



March 2020

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

March 12 - 1 pm: Laura Abbey Brown – *Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation*.

April 9 - 1 pm: John Henry Beyer, Ph.D. - *Climate Change: Science and Solutions*.



CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Winter so far has been a bit of a bust, and perhaps saying that out loud three times will get the Snow Goddess in gear. In the meantime, it's been easier to travel to the many activities our branch offers.

Thanks to Program Mavens **Johnnie Lee** and **Carol Eyre** and their intrepid **Soup Ladies** for a very enjoyable luncheon on February 13th! Looking forward to hearing **Laura Abbey Brown**, the Executive Director of the Excellence in Education Foundation on March 12th (see Program on p. 2).

March is **Women's History Month** and this year marks the **100th anniversary** of women's right to vote. On **page 6** is a great article from AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee chronicling the waves of the feminist movement. Consider signing up for the Two-Minute Activist (<https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>) to receive state and national alerts to contact a legislator regarding a bill on AAUW list.

Fund Raising Opportunities:

1. Service Club Polling Place **November 3rd**.

We have an opportunity to raise funds for our branch by manning a polling place for Placer County in the

upcoming November 3rd election. We'll need a commitment from a minimum of **6 members** to do so, as the work involves an all-day (6 am to 9 pm) effort to keep the polling place fully staffed by a Judge, an Inspector, and several clerks (the clerks may work specific shifts or tag-team throughout the day). It involves a two-hour training, traditionally held at the North Tahoe Convention Center a week or so before November 3rd. Our "pay" (approximately **\$750**) will go to our Branch and be used to support our core missions—that's almost the equivalent of sending a girl to Girls State or Tech Trek!

Having served on polling place duty in years past with neighbors, the hours flew by as we were having fun in between the sober periods of having an actual live voter appear. In order to take advantage of this opportunity, please make a commitment **by May 31st** by contacting Ginger or myself or emailing us at northtahoeAAUW@gmail.com. If we don't have enough volunteers by that date, I'll notify everyone who did volunteer that we'll be regretfully turning down this opportunity. This would be a good chance, if you're not already committed to driving people to the polls, to be suspended in radio silence for most of Election Day while being amongst friends.

2. Save the Date: **Thursday July 23rd**, 6:35 pm: Reno Aces vs. Las Vegas Aviators Baseball game.

Our sister branch Tahoe Nevada has approached us with an opportunity to sell tickets to the game. Attending as a group will make for a very fun evening while raising funds for our branch. Look for **Jo Ann Cobb's** note on page 3.

Update on the ERA:

Late last year, Virginia became the 38th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment, thus fulfilling the legal requirement that two-thirds of the states must support

a constitutional amendment. Alas, progress has been stalled. AAUW supports House Joint Resolution 79, which would remove the artificial deadline for ratification imposed by the Congress back in 1972. Why do we need the ERA? The progress our country has made on gender equality, whether through the courts or patchwork legislation, can be reversed. Sex discrimination does not have the same legal protection as other constitutional classes, such as race, religion, or nationality. This constitutional double standard means that hard-won legislative and court victories against sex discrimination are not permanent - and can be rolled back or difficult to enforce. The ERA would place the burden of proof on those who discriminate instead of those fighting for equality. This is particularly important given the number of extremely conservative federal judges appointed by the current administration.

Representative **Jackie Speier**, who is the sponsor of this legislation, will be the keynote speaker at the AAUW California Convention on Sunday, April 19th.

Kym Pipkin – kymberly.pipkin@icloud.com

Ginger Wilson - wilson_virginia@att.net

LEADERSHIP MEETING

March 12 – 11 am, Fairway Community Center.

GENERAL MEETING

A very successful and DELICIOUS Soup Luncheon was held on February 13th... showing THE LOVE to our AAUW-NT Members and Mission Partners for their ongoing support of our endeavors (photos on p. 7). The soups were outstandingly tasty and the sweet surprises a bit over the top.

Our Soup Chefs for the event were: **Linda Larish, Sharon Filardo, Kym Pipkin, Diane Morrison, Ann Yuhas, and Johnnie Lee Don**. A big **Thank You** to those ladies and we hope to get their recipes and share them with folks who tasted e-v-e-r-y one of the soups in the style brought to this event in the past by Gisela.

Our list of current Mission Partners continues to expand, along with their support:

Rotary Club of Tahoe City and **Tahoe League for Charity** supporting Tech Trek; **Kiwanis North Lake Tahoe** and **UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC)** supporting STEM Trek Day; **Tahoe Truckee Community Scholarship Committee** supporting Scholarship; **The American Legion Auxiliary** supporting

Girls State; and **The Parasol Tahoe Community Foundation** supporting our AAUW-NT Interbranch Luncheon.

PROGRAM



Come out and show your support of our Programs on **March 12th at 1 pm** at the Fairway Community Center, 330 Fairway Drive, Tahoe City. Friends and family are most welcome.

Laura Abbey Brown, our volunteer speaker, has served as the Executive Director for the Tahoe Truckee Excellence in Education Foundation for over 15 years.

The Foundation awards grants to teachers in the TTUSD through an application process; partners with the school district on key initiatives that are designed to have high impact on student learning; and recognizes exceptional teachers and classified staff through the Linda Brown Fellows and Star Award programs.

The Foundation is governed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors and Advisory Board of more than 40 community members with a broad range of experience, representing all geographic areas of the community.

In 2012, Laura led a coalition of public and private agencies to develop a regional plan to address **third grade reading proficiency** which resulted in the National Civic League designating the Tahoe Truckee region an All-American City. Prior to her time with Excellence in Education, Laura worked for over 10 years in Marketing for Northstar and Creative Concepts. She received her Bachelor of Science from UC Davis in Behavioral Sciences. Outside of work, Laura is busy with her family which includes 3 school-age children and her husband Jeff. Laura and Jeff have lived in Truckee for 25 years and are active members of the Tahoe Truckee community.

Johnnie Lee Don – johnnieleedon1@gmail.com

Carol Eyre – carolceyre@aol.com



SAVE THE DATE: **Thursday July 23rd**
(6:35 pm)

Reno Aces vs Las Vegas Aviators
Baseball Game, Downtown Reno.

Ticket Cost: **\$20** (we will receive \$2

for each ticket we sell)

Joint outing & fundraiser with our neighboring AAUW branches and all spouses, family, friends and neighbors are invited to attend!

For more information, contact **Jo Ann S. Cobb**, 650-483-6446 or jscobb@sbcglobal.net



Our Girls State candidate for 2020 is North Tahoe High junior **Reilly Scott**. She is in the "Athletes Committed" organization and participates in several sports as well as the ski team. She is in leadership and on the dance committee for 11th grade. She does volunteer work at her church and is a junior ski instructor at Squaw Valley ski resort. Her two favorite subjects are AP US History and AP Biology.

In her statement, she said *"My interest in Girls State is primarily driven by my desire to learn more about the U S government...I would like to obtain more information about our democratic process...and meet other girls from other parts of the state "*.



Christine Madden – madden@garlic.com

Linda Larish – llarish@sbcglobal.net



Ten nominations were received for Tech Trek 2020. Meri met the girls at school, and they will return their applications and essays this week. The new nominating teachers are great!

Thank you, **Christine Madden** and **Kathie Julian** for volunteering for the interview team; interviews will be held at the NT school on Tuesday February 25.

STEM Trek Day

STD 2020 is on Saturday **May 9, 2020**, and plans are moving along well. The theme is Aviation, Technology and Math.

Retired math teachers Lindee Eckert and Nancy McNair are working on a paper airplane exercise with a math component.

Ann Yuhas's neighbor, Margaret Skillicorn, is graciously helping us, including contacting stunt flyer Anna Serbinenko who is willing to talk about participating and reaching out to young women pilots in Truckee.

The Society of Women Engineers in Reno is interested in participating. Our committee is working on a Professional Women's round table in which small groups of girls rotate between various professional women for an informal 10-minute meeting. Jan Lynds from South Lake branch has enlisted a high school Technology teacher. Women STEM professionals at Tahoe City Public Utility District are also interested in participating.

Meri McEneny- Tech Trek Coordinator

mmceneny@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP

We now have **66 members** with a late renewal.

Printed copies of the directory are available for \$10 at the general meeting. They are free for new members.

The most current directory is found on the branch website.

<https://northtahoe-ca.aauw.net/members/>

Contact Dana Loury, our Communications officer, at northtahoeaauw@gmail.com for the password to access the online directory.

If you know someone who would like to join our branch, contact **Cheryl Allen**, membership VP (cherylkallen@cs.com) to receive a membership application form by email or USPS. The form is also available on the website.

<https://northtahoe-ca.aauw.net/about/membership-information/>

Membership Communications.

Please let our corresponding secretary **Linda Larish** (llarish@sbcglobal.net) know about any member news that should be recognized with a card or note from our branch.

The following cards were sent in the past months to:

Jan Potter – Thank You for January presentation.

David & Shirley Allen Foundation - TY for Tech Trek donation.

Diane Buckman - Thinking of you after David's fall.

Rachael Swift - Get well.

Tahoe League for Charity - TY for Tech Trek donation.

Rotary of Tahoe City- TY for Tech Trek donation.

Kiwanis - TY for STEM Trek Day donation.

TERC - TY for discounted room rental for STEM Trek Day last June.

Parasol Foundation- TY for use of room for Interbranch luncheon last Spring.

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

AAUW Readers are meeting at noon on Tuesday, **Feb. 25**, to review "*Mary Coin*," at the Yacht Club in Tahoe City. **Cheryl Allen** is our reviewer, and treats will be provided by **Sharon Filardo**.

Our March book is "*The Library Book*", by Susan Orlean. We will be meeting at the Yacht Club again at noon on Tuesday, **March 31st**. **Jan Potter** is our reviewer and **Shirley Cabo** will provide treats. Carol says "It's a good read!". Maybe we'll have a Miracle March and we'll read up a storm!

Just a reminder... our meetings are on the LAST Tuesday of the month.

Martha Cirata - martha@omegaport.com

Carol Eyre – carolceyre@aol.com



BRIDGE

The bridge group met on Thursday, February 20th at the home of **Linda Larish** in Incline Village. It was a great day. We had three tables. As they say, a good time was had by all. **Barbra Briggs** and **Sue DeVoe** were the grand winners for the day. After each round of 4, winners stay put and losers move to another table. Barbra and Sue never moved all day. **Patricia Watters** and **Richard Lashbrook** were second. With 12 people present, the sound of cheerful conversation provided a pleasant background. (photos on p.8)



Next month, **Ellen Magnani** and **Sharon Filardo** will be hosting the group at the Yacht Club in Tahoe City: Wednesday, **March 25** at **1 pm**. Members are asked to bring their own drinks. Hoping for three tables again.

As always, we welcome new players. Anyone interested, please contact Betsey Husted at betseyhusted18@gmail.com, or 702-499-4332.



GOURMET

Nine ladies thoroughly enjoyed a lovely lunch at Fire Sign Café in Tahoe City on Thursday, February 6th. The food was great and the companionship priceless.

In **early April**, consider joining the group for a cooking class and lunch at “**Nothing To It**” in Reno. More details will be available in March.

Linda Larish – llarish@sbcglobal.net

North Tahoe AAUW website:

<https://northtahoe-ca.aauw.net/>

AAUW California website:

<http://www.aauw-ca.org/>

User name: **member**

Password: **aauwca** (case sensitive)



GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions will meet on Tuesday, **March 17th** at the Tahoe Yacht Club from **10 am until noon**.

The subject for the March discussion will be “Competition and Cooperation in the Red Sea Region”. Our moderator will be **Priscilla Mills**.

We will discuss the complexity of issues in this waterway where nine countries inhabit its shoreline. Our military presence, along with those of other nations plus efforts to thwart China’s influence in the region has made it a priority for the US to mitigate conflicts that impact peace and local development.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month for eight months covering the eight chapters of our Foreign Policy Association briefing book.

Linda Schwoob - lschwoob@yahoo.com



CALENDAR

MARCH

- 12: Leadership and General Meetings
- 17: Great Decisions
- 25: Bridge Group
- 31: Book Group

You've Come a Long Way Baby ... But You're Not There Yet!

Perhaps many of you will recall the Virginia Slims advertising slogan from the late 60's, "You've come a long way, Baby." This slogan aptly fits the rise of the feminist movement in America which most of us agree dates back to the Seneca Falls, NY convention in July 1848.

August 26, 2020 will mark the **100th anniversary** of the passage of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, the culmination of the Women's Suffrage Movement. It took over seven decades for a woman's right to vote to be guaranteed as the law of the land.

Since then, we have seen successive waves of the Women's Rights movement. Activists in the 1960's and '70's sought equal rights and opportunities along with greater personal freedom for women, similar to the goals of the suffragists, the first wave of feminism. But this second wave of feminism also encompassed every area of women's experience -- including politics, work, the family and sexuality. Major legislative victories were accomplished during this period: Equal Pay Act, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, Legalization of birth control for married and unmarried couples, Title X Family Planning Program, Title IX, the Roe v. Wade decision and passage of the ERA.

Third-wave feminists sought to question, reclaim, and redefine the ideas, words, and media that have transmitted ideas about gender, gender roles, womanhood, beauty, and sexuality, among other things; while Fourth-wave feminism refers to a "resurgence of interest in feminism that began around 2012 and is associated with the use of social media." The focus has been on justice for women and opposition to sexual harassment and violence against women. The movement is "defined by technology," according to a British feminist, and "is characterized by [social media tools] that challenge misogyny and further gender equality." Issues in the forefront include street and workplace harassment, campus sexual assault and rape culture. Scandals involving the harassment, abuse, and murder of women and girls have kickstarted movements such as the "Me Too" Movement.

Where will feminism go from here? We've still got our work cut out for us as well as some unfinished business: namely the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, which has now obtained approval by the requisite 38 states, and faces court challenges or perhaps a legislative solution; and the ratification by the U.S. Senate of the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the international bill of rights adopted by the United Nations in 1979. AAUW has played a notable role in all these waves of feminism and I am sure will continue to do so as we strive for social and economic justice-- because we're not there yet.

Ginny Hatfield
AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee

MEMBER AND MISSION PARTNERS APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

February 13, 2020



Lew Madden (Rotary Tahoe City) and Margaret Lewicki (TLC, far right)

<https://northtahoe-ca.aauw.net/>



FEBRUARY BRIDGE GROUP

