



Palm Springs Branch



Sand Scripts

February 2023

Volume 73: Issue 6

AAUW Mission

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

February Branch Luncheon February 11, 2023

**St. Margaret's Episcopal Church
Karns Hall
47535 State Highway 74 Palm Desert, CA 92260**

**11:00 Socialization
11:30 Lunch**

**CIRCLES OF ENGAGEMENT – AAUW
FUNDRAISING for WOMEN AND
GIRLS**



Don't miss this opportunity to gather and engage with like-minded women around the table. Just like AAUW women have done since 1881; you will share, inspire and increase

awareness of the ever-present moral/ethical issues women face and start the year with new friends.

The most amazing women have had to face daunting challenges and controversial issues throughout their lifetime, just as we have. Branch members, Laura Eaton and Sharrell Blakeley, will lead a lively discussion of the moral/ethical issues related to two of the most admired and accomplished women in the country.

We'll briefly remind you how important your contributions are to our AAUW Fund; how they have allowed AAUW to advocate for legislation, conduct research and develop and implement educational programs that have, and will continue to, benefit women and girls well into the future. We must provide support to AAUW as one of the most highly respected and recognized women's organization in the country. Our goal this year is to raise \$2000.

Join us in Karns Hall at 11:00 on Saturday, February 11, 2023

Please make a TAX DEDUCTIBLE check, payable to AAUW Fund. Write 'Greatest Needs #9110' on the memo line and mail to: Fundraising VP, P.O. Box 11423, Palm Desert CA 92255.

[Click HERE to make your donation online](#)

The cost to attend the meeting (which includes your lunch) is \$30. Choices are

- Turkey Pesto Sandwich- Turkey, lettuce, tomatoes, cheese
- Caprese Sandwich- Arugula, tomatoes, cheese
- Caesar salad- Romaine lettuce, Caesar dressing, croutons, parmesan
- Antipasto Salad- lettuce with Romaine, tomatoes, provolone, artichoke hearts, black olive, salami, pepperoncini, red onion, parmesan, balsamic

To attend, please email [Christine Anderson](#) or call her at (425) 318-0754. Be sure to include your choice for lunch. You may pay in advance using Zelle (714-745-3362) or you may bring a check, credit card or cash to the meeting. Remember that if you make a reservation and do not attend, you will be billed. The deadline to make a reservation is Wednesday, February 8 at noon.

President's Message

Our exciting February 4th Fundraiser, "Pink in the Rink", is happening now. The funds raised will help pay for sponsorships for our Tech Trek girls to go to Summer Camp.



You all have the opportunity to purchase discounted tickets to attend a hockey game and see the new Acrisure Arena. "Pink in the Rink" is a Breast Cancer Awareness event and is in partnership with Eisenhower Medical Center. And the team will be wearing pink jerseys!

Several of our wonderful members have already purchased tickets and have donated them back to the branch. Those donated tickets will be used for TTAG girls and their families to attend the event.

We will have a block of seats all near each other. You just follow the link on this flyer and purchase tickets and parking for your group of friends or yourself!!

I Hope to see all of you there!

Kathi Farber, President



Professional Sports & Entertainment has landed in Coachella Valley!

Ready to see The Coolest Spot in the Desert and cheer for the Home Team?
Want to help send our Tech Trek Girls to camp this summer?

Join Us at Acrisure Arena for a Special Coachella Valley Firebirds game Benefitting the TechTrek Program

AAUW members, along with friends & family, are invited to a special fundraising event on Saturday, February 4 for Pink in the Rink Night presented by Eisenhower Health as the Firebirds take on San Diego. Puck drop is at 5 p.m.

Through this special offer, you can experience a professional hockey game and raise money to support our Tech Trek Program which is focused on sending local middle school girls to STEM camp this summer.

Discounted tickets are available for \$25 with a portion of each ticket going back to our AAUW branch to raise funds to camp scholarships.



1. Click [Here](#) to purchase your tickets or scan the QR Code at the right



2. Share this flyer & ticket link with friends, family, businesses and more!
All are welcome in our AAUW seating section

3. Can't make the game? You can donate tickets back to AAUW and we will be able to host our Tech Trek Girls and their families at the game!

Carpooling is encouraged. Parking is \$25.39 per car (payable in advance).

Click HERE to get your tickets

Interest Groups

Lunch Bunch and Out and About will be combined this month!
Both activities are on Friday, January 27th.

We have reservations at Rd Runner in Old Town La Quinta for Lunch Bunch at 1:00pm. (Time change for just this month) Please email Marsha Riley if you plan to attend the luncheon.

Out and About

Author's talk by Maria Victoria Castillo at 3:00pm at The La Quinta Museum. She has written a book called *Field Work Through The Eyes of a Child*. She will discuss her experiences as a child harvesting crops in the Coachella Valley with her family in the 1960's and 1970's. Admission is free.

Great Decisions

Tues., Feb. 21, 2023 @ 10:00 AM

The AAUW PS Great Decisions discussion group starts in January, meeting for six months, through June. The group does not meet in July and August, and finishes the two remaining chapters of the Foreign Policy Association's essay book in September and October. It is not too late to join the group for 2023. We meet via Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 10:00 AM. We will be discussing the prosecution of War Crimes. If you are interested, please contact Judy Schurr (mail to: jschurr@earthlink.net) for the Zoom meeting invitation and the link to purchase the essay book. The remaining topics for 2023 are China's Foreign Policy; Economic Warfare; Elections in Latin America; Global Famine; Iran and the Gulf States; Climate Migration.

Reel Revelers

Thursday, February 2, 3:00 p.m. on Zoom

Film: *Glass Onion*

Watch the film on Netflix and join us for a discussion led by Gil German.

RSVP to Marsha Riley by email and she will send you the link

Book Group

Wednesday, February 18

2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Prisoners of Geography: 10 Maps That Explain Everything About the World by Tim Marshall. Discussion leader: Arlene Gotshalk

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



Named Gift Honorees

Being designated as a Branch Named Gift Honoree is a very special honor in AAUW. This award is reserved for members who have made extraordinary gifts of time and hard work to the Branch and AAUW

We had a good STEM program until they became involved and now we have a great STEM program, along with an extraordinary Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG), where we follow our graduate student's progress and provide STEM activities for them

CONGRATULATIONS, Peggy and Janet, so deserving, committed and special members of our Branch. Photo (l to r). Sharrell Blakeley, Fundraising Chair, Peggy Shippen (recipient), Marsha Riley (NGH Selection Committee) and Dr. Janet Hartzler Braslow (recipient).

Tech Trek Alumnae Group News

The TTAG committee, under the leadership of **Aurora Wilson**, is planning an outing to the Living Desert in February.

Peggy Shippen designed, composed, and sent the first issue of the *TTAG SandScripts*, a digital newsletter for Tech Trek alumnae and their families. In this arduous process she updated the TTAG mailing lists and learned Mail Chimp and Constant Contact programs. Thank you, Peggy!!

Several AAUW members donated their tickets for the Firebirds hockey game on February 4th to Tech Trek students and families. Thank you.

Submitted by Janet Hartzler Braslow



Member Spotlight

JEAN TELLO

In 1972 I joined the Palos-Orland AAUW in Illinois. Several senior members of the group recruited members from my generation to help get the Equal Rights Amendment ratified in Illinois. We worked diligently from 1972 -1982 to get the ERA ratified in Illinois. AAUW empowered me put into practice what I had learned about political action in my university classes. The State of Illinois did everything imaginable to block a majority rule vote on ERA. To block the ERA, the legislature required a 2/3 majority vote ONLY for the ERA. Illinois finally ratified the ERA in 2018. The lessons I learned from the AAUW ERA actions taught me first hand how important citizen involvement is for American democracy. The Palos-Orland branch was also a major leader in establishing safe-haven centers for victims of domestic violence in our community.



My favorite features of the PS-AAUW are its diverse opportunities to meet new people and engage in programs that encourage us to use our experience to benefit others. In particular I enjoy the speaker series, the book club and our investment in the Tech Trek Program.

I was born in Chicago and raised in a family that believed in public service. As a Girl Scout and an active member of a YMCA sponsored Tri-Hi-Y club I enjoyed working for good causes. I graduated from Morgan Park High School in 1964 and proceeded to the University of Illinois in Champaign, Ill. In 1968 I graduated with a BA in American History and American Literature and in 1970 received my Master of Arts in the Teaching of Social Studies.

In 1969 -2003 I taught American History and American Government classes at Amos Alonzo Stage High School in Palos Hills, Illinois. The school was relatively new and during my first year I founded the YMCA Youth in Government Program which I had participated in as a student at MPHS. I worked with this Program until retirement and served in various capacities including Stagg Sponsor, Y & G State Board member and Chair of the State Board.

In addition, I served in the Illinois Education Association-NEA from 1973-2003 at the local, regional, state and national levels. During the 1970s and 1980s Illinois was dealing with the legalization of collective bargaining for public educators. In my school district we were on strike twice before the state legalized the process. It was a turbulent and challenging time for public school educators. I enjoyed my involvement with political action.

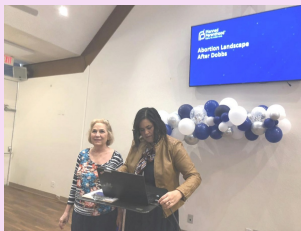
Eventually I served on the NEA Board (1988-1993) and chaired the NEA Professional Development Committee. I was Vice-President of the IEA and among other tasks was in charge of getting the annual budget adopted at the state convention of 1000+ delegates (1993-1999).

In 1987 I was honored as the Illinois Teacher of the Year by the State Board of

Education and in 1988 I received the Milken Family Foundation Distinguished Educator Award. I spend nearly a full year visiting schools in Illinois and being amazed by the work of our teachers in public education. Part of the State award was a year sabbatical at the state university of my choice—thus, a return to the U. of I. and another MA (1990) in American History with a focus on Women's History. In 1993 my research on Lucy Flowers was included in a ***Biographical Dictionary, Women Building Chicago 1790-1990***.

I love biking and participated in the Tour de Palm Springs several times. I also enjoy hiking and water-walking in the pool. My garden is a special place for attention and relaxation. My house-partners over the years have been miniature Dachshunds and I look forward to welcoming a new pup soon.

Fun at our January Luncheon



AAUW California Celebrates Black Women in History for Black History Month, February 2023

Nancy Major, AAUW California Public Policy Committee

Many Black women have made significant contributions to history, thought, society, innovation, science, government, civil rights, women's rights, and much more. For Black History month we celebrate the achievements of but a few: **Sojourner Truth**, a former slave, became an outspoken advocate for abolition, temperance, and civil and women's rights (1797-1883).

Rosa Parks and Claudette Colvin (age 15) helped initiate the *Civil Rights movement* by refusing to give up their seats to white men on Montgomery, Alabama buses. Their actions resulted in the U.S. Supreme Court ruling that bus segregation was unconstitutional.

Dorothy Jean Dandridge was an actress, singer and dancer, the first African American film star to be nominated for the Academy Award for Best Actress for her performance in *Carmen Jones* (1954).

Katherine Johnson, a brilliant mathematician, was one of three Black students to integrate West Virginia's graduate schools. Her greatest contribution was to space exploration through her calculations synching Apollo's Lunar Module with the lunar-orbiting Module. She also worked on

the Space Shuttle. (1958-1986)

Madam C.J. Walker was considered the wealthiest African-American businesswoman in America (1911-1919), by developing and marketing a line of cosmetics and hair care products for Black women. She hired 40,000 “ambassadors” to sell her products.

Shirley Chisholm was *the first Black woman elected to Congress in 1968*. She served as a representative from New York for 14 years, was the first Black candidate to run for president in the 1972 race, and founded the Congressional Black Caucus in 1971 and the Congressional Women's Caucus in 1977.

Mae Jemison became the *first Black woman to fly to space* on the space shuttle Endeavour. She was also the first Black woman admitted to the astronaut training program, in 1987.

Toni Morrison released her novel *Beloved* in 1987, winner of the Pulitzer Prize, based on the true story of an African American enslaved woman. In 1993, Morrison became the first Black woman to win the Nobel Prize in Literature.

Oprah Winfrey, born into poverty in rural *Mississippi* to a single teenage mother, molested as a child and pregnant at 14, became the most influential woman in the world by many accounts. An American talk show host, television producer, actress, author, and *philanthropist*, she was the richest African-American of the 20th century and was once the world's only black billionaire.

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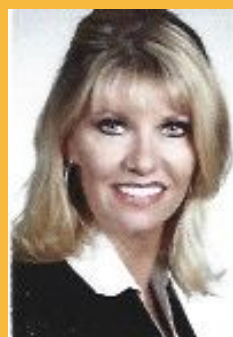
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Thank you to Susan Rosenberg who maintains our
Facebook Page

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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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