



MONTEREY PENINSULA MESSENGER

Volume 58 Issue 3

Monterey Peninsula Branch

Jan-Feb 2011

January Branch Meeting

Speaker: Laura Lopez

Laura is a doctoral dissertation student at UCSC in astrophysics, a recipient of a doctoral dissertation grant from the AAUW Educational Opportunity fund. She started an Hispanic group for physicists, and is an outstanding example of the remarkable women we support. She will talk about her outreach, as well as her doctoral dissertation research.

Date: Saturday, January 22, 2011

Time: 12:00 Noon Potluck Salad Bar Lunch and Dessert

Last name K-Z bring a salad, last name A-J bring dessert. Drinks provided.
12:45 PM Speaker

Place: Pebble Beach Community Services Boardroom
3101 Forest Lake Road (in the fire station complex, parking is on Lopez)

RSVP: By Jan 19—Sharyn Siebert, 622-0425 or sharynsiebert@comcast.net

Bring books for our used book sale.

February Branch Meeting

(see page 5 for meeting information)

Date: Saturday, February 26, 2011

Registration Deadline: February 18

March Branch Meeting

(see page 7 for meeting information)

Date: Sunday, March 20, 2011

Registration Deadline: March 1

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AAUW's Mission
Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research..

AAUW's Value Promise
By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women have a fair chance..

PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE

A New Year traditionally is a time to look ahead as well as to reflect on where we've been. Looking back, we began the 2010-2011 year in September with an agenda that reflects AAUW's mission to sustain a culture in which women can achieve our full potential — educationally, socially, economically and politically. Our Monterey Peninsula Branch is determined, tough and immensely proud of our resolve to support the goals of AAUW.

Our autumn highlights included:

- * A successful Tech Trek fundraiser in October will help sponsor a middle school student for the summer science and math camp. Thank you, Phyllis Mosher and those who contributed to this event.
- * A fully staffed election precinct for the November 2 General Election supports the Local Scholarship Program. Scholarship recipients will be selected this spring. Thank you, Ruthann Donahue and your AAUW Team of Democracy members who worked the polls that day.
- * A busy Macy's Community Day event on November 13 raised funds for AAUW's Legal Advocacy Fund. Thank you, Joan Kiliany and those who purchased tickets and/or staffed the information table.
- * A festive Holiday Gala on December 12 was well attended and included a bounty of delicious treats. Thank you, Sherry Morse for so graciously welcoming us to your beautiful home, and to your helper elf Kathleen Stacey.
- * A series of interesting General Meeting programs included a theater event in September, a Hastings Natural History Preserve tour in October and a lively presentation about legendary interior decorator Frances Adler Elkins in

November. Thank you, Pat Gotch for your masterful program planning.

As co-presidents, we thank each of you for your continued support of AAUW's mission. We happily welcome new members Miriam Lilley, Donna Pribble and Laverne Whitmill. We're grateful beyond words for the diligence and hard work of our board members. They give their precious time and energy to AAUW; then we turn around and ask them to give even more. Please know how much we appreciate you!

Looking ahead, our AAUW-MPB calendar is filled from now through June with programs that focus on legal, political, scholarship and lobbying issues. Keep up with announcements of future activities in *The Messenger* and on our website, www.aauwmpb.org.

Our nation faces serious challenges, many of which gravely affect women. The struggle persists with parity issues in the workplace and on college and university campuses. Our reproductive rights seem to be a perpetual target. The issue of work-life balance is under attack as an increasing number of women are added to the poverty rolls every day. Let's ask ourselves how we can each lend a hand.

Cheers to a happy and safe New Year and the opportunity to continue the work of AAUW!

Susan Murphy
 Sally Hekkers
 Co-Presidents

Contact Information:

Susan, 622-9289, murphfam@redshift.com
 Sally, 455-2852, swhekkers@sbcglobal.net

BOARD MEETINGS

Jan 6 & Feb 3, 3 p.m.
 Monterey City Library

INTEREST GROUPS

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Carolyn Smith
(stacaro@aol.com)

Tuesday, Jan 11, at 2 PM
Book: *The Book Thief*, by Markus Zusak
At the home of Carolyn Smith
RSVP: stacaro@aol.com

Tuesday, Feb 8, at 2 PM
Book: *The Lotus Eaters*, by Tatjana Soli
At the home of Jan Smyth
RSVP: janzeek@hotmail.com

EVENING BOOK GROUP

Coordinator: Kathleen Wall
(wallplus@aol.com)

Jan 20, at 7:00 PM
Book: *For Whom the Bell Tolls*, by Earnest Hemingway
Hostess: Barbara Sheele, 657-4264
Leader: Sharyn Siebert

Feb 17, at 7:00 PM
Book: *Strength in What Remains*, by Tracy Kidder
Hostess: Mary Conway, 372-7994
Leader: Jacqui Davis

NEW BOOK GROUP

(See article page 6)

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)

January 28: 11:00 AM. **Back Porch Fabrics**, 157 Grand Ave., Pacific Grove.

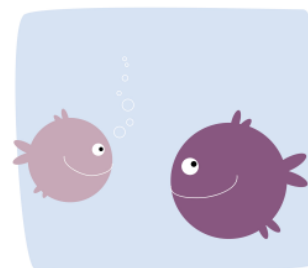
Gail Abeloe, owner of the full-featured quilt store, will discuss the current Gallery Exhibition, "**Fibers, Fabrics & Found Objects**," quilts and framed collages by Frances Cunningham. Quilters come from all over the U.S. to shop here for fabrics and supplies and enlist the help of her excellent staff. The gallery has changing shows of area quilters.

We'll have lunch at **Peppers**, 170 Forest Ave, in Pacific Grove.

To reserve a spot, contact Ann Donaldson, ann@wjdonaldson.com, 372-4251.

February 18: Peek Behind the Scenes at the Monterey Bay Aquarium

Tour begins at 11:20 for twelve lucky Romancers. They will have a guided tour of Behind the Scenes at the Aquarium. Following the tour we'll have lunch at **First Awakenings**. As space is limited, a \$5 donation is required from those planning to attend. Send your check to Kathleen Stacey. Your space will be reserved when Kathleen receives your check. For more information, e-mail yecats123@comcast.net



February Branch Meeting

AAUW MONTEREY BAY INTERBRANCH COUNCIL

invites you to attend

IBC LUNCHEON

2 Outstanding Guest Speakers

Cynthia Matthews — Santa Cruz councilwoman, who will speak on her grandmother's involvement in the suffragette movement.

Charlotte Newheart — the very witty lobbyist for AAUW in Sacramento, who will speak about her work for us there.

Date: Saturday, February 26, 2011

Time: 11:30 AM

Location: Seascape Beach Resort, One Seascape Resort Drive, Aptos, CA (Meeting room will be listed in the main lobby)

Menu: . A meat included dish or a vegetarian option, a side salad, tea or coffee, and dessert

Cost: \$22.00 (non-refundable)

Reservation Deadline: February 18, 2011 (Please see reservation form on **page 7**)

DIRECTIONS from Monterey • Carmel

Take Hwy 1 North to Santa Cruz and exit Larkin Valley/San Andreas Rd. Turn right at San Andreas Rd. At stop sign, turn right at Seascape Blvd and continue until the road ends. Turn left to go to Seascape Resort Lobby.

Parking:

The easiest parking is the main building, underneath, as close to the lobby elevator as possible. Then one can go right on to the meeting area. We have been on both the second and the third floor, but a quick peek out of the elevator should be enough for the people with walking problems to find out.

Raffle:

There will be a fundraiser Raffle, with 25% going to Tech Trek, 25% to IBC Fund, 25% to one winner and 25% to a second winner. \$5.00 per ticket suggested donation.

NEW MEMBER

Our branch welcomes **Donna Pribble**, a new member with dual status. We look forward to getting to know her. Now for a bit about her.

Carmel has been a second home for her the past 7 years, but she is now considering making it her permanent residence. She has been a member of the AAUW, San Mateo Branch, for most of the past 30 years, having been involved as treasurer, co-chair of programs, and more recently chair of a book discussion group. Donna says it was a rewarding experience and a nice way to meet others.

Her adult life has been spent as a volunteer for social service and environmental education non-profits. She also spent many years on the boards of several groups and now sits on the board of the Carmel Heritage Society.

She loves traveling, reading, doing needlepoint, and gardening.

Her motto: Live each day and try to be useful. Family and friends are my life.

CONSIDER THIS! JOIN A NEW AAUW BOOK GROUP!

Interested in organizing a new book group? Please bring your ideas and enthusiasm and join us for tea or coffee at the planning meeting. We'll meet Thursday, January 20, 10:30 a.m., at The Works (formerly Book Works), 667 Lighthouse Ave., in Pacific Grove.

AAUW-MPB currently has two very active book groups: the Afternoon Book Group (which is full) and the Evening Book Group (which has openings). Some of our members have expressed interest in forming another book group to fit their schedules. We'll explore this idea at the planning meeting. The topics we'll discuss include:

- When to meet — morning, afternoon or evening.
- Where to meet — members' homes or at a coffee shop or restaurant.
- What to read — fiction, nonfiction or both.
- How to select the books and conduct the discussions.
- Who will serve as the Book Group Coordinator.

For further information, contact:

Susan Murphy, murphfam@redshift.com, 622-9289 or Sally Hekkers, swhekkers@sbcglobal.net, 455-2852.

MEZ BENTON HONORED

Mez Benton, educator, community activist, and long time member of our Branch, received the 2010 Baha'i Human Rights Award on Saturday, December 4, 2010 at a luncheon sponsored by The United Nations Monterey Bay Chapter and the Baha'i Faith of Monterey Bay celebrating Humans Rights Day 2010.



Mez received this award for her work as a board member for the Gateway Center for the developmentally disabled. Mez was an instrumental figure in the fundraising effort, networking with the community to keep the center open. She said our branch was also supportive of the effort. In her brief acceptance speech, Mez spoke of the importance of unity in order to get things done and referenced this concept as the driving force in promoting the interests and rights of women.

Keynote speaker, Phil Butler, an eight year POW in Viet Nam and an active advocate for human rights, spoke of meeting Mez in the 1980s, thinking at the time, "Wow! I want to be like you someday."

Mez also received a Certificate of Recognition from the California State Assembly.

March Branch Meeting**SALINAS AND MONTEREY BRANCHES JOINT MEETING**

Annual joint meeting with our Salinas friends with whom we traditionally celebrate
Women's History Month

Date: Sunday, March 20th, 2:00 to 4:00 Tea Time

Where: Best Western Beach Resort Monterey

2600 Sand Dunes Drive, Monterey, 800 605-7650

Cost: \$25

What: Assorted Finger Sandwiches & Pinwheels, Assorted Bite-Size Desserts, Assorted Herbal Teas, No Host Wine Bar

Guest Speaker: Juliet Peck, Partner in the Law Offices of Lawrence & Peck

Ms. Peck plans to briefly present a historical perspective regarding female attorneys who practice in the realm of Criminal Law, the domain for litigation between Private Parties and Society. Civil Law, the more commonly practiced female attorney specialty, is litigation between one Private Party and another Private Party. Does gender interfere with choices as our young women prepare to specialize within the Criminal versus Civil Law communities? Does gender get in the way of perceived effectiveness as juries deliberate the guilt or innocence of accused criminals defended by a female attorney? Interesting. Fascinating will be Ms. Peck's recollection, as the public defender for several Monterey County high publicity cases, of how things are often done in our male dominated Criminal Law proceedings. A case in point was a 1996 horrific murder finally brought to trial in 2005. Public Defender Peck's thorough investigation and vigorous defense tactics were fascinating. Expensive, yes. Guilty, no.

RSVP: Mail \$25 check, payable to AAUW-MPB, by **March 1**, to Joan Kiliany, #5 La Playa Avenue, Monterey, CA 93940, 644-9344

February Reservation Form**Feb 26th IBC Luncheon, Seascape**

Name _____ Phone _____

Enclosed find check for \$ _____ for _____ person(s) at \$22.00 each

Entrée choice: ___Meat included dish ___Vegetarian

Cost: \$22.00 Send check to Jane DiGirolomo, 665 Park St., Salinas, CA 93901

Reservation deadline: Friday, February 18 Make checks payable to Monterey Bay IBC

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

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SUSAN MURPHY

Finance VP: MARGARET SMITH

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MARCIA MCCLEARY

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We're on the Web:

www.aauwmpb.org

**Newsletter Deadline: 2/15/2011
Email articles to Ann Donaldson at
ann@wjdonaldson.com**

Happy New Year!
