

Presidential Postings



Welcome to our new program year for the branch. Interest groups are starting up and Fall is in the air with some cooler nighttime temperatures!

Our Welcome Back Brunch is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, beginning at 9:30 am, at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Pleasant Hill. Look for more information on how to help and how to attend!

Carlyn has Saturday meetings planned for the coming year for November, March, and April. The November program will be held on Saturday, November 21, and we will hear from Cindy Darling, who is a past Mayor of Walnut Creek, a current Walnut Creek Councilmember, and has a strong STEM career. We hope this makes these meetings easier for more people to attend.



Looking ahead brings us to the Holiday Party in December. The planning has begun thanks to Sharon. January features the Annual Layette Shower hosted by Janice. The popular Soup Supper is scheduled for February.



The various fundraising efforts are gearing up as well. Thank you for your generous support through the years for Tech Trek, AAUW Fund, Local Scholarships, and more.

Here's to another great year with a wonderful group of people.

~ Trinkia, Sherrie, and Reba

Fall Brunch



2026-27 Budget



Tech Trek



AAUW Fund Report

Tech Trek Tidings

Powered by AAUW California

We appreciate you, **Kiwanis of Martinez**, for awarding us a grant for Tech Trek 2026-27. Four 2026 alumni attended the weekly luncheon on July 16th: Allison, Sophia, Rayann, and Dariia. We did a brief presentation; the girls shared their camp experiences with the addition of camp slides. Kiwanis members were impressed and appreciated our presentation.

Thank you to our members for their financial support for Tech Trek. A special shout out of thanks to Helen Pereira for volunteering at Camp Franklin and

spending the day with us. Kudos to our Tech Trek Committee for selecting our seven fabulous campers.

Next steps: I will be attending trainings for organizing and sustaining TTAG (Tech Trek Alumni Group). Let me know if you want to help out. Our group is also looking for someone to host the Wine and Cheese Fundraiser for 2026-27. Be on the lookout for our DVC play fundraiser this year.

We are looking forward to the Fall Brunch on October 24 to hear from our 2026 alumni. Older alumni Sanvi and Addison will be facilitating the presentation. They were peer counselors at Camp Franklin 2026.

~ Diane Coventry



Dr. Stephen Francis, Allison, Dariia, Diane, Rayann, Sophia

AAUW Fund Report

This year our Welcome Brunch is later than usual and the Fund Committee thought that it might be helpful to publish the letters that will be in your directory in October. We know some members might like to donate before October. Again, these letters will be in your directory distributed at the brunch.

You can find these letters at the end of this newsletter (follow these links):

- [DVC scholarship fund](#)
- [AAUW fund](#)

~ Gayle Miner and Carolynn Barcklay, Co-VPs

Membership Report

Help with Brunch Needed

Hi to AAUW members! I hope you are all looking forward to our AAUW fall brunch on Saturday, October 24th. We need help to make the brunch a delight for everyone. Some of you have already signed up to help—thank you!

In the past at least 15 members have agreed to help, and, if any of these jobs are something you have previously done, we will appreciate your help again.

We need persons to help with the following:

- 1) Purchase, cut up, and serve fruit

- 2) Set up coffee, tea, and water

- 3) Purchase muffins, cut them up, and bring them to the brunch in a serving basket

- 4) Sit at the sign-in table

- 5) Package left-over food

- 6) Bring flatware, napkins, plates, and a large bowl

- 7) Order quiche from Sunrise Bistro

- 8) Purchase fruit juice

Please notify me if you can do any of these chores.

I greatly appreciate your input as this is my first time for this task, and I want our experience to be successful!

Thank you so much for your input and your help!

~ Bobbi Horack, Membership VP

Holiday Cookie Exchange?

Calling all cookie bakers! Would you like to participate in a holiday cookie exchange in December? It would involve baking one to two dozen cookies (**not** store-bought) and bringing them on a date to be determined. The number of cookies required depends on how many people participate. You would bring your cookies and go home with a variety of other people's special cookies (2 per each participant). Please let me know if you might be interested.

~ Diane Peterson

Treasurer's Report

Proposed 2026-27 Branch Budget

Below you will find the proposed budget for 2026-2027. We usually present it at the brunch in September for membership approval. However, since our brunch isn't until later in October, we will vote via email sometime in September. You will receive a blast when it comes time to vote. If you have any questions, you can contact me at 925-372-8679 or email me at cbasslancer29@aol.com.

~ Claudia Bass

AAUW Pleasant Hill—Martinez Branch Proposed Budget 2026-2027

Revenue:

Membership Dues	\$1,612.00
Ads	\$50.00

Total Revenue \$1,662.00

Expenses

Directory	\$150.00
Hospitality	\$50.00
Insurance *	\$500.00
Membership	\$25.00
Program	\$600.00
Website *	\$175.00
Sunshine	\$0.00
State Registrations *	\$55.00 (\$25.00 charity, \$30.00 raffle)
Unexpected Expenses	\$107.00

Total Expenses \$1,662.00

* required

AAUW Special Event

NCCWSL Voices: Student Leaders Share Their Stories

You may be interested in this invitation to a special program co-sponsored by the California and Oregon online branches.

You are invited to **NCCWSL Voices**, a Zoom meeting.

When: Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 7 P.M.
Pacific Time

Click [HERE](#) to register

After you register, you will receive a confirmation email with information on how to join the meeting.

We're excited to invite you to **NCCWSL Voices: Student Leaders Share Their Stories**, a special program for all AAUW members. Join the AAUW Online Branches of Oregon and California for a special Zoom program on **Tuesday, September 22nd, at 7 P.M. Pacific time**, spotlighting the voices, insights, and leadership journeys of this year's attendees at the **National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)** hosted by NASPA and supported and promoted by AAUW.

Wendy Cook (Oregon's NCCWSL coordinator) and Susan Bangasser (California's College/University committee chair) will co-moderate this lively conversation, and members from both Oregon and California are warmly encouraged to attend. Whether your branch already sends students to NCCWSL or is considering the value of sponsoring a student, this pro-

gram offers a meaningful opportunity to hear directly from this year's student leaders about what inspired them, what they learned, and how they plan to carry their leadership forward.

Come be inspired by the passion, purpose, and energy of these outstanding college women as they share how NCCWSL is shaping their leadership journeys. Their stories are a powerful reminder of why AAUW's mission matters—and why the future is full of promise. We hope you'll join us for this uplifting and inspiring event.

If you want a teaser of what to expect, click [HERE](#) to watch the heartwarming 2024 presentation.

We look forward to you joining us.

~ Cathy Foxhoven, *President of Oregon Online Branch*

~ Gail Swain, *President of California Online Branch*



Nimble Fingers

Nimble Fingers will meet on Thursday, September 24th, at 2:00 P.M., at SarahJoy Haynes' home.

Join us for a fun afternoon of crafting, chatting, admiring each other's work, and possibly learning a new skill.

Please let Karen or Nancy know you're coming.

Karen: 925-408-5721; karen.winters@sbcglobal.net

Nancy: 925-228-7271; nhobert@aol.com



Morning Books

On September 2nd we will be discussing *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

This book is an unforgettable novel about the power of generosity, the

importance of connection, and the quiet miracles that happen when we choose kindness and wonder. We'll be meeting at Margi Alkire's home at 10:00 A.M.

The following month we are reading *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. This book is already being hailed as "a Grapes of Wrath of our times" and "a new American classic." It is a rare exploration into the inner hearts of people willing to sacrifice everything for a glimmer of hope. Jan Cooper has offered her backyard for us to meet on October 7th at 10:00 AM.

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Wilson at 925-330-3391.



Grand Slammers

Bridge Club — for information, contact Marlene De Laurenti:

mdl@astound.net or 925-934-4171

SUNSHINE

If you know of any member who needs a bit of sunshine, please let me know!

Marti Martin

richmar1016@sbcglobal.net or

925-229-3574



Wine Appreciation Group

The Wine Appreciation Group will meet on Friday, September 18th, at 4 P.M., at Diane Peterson's house. We will be learning about and blind-tasting three red wines from Argentina. Please let Diane know if you would like to attend. Space is limited.



Lunchin' Ladies

Lunchin' Ladies will meet on Monday, September 21, at 12:00 noon, at Metro Lafayette, 3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd., Lafayette.

Reservations due by September 14th.

Gayle Miner, 925-788-3272 or gayle.miner@yahoo.com

NO EXCEPTIONS PLEASE.



Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg will meet on Friday, September 18th, at 12:30 P.M., at Brookview Clubhouse. Newbies are welcome too!

NOTE: We will use new 2026 cards from now on.

Be sure to let Suzanne Salter know if you are coming:

seabear92020@outlook.com or 925-988-0322



AAUW Pleasant Hill— Martinez Branch Website

Our website will show you everything you need to know about our Pleasant Hill—Martinez branch. Read about our June brunch on the **Photos Page**. Check out the Tech Trek and Local Scholarship girls on the **Community Action Page**. See the Barbara Newachek and Named Gift Honoree winners on the **About Us Page**. Look at our AAUW Fund - DVC Scholarship Winner and the New Executive Board on the **About Us Page**. Read about our upcoming Programs and Events on the **Program Page**. As always, read the latest newsletter on the **Newsletter Page**.

Just go to <http://www.aauw-pleasanthill-martinez.org>. 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 on the **About Us Page**.

~ Sherrie Moore, Webmaster



PHM AAUW NEWS is sponsored by Montecito Animal Clinic

2211 Morello Avenue, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

925-686-0683

Fax 925-686-4754

Katrinka March, DVM

Karen Shore, BVMS

Rebecca Horn, DVM



WELCOME BACK BRUNCH

Please join us

Saturday, October 24th 9:30 – 11:30

Note new time.

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church

1601 Mary Drive, Pleasant Hill

Hear our Tech Trek girls relate their adventures at Sonoma State camp.

Preview this coming year.

Bring friends who are interested in becoming members so they can see what we're all about!

Price: \$15

Make a reservation by October 16th by sending a check,
made out to **AAUW Pleasant Hill-Martinez Branch**,
to **Claudia Bass, 1706 Endriss Dr., Martinez, CA. 94553**



PLEASANT HILL MARTINEZ FUND COMMITTEE

DVC Scholarship Donation Request

Dear AAUW Members,

The AAUW Fund Committee has awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to a woman continuing on to a four year college or university since 2024. Our fundraisers, the sale of Kinders Gift Cards and Game Day, do not provide enough money to fund the \$1,000 DVC Scholarship yearly. The Fund Committee is hopeful that you will see the need for this new DVC Scholarship and want to help fund it with a contribution. Please note that the funds you donate through the annual Fund Solicitation letter you receive every September go directly to National AAUW.

Your generosity is appreciated, **but our branch receives none of these donations.**

Please consider making a separate contribution to the Pleasant Hill Martinez Fund Committee's DVC Scholarship program to help us continue filling this need. In 2026, we received 21 applications for our DVC Scholarship. Some were from re-entry students, some from single mothers trying to finish their education, and some from students wanting to go on to a 4 year college, but needing assistance with funds. These young and older women were all very deserving of a scholarship, but we could only give one scholarship. The Fund Committee is dedicated to supporting these women through our DVC Scholarship Program. If you agree and choose to do so, PLEASE INCLUDE A SEPARATE CHECK DONATION MADE OUT TO AAUW PLEASANT HILL MARTINEZ BRANCH with DVC SCHOLARSHIP ON THE MEMO LINE. This 2nd check will not go to National, but to PHM AAUW FUND for our DVC Scholarship program. YOUR 2 SEPARATE CHECKS, ONE TO NATIONAL AND ONE TO OUR FUND COMMITTEE CAN GO IN THE SAME ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO CAROLYNN BARCKLAY that you receive in your new directory. IF YOU DONATE TO BOTH, YOU MUST WRITE 2 CHECKS (1 check to National & 1 check to PHM AAUW FUND). The Fund Committee greatly appreciates any donation you make, both to National and to our DVC Scholarship Fund. Thank you for your support! THE FUND COMMITTEE



Pleasant Hill-Martinez (CA) Branch

September, 2026

Dear Members and Friends:

Every September letters are sent to our members requesting donations to our AAUW Fund. Under Educational Opportunities, grants and fellowships have been awarded each year for more than 130 years. These grants and fellowships represent one of the nation's oldest and largest single sources of non-institutional funding for women working towards a graduate degree. The names of these Funds have changed, as you will notice below.

Your fully deductible contributions can be restricted to the specific fund or program of your choice simply by writing the fund number or program on your check or you can designate UNRESTRICTED which allows the money to be placed in new Fund programs as needed. The following are the newly named most commonly designated funds:

Greatest Needs Fund	Fund #9110
Economic Security Fund	Fund #4449
Education and Training Fund	Fund #4450
Leadership Fund	Fund #4452
Governance & Sustainability Fund	Fund #4451

Checks should be made payable to AAUW Fund and mailed in the accompanying envelope to Carolynn Barcklay, 849 Navaronne Way, Concord CA, 94518

We appreciate your generosity and thank you for your continued support of Fund.

Sincerely,

Carolynn Barcklay and Gayle Miner
AAUW Fund Committee VPs

PHM AAUW Calendar

- Sept 2** Morning Books, 10 A.M., Margi Alkire's
- Sept 9** September board meeting, 7 P.M., Trinkia March's
- Sept 18** Mah Jongg, 12:30 P.M., Brookview Clubhouse
- Sept 18** Wine Club, 4 P.M., Diane Peterson's
- Sept 21** Lunchin' Ladies, 12:00 noon, Metro Lafayette, 3524 Mt. Diablo Blvd, Lafayette
- Sept 24** Nimble Fingers, 2:00 P.M., SarahJoy Hayne's
- Oct 24** Welcome Back Brunch, 9:30 A.M., St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Pleasant Hill



Writing a check for donation or event?

**Please make it payable to
AAUW Pleasant Hill—Martinez Branch.**

2026–27 Leadership Team

President 1 (Board Meeting Chair):

Trinka March

President 2 (General Meeting Chair):

Sherrie Moore

President 3 (National & Newsletter):

Reba Siero

Vice President—Program:

Carlyn Obringer

Vice President—Membership:

Bobbi Horack

Vice Presidents—AAUW Fund:

Carolynn Barcklay & Gayle Miner

Secretary: Sue Greenfeld

Treasurer: Claudia Bass

Webmaster: Sherrie Moore

Newsletter Editor: Karen Winters

Social Media: Carlyn Obringer



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AAUW California:

www.aauw-ca.org

PO Box 160067, Sacramento, CA 95816-0067

916-389-0220

Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 9 A.M.—2 P.M.

webteam@aauw-ca.org

askusfirst@aauw-ca.org

AAUW National:

www.aauw.org

1310 L Street NW, Washington, DC 20005

202-785-7700

Office Hrs: Mon-Fri 7 A.M.—2 P.M. Pacific Time

connect@aauw.org