



May 2021



## CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

If you haven't had a chance to vote in our North Tahoe Branch, AAUW California, and AAUW National elections yet, please look for the Election Emails sent out in April from each of these groups and follow the instructions to [vote by May 7th](#). Thanks for making your voice heard!

We know that we have a fabulous group of members in our North Tahoe Branch. Watching the [AAUW California Annual Meeting](#) on Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom made me feel so proud to see our numbers multiplied by all the other branches throughout California to create an amazing force for empowering women and girls! WOW! I feel so grateful to be a part of this network. The AAUW California Leadership Team puts in an incredible amount of energy and time to help us perform at our best to support our community.

Click on this link to watch a fun and inspiring 5-1/2-minute Doodly (Doodly.com) of [AAUW California 2021 Board Accomplishments](#)

In 2021, there were 18 submissions for the [California Activity of the Year Award](#) that were judged on promoting AAUW's mission and image and being reproducible events.

Two awards were given this year:

- 1) Fremont Branch's "***A Step in the Right Direction***," which planned and organized a holiday shoe drive benefiting the homeless and collected 169 pairs of new shoes.
- 2) Marin Branch's "***Year-Long Programming Focus on Racism and Inequality***," which is an effort to educate and improve personal awareness and discover opportunities to work with others on these issues.

The three **Speech Trek** semifinalists' speeches were spread throughout the morning's meeting and are a powerful reminder of why supporting programs for our high school students can help nurture new voices and leadership in our youth. Watch the 2021 California Speech Trek Winner [Lilian Chang \(California Online\)](#)

We hope to see many of you at our **May 13<sup>th</sup> Member Meeting** to celebrate our camaraderie and accomplishments of the past year and welcome our new and returning leaders for next year!

*JoAnn S. Cobb* - [jscobb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jscobb@sbcglobal.net)

*Johnnie Lee Don* - [johnnieledon1@gmail.com](mailto:johnnieledon1@gmail.com)

*Kym Pipkin* - [kmpipkin@icloud.com](mailto:kmpipkin@icloud.com)

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

### GENERAL MEETING

**May 13 @ 1:00 pm** (Zoom): Installation of officers and Awards presentation

### LEADERSHIP MEETING

**May 13:** 10:00 am (Zoom)

### GENERAL MEETING

**May 13, 2021 @ 1 pm** (Zoom)

*Do you remember attending your first NT AAUW meeting? Did you go alone? Did a friend bring you? Were you wondering if it would be: Intimidating? Boring? Informative? Friendly?*

*And, hopefully, since you are a member, you found that it was fun, inclusive, and full of Extraordinary Women!! And that it was also informative, special, and welcoming!!*

Some of those same Extraordinary Women have worked hard over this Extraordinary year with great dedication, and I ask that you THANK them for a job WELL DONE as they diligently supported NT AAUW through one of the most upsetting years on record. Please let them know that you value the behind the scenes work they did to make a success of our NT AAUW Branch and express your Thanks when you have the time: emailing, phoning, on zoom or in person.

During the year of 2020-2021, our Co-Presidents, **Jo Ann Cobb** and **Kym Pipkin**, soldiered on without Ginger Wilson's down to earth input, as they dealt with State and National requests and changes, as well as guiding us locally.

Our extensive and complicated Finances were expertly and tirelessly managed by **Patricia Watters** and she kept right on smiling too!

Membership managed to flourish under busy and cheerful **Cheryl Allen**.

The Communications Team, **Dianne Lange**, **Dana Loury**, **Carol Eyre** and **Jo Ann Cobb** (wearing a 2nd hat) learned new technology skills whether they wanted to or not! An Award-Winning newsletter was produced each month by our precise and

creative **Dana Loury**. And a whole website update and facelift is being accomplished with many, many hours of work by **Dianne Lange**.

Our Recording Secretary, **Ann Yuhas**, along with volunteers **Kym Pipkin** and **Patricia Watters** (wearing 2nd hats), kept up with the official minutes for posterity under some daunting Zoom conditions.

Notes of all sorts were sent by our "gifted with words" as well as compassion, Corresponding Secretary, **Linda Larish**.

The Programs Team, under **Johnnie Lee Don**, came through with a number of emotionally moving, informative, and amazingly strong Zoom speakers.

And a special Thanks to **Betsey Husted** and **Kym Pipkin** for a great, fun-filled and entertaining Zoom Winter Party!

During this year of upheaval, our Appointed Officers, continued to honor our responsibilities in areas of: Girls State (**Christine Madden** and **Linda Larish**, wearing a 2nd hat); AAUW FUND (**Rachael Swift**); Tech Trek (**Meri McEneny**); Scholarship (**Ellen Magnani** and **Kathie Julian**); Bylaws/Parliamentarian (**Priscilla Mills**). They made sure of a successful outcome in each and every one of these areas and should be quite proud of their achievements!

Our Interest Groups cannot hide their accomplishments. Book Club, Bridge, In Stitches, and Great Decisions all hustled to take advantage of Zoom technology to keep in communication with their groups. Accolades to **Esther Sonnenberg**, **Jo Ann Cobb** (a 3rd hat), **Betsey Husted**, **Julie Elmen**, and **Linda Schwoob** for their outstanding work in this strange year.

Last but not least, the Leadership Team **THANKS ALL NT AAUW Members** for their help, input, support and patience. You have encouraged us to reach for the stars!

**Johnnie Lee Don** – [johnnieledon1@gmail.com](mailto:johnnieledon1@gmail.com)



Our highly qualified candidate, Denali Cooke is prepared to attend the virtual Girls State program from **June 28<sup>th</sup> through July 2<sup>nd</sup>**.

Denali has completed all her forms. We are just waiting to hear a confirmation from Joanne Shope (South Lake Tahoe American Legion Auxiliary representative) that she has submitted the fee to CA Girls State.

**Linda Larish** – [llarish@sbcglobal.net](mailto:llarish@sbcglobal.net)

**Christine Madden** - [madden@garlic.com](mailto:madden@garlic.com)



First, Thank You **AAUW CA** for the inspiring and well-done State Convention!

I was inspired by several of the award-winning branch programs. The State offered a strong policy for STEM and highlighted the kind, generous and immensely capable women and men, within this organization past and present.

I look forward to the future with all of you!

- All 5 of our current 2021 selected campers have applied to the Virtual Tech Trek camp, and 4 of our 5, 2020 Tech Trek girls have applied for the VTT camp.
- One family is requesting a waiver for our \$20 parent contribution. Another family may need help with technology. VTT will help with laptops or Internet if needed.
- Once all are registered for camp, I will request a \$20 parent contribution.
- North Tahoe School will be out June 18. Camps are scheduled for June 21-25, July 12-16, and July 26-30.
- Our member volunteers have submitted their applications and background checks.
- Volunteers are still needed! From the comfort of your own home! Science skills are not required, just a willingness to help the girls with organizational and coaching skills. Click on [Virtual Tech Trek](#).
- I will humbly request a grant from Tahoe League for Charity in May.

- I am investigating if an activity for STEM Trek Day may take place later this summer.

**Meri McEneny**- Tech Trek Coordinator – [mmceneny@gmail.com](mailto:mmceneny@gmail.com)



## MEMBERSHIP

It's membership renewal time again!

Please check your mailboxes during the **last week in May!** You will receive a mailing including renewal and donation information, a personalized renewal form, and a stamped return envelope. Please carefully review your personal contact information on the form, make any necessary changes, and use the stamped envelope to return your completed form, membership dues, and donation checks to us.

We need current contact information from everyone so that we can make sure you receive all the important information about our branch events.

Note that **National AAUW dues** are now **\$62**, an increase of \$3 due to increased expenses over the last year.

Please return your completed renewal form, dues, and donation checks promptly! We need your information and checks **no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>** so we can update our database and verify our data with the national AAUW database.

Thanks for your cooperation.

**Cheryl Allen** – [cherylkallen@cs.com](mailto:cherylkallen@cs.com)

The [Member Directory](#) is available on the branch website.

Contact Dana Loury ([dn.loury@gmail.com](mailto:dn.loury@gmail.com)) for the password to access the online directory.

To get a membership application form, contact **Cheryl Allen** ([cherylkallen@cs.com](mailto:cherylkallen@cs.com)) or download it from our website: [Member Application Form](#)



## Membership Communications

Please let our corresponding secretary, **Linda Larish** ([llarish@sbcglobal.net](mailto: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 month:  
To Caleb Turk and Forest Casey - Sympathy for loss of mom, Jamie Casey.



*Very best wishes to our May Birthdays!*

20 – Barbara Roberts

27 – Shirley Nelson

### Happy 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday, Vera!

**Esther Sonnenberg** and **Barbara Roberts** planned a birthday celebration for **Vera Daegling** on her **90<sup>th</sup> birthday**, April 7 (Photos on **page 6**).

## INTEREST GROUPS



### BOOK GROUP

Book Group will meet on Tuesday, **May 25<sup>th</sup>**, at **12:30pm**, via Zoom, to review "The Dutch House" by Ann Patchett. Our reviewer will be **Barbara Ramsey**.

A Zoom meeting invitation will be sent to those who are signed up for Book Group. If you're not on our Book Group list and would like to join this discussion, please email Jo Ann.

**Esther Sonnenberg** - [esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com](mailto:esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com)

530.546.2884

**Jo Ann Cobb** --[jscobb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jscobb@sbcglobal.net) - 650.483.6446



Book group on April 27, 2021



### BRIDGE

The Bridge group continues to play virtually through the Trickstercards.com program.

The weekly game is on **Saturdays at 2 PM**.

Participating members include **Patricia Watters**, **Linda Larish**, **Dianne Lange**, **Kym Pipkin**, **Sharon Ekin**, **Barbara Ramsey** and **Betsey Husted**.

Some couples are also using the program to play. **Sharon Ekin** and her husband have played with **Nancy Cline** and her husband. **Richard Lashbrook** and **Patricia Watters** play with **Betsey** and **Mike Husted**.

Any members wishing to play, either with the AAUW group or with couples, are encouraged to contact Patricia Watters or Betsey Husted to obtain help in accessing the program. At this time, it is projected that live games may begin in August. Games have been held in members' homes or at the Yacht Club, compliments of Ellen Magnani.

Currently, members are looking into educational opportunities at the [Mathewson Bridge Center](#) in

Reno. **Dianne Lange** began virtual lessons the last week of April.

We welcome all members interested in playing. Please contact **Betsey Husted** at: [betseyhusted18@gmail.com](mailto:betseyhusted18@gmail.com) with any questions.



## GOURMET & FRIDAY NITERS

We are combining both groups this time.

We have scheduled an outdoor event at **Burnt Cedar Beach**, 665 Lakeshore Blvd, Incline Village on **Friday May 14th at 1pm**.

During Covid, it hasn't been easy being Gourmet &/or Friday Niters. We're hoping this event will allow us to again enjoy good conversation and relaxation, revolving around food.

The rules are as follows:

- No smoking
- No glass
- No music
- No skate boarding.... sorry, everyone.
- No grills
- No drones.... what a disappointment!
- Masks required except while eating or drinking.

Please bring your own picnic, utensils, chairs and warm clothes. We will provide a simple dessert. Park in larger lot by lawns.

We ask that you respond by May 10 to:

**Johnnie Lee Don** ([johnnieleedon1@gmail.com](mailto:johnnieleedon1@gmail.com) or 775 336-7639), or

**Linda Larish** ([llarish@sbcglobal.net](mailto:llarish@sbcglobal.net) or 775 720-3384).

Future events will be planned, perhaps another outdoor gathering, for later in the summer.

If you are unable to attend, please offer suggestions, or volunteer to host by contacting Johnnie Lee Don or Linda Larish (contact information above).



## GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions will meet on Tuesday, **May 18<sup>th</sup>** from **10am until noon**. Our subject for discussion will be "China's role in Africa". Our moderator will be **Barbara Ramsey**. China feels it shares victimization by Western powers with Africa and has thus stepped forward with funding and personnel to assist with Africa's infrastructure and extend its own sources of commodities. Our foreign policy discussions on current international actions enlighten us with current world tensions and controversy.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month via Zoom until we get the all clear to meet in person. Perhaps in the fall we can look forward to that!

**Linda Schwoob** - [lschwoob@yahoo.com](mailto:lschwoob@yahoo.com)



## STEP INTO SPRING with the WALKING GROUP

The first walking group will set off at **9:30 on Monday, May 10** on a two-hour walk, the first of the monthly group walks from May until December, weather permitting. In winter, we may switch to snowshoes. It's called a "walking" not a "hiking" group, since we don't plan to do anything that involves crossing mountain passes. Lug boots aren't required but masks are.

Please email **Dianne Lange** ([diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com)) if you want to join us on this walk and/or future ones.

Soon we will poll those who are interested in joining the group about the best day and time for the monthly walks.



## CALENDAR

### MAY

- 10: Walking Group
- 13: Leadership and General Meetings
- 14: Gourmet & Friday Niters
- 18: Great Decisions
- 25: Book Group



## HAPPY 90<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY, VERA!

I would like to thank Barbara Roberts for being my "partner in crime" in creating Vera's birthday celebration. So many of you sent cards and gifts as well! We opened them together and Vera read them in detail. Smiling and loving it all. She says you're all in her heart and she never forgets her Tahoe community.

Thank you, thank you, thank you for making it such a special day for Vera!

Esther Sonnenberg

