



Palm Springs (CA) Branch

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



AAUW Palm Springs Branch
Sandscripts

December 2017 Volume 69 Issue 4

AAUW Palm Springs Holiday Party

Saturday, December 9, 5-8 p.m.

at the home of Pat and Ward Fredericks
75375 Painted Desert Drive
Indian Wells, CA 92210

Please bring finger/toothpick food
(hors d'oeuvres, cheese and crackers,
shrimp, small sandwiches, cold cuts, fruit,
veggies and dips, etc.)
& a beverage of your choice

RSVP by December 2, 2017

(760) 674-4649 (H)

(760) 702-0963 (W)

pfredericks4444@gmail.com

Please let us know if you will be
accompanied by a guest,
and what you are bringing to eat!



President's Message



As the year draws to a close it's time for us to reflect upon 2017, give thanks for our blessings and remember those who are no longer with us. I think about my mother and father as well as the number of friends who have left. Some people were great friends, some were friends and some were acquaintances. I miss each and every one of them.

2018 is a time to rejoice with those who are here and contribute to our lives. The board members are certainly those who I am thankful for. They work hard for the benefit of the members of this wonderful branch. They keep me on my toes and help me through confusing times. We often forget to say "**Thank You**", and now is the time. So "**Thank You**" to each and every member who makes this job more enjoyable. To those who stand beside and behind every other member and helps each of us to get over the bumps in the road.

2018 is also time to remember our **mission statement** and our **commitment** to the girls and women who make up our nation. **Tech Trek** is one area where we contribute to the growth and increase knowledge of the young winners. They have a wonderful opportunity to grow and demonstrate how AAUW can make a difference. Only time will tell the path that they may choose to pursue, but I'm sure that their lives will be richer for the experience.

As we look forward to another great year, let's not forget to continue to do our very best to make a difference. **Yesterday is gone, tomorrow is not promised, but today is our chance to demonstrate the value of life, happiness and take joy in our opportunities.** Have a wonderful and special holiday season. I look forward to sharing 2018 with all of you.

Pat Fredericks

President, AAUW Palm Springs Branch

LOST AND FOUND

AAUW Education Fund pin was found after the October luncheon.
If this pin is yours please call Pat Fredericks at (760) 674-4649.



President Elect's Message

I want to thank everyone who gave money to the Phantom Gala Ball (that never existed). We received donations for both the AAUW Fund and Tech Trek Camperships.

I sincerely appreciate your generosity.

And, remember, your contributions are fully tax deductible so if you choose to send money before the end of the year, that would be greatly appreciated, too.

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*

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
Sunshine: Pamela Roberts (760) 347-8546
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:

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.*

Michelle Newman

(909) 537-8140

michelle.newman@csusb.edu



Public Policy

Public Policy:

In the past, I have **encouraged AAUW members to write to their representatives**, in Sacramento as well as those in Washington. Recently, I sent an **email message to President Trump**.

This is the response I received

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

November 3, 2017

Thank you for contacting the White House. We are carefully reviewing your message.

President Donald J. Trump believes the strength of our country lies in the spirit of the American people and their willingness to stay informed and get involved. President Trump appreciates you taking the time to reach out.

If you wish to receive regular email updates from the White House, please **Click Here**. You may also wish to follow President Trump and the White House on **Facebook**, **Instagram**, **Twitter**, and **Youtube**.

Sincerely,
The Office of Presidential Correspondence

I don't have Instagram or Twitter and I seldom refer to Facebook or Youtube, so I guess I'll have to rely on his regular email updates. Perhaps in years to come when his emails are investigated, someone may call on me.



An Update From Senator Dianne Feinstein

November 14, 2017

COMMONSENSE GUN SAFETY

Senators Introduce Assault Weapons Ban (November 8, 2017)

“We’re introducing an updated Assault Weapons Ban for one reason: so that after every mass shooting with a military-style assault weapon, the American people will know that a tool to reduce these massacres is sitting in the Senate, ready for debate and a vote.” To read the full press release, [CLICK HERE](#).

Feinstein Statement on Sutherland Springs Shootings (November 5, 2017)

“When will this end? When will we decide that we can’t accept massacres in our places of worship, schools, or at concerts? When will we actually do something about it?” To read the full statement, [CLICK HERE](#).

Feinstein Supports Expanded Background Checks (October 25, 2017)

“We must not allow the country to resume business as usual after the deadliest mass shooting in our country’s history. We’re going to keep pushing for commonsense policies to reduce gun violence, and chief among them is closing the glaring loophole in the background check process.” To read the full statement, [CLICK HERE](#).

And so do I want to ban assault weapons and expand background checks. I do want a well regulated militia (army) so I am strong to support the second amendment.

Jacqueline Drucker

Jacqueline Drucker
(760) 200-5101

judgejackie@mac.com

Membership

Dear Members,

This is the joyous time of the year, but I need to address an unpleasant issue of members RSVP to me after the cut-off date. The cut-off date is the **Monday BEFORE** our Saturday luncheon because I need to give "The Grill" our numbers on how many orders for the menu.

This becomes very confusing and difficult for the restaurant to keep changing how many orders need to be corrected. I fear someday the restaurant is going to charge us for each change.

Therefore, as of **January 1, 2018, any member emailing, or calling me AFTER the Monday cut-off date will be charged an extra \$5.00.**

Please get your RSVP into me before the cut-off date. Thank you all for your understanding.

SHARRON CANTARINI

Membership VP



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 michelle.newman@csusb.edu

- 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



Tech Trek



Tech Trek has a new logo! You'll find it proudly displayed on the main page of our branch website and on a new Tech Trek Tab that Michelle Newman has created for us. If you have any suggestions for what to add or how to better display it, please let me know.

Want to know what's happening with Tech Trek and when this year? Again... check it out on the Members Only section of our branch website where you can read all about it in the Minutes of our last Tech Trek Team Meeting and on the TT Timeline of events and meetings.

Camper Selection has begun. Already seven (7) of 15 schools have named school contacts. Teachers can nominate up to three (3) 7th grade girls interested in STEM. AAUW-National has given us permission to send out the Student Application & Essay and Parent Certification forms early as requested by our schools. We will also ask applicants to sign out our branch Camper Agreement to attend branch the Camper pool/orientation party, October luncheon and two TT Alumni Club events over four years after Camp.

Thank you to members who are making Tech Trek Camper sponsorships happen with their generous donations!!

Peggy Shippen
(541) 686-8619
shippen63@gmail.com
Branch Tech Trek Coordinator

Tech Trek Alumni

A trip to The Living Desert

The Tech Trek Alumni Club was off to a “roaring” start with our first event at The Living Desert on November 17. This educational and fun event included talks with staff about STEM



careers at The Living Desert, a guided tour of the Veterinary Hospital and a Zoo Keeper Chat at the African Wild Dog display. Then we had time to explore the grounds and enjoy visiting the animals. The bighorn sheep and giraffes were instant favorites! It was a beautiful day to learn more about this incredible venue and build camaraderie and friendships with our TT girls. In attendance from 2014 was Emely Rocha, from 2016 we had Sarah Peterson and Leah Morena and from 2017 we had Lilana Villalpando-Lua, Munashe Powell and Belen Martiez-Rios.

Peggy Mengel

Tech Trek Alumni Club Chair



Interest Groups

Book Discussion

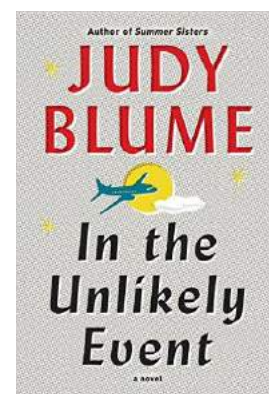
The book for the December 20, 2017 meeting is *In the Unlikely Event* by Judy Blume.

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.

Anne will also lead the discussion.

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



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

Out and About

REMINDER: December Festive Adventure

Deadline for reservations is December 5th



Your Palm Springs AAUW "OUT & ABOUT" Invitation
to:
La Quinta Resort
A Guided Walking Tour with Lunch Included

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 5th, 2017



Martha McCool
marthamaemccool@gmail.com

Photos from Our November Luncheon





Hanukkah and Christmas



Hanukkah is the preferred spelling, but it can also be spelled Chanukah or Chanukkah

The Hebrew word Hanukkah means **dedication**

Hanukkah commemorates the **victory of the Maccabees over the Syrians** and the re-dedication of the Second Temple of Jerusalem around 165 BC



The Christmas story is told primarily in the **Gospels of Saint Luke and Saint Matthew** in the New Testament

The word Christmas is **derived from the Old English phrase Cristes maesse** (Christ's mass)

The tradition of substituting X-mas for Christmas has its origins in the

Re-dedication was necessary because Seleucid King of Syria, Antiochus IV Epiphanes, had defiled the Temple by having an altar to Zeus placed there

When the Maccabees began preparing the Temple for the re-dedication, they found that they only had enough oil to light the Temple for one night. It ended up **lasting for eight days**, until the delivery of new consecrated oil

Candles are lit each night of Hanukkah to **commemorate the miracle**

Sourced from:

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/09/06/world/hanukkah-fast-facts/index.html>

early Christian church. **The first letter of Jesus Christ's name is X in the Greek language**

Many of the customs and symbols traditionally associated with Christmas originated with **ancient pagan festivals** and winter solstice rituals

St. Nicholas, the real person on whom Santa Claus is based, **lived in the 4th century AD** in the province of Lycia on the southwest coast of Asia Minor

Sourced from:

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/09/03/world/christmas-fast-facts/index.html>

December Birthdays



Gerry Johnson 3
Barbara Foyil 6
Susan Rosenberg 13
Martha McCool 14
Carole Ann Haller 14
Joann Lane 18
Elizabeth Boyd 23
Ruth Kuhlemeier 27
Marty McCoy 28
Eva Walker Dupre 30
Joyce Kornbluh 30



December 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3 Happy Birthday Gerri Johnson!	4	5	6 Happy Birthday Barbara Foyil!	7	8	 5-8pm Pat Frederick's home
10	11	12  Happy Hanukkah	13 Happy Birthday Susan Rosenberg!	14 Happy Birthday Martha McCool & Carole Ann Haller!	15	16
17	18 Happy Birthday Joann Lane!	19	20	21	22	23 Happy Birthday Elizabeth Boyd!
24	25 	26	27 Happy Birthday Ruth Kuhlemeier!	28 Happy Birthday Marty McCoy!	29	30 Happy Birthday Joyce Kornbluh and Eva Walker Dupre!
31 	1	2	3	4	5	6



**AAUW Palm Springs Branch
Website**

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