



NEWS

NOW / EVENTS / WOMEN / SUCCESS

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.



Presidential Postings

What a wonderful way to end 2023! The Holiday Party was a huge success - good food, fun entertainment - but best of all - good friends. When we left, it was a bit of a surprise to find we were in the middle of the Concord police lock down!

Many thanks to Reba for serving as president since June. I will do my best for the next six months, but Reba is a hard act to follow.

Two of our most popular events are coming up in January. Janice Walker will host the Annual Layette Shower for the Hillcrest Layette Program on January 10th at her home – 524 Monti Circle, Pleasant Hill. **Please do not bring newborn and under 7 lbs. items! No matter how cute they may be!** The International Soup Supper is scheduled for January 17th. Michael Barrington will be presenting his program – *Women of the World*.

I hope one of your New Year’s resolutions is to become more active in the branch. There is a lot going on and there is something for everyone of you. Virginia Hewgley does a wonderful job providing information in the newsletter, so be sure and check it out. If you missed an event, you can check out photos of it on our web site: www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org. It is full of information thanks to Sherrie Moore.

I hope 2024 brings each one of you health and happiness.

~Nancy nhobert@aol.com

Layette Shower



Details for this annual event

International



Soup Supper

Public Policy



The latest information from CA AAUW



International Soup Supper
Wednesday, January 17, 2024, 6 PM
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill

Please join us for hearty, homemade soups, breads, and desserts at our Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch Annual International Soup Supper.

Coffee, water, and tea will be provided.

Be sure to bring your own soup bowl and spoon.
Dinner starts promptly at 6 PM, and remember that spouses, partners, and friends are most welcome.

Let us know if you would like to bring
a pot of soup serving 10-12 people or bread or dessert
OR pay \$10. All guests pay \$10.

Contact Suzanne Salter 925 988-0322 or seabear92020@outlook.com

to pay and indicate number of guests

Reservation deadline and payment by January 12th
(make checks to PHM AAUW)

275 Appalachian Drive, Pleasant Hill 94523

Our speaker for the evening is author and writer Michael J. Barrington, Ph.D. His presentation, "Women of the World," consists of photos taken in the more than 60 countries that he has worked in.

We are having a raffle and a silent auction to support Tech Trek.

Raffle - 1 ticket for \$3, 2 for \$5, 5 for \$10, 12 for \$20

Silent Auction – Starting bid with \$5 increments.

SO, bring some cash and have some fun!

Let Diane Coventry know by January 10th if you would like to donate any raffle or silent auction items. Indicate estimated value of items.

Hope to see you there!



Annual Layette Shower

Benefit for Hillcrest Layette Program

Final reminder! The 2024 Layette Shower will be on Wednesday, January 10, at 10:00 AM, at Janice Walker's, 524 Monti Circle, PH.

Layette items will benefit the Hillcrest Layette Program, which requests anything, store bought or handmade, that a little one can use, except newborn and under 7 lb sizes.

Please contact me by phone, 925-827-3374, or email, sandjwalk@comcast.net, if you intend to be a part of the shower. If you can't participate on the 10th but would like to make a contribution, you can drop it off prior to the shower or let me know you have an item and we can arrange a pickup.

Help make this year's Layette Shower a positive beginning to 2024 for a mother and a child. I hope to see you on the 10th!

~Janice Walker



We are excited to announce that our 2023 Trekkers have been invited to attend our Soup Supper.

They will be selling raffle tickets and monitoring our silent auction items for our Tech Trek fundraiser.

I am still looking for a branch member to assist me as a Tech Trek Alumnae Advisor. We wish to stay in touch with these girls on their STEM journey and keep them connected with one another and with Trekkers from other branches and camps.

~Diane Coventry

diane.coventry@yahoo.com, 510-912-9306

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL SOUP SUPPER RAFFLE!



Please let Diane know what you wish to contribute and the approximate value by early January.



AAUW FUND REPORT

Happy New Year everyone! Here's to a prosperous 2024 for AAUW.

We just want to report on a few things of interest to our members. First, our National Fund donations totaled \$3,155.00, with 28 donors. A very big thank you for your generosity to National for their endeavors in supporting women and girls.

Second, our Fall Kinder's sale made \$423.00 for Fund to put toward a \$1,000.00 scholarship for a graduating DVC student. Out of 125 Gift Cards, we sold 94. Not as good as in the Spring when we sold out a week early, but still a large amount of money made. Thank you to all who purchased the gift cards to support our local Fund endeavors - every dollar helps towards achieving our DVC scholarship goal.

Third and final, the Fund Committee will meet on Monday, January 8, 2024 at 2:30 PM at Gayle

Writing a check for Fund, DVC plays, or events?

**Please make it out to AAUW Pleasant Hill -
Martinez Branch.**

Miner's home. We welcome anyone who would like to attend to see what Fund is all about. Just call, text or email Gayle Miner (925) 788-3272 cell or gayle.miner@yahoo.com to let her know you would like to attend.

Carolynn Barcklay 925-323-8229 or
cbarcklay@hotmail.com

Gayle Miner 925-349-6795, cell 925-788-3272
or gayle.miner@yahoo.com

PHM AAUW HELP WANTED

TTAG Advisor - Do you enjoy working with young women who are interested in STEM careers? We are looking for someone to coordinate with local branches to support Tech Trek Alumnae. Contact Diane Coventry if you are interested.

Nominating Committee Members - We need two board members and three general members plus an alternate from each group to form this year's Nominating Committee. Contact Reba Siero if you are interested.

Raffle donations - New or gently used. Do you have contacts who would be willing to donate goods or services? Or perhaps you've just Marie Kondo-ed your place and have some things that no longer bring you joy, but might be joyful for someone else? Contact Diane Coventry about your donation.

Hospitality - Pat Harris is looking for someone to help manage refreshments at meetings.



PHM AAUW Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. See the pictures from our Holiday Party on the [Photos](#) page. Look at our scheduled programs and activities on the [Program](#) page.

Just go to <https://www.aauw-ph.org/index.html> 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 on the [About Us](#) page.

~Sherrie Moore

SUNSHINE

If you know of any member who needs a bit of sunshine, please let me know!

Reba Siero

rebasiero@yahoo.com or 925-917-1061



Public Policy

Mark your calendars! AAUW California will hold our 2024 Lobby Days event on April 2 and 3, 2024.

An interest survey including a registration form will arrive in your inbox mid-January. Please be sure to complete and return the form to be added to the communications list for the event.

We encourage all AAUW California members to participate in this act of advocacy that is essential for achievement of our legislative priorities. In addition to our members, we plan to invite college students to join the event. Their participation will enable us to reach more legislative offices, and we hope that this introduction to our organization will inspire these advocacy-minded young people who share our values to join AAUW.

Starting in January, our committee will evaluate new bills introduced in the state legislature which are aligned with our Public Policy Priorities: Economic Security for All Women, Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students, Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society, and Increased Representation of Women in Leadership Roles. In early March, our committee will meet to discuss our evaluations and select 30-35 bills for our 2024 Legislative Agenda that best represent our priorities. We will also choose the top 3 bills to advocate for during Lobby Days.

Lobby Days 2024 is scheduled to take place when the legislature returns to session after their Easter break, and will span two days to provide flexibility so that we can secure as many meetings as possible. We are planning a hybrid event with meetings scheduled virtually over Zoom as well as in-person at the Capitol. Members who live in and around Sacramento will have the option to participate in person. Legislative offices are equally willing to meet virtually or in person, and the virtual option makes it easier for AAUW members around the state to participate.

Our AAUW California Legislative Advocate will schedule meetings with the legislative offices. The committee will assemble teams of AAUW members and college students, matching them with Assembly and Senate districts. Training materials on the bills and the event will be posted on the state website in mid-March, and a mandatory training webinar will be held on March 25, 2024.

If you have participated in Lobby Days in the past, we would love to hear your feedback on what worked and what didn't. Please send your comments to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org.

Lobby Days is a wonderful opportunity to meet with your legislators and advocate for legislation to promote gender equity and improve the lives of women and girls. We hope that you will join us in this important activity to advance our values.

~Amy Hom, Co-Chair AAUW California Public Policy Committee

PHM AAUW Calendar

JAN 3	Morning Books, 10 am, Kathleen Woulfe's home
JAN 8	Fund Committee Meeting, 2:30 pm, Gayle Miner's home
JAN 10	Layette Shower, 10 am, Janice Walker's home
JAN 10	Board Meeting, 7 pm, Nancy Hobert's home
JAN 15	Lunchin' Ladies, 11:30 am, Troy at 720 Main St., Martinez
JAN 17	International Soup Supper, 6 pm, St. Andrew's Presbyterian
JAN 19	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
JAN 25	Deadline for February NEWS
FEB 12	Lunchin' Ladies, 11:30 am, Texas Back Forty
FEB 16	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse

Grand Slammers

For information,
contact:

Marlene de Laurenti
mdl@astound.net or
925-934-4171



MORNING BOOKS

MORNING BOOKS will meet on Wednesday, January 3rd, 10 am, at Kathleen Woulfe's. We will be discussing *Love and Saffron: A Novel of Friendship* by Kim Fay. This book tells of two women who bond over correspondence through the years. Please let Kathleen know if you plan to attend.

In February (7th) we will be discussing Tracey Emerson Wood's "The Engineer's Wife". Plan to join us for great discussions on these current books.

LUNCHIN' LADIES

On January 15, 2024 we will meet at Troy, 720 Main Street, Martinez at 11:30 AM. Please reserve by the Monday before, which is January 12. On February 12, we will dine at Texas Back Forty, 100 Coggins Dr. in Pleasant Hill, at 11:30 AM.

NO EXCEPTIONS TO RESERVATION DEADLINE DATES PLEASE. To reserve your spot, contact Gayle Miner (925) 788-3272 by cell or gayle.miner@yahoo.com by email.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, January 19th at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on Friday, February 16th at 12:30 PM.

Please let Suzanne Salter know if you plan to attend. Her contact information is:

Suzanne Salter

seabear92020@outlook.com

(925) 988-0322 (cell)

2023-24 Leadership Team

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