



Volume 55 Issue 4

Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

December 2012

*Ticket Deadline 12/1!**

AAUW Holiday Party

Black & White Ball

not a dance but you will have a ball

Catered dinner with wine, appetizers and dessert.

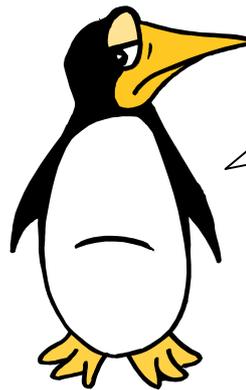
Great entertainment & games too!

December 14th at 6:00pm

Brookview Clubhouse

1201 Monument Blvd.

Concord



I hope you don't think you are going dressed like that. It's a black & white ball!

Be creative. Dress up or dress down just make it black & white.

****Deadline 12/1 or when sold out. Hurry, only a few left!***

\$32.00 per person.

*Make your check payable to PHAAUW and mail to:
Sandra Wolfe, 156 Elderwood Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523*



Il Messaggero

Co-Presidents Marilyn Thelen & Janice Walker

Our October meeting was a huge success! We listened to Lesley Stiles' gardening stories and food tips while she prepared a side dish and salad that everyone got to sample. Both were delicious and easy to make! Leslie's demonstration was one of the quality programs our VP's Shelley Jacobson and Sherrie Moore have planned for us. We hope you'll review the monthly newsletters and plan to attend the listed events as our year progresses.

In December, we'll be having our holiday party in lieu of our general meeting. It's our "Black and White Ball" on December 14th! Be sure to refer to the information elsewhere in this newsletter for more details. Tickets are limited and the deadline for reservations is near. A lovely evening is planned, so do join us to for some holiday fun!

Even in politics, it's been called "the year of the woman" as enough women were elected to increase women's representation to the highest levels ever in our Congress. In the next Congress, 20 women will be in the Senate and 78 in the House. Overall women made up over 53% of the electorate in the November election. In addition to electing officials who champion women's causes, our vote helps keep women's issues at the forefront. We made a difference!

As we go forward through this busy time of year, whatever your faith, whatever your practice, we both wish you a wonderful holiday season, surrounded by loved ones and filled with peace and joy!

Happy Holidays!!

Marilyn & Janice

NO BOARD MEETING IN DECEMBER



Upcoming Programs - mark the date

January Program Annual Soup Supper and International Speaker

Wednesday, January 16th, 6:30 - 9:00 pm

Hillcrest Congregational Church

404 Gregory Lane

Pleasant Hill

Speaker: our own Elena Noble

**Slideshow of the 1939 Treasure Island,
Golden Gate exposition**

Sherrrie Moore and Shelley Jacobson
Co-Program VPs



Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



Check out the pictures from our October program and the Bunco Game Day on the Photo page. Go to the Program Page and mark your calendar for the upcoming programs. Find any member on our Members Page. Enjoy pictures from our previous events like the Soup Supper last year.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org> for all of this and more. Forward any questions or comments that you may have to the webmaster, located on the About Us page.

Marilyn Tubbs and Sherrie Moore



INTEREST GROUP MEETINGS



**BRIDGE

Evening Bridge – We will be playing our monthly Monday night bridge at Suzanne Mesetz's home, (either in Lafayette or Rossmoor) on **December 3rd at 7P**. I will advise players later as to which location when the time nears. Elizabeth 210-0281



Middle of the Road Bridge

We are not beginners anymore. If you are not a beginner or an expert, this group is for you. We meet the second Friday of the month at various members' homes. This month is at Sandy Wolfe's home on **Dec. 7th at 12:30**. Call her (228-2633) for a reservation.



**MORNING BOOKS will meet on

Wednesday, December 5th, 10 am, at Judi Hamberg's. We will be discussing *State of Wonder* by Ann Patchett. This book is a little reminiscent of Teddy Roosevelt's trip up the Amazon and combines romance and adventure. In January, we will be reading *The Dry Grass of August* by Anna Jean Mayhew. Please join us for a great discussion!



** WALKING WOMEN will walk on

Tuesday (provided it isn't raining!), **December 11th, 9 am**. We are still doing a schedule of every two weeks, but we will skip Christmas Day and resume in January. On **December 11th**, we will meet at Hillcrest Center on Morello Avenue and repeat our walk south on the Canal Trail. Please call, or email, Marlene Maksel, if you are planning to be there so we won't go off without you!!!



** CULTURAL CONNECTION will

take a break over the holiday months and plan to meet again in January. Watch your N.E.W.S. for where we will be going and what we will be seeing!



** LUNCHIN' LADIES will also take a

break until January. The calendar for December is already pretty full! If you have a suggestion for a good place to eat, please call, or email, Marlene Maksel. Watch for info in your N.E.W.S. about the January lunch spot.



** **IN INDELIBLE INK** will not meet in December. We will next meet on **Wednesday, January 9th**. Our topic will be to write about your favorite location. We would love to hear your story and we like hearing **oral** versions, too! We don't critique your writings, so there is no pressure and now you have lots of time to get something written! Please come!



** **EVENING BOOKS** will not meet on in December. Our next meeting will be **Monday, January 28^h**. On that date we will be discussing *Destiny of the Republic* by Candace Mallard. Please join us for a great discussion.



** **MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on **Thursday, December 6**, combining 2 months. In January, we will resume going to a matinee on the 4th Thursday. We usually attend a matinee at a local theatre. Call Marlene (689-5439), if you are planning to attend, or if you have any suggestions for a movie. We always discuss the movie after over coffee or other liquid refreshment.



**GENEOLOGY

FREE class

"New or Returning Genealogists in the Digital Age" -
Bonnie Mattson, Instructor
January 19, 2013, 10 - 11:30 a.m.
Concord Family History Center, 3700 Concord Blvd.,
Concord
For questions call Jackie 925-827-4729

Membership Matters



Reba Siero and Elena Noble
Co-Membership VPs

This month we want to welcome two new members to our branch.

Please add to your directory:

Bambi Barker

1419 Grandview Dr.
Martinez, Ca. 94553-1808
925-229-1720
fanciphree@comcast.net
CSU Hayward (BS Nursing)

And

Susan C. Weir

1501 Canyonwood Ct. #1
Walnut Creek, Ca 94595-3642
jazzy1501@att.net
925-937-1620 HM
909-435-8247 Cell
UC San Francisco (Masters in Nursing)

And

Betty Marchetti

2369 English Ct.
Walnut Creek, CA 94598
925-932-4662 Home
925-518-8393 Cell
bmarchetti@sbcglobal.net
Masters in Education, Siena Heights College & Loyal University

Correction for Maxine Walden's email

mlwalden@comcast.net

Thank you for encouraging new members to our organization.

Our sympathy to Jeanne McGinnis...her mother passed away.

Remembering Susi

Susi Weight's Celebration of Life Service was held on November 4, with many Branch members in attendance.

Susi's family has requested that donations in her memory be made to our **local scholarship fund**. Susi was one of the founders of local scholarships and headed the program for many years. Checks, made out to PH-MTZ AAUW, may be sent to Jill Anderson, Treasurer, PO Box 2387, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

KUDOS TO ALL POLL WORKERS



The Local Scholarship committee is most appreciative of the election workers' participation in the Adopt-A-Poll program. Working the General Election was an interesting experience, but it can be a very long day. The scholarship fund benefited greatly because of your willingness to volunteer. Many thanks to Bob Anderson, Joy Barden, Shelley Jacobson, Marlene Maksel, Marge Munger, John Searles, and Elva Valli.

Remember The Babies



Our annual **Layette Shower** (usually held in December) will be held on **Friday, January 25**, at the home of Margi Alkire at 10 a.m. So, as you shop this year, think of babies! Or start your knitting needles! And plan on attending on January 25! All members welcome and all baby items too. Remember this is for moms selected by CCC Social Services (through the Layette Project at Hillcrest Church), and we have supported it for several years.

COMMUNITY

Martinez

Harriett Burt

SNOW PARK AND HOLIDAY LIGHT PARADE: Winter holiday fun for children and parents and grandparents featuring wonderful holiday light Santa Claus and a parade takes place **Friday, November 30 and December 1-2 on Main Street.** Mark your calendars now for family fun. For more information, call Main Street Martinez at 228-3577 or online at www.mainstreetmartinez.org. The website will also give the schedule for Santa's appearance at his house at the Main Street Plaza until Christmas.



MUSIC FORUM'S GIFT TO THE COMMUNITY: A concert of Christmas music will be performed by area church choirs and school groups on **Sunday, December 9 at 3 p.m.** at First Congregational Church, Court and Susana Streets in downtown Martinez. Martinez Music Forum presents this concert using the donations collected to provide support to Martinez Unified School District music programs.



KIWANIS ANNUAL SEE'S CANDY SALE:

A broad selection of See's candy will be sold from Dec 1 through Dec 24 with funds raised supporting the Kiwanis' donations to a variety of community projects, mainly supporting children and youth activities and the Key Club high school service groups at Alhambra and College Park High Schools. Locations are: Village Oaks Shopping Center at Morello and Arnold Drive at a storefront near Togo's Restaurant daily from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. from December 1 through December 24 and a storefront on Main Street in Martinez next door to Starbuck's on Sundays through Friday from December 2 to December 23. For more information: www.kiwanisofmartinez.org



Wreaths Across America
Several PH-MTZ AAUW members will participate in this event. Please lend your support: www.WreathsAcrossAmerica.org
Dedication 12/10 and Wreath Laying Ceremony 12/15 in various communities. Call Kay Ernst or Judy Onopchenco

Pleasant Hill

Marlene Maksel

E-Waste Recycling Event

Saturday, December 1, 9 am to 1 pm
DVC on Golf Club Road in P. H.

Sing-Along Messiah with the DVC Choirs

Tuesday, December 11, 7 pm

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

1601 Mary Drive, P. H.

Donations to DVC Music Scholarships



Breakfast with Santa

P. H. Rec & Park



Saturday, December 15, at 8:30 am and 10:15 am

Hillcrest Congregational Church on Gregory Reservation must be made before December 10th



Fair Oaks School is considered as one of the branch's "out reach" programs. We are leaders with the SAM program for children at this school and some of our members work in the classrooms and library. The Parent Faculty Club could use our assistance in other ways. Please consider attending fundraisers or events and helping as requested. More to come later.

Fair Oaks PFC

Website is: fairoakspfc.com

Email is: fairoakspfc@yahoo.com

Coming Events:

Wed. Nov 28th and Wed. Jan 30th

Rubio's/Yogurt Land Nights

Both companies are donating 20% of profits these two evenings to Fair Oaks. We need to use the flyer to receive credit.

Sat. Dec 15th Breakfast with Santa 9 a.m.-12 p.m.

Fair Oaks PFC could use cookies and helpers to keep order. Parents are supposed to be in attendance.



\$START \$MART

Elena Noble and Marilyn Tubbs



The Start Smart team has been meeting with the local colleges to implement the Program into their curriculum.

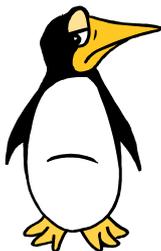
We have seen success with CSEB, and possibly St. Mary's in Moraga, but the Maritime Academy could not commit at this time.

Many of the colleges are aware of the benefits in becoming an AAUW Partner, and appreciate the commitment and support we offer woman and young girls. The problem is budget cuts and their reluctance to add program that has a cost to it.

If you know someone or have connections with any of the local campuses, let us know and we will make them aware of AAUW, and the WAGE Project. Even if they do nothing this year, becoming an AAUW Partner affords all registered woman **E-membership** for as long as they are a student. It also gives membership to two staff members who will get newsletters and updates on grants and leadership conferences. It could be your networking that will help woman negotiate an equal wage.



Happy Holidays



I hope you remembered to buy your Ball Tickets and a different outfit!

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND

Feather River Cases to Move Forward



For four years, AAUW has supported three lawsuits against Feather River Community College in California. The plaintiffs are former staff members of the institution who allege sex discrimination and retaliation for complaining about sex discrimination in violation of Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972. In 2007, there was a hearing before the California State Personnel Board. In August 2009, the SPB judge ruled in favor of all three plaintiffs, but in 2010, the full SPB rejected the judge's decision, and the plaintiffs' lawyer appealed.

In November 2012, the Plumas County Superior Court overturned the SPB's ruling, siding with the SPB judge and the plaintiffs, and asked the full SPB to reconsider the complaints. The SPB could appeal the decision; however, the plaintiffs' lawyer hopes the decision by the Plumas County Superior Court will lead to a successful conclusion of the cases in the future.

Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW

Holiday Home Tour

December 7th and 8th

10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Adults \$30 Seniors 65+ \$25

Prices go up \$5 after December 1st

Purchase tickets two ways: Mail or visit East Bay Flower Company. If using mail: Send check by Dec. 1st payable to Danville-Alamo-Walnut Creek AAUW with a self-addressed stamped business size envelope to:

AAUW Holiday Home Tour P. O. Box 996 Alamo, CA 94507

If using **East Bay Flower Company**- Tickets are available from **9-6 Mon. to Fri. and 9-5 Sat.** at 206 Sycamore Valley Road West (Danville Livery) (cash or check only).

Further information: email holidayhometour@aauw-daw.org
OR

Visit <http://aauw-daw.org/hhtour/hht12.html>

Proceeds benefit local women scholars and Tech Trek Science Camps for middle-school girls.

Light Refreshments & Holiday Quilt Raffle

* Tour and raffle tickets are not tax deductible.

The "In Indelible Ink" interest section wrote a serial over the summer. Each of us wrote a scene and passed it along to the next person. It actually turned out pretty well and we would like to share it with the members. (Maybe it will encourage some new people to join us.) We'll send one scene each month to keep you interested□ (There are 7 scenes altogether.)

A SMILE SAID IT ALL (Summer, 2012)

Serial written by the members of
Pleasant Hill-Martinez AAUW
In Indelible Ink Interest Section

(Scene 3 -- Kay Ernst)

Taking a deep breath, he exhaled slowly as if he were to begin delivering a lengthy dialog from a long remembered script. With a genial smile, his blue eyes seemed to give each person there the feeling that he was looking at them. He was relaxed and the group followed his lead. They were eager to hear anything he had to say. "Well now, my friends. You must have questions you are eager to ask me. So, shall we begin with a little tete-a-tete?"

There was a man in his mid 20's still dressed in his waiter's black slacks, white shirt and black vest. It was obvious he had just finished his shift at a restaurant. There were still some spilled food stains on the cuffs of his white shirt. He tugged at the soiled cuffs as he asked, "Mr. O'Toole, sir, what would you say was the most important training you had that made your career the success that it is?"

"Definitely elocution. An actor must learn how to enunciate his words clearly. Now, I tell you that this will not come naturally or easily. It takes practice. Learn and perform Shakespeare. That is where it must begin." He paused and took another deep breath. A small crooked grin developed. "Ah yes, I recall when 'method acting' was all the rage." He stopped, wagged a bony finger in the air and said, "They never made it big in the legitimate theater did they"? I went to the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in England '52-'54. I did a lot of Shakespeare at the Bristol Old Vic." He looked down, bit his lower lip and squeezed his eyes closed tightly and said reverently, "The chums I had. There was Al Finney and

From behind the curtains on left stage, a commanding deep female voice interrupted, "And.. ?" She stepped out from behind the curtain. A woman of equal years to O'Toole, slender, well groomed and carrying a parcel clutched tightly under her left arm. "Peter, it has been"

THANK YOU TO THE N.E.W.S. SPONSORS:

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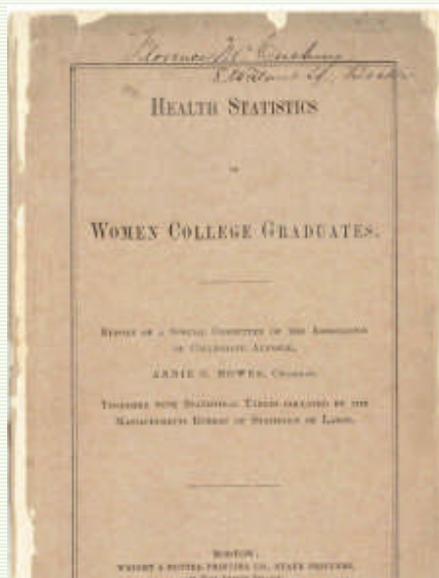
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	Experienced, Reasonable	
Rich Martin Piano Teacher All levels, all ages	925-229- 3574 Martinez	Marti Martin, Beginning Piano & Violin, all levels

A PIECE OF AAUW HISTORY

(Thank you to Muriel Fry for finding this)

In 1885, AAUW published its first research report, "The Health Statistics of Women College Graduates." This was a survey of 1,290 AAUW members regarding the impact of higher education on women's health and physical education. Published by the Massachusetts Bureau of Statistics of Labor, AAUW's research established that, contrary to statements being made by a Harvard physician at the time, education did not adversely affect women's health. Among other purported negative effects, the report debunked the notion that college education would cause women to become infertile.

In 2011, two copies of the report were rediscovered in the AAUW archives by the Archives Task Force, a committed team of AAUW members from across the country. Due to the age of the reports and the highly acidic paper on which they were printed, the pages were becoming brittle and the binding loose. In order to prevent further deterioration and ensure that they are protected for the future, they are now undergoing treatment by a professional conservator. When the conservation is complete, they will be returned to the AAUW archives.



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Please send copy to

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December 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			Fair Oaks Night at Rubio's & Yogurt Land		 Mtz, Snow Park	1 DEADLINE Black&White Ball Tickets 
2 Mtz. Snow Park 	3  <u>Evening Bridge</u>	4	5  <u>Morning Books</u>	6  <u>Matinee Idle</u>	7  <u>Middle of the Road Bridge</u>	8  Hanukkah Begins D-A-WC AAUW Holiday Home Tour
9 Mtz. Music Forum	10 Wreaths Across America Dedication	11  <u>Walking Women</u> PH Sing Along Messiah	12	13	14  <u>Black & White Ball</u>	15 PH – Breakfast with Santa WAA Wreath Laying Ceremonies
16	17	18	19	20	21  Winter Solstice	22
23	24	25  Christmas	26  Kwanzaa Begins	27	28	29
30	31 					

SAVE THE DATE: Jan. 9 – In Indelible Ink; Jan. 16 – “Soup Supper”; Jan. 19 – Geneology; Jan. 25 – “Layette Shower”



Pleasant Hill – Martinez Branch
533 Roanoke Dr.
Martinez 94553

Membership – AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy 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.