



Palm Springs Branch Sandscripts

Volume 66. Issue 2

October 2014

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

Celebrating Our 2014 Tech Trek Campers

11:30 am, Saturday, October 11th

Desert Princess Hotel, 67967 Vista Chino at Landau, Palm Springs

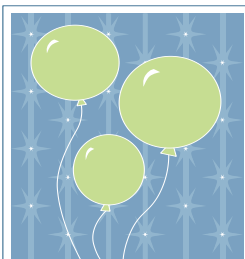
Menu:

Green Salad with 2 dressing choices, Cup of Chicken Noodle Soup, Half of a Turkey Sandwich with lettuce, tomato, and special spread, concluding with Dessert chosen by the chef just for us. Iced Tea and Lemonade are included.

There is also a vegetarian choice.

The Palm Springs Branch of AAUW invites you to join the celebration that will honor our nine Tech Trek girls. The girls will be sharing their exciting camp experiences with us.

The nine girls that we sent to Tech Trek Camp this past summer along with dorm mothers Bonnie Paul and Chris Ellet from our AAUW Palm Springs Branch.



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

PLEASE RETURN THE RESERVATION FORM BELOW WITH YOUR CHECK FOR \$28.00. Make your check payable to: AAUW Palm Springs, and mail it to: Barbara Oliver, 78316 Moongold, Palm Desert 92211 (760-345-8498) no later than Oct. 7th. Remember, a reservation made is a reservation paid.

Name(s) _____ **circle one:** Turkey Sandwich or Vegetarian

Telephone or email _____ number of reservations _____



Oct. 2014 President's Message

Gerry Johnson, President

Courage is what it takes to stand up and speak; Courage is also what it takes to sit down and listen. (Anonymous)

That thought has gone around in my mind lately as we have all of these crises in the world as well as here at home. Recently, I watched Melissa Harris Perry speak on her TV program about the big football problems with abuse of women. She specifically mentioned the abuse of the wife whose picture was shown all over the world again and again. She spoke directly to the wife and said she felt her pain because it was degrading and humiliating and should not have happened. That was abuse of the victim. Those kinds of things cause abused people (male or female) to not tell anyone of their pain. Our speaker at the September meeting, Angie Negro, spoke on this issue and also told us about the wonderful things that Shelter From The Storm is actively supporting here in the valley.

Through our Mission-Based Programs such as Tech Trek, Speech Trek and Title IX, AAUW helps girls to learn about further education and new fields of interest that girls may follow in the years to come. I am looking forward to the October meeting when we will meet the girls who attended Summer Camp. Hopefully, we will be able to expand so that more girls will be able go in 2015 and in the future.

We have some great programs for this coming year. I hope you can join us for the knowledge and the fun. As a new year begins choose what interests you. The general meetings always have wonderful speakers and yummy lunches. Or maybe you would rather attend a study group such as Book Club, Reel Revelers, or the Eleanor Roosevelt Study Group. Travel is always good and I know there are members who are interested in going on short day trips here in the valley as well as longer trips to other destinations. We will be happy to have you with us.

We have a new member, Barbara Oliver, who has volunteered to be our Reservations Chair as Vivian Penniman is no longer able to do it. New Members, please think about volunteering for any position or group. Get involved and you will enjoy AAUW to the fullest. We need a photographer, so if you like to take pictures and come to meetings, give me a call.

My father always said that if you don't know what to do, sit back and let the world take a few turns and things will work out. Sometimes I find that waiting a day or two before taking action helps me to sort out what I really want to do or what really needs to be done. That is so with change. Things happen and we need to make some changes. Sometimes we must leave AAUW for a while. Then things happen and we need the camaraderie of other women (men are welcome also) and it's time to get involved again in AAUW. Welcome all new members.

Thanks to all of you dedicated members for helping to make this Branch GREAT!



We mourn the loss of Barbara Maccarillo, who was a very active member of our branch. There will be a celebration of her life on November 22nd. Details will follow.

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
- Secretary: Joann Lane 360-9257
- Treasurer: Lori Duffy 832-2859
- Tech Trek: Barbara Foyil..... 424-8627
- Tech Trek Treasurer:
 - Lilliane Shuman..... 424-8627
- College Relations:
 - Pat Fredericks 674-4649
- Public Policy:
 - Jeanne Hirshfield..... 324-2190
- 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:
 - Bayla Adelman 568-9621
- Travel:
 - Mary Ann Kaestner 416-7534

AAUW Fundraising

The Branch Fundraising and Funds committee selected as their first project, “The Phantom Cruise Fundraiser.”

The Committee members developed and approved the Phantom Cruise announcements which included an opportunity for members to donate to Tech Trek and the various AAUW Funds. Following the recommendations gathered from AAUW members at the July Planning Meeting, our Phantom Cruise announcements were mailed to members, former members and national members.

From this fundraising effort we have received donations in the amount of \$ 2,740 as of Sept. 9, 2014.

The donations were designated as follows:

Tech Trek	\$ 2,305
AAUW Funds.....	435

Thank you to the following who donated money to the various AAUW Funds: Joanne Bourquin, Faye Duffy, Jeanne Hirshfield, C. J. Hochsprung, Ronda Ostergaard, Joan Parmelee, Judy Pochini, Betty Schaffer and Lilliane Shuman.

Thank you to the following who donated money to Tech Trek: Bayla Adelman, Marsha Claybrook, Chris Ellet, Vivianne Gladden, Garnett Gladden, Phyllis Greene, Mary Held-Switt, Jeanne Hirshfield, Gail Hughes, Mary Ann Kaestner, Anne LaConde, Pat Mauritzen, Elaine Levey, Brenda Lonsbury-Martin, Elizabeth Nash, Deanna Neal, Ronda Ostergaard, Patty Pastrick, Bonnie Paul, Norma Stempler, Nancy Terrel, Irene Tritel, Barbara Villani, Joan Weil and Lillian Wilson.



Elizabeth Nash, 760-772-0645

Fundraising and Funds Committee Members: Sue Beatty, Lori Duffy, Barbara Foyil, Jeanne Hirshfield, Gerry Johnson, Anne LaConde, Angie Love; 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: Six statewide ballot propositions are certified for the November 2014 ballot in California. Here is a short description of five of them, and the position AAUW-CA recommends:

Proposition 1 - \$7.12 billion bond for California's water system. Put on the ballot by the California Legislature, this measure would authorize the sale of \$7,120,000,000 in state bonds, and reallocate \$425,000,000 of unissued bonds to finance the purpose of water quality, supply and infrastructure improvements. **AAUW CA supports the passage of this initiative.**

Proposition 2 - State Budget. Budget Stabilization Account. Legislative Constitutional Amendment. This proposition requires the state to spend a minimum amount each year to pay down specified debts. It creates a Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA) which is funded by a transfer of capital gains-related tax funds in excess of 8% of the general fund revenues. It creates rules about forecasting estimates of revenues and expenditures for 3 fiscal years with 1.5% annual deposit of general fund revenues and taxes from capital gains in excess of 8%, and changes rules for taking money out of the BSA. Funds would be appropriated when state support for K-14 education exceeds the allocated revenues and resources.

School districts will be limited in the amount of reserves that can be kept at the local level. While theoretically the PSSSA is a positive step for education, an analysis by Ed Source (of which AAUW CA was a founding partner) states the PSSSA would not likely be funded until the end of the decade. With this degree of uncertainty, **AAUW CA remains neutral on this proposition. Proposition 45 - Public notice required for insurance company rates initiative.** This initiative would require the Insurance Commissioner's approval before a health insurer could change its rates or anything else affecting the charges associated with health insurance. It provides for public notice, disclosure, and hearing, and subsequent judicial review, and exempts employer large group health plans. **AAUW CA recommends an oppose position on Proposition 45.**

Prop 46 - Drug and Alcohol Testing of Doctors. Medical Negligence Lawsuits. This proposition implements measures to reduce doctor impairment from drug and alcohol use. It would require health care practitioners to consult state prescription drug history database before prescribing certain controlled substances. Finally, it would increase the

cap on pain and suffering damages in medical negligence lawsuits from \$250,000 to over \$1 million, reflecting inflation. **Because AAUW supports access to quality, affordable health, it opposes this initiative and recommends a NO vote.**

Prop 47 - Criminal Sentences. Misdemeanor Penalties. The initiative would reduce the penalty for most nonviolent crimes from a felony to a misdemeanor. Specifically, the initiative would mandate misdemeanors instead of felonies for "nonserious, non-violent crimes," such as petty theft and drug possession, unless the defendant has prior convictions for violent and serious crimes. **AAUW CA recommends a support position on this initiative.**

For more detailed analysis of the propositions, go to <http://www.aauw-org/> and click on Public Policy.

AAUW Palm Springs **branch board meeting**, Tuesday, October 7th 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

The AAUW-CA Funds Celebration Luncheon Honoring 2014-2015 Funds Fellows and Grant Recipients in California:

Sunday, October 19
12:00 – 3:00 pm
(Registration 11:30)

\$40.00 per person
RSVP by: October 8

Contact Elaine Levey about carpooling – 760-360-6440 or elainlev@gmail.com for the registration form

Pictures from September Meeting:



Phyllis Greene, Bonnie Paul, Anne LaConde and Lilliane Shuman; Mary Ann Kaestner, Elizabeth Nash and Trish Doran; Jeanne Hirshfield and Joanne Bourquin
 Norma Stempler and Pat Fredericks; Jeanne Hirshfield, speaker Angie Negro, Elizabeth Nash and Pat Fredericks; Barbara Villani, Gail Hughes
 Patty Pastrick and President Gerry Johnson

Tech Trek

Thank you for your Tech Trek contributions made to the "Phantom Cruise" mailing. For those who missed the sailing date and still want to make a donation, please return this form with your donation and send it to:

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

Name _____ Amount: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Tel: _____

Make checks payable to: AAUW SPF (Special Projects Fund). Put Tech Trek on the check.



College Relations

College of the Desert and California State University Palm Desert are ready for the fall classes to start. COD is already underway and CSU will start the 25th of September. We have all read the problems that COD is having with the lack of classes offered. CSU is working with COD to facilitate some of the classes that COD cannot offer. Classes will be held on the CSU campus with CSU instructors but credit will be from COD. This working arrangement is for the benefit of all the students and will help COD students finish their two-year degree in a shorter time period than would otherwise be available. The President of COD and the new Dean of CSU have a great working relationship for both now and in the future. Keep an eye on this cooperative arrangement. At this time COD is not an affiliate member, but I am working on an appointment with the President and hope to have COD back by the end of September.

CSU accepted a class of 110 freshmen to the class of 2018. Last year's class of 107 completed the year with 105 students with an average GPS of 2.9. Not bad for freshmen. I am working with several organizations to form scholarships for both freshmen and upper classmen. These scholarships will help keep our valley students here in the valley rather than the "brain drain" that has occurred in the past due to the lack of a four year university.

The Coachella Valley is on the move!!!

Pat Fredericks, 760-674-4649

New Members



Pictured are Chris Ellet's son Jason and his friend Sonalei Amador. Jason is a new Student Affiliate. The picture on the right shows Chris Ellet with two of our new members, sisters Sherrell Blakeley and Sharron Cantarini. Other new members are Katie Barrows, Steve Ellet, Angie Negro and Barbara Oliver. They will be listed in the directory out next month.

In honor of **Breast Cancer Awareness Month**, you are invited to go to an inspiring day of films to help raise funds for breast health programs.. Planned Parenthood is hosting the first-ever Reel Women's Movie Marathon on Sunday, Oct. 26, 10 am to 7:30 pm at the Camelot Theatres in Palm Springs. For more information, visit planned.org/RWMM.

TYKE TREK NEEDS YOU!

Tyke Trek is a science morning for 3rd Graders at Vista del Monte Elementary School in Palm Springs. AAUW members teach and assist some fun science lessons. If you are interested in helping please contact Barbara Villani at 760-322-3987 or bhvillani@gmail.com or Bonnie Paul at 760-568-6577 or happygma13@gmail.com. You will make some third grade girls very happy!

Thanks, Barbara and Bonnie

Help Wanted!!

Please help us with our holiday party (December date still to be decided). If you can help, contact Chris Ellet on her cell phone at 281-639-8322.

BOOK GROUP

At 2:00 pm on Wednesday, October 15th we will meet to discuss *The Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. All members and their guests are welcome. The location has not been chosen yet. For information contact Sue Beatty, 760-346-7478 or email her at ssbeatty@icloud.com.

The book for November 19th is *Plainsong* by Kent Haruf.



Sue Beatty, 760-346-7478

REEL REVELERS

Reel Revelers is scheduled for Thursday, October 23rd at Chris Ellet's home if no one else volunteers her home. We always welcome new homes to go to. The movie will be chosen close to the date of the meeting.

Bayla Adelman, 760-568-9621

Travel Group

We will go to the CV Rep Theater in Rancho Mirage on Wednesday, November 5th, 7:30 pm, to see *The Chosen*. This is a small theater with excellent plays. The website is <http://www.cvrep.org/cv-reps-plays-cv-reps-2014-2015-season>. Please buy your own tickets. (Many of us have purchased tickets for the series.) To purchase tickets call the box office at 760-296-2966. If you want season tickets with the group, the dates are: Nov. 5th, Jan. 28th, March 11th, and April 22nd. Single tickets go on sale after Sept. 15th.

“This award-winning play (based on the book by Chaim Potok), is the story of two boys, two fathers and two very different Jewish communities – “five blocks and a world apart” – in Brooklyn, in the 1940’s. This is a heartfelt story of friendship and important choices that two families make on the path toward understanding, respect and reconciliation.”

Those who wish to join other members for dinner before the play should make a reservation by calling Angie Love at 760-779-5658.

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT LEADERSHIP STUDY GROUP

The study group will meet at 10:30 am October 21st: There will be a discussion of Ken Burns’ PBS Series: *The Roosevelts*, which aired September 14 through 20. The meeting will be held at the home of Angie Love. RSVP to Angie at 760-779-5658 or randalovebrds@aol.com.

In November we will discuss Elizabeth Warren’s book, *A Fighting Chance*.



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



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.

October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7 Board Meeting, 10:00 am	8	9	10	11 General Meeting, 11:30 am
12	13	14	15 Book Discussion, 2:00 pm	16	17	18
19 AAUW Funds Luncheon 12:00 noon	20	21 E. Roosevelt Discussion Group, 10:30 am	22	23 Reel Revelers, 6:00 pm	24	25
26 Breast Cancer Movie Marathon 10:00 am	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	



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