



Palm Springs Branch

Sandscripts

Volume 65. Issue 8

March 2014

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

Membership Tea, Saturday, March 8, 2-4 PM

Guest Speaker/Performer Joana Ciurash



All new, prospective and current members are enthusiastically invited to join us for our Membership Tea on March 8th. Current members are encouraged to invite women and men who may be interested in learning about AAUW, meeting members and joining the organization.

Joana Ciurash, an Associate Professor of Chemistry at College of the Desert and an opera singer, will give a short talk about her unusual dual careers, and sing.

Last year, Joana was awarded best vocalist for her singing at Open Call at the McCallum. She has recorded three operas, and sung the lead roles of Santuzza in Mascagni's Cavalleria Rusticana and of Mimi in Puccini's La Boheme.

The tea will be held at Norma Stempler's home. Please join us for an enjoyable afternoon. RSVP by March 3rd, by contacting Joyce Kornbluh: email (preferred) at sandjnovi@gmail.com, or phone at 248.320.8509. There is no fee for prospective members.

Norma Stempler lives at 1 Reed Court, Rancho Mirage, 760-324-3090.

Take the Bob Hope entrance to The Springs, north of Country Club. Make a quick left hand turn on Colgate. Reed Court is the second street on the right.

PLEASE RETURN THE RESERVATION FORM BELOW WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$10.00 PER MEMBER. Make your check payable to: AAUW Palm Springs, and mail it to: Joyce Kornbluh, 28 Tortosa Drive, Rancho Mirage, CA 92270-4751 no later than March 3rd. Remember a reservation made is a reservation paid.

Name(s) _____

Telephone or email _____ number of reservations _____

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

None of us is as smart as all of us (Unknown); we have to work together in order to achieve the highest goals for the organization (Elizabeth Nash).

Thanks to Mary Dimon and her committee for a wonderful program in February. I was impressed at how well the students were able to present their topic. One student ended his speech stating that it's not a question of Women at the Top...Why Not, BUT Women at the Top...Of Course.

Our Membership Tea on March 8th is a program that I know everyone will enjoy, as it will put the STEAM in our program. Bring a prospective member and enjoy the party.

Sandy Kirkpatrick, secretary for AAUW California, visited our February Board Meeting and gave us some tips on taxes. She also mentioned that members have been lax on voting online for a dues increase of \$4.00 which is desperately needed in order to conduct business. When the voting comes up, please send in your vote as it takes a quorum to pass one way or the other. Also, don't forget to vote online for state officers until April 6th.

Convention 2014 promises to be very informative. It will be held at the L. A. Airport Marriott, April 11-13, 2014. If you are interested in attending the convention, let me know. We can get a car pool together. Registration deadline is March 21, and there is late registration after that date.

It's time to think about branch officers for 2014-2015. If you would like to help out in one of the positions, please contact Pat Fredericks, Joann Lane or Angie Love and let it be known (see below). Help us achieve the highest goals for the organization.

Nominees for AAUW Palm Springs Board for 2014-2015:

President	Gerry Johnson
President Elect/Program	Elizabeth Nash
Secretary	Joann Lane
Treasurer	Lori Duffy
Membership	Committee
AAUW Funds	Elizabeth Nash and Committee
Nominating Committee for 2015	Two members to be selected at April mtg.

The above will be voted upon at the April Meeting. Chris Ellet has agreed to serve as Membership Treasurer. This is not an elected office.

Nominating Committee: Angie Love, Pat Fredericks, Joann Lane

Palm Springs Officers

President: Gerry Johnson 323-4319

Membership:

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

AAUW Funds:

Elizabeth Nash 772-0645

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

Treasurer: Lori Duffy 832-2859

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:

Sue Beatty 346-7478

E. Roosevelt Study Group

Mary Ann Kaestner 416-7534

Reel Revelers:

Bayla Adelman 568-9621

Travel: Barbara Villani 322-3987

AAUW Funds

The Funds Committee members met on Feb. 11, 2014 at the home of Angie Love. Each member reported on an assigned activity that might be appropriate as a Fund Raiser for 2014. We weighed the pros and cons of each activity and narrowed our preferences. We will continue to investigate and gather more information on our preferences and make choices to present to the Board for approval.

Since this meeting, we received a report from Sharon Westafer, AAUW CA Funds Committee Chair. This report itemized the AAUW Funds contributions received in 2013 from members of the Palm Springs Branch. I am pleased to report that our Branch members donated \$ 5,071.50 to various areas of AAUW Funds in 2013.

We will be preparing Branch recognitions for the donors in the various areas of AAUW Funds.

Our next Funds Committee meeting will be hosted by Jeanne Hirshfield in her home on March 11, 2014 at 10:30 am.

The Palm Springs Branch Funds Committee members are: Jeanne Hirshfield, Angie Love, Gerry Johnson, Anne LaConde, Lori Duffy, Sue Beatty, Eunice "Elizabeth" Nash, Chair; Elaine Levey, Advisor.

Thank you so much for your support.

Eunice "Elizabeth" Nash

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.

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

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.

DID YOU VOTE IN THE LAST AAUW-CA ELECTION?

If you did, you were among the 12% from our branch that did. That was the percentage of our branch that voted and I am ashamed to admit that I was in the large percentage that didn't vote. At our last board meeting we had the opportunity to hear a dynamic representative of our state officers. Sandy Kirkpatrick, our state secretary, had an important message for us. The state AAUW needs to have us vote, especially on the proposed \$4.00 increase in our state dues. The dues cannot be increased without being supported by the membership. In the last election the majority that participated in the election voted for this modest increase. However, not enough people voted to meet the requirements of the by-laws. That is where we come in. We are happy for the services that the state brings to us and happy to be represented in Sacramento. We expect the AAUW-CA to be there to support us. Now it is our turn to support them by being sure to vote in the upcoming election. You should have received your *California Perspective* from the state by now with election information. Be sure to read page two.



Jeanne Hirshfield, 760-324-2190

AAUW Palm Springs **branch board meeting**, Tuesday, March 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



The Descanso Trio played beautifully at the Holiday Party in Smoke Tree Ranch.

SPEECH TREK

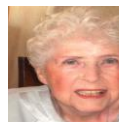
Winners of this year's contest were: 4th place tie - Vanessa Bravo, Henoc Benavides, both from Desert Hot Springs H.S. Certificates were for Honorable Mention; 3rd place - Adrian Tamez, a freshman from Cathedral City, 2nd place - Michael Armatrout, a senior from Desert Hot Springs; WINNER was Khristinely Afable from Xavier Preparatory H.S. Prizes were \$600, \$400, \$200 respectively.

A DVD of the winner's speech will be made and sent to Donna Erickson. She will submit it to the state's judging committee. From the 20 speeches submitted, they will choose three contestants to give their speeches in Los Angeles at the state convention in April. The state will pay expenses for travel for the three speakers, and there is a \$1,500 first prize, second is \$1,000 and third \$500.00.

Several schools in the West Valley chose not to participate: Rancho Mirage, Palm Valley, Palm Springs, Desert Chapel and Palm Desert. We hope East Valley has better participation next year. We will invite eight schools.

Our judges were outstanding. Our topic, Women at the Top - Why Not? will be replaced with a new one. The last speaker concluded his speech with "Women at the Top - Of Course!" A fitting finale.

Pictures from the contest are on page 6.



Mary Dimon, 760-424-8985



AAUW Sponsored Tech Trek Science, Technology, and Math Camp for Girls

The Palm Springs Branch of the American Association of University Women Tech Trek Committee is reaching out to our membership for financial assistance to send eight 8th grade girls from the Coachella Valley to a science and math camp held at 10 university campuses

across California. Our girls will be attending camp on the campus of U. C. Irvine.

Tech Trek is a week-long science, technology, and math summer camp designed to develop interest, excitement, and self-confidence in young women who are entering the eighth grade. Tech Trek started in 1998 with one site in California and in 17 years has grown to 10 camps on eight college campuses across the state. The camp was featured on *CBS Evening News*.

Attending camp on a college or university campus helps girls - especially those whose parents may not have gone to college - to see themselves seeking higher education. The university campus experience gives girls a chance to think about the kinds of opportunities a college education can afford them. Camp field trips encourage maximum interaction and instruction in environments where STEM professionals work. Girls are immersed in a world in which they are empowered by their capabilities and encouraged to think about themselves not just as young women but also as future doctors, scientists, engineers, mathematicians, and computer scientists.

Each year the Palm Springs branch sends 8 girls to camp along with two house mothers. This year the girls will be going to camp in July and in October they attend our meeting and speak of their experiences. It is our hope that you will assist us by helping to sponsor these young women.

Sponsorship Options, 2014

- ☿ **\$900 - Full tuition for one young woman**
- ☿ **\$450 - Half tuition for one young woman to be partnered with other contributions.**
- ☿ **Donation of your choice**

Please indicate your organization's donation to this project and fill in your name, address, and phone number. Also, please indicate how the credit for the donation is to be listed in our publicity materials.

Checks should be made payable to: AAUW-CA-SPF

Amount of Donation _____

Name _____

Company _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

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

For information: Barbara H. Foyil, Ph.D. (Tech Trek Coordinator, Palm Springs Branch)

760-424-8627, drbarbara@rocketmail.com

This AAUW Tech Trek project has a 501c3 non-profit and tax deductible status; TAX ID: #68-0463071

Photos from Speech Trek Contest at our February meeting



Our Judges, all educators: Standing: Jana Lew, a high school teacher in the Desert Sands Unified School District, David Lutes, a retired Speech Therapist in the Riverside County Schools Office of Education. Seated: Jill Catner-Miller, an elementary teacher in the DSUSD; and Dr. Kristine Drake, a retired elementary and high school teacher in the PSUSD.

Khristinely Afable, Xavier Preparatory High School, Vanessa Bravo, Desert Hot Springs High School, Adrian Tamez, Cathedral City High School, Sofi McCarthy, exchange student from Desert Hot Springs High School, Michael Armatrout, Desert Hot Springs High School, Henoc Benavides, Desert Hot Springs High School



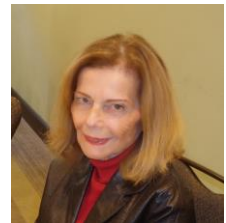
Barbara Foyil and Lilliane Shuman



Bayla Adelman



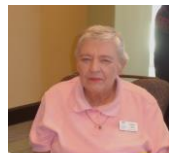
Bonnie Paul and Diane Hassett



Joyce Cohn



Pat Mauritzen and Pat Fredericks



Joann Lane



Karen Cheney and Lynn Sacher



Jeanne Hirshfield and Faye Duffy



Chris Ellet and Gerry Johnson



Ronda Ostergaard and Yvonne Michelson



Lynn Sacher and Louise Erickson



Joanne Bourquin and Elizabeth Nash



Marty McCoy

AFTERNOON BOOK GROUP

On Wednesday, March 19th at 2:00 in the afternoon, our AAUW Palm Springs branch book group will be meeting at the home of Mary Dimon to discuss *My Beloved World* by Sonia Sotomayor. Please contact Mary at 760-424-8985 or email her at mgdimon@outlook.com if you plan to attend. The book for April 16 is *Heaven and Earth Changed Places* by Le Ly Hayslip.

Sue Beatty, 760-346-7478

REEL REVELERS

We will meet at 6:00 pm on February 27th at the home of Beth Bangert in PGA West to discuss the film *Her*. Call Beth to determine what you will bring for the pot luck. Her phone number is 760-771-9215. Otherwise, call Bayla for more information.

Bayla Adelman, 760-568-9621

Eleanor Roosevelt Leadership Study Group will be joining the AAUW book group on March 19th at 2 pm. See above.

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.

THANK YOU

My sincerest thanks for all the get well wishes I received while recovering from a recent health setback. Your notes of cheer brought a smile to my face & a few moments of joy to what otherwise were some pretty gloomy days. It was reassuring to know that AAUW members are good friends, the kind that take the time to think about someone who's under the weather.

Thanks to the Board for the beautiful flowers, personally delivered to my room by Barbara & Jack Foyil who brought sunshine and light into a room with windows that faced a brick wall.

Surprise visits from Mary Ann Kaestner, Lilliane Shuman, Barbara Villani, Joyce Cohn, Angie Love and Sarah Seils still make me feel good. You are super people.

I missed the entire holiday season but hope to make up for that this coming December. I still have some recovering to do. I'm working on getting both my voice and a few of the thirty plus pounds I lost back. My plan is to see many of you at the Membership Tea and not talking about health. I'm sick of health, or lack of it as the case may be. So, no health talk, just good animated conversation, cheer and fun.

Thank you again everyone. The best of health to you and yours.

Barbara (bmaccarillo@aol.com)



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

March 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4 10:00 Board Meeting	5	6	7	8 2:00 – 4:00 Membership Tea
9	10	11 10:30 AAUW Funds	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 2:00 Afternoon Book Group	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 6:00 Reel Revelers	28	29



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