



Prickly Pear Postings



Volume 27, No. 2

December 2015 January 2016

Co-President's Message *submitted by Marjory Wright*

What an exciting time of year this is for members of our branch!

After a summer hiatus, it is wonderful to renew old AAUW friendships and meet new members. Our interest groups are all happily up and running at full speed. Opportunities abound for our members to network, socialize, learn new things, and just plain have fun under the AAUW umbrella. Choose from two book groups, a bridge group, mah jongg group, Lunch Bunch, Great Decisions, Singles, Newbies, and Sisters of Art. Volunteers are still needed to lead our golf group, as well as our Southwesterners group which visits places of interest. Can't find a group for your own particular interest? Volunteer to start one. You will quickly make new friends and enjoy learning to know your fellow members better.

For more information about what each group does and whom to contact, visit our website <http://southeastvalley-az.aauw.net> and click on the Activities/Events heading. Additionally, each Prickly Pear Posting carries dates, times and places of group meetings.

Speaking of our website, have you visited it lately? Each time I visit it I am newly amazed at the wealth of information it has about AAUW in general, and our club in particular. It is probably one of the most consistently current and comprehensive websites of any AAUW branch. Kudos to Margaret Noser, our webmaster. The next time you see her, mention how much we appreciate all her hard work in this regard.

Other than actively participating in all our branch meetings, events and activities, another great way to get the most out of your AAUW membership is to volunteer with our Community Action group. Group leaders Sandy Shepoiser shepMilk@aol.com and Luann Hulbert luannhulbert@gmail.com will welcome you with open arms. Most of their volunteer opportunities with the Chandler School District center around San Marcos, Hartford and Galveston schools. Volunteers are free to choose their own frequency, days/times and grade level. Our members can help by assisting the classroom teacher with preparation activities, helping the students practice their reading, and by helping with Junior Achievement. Other choices are assisting with the After School Program and helping with the Art Masterpiece Program. Having assisted with the kindergarten students in San Marcos, I can assure you that after volunteering there, you will come home with smile on your face and a song in your heart.

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AAUW Events

Dec. 5		Red Envelope Lunch
Dec. 7	Jan. 4	Afternoon Bridge
Dec. 8	Jan. 12	Evening Book Club
Dec. 10	Jan. 7	Singles
Dec. 14	Jan. 11	Afternoon Book Club
	Jan. 13	Board Meeting
	Jan. 18	General Meeting
	Jan. 20	Lunch Bunch
	Jan. 21	Sisters of Art
Dec. 28	Jan. 25	Mah Jongg
	Jan. 27	Great Decisions
	Feb. 15	International Dinner

President's message continued...

Our Holiday Luncheon in support of AAUW Funds on December 5, 2015 in the Saguaro Room presents another opportunity to enjoy yourself while supporting the AAUW mission. Mary Lou Remley and Pat Noack have arranged for a wonderful luncheon followed by a great presentation by a Scholarship Recipient and entertainment by The Ambassadors. By giving generously to AAUW Funds at this time, you will allow a broader community of women to gain access to educational and economic opportunities.

Speaking of holidays, Co-President Janet Cox and I wish you a safe and joyous holiday season followed by a wonderfully AAUW-involved new year!



JANUARY 18TH, AAUW GENERAL MEETING

Terri Kimble, who will be presenting at the January 18 branch meeting of AAUW, has been the President and CEO of the Chandler Chamber of Commerce since June of 2011. Terri has been in chamber work for the last 19 years and started her career in Michigan. Terri graduated from Oakland University with a degree in Communications and graduated from the University of Notre Dame, U.S. Chamber of Commerce's Institute for Organizational Management. Terri said, "There's just something about chambers that draw me in, I enjoy being able to help small and large businesses and being able to interact with the local community."

Ms. Kimble will be updating us on recent changes in the face of Chandler, answering questions and sharing some surprising new developments in Chandler's future.

DIRECTORY CORRECTION

Gladys Galavanoni 895-5859

Jeanne Marschke 701-214-2163 jeanemarschke@gmail.com



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EVENING BOOK CLUB

The selection for December 8 is QUIET, the Power of Introverts in a World that Can't Stop Talking by Susan Cain. In Quiet, Susan Cain argues that we dramatically undervalue introverts and shows how much we lose in doing so. She charts the rise of the Extrovert Ideal throughout the twentieth century and explores how deeply it has come to permeate our culture. Passionately argued, superbly researched, and filled with indelible stories of real people, Quiet has the power to permanently change how we see introverts and, equally important, how they see themselves. (Amazon) Hema Chary will lead the discussion and Sue Garretson will host our Holiday Pot Luck. Please bring something to share and be early 6:30. Sue lives in Ironwood at 24655 Ribbonwood R.S.V.P. to [480 802 0849](tel:4808020849) or email garysue1@q.com.

The January 12 Evening Book Club meeting will feature a discussion of When Everything Changed: The Amazing Journey of Women from 1960 to the Present. Written by Gail Collins, a NY Times columnist, the book examines the changes in women's lives during this tumultuous period, ending in 2008 when Hillary Clinton first ran for president. It's thought-provoking and timely; most of us will have personal experiences to go along with those recounted in the book. Judy Manley will lead the discussion. The meeting will be at the home of Joyce Pocras at 7 p.m.

Barbara St Peter and Carmen Otero

**AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB LIST
For 2015-2016**

- Dec. 14 The Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion
Leader: Jane Wagner
Hostess Jennie Maze, Assisted by Kathy Burns
- Jan. 11 The Boys in the Boat by Daniel Brown.
Leader: Helen Semple
Hostess: Betty Raveret, Assisted by
Diane Larson
- Feb. 8 All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr
Leader: Holly DeVinck
Hostess: Beth Brown Assisted by Pat Noack.
- Mar. 14 A Spool of Blue Thread by Anne Tyler
Leader: Barbara Castro
Hostess: Madeleine Lutz, Assisted by
Jan Bobbett
- Apr. 11 Ordinary Grace by William Kent Krueger
Leader: Betty Raveret
Hostess Diane Larson Assisted by Susan Meer

AFTERNOON BOOK CLUB

December 14, 11:30a.m.

The December meeting will be our holiday luncheon followed by our book discussion. The hostess is Jennie Maze, assisted by Kathy Burns. Members are asked to bring an unwrapped book for the elementary San Marcus school. Our book selection for December is the Rosie Project by Graeme Simsion. The discussion leader is Jane Wagner. The Rosie Project asks: what is the logical method to find the perfect life partner. Don Tillman has the answer! And he is ready for marriage! Please R.S.V.P. Jennie Maze at [303 378-3379](tel:3033783379) or jmaze@mazebuilders.com. The address is 24604 s. Lakeway Circle SE OW. Jennie asks that we gather at her home at 11:30 a m

January 11 2 p.m.

The January selection is The Boys In the Boat by Daniel Brown. It is the true story of the 1936 eight oared varsity U. of Washington rowing crew who will row in the 1936 Berlin Olympics. They must out last the Italian and the British crew teams before meeting the Germany crew favorites of Hitlers Germany. These are their stories. Helen Semple will the discussion leader.

Our hostess is Betty Raveret, 24826 S Stoney Lake Dr. OW She will be assisted by Diane Larson. Please R.S.V.P Betty at [480-883-9592](tel:4808839592) or betnbob252@yahoo.com
Jane Wagner

LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP U[DATE

Thank you to all the Birthday Girls who remembered to bring a gift bag for our birthday raffle. Each meeting we move closer to our \$1500 goal. Wondering when to bring your birthday bag? The schedule is on the right of this message and posted on the website under the Local Scholarships tab.

Members of the International Dinner committee have been busy putting together impressive baskets that will be raffled at this event. This is a major fundraiser for our local scholarship. Our 2015 winner, Emely Hernandez will be present at the dinner.

The florist who put our baskets together so beautifully last year is no longer a member. If you possess skills in this area, please contact Carollynn Hanson (chtravln@msn.com/480-883-2392). We could use your help! We plan to meet in January to complete the baskets.

Carollynn Hanson

Scholarship Birthday Raffle

Please bring a gift (about \$10 value) to the General Meeting during your birthday month. If you miss your month you can bring your gift any other month.

October: Aug. Sept. and Oct. birthdays

November: Nov. and Dec. birthdays

January: the "J" months - Jan., June and July

March: Feb. and Mar., birthdays

April: April and May birthdays



GREAT DECISIONS

The Great Decisions Program is sponsored by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA), a private, non-profit and non-partisan educational association. The FPA promotes awareness and informed opinions on U.S. foreign policy and global issues.

Each month the group selects one of the current year's topics for discussion. Members of the group take turns facilitating the discussion and/or hosting the meeting. No special knowledge is necessary, just an interest in U.S. foreign policy and international affairs. We welcome all points of view.

The annual cost of the materials is about \$22 which covers the cost of each member's briefing book and the DVD that provides additional discussion on the topic.

All Meetings are Wednesdays from 3-5PM

Wednesday November 18, 2015	Topic: Privacy in the Digital Age
Wednesday January 27, 2016	Topic: Russia and the Near Abroad
Wednesday February 24, 2016	Topic: TBD
Wednesday March 23, 2016	Topic: TBD
Wednesday April 27, 2016	Topic: TBD



If you are thinking about joining our group, or would like additional information, please contact Cynthia Cantor at: azcancyn@yahoo.com.



MAH JONGG

Mah Jongg for December and January
The Mah Jongg Interest group meets the fourth Monday of the month, December 28 and January 25 in the Palo Verde Bar and Grill. We will have lunch at 11:45 and play Mah Jongg at 1:00. We do not play for money, but contribute three dollars to AAUW local high school scholarships funds. If you know how to play please join us. The regular members will be contacted by email a week before the date.

Interest leader: Barb St. Peter
barnei1962@gmail.com 480 883 3156

SINGLES



The Singles of AAUW have enjoyed our dinners out all year and plan to continue being party animals throughout this year and next. We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the restaurant chosen by our hostess of the month.

We will meet December 10th and January 7th.

If you are a single AAUW member you are welcome and encouraged to join us for a pleasant dinner and conversation. Transportation can usually be arranged. If you are interested in joining us please contact me at [480-305-0579](tel:480-305-0579). I look forward to hearing from you.

Karen Shaffer

LUNCH BUNCH

Please join the Lunch Bunch for good food and a great time socializing with other AAUW members.

In December we will join in the SEVB Holiday Luncheon on December 5.

Wednesday, January 20th the Lunch Bunch will visit Paul Martin's American Grill in Scottsdale, 6186 N. Scottsdale Rd. Reservations required. Contact Diane Beatty as above. February 23 will be Stone & Vine at Queen Creek and Alma School in Chandler. March 24 we'll go to Ivy in Chandler at Germann and Dobson and on April 20th we'll go to the Cornish Pasty Co. in Mesa at Dobson and Guadalupe. Mark your calendar so you don't miss these fun times.

Diane Beatty beattybooks@yahoo.com
[480-895-3687](tel:480-895-3687)

AFTERNOON AAUW BRIDGE

The AAUW Afternoon Bridge Group will meet on December 7, 2015, as well as on January 4, 2016, in the Saguaro Room at the Cottonwood Clubhouse at 1:00 P. M. A week before we play an e-mail is sent to all those members on our list asking for a reply asap.

If you would like to join us for lunch before we play bridge please be in the Cottonwood Bar and Grill at 11:30 A.M. New members will be welcomed. We play social bridge and have a fun time.

Each time we play we each contribute \$3 to the AAUW Funds as well as \$.50 for prize money.

Please call me if you would like to be included in our group.



Margaret Horn, Bridge Chair 480 / 895-6419

Sisters of Art



There will be no meeting in December

The next lecture will be on January 21st, the third Tuesday of the month. The program is still to be determined.

The time is 2:00 p.m. at Sharon Gales's home, 9838 E Diamond Dr. Oakwood

Please come and learn more about art.

See you then. Sharon Gale 480-802-1108



Sharon Gale and Sisters of Art

MANAGE YOUR AAUW PERSONAL MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ONLINE. .

You can now **MANAGE** and **EDIT your own AAUW membership information** with powerful online tools and resources!! Be in Control! UPDATE your PERSONAL INFORMATION (i.e. Residential address, Email address, Phone number, etc etc etc), make donations, renew and pay membership dues, and much much more!!!

5 Simple Steps

- 1-Go to: AAUW.org
- 2-Click on: Membership (at top of page)
- 3-Scroll all the way to bottom and click on: Member Tools
- 4-LOGIN using your AAUW membership ID and Password
- 5- Half way down the page, it will read:

Manage your AAUW membership online

Click on: Member Service Database

Voila!!! -->> **YOUR** PERSONAL CONTACT INFORMATION PAGE-->>where you can make ANY CHANGES to your contact information!!





COMMUNITY ACTION

Community Action
Volunteer!
Start where you are. Use what you have.
Do what you can
Arthur Ashe



October and November brought the start of our Community Action volunteer program for this year. We are happy to say that we have been able to meet some of the volunteer needs listed below. Our volunteers are enjoying getting to know the students and the most-appreciative staff at all of our volunteer sites. However, we are still in need of volunteers, particularly in the Art Masterpiece and Junior Achievement programs. Please contact us if you are interested in volunteering in your community. We need your help.

6-minute reading Program (San Marcos): Volunteers work individually with a small number of students, in grade 2 to improve their reading fluency and comprehension. This is a well organized, easy-to-implement program. **Commitment: 1 day per week for 1 hour (9:30-10:30 grade 2).**

Work Room (San Marcos): Volunteers will complete various clerical tasks such as copying, collating, cutting and laminating for teachers and staff. **Commitment: As your schedule allows 1x per week to 1x per month, 1-2 hours.**

After School Program (San Marcos): Volunteers work with approximately 10 students during the 45 minutes between the end of the school day and the start of the after school sports program. This is the perfect time to share your talent and interests with students and have a great time. **Commitment: 1 x per week, 45 minutes**

Art Masterpiece (San Marcos and Other Chandler Schools): is an elementary program designed to increase a student's awareness of art and art history rather than the technique of creating art. A background in art is not necessary. Volunteers present six prepared lessons during the school year. All lessons, materials and training are provided. **Commitment: 1 day per month (November-April) for 1 hour.**

Junior Achievement (Chandler Schools) is a program designed to inspire and prepare young people to succeed in a global economy. Volunteers present six prepared lessons during the school year. All materials and training are provided for each grade level. **Commitment: 1 day per month (November- April) or 1 hour.**

Contact us anytime to let us know your interests or ask any questions.

Luann Hulbert, luannhulbert@gmail.com or 562-706-8389

Sandy Shepoiser, shepmilk@aol.com or 480-883-7975

MEMBERSHIP

Big **THANK YOU** To **VOLUNTEERS** For Successful Open Houses and Community Days!

AAUW Membership had a table presence at four Open House/Community days this year: Cottonwood (October 16), Oakwood (October 31), Sunbird (November 4), and Sun Lakes Phase 1 (November 14). A BIG Thank You to our Volunteers, namely, June Wagner, Pat Noack, Madeleine Lutz and Jennie Maze, for joining Helen Semple (Co Membership VP) and myself, in meeting and recruiting new members for our local branch.

Mary Ann Habib, Co Membership VP



From left to right Mary Ann Habib, Helen Semple and Madeline Lutz



**Our Co-Presidents
Marjorie Wright and
Janet Cox**

Fall Forum 2015

Is American Democracy at Risk?

Celebrating the 1965 Voting Rights Act: Gains, Losses and Next Steps

"The vote is precious, almost sacred and the most effective non-violent means to impact change." – Warren Stewart Sr.

The 2015 Fall Forum was a collaborative series of events, including a film festival and voter registration, over three days, October 29-31, 2015 . AAUW-AZ with an assist from ASU West and LWV-AZ, celebrated the 1965 Voting Right Act, evaluated changes to voting rights over the years, and dialogued with DREAMers about challenges they face today. AAUW-AZ Co-Presidents, Jane Adrian and Shirley Talley, along with AAUW-AZ Program Vice President, Harriet Young, pulled out all the stops to put together a first rate conference.

Janet Cox, Marjorie Wright, Jeannine Reynolds and Margaret Noser trekked to ASU West in Glendale, joining 60 others to explore various aspects of voting: past and present. Shirley Sandelands, President, AZ League of Women Voters and Linda Hallman, CAE Exe. Director/ CEO AAUW Washington, D.C., welcomed us to this stimulating conference on voting history and current conditions. Engaging speakers educated, inspired and challenged members and guests throughout the three days.

(There's more! Read the entire article on the branch website <http://southeastvalley-az.aauw.net>)

–Margaret Noser, Website Manager



PLEASE SAVE THIS DATE!! MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!

AAUW INTERNATIONAL DINNER & LOCAL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER

Oakwood Country Club Ballroom
24218 S. Oakwood Blvd, Sun Lakes, AZ 85248



\$25.00 per person
Cash Bar 5:00 p.m. and Seated at 5:45 p.m.

PLEASE JOIN US!!!!

FEBRUARY 15, 2016

TO

Celebrate!!!! Holi: Spring Festival of Color in India

Contemplate!! How many tickets to buy to win a beautiful basket donated for the Local Scholarship Fund for high school **Graduates!!!** (5 tickets for \$20)

Salivate!!! Our delicious dinner menu choices

Come **Educate!!** yourselves about "Women Off the Map" in India today and experience Classical Dance of India...

All of which

Culminates!!! into the **Ultimate!!** evening

Please don't **Procrastinate!!!!** **Anticipate!!** and **Communicate!!** with us today!

DINNER MENU

House Garden Salad w/choice of two dressings

CHOICE of Main Course: **1. Grilled Chicken Breast w/white wine and mushroom sauce**

OR

2. Vegetable Frittata

White rice with peas

Seasonal vegetables

Warm rolls and butter

Chocolate or Vanilla Cupcakes

Tear off

Tea, Water & Coffee

NAME _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL (for reservation confirmation) _____

Please make check payable to: **AAUW SOUTHEAST VALLEY BRANCH**

DEADLINE: Monday, February 8, 2016 NOON

Menu Choice: _____ Chicken

Mail to: Gail Jones

_____ Vegetable Frittata

10507 E Arrowvale Drive

Amount Enclosed _____ (\$25.00 per person)

Sun Lakes, AZ 85248

Sorry, I can't attend, but enclosed is \$ _____ for Our Local Scholarship Fund

Committee: Gail Jones (480) 802-7274, Joyce Pocras (480) 338-0810

Carolynn Hanson (480) 883-2392, Ellen Peck (480) 677-0313



November 2015



General Meeting

AAUW National Website

www.aauw.org



Southeast Valley (AZ) Branch

Donna Haugland and Karen Shaffer
Co-Editors

AAUW Arizona State Website

www.aauwarizona.org

