



**Palm Springs Branch**



# ***Sand Scripts***

**March 2023**

**Volume 73: Issue 7**

## **AAUW Mission**

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

## **March Branch Luncheon March 11, 2023**

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

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

Arlene Gotshalk, Author of *The CareGiving Toolkit* and  
Member of our Palm Springs Branch is Our Speaker for our



March Meeting  
Saturday March 11, 2023  
11:00 Socialization  
11:30 Lunch

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

ARLENE GOTSHALK, MA, SPHR, is our speaker for the March meeting and she is going to be discussing her book *The CareGiving Toolkit: A Path Through the Maze of CareGiving*. The Tool Kit helps the CareGiver keep caregiving tasks organized and on track with easy-to-use checklists, forms, and digital tips. This is a practical guide which leads the CareGiver through getting prepared, dealing with daily details, handling changes, and managing self care.

Arlene has over forty years of experience in education, nonprofit management, and business administration. She's taught everything from kindergarten to teenage parenting classes. She led a county nonprofit, managed a corporate law office, and taught in the UC system. When faced with caring for her husband and then for elderly parents, there was not much concise, practical help available. It was up to her to use her education and experience to put together a workable system for CareGivers. She developed an all-day workshop which offered caregivers a safe and caring place to share their emotional concerns and issues and to develop a practical action plan for their specific situation. Participants received supportive group interaction along with valuable tips, worksheets, and resources which made their caregiving experience more organized, less stressful, and more rewarding. The *CareGiving Toolkit* book grew out of the workshop manual and has just launched its new, updated 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition

This is an important topic for many of us. You will not want to miss our March 11th meeting.

*The Caregiving Toolkit* is a comprehensive and organized approach to managing care. Having such a toolkit will help so many patients, families, and friends." John D. Mark, MD Professor of Pediatrics, Stanford University Medical Director for the Coordinating and Optimizing Resources Effectively (CORE)

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

- "The Combo"- mortadella, capocollo, salame, lettuce, tomato, provolone, balsamic glaze
- Caprese- Mozarella, arugula, tomato, pesto, evoo
- Antipasto salad- romaine, tomatoes, provolone, artichoke hearts, black olives, salami, pepperoncini, red onion, parmesan, balsamic
- Caesar salad- romaine lettuce, caesar salad, croutons, parmesan

cookies, chips, iced tea, water, and/or lemonade are included with all lunches

To make a reservation, please email Christine Anderson at [chrbdando@gmail.com](mailto:chrbdando@gmail.com) 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, March 8 at noon.

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## How are we Doing?

The board wants to know more about what our members want in terms of programs, luncheons and activities and we have created a survey to find out! The survey is finally here for all of you! If you are attending the luncheon, we will take 15 minutes for you to fill it out right there. Please come with your ideas and comments on what we are doing that is important, or what we can do better. It will be anonymous if you choose and we welcome all of your input. For those of you who cannot attend, we will send it

email to you and you can return it via email to Gayle Cox, [bigbearnorm@gmail.com](mailto:bigbearnorm@gmail.com). The board is looking forward to your response and will give you the results as soon as we can.



Thank you to Sharrell Blakeley for the inspiring program she and Laura presented to the branch at our February meeting. According to Sharrell, "My goal addressed in the last Sand Scripts was to raise \$2000.00. My presentation on the AAUW Fund on 2/11/23 resulted in \$2025.00. I am so proud of our members who understand the value and support the Fund provides. Sharrell has not received information about everyone who donated online, especially members for whom Palm Springs is not your primary branch. Please let Sharrell know if you made an online donation.



Thank you to outgoing officers

March 11- Luncheon meeting at St. Margaret's  
Present Slate of Officers for next year/nominations from the floor  
Present Proposed Budget for 2023-24  
Speaker: TBA

April 15- Annual Meeting and Luncheon at St. Margaret's  
Vote on Slate of Officers and Proposed Budget  
Speaker: TBA

May 13- Luncheon meeting  
Installation of officers



### President's Message

"February was a month of new beginnings and opportunities. It's a time to set new goals, make new plans and take action towards your dreams. Believe in yourself and your abilities, and don't be afraid to take risks. Embrace change, be open to new experiences and be grateful for the journey. Remember that success is not about reaching a destination, but about the lessons you learn along the way. Celebrate your progress, no matter how small, and always strive to be better than you were yesterday. With determination and hard work, combined with a positive attitude, you can achieve anything you set your mind to."

This was from Sandi Gabe, AAUW CA President . I felt it reflected so many of the changes and hard work we have already accomplished this year. It was a great month for us!

We had a successful first outside fundraiser with the CV Firebirds and their Pink in the Rink Game honoring Breast Cancer women. We raised \$812 for the girls to go to STEM camp. And with the generous donations of some of our members, 4 TTAG girls and their families were able to attend the event as well.

We just received word that our Grant Writer, Carol Marcuse, successfully obtained a \$1,500 grant from the City of Indio for our TT girls to go to camp! Congratulations to Carol!

Thank you to Sharron, our membership VP, and Sharrell for a New Member Orientation held in January,. This was a first time event and was attended by 15 new members who are now engaged in our branch and taking on many new projects.

We created new committees, including the luncheon committee under the Program VP, Laura, to take care of the lunches, room and setup/take down. Laura is doing an awesome job with our monthly programs.

Our website continually is being updated and we are on more social media. Thank you Susan for keeping up our Facebook presence!

Thank you to everyone for our accomplishments. Let's continue to bring in new members and have successful fundraisers so that we can send as many girls as possible to STEM camp.

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## Finance

We are over half way through our fiscal year, which runs from July 1st to June 30th. The board has been reviewing our branch finances to finalize the budget for the new fiscal year. We will vote on the budget approval at the March board meeting and then to our members at the March luncheon. It will be presented in the April Sand Scripts in preparation for our membership to vote on it at our April annual meeting. National is raising their dues by \$5, for the next fiscal year, to \$72. Branch dues of \$30 and State dues of \$20 will remain the same. Total dues for next fiscal year will be \$123. Dues renewal notices will be distributed in mid April.

Our membership is strong. We are happy to welcome our new members who recently joined our AAUW branch.

Gillian German  
Finance Officer

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## Interest Groups

### Out and About/Lunch Bunch

**February 24**

Palm Springs Air Museum at 10:30 a.m.

**Escena Lounge & Grill**

lunch at 1:00

Please email Marsha Riley to make your reservation

### Book Group

Wednesday, March 18

2:00 p.m. on Zoom

Invisible Women: Data Bias in a World Designed for Men Caroline Criado

Perez Sharrell Blakely will lead the discussion

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

### Reel Revelers

Thursday March, 2 at 3:00 p.m. on Zoom

Film: *Crip Camp*

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

### Great Decisions

Tuesday, March 21 @10:00 AM



Members are invited to participate in Great Decisions -- a foreign policy discussion group that meets via Zoom on the third Tuesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Participation involves reading an essay and watching a brief lecture, followed by a discussion of the questions posed at the end of the essay.

This month's topic is: China and America: back to the future? If you are interested in participating, please contact Judy Schurr @ [jschurr@earthlink.net](mailto:jschurr@earthlink.net) for the Zoom meeting invitation, and the link to purchase the essay book.

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## Tech Trek Alumnae Group (TTAG)



Thank you to those who bought tickets to the Pink in the Rink hockey game and donated them to TTAG girls and their families. Four families were able to attend the hockey game and we received great reports from them. As it was for many of the AAUW members attending, it was the families' first hockey game also. Ticket sales and donations made \$812 for our 2022 Tech Trek campers.

TTAG is planning an event at The Living Desert on February 25th.

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## VIRTUAL GOV TREK HAS BEGUN!

On January 28th we launched our inaugural virtual Gov Trek session with just over 60 future leaders and 40 volunteers in attendance from across California! We were all honored to air a welcome video from Speaker Emerita Nancy Pelosi to launch this amazing program. We have received permission from the Office of Nancy Pelosi for each California branch to post the video on their websites and social media.

Please use the messaging and link below:

Exciting News! AAUW California 2023 Gov Trek's inaugural session started with a video address from fellow Californian SPEAKER EMERITA NANCY PELOSI. We were privileged to have the first woman Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives greet us as we begin our journey together to explore careers in public office and elected positions. <https://youtu.be/szcsrAjoIr4>

Five distinguished women leaders addressed Gov Trek participants in the Women in Leadership Panel. They covered topics on elective office and public service at different levels of government, including the skills and challenges involved with them, and other related career paths in leadership and political participation. ·

The speakers were:

- Kathleen Van Osten, AAUW California Advocate and Lobbyist

- Ellen Montanari, Deputy Campaign Manager, Rep Mike Levin
- Regina Luzincourt, Lobbyist and Former Press Secretary, State Senator Parker
- Shana Hazan, VP San Diego Unified School Board
- Griselda Ramirez, Senior Director of Community Engagement, Partnerships, and Strategic Initiatives, Office of San Diego County Board of Supervisor Chair, Nora Vargas

Click [HERE](#) to watch Gov Trek Session 1.

There are four more inspiring Gov Trek sessions including the Gov Trek Finale & Campaign Competition! The speaker sessions will be recorded and available to AAUW California members on the website [HERE](#) in the Student Program Materials section.

We can't wait to see how our future leaders will change the world!



## Member Spotlight

### Annette Moseley Funk

#### 1. How has AAUW empowered me?

I joined Tacoma AAUW in 1966, invited by teaching colleagues who were involved in discussion groups and advocacy issues. Women shared their experiences, ideas and plans. In the state organization I served terms as corresponding secretary and bylaws chair. All WA branches seemed to be involved in local, state and national issues. The 1960s and '70s provided multiple issues for advocacy: taxation, voting rights, women's rights, abortion/reproductive choice, energy production including nuclear. I learned and experienced the effectiveness of legislative workshops and visitation both in Olympia and "the other" Washington, which carried over to issues of the Washington Education Association & a religious social action committee.



In the late 1960s National AAUW offered a one-time payment for lifetime national membership. Since I expected to be a longtime member, I took advantage of the opportunity and have found national priorities timely and AAUW branches welcoming and stimulating.

When I was branch president in Port Angeles, a dedicated women's rights member suggested (and chaired) holding a public meeting at the community college and inviting Bella Abzug to speak. We did; she accepted and spoke to an impressive community turnout. Some years later I spoke to Bella at the End of the Decade for Women Conference in Washington, DC. She stated, "I thought I had reached the end of of the earth." Perhaps she had! But what an enlightening event for women and girls in Port Angeles!

In the late 1970s I decided to return to college for a nursing degree. National AAUW, for a few years, offered Project Renew grants for women returning to college. I applied for and received a grant and obtained the degree.

#### 2. What is my favorite aspect of our Palm Springs branch?

In the Palm Springs branch I appreciate the interest groups and the continuing support for women, especially in the support for TechTrek and expanding opportunities for girls' enrichment, enlightenment and success.

#### 3. Education/Life's work?

During 40 years of employment, I enjoyed 3 careers: teaching secondary school English; working as a registered nurse in hospitals and multi-specialty clinics, and as

a national executive in a church women's organization with a priority of empowerment of women and girls.

#### 4. What do I do for fun?

For fun I play golf, not well, but I enjoy being out there for the challenges and socializing. Roland and I have fun traveling. Sometimes mishaps on road trips end with great experiences, like having a flat tire on an unmaintained county road that allowed us to spend 2 days in Mesa Verde National Park.

## Fun at our February Luncheon



## CELEBRATING BRANCH MEMBERS' PARTICIPATION IN SHAPING AAUW CALIFORNIA PUBLIC POLICY

Over the last two months, the state Public Policy team has reached out to members with two opportunities to participate in our advocacy efforts. In December, we asked members to provide input on our Public Policy priorities for

2023-25 and 465 members responded! While the majority felt that the current priorities satisfactorily represent their views, and there were many suggestions for modifications and/or additions. The committee appreciates the time and thought that went into these comments, and is in the process of reviewing and discussing each one.

In January, we asked members to sign up for Lobby Days to help us advocate for our top three bills with the California legislature on March 21st and 22nd. 111 members answered our call, and the committee is now working on organizing those members into teams. Members should expect to receive further information this month once we know which offices will be participating. A note: some members completed the interest survey but did not register for the mandatory training webinar on March 20th. If you, or any of your members, received a notice of need to register for the webinar, please do so ASAP! Please remember, if you do not attend the training, you cannot participate in the Lobby Days event. Finally, "late-comers" who wish to participate but missed the deadline can still submit an interest survey and register for the training. Click [HERE](#) to complete the survey and register. The deadline has been extended to February 28th.

The committee recognizes the role our branch leaders play in getting the word out regarding public policy events and encouraging members' participation, and we want you to know you are appreciated.

Kathleen Harper, Director, Public Policy Committee Chair, [publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org](mailto:publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org)



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This fall we welcomed Skip as our website administrator. Since then, he has worked with members to update our website and create a more professional interface for both members and the public. Thank you Skip



Recommended by Marsha Riley



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](mailto:shelleydmitchell@gmail.com)

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