



# NEWS

**NOW/EVENTS/WOMEN/SUCCESS**

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

## Presidential Postings

Our Welcome Back Brunch was a success with good food, and good company.

We believe all the Directories have gone out, but if you need one, please contact Diane Peterson, one of our Membership VPs.

There will NOT be a meeting in October. You can use this time to become informed on all the issues on the ballot. There are local events to learn more about what we will be voting on this coming November.

The November meeting will be held at El Tapatio near DVC. The date is November 16th, at 11:30 am. Deputy District Attorney Mary Knox will inform us about Fraud Prevention. The cost for lunch is \$27.

Our new Sunshine person is Marti Martin. Thank you, Marti, for taking on this role. Let Marti know if you or others need a bit of Sunshine from the branch.

Marylee Taylor, our Parliamentarian, is forming our Nominating Committee. Please contact her if you would like to serve on this committee which recruits our new Board for the 2025-2026 program year.

There are several events to look forward to in

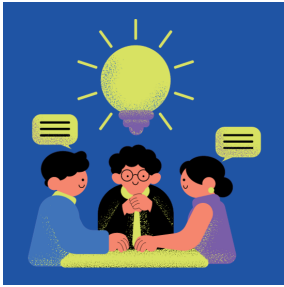
### November Program Flyer



### Kinder's Order Form



### Public Policy - CA Ballot Propositions



2025. There is the Layette Shower on January 22nd at Janice Walker's, the Soup Supper on February 19th (see Sherrie Moore), and the SAM program in February and March.

The Holiday Party is scheduled for Friday, December 6th, at Brookview Clubhouse. The first planning meeting will be at Sandy Wolfe's on October 11th at 10:30 am. Contact Sandy if you would like to help.

AAUW Fund began selling Kinder's Gift Cards on September 8th, and the sale goes through October 18th. The cards are \$20 each and make great stocking stuffers and small gifts.

The Ways & Means Committee meets on October 25th at 11:00 am at Brookview Clubhouse. The fall play at DVC this year is Sweet Charity. The date is November 3rd, and the time is 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$30. Please contact Virginia Hewgley for more information.

You will find more information about many of these activities in the rest of this newsletter. We're a very active group!

~SarahJoy, Sherrie, & Reba



## SAM At Fair Oaks in February/March

Would you like to be a SAM Volunteer?

We are creating a curriculum for our SAM (Study Art and Music) Program for Fair Oaks Elementary School in February/March 2025. Our lesson plan always includes an artist and a composer. This year we will be studying the artist Georgia O'Keefe, and Ferde Grofé is the composer.

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

We are planning a workday in February where we will prepare the materials for the students and get familiar with the powerpoint.

Please let us know if you would like to volunteer. So far, we have 12 volunteers on our list. It is lots of fun and rewarding.

~Sherrie Moore, Barbara Minneman, and Helen Pereira



*Save the Date!*

Annual Holiday Party December 6, 5:30 PM, at Brookview Clubhouse



## September Welcome Brunch

Thanks to our Membership team for organizing another wonderful brunch!

The September 14th Welcome Brunch was very well attended this year. A total of 48 people attended, including 5 of our 6 2024 Tech Trek campers and their families. We also welcomed a new member, Patricia Winsor.

Our Tech Trek Campers talked about their experiences at Sonoma State this summer, representatives from our interest groups invited new participants, and our budget for the 2024-25 year was approved.

A big “thank you!” to Barb Minneman, Bea Ball, Carolynn Barcklay, Claudia Bass, Diane Coventry, Gayle Miner, Karen Winters, Margi Alkire, Margie Pruitt, Marilyn Thelen, Pat Harris, Reba Siero, SarahJoy Haynes, Sherrie Moore, and Sue Greenfeld for making this event a success!

~ Diane Peterson



### WANTED: COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR THE HOLIDAY PARTY

Now is the time to start planning our annual holiday get together!

Contact Sandy Wolfe if you are interested  
925-586-4523; [rwolfeman@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rwolfeman@sbcglobal.net)



## November Program

Deputy District Attorney  
Mary Knox will speak

about fraud prevention.

We have had many requests for earlier meetings, so our November general meeting will be held on Saturday, November 16, at 11:30 am.

The meeting will take place at El Tapatio Restaurant, 40 Golf Club Road in Pleasant Hill. There will be a buffet with chicken and cheese enchiladas, chicken and beef tacos, chicken and pork burritos, rice and beans, chips and salsa, and a beverage. The price per person will be \$27, which will include tax and tip.

We are limited to 42 people, so please reserve your place early. Send your check to Claudia Bass by November 11<sup>th</sup> to reserve your place. Her address is 1706 Endriss Drive, Martinez 94553.

Checks should be payable to AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch. Parking can be tight, so you may want to carpool with a friend.

We're looking forward to seeing you all there!

## CORRECTIONS TO 2024-25 DIRECTORY

**Gina Zagotta's address is 2140 Deerwood Dr., Martinez.**

**Please note correct spelling of Sue Greenfeld's last name. Also, her email is [suegreenfeld46@gmail.com](mailto:suegreenfeld46@gmail.com)**

**Lastly, please add new member :**

**Patricia Winsor - 115 Buckley St., Martinez, CA 94553; phone (925) 330-5225; email [pwwinsor@att.net](mailto:pwwinsor@att.net)**

## WANTED: COMMUNICATIONS/NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Unfortunately Virginia Hewgley, our current newsletter editor, will be moving out of state in the beginning of 2025.**

**Do you enjoy graphic design and have basic computer skills? If so, this is a very rewarding position. You will be responsible for sending out the NEWS once a month and blasts as needed. If you are a Mac user, Virginia can share her template. If you are a PC user, you can use Publisher, or there is a free web based program called Canva that is easy to use, and fun, too. Questions? Call Virginia at 925-768-4417 and she'll fill you in on the details.**

Many thanks to everyone who made our Wine and Cheese fundraiser a great success! Sandy Wolfe hosted at her lovely home, and even though the temperature was in the 90s, she had everything set up strategically in the shade so it was quite comfortable. The Tech Trek Committee brought appetizers and the Wine Club donated plenty of wine! A surprising number of people braved the weather and a great time was had by all. We raised over \$1100 for our 2025 Tech Trek Program!





## Tech Trek Tidings

You may have heard that Tech Trek 2024 was another success!

With nearly 800 campers and over 250 staff participating in eight weeks of in-person and virtual camp, over 100 California branches once again demonstrated their deep commitment to STEM at UC Davis, Santa Cruz, and San Diego, CSU Fresno, Sonoma State, Santa Clara University, and Whittier College (two camps). Branches can expect to see at least one additional camp in the schedule for 2025 to be approved in late October - UC Santa Barbara.

Thank you again to our members for your financial support of Tech Trek – We are projecting that we will be able to send 6 girls again for June 22-28, 2025 at Sonoma State.

Diane attended the Rotary meeting on Aug. 28th with Sanvi Panda, a 2023 Tech Trek alumna who is a freshman at College Park, and Courtney Reed, a 2024 alumna and 8th grader at Martinez Junior High. Courtney spoke about her camp experience and Sanvi told us about what she is currently doing in school. She plans to help with TTAG – we just need a member (besides me) to be the advisor for the Alumni group. Any volunteers?

We also thanked the Boys and Girls Club for letting us borrow their ThinkPads for the week of camp. Lara Delaney had us sign a book for the Club Library.

Members who were able to attend the Welcome Back Brunch expressed how impressed they were



with our Tech Trek presentation. The girls did a great job sharing their camp experiences and camp photo slideshow. We have asked them to save the date for the Soup Supper, when we will have our TT Raffle. They have pledged to keep in touch with us for at least 5 years (and hopefully, longer).

Looking ahead for camp funding, we wish to reach out the Pleasant Hill Rotary to sponsor a camper. Is there an AAUW member who is also a member of that Rotary group? Let Diane know!

~ Diane Coventry





## Wine Club

We will have a special guest speaker in October.

The Wine Appreciation & Tasting group met on September 20th and had lively discussions about Syrah wine. The next meeting will be on Fri., Oct. 18th at 4 PM at Diane Peterson's house. We will have a guest speaker, Sommelier Patrick Miner, Gayle's son. There will be a \$15 per person charge to pay for the wine. Two white and two red wines will be tasted. Everyone will need to bring 4 wine glasses. There are only a few spaces available, so please reply to Diane if you want to attend.

~Diane Peterson



## Sweet Charity at DVC November 3rd

Join us for the first play of the season

in the Performing Arts Center.

Join us for a mid-century classic from DVC Drama:

*Charity Hope Valentine is an eternal optimist, but she may just be the unluckiest romantic in New York City! Despite one misfortune after another, Charity stays optimistic and continues to believe in love. This Tony Award winning musical captures all the humor and heartbreak of life in the Big Apple in the 1960's.*

Sounds like a lot of fun, doesn't it? This will be a matinee show at 2:30 pm and tickets are \$30. Please get your check or cash to Virginia Hewgley ([vhewgley@astound.net](mailto:vhewgley@astound.net)) by October 25th to reserve yours. Proceeds from the plays are divided evenly between Tech Trek and Local Scholarship.

## SUNSHINE

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

Marti Martin

[richmar1016@sbcglobal.net](mailto:richmar1016@sbcglobal.net) or 925-225-3574

## SAVE THE DATE !

### PH-M AAUW ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER

Mark your calendars! Wednesday, January 22, 2025, at the home of Janice Walker. More info to come.





## PHM AAUW Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. See the pictures from our Fall Brunch on the [Photos](#) page. Review the programs and activities for the coming year on the [Program Page](#). Look at the various groups to join on the [Interest Groups](#) 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](mailto:mdl@astound.net)  
or 925-934-4171





## AAUW FUND REPORT

### Fundraising begins for National Fund

Kinder's gift cards are on sale now for \$20. The proceeds of \$4.50 per ticket fund a local DVC student going on to a 4-year college. They sell quickly so contact Gayle Miner or Claudia Bass to purchase one or more. They make good holiday gifts.

The annual solicitation letters for AAUW Fund were given out at the Welcome Brunch. As always, thank you for your generosity.

Our next meeting is November 11, at 2:30 at Carolynn Barcklay's home.

If you are interested in joining the Fund Committee, we meet every other month. You can contact Gayle Miner or Carolyn Barcklay for more information.

~Carolynn Barcklay 925-323-8229 or [cbarcklay@hotmail.com](mailto:cbarcklay@hotmail.com)

~Gayle Miner 925-349-6795, cell 925-788-3272 or [gayle.miner@yahoo.com](mailto:gayle.miner@yahoo.com)

**Writing a check for Fund, DVC plays, or events? Please make it out to AAUW Pleasant Hill - Martinez Branch.**



## Nimble Fingers Meeting

If hanging out with like-minded individuals for an afternoon of crafting and chatting sounds like fun to you, please join us. Our next meeting will be held on Monday, October 28, at 2:30 P.M., at Margi Alkire's house, located at 51 Rolling Green Circle, Pleasant Hill.

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 [karen.winters@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karen.winters@sbcglobal.net) or Janet at 925-768-4628 [jspringsullivan@aol.com](mailto:jspringsullivan@aol.com).



## KINDER'S Gift Card ORDER FORM

*Gift Card sales help our branch give a DVC student a \$1,000 scholarship to a 4 year college.*

YOUR NAME \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

YOUR EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Cards are good at all Bay Area Kinder's locations. You may use the Gift Card for any items on Kinder's menu.

GIFT CARD SALE IS FROM September 6 to October 18, 2024. NO EXCEPTIONS.

PRICE: \$20.00 each, with NO EXPIRATION DATE!

Amount of Gift Cards you are ordering \_\_\_\_\_

Amount of your check: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to: AAUW Pleasant Hill Martinez Branch)

For Mail Order Form, mail to: Gayle Miner, 125 Price Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523. Gayle will deliver or mail your Gift Cards to you upon receiving your check. Your check must be in by October 18, 2024.

NOTE: You can also call Gayle Miner (925) 788-3272, Claudia Bass (925) 372-8679 hm. or (925) 348-1958 cell, or Carolyn Barcklay (925) 323-8229 cell to request Kinder's Gift Cards. They are the only people who have Kinder's Gift Cards to sell.

Kinder's Gift Cards will also be for sale at the Welcome Brunch and various AAUW meetings and activities starting September 6th and ending October 18th.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR SUPPORT! THE FUND COMMITTEE



## Public Policy

### 2024 Ballot

#### Propositions - Support AAUW California Public Policy Priorities.

This November, California voters will decide the fate of 10 statewide ballot propositions. While we encourage members to support additional propositions that may capture the spirit of AAUW California's Public Policy Priorities (PPPs), we suggest that four of the propositions on the ballot in 2024 deserve a YES vote from our members for their explicit alignment with AAUW California's PPPs.

**Proposition 2**, Public Education Facilities Bond Measure (2024), proposes issuing \$10 billion in bonds to fund construction and modernization of California's public education facilities. \$8.5 billion would be allocated to K-12 schools and \$1.5 billion would support improvements at community colleges. Many school facilities are over 50 years old and require significant upgrades to meet current technological and education needs. Research shows that modernized school facilities correlate with better test scores, higher attendance, and improved teacher retention rates. The last time districts received state funding for infrastructure improvements was in 2016, when Prop 51 authorized \$9 billion in bonds. That money has now run out, and Prop 2 would help fund school projects totaling \$3.5 billion that have already been approved and are awaiting funding.

**AAUW California supports "Adequate and equitable funding at all educational levels, including pre-school and post-secondary", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 2.**

**Proposition 3**, Constitutional Right to Marriage, would amend the California Constitution to recognize the fundamental right to marry, and would remove the language banning same-sex marriage, passed by voters in 2008, from the state constitution. In practice, the ban has been nullified since a Supreme Court ruling in 2013 which allowed same-sex marriages to resume in California. Proposition 3 will enshrine the fundamental right to marry and protect against any potential future changes to federal marriage protections.

**AAUW California supports "Guarantee of civil and constitutional rights for all, including all forms of gender identity and expression, and all family structures", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 3.**

**Proposition 4**, Parks, Environment, Energy, and Water Bond Measure, would allocate the state to issue \$10 billion in bonds to fund various environmental, energy, and water projects. While there are a range of projects that ballot measure would fund that would benefit all Californians who are confronted with the impacts of sea-level rise, extreme heat, wildfire dangers, and air/water pollution, proposition 4 would also require that 40% of the bond revenue be used to fund activities that benefit communities with lower

incomes or that are affected by environmental changes or disasters. Also, as AAUW California's Public Policy Committee has pointed out in the past, [addressing climate issues and advancing gender equity is directly related to environmental sustainability, and vice versa](#).

**AAUW California supports "Social and racial justice for all members of society, including equal access to quality affordable healthcare, housing and a healthy environment," and we support a YES vote on Proposition 4.**

**Proposition 32**, Raises Minimum Wage, would raise California's current minimum wage of \$16 per hour. Employers with 26 or more employees would pay \$18 per hour beginning in 2025. Employers with 25 or fewer employees would pay \$17 per hour in 2025 and \$18 per hour in 2026. California has a high cost of living and our current \$16 minimum wage is well below the estimated living wage needed to support a household's basic needs. Women and communities of color bear the burden of low-wage jobs. The California Civil Rights

Department (CRD) [released data](#) showing that in 2021, roughly half of all Latino, Black, and Native American workers earned \$32,329 or less - \$10,000 less than the state's per capita income. 54 percent of all workers in California earning \$32,239 or less were women. A minimum wage of \$18 will reduce income inequality and improve the standard of living for millions of California workers, especially women and people of color.

**AAUW California supports "Economic Security for All Women", and we support a YES vote on Proposition 32.**

For guidance on additional ballot measures that are adjacent to, but not directly within, the scope of AAUW California's PPPs, please see this excellent guide provided by [the League of Women Voters of California](#).

*~ Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko, Co-Chairs, AAUW California Public Policy Committee*



## PHM AAUW NEWS IS SPONSORED BY MONTECITO ANIMAL CLINIC

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925-686-0683

Fax 925-686-4754

**Katrinka March, DVM**

**Karen Shores, BVMS**

**Cindy Piper, DVM**

## PHM AAUW Calendar

OCT 2	Morning Books, 10 am, Margie Pruitt's home
OCT 9	Board Meeting, 7 pm, SarahJoy Hayne's home
OCT 21	Lunchin' Ladies, 12 noon, Postino, Lafayette
OCT 18	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
OCT 18	Wine Club, 4 pm, Diane Peterson's home
OCT 25	Deadline for November NEWS
OCT 25	Last day to sign up for DVC play - <i>Sweet Charity</i>
OCT 28	Nimble Fingers, 2:30 pm, Margi Alkire's home
NOV 3	<i>Sweet Charity</i> , 2:30 pm, DVC Performing Arts Center
NOV 16	General Meeting, 11:30 am, El Tapatio, 40 golf Club Road, Pleasant Hill
Dec 6	Holiday Party, 5:30, Brookview Clubhouse

## MORNING BOOKS

**MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, October 2nd, 10 am, at Margie Pruitt's. We will be discussing Kati Morton's biography, *The Chancellor: Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel*. This is a fascinating story of Merkel's early life and her rise to power, and her relationship with other world leaders. Please let Margie know if you plan to attend. In November, we will be discussing Elizabeth Letts' *The Ride of Her Life*. Please join us for great discussions on both of these books ~ totally differing stories!

## MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, October 18 at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM.

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

seabear92020@outlook.com

(925) 988-0322 (cell)

## LUNCHIN' LADIES

Lunchin' Ladies will dine on Monday, October 21, 2024 at 12 Noon at Postino, 3565 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette. Reservations must be made by Monday, October 14, 2024.

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



# 2024-25 Leadership Team

## PRESIDENT 1 (BOARD MEETING CHAIR)

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## PRESIDENT 2 (GENERAL MEETING CHAIR)

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## PRESIDENT 3 (NATIONAL & NEWSLETTER)

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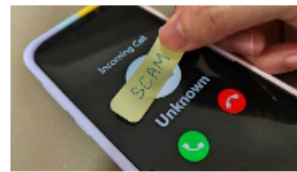
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Copy deadline for November NEWS is October 25th. Email copy to [vhewgley@astound.net](mailto:vhewgley@astound.net)  
 Webmaster

# AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez November 2024 Program

Speaker: Deputy District Attorney Mary Knox, fraud prevention



Place: El Tapatio, 40 Golf Club Rd, Pleasant Hill

Saturday, November 16<sup>th</sup> 11:30

All-inclusive buffet \$27 per person including tax and tip

Chicken and cheese enchiladas, chicken and beef tacos,  
chicken and pork burritos,  
rice and beans, chips and salsa, and a beverage



Send your check to Claudia Bass by November 11<sup>th</sup>

1706 Endriss Drive, Martinez 94553

Payable to AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch

Capacity is 42, so please reserve early

The parking lot gets full, so you may want to carpool