



Pleasant Hill Branch N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 52 Issue 7

March 2010

DOUBLE YOUR PLEASURE IN MARCH WITH PHAAUW

It's voting time – March 16!! Election of Branch Officers. Look for the nominees on page 5 of this issue!!! Be there. We need your vote!

St. Patrick's Day with PHAAUW

March 16, 2010

7pm

Hillcrest Congregational Church



We will have the usual Irish fare, especially music and dancing. Bring a spouse or other friend, especially those rare tenor voices to help us in our singing of the ol' Irish tunes. Lend your voices to the tunes as you sing along with Suzanne Salter and her piano virtuoso, Joan Miller.

Join us in welcoming the wonderful Irish dancers from the Moore School of Irish Dance in Walnut Creek.

Come in green and find a friendly smile to share your tales of Ireland, true or not, while sipping a cordial hot cider. Meet all the other leprechauns and have a fun evening with members of PH AAUW.

Erin Go Bragh and, above all, Slante'

E. F. Silent Auction and Dinner



**Saturday, March 27 at 5:30 p.m.
Brookview Clubhouse
1201 Monument Blvd, Concord
\$25 per person**

Join us for an evening of fun and a great Mexican themed meal! Sip Sangria or wine while munching on south of the border appetizers, chatting with friends, and browsing the many items and services on the auction table. How about some beautiful china or a party for six on a member's lovely patio? There's lots more too!

Then sit down to a homemade gourmet meal. Have you tasted Suzanne's chile rellano casserole and refried beans? Or Lynn's avocado salad? Muy delicious! Amble on over to the taco bar for build-your-own shredded meat tacos. Don't like Mexican food? We'll also have ham, other homemade salads, and a variety of deserts.

Seating is limited, so call to reserve your spot now. Suzanne Rheingruber (945-0347), Lynn Murphy (935-2109), or Alana Macdonald (933-4427). Friends and family are welcome at this event.



Presidential Team Report

AAUW has gone through some changes in 2009 ~ and there will probably be more in the future. We wanted to focus on an email received concerning our donations to AAUW Funds ~ a new name that includes LAF, Educational Opportunities (EF, to us), the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund, Public Policy and Leadership in Training.

Here are some interesting stats for the Educational Opportunities Fund during the 2009-10 funding year. AAUW gave an astonishing **\$3,061,000** in fellowships and grants during that period. There were 1,175 eligible applicants for American Fellowships and 66 were funded for a total of \$1,235,000, 20% of which were women of color. There were 1,194 eligible International Fellowship applicants and 36 were funded for a total of \$715,000. Other Grants were also given; i.e. Career Development, Community Action, and Selected Professions. So, your donations are doing great things for women!

A new Eleanor Roosevelt Fund research study: Why so Few? Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics is ready to be published and should have a major effect on the lives of women and girls in our schoolrooms and workplaces. We are very proud to say that the **Letitia Corum** fund will be used for the publication of this research.

Congratulations to all of you!

The Team

BOARD MEETING - March 10 - 7pm
Rolling Green Clubhouse

Looking Ahead:

*April 30 - May 2
CA-AAUW Convention
San Ramon Marriott*

2009- 2010 Leadership Team

Presidents:	
Jean Hambleton	798-2344
Ginny Hargrave	798-2370
Marlene Maksel	689-5439
Vice President Program:	
Waiting for a volunteer	
Vice President's - EF:	
Alana MacDonald	933-4427
Lynn Murphy	935-2109
Suzanne Rheingruber	945-0347
Vice President's Membership:	
Margi Alkire	827-2940
Suzanne Salter	935-0861
Vice President - LAF:	
Victoria Maat	933-4432
Secretary:	
Gayle Garrison	798-7528
Treasurer:	
Marilyn Tubbs	939-6220
Newsletter Editor:	
Kit Hein	228-7503

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Kit Hein
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Copy deadline for April N.E.W.S. is March 15th.

Please send copy to Kit Hein
533 Roanoke Dr., Martinez
kjhein@comcast.net

Fair Oaks Elem is finishing up their second series of Student Art & Music programs this year. They were introduced to Navajo Indian Weaving and Johann Strauss II. The 3rd- 5th grade student project was making their own loom, using a tongue blade as a shuttle and weaving yarn. The Kindergarten through 2nd grade made God's Eyes to demonstrate weaving techniques. Many thanks to the volunteer PH Branch members and an especial thanks to Kris Peerman who brought her loom and demonstrated weaving to the students.



Half The Sky LIVE

Thursday, March 4

7:30PM

Century 16 Pleasant Hill

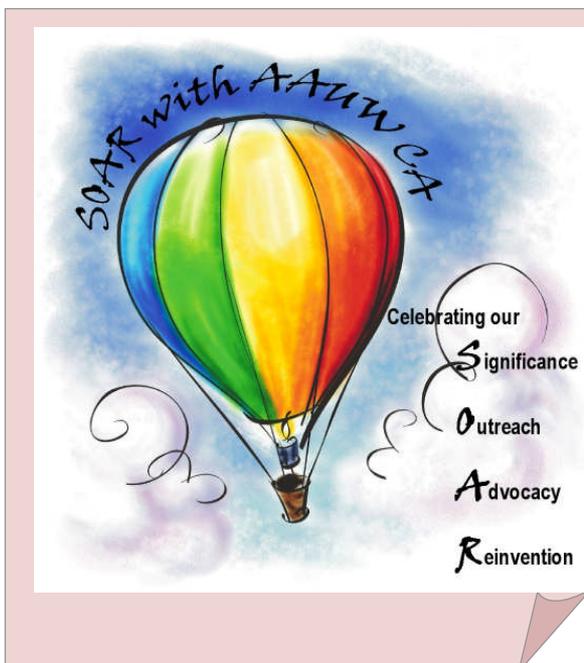
125 Crescent Drive

On Thursday, March 4th, 2010 at 7:30pm, CARE will present *Half the Sky LIVE* in movie theaters nationwide. Inspired by the best-selling book from Pulitzer-prize winning journalists Nicholas Kristof and Sheryl WuDunn, *Half the Sky LIVE* will celebrate International Women's Day with musical performances, celebrity commentary, and the world premiere of *Woineshet*, a powerful short film directed by Academy Award Winner Marisa Tomei.

As featured on Oprah, CNN, and Dateline NBC, *Half the Sky* remains a New York Times bestseller and a critical favorite across the globe. With *Half the Sky LIVE*, you can watch the pages of *Half the Sky* come to life onscreen as *Woineshet* chronicles the struggles of a young Ethiopian woman who ultimately triumphs over sexual violence and discrimination.

Broadcast right in our own downtown theater, this one-night-only event - featuring the authors of *Half the Sky*, Dr. Helene Gayle of CARE, Marisa Tomei, Maria Bello, Michael Franti and other celebrities and experts, as well as musical performances by India.Arie and Angeliqe Kidjo – will motivate you to participate in the growing movement to empower women and girls in the fight against global poverty. *Half the Sky LIVE* is the perfect way for AAUW branches to celebrate International Women's Day together and stand in solidarity with women and girls all over the world.

As an added bonus, Pleasant Hill Branch members will meet at Shaadzee Bakery Bistro diagonally across the street from the theatre at 5:30 PM for dinner and a casual book discussion. Please join us. Call Marlene (689-5439) or Kit (228-7503) for more information.



Come SOAR at our 89th AAUW-CA State Convention Celebrating Our Significance, Outreach, Advocacy, Reinvention! We will SOAR April 30- May 2, 2010 in San Ramon, California at the beautiful San Ramon Marriott.

See all the convention details on our AAUW CA website .

And then reserve your room at the San Ramon Marriott, call 925-867-9200 (1-800-228-9290 toll free) to request the AAUW CA rate of \$89.

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



** GENEALOGY

Sat., March 20 – 1 pm
Family History Center
3700 Concord Blvd., Concord
This is a free class
Topic: *What's new on the Internet*
Anne Costello, Instructor

For more information, call Kay Ernst 925-937-0526

April special event

Sat., April 24 – Sonoma County Genealogical Society Spring Seminar
Luther Burbank Center for the Arts
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Henry Jones – Nationally known genealogical Lecturer and author

Anthony Hoskins – Genealogical scholar, lecturer and archivist

Cost \$25 for non-members – PLUS \$12 for a box lunch Pre-registration with payment due April 16

Contact Kay Ernst (934-0526) for an application form.

NOTE: Some of us are going to make this an overnighter and visit the Charles Schultz Museum in Santa Rosa. Contact Kay if you want to join us.



** BRIDGE

Monday Night - Evening Bridge will meet March 1st at Gayle Garrison's house. 7 pm
Elizabeth Di Pietro always calls the "regulars" ahead of time to arrange tables. If you would like to be put on her list, call **210-0281**.

The Grand Slammers  Grand Slammers will play bridge on March 8 at the home of Marlene De Laurenti at 12:30 pm. Please call Gayle Garrison, 798-7528, if you would like to play. Each player contributes \$3 toward Local Scholarship. We have lots of fun and welcome all levels of players.



** MATINEE IDLE

will go to the movies on Thursday, 25 March. Call Marlene (689-5439) if you are planning to attend, or if you have any good suggestions for a movie. We always discuss the movie after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.



** **MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, 3 March, 10 am, at Susanne Rheingruber's. Our discussion will be on *Sarah's Key* by Tatiana de Rosnay. The story takes place in France during WWII when French police, under orders from the Nazis, go door-to-door arresting all Jewish men, women and children. One critic says, "It will make you cry ~ and remember."

In April we will be reading books by Jack London ~ any of his works. We are planning a field trip to his former home in the Valley of the Moon in Sonoma County sometime in April, also. Please join us for great book discussions.



** **IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, March 10th, 10 am at Marlene Maksel's. Our topic will be, "How Can I Simplify My Life." Normally you are encouraged to write some fiction if you don't have a "real-life" story to fit the topic. In this case, if your life is already simplified, or impossible to simplify, you might try some comic writing! We hope to see you ~ come and listen if you can't write anything.



** **NIMBLE FINGERS** will meet on March 11 at 10:00 am at the home of Alana MacDonald, 233 Western Hills Drive, Pleasant Hill. Please RSVP to Alana at Alanam88@gmail.com <<mailto:Alanam88@gmail.com>> or 933-4427. Need help with your hand or needle work? Please join us for help or just to visit.



** **EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, 22 March, 7 pm, at Lynn Murphy's. We will be discussing an oldie, but goodie, *Cry, the Beloved Country* by Alan Paton. First published in 1948, the story is about a Zulu pastor and his son in South Africa when racial injustice was rampant. If you're rereading it after many years, maybe you will bring new insights to the discussion. Please come!

Membership Matters

Margi Alkire and Suzanne Salter

We have a new member!

SUSAN FREEMAN

988-0367

2839 Emerald Drive

Walnut Creek, CA 94597

susanfreeman1948@comcast.net

UCD (BA Art History)

San Jose State U ((MLS)

Susan took advantage of the half-price membership after January 1. She stated that the programs and activities of the Pleasant Hill Branch looked so good, that she didn't want to wait until the new membership year started in April! She's already participated in Books and in SAM!

Welcome, Susan!

Our sympathy to **Fran Wojnar** on the death of her husband of 42 years, Ed Wojnar, in January. We will keep you in our hearts, Fran.

Susi Weight was in the hospital for several days, then in extended care, and is now convalescing at home. Get well and come back to us soon, Susi!

Email change: **Pat Delaney-Fiorelli's** new email is pldelaney@yahoo.com

Public Policy

Marlene Maksel

The Senate confirmed by unanimous consent the nomination of Sara Manzano-Diaz to be the director of the Department of Labor's Women's Bureau. The Women's Bureau was established in 1920 and is the only federal agency exclusively devoted to the concerns of women in the workplace. This office played a critical role in helping to reduce the gender pay gap and advocating for passage of such landmark laws as the Equal Pay Act of 1963 and the Family and Medical leave Act of 1993. AAUW looks forward to working with a strengthened and revitalized Women's Bureau to advance our priorities for working women and their families.

Equal Pay Day is Tuesday, April 20th. This is the symbolic day when women's wages catch up to men's wages from the year before. Urge your Senators to support the Paycheck Fairness Act. I have a copy of AAUW's Behind the Pay Gap, if anyone wants to read it and learn more about the inequities in salaries for women. For example, in the age group 45 – 64 years, women earn an average of \$44,808 per year while men in the same age group earn \$67,040.

Be informed! And, act!

Nominating Committee Shirley

Thompson

The nominating committee recommends the following slate of officers for 2010-2011:

Co-presidents: Marlene Maksel and Jean Hambleton

Membership V.P.s: Suzanne Salter, Marty Martin, and Kathy Heath

Program V.P.s: Jeannette Holmes and Ginny Hargrave

Education fund: open

LAF V.P.: Kathy Searles

Secretary: Gayle Garrison

Treasurer: Marilyn Tubbs

Do we have a volunteer for the Education Fund? Please call Gayle Garrison (798-7528) to suggest possible candidates for this office.

Local Scholarship

Ish Mendonsa & Dana Matthews Local Scholarships Chairs, Dana Matthews and Ish Mendonsa, thank all the members who have already donated to provide scholarships for our local girls needing help to go to college. There's still time to support the program and enable PHAAUW to give out additional \$500 scholarships at the May meeting. We also want to thank those members who are generously offering to read the applications that will be coming in. Tune in next month to learn the winners and how many there are.

Tech Trek Sandy Wolfe, Marlene DeLaurenti & Marti Martin

A committee is being formed for the selection of Tech Trek girls. People are needed to paper screen the essays and applications and to interview the girls. The paper screening will be on March 14th around 2 o'clock at Sandy Wolfe's house. The interviews will take place the following Saturday, March 20th and might have to continue through Sunday, March 21st. It is preferred that interviewers be able to make both sessions.

Please let Sandy know if you are interested (228-2633)

March 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Monday Night Bridge 7pm	2	3 Morning Books 10am	4 Half the Sky LIVE 7:30pm	5	6
7	8 Grand Slammers 12:30	9	10 In Indelible Ink 10 am Board – 7pm	11 Nimble Fingers 10 am	12	13
14 Tech Trek paper screening	15	16 St. Patrick's Day with PHAAUW 7pm	17	18	19	20 Tech Trek Interviews Geneology 1pm
21	22 Evening Books 7 pm	23	24	25 Matinee Idle	26	27 EF Silent Auction & Dinner 5:30pm
28	29	30	31			

SAVE THE DATE: [April 30 – May 2 AUW-CA Convention – San Ramon Marriott](#)



Pleasant Hill Branch
533 Roanoke Dr.
Martinez 94553

Membership – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education and research. AAUW is open to all graduates of two year accredited colleges with AA degrees and/or accredited four year colleges or universities. In principle and practice AAUW values and supports diversity. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.