



Palm Springs's Branch



Sand Scripts

December 2022

Volume 73: Issue 4

AAUW Mission

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

*AAUW PALM SPRINGS
HOLIDAY PARTY*



COME JOIN US FOR HOLIDAY CHEERS

December 10, 2022

4pm-7pm

Jerry & Sharron Cantarini

79783 Joey Ct

La Quinta, Ca 92253

51st and Jefferson (gate code 1104)

Please bring Finger Food to share with your drink of choice.

Guests/spouses are welcome

RSVP by 12-4-2022

760-296-3512



President's Message
Kathi Farber

Happy Holidays! We had a very busy November with the TECH TREK Fundraiser Luncheon and a lot of planning for the coming months.

A big welcome to our new members. We have at least 10 new members. There will be a membership orientation for all the new members on January 7.

The membership Satisfaction Survey has been completed by the wonderful team of Gayle, Arlene, Sharrell and Marsha. The Survey will gather input on such items as Program Meeting options, Interest Groups, Member Skills and more. It will be distribution after the holidays.

AAUW CA held a Webinar on their state program, Gov Trek. This is a program for high school junior and senior girls who may be interested in political and leadership roles. 150 junior and seniors can participate in the program. Information on how to participate is going out to the schools.

On Nov 20th, COD held a Legacy Leader Event to honor four students who participated in a NASA sponsored project. These STEM students Designed a Cube Satellite, launched it to 100,000 feet above the Salton Sea, and analyzed greenhouse emissions. They successfully completed the project and securing similar data as did NASA. A young lady was integral to the team. Her field of study is electrical engineering. (Photo at right is of her and the other students)



On December 10th, we have our wonderful Holiday Party, this year at Sharron Cantarrini's home. Please check with Sharron for further information.

Our next Board meeting is December 6 at the home of Kathi Farber. The meeting is open, and you are welcome to attend.

Happy Thanksgiving everyone!

Finance:

Happy holidays to all of our AAUW members. The holiday season is a time to reflect on gratitude for the special people in our lives. I am so grateful for all of the wonderful friends I have met while participating in our AAUW-PS branch events. I look forward to celebrating the season with you at our Holiday Party at Sharron and Jerry's home. We can start the new year 2023 knowing that our association remains in a sound financial position.

Gillian German
Finance Officer

Have you looked at our website lately?

Introducing Skip Breen, our new website administrator is a pleasure. He has been an absolute blessing for our branch in terms of outreach and new members, (we have 11 new members in 2 months). We hired him in October to update the website and include posting monthly newsletters, financials, minutes and any other pertinent information for the website. Skip also created and oversees the activity on social media which is an application that allows you to show people who you are by creating content online. Our Instagram page is gaining followers within AAUW's target market. He has reached out and encouraged social media presence to fellow branch accounts. Our social media accounts are connected to our website.

Skip helps business brands by enhancing their presence on various digital platforms. He has experience working in marketing for different businesses as a social media coordinator. He is available to work with other branches and businesses, as well as individuals. His email is: skipbreen@gmail.com.

Click [HERE](#) to visit our updated website.
You can also see our Instagram page at [aauwpalmsprings](#)

Interest Groups

Reel Revelers

Thursday, December 1, 3:00 p.m. on Zoom

Film: *A Body Remembers When The World Broke Open*

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

Book Group

Wednesday, December 14

2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Book: *The Mountains Sing* by Nguyen Phan Que Mai

Discussion led by Shelley Mitchell

Contact Mary Schambach to RSVP. She will send you the link

Board Meeting

Our board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 6 at 10:00 a.m. All members are welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact Kathi Farber for an agenda and directions.

Lunch Bunch

December 30 at 11:30 a.m.

Place TBA

Email Marsha Riley for more information and to make a reservation

On hold until January 2023

Great Decisions will not meet until January. See below for more information

Out and About

Happy Hour

GREAT DECISIONS-2023

AAUW PS members are invited to participate in the upcoming 2023 Great Decisions interest group--a foreign policy learning/discussion group, which meets via Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 AM. Participation involves reading 8 topical essays and watching video-taped lectures compiled by the Foreign Policy Association. The 8 topics for 2023 are: Energy Geopolitics; War Crimes; China's Foreign Policy; Economic Warfare; Elections in Latin America; Global Famine; Iran and the Gulf States; Climate Migration.

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 are now available for pre-order. If you are interested, please contact Judy Schurr (jschurr@earthlink.net) to be placed on the participant interest list and for the link to purchase your Foreign Policy Association essay book.

Tech Trek Alumnae Group committee needs your help!



It is important to maintain contact and support our former Tech Trek campers through their high school and college paths. We had a fascinating TTAG trip to the PS Air Museum October 15. We now need help planning an Alumnae event at the Living Desert and a career panel with our talented AAUW members. Please contact Janet at jhbraslow@gmail.com or 760-333-0537 if you would like to assist us. Next TTAG meeting is December 8 th at 1 pm.

Submitted by Janet Hartzler Braslow



What a treat to see each other and meet our Tech Trek Girls at our November Luncheon



Branch Holiday Gift ideas

Tech Trek

As you know, our Branch was able to send 13 girls to our cornerstone Tech Trek (TT) program this year; 9 on campus and 4 on virtual campus. The number of girls able to experience this impactful STEM experience, at a cost of \$1150 per student, is directly related to the funds raised by generous donors. Dr. Janet Braslow, Tech Trek

Coordinator, and the TT Committee created an impressive presentation by the TT girls at our most recent Luncheon meeting.

We also raise funds for alumnae activities that encourage TT graduates to attend STEM activities throughout the year. We need to start raising funds right now in order to prepare for next year's TT activities. The more money we have, the more girls we can send to camp and the more activities we can provide to alumnae.

Please consider making a Holiday donation now - your generosity will make a significant difference. Make check out to: **AAUW CA SPF and on the memo line, write Palm Springs Special Programs Fund. (Your donation is tax deductible)**

**Mail to: AAUW SPF: Attention Phyllis Dunn
P.O. Box 11423, Palm Desert 92255**

Sponsor Ad

Another Holiday gift idea is to recommend a sponsor ad in our Branch newsletter. A cost of \$50 will allow a prominent display in our newsletter of your business name, or the name of your favorite hairdresser, pet groomer, or nail salon. This is good for your business, good for our community and good for your connection to personal services. Advertising the business of your handyman is a Holiday gift that will warm him or her, as it has my own personal handyman.

Send your \$50 check to:

PS Financial Officer, 78174 Links Drive, Palm Desert CA 92211

Send a copy of your business card to toshelleydmitchell@gmail.com

Thank you for your support

Sharrell Blakeley
Fundraising VP

Governance Updates:

Both the bylaws and policies and procedures were updated to conform to the leadership changes made after the board retreat this summer. The board voted to approve the amended documents at its October 4th meeting.

[Click here to see them \(they are in the "members only" section.](#)
[Look in the directory for the password if you need it](#)



Lobby Days are Here Again.... Ginny Hatfield, AAUW California Public Policy Committee Member

Save the Dates March 21st and March 22nd, are the AAUW CA scheduled Lobby Days, so mark your calendars and be sure to sign up to participate when our Lobby Day registration arrives in your January mailbox.

Advocating for our top 3 priority bills is fundamental to achieving our legislative priorities by addressing economic security for all women, providing equal access to public education and insuring social and racial justice for all members of society. We need all members on board and will be counting on you to reach out to our elected officials in the CA legislature.

Our Public Policy Committee will make it easy for you to do so. This year instead of a full week, Lobby Day will consist of two days and will occur while the legislature is in

session, not on break. Hopefully, this will provide more opportunity to actually speak with a member in lieu of a staffer. Our plans are to make it hybrid – virtual and in-person. Those branches in and around Sacramento would have the option of in-person meetings at the Capitol with the remaining branches meeting virtually or in-person with staffers in the district. So, a bit more flexibility this year as the committee feels it's beneficial to establish relationships with our elected leaders' local staff.

Our AAUW legislative Advocate will be scheduling meetings with the member offices willing to participate, and once you return your Lobby Day survey, the committee will begin to assemble branch participants and match them with Assembly and Senate districts in order to assign teams. We will provide you with material on the bills we are supporting and have scheduled a mandatory training webinar for March 20th, so you'll have the information at your fingertips. If you have participated in Lobby Day in the past, we would love to hear from you on what worked and what didn't, please send your comments to publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org.

Lobby Day is our chance to make a concerted impact on the priorities and values we, as AAUW members, hold dear. It brings out the "advocates" in all us for improving the economic and educational lives of women and girls. And goodness knows, we need that commitment now more than ever. So, mark those calendars and join us on Lobby Day/s.

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\$50 will purchase your business-card-ad for one year.
Contact Gillian German for information.

Recommended by Marsha Riley



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Recommended by Sharrell Blakeley



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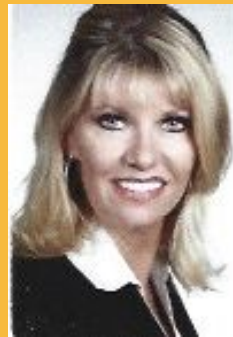
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760-250-2863

Recommended by Janet Braslow



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**Thank you to Susan Rosenberg who maintains our
Facebook Page**

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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