

# Sandscripts



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April, 2013

[www.aauwpalmsprings.org](http://www.aauwpalmsprings.org)

Advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.

## Nominations for 2013-2014 Palm Springs Branch

President: Gerri Johnson  
Membership V.P.: Vanette Hickey,  
Joyce Kornbluh, Pat Weber  
Program V.P.: Open  
AAUW Funds V.P.: Elizabeth Nash,  
Elaine Levey  
Secretary: Elisabeth Spiro  
Treasurer: Lori Duffy and T.B.A.

.....  
*Thank you to the nominating  
committee: Mary Dimon,  
Anne La Conde and Mary  
Ann Kaestner*

## Menu

1st Course: Mushrooms, sauteed with  
onions, fresh herbs, sherry/cream,  
2nd Course: Tri-Tip Beef/Roasted  
Peach BBQ sauce or  
Vegetable Lasagna  
3rd Course: Hawaiian Bread Pudding  
with White Chocolate Sauce.

## General Membership Meeting

April 13, 2013



11:30-12:00- Social  
12:00-12:45- Luncheon  
12:45- 1:00- Election of Officers

**1:00- SPEAKER-** *Claire Noonan, Ph.D, has researched the role of women in developing leadership in state government. She has devoted her time, not only to those who made powerful contributions, but also to those who worked on the sidelines. Some of these people have appeared as significant and interesting characters in her books. You will undoubtedly find the development of women's voting rights and participation in government an important and interesting facet of American history.*

Driving Directions: Via Portofino is directly across from Palm Desert Greens on Country Club Drive, W. of Portola in P.D. There is a stop light at the left. Turn (S.) onto the property.

PLEASE RETAIN THE ABOVE AND RETURN THE RESERVATION BELOW WITH YOU CHECK FOR \$30.00, PER PERSON TO: Vivian Penniman, 79528 Morning Glory Ct., La Quinta, 92253-4846 by 4/1/13.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CIRCLE ONE: Tri-Tip of Beef or Lasagna

Phone number or email \_\_\_\_\_ # of reservations @\$30.00, per person \_\_\_\_\_



The President's Points:

We are losing too many of our strong active members. Elsewhere in this newsletter are articles on contributions made by Erwin Parent, who has moved to Modesto to be near his family, and Suzanne McBride (and husband Jon) who have moved to Santa Barbara for the same reason. I attended the wonderfully moving Celebration of Life for Babs Brownyard, who was a very active Board member over the years – she was very funny at our November meeting as half of the team who honored/roasted Hannah Cline, who moved to Burbank, not only to be closer to two of her daughters, but also to be closer to the cultural scene in Los Angeles. When I moved to the desert and joined this branch, I was pleased to find Hannah, whom I had met at AAUW Los Angeles Interbranch Council meetings.

Elsewhere in this newsletter is the list of officers nominated for the next year. We hope you will be at the April meeting to vote.

Five of us went to hear Lilly Ledbetter speak at the University of Redlands. She is a wonderful

## Speech Trek

The board allocated funds to allow us to financially hold a contest in 2013/14.

*The musical fundraiser will be a big help, especially if we have a winner! We can always look ahead to funding the following year as well.*

Our committee is still lacking participants so let us hope we can have five more volunteers, snowbirds are welcome. In order to pursue the buddy system, which I prefer, we will need at least 12 people even if we do East valley one year and West valley the next. It is not practical to try to do it with less, (at least for me).

I wish to thank all the brave souls who have signed up so far and especially thank Angie Love for her work and donation in March which allowed us to enjoy the musical at Joanne Bourquin's home, a delightful event.

*Mary Dimon*

We are saluting two board members who have moved from our area. Suzanne McBride's experiences in the Palm Springs AAUW, followed by Erwin Parent's, will remind all of us of their valuable contributions.

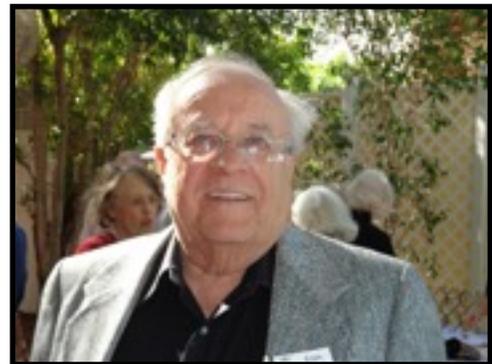
Forty years ago, I moved to a new town, Ukiah, when my husband secured his first civil engineering position. Outreaching to find like-minded women, I joined AAUW. I now say goodbye to my third branch, Palm Springs. I welcome my pending fourth branch, Santa Barbara, where I will spoil my new granddaughter Viola, the only descendant in my family line.

Besides taking 190 Osher classes, Tech Trek camperships have been my favorite activity. To think in my day, teaching, nursing, and secretarial were about the only options for young women. Immersing eighth-grade girls into an environment where they realize they can be anything they want is a vital offering. Interviewing of current finalists is underway as I write. The eight UC Irvine campers will be notified at the end of March.

From secretary, membership, nominating, Tech Trek, Reel Revelers, I am proud to have served Palm Springs Branch. You are a wonderful group of intelligent, diverse women. Carry on.



Suzanne McBride



Erwin Parent

I started with AAUW, when Rosanna was a member in Sacramento - that was the first time I had heard of the organization. The thing that impressed me the most, was the Branch's involvement, helping locally.

This must have impressed others - because they were contacted by the County, asking for their help with women being released from the County Penal System. The Branch agreed and would put together home furnishing baskets for their new apartments (which the County helped obtain for them). Some of the members also stepped up to help mentor them in career choices. Rosanna was one of them. One young lady came to our home three nights a week (with her little baby girl - she had been raped by a Prison Guard). Rosanna sat with her and poured over all kinds of career material. She finally zeroed in on a career in Nursing. Rosanna and I agreed to baby sit this darling little 19 month old girl 4 nights a week while her Mom attended classes. She was in her second year when we moved to Riverside. Rosanna kept in touch with her for a few years. When we joined the Riverside Branch - it was then I realized that each Branch was different - they did not have the same program. But I was hooked - imagine - Branch members having the guts to invite an ex-con to your home and trusting her instincts that this was a right idea.

# Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act Is Law!



**March 08, 2013**

AAUW was fortunate enough to be invited to attend an incredible celebration Thursday — the signing ceremony for the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act (VAWA). Advocates and leaders gathered in the auditorium of the Department of the Interior for this event.

Vice President Joe Biden spoke passionately about his lifelong advocacy to end domestic violence and his leadership in passing both the original 1994 law and this reauthorization. He specifically mentioned that campuses would be safer thanks to [VAWA reauthorization](#).

President Barack Obama spotlighted the improvements that the updated bill puts in place, including clear nondiscrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity, jurisdiction for tribal governments to help survivors who are part of their communities, and improvements to our current human trafficking laws.

VAWA reauthorization is monumental. It takes major strides — not just baby steps — toward ending domestic violence, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking against women and men.



## TYKE TREK WANTS YOU!

Tyke Trek, P.S. Branch AAUW's Science Enrichment Program for Fourth Grade Girls will be returning to Vista de Monte Elementary School in Palm Springs on Friday, May 24. Please join the Tyke Trek Team regulars for a fun morning of educational projects, designed by our Branch to meet the CA Fourth Grade Science Standards and give the little young ladies a leg up on how exciting and fun science can be.

Barbara Villaini and Barbara Maccarillo co-chair the project and look forward to seeing you there. RSVP to [BHV@gmail.com](mailto:BHV@gmail.com) or to [Bmaccarillo@aol.com](mailto:Bmaccarillo@aol.com)

### Health and Welfare

*Condolences to Sandy Levander and Bayla Adelman. Sandy lost her son and both parents last year. Her mother was Bayla's sister*

*Also, our thoughts are with Elissa Hepner on the loss of Babs Brownyard.*

### Of note...

*Bayla Adelman will replace Suzanne McBride as chair of "Reel Revelers".*

*Welcome new member: Maria Roberts De Gennaro, 78606 Kensington, Palm Desert, CA 92211. 760-200-8657, [mrdegennaro@gmail.com](mailto:mrdegennaro@gmail.com) PhD., University of Texas, Austin  
Social Work*

## Interest groups.....book clubs, films and current events

### BOOK CLUBS

Afternoon Book Club will meet on April 17, 2:00 p.m., at Anne LaConde's home, 73-185 Fiddleneck Lane, Palm Desert, CA. Phone 760-862-1913 (e)

[kenanne7@verizon.net](mailto:kenanne7@verizon.net)

*Catherine the Great by Robert Massey*

Former Evening Book Club will meet on April 10, 2:00 p.m. at Ronda Ostergaard's home, 73350 Desert Rose Drive, Palm Desert, CA. Phone 760-340-3714

*Nine Parts of Desire by Geraldine Brooks*

### GREAT DECISIONS

The meeting will be on April 15, 2:00 p.m. at Joanne Bourquin's home, 43618 Salerno Ct., La Quinta, CA.

Phone 760-772-2832

Contact: Beverly Anderson to RSVP 760-771-0838

*"Myanmar and Southeast Asia"*

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### REEL REVELERS

The meeting will be on April 25, 6:30 p.m. at Anne Laconde's home, 73-185 Fiddleneck Lane, Palm Desert, CA. Phone 760-862-1913 (e)

[kenanne7@verizon.net](mailto:kenanne7@verizon.net)

*"Quartet"*

Contact Bayla Adelman @760-568-9621 RSVP

AAUW Palm Springs Branch  
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92264-8114