



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 7

March 2019

**An Evening with Dr. Fred Wood**  
**Chancellor of the Contra Costa Community College District**



**Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 7 PM**

**St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**

**1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill**

Our March speaker is Dr. Fred Wood, the eighth permanent Chancellor of the Contra Costa Community District. He is an articulate and enthusiastic advocate for our junior college system, which currently serves over 51,000 students at three colleges and two centers.

Dr. Wood grew up in Martinez, and earned his first degree from DVC. He went on to earn his B.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry from UC Davis. He has served in a variety of position, the longest being 26 years at UC Davis, where his last position was serving as vice chancellor of student affairs.

Diablo Valley College is right in our back yard, and his ideas and plans for the future are truly exciting. You will not want to miss this program!



## PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

Our February meeting proved to be quite enlightening as well as humorous. Dr. Dianna Stephenson shared her insights and experiences in the field of science.

Our AAUW members voted at the February meeting to increase Branch dues by \$8.00 per year. Our total dues will be \$105.00 per year which includes national, state and branch dues.

A Bylaws change was introduced which will allow a member to serve more than two consecutive terms of office upon the recommendation of the nominating committee.

Our committees are hard at work. The members of the SAM committee are preparing for the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> weeks in March at Fair Oaks Elementary. The 18 volunteers will visit 13 classrooms. The Tech Trek committee members will soon be interviewing candidates for camp. Make plans to join the Local Scholarship committee to attend the play "Peter and The Star Catcher" on March 31 at DVC. Fund committee reminds you to mark your calendars for Game Day on April 30 at Brookview Clubhouse.

Our March 20<sup>th</sup> meeting speaker will be Dr. Fred Wood, Chancellor of the Contra Costa College District. The Board meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. prior to the general meeting at St. Andrew's Church.

That's it from me for this month. I leave soon for a 3 week vacation in Hawaii so Nancy Hobert will be running the March meetings. Aloha to you all.

Barbara Chambers

## AAUW FUND REPORT

Gayle Miner and Diane Coventry, AAUW Fund VPs

We are happy to report that the Branch and State Contributions to AAUW Fund for all defined funds for 2018 was \$5,263.00.

The AAUW California meeting will be April 6, held at The Handlery Hotel in San Diego. Limited spots are still available. There will be panels on Membership and Leadership Development. Also Speech Trek finalists will speak on School Violence.

GAME DAY will be Tuesday, April 30, at 12:30 PM, so mark your calendars and save the date. There will be more details in the April newsletter as to reservations and games available to play.

KINDER'S COUPONS WILL BE ON SALE FROM APRIL 29 to JUNE 6. More details on how to purchase Kinder's coupons will be in the April newsletter. Thanks in advance for helping with this Fundraiser.

The next Fund Committee meeting will be Monday, March 18 at 2:30 PM at Ginny Hargrave's home. Please call Gayle Miner at (925) 349-6795 if you would like to attend.

Thank you all for supporting AAUW Fund and the important work that they do both nationally and locally.

**MARCH BOARD MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 20, 2019**

**6:00 PM**

**At St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**  
**(before the regular meeting)**

**Copy deadline for the**  
**April 2019 N.E.W.S. is:**  
**Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>**

Please email copy to:

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

925-228-8211

## INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



**\*\*MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, March 6, 10 am, at Sandy Wolfe's. We will be discussing *Strangers in Their Own Land* by Arlie Russell Hochschild. This book was postponed from an earlier date. It shows a remarkable portrait of our country's deep political divide and thoughts about a way forward. PLEASE let your hostess know if you are planning to attend. In April, we will be discussing *This I Believe* compiled by Jay Allison and Dan Gediman. Plan to join us for great discussions!



**\*\*IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, March 13, 10 am, at Ginny Hargrave's. The theme will be "What First Name Would You Choose for Yourself, if You Could Change?" Please join us! We would welcome some new writers! We like oral versions, too.



**\*\*LUNCHIN' LADIES** will meet on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm, at Chicken Pie Shop, 1251 Arroyo Way in WC. Please call before the 18<sup>th</sup> 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, March 25, 7 pm at Sally Whitsett's. We will be discussing *When the Crocodile Eats the Sun* by Peter Godwin. This is a memoir by Godwin about his early life in Africa. Please let your hostess know if you will be attending. In April, we will be discussing *Amy Snow* by Tracy Rees. Please join us!



**\*\*MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, March 28. 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!

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, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 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. We will use new cards (2019) at our April Mah Jongg gathering.

Reservations are a must each month. Contact: Suzanne Salter at 925-935-0861, [seabear2@msn.com](mailto:seabear2@msn.com)

Gayle Miner at 925-349-6795, [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.





## SAM at Fair Oaks in March

Would you like to be a SAM volunteer? We have created a curriculum for our SAM (Student Art and Music) Program for Fair Oaks Elementary School this month. The teachers have signed up for class times, and we would love for you to sign up for one or more classes.

Your duties are pretty simple -- help us set up and clean up and then admire the work of the students. We have TK (Transitional Kindergarten) thru 5th grade, and 2 Special Ed classes (SDC). Many of you have signed up already. We have two weeks in March - the 1st and 3rd weeks of the month.



Our lesson plan included a painter and a composer. Wassily Kandinsky is an abstract expressionist who uses colorful shapes. Modest Mussorgsky was a Russian Romantic Era Composer. We will be listening to Pictures at an Exhibition.

Thanks to all of you who came to our workday in February where we cut out circles and squares, and bagged pastels.

Please let us know if you would like to volunteer. It's lots of fun and rewarding. For those of you who have signed up, we'll see you at Fair Oaks this month. Thanks for volunteering your time.

Barbara Minneman, Diane Coventry, and Sherrie Moore



## MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

Claudia Bass and SarahJoy Haynes, Membership VPs

Last month we had a new member happy hour which was attended by 7 of our new members. Fun time was had by all, full of food and laughter. It turned out to be a fun ice breaker. Thank you to Sherrie Moore and Jennifer Apkarian for coming, bringing food and for your support.

March is a time when spring is around the corner and nature renews itself with new growth. This month is the time when we renew our membership by paying our yearly dues. Dues will be \$105 with an increase in local dues to \$26.00, \$59.00 to national and \$20.00 to state. Notices will be sent out this month so keep an eye on your mailbox. If we receive your renewal dues by April 11, you will be eligible for a drawing to receive free national dues which is \$59.00. Our treasurer will reimburse you if you win. The drawing will take place at our general meeting Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>. **Remember the early bird gets the worm!!!!**

We would like to welcome two new members, Barbara Hannafan and Marta Van Loan. Please add their information in your directory. Currently we have 118 members in our branch.

Barbara Hannafan  
930 W Arlington St  
Martinez, CA 94553  
925-372-4152 home; 925-393-6275 cell  
[martavanloan@yahoo.com](mailto:martavanloan@yahoo.com)  
Elmhurst College- BA Sociology

Marta Van Loan  
930 W Arlington St  
Martinez, CA 94553  
925-372-4152 home; 925-393-6276 cell  
[martavanloan@yahoo.com](mailto:martavanloan@yahoo.com)  
Doane College- BA Education  
Eastern Illinois University- MS Education  
University of Illinois- PhD Exercise Physiology

### **Corrections - Please make these corrections in your directory:**

Robin Kokemor Rangel, not Ranzel

Karen Winters' address is 2148 Westward Place, not 2184

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

SarahJoy Haynes at 925-372-9211, [plumleathr@aol.com](mailto:plumleathr@aol.com)

## SUNSHINE

Gayle Garrison

Sunshine likes to send cards to members, however, I do not always know who is ill or might just need a "thinking of you" card. Please call and let me know, as several calls are better than none.

Gayle Garrison

[tarheel61@yahoo.com](mailto:tarheel61@yahoo.com) or 925-798-7528







## 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 from our **February Program** on the **Photos Page**. Meet our new NCCWSL candidate on the **About Us 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**



Jessie Shephard Inouye

Sept. 3, 1943 - Feb. 6, 2019

Former resident of Martinez, former member of PH-M AAUW

Jessie passed away peacefully in her sleep on February 6, 2019 in Frisco, Texas. Jessie was a graduate of Berkeley High School and the University of New Mexico. She was a former substitute teacher with MDUSD. She is preceded in death by her husband, Masao Inouye, and is survived by her two children and their spouses: Edward (Nancy) Inouye, and Gwendolyn (Robert) Irvin; and grandchildren Ariana, Lance and Ainsley Irvin. A memorial service will be held at Hillcrest Congregational Church in Pleasant Hill on March 23, 2019.

There is a lot going on nationally with National and these are some of the issues presented.

**46th Anniversary of *Roe v. Wade***

Monday marked the 46th anniversary of landmark Supreme Court case *Roe v. Wade*. By striking down a Texas law, the decision made clear that women have a constitutional right to obtain an abortion. Access to safe and legal reproductive healthcare, including abortion, is paramount in ensuring every woman's economic security and autonomy. Many states continue to introduce and pass legislation that limits access to reproductive healthcare, including four states that would automatically outlaw abortion if *Roe v. Wade* were overturned. These challenges to *Roe v. Wade* have implications for those seeking care in the states where they are passed, and they set up the real possibility that the Supreme Court could hear a case on this issue in the near future. Commemorating the anniversary on Monday, New York passed the Reproductive Health Act, joining several states that have provisions in place to safeguard abortion rights if *Roe v. Wade* were to be overturned.

*My personal note: prior to *Roe v. Wade* the leading cause of death in young women was illegal abortions. I am aware that this is a divisive issue, but I think it is important to remember what it was like prior to *Roe v. Wade*.*

February is National African American History Month, an important time to commemorate the countless contributions African Americans have made to American life throughout our nation's history, while often enduring unimaginable racial injustice and discrimination. AAUW's research shows that women of color experience intersecting and compounding forms of race and gender discrimination that contribute to their economic inequality.

It is fitting then that this week, we participated in activities supporting the Paycheck Fairness Act and the Raise the Wage Act, both of which, if passed, would have major impacts on the economic security of African American women. With African American women working full-time and year-round only making, on average, 61 cents for every dollar a white man makes, closing the wage gap would make a huge impact on their yearly incomes. Similarly, recent estimates from the Economic Policy Institute found that black women would benefit significantly from raising the minimum wage and eliminating the tipped minimum wage because they are overly represented in low paid work. The Raise the Wage Act would increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 by 2024, giving more than 31 percent of all working women a raise, including 41 percent of black working women. I was honored to speak at the rally on Capitol Hill this week, connecting these vital pieces of a gender- and race-focused economic security agenda.

For every one of our issues, be it pay equity, harassment or student debt, we cannot fully advance gender equity unless we address all the intersecting forms of discrimination that women face. To me, celebrating National African American History Month means more than a commemoration — it means actively ensuring that, at every step, we are working to achieve equity for all women, this month and every month.

*Published February 1, 2019:*

What a week it's been! Lilly Ledbetter joined us on Capitol Hill to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, as well as the introduction of the Paycheck Fairness Act. AAUW's advocacy the last few weeks and months (and years) ensured that this bill was a top priority for the House of Representatives, earning it a coveted spot in the first ten bills introduced. We spent several days accompanying Lilly to a variety of lobby visits with members of Congress, allowing them to hear directly from Lilly why the Paycheck Fairness Act is so important.

*In January, after our newsletter went out this was received:*

This month we are celebrating two major accomplishments. First, the historic number of women joining the 116th Congress, many of whom — along with their male colleagues — ran and won on issues central to the economic well-being of families. This week we sent them AAUW's federal legislative priorities for the 116<sup>th</sup> Congress and will be working with them to advance these critical goals.

Second, on January 29, 2019, we will commemorate the tenth anniversary of the enactment of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. That vital law restored the longstanding position that ongoing pay discrimination at work can be challenged regardless of when the discrimination began. But that law, critical as it is, is only one step on the path to ensuring women receive equal pay for equal work. New tools are needed to help close the pay gap. This week, I presented to the Democratic Women's Working Group, the caucus of all of the Democratic women House members, on why the Paycheck Fairness Act is the next step in ensuring equal pay. The AAUW Action Fund Capitol Hill Lobby Corps amplified this message by visiting House Republicans and Democrats, more than 200 offices, over the last two weeks.

The Paycheck Fairness Act will be reintroduced very soon and we need your help in getting even more members of Congress to support it. We are educating new legislators on the importance of the Paycheck Fairness Act, and reminding everyone that Americans at the local, state, and federal level, regardless of party, are demanding economic security for women and families.

From our State leaders, a subject that is important for our chapter.

The mission of your California State Board is to facilitate California branches in meeting the vision and mission of AAUW by providing programs, education, and resources. Toward that end, board members have been making

contact with branch leaders throughout the state to help us understand the best way to meet that mission, asking “What are your greatest challenges?” and “How can we help?” Overwhelmingly, the responses have been “leadership” and “membership.” We heard you, and on April 6, 2019 these two topics will be the focus of this year’s Annual State Meeting. In the morning, your state Membership Committee will present a panel that will address all the concerns you shared with us. Participants will learn how to:

- Find and encourage younger members, through the Young Women’s Task Force and through college and university partnerships
- Recruit from diverse populations
- Engage current members and expand membership, through public policy programs and community forums In the afternoon, the Leadership Development Committee will share skills and tips that will help you:
- Better understand AAUW requirements for leadership positions
- Attain competency skills needed for leaders, such as how to communicate and interact as effective leaders in a volunteer organization
- Develop and attract new leaders
- Develop a framework for sustaining and supporting existing leaders, including how to prevent burn-out

*If you’re interested in attending the State Annual Meeting please see below:*

We Called! You Answered! We Listened! 2019 AAUW California Annual Meeting & Speech Trek Final April 6, 2019 Handlery Hotel, 950 Hotel Circle North, San Diego, CA 92108 Register by March 31, 2019 Seating is limited! If you wish to book a hotel room at the special rate of \$125 for a single or a double, click on or type in this link. <https://reservations.travelclick.com/98118?groupID=2357714#/guestsandrooms>

REGISTER FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING ONLINE AT AAUW-CA.ORG (RECOMMENDED)

OR COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SEND IT ALONG WITH PAYMENT TO: AAUW California, 1331 Garden Highway, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833

REGISTRATION FORM Please complete one registration form for each attendee. Please print all information. Registration includes hot breakfast buffet, state annual meeting, two panels, lunch and the Speech Trek final.

**NAME TAG INFORMATION:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDITIONAL CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number to contact you: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_@\_\_\_\_\_

ADA Needs?  Yes. Check if you need any provision, service or equipment per the Americans with Disabilities Act. You will be contacted for further information.

LUNCH MEAL CHOICE:  Chicken Piccata  Miso Glazed Salmon  Vegetarian

PAYMENT METHOD:  Check payable to: AAUW California/CC Fund

MasterCard  Visa Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ 3-digit card security code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder Name (PRINT): \_\_\_\_\_

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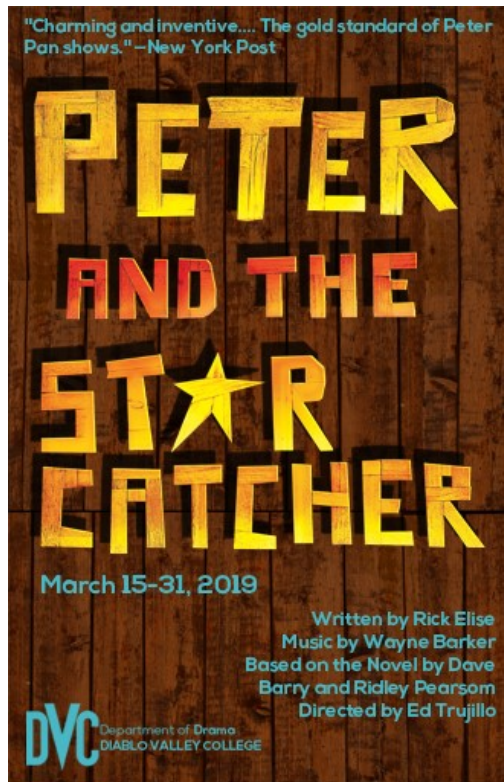
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED (\$65 per person): \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Note: Please note, no refunds will be honored after March 1, 2019. All cancellations will be subject to a \$25 processing fee. Address questions about hotel arrangements or lunch to Jane Niemeier, AAUW CA Co-President, at [jniemeie@hotmail.com](mailto:jniemeie@hotmail.com) or Julika Barrett, Office Manager, at [office@aauw-ca.org](mailto:office@aauw-ca.org) or (916) 448-7735.





**Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW**  
**Peter and the Star Catcher**  
**DVC Theatre** (Performing Arts Center)  
**Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2019**  
**2:30 pm**  
**Cost: \$30**  
**Come join us for a fun afternoon**  
**and support Local Scholarships**



From marauding pirates and jungle tyrants, to unwilling comrades and unlikely heroes, PETER AND THE STARCATCHER playfully explores the depths of greed and despair... and the bonds of friendship, duty and love.

Contact Carol Walsh for tickets: 229-3234 or [baricarol2@gmail.com](mailto:baricarol2@gmail.com)  
Reserve by March 21<sup>st</sup>



## 2018–2019 LEADERSHIP TEAM

### March 2019 and Beyond

- Mar 6** Morning Books, 10 am, Sandy Wolfe's
- Mar 13** In Indelible Ink, 10 am, Ginny Hargrave's
- Mar 15** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
- Mar 18** Fund meeting, 2:30 pm, Ginny Hargrave's
- Mar 19** Lunchin' Ladies, 1 pm, Chicken Pie Shop, WC  
RSVP to Marlene before Mar 18
- Mar 20** Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, St Andrew's
- Mar 20** February Meeting, 7 pm, St Andrew's  
Dr. Fred Wood
- Mar 21** Deadline for tickets to Peter and the Starcatcher
- Mar 25** Evening Books, 7 pm, Sally Whitsett's
- Mar 26** April 2019 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba
- Mar 28** Matinee Idle, Marlene Maksel
- Mar 31** Peter and the Starcatcher, 2:30 pm, DVC  
Local Scholarship Fundraiser
- Apr 6** AAUW California meeting - San Diego
- Apr 29 to Jun 6** Kinder's Coupons on Sale
- Apr 30** Game Day, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse  
Fund Fundraiser
- Jun 9** Tech Trek Ice Cream Social, noon  
Pacheco Community Center

#### President (January, February and March 2019)

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**Copy deadline for the April 2019 N.E.W.S. is March 26<sup>th</sup>.** Please email copy to:

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

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<http://www.aauw.org/>

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

### Montecito Animal Clinic



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925/686-0683  
FAX 925/686-4754



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