



Pleasant Hill - Martinez Branch

NEWS

NOW/EVENTS/WOMEN/SUCCESS

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



Presidential Postings

Many thanks to Program VP Carlyn Obringer for the interesting and informative program we had at our last meeting.

She is taking the office again next year, so I am sure we have a lot to look forward to. Now she is busy coordinating everything for our end of the year brunch and installation. You will find information in this bulletin as to

where to send your check to make a reservation.

I hope you have all read the proposed bylaws change from National AAUW to admit women without degrees. Whether you are for or against this, you should exercise your right to vote. Voting is open until May 15th.

The last board meeting of the year will be at my home on May 15th at 7 pm.

~Nancy Hobert

2024-25 Board



New Officers
Elected

Renew Your Membership



Online or by mail

Public Policy



From CA AAUW

Spring Brunch

SATURDAY, JUNE 8TH, 10 AM

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Advance reservation required; see attached flyer for more details.



Our New Board

Officers will be installed at the Spring Brunch.

Nominees for open board positions were elected at our General Meeting, April 17.

President 1 - Sarah Joy Haynes (Responsible for board meeting agenda and chairing board meetings)

President 2 - Sherrie Moore (Responsible for General Meeting agendas, Chairing the General meetings, Fall and Spring Brunch agendas, and MC for Fall and Spring Brunches)

President 3 - Reba Siero (Responsible for monthly newsletter column, dealing with National AAUW forms and communications)

Program Vice President - Carlyn Obringer

Membership Vice Presidents - Diane Peterson & Nancy Hobert

AAUW Fund Vice Presidents - Carolynn Barcklay and Gayle Miner

Secretary - Helen Pereira

Treasurer - Claudia Bass



AAUW FUND REPORT

Thank you to everyone who participated in Game Day!

We had fun and raised \$124 for the Legal Advocacy Fund. A big "Thank you" to our Fund Committee members for planning and providing snacks. Also, thank you to Marlene Maksel for reserving the Brookview Clubhouse for us.

We had eleven applications for the \$1000 DVC scholarship to a young woman transferring to a four-year college or university. It was a difficult decision, but we selected our winner. We have invited her to the brunch in June and will introduce her at that time.

Our next meeting will be at Gayle Miner's home on May 13th at 2:30 pm. Please contact us if you are interested in joining the Fund Committee.

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

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

Membership



It's Membership Renewal Time!

GOOD NEWS - Dues are the same as last year - \$118 AND \$72 of this amount is for National dues and is tax deductible. PLEASE RENEW BY JUNE 30th. You can renew online at the National website (www.aauw.org).

1. You will need to log in, then scroll down your profile page until you see the red "RENEW" button.
2. You will need to renew your information and keep clicking "NEXT" if everything is current.
3. Finally, choose if you want a Lifetime or Annual membership. Click "NEXT".
4. Click "yes" to add a branch or state membership. Click "NEXT".
5. You will have to scroll through all the branches, arranged alphabetically by state, to find Pleasant Hill Martinez Branch. Fortunately, CA is near the top, but you will have to scroll all the way to the bottom to get to the "NEXT" button.
6. Choose your primary branch, then the state of CA should be automatically checked, hit "NEXT".

7. You will be asked if you want to contribute to the Greatest Need Fund; make your choice and click "NEXT".

8. Finally, it's time to enter your payment information (credit card) and hit 'SUBMIT'.

If just reading these instructions is giving you a headache, we understand! You can also send a check for \$118 to Karen Winters, 2148 Westward Place, Martinez, CA 94553. Make checks payable to AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch.

Please renew NOW, we want YOU with us!

And don't forget to vote in the National election! You should have received an email from **vote@simplyvoting.com**. If you do not have an email on file, you will be sent a paper ballot by mail. Please refer to the blast sent out in early April for step by step instructions, or email Virginia Hewgley and she'll send you the instructions again.

PLEASE VOTE! A two-thirds affirmative vote is required to change the Bylaws.

~Karen Winters & Diane Peterson Membership Chairs

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



Community Support for Tech Trek

Local Rotary and Kiwanis have awarded grants.

Many thanks to the Martinez branches of Rotary Club and Kiwanis Club for their generous contributions towards next year's Tech Trek funding. We are hoping to increase community support to augment the donations from our members. Are you a member of a service organization in Pleasant Hill or Martinez, or do you have a contact who is a member? Please help us pursue additional avenues to make sure our Tech Trek Program remains viable.

Diane is putting the finishing touches on planning Tech Trek Franklin Camp at Sonoma State this summer. We are now looking for Class Monitors to help keep our camper to adult ratio low. It's a great way to see what's going on at camp. You can carpool with some friends and make a day of it by exploring local restaurants or vineyards after your volunteer duties. Follow this link to sign up: [SignUp Genius](#)

Don't forget to come to the Spring Brunch on June 8 to meet this year's Tech Trek campers. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

~ Diane Coventry & Virginia Hewgley



Nimble Fingers Meeting

Those of you who have been members for a long time might remember this special interest group. It hasn't met for quite some time, but we would like to revive it. Last month, we asked if people were interested in a fiber-related crafting group, but in keeping with the intent of the original group, we are expanding our vision to include all crafts.

So, if hanging out with like-minded individuals for an afternoon of crafting and chatting sounds like fun to you, please join us. Our first meeting will be held on Monday, May 20, at 2:00 P.M., at Janet Sullivan's house, located at 218 Oak Manor Plaza in Martinez.

We welcome all skill levels and all portable crafts. (We won't have room for large equipment!) If there's something you want to learn or improve, don't be shy. Perhaps someone else will be able to help or recommend good resources.

If you're planning to attend, kindly RSVP to Karen at 925-408-5721 or Janet at 925-768-4628.

Karen Winters: 925-408-5721; karen.winters@sbcglobal.net

Janet Sullivan: 925-768-4628; jspringsullivan@aol.com



**Congratulations
to our 2024
Local
Scholarship
recipients!**

Bianca Lewis and Vanessa Rubio-Magana are from Alhambra High School and Dana Giacomino, Sabrina Tsai, and Alison Stewart are from College Park High School. Come to the Spring Brunch on June 8 to meet these outstanding, hardworking young women!

Thanks to all our members who donated to the Kaffee Klatch fundraiser. We collected more than \$3400 this year to go toward scholarships! We also collected \$306 for Local Scholarship through our portion of DVC play ticket sales this year.

Many thanks to everyone who participates in these fun events which keep our programs going!

~Helen Pereira, Local Scholarship Chair

MORNING BOOKS POTLUCK LUNCHEON

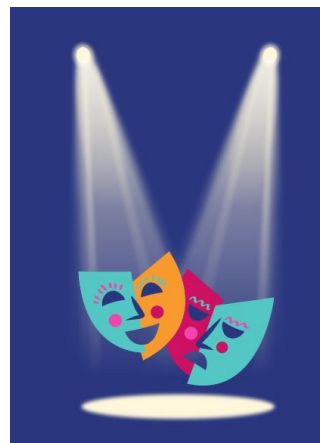
MORNING BOOKS will meet on Wednesday, June 5th, 11:30 am, at Brookview Park Clubhouse for the annual Potluck luncheon. We will not be discussing a book, but we will choose our favorite book from those we read during 2023/2024. We will also choose a new book to read for our September meeting. If you are unable to attend the May meeting, call Marlene for reservations and food assignment. Hope to see all of you before the summer hiatus!

BOOK EXCHANGE ROUND ROBIN - 1st CALL

This is your annual opportunity to join the BOOK EXCHANGE! Read up to 12 hardbacks published in 2024 for the cost of only one! You buy one book, pass your book to the next member each month, and 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. Reserve your titles, and your place in the exchanges, now. We should begin exchanging books by October 1st.

We certainly would welcome additional members, as we just had two short exchanges last year. This section may not continue without sufficient participants. Please call with any questions.



Another DVC Theater Season Comes to a Close

Thanks to everyone
who came out this
year!

We had a total of 45 people attend four different plays this year - *All Shook Up!*, *Radium Girls*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern*, and *Hangmen*. We were able to donate \$306 each to Tech Trek and Local Scholarship while seeing some extraordinary plays! We're looking forward to seeing you all again next season.



PHM AAUW Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Review photos from our April program 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, Webmaster



Grand Slammers

Bridge Club

For information,
contact:

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





Wine Club

The Wine
Appreciation &
Tasting group met
on the 19th.

We learned a little about using a Wine Rating System and blind tasted three Zinfandels. Fourteen people had a lot of fun and laughs. Thank you to Claudia Bass, SharahJoy Haynes, & Charlotte Liniger for bringing wine and to Carolyn Barcklay for bringing bread sticks.

Our next meeting will be Fri., May 17th at 4 PM at Diane Peterson's house, and we will taste WHITE WINES. Please call or email Diane by May 9th if you want to attend - richpeterson@comcast.net; (925) 278-1634.

Please bring your own wine glass or 3 glasses if you want to taste 3 wines side-by-side.

~Diane Peterson



FOLLOW-UP TO MARCH PROGRAM

At our March Program, our speaker, Logan Robertson of Home Match Contra Costa, was unsure how to answer a question in regards to what happens if a Home Seeker (renter) becomes unable to care for themselves while living with a Home Provider. Logan contacted her supervisor and here is the response she received:

"If the renter is 60 or older, you can make a call to Adult Protective Services to report the situation. Ideally, they would connect them with a social worker who could provide the Home Seeker with resources for long term care. The Home Provider could give notice if it is impacting them, i.e. they become the caregiver. We would also try to help with resources as well."

Many thanks to Logan for making sure we had the answer to this question.



Public Policy

AAUW California

Public Policy Committee Sets 2024 Legislative Agenda

The Public Policy Committee met virtually over a weekend in early March to set AAUW California's 2024 Legislative Agenda. Through a day and a half of discussions, we reviewed 67 bills, considering their merits and potential costs as well as their alignment with our public policy priorities. Then, we went through a voting/ranking process to select the top bills that we will advance as our Legislative Agenda.

Our legislative agenda consists of three "A" priority bills, four "B" priority bills, twenty-nine "C" priority bills, and twelve spot bills that we are watching. Seven of the bills on our legislative agenda are 2-year bills that carried over from last year. All of the bills on our agenda fall under at least one of our four Public Policy Priority pillars; one bill - AB 2349 - falls under three pillars.

Excitingly, our signature "A" priority bill AB 2843 "Health Care Coverage for Rape and Sexual Assault Survivors" was authored by AAUW California. The bill is sponsored by AAUW California and falls under two of our Public Policy Priorities, "Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society" and "Economic Security for All Women". The bill eliminates cost-sharing, including deductibles, from being imposed on any rape survivor

seeking medical care following a rape. Insurers will be required to cover the cost of medical care with no copay. AB 2843 ensures that those individuals who wish to report a rape and file charges will have the benefit of a rape kit test and forensic exam to provide evidence to secure more convictions for acts of sexual violence. In addition, they can receive the care they need following a traumatic sexual attack. (See the [Lobby Days Talking Points](#) and [Bill Text](#) for more details.)

Our second "A" priority bill, AB 2326 "Title IX Oversight and Compliance Act" is also sponsored by AAUW California. This bill falls under our Public Policy Priorities pillar "Equal Access to Quality Education for All Students" and champions something that AAUW California has long supported: Title IX enforcement. AB 2326 requires the Chancellors of the Community Colleges and State Universities and the President of the University of California to provide an annual report of their compliance with Title IX, with the report to be presented publicly and orally to the Senate and Assembly Budget Subcommittees on Higher Education Finance, a move to hold the systems, and their leaders, more publicly accountable.

While we are listing AB 2326 as an "A" priority bill, a large number of Title IX related bills were introduced this year, likely prompted by the [2023 State Auditor's report Report 2022-109 \(ca.gov\)](#) which concluded that the CSU system's handling of Title IX-related complaints has not adequately addressed allegations of inequity, harassment, and sexual harassment. While a great deal of the introduced Title IX legislation has not yet fully

taken shape, we are watching them, as they will potentially become priority bills. In addition, one of the more fully-formed bills, AB 1790, is listed as a “B” priority bill on our agenda.

Our third “A” priority bill is AB 2099, “Protecting Reproductive Health Clinics”. This bill falls under our Public Policy Priorities pillar “Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society”. The bill makes it possible for the D.A. to file a felony charge for sharing personal information or images of individuals such as reproductive health care providers or patients, with the intent of causing harm or violence

against them, if the posting and subsequent action results in bodily injury. With violence against abortion providers continuing to rise following the reversal of Roe, the protection of providers and patients is now more important than ever.

To see our full 2024 Legislative Agenda, please go to our Bill Tracking Report. This report will continue to be updated as the bills move through the legislative process, so you will always be able to see the latest status.

~Amy Hom and Missy Maceyko, Co-chairs AAUW California Public Policy Committee



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

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

A MESSAGE FROM DANVILLE ALAMO WALNUT CREEK BRANCH

22ND ANNUAL GARDEN TOUR – GARDENS THAT INSPIRE

Friday, May 10 & Saturday, May 11, 2024

10:00am – 4:00 pm, rain or shine

Tickets: \$40 per person through April 30, \$45 if May 1 or later.

All proceeds support college scholarships for local students, STEM camperships for middle school girls, and branch programs advancing equity for all.

For more information and tickets please visit the website at

<https://daw-ca.aauw.net/2024-garden-tour/>

**SIX BEAUTIFUL GARDENS
FUN AND EDUCATIONAL**

PHM AAUW Calendar

MAY 1	Morning Books, 10 am, Margie Pruitt's home
MAY 15	Last day to vote, National AAUW Election
MAY 17	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
MAY 20	Lunchin' Ladies, 12 noon, Ed's Mudville Grill, 6200 Center Street, Clayton
MAY 20	Nimble Fingers, 2 pm, Janet Sullivan's home
JUNE 5	Morning Books Potluck Luncheon, 11:30 am, Brookview Clubhouse
JUNE 8	Spring Brunch, 10 am, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
JUNE 17	Luncin' Ladies, 12 noon, Forbes Mill, Danville
JUNE 21	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse

MORNING BOOKS

MORNING BOOKS will meet on Wednesday, May 1st, 10 am, at Margie Pruitt's. We won't be dancing around the May Pole, but we will be discussing Geraldine Brooks' *Horse*. The story covers several generations about horse racing, racial discrimination and other topics. We will also be taking reservations and food assignments for the annual potluck luncheon on June 5th. Please tell Margie if you plan to attend on the 1st.

LUNCHIN' LADIES

We will meet on Monday, May 20 at Ed's Mudville Grill, Clayton, at 12:00 Noon. In June, we will meet on Monday, June 17 at Forbes Mill, Danville, at 12:00 Noon. RESERVATIONS MUST BE IN TO GAYLE MINER BY THE MONDAY BEFORE THE EVENT. Lunchin' Ladies will NOT MEET in July or August.

Gayle Miner (925) 788-3272 by cell or gayle.miner@yahoo.com by email.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, May 17th at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on Friday, June 21st 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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