



MONTEREY PENINSULA MESSENGER

Volume 58 Issue 5

Monterey Peninsula Branch

May-June 2011

May Branch Meeting/Annual Meeting

Susan Cantrell Presents

“Celebrity Secrets of Success”

Susan Cantrell, an award-winning journalist and author, captures the essence of each of the thousands of people she has interviewed for newspapers and magazines, locally and nationally, in her “Celebrity Secrets of Success” presentation. Through her inimitable style and “signature off-beat questions,” as editors have called them, she has uncovered the secrets to the success of celebrities from a variety of fields, including acting, writing, aviation, sports and comedy.

Based on her book *StarWords: Inspirational Conversations with Extraordinary Monterey Peninsulans*, which includes a forward by Clint Eastwood, Susan will reveal the common denominators of success of people in their business and personal lives. She will share the inspiring stories of celebrities who overcame poverty, rejection, illness and other stumbling blocks. Passionately spoken and laced with humor, Susan motivates us to realize our own dreams.

Please bring your friends and spouses; everyone will enjoy this presentation. A brief AAUW-MPB Annual Meeting will be held.

Date: Saturday, May 14, 2011

Time: 11:30 AM to 2 PM

Place: Rancho Canada Golf Club, 4860 Carmel Valley Rd., Carmel Valley

Cost: \$24 Tender Braised Beef Short Ribs or Portobello Mushroom Napoleon

Reservation Deadline: May 9. See reservation form on Page 7.

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PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

Something happened on the way to meeting this deadline! We'll set the stage: we were in the front room of the Doc Ricketts Lab for our AAUW-MPB April General Meeting. History guides Robbie and Herb Behrens were talking about Doc Ricketts, Cannery Row and John Steinbeck. Their knowledge and enthusiasm warmed us all; after all, a sunny April morning on the Central Coast can be quite chilly. What a privilege it was to be there, listening to the Behrens share their stories.

Meanwhile, the *Messenger* deadline loomed. We know we're fortunate to have the history, culture and natural beauty of the Central Coast in our front yard, so it made sense to write about how we bring this legacy to our AAUW-MPB members through our activities. We usually write about topics related to our mission to advance equity for women and girls, but the magical ambiance of the Doc Ricketts Lab persisted.

Please take a look at our programming over the next few months and you'll see what we mean:

- * On April 29, for a Romancing the Coast excursion, we toured the National Steinbeck Center and then had lunch at the Steinbeck House, where noted author and Nobel Prize winner John Steinbeck was born and grew up.
- * On May 14, award-winning journalist Susan Cantrell will present the "Celebrity Secrets of Success" at our Annual Meeting. She has interviewed hundreds of well-known Monterey Peninsulans such as Hank Ketcham, Leon Panetta, Clint Eastwood, David Powell and Jane Smiley.
- * On May 20, for a Romancing the Coast adventure, our very own Ruthann Donahue, a guide at Point Lobos State Natural Reserve, will take us on a walking tour of this coastline jewel, which has been called the "greatest meeting of land and water in the world."
- * On August 21, we'll hold our Annual Picnic and

Book Sale at Whispering Pines Park, a treasure in the Monterey Parks system that reminds us of the joy of parks we first enjoyed as children.

* On September 17, at our General Meeting, our very own Anne Adams Helms will talk to us about the beloved storybook, *Michael and Anne in Yosemite Valley*, written about Anne and her brother by their parents, Ansel Adams and Virginia Best Adams.

Information about each of these activities is available in our *Messenger* newsletter. Meanwhile, the work of AAUW-MPB goes on. Recipients of our Local Scholarship awards from Monterey Peninsula College and California State University/Monterey Bay Peninsula will soon be announced. Our young Tech Trek students are anticipating their week-long science and math summer camp at Stanford University. We continue to focus on the educational, social, economic and political issues of the day, but as we said, something happened on the way to this deadline!

Sally Hekkers and Susan Murphy
Co-Presidents

Contact Information:

Sally, 455-2852, swhekkers@sbcglobal.net

Susan, 622-9289, murphfam@redshift.com

POSTER

The enclosed poster was created for an historical exhibition and competition at the California State convention this spring. It was presented along with other posters from our IBC at the lunch in Aptos and the March meeting of AAUW-MPB.

Judy Cunningham and Nancy Iversen used the California Historical Room at the Monterey Library for material and Ruthann Donahue designed the poster. Great job, ladies!

BOARD MEETING

May 5, 3 p.m.

Monterey City Library

INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Carolyn Smith
(stacaro@aol.com)

Tuesday, May 10, at 2 PM
Book: *Island Beneath the Sea*, by Isabel Allende
At the home of Betty Van Meter
RSVP: bjvanmeter@comcast.net

Tuesday, June 14, at 2 PM
Book: *Sarah's Key*, by Tatiana De Rosnay
At the home of Elie Skinner
RSVP: patnelie@sbcglobal.net

Tuesday, July 12, at 12 Noon (potluck salad lunch)
Book: *Major Pettigrew's Last Stand*, by Helen Simonson
At the home of Judy Cunningham
RSVP: jrc2900@msn.com

Tuesday, August 9, at 2 PM
Book: *The Forgotten Garden*, by Kate Morton
At the home of Beth Crittenden
RSVP: 626-8339

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Kathleen Wall
(wallplus@aol.com)

May 19, at 7:00 PM
Book: *Island Beneath the Sea*, by Isabel Allende
Hostess: Rose Mary Ullman
Leader: Marge Simmons

June 16, at 6:00 PM
Pot Luck and Planning Meeting
Book: (For fun only) *A Colossal Failure of Common Sense*, by Lawrence McDonald
Hostess: Kathleen Wall
Call Kathleen if you want to join us. 333-9635

MORNING BOOK GROUP

Coordinators: Susan Murphy
(murphfam@redshift.com)
and Sally Hekkers (swhekkers@sbcglobal.net)

Location: Blue Room, Canterbury Woods,
651 Sinex Ave., Pacific Grove

Monday, May 16, at 10 AM
Book: *East of Eden*, by John Steinbeck
Leader: Joan Kiliany

Monday, June 20, at 10 AM
Book: *The Paris Wife*, by Paula McLain
Leader: Sally Hekkers

Monday, July 18, at 10 AM
Book: *Stones from the River*, by Ursula Hegi
Leader: Susan Kingsley

Monday, August 15, at 10 AM
Book: *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak
Leader: Christy Yarr

ROMANCING THE COAST

Coordinator: Jan Smyth
(janzeek@hotmail.com)

To sign up for e-mail announcements or more information, contact janzeek@hotmail.com, (373-0882)

May 20, 10:30 AM
Point Lobos hike and picnic
(See article on page 5)



RECEPTION FOR NEW AND PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS

Please offer to take a neighbor, co-worker, co-volunteer, friend to an AAUW reception on **Thursday, May 12, 5 PM**, at the home of Karen Snow, 1141 Mestres Drive, Pebble Beach, phone 375-5220. The invitation is open to all members, board members, and guests. Members are asked to bring an hors d'oeuvre (pick-up food), drink of choice, and be ready to promote the blessings of membership in this wonderful organization.

Please **RSVP** to Karen by either phone as noted above or email at karensnowpb@aol.com. This is our chance to enlarge our membership base in preparation for the coming year. Members are asked to bring their renewal fees in the amount of \$81 to the event in order to save on postage.

AAUW Romances Point Lobos in May

On May 20, AAUW Romancing the Coast will venture to Point Lobos to enjoy the wildflowers, cultural history, harbor seal births and dolphins. Ruthann Donahue will provide a guided tour of the Whaler's Cabin, a National Historic Site, and the new ADA-approved trail to Coal Shute Point with emphasis on the blooming wildflowers.

The day will start at 10:30 AM and we will meet at the Whaler's Cove parking lot. The path to the Cabin is the only challenge (a slight uphill grade); however, cars may stop at the Cabin to allow visitors to begin their adventure at that point. Admission to the reserve is \$9/car, an incentive to carpool! Ruthann can take a Lucky 4 free and the really hardy can park on HWY 1 and hike into the reserve FREE.

After the walk and cabin exploration, we will enjoy a picnic lunch at the Whaler's Cove picnic area. Bring cameras and questions about this magical place. If you wish to carpool with Ruthann, call 373-4107 or email ruthann@sbglobal.net.



Meet Ruth Ann Flowers



Ruth Ann says that from a very early age her passion was to be a teacher, wife, and mother. She definitely accomplished her passion and has had some interesting experiences along the way.

Originally from a farming community in Ohio, Ruth Ann's family moved to Novato, California, when she was a teenager. She graduated from Novato High School and went on to Sonoma State College, graduating in geography. Because of her husband's career in the U. S. Air Force, Ruth Ann taught school in Massachusetts, Florida, and California. A move to Merced, California, in the 1980s provided Ruth Ann with her most satisfying teaching assignment where she and five other teachers developed a program for Hmong refugee children. The program, using experiential learning to build the children's language and academic skills, served 200 children. Ruth Ann and the other teachers participated in the program from 8 to noon and later in the day attended classes at the local college in Hmong education. The success of the program and the

opportunity to use what was learned academically with the children was an exciting and fulfilling time for Ruth Ann.

Ruth Ann and her family moved to the Monterey Peninsula in the late 80s after her husband retired from the Air Force and have made it their home ever since. After coming here Ruth Ann taught at Chartwell School for a year and substituted at most of the private schools on the peninsula.

Ruth Ann is interested in golf and snow shoeing and volunteers her time with teenagers in the Carmel Presbyterian Church Youth Group, the City of Monterey Volunteers in the Parks, and at the Yellow Brick Road resale shop in Carmel. Ann Donaldson introduced Ruth Ann to AAUW/MPB through Romancing the Coast.

When asked if she has a motto or words of wisdom to share, Ruth Ann said that when she gets up each day she tries to remind herself that she has a job to do and that helping others makes her a better person. We are very lucky to have a person like Ruth Ann join our group. Be sure to welcome her when you have a chance.

GOURMET DINNER PLANNING EVENT

Save this date--calling all Gourmet cooks open to all AAUW members

Friday, June 3rd at 6pm

TGIF to socialize, and plan for the next season's gourmet dinner interest group—new participants welcome!!! Come see what it is all about, and decide if you would like to be involved.

This event will be held at Karen and Wayne Snow's lovely and spacious home. Bring your hearty appetizer and bottle of something to share. Come prepared with your suggestions for next year's 4 dinners. If you are unable to attend, feel free to e-mail me your thoughts.

The following minor changes will be incorporated this coming year:

1. All of those who participated this year need to re-verify your continued level of participation--so that my "tech support" can correctly input the data to his program. (If you are dropping out or dropping back to subs--this especially means you!) This information should be conveyed to me via e-mail to: sharynsiebert@comcast.net. And please notify me of your decision by the end of June.

2. We invite any member of our branch to participate. Single women who wish to be members of this group are welcome. You may choose to bring a friend or to come alone. Singles wishing to be included in all 4 dinners would be required to host one dinner, just as our couples do.

3. I will attempt to accommodate requests for the timing of your hosting responsibilities if notified of same before the end of June also. After that, it will be your responsibility to negotiate a change with another host. The schedules will all come out via e-mail in early July. And I will request verification, as last year, that you all received the data.

Looking forward to another successful year of this continuing and popular interest group!

sharyn



Thank you, Judy Cunningham, for the informative interviews with four of our new members.

AAUW Potluck Picnic

Sunday, August 21, 2011

12:00 to 2:00 PM

Whispering Pines Park

Alameda and Pacific Streets, Monterey

Join us for some fun in the sun at our summer potluck picnic and bring your family and friends! Please bring a dish of your choice to share and your own plates and utensils. We provide the non-alcoholic drinks, but you may bring your own wine and beer.

We'll also hold our Annual Book Sale. Bring books to donate to the sale. Then browse through the books and buy some to take home!

If you have questions, contact Pat Gotch, 375-9865, or patgotch@yahoo.com.

Welcome to Ellen Burton



Ellen Burton, another of our new members, is a life-long learner and teacher. She received her BA in Education and English from University of Massachusetts, Lowell, and MA in Education and MBA from University of Colorado. In addition, since moving to the Monterey Peninsula, she has earned a degree in ornamental horticulture which she considers most useful.

Through her husband's career in the U. S. Air Force, Ellen had the opportunity to travel throughout the United States and teach children from pre-school to junior high in Florida, Massachusetts, Colorado, and California. During the late 1970s, she worked in the test development department of McGraw Hill. One of the tests she helped develop assessed reading competency, drilling down on reading skills and grammar. Although no longer published, Ellen believes this test looked at the building blocks to literacy in a way that would be very useful to teachers today.

Ellen has volunteered at the Monterey Bay Aquarium, as well as St. Vincent de Paul and I Help. Her special interests include horticulture and genealogy. She has joined AAUW because of her friendship with Ann Donaldson and interest in Romancing the Coast. Give Ellen a big welcome when you see her.



TECH TREK REPORT

A BIG thank you to all AAUW members and spouses that donated to the Tech Trek Scholarship Award, thus allowing our branch to send a camper this year. Also, an \$800 donation from P.E.O. Chapter HT of Pacific Grove has made it possible for us to send a second camper as well. The selection committee, comprised of Valda Fletcher, Paula Higgins and myself, has selected the following young ladies to attend Camp Curie at Stanford University July 10-16th. Camper Anjali Haridas attends the International School of Monterey (a charter school), is interested in science, and aspires to be a doctor ("to help people"). Camper Eloise Cloy, attends Walter Colton School, enjoys science and math, and has a dream of someday designing a building, as an architect, that is known worldwide.

Please reserve **Friday, October 14, 2011**, for a TGIF at the home of Hal and Phyllis Mosher to hear of the Tech Trek experiences Eloise and Anjali will share with us. Further details will appear in the next Messenger such as bring an appetizer and a \$10 donation (or more) per person to help send a camper to Tech Trek in 2012. Be sure to mark your calendars now.

Phyllis Mosher AAUW-MPB Tech Trek Coordinator



Meet new member, Susan Kingsley

Susan Kingsley has recently joined our branch. She earned an MFA degree in Visual Art from Vermont College of Norwich University, Montpelier, Vermont, and is currently an independent studio artist whose works in metal include sculpture and jewelry. Her work has been on display in such places as the Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz, and the Oakland Museum. Susan is co-founder of a non-profit organization concerned with responsible mining and metalsmithing. More information about the mission and goals of this organization can be found www.ethicalmetalsmiths.org.

Susan also finds time to write about art, craft, and feminist issues. Her special interests include reading, sewing, and knitting. She is a self described "news junky" and is a member of our new book group which meets on the third Monday of each month.

Susan says that her art practice is always evolving and when asked if she had words of wisdom or a motto, she offered a quote from Oscar Wilde:

"Consistency is the last refuge of the unimaginative." Be sure to ask Susan about this when you see her at the next AAUW event.

Meet Pat Fletcher



Pat Fletcher received the first B.S. in history from Carnegie Mellon University in Pennsylvania by combining studies in history with her interest in science. She spent 30 years in the corporate world working in the computer field for Westinghouse in Pittsburgh, General Electric and Control Data in San Jose, and Informix in Menlo Park (later acquired by IBM). Since moving to Monterey, she has continued to work for IBM, marketing software to universities throughout the world that are offering courses in database creation and management.

Pat actively volunteered her time when her children were

in school to PTA and RAFT, an organization that provides innovative project ideas, hands-on learning materials, professional development and teaching support to pre-K-12 classroom and after-school teachers, child care providers, and nonprofit community service groups. She loves libraries and is active in Monterey Library Friends. She enjoys Newcomers, Mah Jongg, and is a member of AAUW/MPB evening book group.

When asked what is most important to her, Pat said "People Relationships...making and keeping friendships." Please welcome Pat into our group when you are lucky enough to meet her at our next AAUW event.



Nancy Iversen was splendid at the January IBC meeting, dressed in her beautiful white Suffragette suit, with long skirt and, of course, white gloves! Isn't the hat wonderful? Nancy assisted speaker Cynthia Matthews in her talk about the Suffragette movement in our country and especially in California.

Looking Ahead to September:

ANNE ADAMS HELMS WILL DISCUSS BELOVED STORYBOOK

Mark your calendars for a special occasion! On September 17, Anne Adams Helms will discuss the children's storybook, *Michael and Anne in Yosemite Valley*, with text and photographs by her parents, Ansel and Virginia Adams. AAUW-MPB—of which Anne is a member—will hold the event at the Center for Photographic Arts in Carmel.

Michael and Anne in Yosemite Valley, published in 1941, captures the story of Anne and her brother Michael as children as they experience the sights of Yosemite Valley. The charming 66-page cloth-bound book is out of print. In addition to being parents to Anne and Michael, Ansel Adams was a distinguished photographer and conservationist and Virginia Best Adams served on the Sierra Club's Board of Directors and operated Best's Gallery, known as the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Valley.

The event is scheduled 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM on Saturday, September 17, and includes a light continental brunch. Tickets are \$12 with proceeds benefiting our Local Scholarship Fund. Reservations are required and available beginning August 1. For details, call Sally Hekkers, 455-2852, or swhekkers@sbcglobal.net.

MAY RESERVATION FORM

Lunch with Susan Cantrell on May 14, 2011

Name _____ Phone _____

Enclosed find check for \$ _____ for _____ person(s) at \$24 each

Entrée choice: ____ Tender Braised Beef Short Ribs or ____ Portobello Napoleon

Cost: \$24.00 Send check to Sally Hekkers, 17609 River Run Road, Salinas, CA 93908

Reservation Deadline: May 9, 2011

Make checks payable to AAUW-MPB

Note: All paid reservations are NON-REFUNDABLE.

Monterey Peninsula Messenger is the bi-monthly publication of the Monterey Peninsula Branch of the American Association of University Women.

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