

**Presidential Postings**



The first week of March will be the second and final week of SAM (Study Arts and Music) at Fair Oaks Elementary School. A wonderful composer, George Gershwin, is featured with Rhapsody in Blue, along with artist Piet Mondrian. It is always lovely to see what the children come up with after learning about these folks.



Our International Soup Supper on the 18<sup>th</sup> of February was an evening of delicious soups, breads, and cookies, and a raffle for Tech Trek coordinated by Diane Coventry, assisted by Tech Trek alumnae. Cherise Khaund, spoke about her most interesting life, growing up in Saudi Arabia and Venezuela.



Many thanks to Marylee Taylor and her nominating committee for assembling a full slate of officers for the next program year. Thanks also to each of you who agreed to lead the branch next year!

Please join us on March 14 at 10 A.M. at the First Congregational Church of Martinez, to hear from Martinez Mayor Brianne Zorn. It is always great to engage our local community leaders.

Enjoy March as it brings the beginning of springtime to our area.

~ SarahJoy, Sherrie, and Reba

**March Meeting**



**Local Scholarships**

**Kaffee Klatch**



**SAM**



# Tech Trek Tidings

What a grand time we had with our Soup Supper Raffle, raising \$800 for

Tech Trek 2027. Thank you to TT Alumni: Jessica Tu, Olivia Mascaro, Sydney Cooper, Alicia Sanchez-Osorio, and Anika Panda. We appreciate you selling and pulling tickets for all our wonderful items.

Special thanks to the wine club who donated 10 bottles of wine and champagne. A shout out to Sue Greenfeld, our secretary, for contributing four \$50 gift cards. It's always nice to see what the book group is reading from the book basket, and the handmade items from Suzanne and Nancy. We always look forward to our repeat items, the Farmers Market Basket, Ruth Bancroft membership, and gift certificate to El Tapatío from our members. Our Tech Trek Committee appreciates all our member support and participation in our annual raffle fundraiser.

This month our alumni will be making a presentation at Martinez Rotary, who sponsors one campership. Thank you, Nancy Hobert, for the invitation. Our committee has received 18 nominations from our four middle schools. Twelve girls are filling out applications, due February 28<sup>th</sup>. We will have interviews on March 21, selecting 6 campers and 2 alternates.

Camp Franklin at Sonoma is June 21—27. You, our members, should consider being a class monitor for a day. More information to follow in the spring.

~ Diane Coventry



# Successful Soup Supper

Our 2026 Soup Supper was held on Wednesday, February 18<sup>th</sup>. We had a total of 62 attendees, which included 5 Tech Trek girls plus 4 parents. We had 10 soups, 11 breads, and 9 desserts. We collected about \$300.00. Thank you everyone who brought soup, bread, and dessert. All was yummy.

Helen Pereira handed out the Kaffee Klatch letters for Local Scholarship fundraising. If you didn't get your flyer, please see Helen. It is the one fundraiser that we do to raise money for our Local Scholarship recipients.

Thank you, Diane Peterson, for always bringing our name tags. Kathleen Wolfe made beautiful flower centerpieces. They were lovely.



Our speaker, Cherise Khaund, told us her experiences growing up as a young girl living in Venezuela and Saudi Arabia. Her father had worked in the oil industry as a consultant and had foreign assignments. It was entertaining and enlightening.

The Tech Trek raffle is always the highlight of the evening. We had 22 items and collected \$800. The Tech Trek girls sold raffle tickets and pulled the winning tickets. We had wine, champagne, gift cards, a basket of books, sweaters knit by Nancy Hobert, a table runner quilted by Suzanne Salter, and many more items.

A good time was had by everyone.

*~ Sherrie Moore, Diane Coventry, Claudia Bass, and Suzanne Salter*





## Local Scholarships

All of our Branch members have received the Kaffee Klatch letter from our committee asking for donations to the Local Scholarships program. This year we hope to award students from Alhambra High School and College Park High School with scholarships in the amount of \$2,000 each. We appreciate all your help in this endeavor. Our help is greatly appreciated by these highly qualified applicants. All of you should have already received the letter explaining the program and goals and the return envelope to be sent to me. If you haven't for some reason, you can send donations to

Helen Pereira  
121 Gardenia Ct.  
Martinez, CA 94553

Thank you so very much!

~ Helen Perreira

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121 Gardenia Ct.  
Martinez, CA 94553

Thank you so very much!

~ Helen Perreira

## New Branch Member

We welcomed a new member at the Soup Supper, Kathy McCarthy. Be sure to say "Hi" when you see her at our next activities. Please add her contact information to your Member Directory:

Kathleen McCarthy  
511 Frumenti Ct.  
Martinez, CA 94553  
(925) 876-0640  
[kmccarthy2013@gmail.com](mailto:kmccarthy2013@gmail.com)

~ Diane Peterson



## Morning Books

*The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore is the book we'll be discussing at our March 4<sup>th</sup> meeting. This book is a

gripping mystery thriller that explores themes of class, power, guilt, and survival, revealing how past sins echo through generations. A mystery twofold told in dual timelines. One child who has gone missing in 1961; another 1975. The setting is in the wooded area of the Adirondacks. The meeting will be at Sharon Wilson's house at 601 Walnut Avenue in Walnut Creek. Carolyn Barcklay will be our discussion leader.

*The Real James Herriot: A Memoir of My Father* by Jim Wight is our April 1<sup>st</sup> book. No one is better poised to write the biography of James Herriot than the son who worked alongside him in the Yorkshire veterinary practice when Herriot became an internationally bestselling author. Now, in this warm and poignant memoir, Jim Wight talks about his beloved father and vet whom he had to share with half the world. If you are a fan of the All Creatures Great and Small television series, you will want to read our April book. Margie Pruitt has offered to host and Ilene Linssen will be our discussion leader. Don't be a fool and miss it on April Fool's Day!

**Writing a check for donation or event?**

**Please make it payable to  
AAUW Pleasant Hill—Martinez Branch.**



# Annual Layette Shower

Dear Friends,

The following is a thank-you note our newsletter editor, Karen, received from the members of the Hillcrest Layette Team, whose program our layette shower contributions supported. Thank you to everyone who participated in this endeavor and especially to Sherrie Moore for all her photography.

~ Janice Walker

2-8-26

Dear Karen and all of the very generous members of AAUW,

Thank you for the enormous donation of layette items from your January baby shower.

Wow!!! We were so touched to receive all the beautiful quilts, knitted hats, afghans, stroller blankets, booties and matching hat sets, receiving blankets, coats and lots of clothes!!!

A big thank you to Janice Walker for hosting the shower and another thank you to the person who took so many fun photos and posted them on your

website. We truly enjoy seeing the ladies who are so very generous to the Hillcrest Layette Program.

Our program would be able to continue without the support of groups such as yours!

Happy 2026

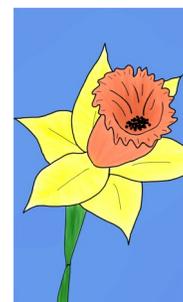
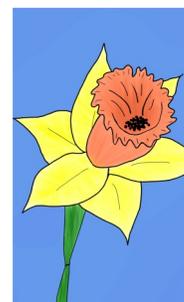
In gratitude,  
The Hillcrest Layette Team

Inside Greeting

THANK YOU!

Jan  
Sue  
Katy  
Shaon  
Janis +  
Phyllis

P.S. I would be remiss if I didn't mention the darling nests and matching booties. Absolutely Darling!!!  
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## Wine Appreciation Group

Thirteen people gathered on Friday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, to learn about and blind taste four Merlot wines. Thank you to SarahJoy, Claudia, and Carolynn for bringing the wines!

Our next meeting will be on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, at 4 P.M. at Diane Peterson's. We will be tasting Sauvignon Blanc, Cabernet Sauvignon, and Muscat paired with several food elements. Please let Diane know if you would like to attend. Space is limited.



## Nimble Fingers

Nimble Fingers will be meeting on Monday, March 23, at 2:30 P.M., at SarahJoy Hayne's

home.

Join us for a fun afternoon of crafting, chatting, admiring each other's work, and possibly learning a new skill.

Please let Janet or Karen know you're coming.

Janet: 925-387-8039

[janetsullivan218@aol.com](mailto:janetsullivan218@aol.com)

Karen: 925-408-5721

[karen.winters@sbcglobal.net](mailto:karen.winters@sbcglobal.net)



## Lunchin' Ladies

Lunchin' Ladies will meet on Monday, March 16, at 12:00 noon at the Lafayette Park Hotel, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

Reservations must be in by Monday, March 9.

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

NO EXCEPTIONS PLEASE.



## Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, March 20, at 12:30 PM at Brookview Clubhouse. Newbies are

welcome too!

Be sure to let Suzanne Salter know if you are coming:

[seabear92020@outlook.com](mailto:seabear92020@outlook.com) or 925-988-0322



## Grand Slammers

Bridge Club — for information, contact Marlene De Laurenti:

[mdl@astound.net](mailto:mdl@astound.net) or 925-934-4171

## 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

925-229-3574



# AAUW Pleasant Hill— Martinez Branch Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill — Martinez branch. Read about our Annual International Soup Supper on the **Photos Page**. Check out our programs and events on the **Program Page**. As always, read the latest newsletter on the **Newsletter Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org>. 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



## PHM AAUW NEWS is sponsored by Montecito Animal Clinic

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**Katrinka March, DVM**

**Karen Shore, BVMS**

**Rebecca Horn, DVM**



# SAM at Fair Oaks

To our 2026 SAM volunteers, thank you for volunteering to help at our Workday in February. We cut and bagged and made sample pictures to prepare for our classes.

Our first week of SAM (Study Art and Music) Program this year was the last week of February, and it runs through the first week of March at Fair Oaks Elementary School. We will visit 12 classes: K – 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes, and 2 SDC (Special Day Classes, Special Ed). We have over 15 volunteers to help with the classes.

Our artist is Piet Mondrian and the composer we have chosen is George Gershwin. The music selection is Rhapsody in Blue.

It's always fun and rewarding. We couldn't do it without you!

*~ Sherrie Moore, Barbara Minneman, and Helen Pereira*



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



## **AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez March 2026 Program**

**When: Saturday, March 14th, 10:00 A.M.  
Place: First Congregational Church of Martinez  
1229 Court Street, Martinez**

**Speaker: Mayor Brianne Zorn**

**She will speak to us about...  
Air quality and the health and safety of Martinez residents,  
Parks and open space,  
and improvements to the Martinez waterfront**



**Please join us for light refreshments and an informative discussion**



## PHM AAUW Calendar

- Mar 2-6** Second week for SAM at Fair Oaks Elementary
- Mar 4** Morning Books, 10 A.M., Sharon Wilson’s
- Mar 11** February Board meeting, 7 P.M., SarahJoy Haynes’
- Mar 14** General Meeting, 10 A.M., First Congregational Church, Martinez
- Mar 16** Lunchin’ Ladies, 12:00 noon, Lafayette Park Hotel, 3287 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette
- Mar 20** Mah Jongg, 12:30 P.M., Brookview Clubhouse
- Mar 20** Wine Club, 4 P.M., Diane Peterson’s
- Mar 23** Nimble Fingers, 2:30 P.M., SaraJoy Haynes’
- Mar 25** March NEWS deadline
- Apr 1** Morning Books, 10 A.M., Margie Pruitt’s



## 2025–26 Leadership Team

### President 1 (Board Meeting Chair):

SaraJoy Haynes

### President 2 (General Meeting Chair):

Sherrie Moore

### President 3 (National & Newsletter):

Reba Siero

### Vice President—Program:

Carlyn Obringer

### Vice Presidents—Membership:

Nancy Hobert & Diane Peterson

### Vice Presidents—AAUW Fund:

Carolynn Barcklay & Gayle Miner

### Secretary: Sue Greenfeld

### Treasurer: Claudia Bass

### Webmaster: Sherrie Moore

### Newsletter Editor: Karen Winters

### Social Media: Carlyn Obringer



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