

From “Brave Little Nell” to the “Amazing Eleanor Roosevelt”



Saturday, March 14, 2020 at 10 am
St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church
1601 St. Mary’s Drive, Pleasant Hill



Our March program is different in several ways. First, it will take place at St. Andrews Church on Saturday, March 14 from 10 a.m. to noon so those who find night meetings difficult can more easily attend. Second, it will feature a re-enactment of the life and achievements of one of the world and America’s most celebrated 20th century women, Eleanor Roosevelt. Third, it comes highly recommended by Branch members Nancy Hobert and co-program VP, Helen Pereira, who both have seen it. Fourth, it will include morning appropriate light snacks and beverages.

Bay Area actress Laurie Strawn created Brave Little Nell 15 years ago originally as a way to show young students how one woman can influence the nation and the world for the better. It was so well-received by students and their teachers that she expanded the performance to appeal to all ages and all walks of life. Part of a theatrical family, Laurie has appeared at Contra Costa Civic Theater and other playhouses. She was part of the Davis Shakespeare Festival last summer and currently is part of the Sonora’s Sierra Repertory Theatre production of The Church Basement Ladies-Last Potluck Supper. Her husband Lee is a gifted singer and actor and their teenage daughter, Julia, is a history buff and an actress.

We had a good number of members willing to watch the February 19th presidential debate re-runs instead of the live debate so they could hear Audrey Goins Cormier’s interesting and inspiring talk about not only organizing, planning and attending all the projects and events we have to offer opportunities for young women to expand their horizons through programs such as Tech Trek and scholarships and such but also how our own personalities and experiences can expand their world view even in a casual conversation.



PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

I hope all of you are fairing well in this season of colds, flu and assorted other illnesses. Take good care of yourselves and your families!

It was a pleasure to listen to Audrey Goins Cormier as she related her story of how she is giving of her talents to the next generation of young women.

Thanks go to our Fund committee who interviewed and chose our NCCWSL candidate for 2020, Desiree Maurino. She is a wonderful reminder of the amazing young women who will lead, now and in the future.

Our Tech Trek and Local Scholarship committees will be interviewing candidates soon, and it will be our branch's honor to give scholarships to these deserving young women. Thank you to all who have given in support of these programs.

This month's program sounds wonderful. I must miss it, but I look forward to hearing the reviews! Enjoy a morning meeting and a lovely presentation.

I want to thank the Nominating Committee for their work to put together the slate of nominees for the next program year. The election will be held on April 15th, at our regular meeting, which also includes a presentation by Dr. Cheryl Dembe, Ph.D. What an interesting story she has to tell.

Consider attending our various fundraisers in March and May that help support our many scholarships.

Welcome to our newest members. We're so happy you have joined us.

Reba
rebasiero@yahoo.com

Save the Date - April 15 Dr. Cheryl Dembe, Ph.D.

Helen and Harriett are looking forward to presenting Dr. Cheryl Dembe, Ph.D. to the Branch as she closes out the program year on Wednesday, April 15 telling the story about how she was deprived of her well-earned Ph.D. degree in a heretofore unexplored part of chemistry at the University of Chicago 48 years ago due to gender. A male graduate of Cornell developed a similar thesis two years later and was later awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry. Cheryl's way of causing the University not only to choose to award the degree last June but to publicly admit it had been wrong without her requesting it and without rancor is also inspiring. A male member of Martinez Kiwanis told me afterward that it was the best program he'd ever heard. While not as well-known as Betty Reid Soskin, Cheryl is equally inspiring and delightful. Mark your calendars and let one of us know if you need a ride.

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 or (925) 798-7528

**MARCH BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2020**

1:30 PM

Virginia Hewgley's home

Copy deadline for the

April 2020 N.E.W.S.

Monday, March 23rd

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasiero@yahoo.com

(925) 917-1061

INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, March 4, 10 am, at Margie Pruitt's. We will be discussing *The Honey Bus* by Meredith May. This author was a dynamic speaker at last year's Literary Women and told us about her love for bees through the aegis of her grandfather. In April, we will be reading *Inheritance* by Dan Shapiro. Please plan to join us!



****IN INDELIBLE INK** will not meet in March. This section may be discontinued ~ if you are interested, please let Marlene Maksel know.



****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will go to lunch on Tuesday the 17th, 1 pm, at Social Bird Kitchen and Bar in Lafayette (former site of Yankee Pier). Please let Marlene know before Sunday the 15th, if you plan to attend so reservations can be made. Also, please call Marlene 689-5439 OR marlene@maksel.us with suggestions for restaurants to try out.



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, March 23rd, 7 pm, at Brookview Clubhouse. We will be discussing *The Island of Sea Women* by Lisa See ~ two young girls form an 80-year old friendship as they dive for seafood from a Korean island. In April, we will be discussing *Gardener of Eden* by David Downie. Join us for great discussions.



****MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday; March 26th. 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 will meet at 12:30 PM on Friday, March 20th 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.



****GRAND SLAMMERS**

, a social bridge group, plays on the second Monday of each month at 12:30 at the Brookview Club House. This month we meet on Monday, March 9th.

Each player pays \$5, which covers \$3 for our Local Scholarship Fund and \$2 for facility use. All player levels are welcome, members and non-members.

Contact Marlene DeLaurenti at mdl@astound.net or (925) 934-4171 if you are interested in playing.



AAUW FUND

Claudia Bass and Gayle Miner, AAUW Fund VPs

Let's have fun!!! Game Day is coming this month on Tuesday, March 31st from 12:30-3:00 at Brookview Clubhouse. The cost will be \$10.00 and the proceeds will go to LAF. Come enjoy in the fun and laughter by playing BRIDGE, MAH JONGG and MEXICAN TRAIN. You can learn how to play Mexican Train that afternoon. Snacks and beverages will be provided. Reserve your spot by contacting Marlene Maksel; 689-5439 or marlene@maksiel.us and tell her what game you are playing. It would be helpful if bridge groups reserve together. Hope to see many of you there!!!! According to the AAUW Fund 2019 Final Contribution Report our branch contribution to AAUW Fund is \$6,609.00.

Thank you so much for your generosity.

This helps AAUW carry out a variety of programs and activities. Many of these are support programs. One is encouraging and training college women to run for student government and political offices. We can see the results in the increase of women in our government. Another support program is geared towards those women who receive grants and fellowships. AAUW Fund helps them to stay connected with AAUW and each other forming valuable networking opportunities.

We are taking a break from Kinder's coupon sales this spring but we will resume in the fall. With the sales we have been able to raise enough money to send a DVC woman student to the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, aka NCCWSL.



Desiree Maurino, 2020 NCCWSL student (center front), with AAUW Fund committee members (clockwise from left) Jennifer Apkarian, Harriett Burt, Helen Pereira, Claudia Bass, Gayle Miner and Marlene Maksel.

Speaking of NCCWSL, our committee met with Desiree Maurino, our NCCWSL student at DVC. She is a delightful young lady and is a good choice. Desiree is really excited about attending and she is all set to go! Currently she is busy with school, applying for scholarships and waiting to hear from colleges she has applied to. She has her eye on Cal State Northridge to pursue her studies in radiology. We wish her a great and meaningful time and looking forward to hearing about her experience.

AAUW Fund committee needs you!!! It is important to continue as we are the link to fulfilling AAUW mission at the national level. Our committee has gotten smaller and we would **love** to have more. It is not a huge commitment as we meet every other month and most is done at the meeting level. If you would like to learn more of what we do then contact Gayle or Claudia. You can also attend a meeting to find out about us.

Next meeting will be Monday March 16th, 2:30 at Gayle Miner's home. All are welcome.



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**. Take a look at our upcoming **Programs and Events** 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

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

SarahJoy Haynes and Kathleen Woulfe, Membership VPs

Thank you to our wonderful members for helping the membership committee. We are so pleased with our new delightful members and even have a few more prospects. Please keep up the good work telling your friends how great our branch is.

Carolynn Barcklay
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Concord, CA 94518
(925) 682-7552 (home)
(925) 323-8229 (cell)

cbarcklay@hotmail.com

San Francisco State College (Sociology)

SarahJoy Haynes (925) 586-9493, plumleathr@aol.com

Kathleen Woulfe (925) 372-7726, kathleendwoulfe@aol.com



Game Day
Tuesday March 31st
12:30- 3:00
Brookview Clubhouse
\$10.00

Come join us for a fun afternoon playing MAH JONGG, BRIDGE or MEXICAN TRAIN with fellow members. Snacks and beverages will be served.

Proceeds will fund Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF).

Let Marlene, [689-5439](tel:689-5439) or marlene@maksel.us know if you are coming and what game you will be playing. It would be helpful if bridge groups reserve as a group.

Hope to see many of you there!!!!

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Janice Walker, Parliamentarian

Slate of Candidates for the 2020-2021 Year

President: Gayle Miner and Reba Siero

Program Vice Presidents: Harriett Burt and Helen Pereira

Membership Vice Presidents: SarahJoy Haynes and Kathleen Woulfe

AAUW Fund (EF) Vice Presidents: Jennifer Apkarian and Claudia Bass

Secretary: Sue Trebino

Treasurer: Trinkia March

The election of our Executive Officers for the 2020-2021 year will take place on Wednesday, April 15, at our general meeting. Nominations from the floor will be accepted at that time, with the permission of the candidate. Special thanks is extended to the following members of the nominating committee for their time and effort: Margi Alkire, Jennifer Apkarian, SarahJoy Haynes, Charlotte Liniger, Gayle Miner, Margie Pruitt, and Kathleen Woulfe and to the above candidates who have stepped forward to offer their time and effort for the benefit of the Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch.



Save the date

Tech Trek Fundraiser

Painting with a Purpose for Tech Trek
2 hour class costs \$35- arrive 15-20 minutes early

Saturday, May 9th 1:00 - 3:00 pm

Painting with a Twist of Pleasant Hill
548 Contra Costa Blvd. Suite E/F
Pleasant Hill, Ca. 94523

Studio holds only 30 guests - in the Bar Room, can order beer and wine
Appetizers and endless lemonade or ice tea

Step-by-step instruction with an experienced and enthusiastic local artist. You will leave with a one-of-a-kind creation and a new found talent.

Space is limited



SAM at Fair Oaks in March

Our SAM (Study Art and Music) Program for Fair Oaks Elementary School is scheduled for the first two weeks this month in the morning. We have a full volunteer list for all of the classes. This year we are studying the artist Matisse and the composer Ravel. We'll be creating paper cutout masterpieces and listening to Bolero.

Thank you - **Helen Pereira, Judi Hamberg, Marlene Maksel, Jennifer Apkarian, Sally Whitsett, Claudia Bass** - for volunteering to help us prepare the materials for the students at our February Work Day.

The volunteer duties are pretty simple -- help us set up and clean up and then admire the work of the students. We will teach TK (Transitional Kindergarten) thru 5th grade and 2 Special Ed classes (SDC).

See you then.

Sherrie Moore, Barbara Minneman, and Diane Coventry



2019–2020 LEADERSHIP TEAM

March 2020 and beyond

First 2 weeks of March - SAM program at Fair Oaks

Mar 4 Morning Books, 10 am, Margie Pruitt's

Mar 9 Grand Slammers Bridge, 12:30 pm,
Brookview Clubhouse

Mar 10 Local Scholarships Fundraiser, 11 am to 9 pm,
BJ's in Sun Valley Mall

Mar 11 Board meeting, 2 pm,

Mar 14 Eleanor Roosevelt will visit, 10 am,
St Andrew's Presbyterian Church

Mar 16 Fund Committee meeting, 2:30 pm,
Gayle Miner's

Mar 17 Lunchin' Ladies, 1 pm,
RSVP to Marlene Maksel by Mar 14

Mar 20 Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse

Mar 21 OML Stem Techbridge Conf, St Mary's College

Mar 23 Evening Books, 7 pm, Brookview Clubhouse

Mar 23 March 2020 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba

Mar 26 Matinee Idle, call Marlene Maksel

Mar 24, May 26 CCC IBC meetings

Mar 31 AAUW Fund Game Day, 12:30 pm, Brookview

Apr 17-19 AAUW CA Convention, Westin San Francisco
Airport

May 9 Painting with a Twist, TT Fundraiser

May 17 DVC play, NUTS, Local Scholarships Fundraiser

June 6 End of Year Brunch/Installation, 10 am,
IBEW Hall

June 7 Tech Trek Ice Cream Social, 12 noon

President

Reba Siero 917-1061 rebasiero@yahoo.com

Vice Presidents - Program

Harriett Burt 372-8038 hjburt1940@comcast.net

Helen Pereira 685-0757 helenmp45@aol.com

Vice Presidents - Membership

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Kathleen Woulfe 372-7726 kathleendwoulfe@aol.com

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

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Katrinka March D.V.M.
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