



Pleasant Hill - Martinez Branch

NEWS

NOW/EVENTS/WOMEN/SUCCESS

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



Presidential Postings

We're going to gather for our September Welcome Back Brunch on Saturday, September 14th, at 10 am, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church.

We will hear from our Tech Trek girls, visit with friends, old and new, and enjoy a wonderful meal. The new directories will be available for pick-up, with the Fund letter tucked inside. The cost is \$15 per person. Please send your check to Membership Co-VP Diane Peterson. There is more information in this newsletter.

All our meetings this year will be in-person only. We hope you will be able to attend and join your AAUW friends as we carry out the mission of AAUW within our Branch.

And speaking of programs, we will not have an October meeting, but will have our November meeting on Saturday, November 16th, at 11:30 AM, at El Tapatio restaurant. Deputy District Attorney Mary Knox will be talking with us about Fraud Prevention. More details will be in the November newsletter.

AAUW Fund will be selling the ever-popular Kinder's Gift Cards as a fundraiser this Fall.

There are several events to look forward



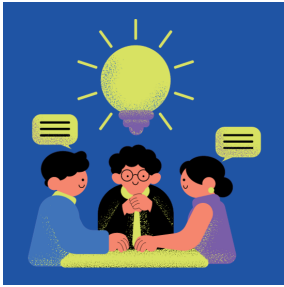
2024-25 Budget



Kinder's Order Form



Public Policy Election Priorities



Presidential Postings (cont.)

to this year. There is the Layette Shower in January, the Soup Supper in February and the SAM program in March.

What about the Holiday Party in December? It's not too early to think about it! Will you help plan it? Let us know!

Pat Harris would like to have an assistant to help with Hospitality. Might that be YOU? Please let Pat know! She'll teach you all she knows about putting out refreshments for our meetings!

We need a new Sunshine person. Please get in touch if you would like to serve the Branch, bringing cheer to those who need it.

Thanks to each of you for being a part of our Branch!

~SarahJoy, Sherrie, & Reba



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. You can contact Virginia Hewgley (vhewgley@astound.net) to reserve yours. Proceeds from the plays are divided evenly between Tech Trek and Local Scholarship.

SAVE THE DATE !

PH-M AAUW ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER

Mark your calendars! Wednesday, January 22, 2025. More info to come.

~ Janice Walker

Letter from the Treasurer

At the Brunch meeting we will be voting on the proposed budget. You can see here what has been proposed. Thank you to Sarah Joy Haynes, Sherrie Moore, Diane Peterson, and Carlyn Obringer for meeting and developing the budget.

When you write checks make them payable to **AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch**, which

is on our deposit stamp. There have been times when people just use capital letters (PHM AAUW) and the bank teller pulls the check aside and I have to vouch for it.

Also, if you need to be reimbursed for something please do so in a timely manner, preferably within a week. And remember to include receipts and fill out the reimbursement form available on the [website](#). Also, please cash checks in a timely manner. This helps with record keeping. Thank you!

~Claudia Bass

AAUW PLEASANT HILL- MARTINEZ BRANCH PROPOSED BUDGET 2024-2025

REVENUE

MEMBERSHIP DUES	\$1,638.00
ADS	\$50.00
TOTAL REVENUE	\$1,688.00

EXPENSES

DIRECTORY	\$230.00
HOSPITALITY	\$50.00
INSURANCE *	\$500.00
MEMBERSHIP	\$25.00
PROGRAM	\$716.00
WEBSITE *	\$127.00
SUNSHINE	\$15.00
STATE RAFFLE REGISTRATION *	\$25.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$1,688.00

BOOK EXCHANGE/Round Robin -

LAST 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.

We certainly would welcome additional members, as we just had 2 short Exchanges last year and this Section may not continue without sufficient participants. Please call with any questions.

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 places in the exchanges - now. **Deadline** for reserving titles - and your place in the exchanges - is **Monday, September 23**. We should begin exchanging books by October 1st.

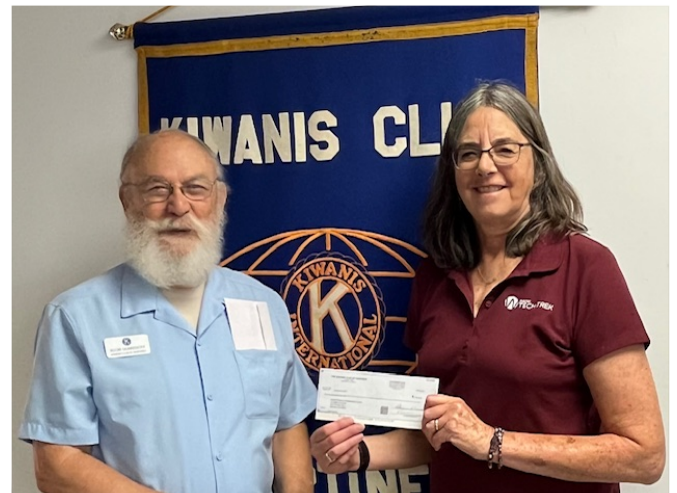


Tech Trek Tidings

2024 camp is over, time to plan for 2025!

Diane Coventry has been reviewing surveys and input, evaluating 2024 camp, and planning for 2025. She and Helen Pereira attended the Kiwanis lunch meeting on August 15th to talk about Tech Trek and to accept the \$500 grant which Kiwanis has awarded to our program. Diane and two campers also attended a meeting at the Martinez Rotary Club on August 28th. A Powerpoint presentation of highlights of the 2024 camp was shown and two Tech Trek alumni shared their experience and future plans in STEM.

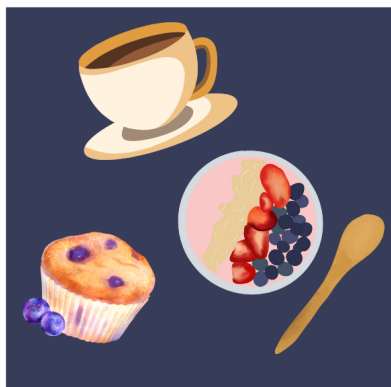
At the recent Wine & Cheese Fundraiser, 27 intrepid supporters attended despite the high temperatures, and donations totaled \$1135. Thanks to Sandy Wolfe for opening her home and her shady back yard! And thanks to the Tech Trek Committee for providing drinks and appetizers.



We have received quite a few checks in response to the letter handed out at the Spring Brunch - thanks to all of you for supporting this wonderful program!

The Powerpoint of 2024 camp highlights will be shown at our Welcome Back Brunch, and several campers will be in attendance to talk about their experience. You can also read excerpts from the 2024 Campers' thank you notes on the next page of this newsletter.

~ Diane Coventry & Virginia Hewgley




WELCOME BACK BRUNCH

Save the date! Our annual Welcome Back Brunch will be held on Saturday, September 14, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Pleasant Hill at 10 am.

Price is \$15. Reservations are due by September 6. You can reserve your place by sending a check to Diane Peterson, 534 Roanoke Drive, Martinez CA 94553.


EXCERPTS FROM OUR TREKKERS' THANK YOU NOTES



MY CORE CLASS, AEROSPACE ENGINEERING, INTERTWINED MY LOVE OF MATH AND PHYSICS WHILE SHOWING ME HOW THEY CAN BE APPLIED TO THINGS LIKE ENGINEERING.
~ MAYA MANCHESTER



Thank you for sending me to Tech Trek! I learned a lot of things, such as how to solder.
~Rachel Collins



Meeting People similar to me has both inspired and motivated me to put more effort into learning new things about the world.
~Selah Yoo

My favorite memory of this whole experience was meeting my dorm group. My Dorm Mom and JC were amazing and so great, but my dorm mates have become family!
~Avery Giotta




Mrs. D. was so amazing and nice. She taught me so much about DNA tracking, eyewitnesses, the types of forensics, and how to solve a "murder" using evidence.
~Alie M Luna

Professional Womens' Night was amazing and I wish there was more of it. I learned so much about current life, the future, and what my future will look like.
~Courtney Reed



Wine Club

The Wine Appreciation & Tasting group meets on Friday, September 20th.

We will meet at 4 PM at Diane Peterson's house. We will be learning a little about Syrah and blind tasting three wines. If you wish to attend, please let Diane know at richpeterson@comcast.net.

~Diane Peterson

WANTED: CO-CHAIRS FOR THE HOLIDAY PARTY!!

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

Contact Reba Siero if you are interested.



PHM AAUW Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. 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. Check out our new board, Barbara Newacheck and Named Gift Honoree recipients on the **About Us** page. See the Local Scholarship and Tech Trek finalists on the **Community Action** 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

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



AAUW FUND REPORT

Fundraising begins for National Fund

One of the Fund Committee's jobs is to raise money for National AAUW. This is why you will receive a solicitation letter along with your new directory at the September 14th Welcome Back Brunch. The funds raised go directly to National AAUW for various programs, educational grants, and fellowships. Please send your donation to Gayle Miner in the envelope provided. You can also donate online at www.AAUW.org. Thank you for your continued support as you have always been very generous with your donations.

We will be selling Kinder's gift cards this September 6th through October 15th. If you choose to order the gift cards via mail, we have provided a form for you to use (See the next page of this newsletter). The fundraiser's proceeds will help provide a scholarship of \$1000 to a deserving DVC student going on to a 4-year college. Again, your continued support is extremely appreciated.

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

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

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



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, September 23, at 2:30 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 karen.winters@sbcglobal.net or Janet at 925-768-4628 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 Carolynn 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

Public policy priorities and the elections

Welcome to another presidential election year in the United States! We have you covered with **All The Resources**.

In September, the Public Policy Committee will:

- Present a webinar on Get Out the Vote. More details to follow soon.
- Provide information on the California ballot initiatives that we are supporting.
- Provide Candidate Comparison Guides for competitive Congressional races in California. These guides will focus on the races where an incumbent whose values are consistent with our public policy priorities is in danger of losing their seat, and where an incumbent whose values are not consistent with our priorities is being challenged by a candidate whose values align with ours. The guides will serve to educate voters on the candidates' positions on AAUW-supported issues. The competitive districts we have identified thus far are Districts 13, 22, 27, 45, 48, 49, 41.

During the current election cycle, the Public Policy Committee will be putting out a series of election resources. As part of these resources,

we will highlight some AAUW California Public Policy Priorities (PPPs) that are rising as central issues in the upcoming election and give you the tools to do your own candidate assessments.

The first PPP we highlighted is Title IX Protections; see the August issue of Public Policy News for more information.

Although the 2024 legislative session won't end until this fall, the governor has already started to sign bills. We are excited to let you know that **three bills on our agenda have already been signed, AB 1955, AB1790, and AB2608. Hooray!**

AB 1955 will prohibit school districts from requiring staff to notify parents if a student uses a different name or pronouns or identifies as a different gender than what is on their birth certificate. California is the first state in the nation to ban forced outings of transgender students.

AB 1790 will strengthen protections against sexual assault and harassment at California State University (CSU) campuses by requiring two reports from CSU on the status of their implementation of the State Auditor recommendations.

AB 2608 will require the California Community Colleges and the CSUs, and request the University of California, to provide educational and preventive information on sexual violence and harassment, including how to recognize if

someone is at risk of drug-facilitated sexual assault.

A school board candidate questionnaire is now available, courtesy of the AAUW Fallbrook Branch. This is an excellent vetting tool. If a candidate approaches you for an endorsement or other support, ask them to complete this [questionnaire](#), which also can be found on the Public Policy website in the School Project toolkit.

B2B Bonus: Quick Tips for Things to Try - Learn how to reduce polarization through talk. Check out [THIS GUIDE](#), written by Missy, to learn more about how you might approach difficult conversations during election season.

~ Amy Hom and Melissa Maceyko

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

From National - **AAUW Member Gathering - Tuesday, September 10, 4 pm ET**

We're excited to invite you to our upcoming Member Gathering! At this special event, we will:

- Recognize outstanding supporters and branches
- Share updates on our work in Policy, Programs, and Membership
- Connect with fellow AAUW members

Don't miss this opportunity to celebrate our achievements and learn about our latest initiatives.

Register Now!

We look forward to seeing you there!

~AAUW



PHM AAUW NEWS IS SPONSORED BY MONTECITO ANIMAL CLINIC

5280 Pacheco Blvd Pacheco, CA 94553

925-686-0683 Fax 925-686-4754

Katrinka March, DVM

Karen Shores, BVMS

Cindy Piper, DVM

PHM AAUW Calendar

SEPT 4	Morning Books, 10 am, Margi Alkire's home
Sept 11	Board Meeting, 7 pm, Helen Pereira's home
SEPT 14	Welcome Back Brunch, 10 am, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
SEPT 16	Lunchin' Ladies, 12 noon, Bella Sienna, Benicia
SEPT 20	Wine Club, 4 pm, Diane Peterson's home
SEPT 20	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
Sep 23	Nimble Fingers, 2:30 pm, Janet Sullivan's home
OCT 18	Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, September 20th at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on Friday, October 18th at 12:30 PM.

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

seabear92020@outlook.com

(925) 988-0322 (cell)

Grand Slammers

Bridge Club - For information, contact:

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



MORNING BOOKS

MORNING BOOKS will meet on Wednesday, September 4th, 10 am, at Margi Alkire's. We will be discussing Kristin Hannah's *The Women*. This very popular book tells the story of the women who served in the Vietnam War as combat nurses, and who were denied the role they played in saving so many lives. Many of us who lived through that period may have forgotten how the veterans of that war were reviled for their service. It took many years before they all received the honors they deserved. Join us for a great discussion. In October, we will be discussing Kati Morton's biography, *The Chancellor: Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel*. Please join us!

LUNCHIN' LADIES

Lunchin' Ladies will meet on Monday, September 16, 12 Noon, at Bella Sienna Restaurant, 127 First Street, Benicia. REMEMBER TO RESERVE YOUR PLACE BY MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9 WITH GAYLE MINER.

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.

2024-25 Leadership Team

PRESIDENT 1 (BOARD MEETING CHAIR)

SarahJoy Haynes 925-586-9493
plumleathr@aol.com

PRESIDENT 2 (GENERAL MEETING CHAIR)

Sherrie Moore 925-229-4177
moresherrie@comcast.net

PRESIDENT 3 (NATIONAL & NEWSLETTER)

Reba Siero 925-917-1061
rebasiero@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT - PROGRAM

Carlyn Obringer 925-324-9595
carlyno@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENTS - MEMBERSHIP

Nancy Hobert 925-228-7271
nhobert@aol.com
 Diane Peterson 925-278-1634
richpeterson@comcast.net

VICE PRESIDENTS - AAUW FUND

Carolynn Barcklay 925-682-7552
cbarcklay@hotmail.com
 Gayle Miner 925-349-6795
gayle.miner@yahoo.com

SECRETARY

Helen Pereira 925-685-0757
helenmp45@aol.com

TREASURER

Claudia Bass 925-372-8679
cbasslancer29@aol.com

WEBMASTER

Sherrie Moore 925-229-4177
moresherrie@comcast.net
www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org

NEWSLETTER EDITOR/COMMUNICATIONS

Virginia Hewgley 925-768-4417
vhewgley@astound.net

Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW NEWS is published 10 times a year by and for AAUW. May/June and July/August are combined issues.

Copy deadline for October NEWS is September 25th. Email copy to vhewgley@astound.net
 Webmaster