



January 2015
<http://palmsprings-ca.aauw.net>



Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)

Saturday, January 17, 2015, 11:30 am

Jackalope Ranch, 80400 Highway 111, Indio, CA

Please join us to hear Ms. Brianna Miller, case supervisor for the CASA volunteer program in Riverside County. CASA volunteers provide advocacy for a child in the foster care system. Their key responsibilities are: to visit the child frequently, submit written reports for the child's hearings, attend court with the child, ensure that the child's essential needs are met, ensure that the court's orders are carried out, and ensure that any violation of the court's orders are brought to the attention of the court. The CASA program's mission is "to speak for the best interest of abused, neglected and abandoned children in the courts of Riverside County, to support and promote quality volunteer representation for each child to secure a safe, permanent and nurturing home, to diligently advocate for the services needed to help each child become a healthy and productive adult, able to break the chain of abuse, neglect, or abandonment."

Directions: 80400 Hwy. 111. Restaurant is east of Jefferson St. Driving east on Hwy 111, turn left at the Jackalope Street signal. We are meeting in the Callender Room.

If you need a ride to the meeting, contact Elaine Levey at 760-360-6440.

PLEASE RETURN THIS RESERVATION FORM WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$30.00. Make check payable to AAUW Palm Springs, and mail it to Barbara Oliver, 78316 Moongold Road, Palm Desert 92211-1331 (760-345-8498), no later than January 12, 2015.

Name(s) _____ Telephone or email _____

Luncheon menu choices (*circle one entrée*): Jackalope Cobb, Grilled Shrimp Caesar, or BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich. For dessert: Chocolate Chip Cookie Sundae. Includes choice of coffee, tea or fountain soft drinks. No host bar.

Number of reservations _____ *Remember, a reservation made is a reservation paid.*



January 2015 President’s Message

Gerry Johnson, President

It’s not the strongest of species that survive, not the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change. (Charles Darwin)... Research has shown that those who are happiest in old age are the ones who have dealt most successfully with the changes in their lives. (Ellis Peters)...

What a wonderful holiday party we had at the Bangerts. Fun and games and festive food were enjoyed by all. This definitely put everyone in the holiday mood. How wonderful to have a party at a lovely home with fantastic views to enjoy while visiting with our cheery AAUW members.

Put our January meeting on the calendar now as it promises to be an outstanding program presented by CASA. Jackalope Restaurant is a wonderful place for a luncheon so please join us for a very timely topic and a first of the year outing with your AAUW sisters.

The Eleanor Roosevelt Group is planning to offer Great Decisions beginning in January. Be sure to contact Joanne Bourquin and send her the \$22 that she needs from at least 10 members as soon as possible so that she can order the materials that will be needed. This will be a daytime group which I think most people prefer rather than an evening meeting. (There’s more information on page 6.)

Books are such an important part of life and our AAUW members are very involved in books in our Book Club. Nevertheless, on TV we hear the news that computers and other devices have taken over and that books aren’t needed anymore. However, I have also been delighted to see programs on TV where young children still love books. One little girl started a lending library for children to borrow and read books and then bring back for another child to read. I also saw a young boy interviewed on TV recently and he (Madison Reed) said, “What would the world do without our brains? Why do we need books? Our brains need books.”

By educating women and families we are helping to keep this world safe and orderly. The world has many challenges at this time. AAUW is committed to helping make the world better and safer. A special thank you to our older members who have dealt with changes in their life and continue by helping Palm Springs AAUW to accomplish many positive programs and change some old customs to new ones in our changing world, which will lead to a better future for young and old.

Have a wonderful holiday season and a Happy New Year.

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

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability or class.

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

Palm Springs Officers

President: Gerry Johnson 323-4319

President-Elect: Elizabeth Nash 772-0645

Program VP :

Elizabeth Nash 772-0645

Membership:

Chris Ellet281/639-8322

AAUW Funds:

Elizabeth Nash 772-0645

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Treasurer: Lori Duffy 832-2859

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Publicity: Joanne Bourquin..... 772-2832

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

Bonnie Paul 568-6577

Sandscripts: Elaine Levey 360-6440

Sunshine: Elisabeth Spiro 836-0478

Afternoon Book Group:

Sue Beatty 346-7478

E. Roosevelt Study Group

Mary Ann Kaestner 416-7534

Reel Revelers:

Yvonne Michelsen 200-9661

Bayla Adelman 568-9621

Travel:

committee

AAUW FUNDS AND SPECIAL PROJECT FUNDS

Thank you to every member who donated to AAUW Funds and Special Projects Funds (SPF). All donated funds are tax-exempt. We learned that AAUW-CA members and branches generously donated \$521,088.13 to AAUW Funds in 2013. The funds are used to empower women through the following programs:

Research, Campus Leadership, STEM Education, Public Policy case support, Educational Funding, Global Connections, and Membership Leadership.

- Through RESEARCH, AAUW analyzes gender equity issues in education and the workplace.
- Through CAMPUS LEADERSHIP, AAUW helps shape the lives of the next generation of women leaders.
- Through STEM EDUCATION, AAUW is leveling the playing field for girls and women in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.
- Through PUBLIC POLICY, AAUW advocates for policies that advance equity for women and girls.
- Through CASE SUPPORT, AAUW supports challenges to sex discrimination in higher education and the workplace.
- Through EDUCATIONAL FUNDING, AAUW provides educational and lifelong learning opportunities for women.
- Through GLOBAL CONNECTIONS, AAUW responds to the global development needs of women, helping them contribute to the economic and social development of their countries.
- Through MEMBER LEADERSHIP, AAUW provides leadership development opportunities to AAUW members.

YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS TO ANY OF THESE PROGRAMS IS GREATLY APPRECIATED!

Elizabeth Nash, 760-772-0645, Fundraising Chair

Fundraising Committee members: Sue Beatty, Lori Duffy, Barbara Foyil, Jeanne Hirshfield, Gerry Johnson, Anne LaConde, Angie Love, Norma Stempler; Elaine Levey, Advisor

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.

PUBLIC POLICY:

As a follow up to our showing of the “The Invisible War,” the documentary film concerning the handling of sexual assaults in the military, I would like to add some information from a recent Pentagon report. The report examines the Defense Department’s efforts to prevent sexual assaults in the military and to measure the incidence level and the response. The report finds that assaults are decreasing and more victims are coming forward. But about four percent of active-duty women were still victims of unwanted sexual conduct in the last year and many are not reporting these assaults. Further, very few of the reported incidents resulted in a conviction.

TAKE ACTION: Tell your members of Congress to remove sexual assault from the chain of command so that survivors of assault can find justice.

Jeanne Hirshfield, 760-324-2190

AAUW Palm Springs **branch board meeting**, Tuesday, January 6th at 10:00 am at PF Chang’s in Rancho Mirage. 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

By joining AAUW, we belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

SOUTHEAST INTERBRANCH COUNCIL**SATURDAY, JANUARY 24, 2015****9:30—noon****Habitat for Humanity
2180 Iowa Street, Riverside**

Sarah Garrison, the **Teen Dating Violence Prevention Specialist** for **DOVES** is the guest speaker. Call Gerry if you want to carpool.

AAUW CAN BE THANKFUL FOR...

We are thankful for all the firsts that happened for women in 2014, including Janet Yellen becoming the first female chair of the Federal Reserve Board, Malala Yousafzai becoming the youngest person to receive the Nobel Peace Prize, Becky Hammon becoming the first female regular season assistant coach in the NBA, Megan Brennan becoming the first female U.S. postmaster general and chief executive, Adm. Michelle Howard becoming the Navy’s first female four-star officer, Maryam Mirzakhani becoming the first woman to win the Fields Medal (commonly known as the Nobel Prize for mathematics), and Rep.-elect Alma Adams (D-NC) becoming the 100th woman member of the 113th Congress – a new record for women’s representation in government. A special shout-out to 13-year-old Mo’ne Davis for being the first girl to throw a shutout in Little League World Series history and becoming the first Little League player to grace the cover of Sports Illustrated!

Pictures from our December holiday party:



Beth and Steve Bangert, hosts



Pat Ankeny, Jeanne Hirshfield, Roberta Young and Joanne Bourquin



Bayla Adelman, Elaine Levey and Adele Ruxton



Liz Nash, Roberta Young, Joanne and Jack Bourquin

A quote sent to Gerry Johnson by Barbara Maccarillo (in June), a suggestion for her president's article: "The challenge of leadership is to be strong, but not rude; be kind, but not weak; be bold, but not bully; be thoughtful, but not lazy; be humble, but not timid; be proud, but not arrogant; have humor, but without folly." – Jim Rohn

AAUW National Convention

June 18–21, 2015 | San Diego





Tech Trek 2015

We are off to a fantastic beginning with all of the donations to Tech Trek that came in through the Phantom Cruise mailing. Just remember that for tax year 2014, your donation must be received by December 31st.

All donation checks for Tech Trek 2015 can be sent to:

Lilliane Shuman, 687 Palomar Circle, Palm Springs, CA 92262-6240

Please make your checks payable to: AAUW SPF (*Special Projects Fund*).

A huge THANK YOU to everyone helping to send our girls to Tech Trek camp at UC Irvine in 2015.

Committee Members: Adele Ruxton, Angie Love, Bonnie Paul, Chris Ellet, Gayle Cox, Joyce Cohn, Lilliane Shuman (Treasurer), Louise Kermode, Mary Ann Kaestner and Phyllis Greene.

Coordinator: Barbara Foyil, 760-424-8627

Legal Advocacy Fund luncheon January 31st in Laguna Woods (Orange County).
Topic: Justice Eileen Moore shares the insights she has gained during her research for her just-published book, *Gender Results: Hollywood vs the Supreme Court: Ten Decades of Gender Decisions and Film*. (For more information, email Elaine Levey at elainlev@gmail.com.)

GREAT DECISIONS

We are going to start a Great Decisions group again. Great Decisions is America's largest discussion program on world affairs. Developed by the Foreign Policy Association, the Great Decisions program provides the local community with a unique opportunity to learn about issues of global importance in an engaging and interactive format.

Great Decisions 2015 topics include Russia and the Near Abroad, Privacy in the Digital Age, Sectarianism in the Middle East, India Changes Course, U.S. Policy toward Africa, Syria's Refugee Crisis, Human Trafficking in the 21st Century, and Brazil's Metamorphosis.

The first topic of the series is "Russia and the Near Abroad." As calls for closer ties with the EU failed to be met, Ukrainians took to the streets in November 2013. As the movement later known as the Euromaidan, or "Euro Square," pulled western Ukraine closer to its European neighbors, another powerful force threatened to tear away the country's eastern half: Russia. Putin's pushback against European expansionism has the West wondering: If Putin's Russia isn't afraid to take an aggressive stance against Europeanization in Ukraine, what does that mean for the rest of Russia's neighbors?

Cost for the workbook is \$22. Your check, payable to Joanne Bourquin, should get to her by January 20th. Joanne's address is 43618 Salerno Court, La Quinta, CA 92253-4971.

BOOK GROUP

The afternoon book group will meet on Wednesday, January 21st at 2 P M at the home of Beth Bangert (55385 Laurel Valley, La Quinta, 760-771-9215). We will be discussing *The Boys in the Boat* by David James Brown. It is a non-fiction book about a rowing crew at the 1936 Olympics. All members and their guests are welcome.

The book for February is *The Songcatcher* by Sharyn McCrumb.

All members and their guests are welcome. For information call Sue Beatty at 760-346-7478 or email her at ssbeatty@icloud.com.

REEL REVELERS

Reel Revelers will meet on the last Thursday of the month at the Bangerts' home at PGA West (see address above in Book Group description). The movie will be chosen closer to the meeting date.

Bayla Adelman, 760-568-9621

TRAVEL GROUP

If you are planning to attend the Jan. 28th play, "Having Our Say" at the Coachella Valley Repertory Theater and want to meet for dinner at Livreri's beforehand, plan to be at the restaurant no later than 5:30. We had 20 attend dinner before the last play and the restaurant needs plenty of time to take individual orders and get us out in time for the play at 7:30.

For tickets call 760-296-2966. They sell out early.

Call Angie Love at 760-779-5658 or e-mail randalovebrds@aol.com if you want a dinner reservation.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT LEADERSHIP STUDY GROUP / GREAT DECISIONS

On January 20th at 10:00 am the study group will discuss Hillary Clinton's book, *Hard Choices*. We will meet at Joanne Bourquin's home, 43618 Salerno Court, La Quinta, 760-772-2832.

Mary Ann Kaestner, 760-416-7534



Former AAUW Torrance Branch presidents Pat Mauritzen (now Palm Springs member) and Gloria Liu got together in Palm Desert at the end of October. Gloria won the silent auction bid at the Torrance AAUW tea this spring for a week in current president Athena Paquette's Palm Springs condo.



Know someone who needs a little extra sunshine in their life? Call or email Elisabeth Spiro: 760-836-0478 or ebspiro@gmail.com.

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



January 2015

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Monday</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Friday</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
				1	2	3
4	5	6 10 Board Meeting	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 11:30 General Meeting
18	19	20 10:00 ER Study Group	21 2 Book Group	22	23	24 9:30 Southeast District Interbranch Council
25	26	27	28 8:00 pm CV Rep Theater: Having Our Say	29 6 Reel Revelers	30	31