



Palm Springs Branch



Sand Scripts

September 2022

Volume 73: Issue 1

AAUW Mission

To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.



Empowering Women Through Education

We're back! In Person

Dr. Martha Garcia Superintendent/President of College of the Desert is Our Speaker For Our September Meeting

Time: 11:00 AM

Date: Saturday September 10, 2022

Meeting Location:

The City of La Quinta Wellness Center

78-450 La Fonda

La Quinta, CA 92253

We will be meeting at the City of La Quinta Wellness Center. Dr.

Martha Garcia, President of College of the Desert will be our speaker. Dr. Garcia is a member of our branch and has dedicated her career to the empowerment of women and girls. She was honored by Palm Springs Life as a Woman Who Leads 2022. She will speak to us about the empowerment of women through education. You will not want to miss this.

As the eighth Superintendent/President of College of the Desert, Dr. Martha Garcia is driven to serve the students of the Coachella Valley, whose experiences often reflect her own.

Dr. Garcia is committed to the transformative power of higher education and student-centered leadership. The values she learned from her parents – hard work, perseverance, honesty and respect – guide and inspire her.

Dr. Garcia holds a Doctorate of Education in Educational Leadership from San Diego State University, a Master's Degree in Educational Counseling from National University, a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from San Diego State University, and an Associate Degree from Imperial Valley College.

Lunch at the La Quinta Wellness Center

The Wellness Center is located in the La Quinta Civic Center Campus on the east side of La Quinta Old Town on 78-450 La Fonda which is one block south of Calle Tampico.

Lunch will be catered by Panera. It will cost \$30.00.

Lunch choices are as follows:

Deli Turkey Sandwich-
Country rustic sourdough bread
Chicken salad
Emerald Greens
Sliced tomatoes
Mayonnaise
Mustard
Turkey

Mediterranean Veggie Sandwich
Tomato basil bread
Feta cheese
Cucumber
Emerald Greens
Red onions
Peppadew peppers
Tomatoes
Hummus

Chicken Caesar Salad
Grated Parmesan
Romaine lettuce
Croutons

Caesar dressing

Beverages will be agave lemonade, iced tea and water.

We will be collecting the \$30.00 cost of the meal at the door.

If you want to attend you must let Sharron Cantarini know by either calling or texting her at 760-296-3512 or emailing her at gerald8870@sbcglobal.net on or before the September 7, 2022 deadline. You must also let her know what you want to order from the list above, the number of guests you are bringing, if any, and what they want to order.

If you tell Sharron you will be attending, but do not attend you will be invoiced \$30.00.

WELCOME WELCOME WELCOME BACK EVERYONE.

We have a fabulous year planned for all of us and need your involvement, opinions and discussions on AAUW issues. We have several new members and thrilled we survived Covid. At our luncheons, please proudly wear our AAUW name tags and you can get your own name tag from Linda Rudolph for \$13 per tag. She needs 5 orders in order to have these name tags at this great price.

We are excited Dr Garcia, president of COD, is our September 10th Luncheon Speaker at the Wellness Center in La Quinta. Please RSVP to me your luncheon choice.

See you all on Saturday

Hugs Sharron Cantarini
Membership VP

Did you know our Branch has a Facebook Page?

No? Please like us and invite your friends. The link is here:

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

We need every member to help with promoting our meetings by liking and commenting on our posts.

If you just scroll on by, with no engagement, we get no help from FB with promotions.

Please share our posts on your personal page and invite your friends to join.

Susan Browne Rosenberg



New Logo: You may have noticed that AAUW has an updated *website* and a new look. This meant that our logo was out of date. Many thanks to **Georgia Applegate**

Finance

Hello and welcome back to enjoy the new season for our Palm Springs Branch. The board is looking forward to seeing all of you at our luncheon meeting on Saturday, September 10th.

We appreciate you continuing your membership with our fabulous branch. Great news. The majority of our members have renewed their memberships. Jean Dietrich, is a long time dual member with our Palm Springs Branch and Mission Viejo/Saddleback Branch. She has been awarded an Honorary Certificate by AAUW National for being a member for 50 years. Congratulations Jean.

Plan to join us for our meeting to reconnect with your AAUW friends. We have an excellent program and luncheon to look forward to.

Gillian German
Finance Officer

Interest Groups

Reel Revelers

THE BOY WHO HARNESSSED THE WIND

Thursday, September 1

3:00 p.m.

Watch it on Netflix and join us for a discussion led by Marsha Riley. RSVP to Marsha by email and she will send you the link

Lunch Bunch

LUNCH BUNCH will be held at The Vue Grill in Indian Wells on Friday, September 30th (the last Friday of the month) at 11:30 am. We will be in the Wine Room on the second floor. Please email Marsha Riley, mriley61@hotmail.com if you plan to attend. Come join us for great food and lots of fun on September 30th!

Book Group

Wednesday, September 21

2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Book: *I Dreamed of Africa* by Kuki Gellmann

Discussion led by Mary Schambach

Contact Mary Schambach and she will send you the link (and a copy of the book if you need it).

Great Decisions

Great Decisions will meet via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, September 20, 2022. The topic is Drug Policy in Latin America. Meeting information will be emailed to participants a week before the meeting. Please RSVP to jschurr@earthlink.net

Great Decisions-- 2023

AAUW Palm Springs members are invited to participate in the upcoming 2023 Great Decisions interest group--a foreign policy learning/discussion group, which meets on

the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Participation involves reading 8 topical essays and watching video-taped lectures compiled by the Foreign Policy Association. This "world affairs group" is expected to read the chapter narratives ahead of time and come prepared to discuss the questions at the end of each chapter. The Great Decisions group starts in January, meeting for 6 months, through June. The group does not meet in July and August, and finishes the 2 remaining chapters in September and October. The Foreign Policy Association briefing books will be available for pre-order sometime in October. Please contact Judy Schurr to be placed on the participant contact list and for further details (email jschurr@earthlink.net, or call 760-837-9297).

Tech Trek Update



AAUW Tech Trek Camp in STEM – Science, technology, engineering and math.

Thanks to your generous support and donations the Palm Springs Branch sent four students to Tech Trek camp at UCSB and five to Whittier College campus. In addition, four students attended the marvelous, hands-on virtual Tech Trek camp. It was an amazing, eye-opening and rewarding experience for these 12 and 13 year-olds. Space limits transcribing all of their exuberant Thank You notes to our PS Branch, but I will include some phrases here:

- Thank you for giving me this unforgettable experience.
- This sponsorship has impacted my life in a big way, and I'm grateful for this once-in-a-lifetime experience.
- My Coding and Robotics class educated me on all the job opportunities by just knowing how to code.
- From the friends I made to the amazing food, I am genuinely devastated to say goodbye to it all.

- I loved all the workshops and fieldtrips.
- My favorite part was being in biology.
- I enjoyed the professional women's night...
- I hope to one day pursue a career in STEM, specifically in Technology, Robotics or Aerospace.
- I loved my core class and all the field trips especially when we explored the college Campus.
- I was excited and surprised at all the great staff....The teachers know how to teach and make it interesting and exciting.
- One of my favorite activities was going to the marine biology research lab. Every time I got to go I always learned new things.
- One of my favorite moments was coding in our core class. We made so many different apps that really inspired me.... I wish I could stay 1 more week.
- My favorite part of the boat trip was seeing all the marine life, especially dolphins! Not only did we see multiple pods, but they swam with the boat!
- I would love to see this camp keep helping young girls thrive.
- Thank you again not only for sponsoring me but also helping lead me on my way to college.

Submitted by Janet Braslow

Selecting, orienting, and following these girls requires many woman-hours. Please, consider joining the Tech Trek Selection Committee, Tech Trek Orientation Committee or the Tech Trek Alumnae Group Committee, which plans local STEM activities for our previous campers. You will be able to work with wonderful members and support our delightful and amazing Tech Trek girls. Contact Janet Braslow or Gail Aune. jhbraslow@gmail.com Gaune@sonic.net

Public Policy

AAUW encourages women to get involved in the political process when it involves our mission. Since redistricting has affected our voting districts, Rep Ruiz no longer represents all of us in the Coachella Valley. It is vitally important to evaluate what positions on women's issues both the current Representative has and compare it with the challenger's positions.

Shelley and I will be sending pertinent information that AAUW-CA supports in the coming month. Please peruse it carefully and vote accordingly. Meanwhile, enjoy the article below from the AAUW CA Public Policy Team.

Gayle Cox,
Public Policy Chai



When Women Vote, We Change the Conversation!

Since 1881, AAUW has been a leading voice promoting education and equity for women and girls. AAUW encourages women voters to get involved in the political process and gain a better understanding of the impact legislative action can

have on our lives.

The recent US Supreme Court *Dobbs* decision on abortion has stimulated action in many states across the nation, including California. Our legislature passed and Governor Newsom signed AB1666 which will enable a woman coming into California to receive an abortion to be protected from lawsuits originating in her home state. This bill was co-sponsored by AAUW CA! A further step protecting a woman's right to make personal medical decisions is a Constitutional Amendment, Proposition 1,

which will be on the November 8 ballot. It would amend the California Constitution to prohibit the state from denying or interfering with an individual's reproductive freedom in her most intimate decisions, which includes the fundamental right to choose to have an abortion and the fundamental right to choose or refuse contraceptives. AAUW CA supports this Constitutional Amendment.

Congressional races are particularly important this November. Redistricting after the 2020 Census has changed the boundaries of many Congressional districts. In the current partisan climate, we need to be aware of what is at stake in both our national and state upcoming elections. Your current member of Congress may no longer represent you – be sure to become informed soon on the candidates for Congress in your district. As you sort through all this, please reflect on priority issues affecting us, our daughters, and granddaughters, and evaluate candidates' positions on these issues.

If you are a leader in your branch, make your October program a focus on the election. You may want to consider a Candidates Night. Before a partisan election, AAUW branches may host candidate forums to which all major-party candidates in that election are invited. AAUW branches with 501(c)(4) status must make a thorough and good faith effort to ensure the participation of at least two candidates for a specific office but may proceed with a forum if only one candidate accepts. AAUW branches with 501(c)(3) status may only proceed with a candidate forum event if at least two candidates have accepted the invitation.

Here are resources to get helpful, non-partisan information:

- AAUW CA website: aauw-ca.org Public Policy section will soon have more detail on priority issues and questions to ask of candidates.
- AAUW website: aauw.org/policy/advocacy/tool-kit Ideas for branch activities, C/U partners, and specifics for 501 c 3 and 501 c 4 branches.
- CA Secretary of State website: www.sos.ca.gov voter info, Ballot Initiatives.
- State and County Voter guides – mailed to all registered voters in October.
- www.wedrawthelinesca.org – maps of newly re-drawn congressional districts

Register to vote, if you haven't already! And if you have recently moved you need to update your information with your County Registrar of Voters! Voting is a powerful tool to bring about change!



Dear Branch Leaders and Members,

Oh sure, you faithfully pay your \$20 state dues. And we thank you. But what do you get for them? Join us at a virtual town hall on Sunday, September 11th, to hear your state leaders share their fresh plans to support AAUW branches and members this year. Hear them speak. See them laugh. Catch their enthusiasm. It will be almost like meeting them!

- Date: Sunday, September 11, 2022
- Time: 3 - 4:30 pm
- Registration required: Register *HERE*.

Hope you can join us and get excited about our plans.

Sandi Gabe

AAUW California State President

statepresident@aauw-ca.org

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Contact Gillian German for information.

Recommended by Marsha Riley



Recommended by Sharrell Blakeley



Recommended by Janet Braslow



Sand Scripts is published monthly by the Palm Springs Branch of AAUW. Submissions are welcome. please send stories, photos, ideas and other contributions by the 15th of each month to shelleydmitchell@gmail.com

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or
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Thank you to Susan Rosenberg who maintains our Facebook Page and
Jennifer Jank, our webmistress

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