

CVAP CONNECT

News. Connections. Greater Possibilities.

From the Desk of the President:

CVAP Sisters:

I promised a shorter president's message for this month. And, it will be.

Here is the message: **GO TO THE NEW WEBSITE.** [CLICK HERE!](#)

I would be remiss not to call out the tremendous amount of heavy lifting done by Deb Protass and Nancy Ringman to bring our new website to life. There are a few widgets (yes, that's what the web development people call the buttons and interactive parts of the website) that still need to be connected but, by the time you read this, those widgets should be fully functional. The website is visually appealing whether you're using a tablet, desktop, or phone. It is your one-stop-shop for coming events, calendars, editions of the Newsletter, and other information about CVAP and its Scholars.

November's luncheon is right around the corner. **The RSVP deadline is October 21st at 5:00 p.m. PT.** Click [here](#) to RSVP. More details in this Newsletter.

Don't forget. 

One last thing! There is a CVAP New Member recruiting event at the Citrus Club on November 6th. Please contact me if you'd like to attend.

That's it – short and sweet as promised.

Bridgette Roman

Alpha Delta Pi

CVAP President 2026-27



CVAP Members enjoying
lunch at Casa Luna in Palm
Desert – the family
restaurant of one of our
2025 scholars!

Here Before You Know It: November Luncheon!

Click [HERE](#) to make a reservation!



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE *Meeting &* Luncheon



THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 12, 2026



11:00 AM
Social Time
11:30 AM
Meeting & Luncheon
Program to follow
1:30 PM
Concluding



**MONTEREY
COUNTRY CLUB**



\$40 PER PERSON
Guests Welcome

An Exciting Program!

Three of our most tenured and beloved members (Peggy Buenzli, Jodie Miller, and Cheryl Johnsen) will talk about the history and background of our organization.

This will be followed by a discussion of the financial projections and where you, our members, see the organization going in the future.

LUNCHEON MENU

Cobb Salad
Club Sandwich
Chinese Chicken Salad
Chicken Caesar Wrap

DESSERT

Chocolate Brownie
Lemon Bars
Cheesecake

Coffee, tea, and iced tea included







TO RSVP

Go to CVAP4Scholars.org, click on **Events**, and click on the November Meeting/Luncheon link.

- You may make reservations on your phone, tablet, or computer.
- You will be able to make your menu selections as part of the reservation process.
- You will be prompted to either pay with a credit/debit card or with checking information.
- The links are secure and are compliant with Payment Card Industry or PCI standards.



RSVP DEADLINE
OCTOBER 21, 2026
AT 5 PM PT

We hope you'll join us!

GUESTS WELCOME



CVAP members enjoying happy hour at Platinum Cowboy!



Join Us for the Next Happy Hour at Kitchen 86!

*Good Friends • Great Conversation
You're Invited! ♥*

HAPPY HOUR

GOOD DRINKS. GREAT COMPANY. SPECIAL TREATS!

 **Wednesday,
October 21, 2026
5:30 PM**

KITCHEN 86
73-130 EL PASEO
PALM DESERT, CA



RSVP by call/text to
Bridgette Roman
614-371-4433

Bring a Friend! ♥

PROSPECTIVE MEMBERS
ARE ALWAYS WELCOME.

CVAP's New Website is Here!

CVAP MEMBERS: *Get Connected!*

Set up your website password and access the Members-Only section of our website.



Why register?

Once you're registered, you'll have access to the CVAP Member Directory and other members-only resources.

IT'S EASY! HERE'S HOW:

- **Visit the CVAP website.**
Go to www.cvap4scholars.org.
- **Click "Member's Only."**
Select the Member's Only link on the website.
- **Click "Log In."**
You'll see a message explaining that the page requires an active membership. Click the Log In button.
- **Choose "Create an Account."**
At the bottom of the login box, click **Create an Account**.
- **Complete the Account Registration form.**
Enter the requested information.

**IMPORTANT!**
You must use the same email address that is already associated with your CVAP membership.
This is how the website recognizes you as a current CVAP member.

- **Click "Submit."**
Complete the information and click Submit.
- **Check your email.**
The website will send you a confirmation email with instructions for setting up your password. Follow the link in that email, create your password, and you're ready to go!

**YOU'RE IN!**
Return to www.cvap4scholars.org, select **Member's Only**, and log in using your email address and new password.

**Questions?**
We're happy to help. Contact the CVAP Website Team.

When you create your new CVAP account, please update your contact information, if needed, to ensure you continue to receive the CVAP annual mailing and other communications.

Our Newest CVAP Scholar to "Go Greek!"

Isabella (Bella) Byers, scholarship recipient from Palm Springs High School, accepted a Bid from **Kappa Kappa Gamma** at UC Santa Barbara!

She experienced the entire recruitment process over two weekends and learned more about Greek life. She's thrilled to have found her home with Kappa Kappa Gamma, whose philanthropy focusses on mental health awareness.

"I truly could not have gone through this experience without the generous support I received from CVAP. From the bottom of my heart, thank you so much for investing in me and supporting my journey. Thank you again for your generosity. I am incredibly grateful to be a recipient of the CVAP scholarship and look forward to making the most out of this new experience." Bella's initiation date is TBA.



Have a Happy Birthday from CVAP!

November Birthdays:

11/01 - Giorgi Duvall
11/02 - Joanne Hardy
11/03 - Joan Tegen
11/04 - Maya Jones
11/04 - Candice Lee-Quaid
11/07 - Ingrid Olsen
11/08 - Kathryn (Kate) Reeves
11/10 - Patricia Holvick-Knudson
11/13 - Connie Meyers
11/14 - Nancy Wilson
11/17 - Peggy Buenzli
11/21 - Ramona Frost Ruiz
11/22 - Elaine Hodges
11/24 - Lori Lustig



2026-2027 Calendar at a Glance!

Also included in previous letters- please see below the tentative calendar for CVAP's 2026-2027 season. Note that this calendar is **SUBJECT TO CHANGE** and does not include all gatherings. We will continue to notify of any changes and upcoming events as they come!

FALL 2026

- October 21 • Fall Happy Hour @ Kitchen 86
- October 21 • RSVP Deadline for November Luncheon
- October 28 • Gather, Sip, & Savor @ Willie's Modern Fare
- November 6 • CVAP New Member Recruiting Event @ The Cirtus Club at 4pm
- November 12 • Luncheon/Meeting @ Monterey Country Club
- November 18 • Gather, Sip, & Savor @ French Rotisserie Cafe
- December 10 • Holiday Luncheon (Toys for Children)
- December 16 • Gather, Sip, & Savor @ a Surprise Venue in La Quinta!



WINTER 2027

- January 5 • Scholarship Committee Meeting
- January 14 • Luncheon/Meeting @ Mission Hills Country Club
- January 18 • Scholarship Application Opens
- January 19 • Happy Hour
- January 27 • Gather, Sip, & Savor
- February 11 • Luncheon/Meeting (Books for Children) @ PGA West
- February 17 • Happy Hour
- February 24 • Gather, Sip, & Savor



SPRING 2027

- March 11 • Annual Benefit
- March 19 • First Day of Scholarship Interviews
- March 24 • Happy Hour
- March 31 • Gather, Sip, & Savor
- April 4 • Spring Fling
- April 8 • Luncheon/Meeting
- April 21 • Happy Hour
- April 28 • Gather, Sip, & Savor
- May 1 • Scholarship Luncheon
- May (Various Dates) • Senior Awards Nights



More Upcoming Events: October Gather, Sip, & Savor



CVAP
Coachella Valley Alumnae Panhellenic

YOU'RE INVITED TO

*An evening of good food and
great company*

Gather, Sip & Savor

 **DATE**
Wednesday, October 28

 **TIME**
5:30 PM

 **LOCATION**
Willie's Modern Fare
69830 CA-111,
Rancho Mirage, CA 92270

RSVP TO
Patti Deckett
BY OCTOBER 20TH

Text or e-mail:
patti.deckett@gmail.com
or 310-994-9213

Counting Down to the Annual Benefit

Come on Down to Margaritaville
CVAP ANNUAL BENEFIT

BEACH
RELAX
PARADISE

Volunteers Needed!

CVAP's Annual Benefit is only a success because of our amazing volunteers.
Please join the Margaritaville Team!

WE NEED HELP WITH:

- Set Up
- Registration / Check-In
- Auction Item Management / Payment Processing
- Wine Pull Table
- Pack Up

Start Thinking...

Silent Auction Items!
Do you have a unique experience, getaway, or special item to donate?

Wine Pull Wines!
We're collecting wine bottles for the Wine Pull table.

INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING?
Please contact Stephanie Carter by text or email if you're willing to help.

Stephanie Carter's email: steph.c.carter@gmail.com

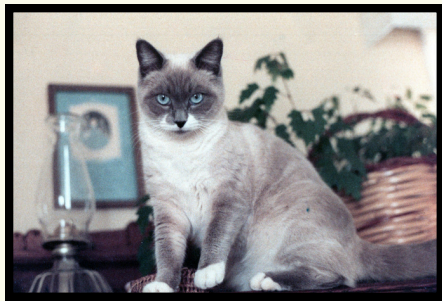
A Spotlight on Our Member's Best Friends!

This is Stephanie Carter's "grand-pup Nora 🐾🐾 just chillin on a warm summer day 🌞!"



Shaun Young's "Pip" hiding the winning lottery numbers... 😊

Nancy Ringman shared her pets "Azure, Bailey, and BC."



A Quick Financial Update:

End of September Account Balances are:

Operating Account: \$11,419.23

Liquid Asset Account: \$75,425.53

Benefit Account: \$17,051.65

Marianne Timmons Account: \$53,321.89

Diamond Legacy Account: \$26,503.20

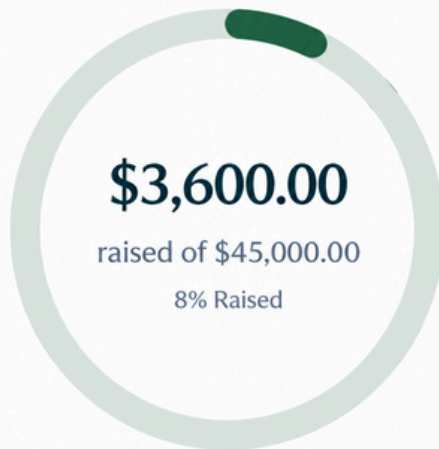
Mauritzen Account: \$264,866.27



Patron Fund: The Impact of Monthly Giving!

2026-27 Patron Fund

Make your donation at
<https://www.cvap4scholars.org/donate>



Our Patron Fund is off to a nice start toward our goal to raise \$45,000 for scholarships by April 30, 2027.

Thank you to the CVAP sisters who've already made contributions!



Monthly giving makes a difference!

VP Scholarships, Ramona Frost Ruiz, is making monthly gifts to the Patron Fund. She explained that she will achieve her desired giving level by April while boosting the interest-earning power of the Patron Fund account all year round.



If you would also like to make monthly donations, you can easily set them up using this [donate link](#) on the new website.

Planning a 2026 End-of-Year Tax-Deductible Gift?

The options have grown: Visit our [Patron Fund page to donate](#) by credit/debit card, PayPal, Venmo or Zelle. The page also has information for sending a check plus CVAP's tax ID number for donor-advised fund/foundation gifts.

As always, if you have questions or need anything at all regarding our Patron Fund, please contact Shaun Young at 949-500-8539, helloshaunyoung@gmail.com

New This Year...

Members who donate to the Patron Fund in the 2026-27 year will receive a ribbon to add to their CVAP name tag:

**Patron Fund Donor
2026-27**

And for our tenured members: please send/call Nancy Rignman with the date on which you first joined CVAP. You, too, may be entitled to a ribbon that celebrates your commitment to CVAP!

+ 20-Year Member

Between the Pages with CVAP Book Mavens!



In September, the Book Mavens had a spirited exchange of ideas about *The Calamity Club*, Kathryn Stockett's first novel in 17 years since her debut novel, *The Help*, was published. It earned a perfect 5 out of 5 from every member who voted! The enthusiasm didn't stop there: one member recommended it to numerous friends, another shared it with her husband (who gave it a big thumbs-up, too!), and a third joined our discussion from a cruise ship off the coast of Greece. Now that's dedication to a good book—and to sisterhood!

Curious about what we're reading next?

- **OCTOBER:** *The Things We Never Say* by Elizabeth Strout, a compelling family drama.
- **NOVEMBER:** *The Unexpected Spy*, a true-life spy thriller and memoir by Tracy Walder, a USC graduate and Delta Gamma alumnae, who shares her experiences fighting terrorism with the CIA and FBI.

Whether you're an avid reader or simply looking for great conversation and connection with fellow sisters, there's a place for you in our CVAP book club. Come for the books, stay for the sisterhood!

If you'd like to participate, contact VP Membership Nancy Ringman at nadr1821@gmail.com.

In Memory of Former CVAP President Marci Blatt (1958-59)



Marcia Jeanne "Marci" Blatt passed away peacefully at her home in Huntington Beach, California, on March 6, 2026, at the remarkable age of 98.

Marci was born on November 2, 1927, in Los Angeles, California, to Mary Juliet Newcomb and Theodore Andrew Newcomb. As an only child, Marci was raised primarily by her devoted mother, who worked tirelessly to provide for her family. During her childhood, some of her fondest memories were at her grandparents' home at "235 Greenwood" in Topeka, Kansas—a place she remembered with great affection throughout her life.

Eventually, Marci and her mother returned to Los Angeles, where she graduated from high school before attending UCLA.

Not long afterward, Marci met the love of her life, John "Boots" Blatt, through their shared passion for skiing. Together they built a life filled with adventure, laughter, and love. Marci introduced Boots to surfing at San Onofre, and that love of skiing and surfing began a family tradition that would span generations.

Together they raised their children in Indio, California, where Boots developed and grew his business, while family ski trips to the mountains of California and Utah and summer surfing at San Onofre's beaches remained treasured highlights of their lives.

Marci's greatest joy was her family. She is survived by her sons, Michael Blatt and Kelly Blatt; her daughter, Julianne "DeeDee" Connell; her grandchildren, Katie George, Allison Connell Carman, Megan Blatt, Jonathan "Jonny" Blatt, and Andrew Blatt; and her beloved great-granddaughter, Juniper Connell Carman. Her family was the center of her world, and she took immense pride in watching each generation grow and flourish.

Marci's life was marked by curiosity, creativity, kindness, and a deep appreciation for simple pleasures. She leaves behind a legacy of warmth, resilience, adventure, and unconditional love.

Though our hearts are heavy with her loss, we find comfort in imagining her once again dancing with Boots. Their love story continues beyond this life.

Mom, Grandma, Great-Grandma—thank you for the memories, the laughter, the music, and the love. You will always be missed, forever remembered, and forever loved.



Help CVAP Grow!

Do you know a sorority alumna who would enjoy being part of CVAP? Whether she's a longtime friend, neighbor, or fellow country club member, we'd love to introduce her to our organization!

We're looking for opportunities to share all that CVAP has to offer through presentations at local country clubs and community gatherings. If you know of a group that might be interested, please contact VP Membership Nancy Ringman (714-721-5799 or nadr1821@gmail.com) to help us spread the word!



Looking Ahead: November Gather, Sip, & Savor



CVAP

Coachella Valley Alumnae Panhellenic

YOU'RE INVITED TO

Gather, Sip & Savor

An evening of good food and great company





DATE

**Wednesday,
November 18**



TIME

5:30 PM



LOCATION

French Rotisserie Cafe
44489 Town Center Way Ste G,
Palm Desert, CA 92260



RSVP TO

Patti Deckett

BY SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15

Text or e-mail:
patti.deckett@gmail.com
or 310-994-9213



