



February 2014

<http://palmsprings-ca.aauw.net>

Palm Springs Branch Sandscripts

Volume 65. Issue 7

Speech Trek Eleanor Stem-Allen Memorial Contest

a speech competition for all high schoolers, public and private

February 8th 11:30 am

Desert Willow Country Club, Palm Desert

From Cook St., go west one block on Country Club (past Ralphs); turn right on Desert Willow Drive
Complimentary valet parking is available.



Luncheon: Mandarin Chicken Salad in a half papaya with date bread, and mixed greens salad. Vegetarian meal available. Vanilla Strawberry Shortcake with fresh strawberries and whipped cream.

Cost for the luncheon is \$29.00.

Speech Trek, in its eighth year, is an AAUW California Project that begins on the branch level with a speech tournament for local students and culminates with three top statewide finalists performing their five-minute speeches at the AAUW California convention in April.

The theme this year is **WOMEN AT THE TOP.....why not?** We have both male and female contestants. Schools represented include: Cathedral City, Desert Hot Springs, Palm Springs, and Xavier. (Next year we will invite East Valley High Schools.)

Our guests will include seven speakers, seven parents, three judges plus one alternate, publicity people and two coaches. Prizes are \$600, \$400 and \$200. Our first place winner will have his or her speech videographed and sent to state to compete with other branch winners. That winner will compete at the April state convention in Los Angeles for bigger cash prizes.

Please provide an audience for these high school students.

There will be six raffle baskets organized by Bonnie Paul to raise money for next year.

Seating is assigned; you will get your seat assignment at the registration desk. We want everyone to meet new people.

PLEASE RETURN THE RESERVATION FORM BELOW WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$29.00 PER PERSON. Make your check payable to: AAUW Palm Springs, and mail it to: Vivian Penniman, 79528 Morning Glory Ct., La Quinta 92253-4846 no later than February 6th. Remember a reservation made is a reservation paid.

Name(s) _____

Telephone or email _____ number of reservations _____

February 2014 President's Message**Gerry Johnson, President**

If we want to bring change, if we want progress, if we want development, if we want education of girls, we should be united. We should not wait. We should do it now. (Malala Yousafzai, Pakistani 16-year-old schoolgirl, education activist and author)

Here we are in a new year and celebrating 65 years as a Branch of AAUW. I was thinking About all of the changes that have been made during that time and especially since I first joined fifty years ago. I was a new mother and although I loved my babies (15 months apart), I realized I had to have some adult conversation and AAUW was the place to go because all members had the same qualification of being an educated woman. At that time our local branch worked on such things as getting Sesame Street on local TV, encouraging head start and kindergarten, providing children's plays and puppet shows for our children and the community. And, of course, we had a Book Club.

In 1980, I moved to Palm Springs and immediately became involved with the Palm Springs Branch. Back then we did a home tour that was very popular with locals as well as further away. This made money and we used that to give college scholarships to girls. Because we no longer have the monies from the Home Tour, we have had to put on our thinking caps and develop other ways to fund our endeavors. We no longer give scholarships to high school girls but now provide monies for many college and post-baccalaureate programs. Still interested in our younger girls, we provide experience to 3rd and 7th grade girls and high school students in math, science and speech. The Board, Committee Chairs and their committees have done an outstanding job in providing great programs for our general meetings and interests for girls and funding. Our book clubs and movie group are very popular. One only has so much time and energy and one must choose her priorities. Nevertheless, I encourage all members to become involved in some way on some worthy AAUW activity as you will find it very rewarding.

I know there are several people who are interested in travel and dining. We are thinking about some fun places to go and would like to have the names and email/phone numbers so that we can contact you about this. Also, if you have a favorite place, let us know and we can plan that.

Be sure to attend a wonderful February 8th program at Desert Willow Country Club. Mary Dimon and her committee have a very interesting program planned which includes hearing speeches by high school students. If you have items you can donate towards baskets to be raffled, please contact Bonnie Paul at 760-568-6577.

I can't believe it's almost time for the Association to have a national convention in San Diego. It promises to be great fun as well as educational. Plan to attend. You won't be disappointed. In planning ahead, hopefully we will include more of the arts by "Putting the A in STEAM." Thanks to all for your help in making us an organization to be proud of.

Palm Springs Officers

President: Gerry Johnson 323-4319

Membership:

Joyce Kornbluh.....248-320-8509

Sandra Levander..... 674-9282

Pat Weber714-321-2960

AAUW Funds:

Elizabeth Nash 772-0645

Secretary: Elisabeth Spiro..... 836-0478

Treasurer: Lori Duffy 832-2859

Anne LaConde 862-1913

College Relations:

Pat Fredericks 674-4649

Barbara Villani 322-3987

Public Policy:

Jeanne Hirshfield..... 324-2190

Speech Trek: Mary Dimon 424-8985

Phyllis Greene 772-7121

Sandscripts: Elaine Levey..... 360-6440

Sunshine: Elisabeth Spiro 836-0478

Tech Trek: Barbara Foyil..... 424-8627

Tyke Trek: Barbara Villani..... 322-3987

Afternoon Book Group:

Anne LaConde 826-1913

E. Roosevelt Study Group

Mary Ann Kaestner 416-7534

Reel Revelers:

Bayla Adelman 568-9621

Travel: Barbara Villani 322-3987

Membership Badges: Sign up at a meeting, or contact Barbara Hawkins Villani at 760-322-3987 to order your magnetic badge (with the new logo) for \$10 each. Badges are available within three weeks of order.

AAUW FUNDS COMMITTEE REPORT

Thanks again to all AAUW Palm Springs branch members for your support of our recent Funds activities. Whether you gave your time, talent or both, we appreciate you.

The Funds Committee members are meeting to select and plan activities for the 2014 year. In our last meeting, we reviewed a myriad of fundraising ideas from other AAUW branches. We chose some fundraising projects we felt might be interesting to our branch members. Each committee member is doing some research on these fundraising ideas and will bring the research results to our February committee meeting.

We also gathered some fundraising ideas from our members who attended our January board meeting.

If you have a fundraising idea you wish us to explore for our branch, please do not hesitate to contact me or one of the Funds Committee members. The committee meets on February 11th at Angie's.

Many thanks for your support of our AAUW Funds programs.

Elizabeth Nash, Chair AAUW- Funds Committee

Members: Gerry Johnson, Angie Love, Anne LaConde,
Lori Duffy, Sue Beatty
Advisor: Elaine Levey

Hannah Cline is coming to town with a group from Burbank to see The Follies on March 5.

All I know at present is the date. We'll eat at a restaurant (no host) within walking distance of The Follies, see Hannah, and hear about her adventures since she moved.

If you are interested in joining us for lunch and to visit with Hannah, please contact Barbara Villani at 760-322-3987 or bhvillani@gmail.com.

REACHING OUT

AAUW has, in recent years, made some important decisions concerning the scope of its mission. It has been reaching out to colleges directly as partners and to college students helping them to develop leadership and financial skills. Beyond that we are represented at the United Nations and other world organizations (see Membership article, below). The latest is the teaming up with The Clinton Foundation's worldwide efforts to advance the causes to which both organizations are dedicated. We are indeed "reaching out."



Jeanne Hirshfield, 760-324-2190

AAUW Palm Springs **branch board meeting**, Tuesday, February 4th at 10:00 am at the Old Spaghetti Factory (71743 Highway 111, Rancho Mirage – corner of Rancho Las Palmas Drive near The River). Lunch can be ordered at 11:30. Bring water if you want it earlier. All members are invited.

RSVP to Gerry at 760-323-4319

Membership Makes a Difference Globally

As a member of AAUW, your support not only helps to empower women in the United States but also reaches women worldwide through our global connections. In fact, AAUW's long history of international work dates back to the end of World War I, when AAUW member Virginia Gildersleeve and two British women, Caroline Spurgeon and Rose Sidgwick, established the International Federation of University Women (IFUW). The mission of IFUW was to promote peace and understanding among women in different countries.

From that auspicious beginning arose the international fellowship program, which enabled at risk women scholars to find academic positions in the United States during the occupations of World War II. This, in turn, led to AAUW's participation at the Bretton Woods Conference and the formation of the United Nations.

Today, we maintain consultative status at the U.N. and sit on the U.N. Economic and Social Council (EOCSOC), which promotes respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. Although AAUW no longer is a member of IFUW, our global participation remains strong. In addition to EOCSOC, we are represented on the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women, the United Nations Association, the U.S. National Committee for U.N. Women and, most recently, have entered into a partnership with the Clinton Global Initiative.

As an AAUW member, you have much of which to be proud. Through your membership, you enable women throughout the world to break down social and economic barriers that not only contribute to their well-being but enrich their societies; for as we all know, "when a woman is educated and empowered, she starts a ripple effect in her community."

So as you are going about your day-to-day activities and interacting with friends and colleagues, be sure to tell them about what your organization is doing for women and how you are making their lives better, and hand them a membership application, which is sent out with this newsletter.

Sandy Levander 760-674-3282 and Joyce Kornbluh 248-320-8509



Great things are happening with the coming together of STEM (Science / Technology / Engineering / Math) and Tech Trek through the efforts of AAUW branches throughout the United States. There is still time to donate to the Palm Springs Branch of AAUW and help send eight seventh-grade girls to Tech Trek camp at UC Irvine the summer of 2014. **Checks should be made out to: AAUW SPF, Memo: Tech Trek. Send to: Lilliane Shuman, 687 Palomar Circle, Palm Springs, CA 92262-6240.**

AAUW STEM News

AAUW is at the forefront of the effort to get more women and girls involved in STEM. Read the latest news from AAUW's national office and find more information on the AAUW website.

Tech Trek Camps Are Expanding!

Congratulations to our three new Tech Trek sites: University of Alabama, Huntsville; New Mexico State University; and Tillamook Bay Community College, Oregon. Check out the exciting new Tech Trek video and learn how your support of Tech Trek inspires future scientists, engineers, computer programmers, and more on the www.aauw.org website.

Tech Savvy!

AAUW is proud to announce our first Tech Savvy national pilot sites. Ten AAUW branches and states across the country were selected to receive an \$8,000 grant, thanks to a generous contribution from the Praxair Foundation. This national pilot program uses the AAUW Buffalo (NY) Branch's highly successful model of a one-day STEM career conference for girls.

Marie Wolbach, Tech Trek Founder, Honored with Classic Woman Award

In September, *Traditional Home* magazine honored five women with the Classic Woman Award for exceptional volunteerism. One of those awardees was AAUW member and Tech Trek founder Marie Wolbach. We are proud to see Wolbach recognized, and we are truly grateful for the collaboration and support she and AAUW of California provided during the national Tech Trek expansion.

The Hour of Code Is Here

AAUW supported an unprecedented movement to encourage 10 million students (and adults) to try computer science. The Hour of Code is an opportunity to help today's students not just consume the technologies of tomorrow but also build them. Code.org provides tutorials that work on any browser, tablet, or smartphone or with no computer at all. Share the tutorials with teachers or students in your life or learn to code yourself! No prep or experience needed.

Inspire Future Engineers: Enter AAUW's Battle of the Plans

Did you know that only 13% of professional engineers are women? AAUW believes that introducing girls to engineering in grades K–12 will help change that statistic and you can help. Submit an engineering lesson plan to AAUW's second annual Battle of the Plans contest or encourage a teacher in your community to enter. Winners will receive a \$300 gift card from AAUW and will be announced on Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day (February 20, 2014). Until then, use last year's winning plan to get girls excited about engineering today!

The Palm Springs branch Tech Trek school packets for nominations have been sent to the principals of 16 middle schools in the Coachella Valley. Now, we wait for a list of the girls to be interviewed for final selection to attend Tech Trek Camp 2014.

Barbara Foyil, Tech Trek Chair

Photos from January 65th Anniversary Celebration at Smoke Tree Ranch



Gerry Johnson and Vivian Penniman

Guess Who?

Barbara Foyil

Adele Ruxton and Norma Stempler



Chris Ellet

Marty McCoy

Vanette Hickey and friend

Frances Miller and Heather Hodges



Francie Spears

Charter Member Moya Henderson and Marjorie Aikens

Mo Barkemeyer

Mary Dimon and Bonnie Paul

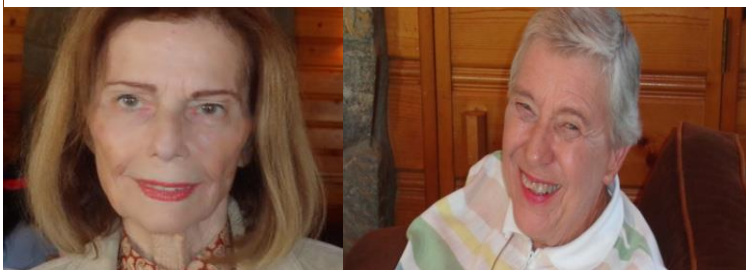


Joan Reed and Willie Mills

Joanne Bourquin

Lillian Shuman and Barbara Villani

Lynn Sacher



Joyce Cohn , Joann Lane and
Phyllis Greene



AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

On Wednesday, February 19th at 2:00 pm, the AAUW Palm Springs Branch book group will be discussing *Defending Jacob* by William Landry. The meeting will be at the home of Joan Weil, 78593 Bougainvillea Drive, Palm Desert, 760-360-9077. The discussion will be led by Elaine Levey. Please contact Elaine at 760-360-6440 or email her at elainlev@gmail.com if you plan to attend. The book for March 19th is *My Beloved World* by Sonya Sotomayor.

Sue Beatty, 760-346-7478

REEL REVELERS

Our movie group will meet on January 30th at the home of Sandy Levander and Bob Weisenberg, 72964 Skyward Way, Palm Desert – 760-674-9282. Our next meeting will be on February 27th. *American Hustle* will be discussed on the 30th. Call Bayla for more information.

Bayla Adelman, 760-568-9621



Photos from January 2nd Reel Revelers.
Seated: Bayla Adelman, Willie Mills, Joyce Kornbluh, Angie Love; standing: Elaine Levey, Phyllis Greene, Steve Novinson and Frances Miller.
Picture 2: Magdalena Hamilton, Bob Weisenberg, Joanne Bourquin, Sandy Levander, Jack Bourquin, Mary Dimon, Norma Stempler and Richard Dimon.

Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Study Group meets the third Tuesday of the month. On February 18th at 10 am the group will meet at Joanne Bourquin's to watch a movie about Eleanor Roosevelt.

Mary Ann Kaestner, 760-416-7534

Informal Gathering for a film and happy hour. Every Friday afternoon a group of nice people, some AAUW, some not, view a film of their choice at the Camelot Theatre in Palm Springs, then gather in the Café for Happy Hour, dinner and good conversation. **No RSVP necessary.** Just show up. Schedule is in the paper or available at www.camelottheatres.com. Come alone or bring somebody.

STATE CONVENTION 2014

Consider attending the 2014 AAUW-CA Convention! If cost has been keeping you from attending, then this is a **golden** opportunity. 1) It is taking place at the LAX Marriott, so you don't have to fly to attend. 2) If you volunteer at the convention you get a discount on registration.

Convention has never been more affordable! Convention is an incredible, intense, stimulating experience. Practically everyone you meet there is amazing. The speakers are inspiring and the workshops are very worthwhile. You will not regret making the time to go. And if you can't make time for the entire convention, because it is so close, you can attend for just one or two days. Put **April 11-13** on your calendar and plan to attend!



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

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 10:00 Board Meeting	5	6	7	8 11:30 Speech Trek Competition
9	10	11 AAUW Funds Committee	12	13	14	15
16	17	18 10:00 Eleanor Roosevelt Study Group	19 2:00 Afternoon Book Group	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 6:00 Reel Revelers	28	



Barbara Villani
1028 E. San Lorenzo Road
Palm Springs, CA 92264-8114