



Palm Springs (CA) Branch

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

AAUW
Palm Springs
Branch
Sandscripts



November 2017 Volume 69 Issue 3

AAUW Palm Springs Branch Meeting

Saturday, November 4th at 11:30 AM

Marriott Shadow Ridge
9002 Shadow Ridge Road, Palm Desert, CA 92211
(Off of Monterey between Frank Sinatra Drive and Gerald Ford Drive)

Do Women Govern Differently?



Advocacy is an important part of the AAUW mission. One way we advocate for women and girls is to encourage women to run for and be elected to office. Our November speaker will share insights on running for office and being elected—and how women govern once they are elected.



Yvonne Parks was elected to the Desert Hot Springs City Council in November 2005. She was elected Mayor in 2007 and re-elected to the Council in 2009 and 2011. She was again re-elected in 2015. She was honored as the DHS Citizen of the Year and the VIP of the year in 2003.

Menu Choices

- 3 cheese flatbread with fresh herbs and a small side salad (vegetarian option)
- chicken spinach strawberry walnut salad--with rolls and butter
- classic Reuben sandwich with french fries

Chef's choice for dessert

Cost: \$25 if you make a reservation before **Monday, October 30** or send a check. \$30 if you do not have a reservation.

You may make a reservation by calling Sharron Cantarini at **(760) 296-3512** or clicking on **gerald8870@sbcglobal.net**. You may also mail a check to Sharron at 79783 Joey Court, La Quinta, CA 92253. Please indicate your menu choice when you make a reservation. If you make a reservation, you will be expected to pay for your meal.

Sharron Cantarini
gerald8870@sbcglobal.net

President's Message



As we celebrate another year, may I be the first to wish you Happy Thanksgiving and Happy Holidays. Yes, 2017 is ending and we have many things to be thankful for. We do need to remember those who are no longer with us and say a prayer for the many memories that we have and can share with each other. I shall cherish the memories that I have gained over the years with all of you. Friends are our support system and we should remember to say "Thank You for being there."

Our luncheon with our Tech Trek winners was a great introduction to the girls and the experiences they had at UC Irvine. It looks like we have the funds to send **NINE** more girls in 2018, thanks to the contributions of our members who supported the Elizabeth Nash Memorial Fund! What a great tribute to Liz and her impact on the Palm Springs Branch.

Please make sure to mark your calendar for **December 9th for our Annual Holiday get-together**. It is always a fun evening and a good time to spend social time with our members and their guests. **More information will be forth coming.**

I look forward to seeing all of you at our November luncheon and at our Holiday party. Be good, be loved and love in return and have a great month.

Pat Fredericks

President, AAUW Palm Springs Branch



President Elect's Message

In November I will be sending a mailing to you, requesting donations to our AAUW Fund Program and Tech Trek.

Your gift, **no matter how large or small**, helps support the many important national AAUW Programs, as well as Tech Trek, our local Branch program.

As Fundraising Chair, I thank you in advance for your contribution. You will receive acknowledgement of your donation, which is tax deductible.

Sharrell Blakeley

President Elect & Fundraising Chair



Palm Springs Branch 2017-2018

Board of Directors Officers

President: Pat Fredericks
President Elect: Sharrell Blakeley
Program VP: Shelly Mitchell
AAUW Fund: Sharrell Blakeley
Membership VP: Sharron Cantarini
Secretary: Joanne Lane
Treasurer: Gillian German

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

VISION: *AAUW will be a powerful advocate and visible leader in equity and education through research, philanthropy, and measurable change in critical areas impacting the lives of women and girls.*

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

DIVERSITY: *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.*

VALUE PROMISE: *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.*

Tech Trek: Peggy Shippen (541) 686-8619
Tech Trek Treasurer: DeeDee Warren (808) 640-2619
College Relations: Shawn Shepherd (909) 537-8116
Public Policy: Jackie Drucker (760) 200-5101
Publicity: Joanne Bourquin (760) 772-2832
Reservations: Sharron Cantarini (760) 296-3512
Sandscripts: Michelle Newman (909) 537-8140
Photographer: Magdalena Hamilton (760) 636-5261

Book Group: Roberta Young (734) 658-9981
Great Decisions: Joanne Bourquin (760) 772-2832
Happy Hour

Spirits:
Lunch Bunch: Phyllis Greene (760) 772-7121
Out and About: Martha McCool (760) 771-5428
Reel Revelers: Bayla Adelman (760) 568-9621

If you are in need of an electronic PDF copy of Sandscripts or a printed and mailed version please call or email:

Michelle Newman
(909) 537-8140
michelle.newman@csusb.edu



Public Policy

Supreme Court Hears Partisan Gerrymandering Case

The U.S. Supreme Court **heard** oral arguments this term in Gill v. Whitford, a case that may limit the practice of drawing electoral district lines to benefit one political party. The case centers on Wisconsin, where in 2012 reshaped districts **resulted** in a supermajority for Republicans in the state legislature, despite Democrats winning the majority of votes in the state. Gill v. Whitford proposes use of the “**efficiency gap**,” a new measure for determining the discriminatory effect of distorted districts. AAUW **advocates** for equitable political participation and representation, and believes poorly drawn or purposefully unfair electoral district lines threaten these ideals.

How Do We Handle This in California?

In November 2008, California voters passed Proposition 11, the Voters FIRST Act, which took political redistricting responsibility away from the state legislature and instead established a 14-member statewide redistricting commission composed of five Republicans, five Democrats, and four not affiliated with either of those two parties but registered with another party or as decline-to-state. The **California Citizens Redistricting Commission** was initially charged with updating the state assembly, senate, and Board of Equalization district boundaries starting with the 2010 census. Another initiative, Proposition 20, passed in 2010, expanded the Commission responsibilities to also include the state Congressional districts.

California is divided into 40 **State Senate districts**, each of which **elects** a senator to the **State Senate**. Twice the size of an Assembly district, each senate district contains about 931,000 people. The combined Senate roster is available from senate.ca.gov. Prior to 1968, state senate districts were restricted such that one county could only hold at most one seat. This led to the situation of **Los Angeles County**, with 6 million residents as of 1968, receiving 600 times less representation than residents of **Alpine County** and **Calaveras County**, some of California's least populous counties. The **Reynolds v. Sims** decision by the **United States Supreme Court** compelled all states to draw up districts that were apportioned by population rather than geography. As such, boundaries were changed such that equal representation was provided.

Following the 2010 passage of **California Proposition 20**, the Voters First Act for Congress, the Commission was also assigned the responsibility of redrawing the **state's U.S. Congressional District** boundaries in response to the **congressional apportionment** necessitated by the **2010 United States Census**. The Commission has faced opposition from politicians because "many safe seats in the Legislature could suddenly become competitive. The Commission certified new electoral district maps by the August 15, 2011 deadline with the required “supermajority” of a minimum of three Democrats, three Republicans, and three commissioners from neither major party, as stipulated by the **California Constitution**. Maps for the state legislative districts passed with a 13-1 vote, and for Congressional districts with a 12-2 vote. In response to a series of legal challenges, the **California Supreme Court** ruled unanimously three times in favor of the Commission's maps, finding them in compliance with the **U.S. Constitution** and **California Constitution**. In addition, the **U.S. Department of Justice** granted preclearance of the Commission's maps under Section 5 of the federal **Voting Rights Act**. The new districts took effect for the June 5, 2012 primary. Republican sponsors put a referendum on the Senate map on the **November 6, 2012 ballot** as **Proposition 40**, but have since reversed their position and are no

longer opposing the new districts. While the long-term results will bear out over time, independent studies by the **Public Policy Institute of California**, the **National Journal**, and **Ballotpedia** have shown that California now has some of the most competitive districts in the nation, creating opportunities for new elected officials. For example, the uncertainty caused by the new districts combined with California's "**top two**" **primary** system has resulted in half a dozen resignations of incumbent Congressional representatives on both sides of the aisle, a major shake-up of California's Capitol Hill delegation. In addition, it has forced a number of intra-party races, most notably a showdown between two of the states most powerful House Democrats, Representatives Howard Berman and Brad Sherman. In the previous 10 years, incumbents were so safe that only one Congressional seat changed party control in 255 elections, due to **bi-partisan gerrymandering** after the redistricting following the **2000 Census**. It is predicted that some of the newly elected politicians will be particularly well-suited for national politics since they will be forced to find positions that please moderate and independent voters to remain in office.

Jacqueline Drucker

(760) 200-5101

judgejackie@mac.com

Membership



We now have an online directory!

This is a great addition as it will allow for errors, changes or updates to happen easily and more efficiently.

There are 4 easy steps to accessing the directory:

1. Log onto the branch's web page <http://palmsprings-ca.aauw.net/>
2. Click on the **Members Only Tab** below the branch name
3. You will be directed to a page to enter a password; enter **palmsprings** (all one word, no caps) and Click **ENTER**
4. You will be taken back to the home page. Simply **click back on the Members Only Tab** again and you can access the directory and newsletters !

If you notice that your information is wrong or need to update your information please contact **Michelle Newman** at (909) 537-8140 or

- If you would like a visual representation of these directions please [CLICK HERE](#)

- If you would like help walking through this process please call Michelle Newman and she would be happy to help (909) 537-8140

SHARRON CANTARINI
Membership VP



Tech Trek



TT Check-Writing Changes

Beginning November 1, 2017, checks for Tech Trek donations MUST be made

Payable to **AAUW CA SPF**

Memo line: **UC Irvine Camp - PS Branch**

SPF is the AAUW CA **S**pecial **P**rojects **F**und. Many years ago, **SPF** was created so Tech Trek would have a 501(c)3 to receive its donations. AAUW CA **SPF** was the fiscal agent for Tech Trek until November 2015 when we joined the national TT program and moved our money to AAUW National. AAUW National was the fund agent for two years. November 1, it will convert back to AAUW CA. **SPF** is run by volunteers with a hired part time bookkeeper. They bank our funds, file tax reports and manage the audits in exchange for a fee.

DeeDee Warren, our Branch Tech Trek Treasurer will continue to collect TT checks from Palm Springs Branch members and area donors. DeeDee will continue sending checks to our Camp Treasurer at UC Irvine.

AAUW CA Tech Trek administrators realize we've had to endure a couple of TT check writing changes in a relatively short time. If you have any questions, please give me a call. Should you happen to write your check incorrectly, DeeDee will return it to you with a note and ask you to re-write it correctly.

Thank you for your patience!

Peggy Shippen



Interest Groups

Book Discussion

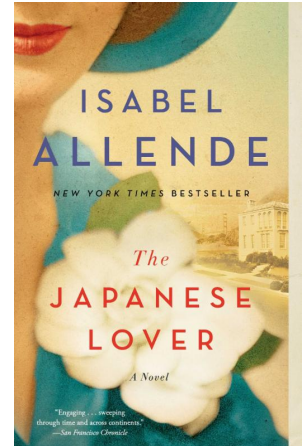
The book for the November 15, 2017 meeting is *The Japanese Lover* by Isabel Allende.

The meeting is at 2:00 PM at the home of Anne La Conde
73135 Fiddleneck Lane, Palm Desert, 92260.

Please call Anne to RSVP: (760) 862-1913 or email her at
lacondeanne@gmail.com.

Evelyn Cumming will lead the Discussion.

Roberta Young (734) 658-9981 (cell w/ voice mail)
roberta-young@juno.com



11/15 *The Japanese Lover*
By: Isabel Allende

Hostess: Anne La Conde Discussion: Evelyn Cumming

12/20 *In the Unlikely Event*
By: Judy Blume

Hostess: Anne La Conde Discussion: Anne La Conde

1/17 *Desert Queen*
By: Janet Wallach

Hostess: Roberta Young Discussion: Roberta Young

2/21 *My Own Words*
By: Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Hostess: Beth Bangert Discussion: Beth Bangert

3/21 *Born a Crime*
By: Trevor Noah

Hostess: Anne La Conde Discussion: Gail Wahl

**4/18 CHOOSE BOOKS FOR
2018-2019**

Hostess: Angie Love Discussion: Roberta Young

5/16 *Lab Girl*
By: Hope Jahren

Hostess: Sue Beatty Discussion: Sue Beatty

What You Missed Last month...



“Reading furnishes the mind only with materials of knowledge; it is thinking that makes what we read ours.”

— John Locke

“It is a good rule after reading a new book, never to allow yourself another new one till you have read an old one in between.”

— C.S. Lewis



Reel Revelers

Next Meeting date November 30:

Call Bayla to find out where Reel Revelers will be meeting. We see the film on our own, have a pot luck and then discuss the film chosen by the discussion leader

Bayla Adelman (760) 568-9621
baylaadelman@cs.com

Out and About

December Festive Adventure

Your Palm Springs AAUW “OUT & ABOUT” Invitation to:
La Quinta Resort
[A Guided Walking Tour with Lunch Included](#)



THE WALDORF ASTORIA COLLECTION™

Tour Guides: "Smith & Williams" of the
La Quinta Historical Society

The La Quinta Resort first opened on December 26, 1926 and is set against the breathtaking backdrop of the rugged Santa Rosa Mountains. The legendary La Quinta Resort & Club is the longest running resort in the Palm Springs desert area and one of only two resorts in the country for which a city has been named!

Date: Saturday, December 9th, 2017

Time: 10:30 am – 1:30 pm

***Meeting Place: La Quinta Resort**

49-499 Eisenhower Drive

La Quinta, CA 92253

Self-Parking or Valet Parking Available

***Meeting place:** At the decorated Christmas tree
(outside of the Hotel Lobby)

**2 Reminders: Wear your name tag and
wear comfortable shoes**

Cost:

\$55/person for **nonmembers** of the La Quinta
Historical Society

\$45/person for **members** of the La Quinta Historical
Society,

*Membership to the La Quinta Historical Society is tax
deductible: (\$25/individual or \$20/senior)*

How to purchase your tickets:

Tickets will be available for purchase beginning

October 1st

To pay by phone with your Credit Card:

Call the La Quinta Museum at (760)777-7170

or

Tickets may be purchased in person at the

La Quinta Museum

77-885 Avenida Montezuma, La Quinta, CA 92253

Deadline for tickets is December 6th, 2017

Coachella Valley Repertory Theater Group

Our first CVR Theater play is **November 1**.

If you want me to make a dinner reservation for you let me know.

We will meet at 5:30 at Fisherman's Restaurant and Bar. Questions or directions please call:

Angie Love (760) 779-5658
randalovebrds@aol.com



Photos from Our October Luncheon





FUN THANKSGIVING FACTS TO IMPRESS YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

- **The first Thanksgiving was held in the autumn of 1621** and included 50 Pilgrims and 90 Wampanoag Indians and lasted three days. Many historians believe that only five women were present at that first Thanksgiving, as many women settlers didn't survive that difficult first year in the U.S.
- **Thanksgiving didn't become a national holiday until over 200 years later!** Sarah Josepha Hale, the woman who actually wrote the classic song "Mary Had a Little Lamb," convinced President Lincoln in 1863 to make Thanksgiving a national holiday, after writing letters for 17 years campaigning for this to happen.
- **Thanksgiving is the reason for TV dinners!** In 1953, Swanson had so much extra turkey (260 tons) that a salesman told them they should package it onto aluminum trays with other sides like



sweet potatoes — and the first TV dinner was born!

- **Why is Thanksgiving the fourth Thursday in November?** President Abe Lincoln said Thanksgiving would be the fourth Thursday in November, but in 1939 President Roosevelt moved it up a week hoping it would help the shopping season during the Depression era. It never caught on and it was changed back two years later.
- **Benjamin Franklin wanted the turkey to be the national bird, not the eagle.**
- **Americans eat 46 million turkeys each Thanksgiving.**
- **Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin's first meal in space** after walking on the moon was foil packets with roasted turkey.
- **Californians consume the most turkey** in the U.S. on Thanksgiving Day!
- **Female turkeys (called hens) do not gobble.** Only male turkeys gobble.



November Birthdays



Jacqueline 'Jackie' Drucker 13

Joan M. Reed 14

Yolanda Nava 23

Diane Clements 29

Marsha Riley 29



November 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 5:30 Fisherman's Market 	2	3	4 11:30 Luncheon
5	6	7 	8	9	10 Thank you to those that serve Happy Veterans Day! 	11
12	13 Happy Birthday Jackie Drucker! 	14 Happy Birthday Joan Reed! 	15 2:00 pm BOOK DISCUSSION	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23 Happy Birthday Yolanda Nava!  	24	25
26	27	28	29 Happy Birthday Diane Clements!  Happy Birthday Marsha Riley! 	30 Reel Revelers (information to follow)		



**AAUW Palm Springs
Branch Website**

Find Us On Social Media

