



Palm Springs (CA) Branch

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



AAUW
Palm Springs
Branch
Sandscripts

February 2019 Volume 70 Issue 6

**AAUW Palm Springs Branch Luncheon
Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 11:30 a.m.**

The Grill, Marriott Shadow Ridge
9002 Shadow Ridge Road, Palm Desert
(Off Monterey between Frank Sinatra and Gerald Ford)



**Voices for Children-
The Riverside County
CASA Program**

Jessica Muñoz is the Riverside County Executive Director for Voices for Children. Jessica oversees the recruitment, training, and supervision of Court Appointed Special Advocates, or “CASAs.” CASAs are very special volunteers who advocate for children in foster care in court, school, and the community. Jessica is an attorney and practiced for over seven years, including four years as a trial attorney in juvenile dependency courts in both Los Angeles and San Diego Counties.

Prior to joining Voices for Children, she developed and coordinated a program at UC San Diego to provide support services to students who are undocumented. In addition to her law degree, she holds a Master of Forensic Science degree and a professional certificate in nonprofit management. Jessica is a past chair of the County of San Diego – Juvenile Justice Commission and served on the board of the San Diego Civic Youth Ballet. Her professional affiliations include the State Bar of California, the Riverside County Bar Association, and The Fieldstone Leadership Network.

Menu Choices

- Classic Reuben Sandwich with French Fries
- Veggie burger with fresh fruit
- Southwestern Taco Salad with rolls

Chef's choice for dessert

Cost: **\$30** if you make a reservation or send a check.

\$35 if you do not have a reservation by February 5.

You may make a reservation by calling Sharron Cantarini at (760)296- 3512 or 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.

President's Message



Happy February. It looks like 2019 is going to go as fast as 2018 did. Either that or I'm just losing track of time enough that it appears that way. February is the month that we celebrate Valentine's Day with cards, and candy. Wow, right after the holidays, another temptation to gain weight.

I hope that those of you who attended the 70th Anniversary luncheon enjoyed yourselves and learned about some of the important women of our valley. Our speaker was so informative, I learned several things about these women that I didn't know. This was a great time to look back at our members who are no longer with us and remember the impact that they had on us and on our Branch. We honor these members and their commitment to AAUW.

Our February luncheon will be back at Shadow Ridge at 11:30 and the cost will be \$30.00. Inflation is surrounding us at all levels. Please try to arrive a little early to meet and greet the attendees. It is important that we get to know all our members and make everyone feel that they belong. Our goal is to make everyone feel that they are important to our organization, because they are!

We will be announcing our slate of officers for the years 2019-2020 at our March meeting with the election in April. If you have any interest in serving as either an officer or an appointed chair, please let me know. The jobs are rewarding and present you with an opportunity to make an impact on our Branch and its members. It also provides you with an opportunity to grow and increase your understanding of what AAUW really stands for. You can meet members from around the state and in some instances around the country. That is a growing experience in itself.

Please do think about volunteering for an office or a chair of one of our activity groups. You will find it most rewarding.

Pat Fredericks

President, AAUW Palm Springs Branch



President Elect's Message

I am impressed with the depth of professionalism of our membership. I was so encouraged last Saturday at the 70th Celebration Luncheon of our Palm Springs Branch at Acqua at The River. There we were.....old members, new members and potential members, all eager to share in the history of our Branch which launched in 1949

I sat a table with our newly created and wildly successful Chair of our Alumni Club, Peggy Mengel. She plans two Tech Trek events a year, in adherence to a grant we received from Best Buy to support these two Camper Alumni events. Anne LeConde will host a panel of 4 women who will speak to our Tech Trek Campers about their own experiences as a woman in a STEM field. Member Susan Rosenberg, President of Desert Cities Indoor Air will be a panelist at this Alumni Event, along with Member Janet Braslow MD, a retired ophthalmologist

Lilliane Shuman perfectly described the value of our organization at the luncheon. She wanted desperately to be a member of AAUW but couldn't because she didn't have a degree. At 67 she graduated from university and joined our Palm Spring Branch as a member. It was a riveting moment of accomplishment, shared by all at the Luncheon. Kudos to you, Lilliane!

I read an excerpt from the author, Mary Pipher, in her article The Joy of Being a Woman In Her 70's. The author states that woman of our age are fortunate to have self-knowledge, emotional intelligence and empathy for others. She further states that 'we have learned happiness is a skill and a choice'. Women of our age have acquired an aptitude for appreciating life. We are lucky women who are connected to a rich web of women friends and these friends can be our emotional insurance policies

Young or old....we all deserve to have such friendships; thus the value of our Palm Springs AAUW Branch.

Sharrell Blakeley

President Elect & Fundraising Chair



Palm Springs Branch 2018-2019 Board of Directors



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Shelley Mitchell
Sharrell Blakeley
Sharron Cantarini
Joanne Lane
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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.



Membership

Just a friendly reminder that luncheons are now \$30 not \$25.

Sharron Cantarini

Membership Vice President

February Member Spotlight



Ali Fuller-Babrowski

1. How Has AAUW Empowered Me?

I was invited to the Membership Tea by Elizabeth Nash in 2014 and met many women who were warm and friendly. Francie Spears and Iris Anderson were extremely warm and encouraged me to join. I was impressed by the support that AAUW gives to sponsored programs for young women. Elizabeth was a great influence in my decision to become a

member.

2. What Is My Favorite Aspect Of Our Palm Springs Branch?

I enjoy going to the luncheons and sitting with different women. We share tidbits and it is a great way to meet new friends. Encouraging young girls to make math, science and technology the path to their life career excites me. I have an 8 year old great granddaughter who loves math and science. We must keep encouraging our young women.

3. Education/Life's Work?

I earned my undergraduate and graduate degrees from California State University, Los Angeles. I had a 43 year stellar career with Los Angeles Unified School District as a Classified Employee, Teacher and, Advisor. In addition, I was the Business Education Consultant, Division of Career and Continuing Education, Los Angeles Unified School District. I had 39 Adult and Regional Occupational Centers under my supervision. My role was to interview and credential teachers, revise and develop curriculum, plan workshops and staff development for teachers, and assist principals in implementing programs.

My emphasis on teaching is now focused on "teaching people to make molded chocolate that is better than the other two". I learned that making molded chocolates relieves stress. It has been medically proven that it does. I teach cancer survivors and grieving children how to make/create chocolates. This is my way of "giving back".

BTS Chocolates by Ali is my official business. My chocolates are sold at desert social events and by "word of mouth". Making and creating chocolates helps me live a "stress free" life.

4. What Do I Do For Fun?

Just waking up each day with thankfulness and gratitude starts the "Fun". I enjoy helping people and meeting new women. Most of life I enjoy. I am a volunteer in Neighbors for Neighbors, Sunshine Club, and Social Coordinator for Desert Newcomers and a Greeter at Friendship Church. At the end of every day, I make certain that I have made more than one person "smile".

I also like to read, play golf, entertain and a myriad of other activities. I will do most things **once** to know whether it is something I will do **again**.

Belonging to AAUW and meeting interesting women has helped me to appreciate each day.

Thankfulness, Gratitude, Love, Kindness, Peace, Faith and Hope

are in integral part of my life.



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://palm springs-ca.aa uw.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 **palm springs** (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

- **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**



AAUW Palm Springs Branch Facebook Page

A Facebook Page for our Branch of AAUW has been created by Susan Rosenberg. If you are a member of Facebook, please click on the link below to visit the page.

<https://www.facebook.com/AAUWPSBranch>

You should see the following photo at the top of the page.



Please click on the 'Like' Button so you will see future posts and invitations to events. If you can, please also invite some of your friends to like the page. The more “likes” we get, the more publicity we can achieve for our events.

If you mistakenly get taken to a similar AAUW PSB “friend” page with a green AAUW logo on it, this is not a page that you can “like.” The button “add friend” will appear. This will not get you updates on our events.

There is also a FB page for AAUW California that has frequent posts that may be of interest to the women in our branch.

Susan Browne Rosenberg
plmdsrtbrowne@gmail.com

Tech Trek



Jessal Corona, a Cathedral City High School Senior, has settled on Forensic Science as a career and is in the process of applying for scholarships so she can attend college next fall. Her first choice is UC Davis.

Jessal’s accomplishment is special for us because she is the first AAUW-Palm Springs Branch Tech Trekker to keep in contact with us throughout high school.

Chris Ellet was her Dorm Mom. Periodically, after Camp, Jessal would email Chris and chat about classes at school and future career plans. When the notices came out last spring inviting past Tech Trekkers to attend the AAUW-CA State Convention 20th Anniversary Celebration of

Tech Trek, Jessal and her mom, with whom she is very close and who is her #1 supporter, were the first to respond. They joined members of our branch, including Chris and myself for the luncheon and reception afterwards.



Isabella Garza (mother), Jessal Corona, Peggy Shippen, Chris Ellet

AAUW-CA Tech Trek
20th Tech Trek Anniversary
April 2018



Mother & Daughter

Jessal attended two of our three Tech Trek Alumni Club outings. Most recently she and her mom toured the Rancho Mirage Observatory. We hope she'll be able to attend this year's Tech Trek Orientation and fun party to talk to the girls.

Our Tech Trek Committee selected Jessal to attend AAUW-Tech Trek Camp at UC Irvine in 2014. I was able to find Jessal's essay – neatly printed and confidently written when she was 13 years old. At the time, she wrote:

“My hopes and dreams, well lets see. I hope to be very successful and going back to school ...and getting my masters degree....I have saved the best for last... I will then return to college for my PhD....My dream is that I will help people whether by finding a cure for cancer, helping people with the law, or maybe even with a new invention....As long as I'm helping others I know I am making a difference.”

Jessal did not wait to graduate college to make a difference. Jessal has been on the OneFuture Health science Academic Pathway taking science classes and participating in community and career internships that are science-related. Jessal Founded and was President of the Cathedral City HS Medical Reserve Corporation whose mission is to educate the community on pressing health issues and disaster preparedness. She has worked within the community to embrace the Chicano culture and support, inform and participate in LGBTQ events around the community. Jessal has also volunteered at the animal shelter, tutored elementary students, provided the community with medical information and given personal testimonies on the benefits of mental health education. This year she has been an intern at Desert Regional Medical Center providing patients care, comfort and assistance.

Included in her scholarship application Jessal's words warmed my heart:

“Although I come from a very rough background, I am still determined to go to college. *It was at Tech Trek Science and Math Camp for Girls that I truly found out what my passion was.* I plan to study criminal justice with an emphasis in forensic science. I ultimately would like to become a crime scene investigator and live a very successful life like the one I've always dreamed of.”

Tech Trek has made a difference to Jessal. My dream is that one day our branch will have an AAUW –Palm Springs Branch College Scholarship to give girls like Jessal.



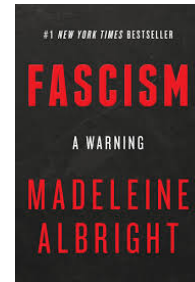
Interest Groups

Book Club

The book for the February 20 meeting is *Fascism* by Madeline Albright
The meeting is at 2:00 PM at the home of Beth Bangert:
55385 Laurel Valley, La Quinta, CA 92253.

Ann Berman will lead the discussion.

Please call Beth to RSVP: (760) 771-9215 or email her at
beth@bangertfamily.com.



DIRECTIONS TO Beth's Home

- Take Jefferson south of 111 to PGA West.
- Turn LEFT at the Stadium Gate (second gate to PGA West)
- Get a pass at the gate.
- Go right on Pebble Beach and then make 3 left turns to Laurel Valley
- Turn left on Laurel Valley to 55385 (fifth house on the left).

(Don't believe your GPS!)

YOU CANNOT ENTER THE GATE ON MADISON

Mary Davey Schambach (562) 201-4749
maryschambach@yahoo.com

Out and About

SAVE THE DATE

(limited to the first 30 who sign up; but we are filling up fast)!

Date: Thursday March 7, 2019

Time: 10:00 a.m. Sharp

Coachella Valley History Museum

82-616 Miles Avenue Indio, CA 92201

Phone: 760-342-6651

Docent led tour & Admission:

\$5 (Group Rate to be paid at the door)



Followed by Lunch at **12:30 pm**

Shields Date Gardens Restaurant

80225 Hwy 111 Indio, CA (1 block E of Jefferson)

(Individual checks)

When you RSVP to Martha McCool, kindly state if you will be attending BOTH the Museum's docent led tour and also dining at Shields Restaurant!

Both the Museum, and the restaurant need a head count.

Reply before March 3, 2019

To RSVP:

MarthaMaeMcCool@gmail.com or leave your message at (760) 771-5428

Please include your full name and phone number and if you are attending both the tour and the lunch?

Reel Revelers



Reel Revelers will meet February 28. The home location and movie will be determined closer to the date.

Lunch Bunch



Monday, February 11 at 12:00 pm (noon)

**Rancho La Quinta Country Club
at the Main Clubhouse**

Turn left off Washington Street (stop light) onto Rancho La Quinta Drive (across from Eisenhower Drive) and stop at the Washington gate. The guard will give you directions to the main clubhouse.

Separate checks will be available

To RSVP:

Email Marsha Riley at: **mriley61@hotmail.com** by February 9. I will need to make sure all names are on the list and submit them to the guard at the gate.



Photos from our 70th Anniversary Luncheon



February Birthdays

Sandy LaBrow	8
Shelley Mitchell	17

Louetta 'Lou' Riley 21
 Ali Fuller-Babrowski 27



February 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
27	28	29	31	31	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					Happy Birthday Sandy LaBrow!	Luncheon at 11:30 am Shadow Ridge
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Lunch Bunch at 12:00 noon					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Happy Birthday Shelley Mitchell!			Book Club at 2:00 pm	Happy Birthday Louetta 'Lou' Riley!		
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
			Happy Birthday Ali Fuller-Babrowski!	Reel Revelers		

February 2 Groundhog Day
 February 3 Superbowl LIII
 February 4 Rosa Parks Day
 February 5 Chinese New Year, Year of the Pig
 February 8 **Happy Birthday Sandy LaBrow!**
 February 9 Branch Luncheon
 February 10 The Grammy's
 February 11 Lunch Bunch
 February 12 Abraham Lincoln's Birthday
 February 14 Happy Valentine's Day
 February 15 Susan B. Anthony's Birthday
 February 17 **Happy Birthday Shelley Mitchell!**
 February 18 President's Day
 February 20 Book Club
 February 21 **Happy Birthday Louetta 'Lou' Riley!**
 February 24 Oscars
 February 27 **Happy Birthday Ali Fuller-Babrowski!**
 February 28 Reel Revelers



**AAUW Palm Springs
Branch Website**

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