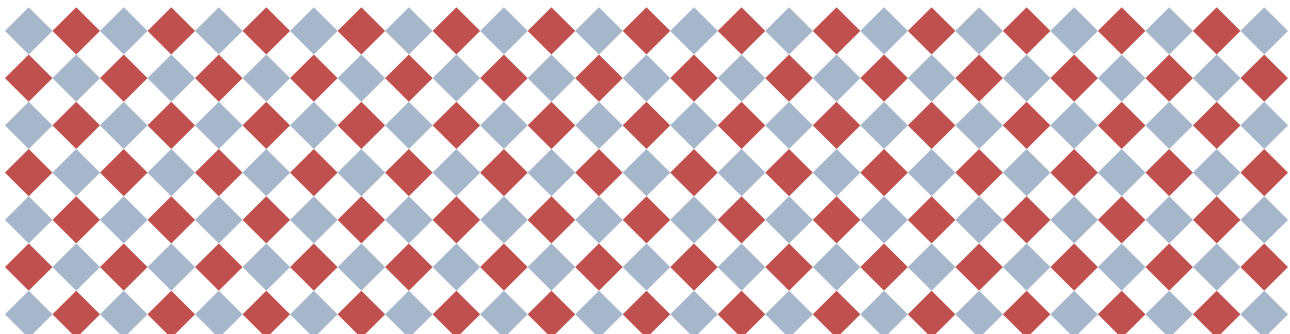
Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Check out the photos of our **Macy's Fashion Show Fundraiser** and the **Layette Shower** on the **Community Action Page**. You can find the pictures from our **Candy Cane Lane Holiday Party** 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**.

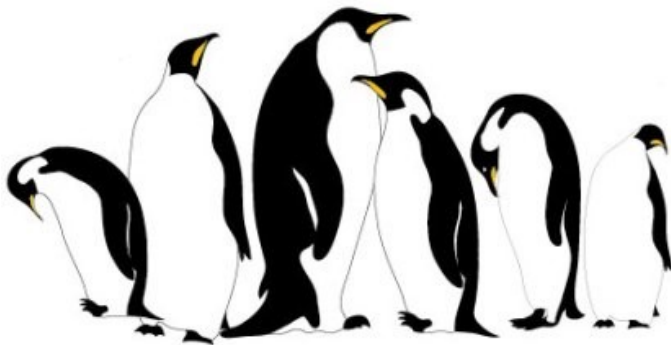
Sherrie Moore, webmaster



2018–2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM

January 2019

- Jan 2** Morning Books, 10 am, Beverly Diefenbacher's
Jan 9 In Indelible Ink, 10 am, Ginny Hargrave's
Jan 9 Board Meeting, 2 pm, Marilyn Thelen's
Jan 10 RSVP due for International Soup Supper
Jan 11 Cider & Cookies Social, 3 pm, Sandy Wolfe's
Jan 15 Lunchin' Ladies, 1 pm, Fatty Maddie's, PH
RSVP to Marlene by Jan 14
Jan 16 International Soup Supper,
6 pm, St Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Budd MacKenzie from TIE to speak
Jan 18 Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
Jan 24 Matinee Idle, Marlene Maksel
Jan 27 February 2019 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba
Jan 28 Evening Books, 7 pm, Sharon Wilson's



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

Montecito Animal Clinic



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FAX 925/686-4754



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Karen Shore B.V.M.S.
Cindy Pieper D.V.M.

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www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org

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