

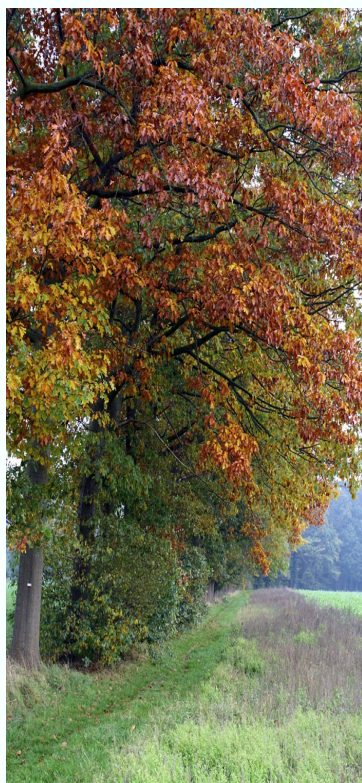


# Northwest Valley Branch

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### September General Meeting

Welcome Back Breakfast

**Thursday September 15th, 9am.** Webb Rm, Foundation Building. (location: RH Johnson and Stardust Blvd)

Program: Presidents' Project and Overview of Branch's Special Interest Groups.

(See Coupon page, page 8, for payment information)

Please bring school supplies for Dysart. Details on Page 3

Ann Mitchell given Educator of the Year award.

See details in Potpourri

### The Creative Writing Group of AAUW Northwest Valley Publishes *Transitions*

Our very own Creative Writing Special Interest Group published a book called "Transitions: Selected Writings by The Creative Writing Group of American Association of University Women, Arizona's Northwest Valley Branch".

The book will be on display at our September meeting.



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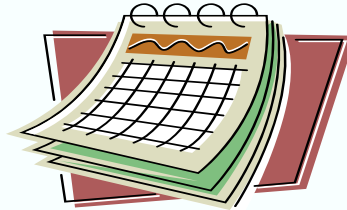
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### Preview of What's to Come — 2011-2012

#### **Next Step Reunion Luncheon**

Date: Saturday Oct. 15th, Time: 11:30 am

Location: Communiversity

#### **Book Review/Luncheon with Author Sylvia Nobel**

Date: Thursday, Oct. 27th, Time: 11:30 am

Location: Corte Bella

#### **Coffee and Collectibles**

Date: Tuesday, November 29th, Time: 9:00—12:00 noon

Location: TBA

#### **Holiday Breakfast Meeting**

Date: Dec. 15th, Time: 9:00 am

Location: SCW Foundation



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## President's Message

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### 2011—2012

2011-2012 is a big year for the Northwest Valley Branch of AAUW.

We have some exciting new activities coming up, some old favorites, and of course, the bonds of friendship that we form with our fellow members. Our September meeting will be an exciting one. We will be telling you about our new branch project, along with continuing to support the Dysart Education Center in El Mirage. [We are asking all members to bring school supplies to the September meeting.](#) \*

A wonderful Breakfast Buffet is planned.

Please see the Coupon page, and send in your money.

February 14, 2012 marks our state's Centennial. We have exciting programs planned for the centennial. Other branches around the state also have some exciting activities going on, and we will keep you informed about them, should you wish to attend. We also plan to inform you of interesting bits of trivia about our state. Most states have some strange laws on the books. Arizona is no exception. Did you know that it is unlawful to refuse a person a glass of water in Arizona? It is against the law in Arizona to allow your donkey to sleep in a bathtub. And, the Gunfight at the OK Corral actually took place in a vacant lot near the OK Corral.

Your Co-Presidents attended the National Convention in Washington D.C. this past June. We brought some interesting information back with us. We will be sharing thoughts with you during the course of the year.

We would like to thank the members for their patience as both co-presidents had a busy summer traveling to conventions, visiting family, and enjoying Italy. Some of our AAUW tasks were not completed in a timely fashion, but we will strive to make the NWV branch an organization to which you will be proud to belong.

***Connie Johnson & Harriett Grau***

\* **Dysart school supply wish list:** crayons, markers, colored pencils, construction paper, glue, writing paper, board games, children's books, activity books (math, reading, phonics, geography, etc.), easy reader books, and books on tape. There will be a box to put these items in as you enter our meeting. Thank you for your generosity.



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## Potpourri

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### **Ann Mitchell Awarded Educator of the Year by Surprise Regional Chamber of Commerce**



Ann Mitchell has been an outstanding supporter of Education in the Surprise Region. As a contributing member of the AAUW-Northwest Valley, Ann has provided leadership and partnership on many occasions and with a variety of education programs. Ann has taken an active role in supporting AAUW's Book Grants in the Northwest Valley. The book grants help students defray the cost of a college education with funds designated for purchasing books.

Ann and the AAUW were involved in the Arizona Director's Academy with Rio Salado College. The purpose of the Director's Academy was to prepare Early Childhood teachers in the Surprise Region; which had been identified as under-served.

Ann was instrumental in the development and solicitation of the Next Step young women's mentoring program, along with the Rio Salado College and the Dysart Unified School District's Teams. Ann and the AAUW facilitated Read Across America for Cimarron Springs and Dysart Elementary as a community service project, along with the Next Step Mentees. They also coordinated a Toiletry Drive to distribute supplies to under-served populations at the El Mirage Community Center. The aim of the service project was to model excellent skills for the mentees participating in the Next Step Program.

In addition to being a member of the Communiversi @ Surprise Advisory Council, these are just a few notable contributions Ann and the AAUW support in our community.



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### New Member Recruitment

As a reminder from your membership chairmen. **Recruit New Members.**

If you know of any interested women, send us their names and we will send them information and applications.

**Barbara Gobell**

687- 6629

[barbaragobell@yahoo.com](mailto:barbaragobell@yahoo.com)

**Mary Kay Chester**

584-1083

[chalknpills@aol.com](mailto:chalknpills@aol.com)



#### AAUW MISSION STATEMENT

AAUW advances equity for all women and girls through  
advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research



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### Invest in the Future: Support Pell Grants!



Pell Grants -- which help more than nine million students afford college -- are facing massive cuts. The students who receive these grants, disproportionately women and minority students, are at risk of being among the victims of Washington's current budget battle.

Cuts to Pell would not only devastate the futures of the students who rely on it, but also our economy, which desperately needs more college-educated workers to rebound. **Pell Grants and other federal tuition assistance constitute a direct investment in the future and long-term economic strength of our country.**

Today, the American Association of University Women and our allies across the country are standing up in support of Pell Grants. We're making sure Congress understands that cuts to Pell would hurt millions of Americans and weaken our economy moving forward.

**Tell your members of Congress that slashing Pell is not an option. Tell them why higher education matters and why denying it to millions of women and minority students will undermine the economic recovery.**

To send a message, click on the "Take Action" link in the upper right hand corner of this email.

**Remember:** You can always help strengthen AAUW's efforts to support access to higher education by [making a tax-deductible donation to AAUW's Public Policy Fund!](#)



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## Special Interest Groups

Deborah Channell is now responsible for the Special Interest Group page

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### The Novel Lovers

October 10<sup>th</sup> 3:00 pm

Home of Joy Ottenad

*The Maltese Falcon*, by Dashiell Hammett

Contact: Anne Levig

### Book Talk II

October 11<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Home of Helen Slemmons

Topic: Book you enjoyed this summer

Contact: Helen Slemmons, Joan Fedor or

Debbie Geske

### The Open Book

September 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Home of Alice Craig

*In The Woods*, by Tana French

Contact: Alice Craig

### Evening Book Group

September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm

Home of Evelyn Dragiff

*Alas, Babylon*, by Pat Frank

Contact: Deborah Channell

### Memories to Memoirs

November 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am

Home of Betty Ann Riley

Suggested topic: *The Impact of Aging:*

*Where Are My Car Keys?*

Contact: Anne Levig

### All Card Games at 1:00 pm

#### Bridge

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday Contact: Pat Riffle

September 7<sup>th</sup> Home of Walda Stevens

September 21<sup>st</sup> Home of Joy Ottenad

#### Bridge

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Contact: Debbie Geske

October 12<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Home of Debbie Geske

### Solos

Every Saturday at 8:45 am

Cocos at 98<sup>th</sup> and Bell

Contact: Norma Denham

### Hiking

Contact: Bonnie Boyce-Wilson

### Creative Writing

Contact: Greta Bryan

### STEM

October 14th

Home of Liz Reilly

Contact: Elizabeth Rielly or Betty Eldridge

### Great Decisions

October 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am

Contact: Lois White

### International Issues

October 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am

Contact: Shirley McDonald

### AZ Adventures With Lunch

October 28<sup>th</sup> at R.H. Johnson Library

Queen Creek Olive Oil and Lunch

Chair and Contact: Barb Sausen

### Foreign Film Fans

September 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm

Contact: Sylvia Brown



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### **NWV-AAUW September Breakfast Buffet Branch Meeting**

Thursday, September 15, 2011, 9 am, at the SCW Foundation Building, \$12.00 per person

Send your check (payable to NWV-AAUW) by Monday, September 9, to the following address: NWV-AAUW, Attention: Sharon Forbes, 13940 W. Meeker Blvd., Suite 115-217, Sun City West, AZ 85375

### **From your e-Currents Editor**

Sylvia S. Brown [sylviabaauw@cox.net](mailto:sylviabaauw@cox.net) My email address.