



FORECAST

NEWSLETTER OF THE MARTINEZ BRANCH

Volume 60, Number 2

October 2008

Election Time

The Martinez Branch will not be holding a General Meeting this month. Many election years the branch has hosted a candidate's forum, but as the current candidates have already been invited to a number of local forum sessions, it was decided to pass on adding one more to the calendar. To find out more about your candidates, and their views and positions regarding the hot local topics for the upcoming election, please see and hear them at the following venues:

- Political Forum 2008

Tuesday, October 21, 7:30a.m., Martinez Adult Education, 600 F Street
Free event - will include a continental breakfast

- The Martinez City Council Candidate Forums will be televised Oct. 19, Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, all days at 8:30 p.m. on CCTV, Comcast Channel 26.



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• The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 4, 2008, for the following officers:

• CITY COUNCIL running for office: Incumbents, Mark Ross and Janet Kennedy; Mike Alford, and Bradley Jackson.

• CITY CLERK (unopposed) Incumbent Richard G. Hernandez

• CITY TREASURER – running for office: Incumbent Carolyn Robinson and Charles Martin.

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Faire Sax

Faire Sax was one of the nine charter members of the Branch honored at our 60th anniversary luncheon although she was unable to attend because she lived in Southern California. She was less than a month short of her 100th birthday at that time, and too frail and ill to travel. She was, however, determined to live to be 100.

Daughter of an accountant for a mining consortium in Arizona, Faire earned an Associate of Arts degree in Drama and Speech Therapy at the University of Arizona. Her family moved to southern California where she received a teaching degree from the University of Redlands. She was a 6th grade teacher in Garden Grove when she married Henry, a supervisor at the Martinez Shell Refinery.

Faire came to Martinez in 1939 as Henry Sax's bride. She joined the Contra Costa University Women and became its president in 1946-47 when the decision to join AAUW was made and Nellie Katharine Seth got to work making it happen.

In 1955 Faire and Henry bought the derelict John Muir House rather than see it torn down and the surrounding ranch turned into a subdivision. It was a huge physical and economic task for a 47 year old woman and her recently retired husband to take on but because they did, the house and ranch were saved to become the John Muir Historic Site of the National Park Service.

Following the success of the Saxs' and the John Muir Memorial Association's campaign to turn the property over to the National Park Service (with the invaluable help of Congressman John Baldwin, husband of 50 year branch member Mary Baldwin), the couple moved back to Southern California where Faire obtained another degree in Speech Pathology and worked for 17 years as a speech therapist in the Ocean View Public Schools in Orange County. Henry died in 1987

Faire Sax died on June 29, 2008 a week after her 100th birthday and just a month over 60 years after becoming a charter member of Martinez AAUW.



From the President

Greetings!

Our first meeting in September was a wonderful evening. We met "our" Tech Trek girls and enjoyed hearing about their science camp adventures. What lovely young ladies! It was good to meet their families as well and to know that all our efforts to send young women to Tech Trek are truly appreciated.

October brings us a chance to hear from our City Council candidates. The Martinez branch won't be meeting this month. There are several ways to hear what these folks have to say. A couple of forums are being televised on local stations and the last live gathering will be on October 21. See the article with the details about these forums.

We will have our "Before the Season Really Gets Going" Holiday Party on Thursday, November 20. There will be a cookie exchange for everyone who wishes to participate. Please plan to join in the fun, whether you do the cookie exchange or not.

The Board has chosen to donate to the Food Bank of Contra Costa County for the holidays this year. Times are very difficult for area food banks and we can help to stock the shelves so they can serve those in need. Please bring non-perishable food items or bring your checkbook and make a financial donation. More details about the party will come in the November newsletter.

We will not meet in December and will resume our meetings in January with a presentation on osteoporosis – a topic of interest to many of us. Watch for your combined December-January issue of the Forecast for more information.

—Reba Siero, Branch President

Martinez Branch Executive Committee 2008–2009

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- OPEN

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The FORECAST is a publication of the Martinez Branch of the American Association of University Women, and is distributed September through June.

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AAUW, founded in 1881, is open to all graduates who hold an Associate of Arts, Baccalaureate or a higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

For more information about AAUW, see the Association website at www.aauw.org, or AAUW California at www.aauw-ca.org.

By-Laws Change Proposal:

The Martinez AAUW board recommends the following amendment change. The board feels it is necessary as our membership is slowly entering the 50 year category, and our local operating expenses are feeling the pinch. Local dues are \$20.

Article V. Membership

Section 3. Any branch member who has paid Association dues for fifty (50) years shall become a Fifty Year Honor Life Member and shall thereafter be exempt from payment of Association, state and branch dues.

Amendment:

remove the words *and branch dues* and add the word *and* between Association and State so it will read:

...and shall thereafter be exempt from payment of Association and state dues.



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State Publication: California Perspective

The fall issue of the *California Perspective* was recently mailed to members and should have arrived in your mailbox.

If you did not receive a printed copy, please go to the AAUW-CA website (www.aauw-ca.org) to read it or print a copy.

You can find the publication by clicking on "Forms & Documents" on the left side of the screen, and then "California Perspective."

Send a card to Ruth Newman

Everyone who attended the 60th anniversary luncheon loved Ruth Newman! Charter member and decade narrator for our Branch's first ten years, Ruth's vibrant personality at 90 was as refreshing as it always has been. And everyone got a kick out of her being introduced the way her name had appeared in the charter roster – Mrs. Harold Newman! She also created the role of the villain, President Jones, in the Talbot Story's first production in 1949

Just a week or so after the luncheon, Ruth was told by her doctor that she has terminal cancer. Some, including fellow charter member Ruth Spade Weaner, have visited her in her assisted living situation in Oakland and they are finding the same old spirited, practical, down-to-earth Ruth!

Her friend and former neighbor Marie Olson thought she would enjoy cards. Her address is :

Ruth Newman
401 Santa Clara, apt. 502
Oakland, CA 94611.

We've sent her a copy of the picture of the charter members and the newspaper articles about the event.

AAUW Book Group

Edie Porter <ejporter@pacbell.net>



The Martinez AAUW Book Group has chosen to read and discuss "March" by Geraldine Brooks for its November 19 meeting. Elva Valli will be hosting the group meeting at her home at 7:00p.m.

This is the fictional adult story of the American Civil War as the author imagined what life might have been like for the absent father of the classic "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott.

Come join us and bring a tidbit to share as we meet.

Please RSVP to Edie Porter at 229-0427, or Elva Valli at 228-8056.



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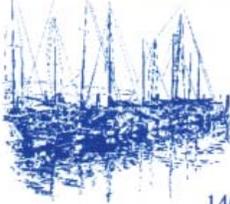
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Forecast Sponsor Feature

Montecito Animal Clinic is located at 5280 Pacheco Blvd. in Pacheco. The clinic is owned and operated by branch member Katrinka March, DVM. They are open weekdays from 8a.m. to 5p.m., and Saturday 8a.m. to noon. The clinic offers services for cats and dogs. When you visit, be sure and tell them you read it in the AAUW Forecast!



Contributions to future issues of FORECAST are due by the 15th of each prior month. Send articles, letters, and pictures double-spaced with name, address and phone number to:

George March, FORECAST Editor
650 Linden Lane, Martinez, CA 94553
GNMarch@sbcglobal.net

October 2008

- 26 N. Calif. AAUW-CA EF Luncheon
Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville

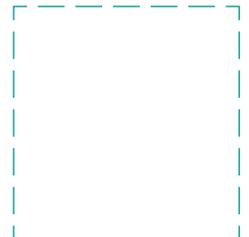
November

- 4 Election Day..... VOTE!
- 6 Exec. Board Meeting
Reba Siero..... 228-8211
- 19 Book Group
Edie Porter 229-0427
Elva Valli..... 228-8056
- 20 Holiday Meeting • time and location TBD
Reba Siero..... 228-8211
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Martinez Branch

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Martinez, CA 94553



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