



N.E.W.S.

Now/Events/Women/Success

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

Volume 63 Issue 6

February 2021

Director John A. Burgh, Division 2, Contra Costa Water District

Tuesday, February 16, 2021 - 7 pm

ZOOM



Director John Burgh will provide an overview of the Contra Costa Water District, including governance and service area, as well as discuss updates to operations during the pandemic and planned infrastructure projects to keep our promise of 24/7 service and reliable, high quality water.

His presentation will include an overview of the programs—past, present , and future—that the Water District has implemented to make sure we have good , safe drinking water. We have heard that the Pandemic has affected the work and the programs of the Water District in some ways, and look forward to learning from Mr. Burgh what updates and infrastructure projects are planned to keep their promise of 24/7 service and reliable high quality water.

John Burgh has served on the Contra Costa Water District Board of Directors since 2004, representing Pleasant Hill, Martinez, Port Costa and a portion of Concord. He will serve through 2022.

He is a retired engineer who has worked on water and wastewater projects throughout the world. He has a total of 42 years of experience in the administration, project management, and design of public works projects. For the last 30 years of his career, he worked for an environmental engineering consulting firm, where he retired as Vice President.

He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Notre Dame and a Masters in Management degree from the University of New Mexico. He is a registered civil engineer in California and a Diplomate of the American Academy of Environmental Engineers and Scientists. He is an Air Force veteran.

He is a past President of the Contra Costa County Historical Society. A resident of Concord for over 30 years, he is a member of the Pleasant Hill Rotary Club and is a volunteer driver for Meals on Wheels, delivering meals to shut-in senior citizens in the area. His hobby is restoring old Studebakers. He is active in the national Antique Studebaker Club.

Harriett and Helen



PRESIDENTIAL POSTINGS

There are many events going on as we carry on into 2021. Please be sure to vote to approve our branch's Nominating Committee, so that they may begin their work to create a slate of officers for the next program year.

Ginny Hargrave's family has invited all to her online memorial service on February 11, at 11 am (see page 3 and attached flyer).

This month's presentation by John Burgh, Director of the CCWD is no exception. Remember that we will meet on **TUESDAY, February 16** at 7 pm. Zoom details to come.

March 11 is the date for our Local Scholarships fundraiser.

Both the state and national AAUW will be holding elections this spring.

Between April 7th at 9 am PDT and May 17th at 2 pm PDT, all AAUW members will have the opportunity to vote on an important bylaws amendment that will eliminate the degree requirement for membership. Click [HERE](#) to learn more about the rationale for the proposed bylaws change brought by the [AAUW Board of Directors](#) and the AAUW Governance Committee.

Plan to attend (via Zoom) the **AAUW California Annual Meeting** on April 17th to hear AAUW Board Chair Julia Brown as she brings us all the news from AAUW National and the latest about the proposed bylaws change. Registration is required. Click [HERE](#) to register. The AAUW-CA voting period is **April 16th to May 7th**. Go to the state website for details on candidates and Public Policy Priorities.

Reba Siero, 2020-21 Co-President
rebasiero@yahoo.com

AAUW Annual National ART CONTEST

(Remember the note cards?)

Visit the AAUW National online Art Gallery.

Voting starts **February 10, 2021**.

Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch

Entries include:

"Be A Leader"

"Reflecting"



HELP WANTED

Our AAUW Branch has openings for the following officers and positions on the board that need to be filled:

Appointed Officers

Parliamentarian

Community

Education

Public Policy

Communications

Appointed Positions

Historian

Major Fundraiser

Let us know if you can help!



Memorial Service for Ginny Hargrave

Thursday, February 11, 2021

11:00 AM PT | 12:00 PM MT | 1:00 PM CT | 2:00 PM ET

Join us by computer, tablet, or mobile device, or by dialing in by phone.

More information, a chance to share memories, and the link to our event can be found on the GatheringUs Memorial page for Virginia.

<https://www.gatheringus.com/memorial/virginia-hargrave/6621>



There will be a toast to Mom following the Funeral Mass. Please bring Champagne and/or Irish Whiskey, as well as a remembrance of Mom to share for the toast.

For technical assistance, call or text the GatheringUs Support Hotline at 240-608-6037.

This is an online event, done on Zoom. If you go to the page highlighted above, you will see all the information you need to connect on the 11th. It says it will be recorded, too, for those unable to attend in person!

2021-2022 Nominating Committee

The 2021-2022 Nominating Committee members must be elected by the general membership before they may begin their duty to create the slate of Branch officers for 2021-2022. We are grateful to these nominees for stepping up to be a part of the committee.

The three nominees from the board are:

Gayle Miner

Reba Siero

Claudia Bass, alternate

And the four nominees from the general membership are:

Barbara Chambers

Joan Foster

Sharon Wilson

Penny Harris, alternate

The voting will happen via email or phone over the next week. Please confirm these committee members with your "yes" vote by the deadline of Monday, February 8.

Please email or call Gayle Miner with your vote.

gayle.miner@yahoo.com
(925) 349-6795



PH-M AAUW ANNUAL LAYETTE SHOWER

Twenty-four members donated a bag of new board books, 6 large bags of clothing, 7 quilts and over 400 diapers, as well as two monetary donations, to help make our annual layette event a huge success! Reba put together a lovely slide show so that as we gathered via her ZOOM arrangement, everyone could clearly see the individual items and add comments. The women of the Hillcrest Congregational Layette Program were very appreciative. Special thanks is extended to all the participants and especially to Reba for making our event via ZOOM possible. At a time when there is so much need, your gifts let people know they are not forgotten.

Janice Walker

sandjwalk@comcast.net

INTEREST SECTIONS MEETINGS



****MORNING BOOKS** met on February 3rd, via Zoom at 10 am, for a lively discussion of our classic ~ F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby*. And, in March we will be reading *There, There* by Tommy Orange. Contact Marlene Maksel if you are interested in joining the fun.



****LUNCHIN' LADIES** will not meet in February.



****EVENING BOOKS** will meet on February 22nd, via Zoom at 7 pm. We will be discussing *Why They Marched* by Susan Ware.



****MATINEE IDLE** will not meet in February.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS

SarahJoy Haynes and Kathleen Woulfe
Membership VPs

Hello Dear Members, just a heads up that it will soon be dues time again. The total, \$108 is a little higher this year due to a National increase of \$3. The breakdown is as follows:

- Martinez/Pleasant Hill AAUW Branch \$26
- California State AAUW \$20
- National AAUW \$62

There is now a way to re-join online and avoid a lot of paperwork. Directions on how to do this will be in a coming newsletter.

We will again have a contest for early rejoining members.

Roster correction:

Sharon Wilson email – sharonbwilson@yahoo.com

SarahJoy Haynes, (925) 586-9493
plumleathr@aol.com

Kathleen Woulfe, (925) 372-7726
kathleendwoulfe@aol.com

OTHER GROUPS



****MAH JONGG**

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We usually play on the 3rd Friday of the month, at 12:30 pm. We would love to have you join our group, as soon as we are able to meet again. There is a \$2.00 per person charge for the club-house rental. If you don't know how to play Mah Jongg, but would like to learn, we will be happy to teach you.

Reservations are a must each month.

Contact:

Suzanne Salter at (925) 935-0861,
seabear92020@outlook.com
Gayle Miner at (925) 349-6795,
gayle.miner@yahoo.com



****GRAND SLAMMERS**

CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

We are a social bridge group, which usually plays on the second Monday of each month at 12:30 pm at the Brookview Club House. We are not meeting until it is safe to do so.

Each player pays \$5, which covers \$3 for our Local Scholarship Fund and \$2 for facility use. All player levels are welcome, members and non-members.

Contact Marlene DeLaurenti at
mdl@astound.net or (925) 934-4171 if you are interested in playing.

FEBRUARY BOARD MEETING
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2021

7:00 PM

ZOOM

**Copy deadline for the
March 2021 N.E.W.S.
Friday, February 26th**

Please email copy to:

Reba Siero rebasiero@yahoo.com

(925) 917-1061



We have selected our NCCWSL student from DVC who will attend the conference. This year it will be virtual (May 25 and 26, 2021). Her name is Bryanna Nicole King, and she is 19 years old. She is majoring in communications and marketing and will be transferring next fall. Her sights are on a variety of UC campuses in which she has applied and is waiting to hear from them. A common theme from her references were that she is an excellent student, very motivated, encouraging towards others and displays leadership skills. Her school and community activities reflect her leadership skills. Bryanna had an internship with Professional Businesswomen of California conference in 2020. Her role was marketing the conference. In addition to school, Bryanna has started her own online business Bree Sticks Company.

Bryanna is excited about attending NCCWSL and is anxious to learn from it. She feels developing leadership skills will help in pursuing her goals. In her essay she said, "This conference will help me further develop my voice and use it

in school, my business and in the workplace in my future."

At our committee meeting we were able to meet Bryanna via Zoom. It was a pleasure meeting her. We were impressed with Bryanna and glad that she is our NCCWSL candidate this year. We are looking forward to hearing about her conference experience.



Since the 2020 NCCWSL was cancelled our 2020 DVC student Desiree Maurino was not able to go. This year since the 2021 conference is virtual and it is doable, she will also participate in the conference. She is happy to be able to participate after all. Currently, Desiree is starting her remote second semester at CSU Northridge majoring in radiology.

One of Ginny Hargrave's main activities with our branch was being part of AAUW Fund committee for many years. In fact, she hosted the meetings at her house for a long time. Thank you to those that have contributed to AAUW Fund in her memory so far.

As a committee we have established a procedure for memorial contributions. If you want to donate to local branch AAUW Fund, please make your check payable to **AAUW Pleasant Hill- Martinez Branch**. Send your check to Claudia Bass 1706 Endriss Drive, Martinez, CA 94553. If you want your donation to go to National AAUW Fund, make your check payable to **AAUW Fund**. Send it to Jennifer Apkarian 1057 Village Oaks Drive, Martinez, CA 94553. Both Claudia and Jennifer will notify the family of your contribution.

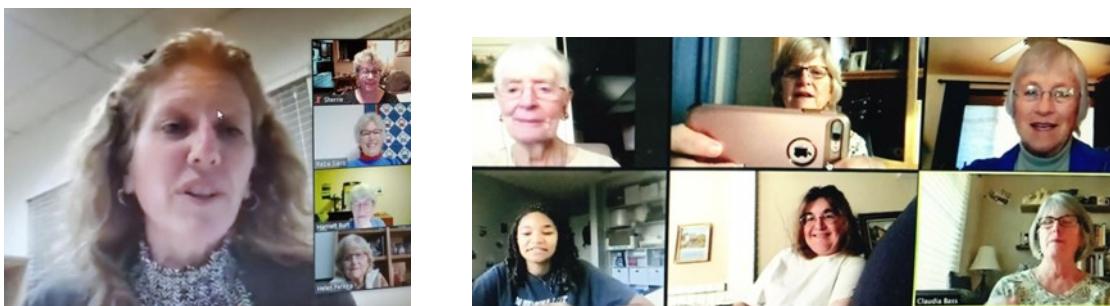
Our next committee meeting is Monday, March 15, 2021 at 2:30 via Zoom. If you are interested in attending let Jennifer or Claudia know and you will be sent the meeting link.

Jennifer Apkarian at (925) 228-2027 or apkarian1@att.net or

Claudia Bass at (925) 372-8679 or cbasslancer29@aol.com



Pleasant Hill - Martinez AAUW Website



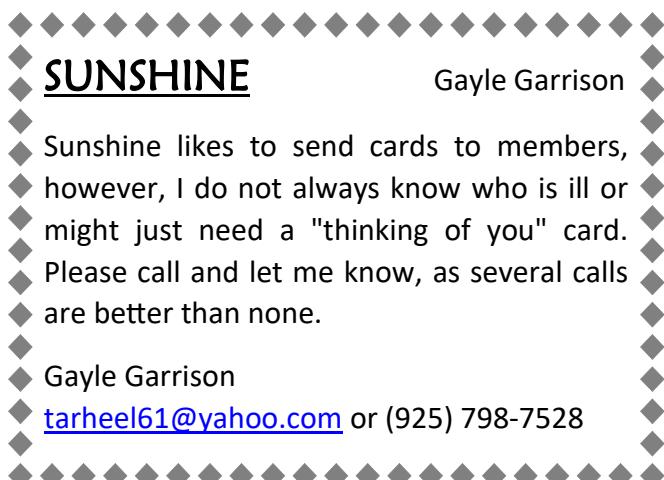
Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill - Martinez branch. Check out the Zoom photos from our virtual January Layette Shower on the **Community Action Page**. See pictures from our January Program on the **Photo Page**. Meet our NCCWSL representative on the **About Us Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org> for all of this and more. 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, located on the **About Us Page**.

Sherrie Moore, webmaster



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through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research**





Zachary's Pizza fundraiser

Save the date! This year, the Local Scholarship Committee will be partnering with **Zachary's Pizza** in **Pleasant Hill** for our annual dining fundraiser on **March 11, 2021**.

- PH-M AAUW will receive 15% of your pre-tax bill for full-priced food and soft drinks.
- Third party delivery is not included. You will need to pick up your pizza (or dine there if the patio is open in March.)
- A PDF copy of the flyer is attached to the N.E.W.S. It must be printed out or shown on your phone at pickup.
- Getting the word out in advance is key to a successful fundraiser. Please share the flyer with your friends and family via email or social media so we can get the most out of this event!

Here is a link to Zachary's menu - <https://zacharys.com/locations/pleasant-hill/#menu> They serve stuffed pizza, thin crust pizza, and half-baked pizza as well as a range of salads.

If you would like to participate but are unable to do the pick up yourself or coordinate pickup with a friend or neighbor, I would be happy to pick up half baked pizzas earlier in the day and deliver to you. You won't even have to tip the driver! Just give me a call to coordinate the pickup.

Thanks in advance for spreading the word and participating in this fundraiser so we can award scholarships to seniors from College Park and Alhambra High.

Virginia Hewgley, Local Scholarships Chair
(925) 768-4417
vhewgley@astound.net

Notes from AAUW California

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Elaine Johnson, Director, diversity@aauw-ca.org

A NEW SPLASH OF COLOR

It has arrived! The new interactive Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Toolkit (DEI) is now available [HERE](#) with splendid and inviting color and design.

Will branches use the great new resources? That, of course, is up to each branch. If we all begin using the DEI Toolkit, we can make a difference in our membership and leadership.

Key elements of the new DEI Toolkit include:

- Our Commitment
- Getting Started with Difficult Conversations
- Key Terms and Concepts
- Dimensions of Diversity & Identity
- What's Next?

Of special interest are examples of:

- Equity vs Equality
- Intersectionality
- Unconscious Bias

Explore the DEI Toolkit. Now is the time to try out and use some of the materials in the DEI Toolkit and to provide feedback to diversity@aauw-ca.org. Diversity, equity, and inclusion are priorities for all of the AAUW California committees.

PUBLIC POLICY

Kathleen Harper, Director, and Sue Miller, Public Policy Committee Co-Chairs, publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org

THINGS BRANCH MEMBERS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT PUBLIC POLICY FOR FEBRUARY

Equal Pay Day Correction

Prior publications erroneously stated that Equal Pay Day for this year falls on March 31st. That is an error. The correct date is March 24th.

Lobby Day

Thank you to all our members who signed up to join us on March 24th for our virtual Lobby Day. We had an incredible turnout by the January 8th deadline, which helped us establish a baseline for the number of legislators with whom we could meet. We will, however, continue to take registrations through the end of February. Click [HERE](#) to sign up.

Training Webinar

All members who have signed up for Lobby Day must register for and attend the training webinar on March 22nd at 7:00 pm. Training will cover the bills we want members to talk about as well as the logistics for the day. Click [HERE](#) to register for the webinar.

TITLE IX

Alicia Hetman, Title IX Consultant, titleix@aauw-ca.org

Submitted by Donna Lilly, C/U Committee Chair, cu@aauw-ca.org

Thanks to the 100 members and friends who attended the Title IX webinar on January 11th. Click [HERE](#) for the video if you were unable to attend and the questions from the webinar will also be posted there soon. The state Public Policy Committee suggests that you view the Title IX webinar as a virtual branch program.

Title IX is an important federal law that requires school districts and schools to provide equal access, resources, opportunities, and facilities for girls. What can members do locally to raise awareness of Title IX issues? [Opening Doors & Opportunities for Girls](#) is the production of the California Title IX Coalition. The website includes the top 14 questions to ask and it guides you on how to interview your local elementary, middle school, high school, and college personnel about compliance with Title IX.

2020–2021 LEADERSHIP TEAM

February and March 2021

All meetings virtual

- Feb 1 - 28** OML Book Fair Scholarship fundraiser (see flyer)
- Feb 3** Morning Books, 10 am, Zoom
- Feb 10** Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Zoom
- Feb 11** Ginny Hargrave Memorial Service, 11:00 am, Zoom
- Feb 12** Nominating Committee meets, 7 pm, Zoom
- Feb 16** John Burgh, Director, Contra Costa Water District, 7 pm, Zoom - **THIS IS A TUESDAY!**
- Feb 22** Evening Books, 7 pm, Zoom
- Feb 26** February 2021 N.E.W.S. deadline to Reba
- Mar 3** Morning Books, 10 am, Zoom
- Mar 10** Board Meeting, 7:00 pm, Zoom
- Mar 11** Local Scholarships Fundraiser, Zachary's Pizza, Pleasant Hill, 11:00 am to 8:30 pm
- Mar 15** Fund Committee Meeting, 2:30 pm, Zoom
- Mar 22** Evening Books, 7 pm, Zoom
- Mar 24** Equal Pay Day - Register to attend before Feb 28



Please, write any checks to the branch:
AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch

PH-M AAUW N.E.W.S. SPONSOR

Montecito Animal Clinic



5280 Pacheco Boulevard
Pacheco, CA 94553
925/686-0683
FAX 925/686-4754



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Karen Shore B.V.M.S.
Cindy Pieper D.V.M.

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**Copy deadline for the March 2021 N.E.W.S. is
February 26th. Please email copy to:**

rebasiero@yahoo.com

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[www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org](http://aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org)

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