

Tech Trek Alumni Club



Continuing and building on the relationships forged at Tech Trek Camp is what our Alumni Club is all about! Our November 2 event was hosted by the Friends of the Desert Mountains at The Visitor Center on Highway 74. Seven Tech Trek girls and their mom, along with AAUW members, Peggy Shippen and Marsha Riley, and me went on a private guided 1.5-mile hike in our beautiful desert mountains. We learned about the desert plants and their ecological importance here in the desert. After the hike we enjoyed a catered lunch on the patio of the facility and then were treated to a lecture on bats and met our new best friends, a lizard and rosy boa! This program was not only fun but gave the girls an opportunity to see another STEM career in action! Many thanks to my committee member, Kathy Zeidel, who gave me the connection to the Visitor Center and graciously made follow-up calls to all of our Tech Trek alumni to encourage attendance. Our next event will be in Spring 2020. *Peggy Mengel, Tech Trek Alumni Club Chair*



Money Matters Holiday Wishes and Visions

TECH TREK. We now know we will be able to send eight Coachella Valley 7th grade girls to AAUW Tech Trek Camp this coming summer - **for certain!** We have enough \$\$ raised to send all eight **plus** \$2000 for 2021 Camper Sponsorships. **!!Congratulations!!** Tax-deductible donations for future TT Campers are made in the same manner as always. Write your check to AAUW-CA SPF; memo line notation PS Branch UC Irvine Camp. Send to TT Treasurer, PO Box 11423, Palm Desert, CA 92255.

SPONSORSHIP ADS. The Holiday Season is the perfect time for members to support our branch. Businesses looking for ways to **GIVE and DEDUCT** business ads. A \$50 annual sponsorship ad to 120 members in *Sandscripts*, directory and on our website. Email me shippen63@gmail.com for the form. **Goal: 1 ad/mbr.**

AAUW GREATEST NEEDS FUND. As you all know, AAUW is in dire need of our donations. Palm Springs AAUW women have stories upon stories to tell of how much AAUW has helped us and other women advance and “be” better than we ever dreamed we could be as advocates, educators, leaders and citizens. Our goal is not just to put our branch “on the map” as being *responsive* but to send a sincere message of being one of the most *grateful* by giving to the **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund #9110.**

I'm not sure we can do it, but our Goal is \$100/ member to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund this year. Giving to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges that our research shows are needed in education, training, leadership and legislation. Now more than ever, we need to ensure AAUW remains strong, viable and highly respected when advocating for positive change for the girls and women who are our future. **Please consider Giving a Gift this Holiday Season to AAUW Greatest Needs Fund! Mail contributions no later Thursday December 19, 2019, and AAUW will match your donation!!** Any amount given will be most appreciated.

- Make checks out for AAUW Greatest Needs Fund to: **AAUW Fund**
- Memo Line Notation: **AAUW Greatest Needs Fund #9110**
- Mail check to: PS Fundraising VP, P.O. Box 11423, Palm Desert, CA 92255

Happy, Happy Holiday!!
Peggy Shippen, Fundraising VP

Finance

by Gillian German, Finance VP

I enjoy serving as your Finance Officer for our AAUW chapter. You may be interested in and appreciate some of the functions that keep this office humming along all year. As F.O. I chair the budget committee, receive all funds due the branch, pay all expenses approved in the budget, provide accurate financial records to present at the monthly board meetings, manage the bank account, process new member applications, file state and federal tax forms and any other requests by the president or board. We have increased next year's Branch dues by \$10 and we expect to remain fiscally stable. Have a happy holiday season. See you again at our January luncheon meeting.

All Branch members are invited to attend board meetings. The meetings are held on the Tuesday before the Branch Luncheon/Meeting at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to attend, please contact Sharrell Blakeley so she can prepare a board packet for you. THERE WILL BE NO BOARD MEETING IN DECEMBER.

Interest Groups

Great Decisions:

It is not too late to consider joining the AAUW Palm Springs Great Decisions world affairs discussion group in 2020. Participation involves reading a topic in the Briefing Book prepared by the Foreign Policy Association, then meeting to watch a video segment on the topic and discuss the questions presented. The topics for next year are: "Climate Change and the Global Order"; "India and Pakistan"; "Red Sea Security"; "Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking"; "U.S. Relations with the Northern Triangle"; "China's Road into Latin America"; "The Philippines and the U.S."; "Artificial Intelligence and Data".

The group meets on the third Tuesday of the month January through June, and in September and October. The first meeting in 2020 will be on January 21. The group order for the *Great Decisions 2020 Briefing Book* has already been made. However, members may still place an individual order either with the Foreign Policy Association online bookstore at fpa.org or by calling the Foreign Policy Association at 800-477-5836. If you have any questions, please contact Judy Schurr.

Book Group: December 11 at 2:00 p.m.

Book: *News of the World* by Paulette Jiles

Roberta Young's Home, 437 North Calle Rolph, Greenhouse East, Section 4, Palm Springs 92262

Please RSVP to Roberta by December 5, 2019

Email: roberta.young48154@gmail.com

Phone: 734-658-9981

Directions: We are on N. Calle Rolph. There is also a S. Calle Rolph, so be careful if you use a GPS. There is also a N. Calle Rolf on the north side of Alejo before you reach our street. Remember, my house is South of Alejo. Our house is South of Alejo and West of Sunrise on the first street after the Methodist Church. Turn left off Alejo and drive about 3/4 of the way to the end of the street. You can park on either side of the street. The gates are locked, so you will need to give me a call and my husband, Howard will open the gate for you. Our complex is called Greenhouse East and we are in Section 4. There is a number 4 on the side of the building facing the street where the walkway is

Reel Revelers:

As mentioned in the last Sandscripts, Reel Revelers is now meeting on Saturdays. We will NOT be meeting in December but will start up again on Saturday, January 25 at 12:30 pm. Due to the large attendance (we love it!) in January thru March, we will be hosting Reel Revelers at two (2) homes each month on the same day and time with the same movie selection. This allows for smaller group discussions and enables people with smaller seating capacity (10-14) to host.

Please contact me ASAP if you can host during January through May.

Jo Hillyard, Reel Revelers Chairperson

650-619-8777

johillyard@dc.rr.com

Lunch Bunch:

We are changing our usual day for our meeting because the restaurant we choose is not open on Monday. We will meet on Wednesday, December 4th at noon.

Amanda's Tea Room, 73625 Highway 111, Suite C, Palm Desert (Call 760-341-410)

Please call or email Sue Beatty ssbeatty@icloud.com or 760-3467478 to RSVP

Happy Hour

The AAUW Palm Springs Happy Hour group will not be meeting in December, but please save the date **Thursday, January 9, 2020**, for the first Happy Hour event of the new year. Details will be announced in the near future. Looking forward to seeing you in 2020! Any questions please contact Sharon Guthrie or Judy Schurr.

In Our Thoughts

If you are aware of a member who is ill or has lost a family member, please contact our "In Our Thoughts" chair, Pam Roberts. Pam will send a card and notify *Sandscripts*.



Member News

Anne and Ken La Conde and Jess and I are sailing the Adriatic Sea together. Here we depart Zagreb Croatia for Split. (from Susan Rosenberg)