

The Wildflower



September 2017

Volume XXXVI. Issue 1

WELCOME TO THE FALL ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP BRUNCH



Date: Saturday, September 9, 2017

Time: 11 AM to 2 PM

Where: Morgan Hill Cellars, 1645 San Pedro Ave, MH

RSVP by September 7 to ensure we have enough tables and chairs for everyone!

- Invite guests and prospective AAUW members.
- Meet new members and help them connect with others in their neighborhoods.
- Catch up with friends.
- Hear our Tech Trek campers talk about their week at Stanford.

Sign up **HERE** or contact **Margo Hinnenkamp** 408-782-1712 to help with setup/cleanup, and to bring an appetizer, salad, main dish, or dessert.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR THE AAUW BOOTH AT THE TASTE OF MORGAN HILL. SEE PAGE 2.



he 28th Annual Taste of Morgan Hill

Saturday September 23rd 10:00am - 7:00pm Sunday September 24th 10:00am - 6:00pm

HISTORIC DOWNTOWN MORGAN HILL

Monterey between Dunne & Main

AAUW MONTHLY BRANCH PROGRAMS: 4TH TUESDAYS, MH LIBRARY, 7 PM

The Impact of the Homeless Problem on our Community

Panel discussion with the City of Morgan Hill and local non-profits about the challenges and possible solutions for Morgan Hill's homeless population. September 26, 7 PM, Morgan Hill Library.

Contact: Margaret McCann





THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Peggy Martin, President



AAUW Morgan Hill's theme for 2017-2018 is Legacy and Making A Difference in our Community. Our programs this year will reflect this focus.

At our **Board Retreat** and workshop **Becoming A Woman of Influence** in June, we explored our leadership and influence in our community. From these meetings, our further focus and actions for the year will be:

Education - Mentoring
Scholarship – Making it Possible
Tech Trek, GEMS and Speech Trek
Alternative forms of Education/Skills
Mentoring Parents on Education
Leadership (including Youth Programs)
Strategic Plan – Succession – AAUW Morgan Hill 50 years from now
Youth Conference
Speech Club
Inclusion and Diversity
Further Community Awareness
Chamber Events – Women's Week Celebration and Monthly Mixers
Taste of Morgan Hill
Monthly Programs at the Morgan Hill Library
Enhance or add to our Interest Groups

If you are interested in learning more about the leadership of our Branch, want to become more involved or just want a better understanding of our goals and activities, click **HERE** for a recap of our retreat and workshop.

My thanks to all Board Members and Members of our Branch. With the dedicated and passionate team effort, we will be able to continue to assist women and girls achieve their highest potential.

2017 TASTE OF MORGAN HILL - SEPTEMBER 23-24



The Taste of Morgan Hill is a festive weekend where AAUW MH joins the community to tell others about our branch, its mission, the Wildflower Run, scholarships, and programs. This is also an opportunity to recruit new members.

We are asking for volunteers to staff our booth both days. It is an easy two-hour shift with three volunteers each shift. The booth includes displays of branch activities and information about AAUW. Directions and helpful suggestions will be emailed to volunteers the week before.

Volunteers are also invited to a fun, informational presentation by **Peggy Martin** (with wine & cheese) a few days before, so if you are new to the branch, you are welcome to volunteer.

To sign up, click <u>HERE</u> or email <u>Peggy Martin</u>, designating which day (morning or afternoon) that you can help







AAUW CA CRITICAL "EVERY MEMBER" VOTE



AAUW CA has a critical governance issue that must be addressed through an "every member" vote. It is important that every member of AAUW CA cast a vote in favor of changing its non-profit status

from Mutual Benefit to Public Benefit entity.

This change will not have any noticeable impact, except without it, AAUW CA risks losing our National AAUW affiliation as well as jeopardizing our tax exempt status.

On September 10, 2017, the polls will open for AAUW Cali fornia members to vote on this change. The vote will be taken online through Survey Monkey, and all members with e-mail will receive an electronic notice of the vote and voting directions. Those members for whom we do not have an e-mail address will receive a postcard, prior to the opening of the polls, with instructions on how to vote by phone or online. Members will have until October 1, 2017 to cast their votes electronically or by phone.

For more information, go to aauw-ca.org.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Jenny Redfern, Membership VP

Two new members joined us this summer. Please welcome:

Penny Doubek is a mortgage banker with Bay Equity Home Loans and was referred to our branch by Gretchen Merrick.

Robin Shepherd is an associate editor of gmh TODAY magazine and was encouraged by Lesley Miles to join AAŬW MH.

Our members are our best recruiters! Invite your friends to our interesting and lively program meetings, the 4th Tuesday of each month, 7 pm at the MH Library. And do bring

prospective members to the Annual Fall Membership Brunch on September 9, 11 am, at Morgan Hill Cellars.

New and renewing members can order an AAUW Morgan Hill name badge from Make It Mine, 101 W. Main St., MH, 408-776-0556. Cost is about \$10.



Most members have already renewed their memberships for 2017-18! The majority renewed online using a credit card and the easy-peasy link in their email inboxes.

If you are among those still to renew, look for an email from "memberinfo@aauw.org." Can't find it? Contact Jenny.

PHILANTHROPY HONOREE NOMINATIONS DUE SEPT. 6

On November 17, at their Annual Philanthropy Dinner, the Morgan Hill Community Foundation will publicly recognize one of our branch members who has made significant philanthropic or volunteer contributions to AAUW. To nominate a branch member for this honor, please send the McElroy; 2015, Peggy Martin; 2014, Susan Oldham-Fritts; name and a supporting statement to Janet McElroy by September 6.

Selection guidelines include volunteer hours given to AAUW, financial support, or leadership in mission-based programs. In addition the nominee may have performed non-AAUW community service consistent with AAUW's

mission. A committee composed of previous AAUW MH honorees will make the selection.

Past honorees should not be nominated: 2016, Janet 2013, Margaret McCann; 2012, Elizabeth Mandel; 2011, Katie and Brian Howard: 2010. Carol O'Hare: 2009. Judy Kinker; 2008, Joan Ensign; 2007, Barbara Palmer; 2006, Bob Blaine.

Tickets and details about the event will be available later in September.

UPCOMING AAUW EVENTS (SAVE THE DATES)



Thurs, Sept 7 AAUW MH Board meeting, 7 pm, CRC. All members welcome. Contact Peggy Martin

Events Sat, Sept 9 Fall Membership Brunch, 11 am, MH Cellars. RSVP by Sept 7.

Sat-Sun, Sept 23-24 Taste of Morgan Hill. Volunteers needed for AAUW booth. Contact Peggy Martin

Tues, Sept 26 Monthly program: Impact of the Homeless Problem on Our Community, 7 pm, MH Library. Contact Margaret McCann

2017 AAUW NATIONAL CONVENTION

Seven branch members attended the AAUW National Convention in Washington, DC, in June. Following are a few brief comments about their experiences. To see more photos and read their complete statements, including Joanne's detailed article, click **HERE**.



L-R: Elizabeth Mandel, Carol Holzgrafe, Joanne Rife, Jenny Redfern, Barbara Palmer, Joan Ensign, Susan Persing

Joanne Rife:

"Action was the word used over and over at the convention that focused on lobbying and how to make a difference in the politics of the moment. You can do it from the comfort of your living room, or you can get out and march, but the point is, do something or the past advances in AAUW's issues are liable to be lost."

Susan Persing: "I especially enjoyed a seminar about the importance of storytelling to interest others in partnership with the great causes AAUW supports. The moderator

shared practical methods to create a story bank that collects personal stories about members or nonmembers who have been helped by AAUW's efforts."

Carol Holzgrafe: "One thing, above all, resonated from my time in Washington. When we visited Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, she said that only 37 percent of current Congressional Representatives was there during the 2007/2008 financial crisis. Lofgren believes that this may be one reason why today's Congress appears unconcerned about re-emerging predatory banking practices."

Barbara Palmer: "Attending an AAUW National Convention is always impressive and empowering. Being with 800 like-minded women for three days makes you realize you are a part of something bigger. The highlight of the convention for me was the appearance of Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor at an evening banquet."











WOMEN'S WEEK IN MORGAN HILL AUGUST 21-27

Celebrating Women's Week in Morgan Hill Monday, August 21st - 7pm HIDDEN FIGURES Please join us for a screening of Hidden Figures, the story of a team of female African-American Tickets \$5 mathematicians who served a vital role at NASA during the early years of the U.S. space program. The film is rated PG for thematic elements and some Cinelux Theater 750 Tennant Station language. This screening is open to all ages. Tuesday, August 22nd - 7pm Wednesday, August 23rd - 7pm The Morgan Hill City Council AAUW Voice Be Heard", effective will Proclaim the week of August nmunicate with Morgan Hill Library 660 W Main Ave 26th "Women's Week" in Morgan Hill. 17575 Peak Ave Thursday, August 24th - 6:30pm Reception, 7pm Panel Leadership Professionals Panel City Council Chambers, 17575 Peak Ave

A moderator will be on-site to guide the conversations, and afterwards there will be a brief Q & A session. This event is free and light refreshments will be provided.



Sunday, August 27th - Noon-3pm

"When I Grow Up..." Mixer
An all-ages mixer celebrating the diversity of women
Morgan Hill. Women are asked to come wearing their regular worksday outfl, so
at children can see women in many different roles. We will all line up for a group
noto holding hands, showcasing the variety of roles women take on in our community.

GVA Café
17400 Monterey

For more info visit: morganhill.org/womensweek

AAUW participated in Women's Week in Morgan Hill with a program on August 22, "Let Your Voice Be Heard: Effective Communication with Your Elected Officials." Presented by members of San Jose AAUW, the well-attended event provided detailed information on how to become more involved in the democratic process. Tips included writing postcards, using Facebook/Town Hall and mobile apps, and becoming an AAUW Two-Minute Activist. More information and links to handouts may be found on the branch website under Advocacy.

Women's Week was coordinated by the Chamber of Commerce and the City of Morgan Hill to recognize the contributions of women in our community and honor their accomplishments. The date was selected because August 26 is Women's Equality Day, commemorating the ratification of the 19th amendment that gave women the right to vote.

Other activities during the week included a showing of the movie, "Hidden Figures," and a panel of professional women, such as US Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren, branch member Lesley Miles, and Dr. Kathleen Rose, president of Gavilan College. It ended with an all-age mixer on Sunday afternoon celebrating the diversity of women in Morgan Hill.









FRIENDSHIP AND TRAVEL



We bid a fond farewell to <u>Susie</u>
<u>Parrish</u>, who has relocated to the
Central Coast to work in the lab of
J. Lohr Winery in Paso Robles.
She will be working with the fermentation process and testing
grapes to determine quality and
when they are ready to be harvested and bottled, based on color, tannin, acids, pH, and sugar
content. During harvest she will
be putting in long hours, six days
a week.

In the past two years Susie generously gave her time to Tech Trek, GEMS, the Lauren Jenkins STEM workshops, and the Wildflower Run. Susie says, "It has been great getting to know strong women leaders and the movers and shakers of our town. I could-

<u>Kathy Goelkel</u> may unwillingly hold the title of branch member with the most surgeries, and she recently had one more. She would welcome your calls, messages, or visits as she recuperates at ManorCare in Sunnyvale. You can reach her at 408-607-0475.

n't have been happier to be a part of this organization."

Congratulations to **Faith Protsman**, **MD**, who was named "Best Physician" in the 2017 Best of Gilroy. Dr. Protsman has a family medicine practice and is also the Chief of Staff at St. Louise Regional Hospital.







The Morgan Hill Library celebrated the 10th anniversary of its new building in July. Several branch members were among the Friends of the Library volunteers who helped with the event and were then later thanked with a cocktail party.

Kathy Sullivan, Beth Wyman, and Margot Hinnenkamp have been leading walks through historic downtown on the second Saturday of the month for the Historical Society. Ask them to tell you about the ghost who lives in the Grange.

Carol O'Hare (L) and Karen Mac-Donald (R), along with Teresa Stephenson, toured the 1929 mansion Vikingsholm on Emerald Bay at Lake Tahoe in August.









In June Janet Wright sang with the Santa Clara Chorale at Carnegie Hall, New York City.



Pizza in Paradise

After being diagnosed with Lewy body dementia, the second most common form of degenerative dementia, branch member Sue Berghoff made the decision to turn this devastating diagnosis into an opportunity to help and educate others about this disease.



She and her husband are hosting an afternoon of education, food and music, "Pizza in Paradise," on September 30 at their Paradise Valley home.

For complete details, go HERE.

Send items for Friendship and Travel to <u>Donna Dicker</u>.

4TH OF JULY & SUMMER BBQ PICTURE LINK



To view photos from the 4th of July parade and Summer Barbecue, click <u>HERE</u>



SPOTLIGHT ON INTEREST GROUPS: FRIDAY WRITERS



Beth Wyman, started the AAUW Morgan Hill Writers Group ten years ago and what an inspirational time it has been.

As members of this group, we can share our written stories, read our

poems or take others in the group along our novel/book writing journey.

With the members being dedicated to writing, Beth and all the members have created a safe place to share. Our meetings are a treasured two hours we have every other Friday morning.

We are serious about the craft of writing. Some of the writing has created so much laughter that tears follow, while other pieces so touch the heart. We become part of the other writer's experience.

We gather at a member's home typically with coffee and a treat. Although in recent times, we have had some wonderful luncheon together, too.

Front, L-R: Jean Pinard, Elsa Walton, Nancy Fishman, Peggy Martin

Back, L-R: Joan Stempel, Katie Scanlon, Beth Wyman, Margo Hinnenkamp, Inger Govin, Suman Ganapathy, Jenny Redfern

Not pictured: Susan Brazelton, Donna Dicker, Janet Espersen, Anne Rosenzweig

~ Peggy Martin

NEW INTEREST GROUP: HOLE IN THE HEART

A new group for widows has been formed to offer support and sharing of experiences. The "Hole in the Heart" group will meet monthly, the 2nd Monday of the month from 1:00 - 2:30 pm. More recent widows (within the past three years) are especially invited to participate, although others are also welcome.

The September 11 meeting will be at Carol O'Hare's home. For more information, contact Carol.

TECH TREK

Joy Safakish, Tech Trek Coordinator



Eight local girls quickly settled into dorm life at Tech Trek Camp Marie Curie at Stanford University in July.

In addition to five different STEM core classes, they had workshops, field trips and labs. If asked, our campers can describe the squid dissection in Marine Biology lab, what fizzled in Ice Cream Chemistry, and what's the smallest in Nanotechnology workshop. Everyone developed new skills by soldering electrical connections for a mini flashlight. Cyber Security introduced JAVA programming and how to spot phishing

On Professional Women's Night eight talented women generously shared their stories, described careers, and answered questions with all campers. Mad City Money was a crazy financial romp where the girls were given an imaginary career and salary, wrote checks, and tried to balance their budget.

You can meet the Tech Trek girls at our Fall Membership Brunch on September 9. Click <u>HERE</u> to read their thank you letters such as ". . .Tech Trek was a unique eye-opening experience that showed me many kinds of STEM occupations that I had not previously been exposed to. . ."

emails.

AAUW FUND: BLAINE/CATE ENDOWMENT RECIPIENT FOR 2017-2018

Janet Wright, AAUW Fund VP

The Morgan Hill Branch Blaine /Cate Endowment is supporting Alani Hicks-Bartlett, PhD, for 2017-2018. She



has received an American Postdoctoral Research Leave Fellowship. This fellowship is designed to assist scholars in obtaining tenure and other promotions by enabling them to spend a year pursuing independent research. The primary purpose of the fellowship is to increase the number of women in tenure-track faculty positions and to promote equality for women in higher education.

Dr. Hicks-Bartlett is studying at the University of California, Berkeley, where

she has taught foreign language and gender studies. The

project she is working on is: "The Cure Gone Awry: Gender, Dis/ability, and the Ailing Empire. It addresses the lack of scholarly attention given to notions of perceived 'alterity,' gender and dis/ability

studies in the Early Modern period. During the fellowship tenure, Dr. Hicks-Bartlett will complete her study of the dramatic representation of political instability and its connection to the societal, cultural, and religious pressures that link susceptible bodies to political infirmity, bloodshed with catharsis, and purgation with spiritual health."

Save the Date: AAUW Fund Fall Luncheon Saturday, October 28, at the Basque Cultural Center in South San Francisco.

PUBLIC POLICY

Janet Wright, Public Policy Chair

AAUW has been actively pursuing its mission of advancing the rights of women. AAUW shared information about its research, programs, and advocacy for women and girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics with Congressional leaders and other stakeholders. In July representatives from AAUW attended the Women's Congressional Policy Institute's Fifth Annual STEAM Fair and Reception.



Also in July, the Department of Education hosted a series of meetings and roundtable discussions focusing on Title IX, the federal law banning sex discrimination in all federally funded education programs. AAUW was invited to join the discussion alongside higher education administrators, law professors, and other education associations. In the meeting AAUW continued to demand that Title IX be protected and fully enforced.

Kimberly Churches, CEO of AAUW, talked to Comcast newsmakers to discuss how the student debt crisis disproportionately impacts women. Churches discussed the findings of AAUW's <u>Deeper in Debt: Women and Student Loans</u> report, and what people can do to take action on this issue.

35TH ANNUAL WILDFLOWER RUN MARCH, MARCH 25, 2018

Wildflower Run Corporate Sponsors

Barbara Palmer, WFR Sponsor Team Chair

This year the Wildflower Run Corporate Sponsor Committee had unprecedented success, raising \$27,700 to be included in branch allocations for Tech Trek, local scholarships and grants, Speech Trek, leadership programs, and national AAUW priorities. The ten members of this team will have its first meeting in October to kick off the 2018 fundraising year. Our ambitious monetary target for 2018 is \$29,000. Our team has two additional goals: (1) Add another \$1,500 sponsor and (2) Increase the number of member/company matching grants. With your encouragement and support, we will reach these objectives and continue to assist women and girls achieve their personal and educational goals.







Morgan Hill AAUW

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Visit us on <u>Facebook</u> or At http://www.aauwmh.org/

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VP Membership: Jenny Redfern
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

- ♦ Tues, Sept 12 Mariachi Los Toritos celebrating National Hispanic Month, 7 pm, MH Library
- ◆ Thurs, Sept 14 Santa Clara Co <u>Library District Foundation</u> fundraiser with the founder of Maker Faire Movement, 6:30 pm, Foothill Club, Saratoga, \$60
- ◆ Tues, Sept 19 LUkeS (Library Ukulele Society, 5-7pm. Bring your ukulele and stand. Music provided. Contact Karen MacDonald
- ♦ Sat, Oct 7 Book Sale, 10 am 3 pm, members only 9 am 10 am

Morgan Hill Historical Society

- ♦ Sat, Sept 9 Downtown Historic Walking Tour, 10 am noon, 3rd St Plaza off Monterey Rd
- Sat, Sept 16 48th Annual Founders Dinner, 5 pm, Community and Cultural Center, \$65.

<u>South County Lifelong Learning</u>, 10 am – 12 noon, MH Community and Cultural Center. Contact <u>Debbie Vasquez</u>, 408-310-4254. Register online or at the CCC or CRC.

- ♦ Wed, Sept 20 Immunity, Infection and Aging with Dr. Linda Caren, \$10
- Wed, Sept 27 Never Go to a Doctor Whose Plants Have Died: The Humor of Erma Bombeck with Susan McGough, \$10

South Valley Civic Theater

Sept 8 - Oct 7 "Follies" legendary Stephen Sondheim musical

South Valley Symphony

♦ Sun, Oct 1 From Hollywood to the Met, Guglielmo Winery, \$40









