



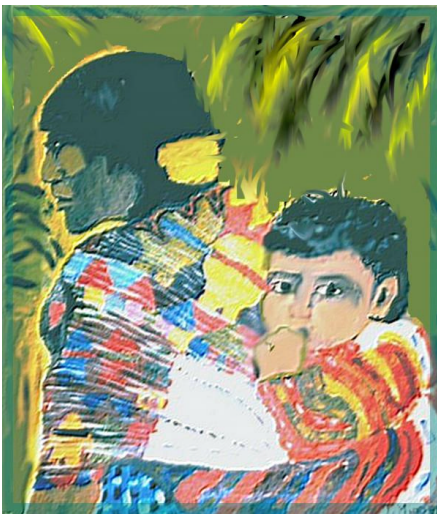
Volume 52 Issue 5

## Pleasant Hill Branch N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

January 2010



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
NOTE DAY CHANGE!!

Please join us and our featured speaker Rachel Weight, a former \$500.00 local scholarship awardee from our branch and Susi Weight's granddaughter! Rachel will be presenting a powerpoint presentation of her travels and volunteer work in several Latin American countries with a focus on the role of women in the Latin culture and the struggles and hardships they face.

## Plus our Annual Soup Supper

**\*Tuesday**, January 19, 2010

6:30 - 9:00 pm

Hillcrest Congregational Church

404 Gregory Lane, Pleasant Hill, CA

*Spouses, significant others and friends are invited*

*Please bring your own soup bowl and spoon*

*Bread and drinks will be provided*

Each attendee may choose to provide one of the following:

A pot of soup to serve 8 to 10 people

A dessert to serve 6 to 8 people

A \$5 donation at the door

Please RSVP to Kit DeGear by Sunday, 1/17/10 (609-8150) or [kdegear@gmail.com](mailto:kdegear@gmail.com)



## Presidential Team Report

We hope all of you got an opportunity to see our branch display in the entry area to the Pleasant Hill Library. Thanks to Margi Alkire and Kay Ernst for putting together such an outstanding potpourri of our branch ~ from the Mission Statement, list of Interest Sections, pictures of our Tech Trek and Local Scholarship girls/women, pictures of Community involvement, fun events, etc., they covered it all. Well done!!

This is the month the Nominating Committee will be meeting and making calls asking you to serve as an officer for 2010-2011. Please think about a position you might be willing to take, and be prepared to say "yes" to whoever calls. We have worked well in the past with multiple chairs for one position, so think about sharing a position that really sparks your interest. The health of our branch depends on your willingness to serve in some capacity.

Thanks to all who worked on the Holiday Party ~ and to the chair, Bea Ball. It was a wonderful gathering. Thanks to Mary McGhee, and her right hand lady, Marilyn Tubbs, for another successful SAM program at Fair Oaks Elementary. Thanks, also, to all of the volunteers. Thanks to Kit Hein for producing a beautiful, and informative, N.E.W.S. each month. Thanks to our Tech Trek gals, Marlene DeLaurenti, Marti Martin, and Sandra Wolfe, for a successful Book Fair that benefited Tech Trek and Fair Oaks Elementary. And, thanks to all of you members for your dedication to AAUW!

Our best wishes for a very Happy New Year!  
The Team

BOARD MEETING – Jan. 13 – 7pm – Rolling Green Clubhouse

### Looking Ahead:

*Feb. 5 – Razzle Dazzle for Tech Trek  
Feb. 21 – Women in CCC History (IBC)  
March 27 – EF Silent Auction*

## 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](mailto:Office@aauw-ca.org)  
Web Page: [aauw-ca.org](http://aauw-ca.org)

### IBC Chair:

Kit Hein  
Email: [kjhein@comcast.net](mailto:kjhein@comcast.net)

Copy deadline for February N.E.W.S. is January 15th.

Please send copy to Kit Hein  
533 Roanoke Dr., Martinez  
[kjhein@comcast.net](mailto:kjhein@comcast.net)

Jan. 1

# FOCUS ON INTEREST SECTIONS

Start the New Year off by joining an interest section. Sections are closed but prospective members may attend up to three different section meetings. What a great way for you to experience more of PHAAUW and introduce a friend who might be interested in joining.



**\*\* MORNING BOOKS** will meet on Wednesday, 6 January, 10 am at Alana Macdonald's. Our discussion will be on *Masie Dobbs* by Jacqueline Winspear. This is a nice little mystery that you can easily read over the busy holiday season. This is a debut novel, but several Masie Dobbs' follow, so if you enjoy it, you can continue the series. In February we will be discussing *The Pearl Diver* by Jeff Talango. Please join us!



**\*\* IN INDELIBLE INK** will meet on Wednesday, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 10 am at Ginny Hargrave's. The topic will be to write about "Memories of Houses in Which I've Lived." If you've never tried your hand at writing, just pretend you're writing an email, or a letter. It doesn't have to be anything profound and we don't criticize anyone's writing! Come on! Give us a try! Come and listen, if you don't want to write anything.



**\*\* EVENING BOOKS** will meet on Monday, 25 January, 7 pm, at Sally Whitsett's. We will be discussing *Woman of a Thousand Secrets* by Barbara Woods. This is a "sweeping story of the undiscovered world before the time of Columbus" on a little island in the Caribbean. It should provoke an interesting discussion. Please come!



**\*\* NIMBLE FINGERS** Margi Alkire will host Nimble Fingers on Thurs. January 14<sup>th</sup>. Please call Margi if you can come and join us for some great New Year's conversation and to show off our latest projects. Beginners are welcome. Where else could you get free instructions for your projects?



**\*\* MATINEE IDLE** will go to the movies on Thursday, 28 January. We are back to our regular schedule (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday), since the holidays are over. 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.



## **\*\* BRIDGE**

**Monday Night** - we will be playing Jan 4<sup>th</sup>, 2010 @ 7P the home of Elizabeth DiPietro. Elizabeth 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** will play bridge on January 11 at 12:30. Call Gayle Garrison 798-7528 if you would like to play. This is fund raiser for Local Scholarships....so it is open to ALL bridge players. \$3 per player...come and have FUN.



**\*\* GENEALOGY** Thursday, January 28, we will visit the California Genealogical Society Library, 2201 Broadway, Suite LL2, Oakland, CA. The telephone number there is 510-663-1358. A docent there will give us a brief overview of the library. After that we will do some independent research. At 11:30 a.m. we will go to a local restaurant for lunch. Parking is limited and expensive and car pooling is recommended. Meet at the home of Kay Ernst at 9:00 a.m. and we will car pool from there. Kay Ernst – telephone 937-0526.



Now is the perfect time to take a few minutes to write and send those much deserved thank you notes. This is not just for gifts you have received but also for something nice someone has done for you. If you've been a guest or attended a party that you truly enjoyed, drop the host/hostess a note of thanks. If a person did a particularly impressive job making or doing something to assure the success of a meeting or event let them know their efforts are appreciated. Email is quick and easy, but a note received in the mail is the best way to express your thanks. Once you get started you will be off to a good practice to continue the rest of the year.

Mrs. Manners



## Membership Matters

Margi Alkire & Suzanne Salter

Please correct the information in your red directory for our new member,

Jeanne McGinnis (Terry)  
953 Bannock Court  
Concord, CA 94518  
798-0729  
[uowdawg@yahoo.com](mailto:uowdawg@yahoo.com)



Jean Hambleton is appreciating all the beautiful things both purchased and hand-made donated by our members who attended the layette shower

hosted by Nimble Fingers in December.

- Victoria Maat and family spent Christmas in Merrie Old England!
- Several members are back from cruises: Gayle Garrison and Jeannette Holmes, to mention 2.
- Gretel and Gene Holit went to HI with their family to celebrate their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. Congratulations!

PH AAUW member, Kathy Searles with daughter, Heather, and Kay Ernst display the lap blankets they have made to be donated to the disabled veterans at



the Veterans' Hospital in Livermore. They will be delivered by the Daughters of the American Revolution, Anne Loucks Chapter, Martinez. Many thanks to

these ladies for donating their time and talent to a much appreciated cause.

**EF** — Suzanne Rheingruber, Lynn Murphy, Alana Macdonald

Now that Christmas is over, you probably have some new stuff in your home. So you may want to get rid of some of your old stuff. Well, EF has a deal for you!

Donate your unwanted items that are in good condition for our silent auction on March 27th. (Of course, we'll take new stuff you don't want too!) Declutter your house, recycle, and raise money for scholarships for women all at once. What a deal!

Other possible donations are a handmade item, a baked goodie, making a special meal for a group of people, a weekend stay at your vacation home....the possibilities are endless! Anything (well, almost anything) you can think of donating will be gratefully accepted.

To donate, give one of us a call: Suzanne Rheingruber (945-0347), Lynn Murphy (935-2109), or Alana Macdonald (933-4427).

## "ON THE RAZZLE" FOR TECH TREK

Come and join us on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> for an evening of fun and hilarity and help us send three girls to the TECH TREK Summer Science & Math Program. We will start at 6:30 p.m. with delicious desserts & beverages at Sandy Wolfe's or Judy Hamberg's home (your ticket will tell you which one) and then venture to Diablo Valley College for an 8:00 p.m. performance of Tom Stoppard's farce, "On the Razzle." This play is based on an earlier Viennese play that gave us Wilder's "The Matchmaker" and Hermann's "Hello, Dolly" (without the Dolly Levi character). We'll have two hours of fast-paced slapstick shenanigans, mistaken identities, misdirected orders, malapropisms, double entendres, and romantic complications. After the play, the cast will stay for a "Talk Back" session. **Please send your checks for \$25 a person no later than Wednesday, January 27,** to Sandy Wolfe, 156 Elderwood Drive, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.

## PUBLIC POLICY

Marlene Maksel, Chair

As the year ended and Congress was in recess for the holidays, AAUW remembered and was thankful for those bills that were enacted ~ the *Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act*, the creation of the *White House Council on Women and Girls*, a position for a *White House Advisor on Violence Against Women*, *health care reform legislation* that includes *our priorities of gender rating and preventative care*.

More work is always needed and our Capitol Hill Lobby Corps will remain vigilant in their volunteer advocacy, helping to pass critical legislation and holding lawmakers accountable for their votes.

Please continue to inform your legislators of AAUW's stand on the various bills that will be coming before them for a vote. Be informed!

**SPECIAL EVENT WITH  
CCC INTERBRANCH COUNCIL**

ATTENTION ALL CONTRA COSTA AAUW BRANCHES:

Come hear about "Roles Women Played in Contra Costa County History" on **Sunday, February 21** at the brand new Lafayette Library. The Contra Costa County Interbranch Council of AAUW is hosting this free presentation from 2-4 PM. Women from Walnut Creek will be discussed by Catherine Accardi, San Ramon Valley women will be covered by Beverly Lane, and Karen Terhune and Traci Parent will tell us about the women who lived in the Black Diamond Mines area. These four women have written books through Arcadia Publishing's Images of America series and will have them for sale after their talks. The Lafayette Library has underground parking so if it rains, we'll still stay dry. Refreshments will be available. It is open to the public so invite friends, family and prospective members.

**LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND**

See you at the Northern California LAF Luncheon, at noon on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at the Crow Canyon Country Club in Danville. If you haven't signed up yet, please consider mailing in your reservation form with a check for \$30. If anyone needs a ride, please contact Victoria Maat at 925.933.4432.

**NORTHERN California**

**January 30, 2010, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.**  
Crow Canyon Country Club  
711 Silver Lake Drive, Danville, CA 94526

**\$30.00**

**RSVP Deadline: January 18**

**Reservation for Northern  
LAF Luncheon**

Please circle entrée choice

- Sunburst Chicken Salad
- Sunburst Vegetarian Salad

Includes beverage, rolls and dessert

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BRANCH \_\_\_\_\_

POSITION \_\_\_\_\_

# RESERVATIONS \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

Send RSVP check payable to AAUW CA

LAF Treasurer  
7632 Woodland Lane  
Fair Oaks, CA 95628

**Case Updates**

Oral arguments for the LAF-supported case Mansourian et al. v Regents of the University of California, et al. were heard by the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit in October. Kristen Galles, the plaintiffs' lawyer, said the following about the oral arguments: "It went great! Based on the questions and comments by the judges, I feel very optimistic that we will get a strong decision out of it..."

This case illustrates how an AAUW amicus brief can positively impact the outcomes of strategic cases.

**Program in a Box – available from [aauw.org](http://aauw.org):**

- ✓ **Title IX Compliance: Know the Score**
- ✓ **Campus Outreach**

*Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to LAF to help balance the scales of justice for women.*

**Also from CCC-IBC, here are neighboring branches' activities. Form a carpool and get out for a new adventure.**

**San Ramon Celebrates Women in Film 1/23/10.**

See "Dangerous Beauty," Proceeds to (EF). Call (925) 973-ARTS(2277) or order at <http://www.ci.san-ramon.ca.us/Parks/theater/default.htm>. For more information, contact: [elainebaldwin@comcast.net](mailto:elainebaldwin@comcast.net).

**Concord Branch Speakers Series:**

**"Different Generations' Impact on Public Policies"**  
Thursday Jan 28, 7-9p, Location: Gallery Concord

Carol MacKenzie, United Nations (while on leave from Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory)  
Beth McGovern, Legislative Director, CA Commission on the Status of Women  
Carlyn Obringer, Co-chair, CCC Commission for Women

# January 2010

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Monday Night Bridge 7P	5	6 Morning Books 10A	7	8	9
10	11 Grand Slammers 12:30P	12	13 In Indelible Ink 10A Board meeting 7P	14 Nimble Fingers	15	16
17 Deadline for Soup Supper reservations	18 Deadline for LAF luncheon reservations	19 SOUP SUPPER 6:30P	20	21	22	23 "Dangerous Beauty" San Ramon
24	25 Evening Books 7P	26	27 Reservation deadline for "Razzle Dazzle for Tech Trek"	28 *Geneology 9A *Matinee Idle	29	30 LAF LUNCHEON 12p
31						

SAVE THE DATE: February 5 – "Razzle Dazzle" for Tech Trek  
 February 21 – "Roles Women Play in CC County History"  
 March 27 – EF Silent Auction (Donate NOW)



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.**