

Volume 68 Issue 9

May-June 2026

Presidential Postings



In April at our Annual meeting, we elected our officers for the coming year. We thank the Nominating Committee for their work to assemble the slate and to each person who stepped up to fill the roles that guide our branch. The Bylaws changes were also approved by the general membership. Thank you for your votes!

Sue Noack spoke to us on April 11th. She is a most interesting person who has been involved in various community efforts through the years. She served on the Pleasant Hill City Council in many capacities including as Mayor. Sue sits on the board of the Central Contra Costa Transit Authority (County Connection), Transpac (central Contra Costa County's regional transportation planning committee) and represents Transpac on The Contra Costa Transportation Authority. She was also appointed to the Metropolitan Transportation Commission representing the 19 cities of Contra Costa County and is currently serving as Chair.



Our June 13th End of Year Brunch will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church. The cost for the brunch is \$15 each, with your check going to Claudia Bass. Look for the details elsewhere in this newsletter. We will be meeting our Tech Trek and Local Scholarship recipients as well as introducing our AAUW Fund DVC scholarship winner. I know each of those decisions took a lot of thought, since there were so many qualified candidates.

We will install our officers for the coming year and honor our 50-year honorary lifetime members, our Named Gift Honoree, and our Barbara Newacheck Award recipient. There is a lot to celebrate as we close out this year and prepare for the next.

There is still time to vote in the AAUW National election. Voting ends on May 12th. We sent a blast about this last week and most of us received an email from National, on or around April 13th, with our own personal link to vote. Again, thanks for voting!

The Joint Board meeting will be held on July 1st, at Nancy Hobert's home, beginning at 5 pm. It will include a potluck supper.

Enjoy the days as we coast into summer!

~ SarahJoy, Sherrie, and Reba



June Brunch



Local Scholarships



Tech Trek



AAUW Fund DVC Scholarship



Tech Trek Tidings

The leadership for Tech Trek Camp Franklin at Sonoma is making great progress in our preparations for **June 21-27**. Help Wanted: Looking for at least one more Dorm Monitor. Contact me and I will send you the details. Our committee is very excited to report that two Tech Trek Alumni, Sanvi Panda (2022) and Addison Young (2023) have been selected to be Peer Counselors this summer. Some extra spots at camp opened up and we were able to add one more participant, Yoona Kang of Sequoia Middle School. Yippee, due to your financial support, donations and grants from local organizations, Martinez Rotary and Kiwanis of Martinez, we are sending seven girls to Tech Trek 2026. Our selected campers will be attending an Ice Cream Social on June 7 to meet other campers from our IBC branches.

We hope some of you can make the trip to Sonoma State University (SSU) to volunteer and check it out. Class monitors are integral to our program and necessary to keep the student-to-adult ratio at or below 10:1. If you would like to be a class monitor for a half or full day, here is the link to sign up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EA9A92EA1FFCF8-63771889-class>

We are happy to announce that all the core teachers will be returning this year. Core classes are Aerospace Engineering, Botany, Chemistry, Electrical Engineering, and Forensics. The Sonoma Water Agency offered to teach a couple of workshops

about careers, climate action, and wind turbines. Other additions include Finding Your Voice and Steps to Success workshops.

You can meet some of our trekkers at the End of Year Brunch on June 13. It's always a pleasure to hear these young people talk about their interests and hopes for the future. We will also be handing out letters at the brunch asking for your financial support for this program. Can't make it to the brunch or don't want to wait? You can mail a check to Trinkia March any time. Just make it out to AAUW — CA SPF and put Tech Trek on the memo line to make your donation tax deductible. We appreciate your continued support.

Kiwanis of Martinez approved our grant for 2026 to send a girl to camp. On April 26, we were invited to represent AAUW and Tech Trek at their Centennial Celebration Fundraiser. I invited Isabella Martinez to join me. She is an alumna from 2016. Isabella returned to camp to be a counselor in 2018 and 2019, a virtual coach in 2021, and a senior counselor in 2022. Currently working on her PhD in Computational Chemistry at UC Merced, Isabella already has a BS in Chemical Engineering from UC San Diego. She will be an intern this summer, not a dorm monitor. Darn! And we wish her the best of luck for her future.

~ Diane Coventry

Writing a check for donation or event?

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



Isabella Martinez, Tech Trek Alumnus from 2016, attending Kiwanis Centennial Celebration

AAUW Membership Renewal

It's Time to Renew Your Membership

Around May 20th, most members should receive a notice from National about renewing memberships which expire in June. Members who joined in the last 2 years may have different renewal dates. Memberships can be renewed on line through the National website for National (\$76), State (\$30) and Branch (\$26) for a total of \$132. National then forwards State and Branch dues. If you prefer, you can send a check for \$132 made out to **AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch** to Nancy Hobert.

AAUW Fund Report

We had 21 applications for the DVC scholarship of \$2000 to be awarded to a woman transferring to a four-year college. The committee has chosen Julianna Amaya, who has been accepted to UC Berkeley’s Mechanical Engineering program. We hope to introduce her to everyone at the June Brunch. A big thank you to the Fund Committee members, Jennifer Apkarian,Carolynn Barcklay, Claudia Bass, and Gayle Miner, who worked very hard reviewing all applications.

~ Gayle Miner and Carolynn Barcklay, Co-VPs



Local Scholarships

The Local Scholarships Committee received 8 applications from College Park High School and 6 from Alhambra High School.

We thank all of you who have donated so generously to our fund. We have received funds this year in the amount of \$3,000 and we have a total of over \$4,500 to use toward these scholarships plus the funds from General Membership.

The committee met on April 30 and selected 4 recipients: Andrea Garcia and Tilda Saelao from College Park High School, and Letizia Torres Del Valle and Addison Cooley from Alhambra High School. Each will receive a \$2,000 scholarship.

Thank you again for your contributions this year!

~ Helen Pereira

SUNSHINE

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

Marti Martin

richmar1016@sbcglobal.net or

925-229-3574



Morning Books

May Book Discussion

Our May book is titled ***What You Are Looking For Is in the Library*** by Michiko Aoyama. This heartwarming novel by a Japanese author explores the profound impact that books can have on individuals. The story unfolds through the experiences of several characters who seek guidance from an enigmatic librarian. The librarian's wisdom, patience, and humor highlight the importance of finding inspiration in unexpected places and prioritizing inner peace over external approval. Through this character, the novel pays tribute to the quiet but transformative influence of libraries and literature in shaping people's lives. Please mark your calendar for **May 6th** at Kathleen Woulfe's place. Karen Winters will lead the discussion.

June Potluck Lunch and Book Selection

On Wednesday, **June 3rd**, we will gather for our annual Potluck Luncheon at the Brookview Clubhouse. During this event, we will choose our favorite book from the past year and make our book selection for the September meeting. Sherrie is compiling a book list by genre based on your recommendations, which will help us select our top picks for next year's reads. For those who prefer to begin reading over the summer, this will allow you to get a head start. Sign-up sheets for food contributions will be circulated at the May meeting. Sharon will also send out information so that members unable to attend the May discussion can sign up for the potluck.

Contact Sharon at 925-330-3391 if you have any questions. I look forward to seeing you!



Wine Appreciation Group

The Wine Appreciation Group met on April 17th and learned about and tasted three wines from New Zealand. Thank you to Gayle, Jan and Carolyn for bringing the wines.

The next meeting will be Friday, May 15th, at 4 P.M. at Diane Peterson's house. We will be learning about and tasting three red wines from Australia. We will also meet on Friday, June 19th. The wine for this date is yet to be determined.

Please contact Diane P. if you would like to attend the May and/or June meetings. Space is limited.



Lunchin' Ladies

Lunchin' Ladies will meet on Monday, May 18 at 12:00 Noon at Piatti Restaurant, 100 Sycamore Valley Blvd.,

Danville Livery Shopping Center, Danville. Reservations due to Gayle Miner by Monday, May 11. NOTE: Lunchin' Ladies WILL NOT MEET in June, July or August. We will resume meeting for lunch in September. Enjoy your Summer!

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

NO EXCEPTIONS PLEASE.



Nimble Fingers

Nimble Fingers will not meet in May, but we will meet on Monday, June 29th, at 2:30 P.M., at Nancy Hobert'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: 925-768-4628

jspringsullivan@aol.com

Karen: 925-408-5721

karen.winters@sbcglobal.net



Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg will meet at 12:30 P.M. at Brookview Clubhouse Friday, May 15th and Friday, June 19th. Newbies are welcome too!

NOTE: We will use new 2026 cards from now on.

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

seabear92020@outlook.com or 925-988-0322



Grand Slammers

Bridge Club — for information, contact Marlene De Laurenti:

mdl@astound.net or 925-934-4171



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 April program 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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Karen Shore, BVMS

Rebecca Horn, DVM



June End-of-the-Year Brunch

June 13, 2026, 10:00 – Noon

St. Andrew's Church, Pleasant Hill

Meet the Tech Trek and Local Scholarship girls

Introducing the DVC Scholarship winner

Honoring our newest 50-year honorary lifetime members

Announcing the Named Gift Honoree

and Barbara Newacheck Award Recipient

Installation of Officers

Cost: \$15 for the catered brunch

**To reserve your spot,
send your reservation and check to**

Claudia Bass

by Friday, May 29th

Make checks payable to AAUW Pleasant Hill–Martinez Branch



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

PHM AAUW Calendar

- May 6** Morning Books, 10 A.M., Kathleen Woulfe’s
- May 13** Ways & Means Committee, 11 A.M., Brookview Clubhouse
- May 13** May board meeting, 7 P.M., SarahJoy Haynes’
- May 15** Mah Jongg, 12:30 P.M., Brookview Clubhouse
- May 15** Wine Club, 4 P.M., Diane Peterson’s
- May 18** Lunchin’ Ladies, 12:00 noon, at Piatti Restaurant, 100 Sycamore Valley Blvd., Danville Livery Shopping Center, Danville
- Jun 3** Morning Books Potluck, 11:30 A.M., Brookview Clubhouse
- Jun 13** End-of-the-Year Brunch
- Jun 25** July/August NEWS deadline
- Jun 29** Nimble Fingers, 2:30 P.M., Nancy Hobert’s
- Jul 1** Joint board meeting, 5 P.M., Nancy Hobert’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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