



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 2

October 2009

Join Us in October

The Future of AAUW

What we have done and what will be: our new horizons

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

7 PM

Hillcrest Congregational Church

404 Gregory Lane, PH

Jo Harberson is “Mrs. AAUW”. She has served on branch, state and AAUW levels of our organization for many years. On this special evening she will remind of us where we have come from as an organization and help us see where the future lies for AAUW. This meeting will be for long time members and new members alike. Jo’s sense of humor always adds a light touch to the purpose, the mission and the AAUW promise: *By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.*

DON'T MISS OUT ---- LAST CHANCE FOR TICKETS



FESTA ITALIANA

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Wine tasting – 3:30 – 4:30 3:30PM – 6:30PM Italian supper – 4:30 – 6:30

Viano Winery

150 Morello Ave., Martinez

Donation \$30.00

A benefit for the Pleasant Hill AAUW Educational Foundation, providing scholarships for women.

Please call for tickets before Oct. 12 - Alana: 933-4427

Check out the Pleasant Hill AAUW Web Site
<http://www.aauw-ph.org>



Presidential Team Report

September is over! Hopefully, most of you were able to attend the Kick-off Brunch and learned all about the plans for this new year. September is really an exciting time ~ AAUW is a great deal like the starting of school, with the anticipation of new and interesting things to learn and events in which you can participate.

AAUW is sort on the cusp of new beginnings with a revision of the bylaws for National, state and, as mandated, our branch. Jo Harberson, who has served on many AAUW and state committees, is going to tell us where AAUW is headed and why we should applaud those efforts to bring our organization into the 21st century. It is true that membership requirements have **NOT** changed, but important reorganizations have been made ~ some to accommodate IRS rulings and some to comply with incorporation laws. So plan to attend the meeting on **October 21**, at Hillcrest Church at 7 pm. You will learn valuable information about AAUW.

Community involvement is one of our goals, so please consider taking part in the SAM program at Fair Oaks Elementary as presented by Mary McGhee. She needs volunteers ~ and it is a very rewarding experience for the volunteers. The children are extremely receptive to the SAM program and, as a volunteer, you'll have fun with it, too.

The Library needs our help, too. Unfortunately, staff has been reduced, so there are jobs for volunteers. Call the Library to find out if you can help. Be specific about your capabilities ~ just in case they want you to restock shelves, and bending, or kneeling, isn't your forte!

The Team

2009– 2010 Leadership Team

Presidents:

Jean Hambleton 798-2344
Ginny Hargrave 798-2370
Marlene Maksel 689-5439

Vice President Program:

Waiting for 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

Pleasant Hill AAUW N.E.W.S. is published ten times a year by and for the American Association of University Women. May/June & July/August are combined issues.

AAUW Help Line: 800/326-AAUW

CA AAUW Office

Pamela Peete, Office Coordinator
P.O. Box 160067
Sacramento, CA 95816
Ph: 916-448-7795
Fax: 916-448-1729
Email: Office@aauw-ca.org
Web Page: aauw-ca.org

IBC Chair:

Kit Hein
Email: kjhein@comcast.net

Copy deadline for November N.E.W.S. is October 15th.

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

AAUW's Value Promise

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance.

PUBLIC POLICY Marlene Maksel, Chair

AAUW remains committed to passage of the Paycheck Fairness Act (**S182/HR12**), a much-needed update to the Equal Pay Act of 1963. Congress made an important statement earlier this year by adopting the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, but is only the first step. The new report on income, poverty and health insurance coverage shows that the wage gap between men and women working full time remains at 78 cents for the average woman to each dollar for the male counterpart.

AAUW supports the Global Resources and Opportunities for Women to Thrive Act (**S 1425**) because investing in women is the surest way to end global poverty. Among other benefits, this bill would help impoverished women start and grow businesses of their own. Women living in poverty are more likely to reinvest their income on food, education, housing and health care for their children, creating a positive cycle of growth for the family and the community.

a school voucher program costing \$14 million for 1,700 students in the District of Columbia.

Contact your members of Congress on these two issues.

MEMBERSHIP MEMO

Margi Alkire & Suzanne Salter, VPs

We have over 70 members.

We had our "Oh What a Beautiful Morning" Brunch on September 19, and congratulate Marti Martin and Erin Hallisy for winning our game (and the game was not easy)!

We were delighted to have 5 prospective members there: Erin, Nancy, Mary, Jeanne, and Debbie! Hope to see these gals again!

And we welcomed four members from the Martinez Branch: Pat Harris (actually a dual member), Jerry Morris, Kathy Heath, and Laurel Gaiser! We look forward to their participation.

Remember to let Margi (827-2940) or Suzanne (935-0861) know of any other prospective members.

IN THE COMMUNITY - Jill Anderson

The 7th annual Art, Jazz & Wine Fest will be held October 10-11, 2009. Each year, between 8,000-10,000 visitors stroll through the venue along Crescent Drive in downtown Pleasant Hill and enjoy great art and entertainment. The Art, Jazz & Wine Fest celebrates our community and brings together people who live and work in Pleasant Hill.

Senior Summit Pleasant Hill 2009

Sunday, October 18, 2009

Noon to 3:00 p.m.

Pleasant Hill Community Center

FREE ADMISSION FOR Seniors, people who care for Seniors and people about to become Seniors. A ONE-STOP Shopping Opportunity to Improve your QUALITY OF LIFE!

For more info. Call 925-671-5284 or contact Linda Stehr at lstehr@ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us

The following websites provide updated community information:

Pleasant Hill, California - Official website
www.ci.pleasant-hill.ca.us

Pleasant Hill Recreation and Park District
www.pleasanthillrec.com

Pleasant Hill Chamber of Commerce
www.pleasanthillchamber.com

KEEPING UP WITH OUR ACTIVE MEMBERS

Muriel Fry never stops working for AAUW.

This year she is again serving on the **State EF committee**, representing District 2. Her newest responsibility is heading up the big **Northern California EF Fellows luncheon** on Sunday, October 25 at the Crow Canyon Country Club, 12 to 3, cost \$30. And then she will go on to be the **local arrangements chair for next year's state convention** to be held in San Ramon. We'll hear more about that later.

Victoria Maat is also on the **State Committee**, helping to enhance visibility of LAF.

Kit Hein is **chair of CCC-IBC** (Contra Costa County Interbranch Council) this year.

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

LAF Case Updates: Still So Much to Do

Four years ago, AAUW supported teacher and coach Roderick Jackson in his case before the U.S. Supreme Court. Jackson sued the Board of Education in Birmingham, Alabama, after he was fired for complaining about the unequal funding, facilities, and equipment of his girls' basketball team compared to the boys' basketball team. In 2005, the Supreme Court, in a precedent-setting ruling, said that Title IX protects teachers who are retaliated against for challenging sex discrimination against students. Jackson therefore had the right to sue under Title IX for the retaliation he experienced.

After the ruling, Jackson's case returned to district court, where the parties opted to settle. In 2008, Jackson filed court papers alleging that he was still being retaliated against and that the school was not adequately fulfilling the settlement agreement. On September 3, 2009, the U.S. District Court ruled that the Birmingham Board of Education complied with the original settlement agreement, sadly ending the eight-year-old case.

Title IX in High School Athletics Project Update: In collaboration with the Legal Aid Society (LAS) of San Francisco, AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund will release a new **Program in a Box** in late September on Title IX enforcement in high school athletics. The Women's Sports Foundation is co-branding some of their relevant materials on this topic for AAUW member use and working with AAUW and LAS to develop a webinar for interested members to be held in late October.

Contact Victoria Maat at juju-bee@pacbell.net for more information: about attending this webinar, obtaining the Title IX Enforcement Program in a Box, or to apply for a travel grant to have a champion like Roderick Jackson speak to our branch.

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to LAF to help Title IX cases like this one and balance the scales of justice for women.

AAUW FUNDS–WHAT'S IN A NAME ?

Rosanne Child – AAUW Funds Director
Effective July 1, 2009, **AAUW Funds** is the new name for what we have known and loved for years as the Educational Foundation or (EF). Contributions to AAUW Funds are a 501(c)(3) and are therefore tax-deductible. AAUW's philanthropic purpose, goals, processes, and activities will remain exactly the same including all the fellowships and grant funds, the Legal Advocacy Fund, and the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund. The only thing that will change is the terminology we use to refer to the designations for our giving. The Educational Fund or "EF" is now known as **AAUW Funds**.

A Time to Celebrate!!

AAUW is one of the world's largest sources of funding for graduate women. AAUW is providing more than \$3 million in funding for more than 200 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations in the 2009-2010 academic year.

AAUW California once again celebrates the achievements of outstanding Fellows and Grant Recipients studying in California at the Northern and Southern EF Luncheons. The Northern Luncheon is scheduled for Sunday, October 25 from 12:00-3:00 p.m. at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. Deadline for the Northern Luncheon is October 12th. Reservations are available on line at www.aauw-ca.org.

Applications are now available for AAUW's exciting 2009-10 campus programming and student leadership opportunities.



Make a difference on campus and apply today! ▶

Contact Kit (228-7503) if you would like to carpool.

INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**** MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, 7 October, 10 am at Bea Ball's. Our discussion will be on *The Wild Trees: A Story of Passion & Daring* by Richard Preston. Suspended in the crowns of California redwoods is a primeval kingdom of plants and animals only a handful of people have ever seen ~ through the author's eyes, you, too, can see these wonders, and more. Join us for a fascinating discussion. In November, we will be reading *White Tiger* by Aravind Adiga.



**** IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, October 14th, 10 am at Margi Alkire's. The topic will be to write about your ideas for designing the display space at the P. H. Library. Our branch will have the display during the month of November. **THINK SERIOUSLY** about joining this group. We have a lot of fun and we don't criticize anyone's writing! If you don't want to write this time, come anyway and **LISTEN** in!



**** EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, 26 October, 7 pm at Marlene Maksel's. We will be reading *Crashing Through* by Robert Kurson. This is the true story of a man who agrees to experimental surgery to regain the sight he lost in an explosion when he was 3 years of age. Totally intriguing, this book will make a good discussion. Please come!



**** MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, 22 October. This date may seem early, but October has 5 Thursdays and our date is the **4th Thursday**. Call Marlene (689.5439) if you are planning to attend, or if you have any good suggestions for a movie. A light discussion, over coffee or other liquid refreshment, usually follows.



**** GENEALOGY** - The 16th Annual Family History Seminar, "Digging for Your Roots," will be held Saturday, Oct 17, 2009, @LDS Church 3700 Concord Blvd., Concord. Registration 7:30 - 8 a.m. Keynote address speaker Clark Groseclose 8:25- 8:45 a.m. Classes 9:15 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Fees are \$25 per person which includes a syllabus or \$7 without a syllabus. Bring a bag lunch. Contact Kay Ernst for more information.



**** BRIDGE** - The GRAND SLAMMERS, aka the fund raiser bridge parties, will play on October 12 at the home of Jean De Gregory at 12:30. All players pay \$3.00it is for scholarship fund.....Please call Jean at 229-1407 on or by October 8. We played our first time on September 14 with three tables and had a great time. Due to space limitations, Jean can only have two tables, so call asap if you would like to play. November 9 will be the date and hostess and place will be in November issue.



**** NIMBLE FINGERS** - will meet on Oct. 8th at 10:00 AM at the home of Suzanne Salter. Please note the change to the new day and time as many regular attendees had conflicts on Fridays. Please call Suzanne (935-0861) if you can come. Do bring old and new projects. Also those of you who would love to learn to knit, crochet, etc. are welcome to come and acquire a new talent.

BY THE NUMBERS – NOTABLE FEMALE MATHEMATICIANS

1. Hepatia (355-415) Salaried head of the Neoplatonic School in Alexandria, Egypt.
2. Elena Cornaro Piscopia (1646 -1684) First woman to receive a Ph.D. in philosophy. She lectured in mathematics at the University of Padua.
3. Maria Agnesi (a718-1799) first woman in Italy to be appointed a university professor of mathematics
4. Sophie Germain (1776-1830) notable achievements included her work to prove Fermat's Last Theorem....

Thank you Linda Mayo – more at:
www.madison.com/tct/news/453256

October 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7 10a Morning Books	8 10a Nimble Fingers	9	10 PH Art, Jazz, Wine
11	12 12:30p Grand Slammers	13	14 10a In Indelible Ink	15	16	17 3:30p Festa Italiana
18 3p PH Senior Summit	19	20	21 7p Future of AAUW Meeting	22 Matinee Idle	23	24
25 12:12p EF Luncheon	26 7p Evening Books	27	28	29	30	31



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.