



Palm Springs Branch



Sand Scripts

November 2022

Volume 73: Issue 3

AAUW Mission

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



Meet Our Wonderful Tech Trek Girls!

**Saturday November 12,
2022**

11:00 Socialization

11:30 Lunch

St. Margaret's Episcopal Church

Karns Hall

47535 State Highway 74 Palm Desert, CA 92260

Meet the girls we sent to Tech Trek Camp last summer. They will tell us

about their week at Tech Trek Camp participating in STEM classes and activities and having a great time. They will also share how this experience may shape their futures.

Thanks to the efforts of Sharrell Blakeley we will be meeting at Karns Hall for lunch this November and from January- November 2023. Lunch will be catered by various restaurants in the Coachella Valley. The November lunch will be catered by Slice Italia.

The Menu offerings are:

Classic Sub with Italian cold cuts on a Torpedo roll with house-made potato chips

Coachella Salad with mixed greens, fresh seasonal berries, apples, candied walnuts, golden raisins, tomato with honey mustard dressing, dressing on the side and a piece of House bread and butter.

Asian Chicken Salad with Napa cabbage, romaine, chicken breast, cashews, carrots, sesame seeds, crispy wontons, tossed in ginger sesame dressing on the side. Piece of House bread and butter.

Individually wrapped chocolate chip cookies

If you want to attend you must let Sharron Cantarini know by either calling or texting her at (951) 741-2150 or emailing her at Sharroncantarini@gmail.com on or before the Sunday November 7, 2022 deadline because we must place our order by Monday November 8th. 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.

We will be collecting the \$35 cost for the meeting, including lunch at the door or in advance by Zelle. In order to pay AAUW-PS for the meeting through Zelle you add it as a recipient to your Zelle account using the phone number of our Treasurer Gillian German which is (714) 745-3362. Make sure that the name you use for your Zelle account is one Gillian will recognize so that she knows you have paid her.

If you tell Sharron you will be attending, but do not attend, you will be invoiced \$35 for the meeting.

Directions: Travel up Hwy 74 and turn **right at the stoplight** at Haystack. You will then be looking directly at Karns Hall. Park to your immediate right or left. If you park under the solar shade parking you will have a longer, uphill walk.

MEMBERSHIP BADGES

Sign up at a Saturday meeting or contact Linda Rudolph at 760-537-1503 to order your magnetic badge for \$13 each. The minimum order at the engraver is 5 so I can only place orders when I have 5 or more.

President's Message Kathi Farber

Fall is here!! We had a lovely rain to usher it in!!

This upcoming monthly Program Meeting on November 12 will be at a new location. Big thank yous to Laura and Sharrell who have done an excellent job finding us a more central and suitable



location! See below for more details.

The November 12 luncheon will feature Tech Trek. This will be an exciting luncheon to see what the girls' projects are. Most of the girls will be attending with their parents. There will be the updated Scrapbook and a Poster with an opportunity to begin supporting next year's Tech Trek campers.

Due to the rising costs of everything, the luncheon meeting in November will be \$35. After the beginning of the year, the board will continue to discuss options for making our meetings more

affordable. We invite ideas from members, as all board meetings are open to all members.

Gayle, Marsha, Sharrell and Arlene have been working on a survey for all of the members. Your responses will help to find out more about your interests, skills, and desires within the organization. This should be arriving in your emails as soon as it's completed. Please fill it out and return it! We look forward to knowing what works for you and what else you would like to explore for our branch.

See you at the exciting November meeting.

Finance

Our branch is fortunate to have welcomed many new members this past September and October. They have expressed their enthusiasm to join in our many fun and interesting activities we have planned for the year. Welcome everyone.

Thank you to our member Cathy Lauren who has reviewed our finances for the past three years. She completed her review and sent her report in October. We appreciate that Cathy has taken time out of her busy schedule to assist our branch with the financial review.

The November meeting will feature our Tech Trek girls who participated in the TT summer camp. It is always inspiring to learn about their personal experiences at camp. I look forward to seeing you at this important luncheon meeting.

Gillian German
Finance Officer

Interest Groups

Reel Revelers

Thursday, November 3, 3:00 p.m.

Film *Red Joan*

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

Book Group

Wednesday, November 16

2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Meeting will be held at the home of Beth Bangert AND on Zoom

Book: *How Beautiful we Were* by Imbolo Mbue

Contact Mary Schambach to RSVP. She will send you the link if you want to join the meeting on Zoom

Board Meeting

Our board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 9 at 10:00 a.m. All members are welcome to attend board meetings. Please contact Kathi Farber for an agenda and directions.

Great Decisions

The last meeting of the year for the Great Decisions interest group will occur on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 15, 2022. The topic is Biden's Foreign Policy Agenda. AAUW PS members interested in finding out what the Great Decisions group is all about are welcome to join us for this meeting. About a week before the meeting, Zoom log-in information will be e-mailed to those interested in attending. Kindly RSVP to jschurr@earthlink.net

Out and About

AAUW AND COLLEGE OF THE DESERT

COD AND AAUW have teamed up for a tour of the college on Thursday, November 3rd. The tour will be from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm with a small snack at the end.

Call Louise Kermode at 760-776-0064 to make a reservation and get details of the tour. The tour is interesting, informative and fun. If you are interested, call Louise soon. There is a maximum of 15 participants.

No **Lunch Bunch** in November. You will have to eat your Thanksgiving leftovers.

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 via Zoom 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. 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 available for pre-order now. Please contact Judy Schurr to be placed on the participant interest list and for further details (email jschurr@earthlink.net, or call 760-837-9297).





TTAG is back!!!!

Tech Trek Alumnae Group is back after a COVID hiatus. On October 15th a group of alumnae and parents toured the Palm Springs Air Museum and enjoyed a lecture on the history and science of flight. They were able to view the many historic planes and the new arrival-- Walt Disney's personal plane. It was a very enthusiastic group who also shared a lunch with several AAUW members. Thank you to Gail

Aune, Louise Kermode and Carol Marcus for their assistance. The Tech Trek Alumnae committee is looking for new members to help organize events to further our Tech Trek students' interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math into their futures. Contact Janet Braslow if interested in helping at jhbraslow@gmail.com.

Tech Trek Luncheon November 12, 2022

Come meet our amazing Tech Trek students from all over the Coachella Valley. This summer we were able to send 9 students to week-long residential Tech Trek STEM camps on college campuses and 4 to Virtual Camp. The Tech Trek selection committee worked hard to review teacher nominations, student applications and essays, and conduct in-person interviews. They then tackled the difficult task of narrowing down from so many worthy students. We always wish we could give this opportunity to many more students. Our Campers will each share some of their most memorable times, STEM learning and life changing experiences.

Be sure to bring your **checkbook** to the luncheon. Once you meet our tech trek girls, you'll want to contribute.

Even if you are unable to attend the Saturday November 12th luncheon and meet our amazing Tech Trek students, please donate by mail as this is our **ONLY** local service project. YOU determine how many young girls from Coachella Valley middle schools can benefit from the wonderful Tech Trek program stimulating interest in STEM studies, activities and careers. We usually sponsor 9-13 students each summer, but we only have funds on hand for 3-4 girls currently so **we need your support!!**

Please make your check out to:

AAUW CA SPF

On the **MEMO** line write:

Palm Springs TT Camper fund or **Palm Springs STEM programs fund**

Camper fund can only be used for camp tuition (about \$1100 per student)

STEM programs fund can be used for Tech Trek Alumnae activities, STEM education, and camp tuition.

Mail Check to:
AAUW SPF
Attn: Phyllis Dunn
PO Box 11423
Palm Desert, CA 92255-1423



What a treat to see each other at our October Luncheon Meeting



Donate to Tech Trek

I hope many of you plan to attend our next Luncheon Meeting at our new venue, which is St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Karns Hall, Hwy #74 and Haystack, Palm Desert. As you know, we will be featuring the 13 girls who attended the Tech Trek Camps this summer, and those who attended via the virtual option.

The girls attended an Orientation session at Tech Trek Coordinator, Dr. Janet Braslow's home this summer and learned all the details about the program. All of them had one or two parents attend with them, and the parents seemed as interested in the program as the girls.

One of the written expectations for selected girls is that they give a brief description of her experience of the week's curriculum on a college campus. Believe me, it is joyous to learn how their lives have been significantly impacted by the program's STEM experiments and knowledge, along with stimulating sessions by professional women in the sciences. Remember, the selected girls are 7th graders and this is usually the first time they have ever left home without their parents.

The Tech Trek program is the cornerstone charity for our Branch. We rely upon our members to donate to this life-changing program as each camper selected costs approximately \$1000. This is a plea from me, as Fundraising VP, that you assist us in raising funds for next year's girls to attend Camp. Please open your hearts and wallets. Please make your check out to:

AAUW CA SPF
On the **MEMO** line write:
Palm Springs TT Camper fund or **Palm Springs STEM programs fund**

Camper fund can only be used for camp tuition (about \$1100 per student) STEM programs fund can be used for Tech Trek Alumnae activities, STEM education, and camp tuition. All contributions are fully tax-deductible.

Sharrell Blakeley
Fundraising VP



Member Spotlight Elia Vasquez Fuller

1. How has AAUW Empowered Me?

Through the many speakers we have at our monthly meetings I'm informed about community activities and events that promote equity for women and girls. AAUW has given me confidence to advocate for these same goals. I am glad to be part of this active group.



2. What is my favorite aspect of the Palm Springs Branch?

I enjoy the Reel Revelers virtual monthly film reviews with other AAUW members. Socializing at our monthly luncheons is fun as well as listening to a variety of speakers who inspire us towards the mission of AAUW. And promoting the Tech Trek program which is a life changing experience for 7th grade girls who get the opportunity to attend STEM workshops at a college campus.

3. Education/Lifes work: I am proud to be a College of the Desert Alumni. I worked at the original COD library for 2 years while getting my AA degree. I received my BA degree from San Diego State University in Spanish/Sociology.

I worked as a Headstart teacher for two years then worked for the Riverside County Library System for 25 years. I retired as Library Branch Manager for the Coachella and Mecca County Public Libraries.

4. What Do I do for Fun? I enjoy getting together with family. I have 2 daughters and a son. I like music and going to concerts in the park. My husband and I attend a writing class at the Joslyn Center where I write about my grandparent's experiences during the Mexican Revolution and their life in the U.S. I like gardening, watching movies and watching network news to keep up with current events. We have 10 feral cats that come to our back porch every morning to eat and then they leave. I know all of them by name. Thankfully, they have all been spayed and neutered through a free county sponsored program.



2021-22 Legislative Session Closes with Big Wins for AAUW California

Kathi Harper, Chair
AAUW California Public Policy Committee

At the stroke of midnight on September 30, 2022, the 2021-22 legislative session officially came to a close as it marked the Governor's deadline for signing or vetoing bills. The AAUW California

Public Policy committee is pleased to announce that we achieved a 70% success rate on the bills on our legislative agenda, and 25 of our 36 bills are now law, including 7 of our 8 top priority bills. The following is a brief synopsis, by each pillar of our Public Policy Priorities:

Economic Security for All Women

8 of our bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, and 1 died in the

legislature. The most significant bill under this pillar was AB (Assembly Bill) 92, which we co-sponsored. AB 92 was introduced in 2020, and became a 2-year bill, which is why it remained on this year's agenda. This bill originally sought a 1-year waiver of supplemental child-care fees for low-income families, with a request for a sliding scale to be applied thereafter. In his 2021 budget, Governor Newsom included \$120 million for 2-years' worth of waivers. The bill was then amended to request an additional year of waivers through October 2024, with a sliding scale to then be implemented. Unfortunately, the amended bill was vetoed; however, we are still proud of the work we did to get those 2 years of waivers in the budget, so we still consider it a win!

Equal Access to Quality Public Education for All Students

6 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was approved by the legislature (no signature required) and 2 died in the legislature. Of particular note under this pillar are 3 of our top priority bills: AB 1968, which requires campuses to develop and post uniform guidelines for reporting sexual assault; AB 2881 which provides additional support for college students with dependent children; and AJR 23 (Assembly Joint Resolution), a Title IX 50th Anniversary Proclamation.

Social and Racial Justice for All Members of Society

8 of these bills were signed by the Governor, 1 was vetoed, 1 was incorporated by the Governor into an Executive Order, 1 was approved by and 2 died in the legislature. We saw success on all 4 of our top priority bills in this area: AB 1666, which provides protection for those from other states seeking abortions in California, as well as for those providing services here, from the enforcement of a related civil judgment from their home state; SB (Senate Bill) 523, which requires insurance coverage for over-the-counter contraceptive products; SB 1375, which allows certified nurse-practitioners to perform some early-term abortions; and SCA (Senate Constitutional Amendment) 10. SCA 10 was introduced in the Senate as a measure to place a constitutional amendment on the November ballot to enshrine in the California constitution the right to an abortion and to contraception. When this measure passed in the Senate, it became Proposition 1.

To see the results of all the bills on our 2021-22 legislative agenda, check out our webpage for a full agenda summary, here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2022/10/results-of-2021-22-legislative-session.pdf/>, or to view our Bill Tracker, here: <https://www.aauw-ca.org/documents/2022/10/bill-tracking.pdf/>.

**DON'T FORGET TO REGISTER! DON'T FORGET TO VOTE!
DON'T FORGET TO TAKE THE PLEDGE TO VOTE "YES" ON
PROPOSITION 1!**

Did you know that those **opposed** to Prop 1 are claiming that it will allow **late-term abortions**?

Learn More And
Take Action



GOTV
Get Out The Vote

WHY YOU NEED TO ACT

Don't be misguided by the false narrative. "Late-term abortions" are only performed in California when fetal abnormalities are not compatible with life, or the mother's life is threatened.

TAKE ACTION!

Make sure you're registered - Vote by
mail - Vote for Proposition 1.



*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

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

|

Guests/spouses are welcome

RSVP by 12-4-2022

760-296-3512

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Coldwell Banker Realty
7200+ Highway 111 Ste. D1
Palm Desert, CA 92260
ORANGE COUNTY & SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
E: PattieKelleher@Cbr.com

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Celebrate
Women
Veterans on
November 11

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or

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

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aauwpalmsprings

**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

AAUW Palm Springs Branch | PO Box 11423, Palm Desert, CA 92255

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