



MORGAN HILL
(CA) BRANCH

The Wildflower

Fall 2017

Volume XXXVI, Issue 2



MONTHLY PROGRAMS HELD THE 4TH TUESDAY OF THE MONTH, 7 P.M.
AT THE MORGAN HILL LIBRARY. CONTACT [MARGARET MCCANN](#)

October 24

Together, We Can Make A Difference



We will explore:

Living purposefully and generously through our actions

By engaging our family and friends in making a difference

Presented by branch members Peggy Martin and Margo Hinnenkamp

November 28

'My Love Affair with the Brain:
The Life and Science of Dr. Marian Diamond'

Award winning PBS documentary on one of the founders of modern neuroscience. First in our 'Want a Better Brain?' series.



SAVE THE DATE

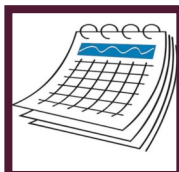


HOLIDAY PARTY ON SUNDAY, December 10, 2017 AT 11 AM

Venue: Eagle Ridge Clubhouse, Gilroy

Cost: \$45 per person

Contact: [Margo Hinnenkamp](#)



[AAUW Calendar](#)

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Peggy Martin, President



As we transition from summer to autumn, it is a time to reminisce about the sunny season events and look forward to our upcoming activities.

Our membership brunch was a memorable occasion and so very gratifying to hear about the experiences of our Tech Trek campers and NCCWSL scholarship recipient. A reminder of the impact and influence our branch has on young girls/women in Morgan Hill.

The Taste of Morgan Hill gave us the opportunity to speak about the AAUW mission to individuals in our community who stopped by to visit our booth. It was also a chance to talk to local women interested in becoming members.

Our 2017 – 2018 programs have a focus of Making a Difference in our community. In August we started with the successful program on how to effectively communicate with our elected officials, and in September we learned about homelessness in Morgan Hill.

In October, I am pleased to be presenting the program, ***“Together, We Can Make A Difference”*** with Margo Hinnenkamp. We will focus on how, if we work together, with our family, our friends, our AAUW members, we can accomplish much for our community. We will explore how to live our lives with purpose, so that our actions will have a long lasting impact. We will also discuss what should be our next steps.

Our programs are held in conjunction with the Morgan Hill Library, so they are open not only to our members but also to the citizens of Morgan Hill. This gives us an opportunity to further expand our role and impact in the community.

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.

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING SUMMARY

Maggie Leininger, Acting Secretary

The 2017-2018 Board had its first regular meeting on September 7 with President Peggy Martin presiding.

Katie Scanlon, CFO, presented the annual budget of \$7020, which was accepted. For details go [HERE](#).

Margie Snively was appointed Program Co-VP to replace Buffie Colloton.

Elizabeth Mandel introduced the Wildflower Fund Allocation proposal for approval. See page 4 for more information. Anyone interested in ordering the new branch polo shirt should contact Elizabeth.

The [Bylaws](#) committee presented amended Addendum 6 (Scholarships and Grants) and 8 (Wildflower Fund: Allocations and Donations), which were approved.

Margaret McCann and Joanne Rooney are starting a junior version of Toastmasters at Sobrato High School.

AAUW FUND ANNUAL CA FELLOWS LUNCHEONS

Janet Wright, AAUW Fund VP

Celebrate and honor our 2017-18 California Fellowship & Grant recipients by attending one of these special luncheons: **Saturday, Oct 28** at the Basque Cultural Center, South Francisco, or **Sunday, Oct 29**, Crow Canyon Country Club, Danville. Hear from recent recipients for an inspiring glimpse into their research, an overview of their studies or projects, and highlighting what the support from AAUW has meant to them. The fellow who is supported by the Morgan Hill Blaine/Cate Endowment will be speaking in Danville. Cost is \$45. For online or mail-in registration, go to [AAUW CA](#). Deadline is October 16. [Janet Wright](#) will coordinate carpooling.



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PHILANTHROPY HONOREE MARY COX

[Janet McElroy](#), 2016 Honoree



Celebrate with AAUW when we honor **Mary Cox** as our 2017 Outstanding Philanthropist and Volunteer at the annual [Morgan Hill Community Foundation](#) Philanthropy Dinner on Friday, November 17, at the Community and Cultural Center. Ticket information will be available soon.

Mary has been an active AAUW member for 15 years and has served the branch with devotion, caring grace, and generosity of spirit. She just completed two years as president and co-president and has held other board positions in the past. Mary also created and facilitated the Lauren Jenkins STEM workshop for high school girls held at Anaerobe Systems. Each year she and her husband Mike open their lovely home for our annual summer barbecue. Mary is an excellent role model for women and girls, especially for those interested in math and science.

Another branch member, **Margo Hinnenkamp**, has been selected by the **Morgan Hill Historical Society** as their Outstanding Philanthropist and Volunteer. Margo is a long-time docent at the Morgan Hill House. She also is a member of planning committees for the Holiday Tea and other MHHS events. She assisted with developing the Downtown Historic Walking Tour and has served as a guide. She is being honored for her long-term commitment to the Historical Society.



Congratulations to both honorees!

MEMBERSHIP NEWS: SHAPE THE FUTURE

[Jenny Redfern](#), Membership VP

Did you know that **new** members are eligible for **Shape the Future** reduced-dues membership for their first year? If they join at one of our open-to-the-public meetings, total first year dues are \$69.40 instead of the regular \$94 (a 50% reduction in National dues).

Welcome these new Shape the Future members:

- **Kristyn Greenwood** is a senior manager for user experience at a software company and has been a friend of mine for years.
- **Nadene Wilkens'** mother was an AAUW member, and now Nadene, a retired educator, has joined, too.
- **Jan Bergkamp** is retired from MHUSD and was referred by Margaret McCann.
- **Nancy Kandhra** owns an ADT dealership and is one of this year's Trek moms.

- **Sue Phea** is a product configuration analyst for NetApp and also a Tech Trek mom.
- **Molly Edgar** is a principal's secretary in the MHUSD and was referred by her mom, Carol O'Hare.
- And **Cynthia Iwanaga** upgraded her membership from National-only to include branch membership.



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.

Membership Team Opportunity

The Membership Team needs help updating our Membership sign-board that is displayed at all our public events. If you like to work with photos and layout, please contact [Jenny](#).

2017 NCWWSL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Michaela Austin recently attended the 2017 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders with an AAUW scholarship. She shared her conference experiences at the Fall Brunch. To read some of her talk, go [HERE](#),

Michaela is a graduate of Live Oak High School and currently a junior at University of California, Santa Barbara. She is working towards a double major in Environmental Studies and Sociology. She works at Whole Foods and is also a research assistant studying the environmental impact of prisons on inmates and local communities.

NCCWSL is the premier conference for current and aspiring women college student leaders. It is held annually at the University of Maryland at Baltimore in May. The scholarship, which includes registration, housing, and travel expense, is supported by the Wildflower Fund.

NEWSLETTER LAYOUT EDITOR OPPORTUNITY

Do you have graphic design or computer layout skills, or would like the challenge of learning? We are looking for someone to take over as **layout editor** for our branch newsletter. Current editor Suman Ganapathy is moving to the position of copy editor to replace Carol O'Hare, who is retiring. The newsletter is published five times a year: September, Fall (Oct, Nov, Dec), Winter (Jan, Feb, Mar), Spring (Apr, May, June) and Summer (July, Aug). The majority of the work is done the 3rd week of the month prior to the month of publication.

If you would like to explore this possibility, please contact [Suman](#).



WILDFLOWER RUN: MARCH 25, 2018

Pat Toombs, Wildflower Run Director



The 2018 [Wildflower Run](#) will be our 35th - a pretty impressive number! Proceeds from our 2017 Run contributed to the \$51,000 that will be distributed locally and nationally to support scholarships, grants, and other AAUW mission-based programs. Our goal is to do even more in 2018.

Our 2018 t-shirt design contest winner was Bob Snow of Design Factory Graphics. Note that the year 2018 is included, which is something new. Members will be able to purchase a long-sleeve version, as well as the traditional short sleeve one. Collector cards with Run details will be available for all members to give to family, friends, and co-workers.

The Run is the only function where we ask all members to participate, since it is our sole fundraising event. Contact [Janet McElroy](#) to volunteer for a job or if you want to change from what you did last year. We still have a couple of Run chair positions available as well. Thanks to everyone for your continuing support!

WILDFLOWER FUND ALLOCATIONS

Elizabeth Mandel, Chair



The branch has approved allocation of a record \$51,000 from our Wildflower Fund. This money consists of 2017 run proceeds, corporate sponsorships, and individual donations. Allocations include an impressive array of local scholarships, community action grants in support of local non-profit organizations, Stanford Tech Trek camperships for middle school girls, GEMS, and Speech Trek. In addition, we will support AAUW nationally by sending money to the AAUW Fund and working aggressively toward completing our MH Wildflower Run Research and Projects Grants endowment. This year's allocation included increased funding for community action grants and additional support for developing women leaders through funding for a teen leadership development workshop.

Thank you to committee members and meeting participants: **Janet Wright** (AAUW Fund), **Janet McElroy** (Leadership), **Susan Oldham-Fritts** (GEMS), **Joy Safakish** (Tech Trek), **Joanne Rooney** (Speech Trek), **Donna Dicker** (Local Scholarships), **Pat Toombs** (Wildflower Run), **Peggy Martin** (President & Run Treasurer), **Margaret McCann** (HS Programs and Scholarships), **Carol O'Hare** (member donations and ISPF), **Katie Scanlon** (CFO), and **Judy Kinker** (Bylaws).

For complete details, go to [ALLOCATIONS](#).

AAUW AND LEADERSHIP MORGAN HILL



AAUW-MH believes it is important to develop our members as future leaders in our community, as well as in our branch. To that end we plan to again sponsor a member to attend Leadership Morgan Hill (LMH), class of 2018.

For details and application procedure, click [HERE](#). The deadline to submit your application for branch sponsorship is October 11. Funds for the \$1300 LMH tuition sponsorship come from the 2017 Wildflower Fund. If you are interested, please contact [Janet McElroy](#).

Margaret McCann, member of the 2016 class, describes her experience: "What I learned from my experience in Leadership Morgan Hill was how a motivated team in a short amount of time can transform a community eyesore into a beautiful park I came away with a deeper understanding of how the extensive amount of community involvement from many different sources makes Morgan Hill such a desirable place to live."

Other members who have participated in Leadership Morgan Hill over the years include Peggy Martin, Maggie Leiningner, Susan Persing, Kathleen Sullivan, Cinda Meister, Charlene Tsao-Lai, Marisa Otto, Susan Rife, Wendy Bell, and Carol Holzgrafe.

FRIENDSHIP AND MEMORABLE TRAVEL



Janet Mathis is recuperating at home after experiencing an accident working with her horse on September 1. She suffered fractured cervical vertebrae and a crushed spinal disc. She is now doing well, considering the extent of her injuries.



Janet with special visitors while at Pacific Hills for rehab.



Marisa Otto and her husband Richard enjoyed visiting the Galapagos Islands recently. Here they are making friends with a giant tortoise.

Chuck and **Carolyn Wilson** did a driving trip to Kings Canyon and Sequoia National Park in September. Their return home from visiting family in Idaho included an unexpected adventure when they hit a large elk. They weren't hurt, but the car and elk didn't fare as well.

Send items for Friendship and Travel to [Donna Dicker](#).

TECH TREK

[Joy Safakish](#), Tech Trek Coordinator



At our Fall Brunch, seven girls shared their Tech Trek camp adventures with members. They had made posters showing dorm life and the educational activities that they experienced during their week at Camp Marie Curie at Stanford. They described field trips, star gazing, and squid dissections. We heard about the huge cake commemorating Tech Trek's 20th anniversary and the tedious job of rolling paper for hours that resulted in creative engineering designs, such as a giant spider web-- plus spider. (To read the Spider Story, click [HERE](#).)

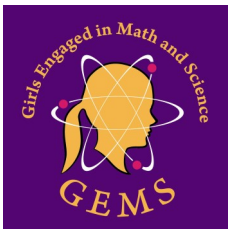
tech trek

All the campers expressed their gratitude to the members for making their scholarships possible. Many spoke of their heightened interest in STEM studies and all radiated self-confidence and excitement from their camp adventures. If you would like to inspire young minds to pursue STEM careers, get involved with Tech Trek.

Attend our **Kick-Off Meeting on Sunday, November 5, 1:00 pm**, at the home of Joy Safakish. There are many ways to help in the coming year.

GEMS: GIRLS ENGAGED IN MATH AND SCIENCE

[Susan Oldham-Fritts](#), GEMS Coordinator



The GEMS leadership team is growing - and we need your help! In order to ensure program continuity, we are looking for an assistant co-chair. We also need your support, even if you do not have the time/energy/desire to chaperone teenaged girls and interface with their parents. You can use your Silicon Valley connections to help our new GEMS program committee arrange high tech company field trips and/or participation in other age-appropriate STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) activities. Volunteer positions on this committee are still available.

Marisa Otto, AAMS®, CFP®
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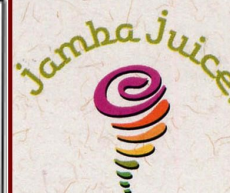
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The Wildflower is published digitally from September until June by the Morgan Hill branch of AAUW.

President: Peggy Martin

VP Membership: Jenny Redfern

Copy Editor: Carol O'Hare

Layout Editor: Suman Ganapathy

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Friends of the Morgan Hill Library

- ◆ **Sat, Oct 7** Book Sale, 10 am – 3 pm, members only 9 am – 10 am
- ◆ **Tues, Oct 10** Gary Noy, author of *Gold Rush Stories: 49 Tales of Seekers, Scoundrels, Loss and Luck*, 7 pm

Morgan Hill Historical Society

- ◆ **2nd Sat of the month** Downtown Historic Walking Tour, 10 am – noon, 3rd St Plaza off Monterey Rd
- ◆ **Fri-Sun, Nov 3-5** Holiday Boutique 10 am - 5 pm, Nov 2, 6 – 9 pm
- ◆ **Fri, Sat, Dec 1-2** Holiday Tea, 11:30 am, reservations required

South Bay Singers

- ◆ **Sat, Dec 2** Christmas Concert, Gilroy Presbyterian Church

South County Lifelong Learning, 10 am – 12 noon, MH Community and Cultural Center.

Contact [Debbie Vasquez](#), 408-310-4254. Register online or at the CCC or CRC.

- ◆ **Wed, Oct 18 and 25** "How Did Underwear Get Under There?" Evolution of undergarments throughout history with Elena Anderson, \$20
- ◆ **Wed, Nov 15** "Life in a Remote Tibetan Village" with Lila Levinson, \$10
- ◆ **Wed, Dec 13** "Astronomy: Scaling the Universe . . . Its Size and Our Place in It" with Bill Hudson, volunteer at Fremont Peak Observatory, \$10

South Valley Civic Theater

- ◆ **Nov 17 – Dec 9** "Act One" comedy

South Valley Symphony

- ◆ **Sun, Oct 1** From Hollywood to the Met, 3 pm, Guglielmo Winery, \$40
- ◆ **Sun, Oct 8** From Broadway to Hollywood, 7:30 pm, Gavilan College Theater, \$25
- ◆ **Sat, Dec 9** Peace Around the World, 7:30 pm, Gavilan College Theater, \$25

WERC Wildlife Education and Rehabilitation Center

- ◆ **Sat, Oct 21** Wildlife Fest BBQ and Auction, noon – 3 pm, MH Buddhist Community Center, \$45, kids \$10

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