



MAY LUNCHEON CELEBRATES *Women4Women*



Outgoing president Diane Bell-Rettger and incoming president Karen Mankowski share their "keys" to success

The May Luncheon is a celebration of OML's year and the May 21st gathering was a celebration of Women 4 Women!

Sixty members and guests gathered in the lovely Fairway Lounge at Orinda Country Club to fete Marie Bonilla, the 2013 Distinguished Woman. Eleven previous Distinguished Women were in attendance as were five Early OML members: Joan Armstrong, Joy Elkinton-Walker, Flo Garay, June Howe and Virginia Larsen.

Ellen Beans gave a "key-note address" with her installation of OML's executive committee for 2013-2014. Ellen awarded a "key" to opening doors, and a "key" to success for each elected officer as she asked them to accept the responsibilities of the office.

Joan Armstrong, a 50 year member, invited June Howe to join the 50-year club. Though June had years when she was consumed with family duties and other commitments, she maintained her OML

membership because she believed in the mission of AAUW and the service of OML. She now enjoys a lifetime membership and NO DUES! Welcome to the Club, June!

Members were acknowledged for their contributions to AAUW Funds. A total of \$8,071 was donated in 2012, \$2,450 go-



On behalf of the branch, Jan Coe presents Marie Bonilla with a Distinguished Woman scrapbook and engraved tray.

ing to the Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF). Because of OML's generosity, a Branch-Named Gift Honoree (BNGH) is recognized every year. This year the honor was bestowed upon Jenny Offringa, acknowledging her many years of financial support to AAUW Funds, her years of service to OML, and her tenure as Treasurer of AAUW Funds for

OML.

Ken Tietz and his daughter Cindy attended the luncheon and honored the memory of former OML President Mary Helene Tietz, last year's Distinguished Woman.

Donations in memory of Mary Helen have streamed in all year. Many thanks go out to the Tietz family who requested that donations in Mary Helene's memory be made to AAUW Education Funds and to Tech Trek. Donations for both funds have come not only from OML Branch members, but also from other friends and family.

To date, these donations have amounted to an impressive \$5,205. with AAUW Education Funds receiving \$3,180, and Tech Trek \$2,025. Many thanks to all who have contributed to this wonderful legacy for Mary Helene.

Ken then introduced 2013 honoree, Marie Bonilla. Ken had a humorous array of Wikipedia information related to Marie's hometown of Rupert, Idaho as well as various items related to Marie's chosen field, Chemical Engineering. Marie



Ken Tietz and daughter Cindy Padden

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Thank you for allowing me to serve as AAUW/OML's President this year. It has been a positive experience! I enjoyed learning more about branch operations and priorities. I am very grateful for the support I received from Board members and the general membership.

I'm proud of the community outreach programs this year, such as the showing of the film *Miss Representation* at the Rheem Theatre, and our attractive and informative Women's History month display at the Moraga Library. These were nice additions to our traditional fundraising efforts for our priorities.

We raised a lot of money because several hearty members worked the 49'ers football games! Thank you for your efforts!

This year was a special year due to the passing of two remarkable AAUW members, Gayle Uilkema and Mary-Helene Tietz. The Scholarship, Education and Tech Trek Funds received a nice boost because of donations made by these women and in honor of these women.

I also want to thank the members who volunteered to be important but not well-known characters for our March Women's History Month Program in March. We should always value the women who blazed a trail for the rest of us.

Best wishes to our next President, Karen Mankowski and her incoming Board. Karen will be a dynamic President who will lead the new Board and general membership in AAUW's mission to empower women!

Diane Bell-Rettger

MEMBERSHIP NEWS FOR JUNE 2013

The May luncheon was a wonderful celebration of a busy and productive year for OML. Several social activities are proposed for the summer months. Read more about these by going to the website at www.aauwoml.org.

Many of you have already sent in your dues for the 2013-2014 year. This is a tremendous help. I urge everyone who has not taken care of this paperwork to get it done ASAP. If you had a heart sticker on your place card at the luncheon, it was my personal thank you for renewing your membership and completing the paperwork so quickly. Sending your dues and profile page right away reduces the need for reminders, follow up phone calls, second mailings etc.

Your membership supports many valuable endeavors for women. Even if you cannot come to many branch events your dollars are used for the advancement of women locally, in California and nationwide. This is an organization devoted to serving women in numerous ways. Thanks for your support by belonging to the OML Branch.

Give a Grad a Gift to a woman or man who is graduating from a college or university in 2013. You can give a recent grad a free, one-year AAUW (and AAUW California) membership at no cost to you or to them. Expose a new graduate to the power that comes from joining a national women-led organization at aauw.org/resource/give-a-grad-a-gift

Bonnie Gallogly Membership VP

THE ANYONE WHO HAS READ THE BOOK GROUP

For the summer meetings, please bring a sandwich & rsvp to the hostess

JUNE 21 – 10:30 am – A Hologram for the King by Dave Eggers

Home of June Howe, 5 Las Vegas Rd., Orinda – 254-5276

JULY 19 – 10:30 am – God's Hotel by Victoria Sweet

Home of Flo Garay, 2901 Lavender Dr., Walnut Creek – 933-7609

AUGUST 16 – 10:30 am – Four Spirits by Sena Jeter Naslund

Home of Marcia Hodges, 4 Risa Ct., Orinda – 376-5023

(See page 3 for the 2013-14 selections and meeting dates)

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2012-2013**President**

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shared personal anecdotes about growing up on a farm and the experiences that prompted her to embrace engineering, a completely male-dominated field. After Marie regaled the attendees with 'work' stories, no one considered chemical engineering a boring subject! Marie shared insights that she gained during her 28 years with Chevron and concluded with her dream about full equity for women in the work place and beyond....a fitting tribute to Women 4 Women.



Joan Armstrong congratulates June Howe for her 50 years of membership.



Ellen Beans installs the OML Executive Committee officers for 2013-14: Gail Chesler, Diane Bell-Rettger, Nancy Brewer, Karen Mankowski, Jan Cushman, Judy Hammon, Therese Tamaro, Bonnie Gallogly and Anita Cox

MUSEUM MAVENS ENJOYED 2013

St Mary's College Hearst Art Museum exhibited the many forms of Carnival or Mardi Gras. Heidi Donner was a wonderful docent. Sixteen Mavens saw the Asian Art Museum's China's Terra Cotta Warriors exhibit. AAUW-OML Member Stacia Cragholm arranged tickets, audio guides, seating in the China Cafe, and provided background for the museum with emphasis on the Warriors

We are hoping for a summer trip either locally or a trip to the Crocker Museum in Sacramento via Amtrak. Contact Maryellen Judson (thjudson@aol.com) Elaine Gallaher (eegal@pacbell.net)



Left - right: Mary Ann McLeod, Elaine Gallaher, Maryellen Judson Gail Chesler, Ksenija Soster-Olmer, Jan Coe enjoy lunch after the tour.

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National Assoc. for Advancement of Female People – Diane Bell-Rettger*
Neighborhood Computers
New Delhi Indian Bistro
Royal Siam Thai Cuisine
Shop Moraga First
Terzetto Cuisine Café
The New Rheem Theatre
Total Clean
Via Vienté – Lana Reichick*

TECH TREK, SCHOLARSHIP WRAP UP SUCCESSFUL YEAR



Top Row: Scholarship winners and keynote speaker, from left: Kate Ruth Greer, Jenanne Margaret Vaccaro, Danielle Feinberg, Mina Arasteh, Natasha Blazer, Mariah McKenzie Miller, and Elise Peterson-Trujillo. Front Row: Tech Trek winners: Chun Che Free, Julia Moseyko, Audrey Moore, Natalie Davis, Ariella Zulch, and Molly Mudgett

More than 100 people attended the April 21 Sunday meeting to celebrate and honor the six Tech Trek camp scholarship winners and the six college scholarship winners.

TECH TREK: The six middle school girls will attend the Grace Hopper Tech Trek camp on the Stanford University campus in July. Science and math teachers at local intermediate schools nominated 60 girls for Tech Trek camp. Of these, 52 completed applications, and all 52 girls were interviewed by Tech Trek committee members. The winning girls, full of energy and enthusiasm, read their essays explaining their passions for science and math. Gail Chesler and Jan Cushman will be dorm moms at Stanford with our girls!

SCHOLARSHIP: Based on the generosity of Gayle Uilkema, an

anonymous donor, and AAUW OML donations, two \$5,000 scholarships, three \$700 scholarships, and one \$500 merit award were presented on Sunday to six very deserving young women. Each girl spoke impressively about her incredible accomplishments, career dreams, and college she will be attending.

Both the Tech Trek girls and the college scholarship winners thanked AAUW OML profusely for the wonderful opportunities the scholarships will provide for them.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER Danielle Feinberg of Pixar Animation Studios enthralled the audience with her love of computer graphics, which began when she was only eight years old. She showed scenes from the movies she has worked on, such as *Brave*, *Cars*, *Ratatouille*, *Finding Nemo*, and *Toy Story*. She stressed the importance of math-

ematical equations when designing the movements and structures of animation, as well as behavior patterns. She mentioned overcoming obstacles by determination, which builds confidence. Feinberg especially delighted the audience with her story of taking a lawnmower class in high school whereby she was the only girl in the class, and also the only one who had repaired her lawnmower to the point where it actually worked by the end of the term. She encouraged the girls to follow their dreams no matter how hard the courses or the problems, and she delighted the audience with tales of her experiences working at Pixar.

Thanks to the Tech Trek and Scholarship committees for making these programs a success. Tech Trek Committee: A special thanks to Marie Bonilla, Lana Reichick, and Jan Cushman for heading up the interviewing process, and to Gail Chesler, Anita Cox, Stacia Cragholm, Carrol Foxall, Laura Halvorsen, Chris Laszcz-Davis, Jeanne MeLaugh, Judy Peak, Margaret Race, Marty Schimbor, and Therese Tamaro. Scholarship Committee: Nancy Bradley, Gail Burnett, Joy Elkinton-Walker, Lisa Geary, Maryellen Judson, Mary Ann McLeod, Ksenjia Soster-Olmer.

Thank you generous members of AAUW OML for your donations to Tech Trek and Scholarship, and for supporting our fundraisers throughout the year!!

Sandy Fox-Sohner, Tech Trek and Karen Mankowski, Scholarship

OML'S BURCKHALTER PROJECT: YEAR END REPORT – 2012 – 13

A Branch priority since 1993, OML's Burckhalter Project has just completed its 20th year of service to this underserved inner city school located in East Oakland.



K deGroot

IN THE CLASSROOM: OML provided 11 tutors to the school this year: K. de Groot, Betty Iverson, Carrol Foxall, Jean Somerset, Cristine Hilsinger, Carol Messinger, Gail Chesler and Therese Tamaro. The last two also volunteer in the library. Three new OML members came on board: Connie Tuft, Nancy Bradley and her husband, Ed.

NASA scientist and OML member Margaret Race presented a program on "Searching for Life in our Solar System" to first through fifth grade students who were interested in astronomy. Margaret is a dynamic speaker and said the students asked good questions. They were thrilled with all the "take away" gifts she had for them including build it yourself kits of the heavy lift rocket that may take humans to Mars someday and solar system tattoos (temporary, of course).

Through Mary Levey's contacts, Stanley Intermediate School donated 12 telescopes to the 5th grade class at Burckhalter.

IN THE LIBRARY: Burckhalter's all-volunteer library is staffed by 14 amazing women including OML members Pat Beckner, Marilyn Budge, Mary Ellen Judson, Ruth Balsden, Arlene Downes, Mary Levey, Sandy Fox-Sohner, Mary Ann McLeod and new mem-

ber, Mary Olowin. Thanks to Judy Helder and Bobbie Dodson, who helped on an as-needed basis.

The volunteers were able to staff the library an extra day this year, adding Tuesday to the Monday and Thursday schedule. Every teacher was scheduled to bring his/her class to the library one day each week.

The library volunteers provide orientation lessons, storybook reading, a free-book program and help in selecting books, which is a very important contact with the students, as well as performing many other tasks.

Thanks to Jan Cushman who facilitated a grant from Chevron that allowed volunteers to purchase science books from the Lawrence Hall of Science that supplemented the science curriculum in all grades.



Arlene Downes

Burckhalter students have consistently improved in English Language studies, math and science over the past few years, and we like to feel that the OML volunteers, in the classrooms and in the library, contribute significantly to the students' progress in all areas.

If you would like to know

more about OML's Burckhalter Project, please let me know. All of us who work with these delightful children find it so rewarding that we are happy to return year after year – for 20 years of service to Burckhalter School.

Carol Messinger, Coordinator, The Burckhalter Project



Pat Beckner



JUNE AT A GLANCE

1 SAT CRITICS' CHOICE BOOK GROUP

Please rotate your book

1 SAT INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL GROUP

6:00 pm Contact K. Soster-Olmer, 254-5439

3, 6, 10, 13, 17, 20, 24, 37 TENNIS

8:15 am, Saint Mary's Courts

4 TUES INCOMING, OUTGOING BOARD MEETING

9:30 am Diane Bell-Rettger's home

4 TUES #1 BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon Joyce Dickey, 825-7991

6 THU #2 BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon Virginia Semrau 283-8056

10 MON GREEN THUMB LADIES

Lafayette Community Gardens

Contact Ann Collins, 254-1044, Andrea Green

376-7087

9 MON-12 WED NATIONAL CONVENTION

10, 24, MON GOLF

10:00 am Contact Jan Gee for t-time 938-1316

11 TUES #3 BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon Patricia Bentley, 284-2936

19 WEDS MEMOIRS AND MUSINGS

Contact Carole Messinger, 283-8741

20 THURS #4 BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon Jessie Dolman 254-5019

21 FRI ANYONE WHO'S READ THE BOOK

See page 2 for information

21 FRI MOVIE GROUPS Group 1, Mary-Leigh Miller

631-9694; Group 2, Mary Stephens Smith, 376-5726; #3

Judy Hammon, 253-4972

26 WEDS WISE WOMEN

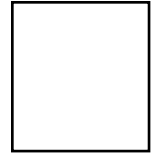
1:00 Contact Carol Foxall, 376-7388

25 TUES #5 BRIDGE GROUP

12 noon Coordinator: Joan Myers, 363-1962

27 THURS DAYTIME MOVIE GROUP

CONSULT THE WEB SITE FOR JULY ACTIVITIES



GOT COMPUTER QUESTIONS?

Friday, August 9th from 9:30 to 11:30 at Hacienda in Moraga, a team of your buddies will be available to answer questions you might have about how to get the most out of your computer.

(1) For the first 1/2 hour we'll take individual questions. If you could send them to us beforehand, we'd be sure to know the answer <grin>.

(2) Next we'll talk about and demonstrate setting up a FACEBOOK account. We'll discuss protecting your privacy and how to fine-tune your enrollment so that you determine how much other folks can see - and which other folks those are. We might also talk about how the branch could productively use Facebook.

(3) If time remains, we'll show you how to use Movie Story. It's user-friendly software (free) that let's you create a slide story with music if you want. Really easy, really fun.

(4) Adding music to Power Point will also be demonstrated. If you're interested in this skill, send along the version number for the Power Point you are using.

Please RSVP to gailchesler@gmail.com
Include with your RSVP message: what operating system are you using (Windows or MAC)?

THE ROAD MORE TRAVELED