



NEWS

NOW/EVENTS/WOMEN/SUCCESS

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



Presidential Postings

The holiday season is fast approaching and there are several events scheduled for the next couple of months.

The DVC play is scheduled for November 5th. Those who are attending have already reserved their tickets.

November's General meeting program on the 15th with Jonathan Lee will bring us information about the Port Chicago Task Force and its efforts to bring justice to the Port Chicago 50.

November is the month that we elect the Nominating Committee for the year. This committee will work to develop an Executive Board for our 2024-2025 program year, beginning early in 2024. We need a Parliamentarian to guide the committee as well as committee members. If you can participate in this important task, please let me know.

Kinder's gift cards are available from Claudia Bass and Gayle Miner, from November 1 through December 13. Check out the AAUW Fund article for more information.

The Holly Jolly Holiday Party planning is well underway. Sandy Wolfe and her wonderful team are busy preparing for a festive evening on December 8th. Look for the flyer with all the details.

Thanks to each of you who bring such energy and talent to our branch.

~Reba rebasiero@yahoo.com



Holiday Party

Save the date

November General Meeting



Jonathan Lee speaks about Port Chicago 50.

AAUW ANNUAL FUND DRIVE



Your donation is important!



Holly, Jolly, Holiday Party

Friday, December 8, 2023, 5:00 pm

The annual holiday party is happening, thanks to Sandy Wolfe and her hard-working committee!

It will be held at the Brookview Clubhouse, 1201 Monument Blvd., in Concord. Please carpool as parking is limited.

Price is \$50 per person- appetizers, filet mignon, salad, potatoes, vegetable, bread, dessert, coffee, and iced tea will be provided by Catering By Cynthia. Vegan or vegetarian

options are available on request. Bring your own drinks - wine glasses will be provided.

Please send your check to Carol Walsh, 653 Byrdee Way, Lafayette, CA 94549 by Tuesday, November 28. Be sure to indicate if you prefer a vegan or vegetarian meal.

Make your check out to AAUW Pleasant Hill Martinez Branch. Your check is your reservation - no refunds.

SPOUSES AND FRIENDS ARE WELCOME - JOIN US FOR AN EVENING OF FUN!

Questions? Contact Sandy Wolfe @ 925-586-4523 or rffwolfeman@sbcglobal.net



NOVEMBER PROGRAM - JONATHAN LEE

Mr. Lee will talk about his work with the Contra Costa County Bar Association's Port Chicago Task Force, made up of member attorneys as well as non-attorneys from the community with an interest in the Port Chicago 50. The Port Chicago Task Force was formed with two goals - to raise awareness of this injustice in the broader community and to advocate for setting aside the mutiny convictions of the Port Chicago 50. Join us **November 15 at 6 pm** at St. Andrew's Church to learn more about this bit of local history and its repercussions.

AAUW Fund Annual Drive

More donations are needed!

We are still taking donations for AAUW National fellowships and grants. This huge fundraiser was explained in the solicitation letter you received in your new AAUW directory at the Welcome

Brunch in September. So far we have received only 19 donations.

If you have forgotten to make your donation, there is still time to do so. We will be able to accept your donations to National Fund until mid-December. It would be wonderful if we could do better than last year!

Since 1888, AAUW has been one of the largest funders of women's graduate education, investing in women who go on to change the world.

If you need more information contact Carolyn Barcklay at (925) 323-8229. Thank you for your constant and generous support.

~Martinez Pleasant Hill AAUW Fund Committee

AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110)

Allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.

Education and Training Fund (4450)

Addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

STEM
Title IX
Pathways to Jobs

Examples of programs include:
Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives
Fellowships and Grants
Public Policy
Research

Economic Security Fund (4449)

Ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

Pay Equity
Title VII
Retirement Security

Examples of programs include:
Start Smart
Work Smart
Work Smart Online
Legal Advocacy Fund

Leadership Fund (4452)

Supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

Career
Workplace
Training

Examples of programs include:
Campus Action Projects
Empower
NCCWSL

KINDER'S GIFT CARDS ON SALE NOV. 1 THROUGH DEC. 13 - \$20 EACH!

Call **Gayle Miner** (925-349-6795 home/925-788-3272 cell) or **Claudia Bass** (925-372-8679 home/(925) 348-1958 cell) to order your Kinder's Gift Cards. We will be at Morning Books, Mah Jongg and the November General Meeting. You can also order gift cards using the Mail In Order Form attached to this newsletter. Funds raised from this sale go towards two \$1,000 scholarships for DVC students who are going on to study at a four-year college or university. Fund makes \$4.50 on each gift card sold. We sold out quickly last fall, can we do it again this fall?

Thanks for your support!

~Martinez Pleasant Hill AAUW Fund Committee



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 November 1 to DECEMBER 13, 2023. NO EXCEPTIONS

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

Amount of Gift Cards you are ordering _____

Amount of your check: \$ _____

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

Give or Mail Order Form to: Claudia Bass, 1706 Endriss Drive,
Martinez, CA 94553 or Gayle Miner, 125 Price Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA
94523.

Claudia or Gayle will deliver or mail your Gift Cards to you upon receiving your check. Your check must be in by Dec. 13, 2023.

QUESTIONS? Call Claudia Bass, (925) 372-8679

NOTE: You can call or do mail order to Claudia (925) 372-8679 or Gayle (925) 788-3272. They are the only people who have Kinder's Gift Cards to sell.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO YOUR SUPPORT! THE FUND COMMITTEE



Tech Trek Tidings

The Tech Trek committee is looking for a TTAG advisor.

There are nearly 15,000 Tech Trek Alumnae since it began in 1998. Our Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch has about 140 TT Alumnae. Statewide momentum is building to strengthen TTAC – the Tech Trek Alumnae Community.

Tech Trek Alumnae Groups (TTAG) are being formed in order to provide a local community in which Tech Trek Alumnae and AAUW members can receive and provide: mentoring, STEM experiences, and field trip opportunities. The goal of these connections is to help support the campers along their STEM journey. Tech Trek Alumnae Groups are under the auspices of AAUW branches or Interbranch Councils and may be supported locally or regionally.

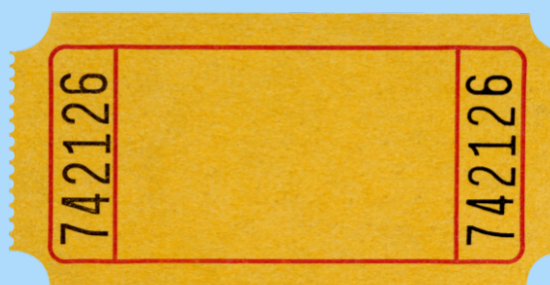
Adult branch members who work with local TTAG members are TTAG advisors. Every local TTAG needs at least one adult advisor.

If you enjoy working with young women and helping to coordinate events, this position is for you!

Our first challenge is to update our former campers' contact information. We could probably enlist the help of the more recent trekkers with this task.

If you are interested in this position or have any questions, please contact Diane Coventry @ coventrydiane638@gmail.com

DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE INTERNATIONAL SOUP SUPPER RAFFLE!



Diane will be collecting the actual items after January 1st, but you can let her know now what you will be donating.

SAVE THE DATE !

PH-M AAUW ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER

Wednesday, January 10th, 2024, 10 am at the home of Janice Walker. Handmade or bought items (other than newborn size) will be appreciated.

More info in December.

~Janice Walker



PHM AAUW Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Look at our Scheduled Programs and activities on the **Program** 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



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



Next DVC play is Radium Girls

Date to be
determined.

*“In 1926, radium was a miracle cure, Madame Curie an international celebrity, and luminous watches the latest rage—until the girls who painted them began to fall ill with a mysterious disease. Inspired by a true story, *Radium Girls* traces the efforts of Grace Fryer, a dial painter, as she fights for her day in court. A “powerful” and “engrossing” drama, *Radium Girls* offers a wry, unflinching look at the peculiarly American obsessions with health, wealth, and the commercialization of science.”*

Unfortunately, Virginia will be out of town on the matinee dates for this play. If you are interested in attending the Dec. 2 performance at 8:pm, please let her know and she will organize it. Alternatively, if you are available to pass out tickets on either of the matinee dates, Nov. 19th or Nov. 26th, let her know and she will organize it and get the tickets to you in a PDF file which you will have to print yourself. This looks like an interesting one, it would be a shame to miss it!

DEADLINE CHANGE!

Virginia will be out of town the last 2 weeks of November, so she asks that all information for the December NEWS is emailed to her by November 17th.



International Soup Supper

Save the date!!

Our annual Soup Supper will be held at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Pleasant Hill on January 17th at 6 pm.

Enjoy hearty homemade soups, breads, and desserts while socializing with your AAUW friends and participating in a raffle to support Tech Trek's 2024 Camp at Sonoma State. Cherise Pound will be speaking about her experiences living abroad for our program.

You can bring a pot of soup, bread, or dessert, or if you don't feel like cooking, pay \$10 at the door. This is a wonderful opportunity to bring friends, as well, so they can learn what our organization is all about!

The Soup Supper Committee is accepting items for the raffle. Contact Sherrie Moore, Diane Coventry, Suzanne Salter, or Claudia Bass if you have questions.



SAM At Fair Oaks

Join us for another session of art and music in February and 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. Our lesson plan always includes an artist and a 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.

Please let us know if you would like to volunteer. So far, we have 19 volunteers on our list. It is lots of fun and rewarding.

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

Writing a check for Fund, DVC plays, or events?

Please make it out to AAUW Pleasant Hill - Martinez Branch.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, November 8 @ 7 PM

In person at Helen Pereira's home or on Zoom.

OPEN APPOINTED POSITIONS

There are still several open Appointed Positions that need to be filled.

A **HISTORIAN** is needed to collect and organize all the important objects such as programs, photos, brochures, important notices, newsletters, etc., that reflect the year's activities. If you're a scrap-booker, this position is for you!

Obtaining the funds we need to make our programs, such as Tech Trek, successful may need a **MAJOR FUNDRAISING** event to obtain those monies. One or two of you who like to plan fun and successful events are needed by our Branch.

Lastly, we need a **PARLIAMENTARIAN**. Not only does this person make sure that meetings are held in a proper manner, but she is also the head of the Nominating Committee, which makes sure that we have all the elected officers required to conduct the business of our organization.

If you would like to fill any of these open positions, please contact President Reba Siero.

Thank you for your help,

~*Helen Pereira*

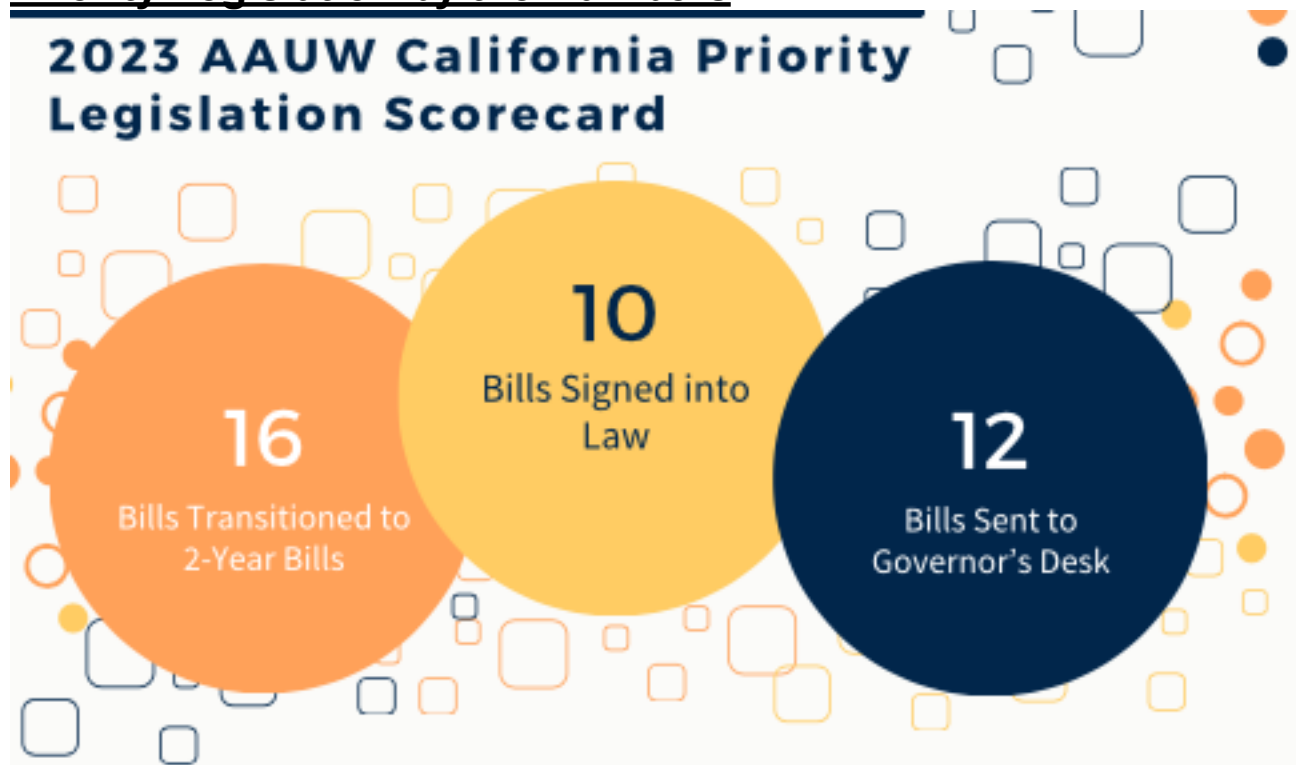
Public Policy

2023 California Legislative Session Round-Up: AAUW California's Priority Legislation ~ By Amy Hom & Missy Maceyko, Co-Chairs, CA State Public Policy Committee

September 14, 2023 was a tense day in Sacramento: [the last day for each House to pass bills that could be sent on to the governor](#). After at least nine months of writing, researching, amending, and lobbying, the legislative session drew to a close. So how did AAUW California's priority legislation fare?

While, at the time of writing, AAUW California still has some priority legislation sitting on the governor's desk (he has until October 14, 2023 to sign), we are happy to report that our priority bills did pretty well in this cycle!

Priority Legislation by the Numbers



Note that legislation listed as a "2-year bill" will be reconsidered in the 2024 legislative cycle.

A-Level Bills

Our three A-level bills this year were AB 1394, AB 549, and SB680. AAUW California was also a co-sponsor on AB1394. While none of our A-level bills have yet been signed into law, AB 1394 is

currently sitting on the Governor's desk awaiting a signature. AB 549 and SB 680 have both been transformed into 2-year bills.

AB 1394. Sent to Governor's Desk. Authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, and co-sponsored by AAUW California, this bill seeks to help child sex abuse survivors remove their images from social media platforms.

AB 549. 2-Year Bill. Authored by Assemblymember Lori Wilson. This bill would require all state agencies to conduct an evaluation of their own departments to ensure that the state does not discriminate against women through the allocation of funding and the delivery of services.

SB 680. 2-Year Bill. Authored by Senator Nancy Skinner, this bill prohibits a social media platform from using a design, algorithm, or feature that the platform knows, or should have known, causes child users to experience addiction to the social media platform.

B-Level Bills

Our four B-level bills this year were AB 524, AB 1071, AB 1078, and SB 36. AAUW California added AB 1078 later in the session at the request of the School Board Project Subcommittee, as it deals with preserving historically accurate and representative curricula for public schools in California. We are excited to report that two of our B-level bills have been signed into law: AB 1071 and AB 1078. AB 524 is still sitting on the Governor's desk and SB 36 has been transformed into a 2-year bill.

AB 524. On governor's desk. Authored by Assemblymember Buffy Wicks, this bill would prohibit discrimination against employees based on their status as a family caregiver.

AB 1071. Signed into Law! Authored by Assemblymember Joshua Hoover, this bill would authorize and encourage school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to provide teen dating violence prevention (TDV) education to all pupils in grades 7-12, and make TDV resources available on its website.

AB 1078. Signed into Law! Authored by Assemblymember Dr. Corey Jackson, this bill expands the diversity of the social science curriculum, requiring instruction in social sciences to include a study of the role and contributions of people of all genders, Latino Americans, LGBTQ+ Americans, and other ethnic cultural, religious and socioeconomic status groups. If the school district has not provided sufficient textbooks or instructional materials, their local control funding formula allocation will be reduced.

SB 36. 2-Year Bill. Authored by Senator Nancy Skinner, this bill provides protections and support for any person fleeing prosecution, conviction, or sentence from another state for seeking abortion, contraception, reproductive care, or seeking gender-affirming care in California. It also provides protections for any person assisting the person seeking that care.

C-Level Bills

We had thirty-one C-level bills this year. Eight of our C-level bills were signed into law. Ten are awaiting the governor's signature, and thirteen are now 2-year bills.

For additional details about the bills that we supported at the C-level, or bills at any level, as well as access to the most current information, check out our bill tracker [HERE](#).

And if you would like to sign up for action alerts for AAUW California's Priority Legislation in 2024, you can sign up [HERE](#). You can also share the link below with anyone else—inside or outside of AAUW—who you think may be interested in receiving these alerts.

<https://forms.gle/zkxQM8gByqjGymTA>

PHM AAUW HELP WANTED

TTAG Advisor - Do you enjoy working with young women who are interested in STEM careers? We are looking for someone to coordinate with local branches to support Tech Trek Alumnae. Contact Diane Coventry if you are interested.

IBC Representative - Help organize local advocacy and work with other branches to plan Tech Trek Ice Cream Social. Contact Reba Siero if you are interested.

Parliamentarian - No experience necessary - we have a handbook for you and folks who are willing to offer you guidance! Contact Reba Siero if you are interested.

Raffle donations - New or gently used. Do you have contacts who would be willing to donate goods or services? Or perhaps you've just Marie Kondo-ed your place and have some things that no longer bring you joy, but might be joyful for someone else? Contact Diane Coventry about your donation.

Hospitality - Pat Harris is looking for someone to help manage refreshments at meetings.

**AAUW CONTRA
COSTA COUNTY
INTER-BRANCH
COUNCIL**

<http://ccc-ibc-ca.aauw.net>

CA STATE AAUW

916-448-7795

office@aauw-ca.org

<http://aauw-ca.org>

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Suite 100, Sacramento,
CA 95833

**AAUW NATIONAL
OFFICE**

800-326-2289

connect@aauw.org

<http://www.aauw.org>

PHM AAUW Calendar

- NOV 1** Morning Books, 10 am, Margi Alkire's home.
- NOV 5** *All Shook Up!*, 2:30 pm, DVC Performing Arts Center
- NOV 8** Board Meeting, 7 pm, Helen Pereira's home
- NOV 13** Fund Meeting, 2:30 pm, Gayle Miner's home
- NOV 15** General Meeting, 6 pm, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Speaker: Jonathan Lee
- NOV 17** Mah Jongg, 12:30 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
- NOV 20** Lunchin' Ladies, 11:30 am (note time change), Katy's Creek
- DEC 8** Holly Jolly Holiday Party, 5 pm, Brookview Clubhouse
- DEC 13** Kinder's gift card sale ends

Grand Slammers

For information,
contact:

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



MORNING BOOKS

Morning Books will meet on Wednesday, November 1st, 10 am, at Margi Alkire's. We will be discussing *Dinners with Ruth: A Memoir on Friendship* by Nina Totenberg. This book tells of Totenberg's journalistic journey and the many times she and Ginsberg shared life stories. Also, those of Cokie Roberts and many others. Please let Margi know if you plan to attend. In December (6TH) we will be discussing Linda Rutledge's "West with Giraffes". Plan to join us for great discussions on these current books.

LUNCHIN' LADIES

Lunchin' Ladies will meet on **Monday**, Nov. 20 at 11:30 at Katy's Kreek, 680 Locust St. Walnut Creek. PLEASE NOTE TIME CHANGE. Please reserve by the Monday before, which is November 17th. There will be no Lunchin' Ladies in December, we will resume in January.

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.

MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, November 17th at the Brookview Clubhouse, 12:30 PM. We will meet next on December 15th at 12:30 PM.

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

Suzanne Salter

seabear92020@outlook.com

(925) 988-0322 (cell)

2023-24 Leadership Team

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