



MONTEREY PENINSULA MESSENGER

Volume 59 Issue 1

Monterey Peninsula Branch

Sept-Oct-Nov 2011

September Branch Meeting

Anne Adams Helms presents

Michael and Ann in Yosemite Valley

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.

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 Studio, known as the Ansel Adams Gallery in Yosemite Valley.

Date: Saturday, September 17, 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM, includes a light continental brunch.

Location: Center for Photographic Arts in Carmel

Cost: \$12 Proceeds will benefit our Local Scholarship Fund.

Reservations (required): Sally Hekkers, 455-2852 or swhekkers@sbcglobal.net

October Branch Meeting

Halloween in the Cemeteries

Sunday, October 23, 11:00 AM

Celebrate Halloween by visiting San Carlos and Monterey Cemeteries. **Dennis Copeland**, Monterey Library Historian, will lead the walk through these fascinating graveyards while providing ghost, goblin, and ghoulish historical tales. Expect an interesting and entertaining walk.

Invite a spouse, recruit a friend. Gather at the Pearl Street Gate to the Cemeteries, (across from Dennis The Menace Park). Those of us who want to lunch after the event will need to do some fine turning.

RSVP and Questions: Joan Kiliany 644-9344 or joan.kiliany@comcast.net

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PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Welcome back! We hope everyone had a great summer and caught at least a few brief glimpses of sunshine. Your AAUW-MPB team has been hard at work all summer collecting dues, filing state and national reports and planning meetings and activities for the year ahead.

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our Board of Directors. Pat Fletcher is our new Local Scholarship Director. She replaces Ruthann Donahue. Miriam Lilley, as our new Public Policy Director, replaces Shirley Jaster. We look forward to working with Pat and Miriam. We will miss Ruthann and Shirley, and we thank them for their excellent work and years of service to AAUW-MPB.

Another new appointment is Tama Olver, who is our new Election Inspector. She will work with Betty Van Meter who coordinates the poll workers to staff the Pacific Grove precinct assigned to our Branch. The next election is November 8 so Betty will soon be recruiting poll workers. This is a great and worthwhile project; please consider volunteering to help.

Our Branch officers are elected for two-year terms. Many of our board members have served in different capacities for many years. A vibrant, active Branch needs a frequent infusion of new ideas and new faces. Our nominating committee will meet in January. Please share your ideas with us.

All of us benefit when a member agrees to do one of the many tasks it takes to make our AAUW branch run smoothly. Whether you enjoy one or more of our interest groups, our monthly programs, helping send girls to Tech Trek, giving local scholarships to deserving college

students or being part of a well-known national organization that strongly advocates for women's issues, please remember that your membership is invaluable. Thank you for your continued support!

Please think seriously about becoming more active and helping our Branch grow and thrive. All of our members are busy people with talents to share. Our goal is that our Branch will continue to flourish and meet the expectations of our members. This is only possible with your individual expertise and willingness to share your time and skills. Please call or email us you with an offer to help in some way this year. With your help, we're looking forward to an exciting and meaningful year in AAUW-MPB!

Sally Hekkers and Susan Murphy

Co-Presidents

Contact Information:

Sally, 455-2852, swhekkers@sbcglobal.net

Susan, 622-9289, murphfam@redshift.com

BOARD MEETINGS

Sept 1, Oct 6, Nov 3

3 p.m.

Monterey City Library

INTEREST GROUPS

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, Sept 19, at 10 AM
Book: *State of Wonder*, by Ann Patchett
Leader: Miriam Lilley

Monday, Oct 17, at 10 AM
Book: *The Sound and the Fury*, by William
Faulkner
Leader: Sally Hekkers

Monday, Nov 21, at 10 AM
Book: *Luncheon of the Boating Party*, by Susan
Vreeland
Leader: Susan Murphy

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Carolyn Smith
(stacaro@aol.com)

Tuesday, Sept 13, at 2 PM
Book: *The Reluctant Fundamentalist*, by Mohain
Hamid
At the home of Sally Hekkers
RSVP: swhekkers@sbcglobal.net

Tuesday, Oct 11, at 2 PM
Book: *The Nineteenth Wife*, by David Ebershoff
At the home of Ann Wilson
RSVP: awilsonpb@gmail.com

Tuesday, Nov 8, at 2 PM
Book: *The Paris Wife*, by Paula McLain
At the home of Carolyn Smith
RSVP: stacaro@aol.com

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Kathleen Wall
(wallplus@aol.com)

Sept 15, at 7:00 PM
Book: *Zeitoun*, by Dave Eggers
Hostess: Kathleen Wall
Leader: Mary Conway

Oct 20, at 7:00 PM
Book: *Every Last One*, by Anna Quindlen
Hostess: Jacqui Davis
Leader: Kathleen Wall

Nov 17, at 7:00 PM
Book: *Lies My Teacher Told Me*, by James Loewen
Hostess: Christy Yarr
Leader: Pat Fletcher

ROMANCING THE COAST

Coordinator: Jan Smyth
(janzeek@hotmail.com)

The group meets to explore some event or place on the Peninsula, usually the fourth or last Friday of the month. Lunch at a nearby restaurant often precedes or follows the meeting. All AAUW members and friends are welcome to attend the events. This is a great way to see old friends and meet new ones while learning more about our unique area. If you'd like to be on the e-mail list so you'll be contacted for additions or last minute changes and reminders, e-mail janzeek@hotmail.com.

Friday, Sept 23, 11:30 Planning Meeting at the home of Jan Smyth. Come join others with ideas for coming meetings. We'll plan our events for the coming year while we enjoy a pot luck lunch. Bring a salad or large sandwich to share.
RSVP: janzeek@hotmail.com

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LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED: CONTINUING A TRADITION OF SERVICE

AAUW-MPB continues a tradition of service to area students by awarding four \$1200 scholarships to local women, enabling them to continue their university studies in 2011-2012.

The Monterey Peninsula College Ruth Vreeland Memorial scholarships were awarded to Jaclyn Carpenter and Lorena Velasquez.

Jaclyn, a 4.0 GPA student, will be continuing her studies at UC San Francisco with an emphasis on English and Creative Writing. Her long term goal is to become an English teacher with emphasis on encouraging creative writing at the secondary school level. Jaclyn noted in her acceptance letter a special connection with our award since her mother worked with Ruth Vreeland as a Monterey Park Ranger. Jaclyn also works as a manager of a Cannery Row business.

Lorena Velasquez will be continuing her studies in Collaborative Health and Human Services at CSUMB. Lorena was a surrogate mother to her five siblings as her parents worked multiple jobs to support their family. She survived the challenges of a teen pregnancy and gang life to emerge as a confident and ambitious young woman. Her long-term goal is to provide resources to under-represented Spanish-speaking communities through counseling and community development.

Our CSUMB recipients, Lindy Morrison and Eva Ochoa, also received AAUW scholarships last year. Both are on target for graduation with high honors in 2012.

Eva survived childhood abuse, and a gang-dominated adolescence. She is now a Dean's Honor student dedicated to becoming a counselor for abused and neglected children. She has a passion to make a difference and with her strong verbal and written skills she is in a strong position to be a community leader in the future.

Lindy Morrison is a 4.0 GPA CSUMB student seeking a degree in elementary school teaching. She battled self-confidence issues during adolescence and writes, "AAUW has been crucial to my growth. Your women chose to put their faith in me, and that faith has continually reminded me of my greater purpose. If I give up to panic or depression, your investment would have been for nothing." In addition to her classes, Lindy also works to help support her family.

Each of these women shows exceptional promise to overcome her personal challenges and translate that energy into a college degree and a career that includes giving back to our community.

Ruthann Donahue, Former LS Director

FUNDING FUTURE LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS: ELECTIONS, GRANTS AND YOU

Thanks to Betty Van Meter, Barbara Babcock (Treasurer) and Vickie Davidson for joining me on the Local Scholarships Committee. We will be working together to raise funds for local scholarships as well as managing the scholarship program with the universities and the organization of the poll workers for elections.

We need 12 volunteers for Team Up for Democracy to staff the polling place in Pacific Grove for the Tues, November 8th election. Email Betty Van Meter at bjvanmeter@comcast.net if you can help by working a shift. Tama Olver will be serving as the inspector for our polling place – Thanks Tama! Funds raised by this volunteer time will be donated to the Local Scholarship Fund.

We recently received a \$1200 grant from Monterey Peninsula Volunteer Services! They raise the funds from selling donated items at their Thrift Shop at 655 Broadway Ave,

Seaside. They would appreciate your donations and patronage. Thanks to Ruthann Donahue for submitting the grant proposal.

Don't forget to attend the Sept 17th General Meeting with speaker Anne Adams Helms. It is sure to be a special event, and proceeds benefit the Local Scholarship Fund.

In these tough economic times with rising school fees, our scholarships are increasingly critical for students to complete their degrees. Donations to the AAUW/MPB Local Scholarship Fund are welcome at any time and can be sent to Barbara Babcock or the AAUW PO Box address.

Pat Fletcher
AAUW/MPB LS Director
pfletcher_ca@yahoo.com or 831-324-4118

PUBLIC POLICY

Over its 130 year history, AAUW has worked to influence public policy to empower women. The Federal Policy Agenda for 2011-2012 focuses on expanding education opportunities for women, especially in sciences, engineering, and math while retaining previous gains such as Title IX; promoting economic security for women, not only through pay equity and better work/life balance, but also in retirement; and, finally, promoting and defending civil rights.

Besides its support of key national AAUW Public Policy Issues, AAUW CA conducts a yearly public policy study and encourages individual branches to participate. Last year branches examined the California budget process, pointing out problems and suggesting reforms. This year they will be tackling the increasingly popular Initiative process. Is it a good thing? Is it overused? How does it impact programs and the budget? The Public Policy Committee sets up a study process, components, and helpful websites. Each branch is encouraged to participate and submit a completed study by December 1. **If anyone is interested** in working on this study, please let me know.

Miriam Lilley , Public Policy Director
324-0636 or miriam@smlilley.net



Thank you, Karen Snow, for the informative interviews with three of our new members.

Membership Report

As of August 3rd we have 78 members including four new members, Tama Olver, Meredith Tibbey, Wendy Williamson, and Mary Jackson. Here's their contact information for your directory:

Tama Olver
220 Chestnut Street
Pacific Grove, CA 93950
(831) 869-2748
tamaolver@comcast.net

Meredith Tibbey
6 Forest Rise Place
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 717-4131
mereditht42@aol.com

Wendy Williamson
P. O. Box 223044
Carmel, CA 93922
(831) 624-7110
wendywilliamson@sbcglobal.net

Mary Jackson
P. O. Box 464
Carmel Valley, CA 93924
(916) 300-6343
kaiola@psyber.com

Returned membership applications, showed a change in the following member e-mail addresses. Please make changes in your directory.

| | |
|----------------|--|
| Jean Bennett | bnnttjn38@gmail.com |
| Jane Britton | janebritton65@gmail.com |
| Jana Danza | jtdanza@redshift.com |
| Pat Fletcher | pletcher_ca@yahoo.com |
| Donna Gauvreau | gauvreau.david@gmail.com |
| Paula Higgins | paulajhiggins@sbcglobal.net |
| Pam Troia | ptroia@troiadairy.com |

Thank you so much for returning dues on time and for advising us of changes in your personal information.

Judy Cunningham and Karen Snow

TECH TREK

Dear Monterey Peninsula AAUW Branch members:

Thank you very much for providing the means for me to come to Tech Trek. It was a wonderful experience that I know I'll remember forever. I enjoyed every aspect of camp, but I can only fit a few of the very best. I really liked the Star Party on Monday night. The two highlights of the evening were seeing Saturn (I'd never seen it before) and pointing the telescope by myself.

Another thing that was awesome at camp was the robotics class. Before camp, I never would've guessed that I could build and program a robot by myself (for the most part). Everything, especially programming the robot to laugh and snore, made my day even better than it already was.

Finally, a part of camp that I loved was the fact that I was living in a dorm. I think that it is so neat how I had a taste of college life; keeping keys, getting to places on time, and getting to see the beautiful campus of Stanford. Even having a roommate and sharing a floor with 25 other people was great. In all, it was one of the best experiences of my life - thank you so much for everything you did for me!

Sincerely,

Eloise Cloy

Dear Monterey Peninsula AAUW Branch,

I want to thank you for giving me an opportunity to attend Tech Trek. When I first got my letter for Tech Trek, I was really excited, and I was even more excited when I got in.

My core class is Math Brain Training. We do brain training on DS Lites, Challenges outside, and we have nightly challenges. Every day we check our brain age. It's really fun. There are a bunch of classes: Astronomy, Origami, Rose Windows, Bats, Vet, Chemistry, and more!

I made many new friends, which is really weird because at school I'm the shyest person. Tech Trek has been a really good experience. Once again I must thank you for letting me attend Tech Trek.

Sincerely,

Anjali Haridas

A letter from our Tech Trek Coordinator:



Dear Branch Members:

You can see by the letters received from this year's campers how much they enjoyed their Camp Curie week at Stanford. I only wish we could send ALL the girls that have been nominated by their seventh grade math and science teachers in our branch area for they all are cream-of-the-crop girls! In keeping with Tech Trek's philosophy, our branch's Selection Committee looks for the girl(s) that we feel will benefit from a Tech Trek experience: encouragement and confidence to continue pursuit of a math/science career, and to increase her excitement about the opportunities available to women in these fields yet so dominated by the 'fellow' gender. What a delight to meet Eloise, a soft-spoken, confident and rather mature eighth grader who exhibits a quiet yet strong interest in many areas of science. Anjali, although an eighth grader, is a year younger than others. She expresses a high interest in Marine Biology and Astronomy. One of the wonderful aspects of Tech Trek is that it brings out the shy ones, like Anjali, and allows them to shine in their own light (this happened with our 2009 camper as well). Come hear from the girls themselves about their memorable experiences at Stanford at the October TGIF (see below)

Phyllis Mosher, Tech Trek Coordinator, AAUW-MPB

P.S. Please go to www.aauw-techtrek.org to see a short CNN news clip on Tech Trek (following a 5 second commercial). Watch the whole thing. PM

TGIF October 14th, 2011 6:00 p.m. home of Phyllis and Hal Mosher, 1092 Presidio Road in Pebble Beach.

Bring \$10 per person along with a hearty hors d'oeuvre and wine (if you care to). Other beverages and desserts will be provided. Bring spouses, friends, neighbors, church choir . . . anyone that will help send a camper or two next year. I do expect the \$800 fee will rise.

RSVP to Phyllis by email at pebbleparadise@gmail.com or by phone (831) 372-7073

Wendy Williamson



Wendy was born a fourth generation San Franciscan. After growing up in Concord, she attended Chico State University and received a master's degree from La Verne University. She has been a teacher in the Monterey Peninsula Unified School District for 33 years and has been acknowledged with several local teaching awards and congressional recognition for community involvement with children. Wendy is a volunteer with PEO, Junior League, homeowners' association, and is a

member of the Carmel Presbyterian Church. She and her husband are frequent travelers and have owned a commercial salmon boat on Monterey Bay.

Close friendships are of highest priority in Wendy's life and we know she will feel the strong bond of AAUW members. Live, Laugh, Love have guided her well and that philosophy will continue as she contemplates retirement in another four years.

It has been a dream of Wendy's to follow in her mother's footsteps in joining AAUW. Welcome!




Holiday Gala



Sunday, Dec. 11, 4:00-6:00 PM

The venue is still to be determined. If you would like to host our party this year, please contact

Pat Gotch at 375-9865 or patgotch@yahoo.com



(Romancing the Coast cont.)

Fridays Oct 28 & Nov 18

TBA: We'll plan these meetings in Sept and send out emails with all the details to all those who have signed up . Not on the list? Contact janzeek@hotmail.com.

Tama Olver



Born in NY, Tama spent her younger years near Washington, D.C. where her love of zoos, museums, aquariums, and our country's history gave root to lifelong passions. She studied mathematics and computer science at Michigan State University where she met her husband, Jack. For the first 20 years of her career she worked in R&D as part of teams developing computer systems for use with companies to build their products and run their businesses. Later she became manager and leader of the teams, which turned out to be more complex, fun, perplexing, demanding, and rewarding. She held the top IT position at Amdahl Corporation as Chief Information Officer.

In 2002, after their son left for college, she and Jack bought a home in Pacific Grove. A recent retiree, Tama has three commitments for this stage of her life: to make every year of her marriage the best one yet, to inspire people to lead sustainable lives, and to make our political system the best it can be. You might see her around the peninsula as she is involved in many volunteer positions. Welcome Tama!

Meredith Tibbey



A California native, Meredith Tibbey lived in Pleasanton and was a member of AAUW. Moving to Monterey with her husband and two daughters 32 years ago, she is celebrating her third year of retirement as a primary teacher. Her interests include gardening, reading, travel, and keeping in touch with family and friends. Volunteering at the Monterey Bay Aquarium keeps her love of people alive in a constantly stimulating and exciting learning environment. Friends of the Monterey Public Library membership encourages her to indulge in new reading material and donate an overflow of books to that worthy cause.

Leisure time activities include cross country skiing, frequent walks in our lovely area, and daily visits to the Monterey Sports Center for exercise and the fun of trying out new classes, like water zumba. Meredith hopes to build new friendships and to participate in interesting branch activities. Welcome!

November Branch Meeting

“Thirty Days in Yemen, From Fear to Friendship”

Donna Erickson

On **Saturday, November 12, 2:00-5:00 PM**, we invite you to Canterbury Woods for a Tea and to hear Donna Erickson, a member of the Watsonville AAUW Branch. She will share her recent experiences in Sara’a, the capital city of Yemen. Using a Power-Point Presentation, Donna will provide us with a look at the ancient city and Yemen, a country in turmoil. Come and learn about the people, their sex-segregated society and its impact on religion, marriage and birth practices as Donna opens a window we rarely see.

Reservation deadline: Nov 8, 2011

NOVEMBER RESERVATION FORM

Tea and “Thirty Days in Yemen” on Sat, Nov. 12 at 2:00 PM

Name _____ Phone _____

Enclosed find check for \$ _____ for _____ person(s) at \$12 each

Send check to Susan Murphy, PO Box 221515, Carmel, CA 93922

Reservation Deadline: Nov 8, 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.

Co-Presidents: SALLY HEKKERS
SUSAN MURPHY

Finance VP: MARGARET SMITH

Co-Secretaries: PAT DEGE
MARCIA MCCLEARY

**Branch Membership & Information: 375-5220
or 626-8845**
Association Helpline No: 1-800-326-AAUW
or email: helpline@aauw.org

We're on the Web:

www.aauwmpb.org

Newsletter Deadline: 11/15/2011
Email articles to Ann Donaldson at
ann@wjdonaldson.com

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