

Monterey Peninsula MESSENGER

Volume 61 Issue 5

Monterey Peninsula Branch

May-June 2014



CALENDAR

May

8 New/Old

Board Mtg

June

6 Gourmet Planning

7 Tea at Nancy's

August

24 Annual Picnic

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There is no May Branch Meeting.

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BOOK GROUPS

Morning Books

Mon, May 19, 10 AM

Monuments Men

by Robert Edsell & Brett Witter

Leader: Susan Murphy

Mon, June 16, 10 AM

Cider House Rules

by John Irving

Leader: Sally Hekkers



SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual picnic will be held on Sunday, Aug. 24. More details will be forthcoming but for now, please put the date on your calendar as we don't want to miss your presence.



PRESIDENT'S (LAST) MESSAGE

Many years ago, after a stint on my high school newspaper and a college creative writing class, I came to the conclusion that the written word is not my forte. Therefore, after four years of trying to seem literate, I am delighted to pass this column on to Sharyn and Miriam.

I do want to thank you all and particularly, the last two boards for all your help, encouragement and support. I am so lucky to be part of such an active vibrant branch made up of well read, well educated and most of all, caring women. I am particularly proud of our Tech Trek and Local Scholarship programs and the difference we have been able to make in the lives of these young people.

Congratulations to the 2014/15 board. I know you will do a wonderful job. Please continue to give these women your ideas and support. One of the hardest parts of being president is filling the jobs openings that make our branch run smoothly.

Please offer your assistance find something new

Afternoon Books

Tues, May 13, 2 PM

The Trip to Echo Spring

by Olivia Laing

Host: Betty Van Meter

RSVP: bjvanmeter@comcast.net

Tues, June 10, 2 PM

And the Mountains Echoed

by Khaled Hosseini

Host: Judy Cunningham

RSVP: jrc2900@msm.com

Evening Books

Tues, May 20, 7 PM

The Aviator's Wife

by Melanie Benjamin

Hostess: Christy Yarr

Leader: Christa Reutsche

Tues, June 17, 6 PM

Life After Life

by Kate Atkinson

Hostess: Mary Conway

Informal discussion, pot luck and planning.

enjoy that needs doing, and most of all cherish the friendships you make through AAUW.

Susan Murphy

Thank you SO MUCH, Susan, for your fine leadership and your giving heart. We love you!

Special Tea

All Members are invited

Sat. June 7

(Drop in basis) from

10 to 4 PM

Early birds -- coffee and cookies

Afternoon folks may enjoy cookies and TEA

No meal, no fee, no check to mail

No reservations

Carpooling is good

Ample free parking

This is a one-time opportunity to enjoy a decade (plus) of our MPB AAUW scrapbooks. Leisurely, at a long table, or seated in a comfortable wing chair -- BEFORE they become archives.

Yes, we have more scrapbooks, starting in the 1950's, decades of which we've given previously to the California Room, at the City of Monterey Library. All are available, but on a reservation ahead basis only.

Our scrapbooks are stored in even temperature, even



Morning Books

Would you like to join the Morning Book Group? They meet the 3rd Monday of each month.

Call Margaret Smith
(831.373.3070)

or Susan Murphy
(831.622.9289)

source for us and others. Check out our current decade (+) before they become archival, in museum style "clamshells".

One-time-only.

Driving Directions

Carpooling is good.

Drive 1 to #68 EAST, take exit 20 (Reservation Rd/River Rd.) Right on River Rd, 0.7 mile to Las Palmas Road, stop at guard post, tell the guard you're "going to an AAUW tea at Nancy Iversen's house." First stop sign, go right, second stop sign go left, then left on Sugarmill to first street, (Old Ranch Ct), (you can only go left). Park around the grassy park. Go to Nancy's House at 21091 Old Ranch Ct.

If you can't make June 7, because you're in Paris or at the Grand Canyon, you can try to get there some other day. Ask Nancy. Nicely. Her number is 455-8229.

The AAUW-MPB Website

Have you still not checked out our new website? Or not looked recently? The website address is <http://mpbca.aauw.net/>

(click the address to try it). There are lots of interesting things there and it is updated regularly (including the newsletter). Take a tour of the new website and enjoy!

NEW/OLD BOARD MEETING

PUBLIC POLICY

April 8 was Equal Pay Day

President Obama said in a recent speech, " Pass the Pay Check Fairness Act and join us in this century."

The Senate was to vote on the Paycheck Fairness Act the week of April 7, but again it was blocked. An AAUW member testified at the recent Senate hearing on the bill. It would close a loophole in the Equal Pay Act of 1963 which would hold employers more accountable for wage discrimination against women.

The White House has launched a campaign to draw attention to women and family needs.

May 8

4:30 PM

Potluck at Pat Fletcher's

RSVP [Susan](#)

Lucy Campen
Public Policy Chair

2014 TECH TREK SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Selena Herrera Rodriguez and Kiana Sorenson are the Monterey Peninsula Branch Tech Trek Scholarship winners. They will be attending AAUW's Science and Math Camp at Stanford University from July 6-12 this summer.

Selena Herrera Rodriguez is a seventh grade student at Walter Colton Middle School. She was recommended by her science teacher, Ms. Lueken, completed her application and wrote an excellent essay on choosing a career in computer science/technology. She is a straight-A student, plays the piano, volunteers at Ave Maria Convalescent Hospital, and is bilingual. Her parents immigrated from Mexico and are laborers, never having a chance to attend college. Her brother has a degree, and she also has set her goals high to attend Stanford or Harvard.

Kiana Sorenson attends Pacific Grove Middle School and was recommended by Mr. Binder. She is an A student, loves math, and wants to be an architect using environmentally approved materials in her designs. She recently performed in Fiddler on the Roof at her school. She has a special family challenge because her father was in an accident soon after she was born and he is a quadriplegic needing round the clock care.

Every public Middle School on the Monterey Peninsula was contacted to participate in the Tech Trek program, with three schools recommending students: Buena Vista in Las Palmas, Pacific Grove Middle School, and Walter Colton Middle School in Monterey. Of the 32 girls nominated, 23 applied. The Tech Trek Committee, Marilyn Erickson, Valda Fletcher and Carol Young spent 2 days reading through all the applications and

OUR NEW OFFICERS for 2014/2016

Co-Presidents:

Sharyn Siebert
Miriam Lilley

Membership Vice-Presidents:

Pat Gotch
Nancy Edwards

Treasurer:

Nancy Soule

Co-Secretaries:

Elaine Williams Kathleen
Fischer

Other Board of Directors Members:

Program:

Fatima Diaz with Mary Campbell

and Kathleen Wall on her committee

Legal Advocacy Fund:
Jane Cross

Local Scholarship:
Pat Fletcher

Public Policy:
Lucy Campen

Newsletter Editor:
Ann Donaldson

MEMBERSHIP

It's that time of year again. You will soon receive your dues envelopes for the July 2014-June 2015 fiscal year. Please respond promptly so that your membership chairs and treasurer are able to process dues and record them with the national organization.

We are happy to welcome another new member to our branch:

Barbara Lovato
230 Grove Acre Ave. #320
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
831-373-2556
Cell: 831-521-3092
jencar168@sbcglobal.net

If you know of someone interested in joining AAUW, please call Sharyn Siebert at 622-0425 or Miriam Lilley at 334-0626

decided to interview 10 girls.

Tech Trek was started in 1998 by California AAUW to encourage a diverse group of young women to take math and science courses throughout high school, motivate students to attend college and inspire young women to consider STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) careers. Our branch raises funds (each scholarship is worth \$900) to send 2 seventh grade girls to Camp Marie Curie at Stanford University each summer. The criteria for selection includes finding girls likely to profit from this experience and to find girls who have less access to this type of program.

We will be having a fundraising event in the Fall at the home of Nancy Edwards. More on that in the September newsletter. If anyone wants to join the Tech Trek Committee, please call Marilyn Erickson at (650) 787-8546 or email at marilynmonterey@gmail.com. There is a special need to have somebody on the committee who can help with fundraising.

Marilyn Erickson
Tech Trek Chair

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS UPDATE

We are in the midst of the scholarship process at both MPC and CSUMB. We have received 89 applications for our 8 scholarships and there are many worthy and VERY NEEDED applicants. The selection process will be completed by mid-May and we will report on our scholars in the next newsletter.

It is time to start raising funds for next year! Thanks to those of you who will be working at our polling place in PG for the Tuesday, June 3rd election. For

Gourmet Dinners Planning Event



Date: June 6
Time: 6 PM
Place: the home of Sandy
& Dick Grimmer.

This event is opened to all members who wish to participate next year. Please remember to bring a heavy appetizer and bottle of something to share. Also, come prepared with ideas for themes for next season's 4 dinners.

RSVP
by June 3rd to me at
sharynsiebert@comcast.net
or 622-0425.

See you all there!

each election, we receive \$850 dollars.

Again this year, we have a donor who will match any donations up to a total of \$1500. Please consider adding a generous donation to the Local Scholarship Fund when you send in your yearly AAUW dues using our branch dues envelope. Checks made out to AAUW Local Scholarship Fund can also be sent directly to the Local Scholarship treasurer: Judy Ritchie, 4098 Pine Meadows Way, Pebble Beach, CA 93953.

Pat Fletcher
Local Scholarship Chair

What Programs Would Make Must-Attend AAUW Events?

The next year will bring you a brand new Program Committee, one that very much needs your input to succeed in bringing stimulating and engaging speakers to our Branch. What topics interest you that you think would be appropriate for our monthly programs? Do you have a connection with an author, founder of a relevant organization or a participant in an important event or movement that would help us bring in a thought-provoking speaker? Any suggestions for venues? What would make it must-see AAUW programming for you? Please send your suggestions to [Fatima Dias](#), [Kathleen Wall](#) or [Mary Conway](#). (Click on a name to send an email.) We look forward to a great year.

TIDBITS

Our members make a difference through

volunteerism. Through this column we have tried to highlight the divergent interests of our members as well as Monterey Peninsula events we think our members might enjoy. Thanks to everyone who has contributed. As the AAUW year ends, we want to recognize some of our members who spend countless hours helping our community in many ways. We realize this list is incomplete, so if we have omitted your endeavors, we apologize.

AQUARIUM GUIDES

Pat Fletcher
Pat Gotch
Miriam Lilly
Kathleen Stacy
Ann Wilson
Elaine Williams
Kay Morris
Carla Plymesser
Tama Olver

CARMEL FOUNDATION

Marge Simmons
Sharyn Siebert

PANETTA INSTITUTE (Monterey County Reads)

Nancy Edwards
Judy Dudley

POINT LOBOS GUIDES

Sharon Hoffman (Board of Directors)
LaVerne Whitmill
Gisele Kapuschinski

ALLIANCE ON AGING

LaVerne Whitmill
Marge Simmons (also Ashland Shakespear Trip coordinator for Gentrain)

JOINING HANDS

Ann Donaldson
Susan Murphy

MONTEREY CITY VOLUNTEERS

Lucy Campen
Fatima Dias (Board member)
Susan Murphy

Sept-Oct Messenger

Send articles for the Sept-Oct newsletter to
Ann Donaldson at ann@wjdonaldson.com by
August 15.