



June 2021



**CO-PRESIDENTS MESSAGE**

I was incredibly surprised and honored to receive the AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree this year. **Thank you** to all of our members who believe in the mission of AAUW and devote their time, talents, and dollars to support our mission for the benefit of girls and young women in North Lake Tahoe!

Twelve members of our branch enjoyed a delightful afternoon at Burnt Cedar Beach in Incline Village on May 14th as a combined gathering of the Gourmet and Friday Nitters Interest Groups. We brought our brown-bag lunches and basked in the sun or shade, depending upon individual preference, and reveled in conversations in-person for the first time in over a year. We hope this trend can continue as more people are vaccinated and the infection rate declines.

Our Book Group has decided to hold its **June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting outside**, during which brown-bag lunches will be consumed and members will discuss the recommended books for our next reading year before voting on-line for our 2021-2022 selections after the meeting.

A number of members have volunteered to help out with our California Virtual Tech Trek Camps this summer. Thank you!

We should feel very proud that we kept our branch humming along during this pandemic by

utilizing virtual meeting technology to keep us connected and engaged! Please watch your mailbox for your **AAUW North Tahoe Membership Renewal Forms**. We hope that you will return it in early June and continue to support and participate in this amazing group of sincere, caring, and dedicated women.

Your 2021-2022 Leadership Team will be holding a planning retreat on Wednesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have some ideas and suggestions that you would like the Team to consider, please contact any of your Officers and let them know. Enjoy the glorious summer months at Tahoe!

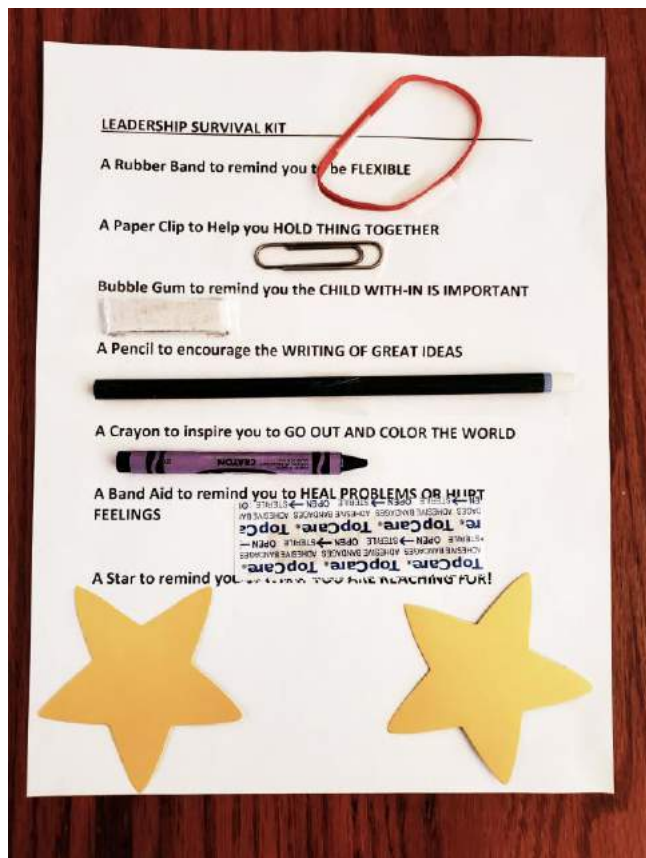
- Jo Ann S. Cobb* - [jscobb@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jscobb@sbcglobal.net)
- Johnnie Lee Don* - [johnnieledon1@gmail.com](mailto:johnnieledon1@gmail.com)
- Kym Pipkin* - [kmpipkin@icloud.com](mailto:kmpipkin@icloud.com)

**LEADERSHIP PLANNING RETREAT**

**September 1:** 10 am – 3 pm

## GENERAL MEETING

At the member meeting on May 13<sup>th</sup>, the elected and appointed officers on the 2021-22 Leadership slate approved by members were installed by **Johnnie Lee Don**. In line with her creative genius talent, Johnnie Lee gifted each officer a Leadership Survival Kit. Thank you, Johnnie Lee!



## Year in Review

It has been a weird upsetting year but AAUW NT has proudly proven (once again) that it is up to carrying on as well as being innovative. Our Elected officers “zoomed” in to address various local, state and national issues. Our Appointed Officers worked behind the scenes to further all our missions very successfully and our Interest Group Chairs inspired us each month with activities. Please remember to thank them as you see them or better still, send them an email.

As I wrap up as VP of Programs, I want to say **Thank You** to so many of our members (you know who you are!) who contacted me over time to recommend some fabulous and informative speakers.

As **Priscilla Mills** graciously takes over, please extend to her the same help and encouragement. It is a small community here at the Lake and speakers, although generously giving of their time and talents, are not all that easy for one person to find. So, Thank You again for all the help you gave me and contact Priscilla with your ideas: [pmills7624@yahoo.com](mailto:pmills7624@yahoo.com)

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



## AAUW FUND

At the member meeting, Rachael Swift, chair of AAUW Fund, presented the two awards given by our branch each year, the **AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree** and the **Branch Service Award**. Her announcements are on pages 7-8.

The **Named Gift Honoree** is the highest honor that we can bestow on a member for outstanding service in promoting the programs and goals of our branch and the national AAUW organization. Our branch can nominate a Gift Honoree for every \$750 that our members contribute to the AAUW Fund.

The 2021 Named Gift Honoree is **Jo Ann Cobb**.

The **Branch Service Award** was created in 2014 to complement the Named Gift Honoree.

Whereas the Named Gift Honoree is a national award, the Branch Service Award is managed within the North Tahoe branch and recognizes a member for significant contributions of time, mentoring, leadership and recruiting.

**Dana Loury** is the recipient of this year’s Branch Service Award.

**Congratulations to Jo Ann and Dana!!**



## COMMUNICATIONS CORNER

Email Communications - The communications team welcomes **Nancy Cline** who has graciously offered to help with email communications in 2021-2022. Thank you, Nancy!

### Newsletter - Dana Loury

It is a great honor for me to receive the Branch Service Award and to be in the company of such accomplished past recipients. I want to thank all members for your friendship, support and commitment to our branch as we work together to advance the mission programs of AAUW in our North Tahoe community. Your dedication is a constant source of inspiration for me. **Thank You!**

On February 24, 2021, the AAUW-CA Leadership Team mentioned our **Lake Views newsletter** in the webinar *“She who Thrives, Survives”* as an example of a small branch “that does wonders with its newsletter. It reflects consistent and thoughtful work”. The recognition letter from AAUW-CA President, Dianne Owens, is posted on page 9.

*Lake Views* is the product of perfect teamwork from our entire leadership committee. It is gratifying for me to help promote our branch activities and accomplishments and to keep our members informed, and I am grateful to receive the recognition from AAUW-CA.

### Website – Dianne Lange

The AAUW North Tahoe website has been updated! Check it out at <https://northtahoe-ca.aauw.net/>

Along with photos and a calendar on the landing page, each Interest Group's and Sponsored Activities' pages, such as Tech Trek, have been refreshed. The website will continue to include event announcements and other branch news,

so visit it often and whenever you need to know a meeting or event date.

You can help keep the website lively and timely by sending photos of events and Interest Group gatherings, upcoming event announcements, news and suggestions to [diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com) or to [northtahoeaauw@gmail.com](mailto:northtahoeaauw@gmail.com) with “Website” in the subject line. Enjoy!



Our candidate, Denali Cooke, has been fully registered. Her application was completed and the \$50 fee was submitted to CA Girls State by Joanne Shope, South Lake Tahoe ALA. Denali will attend the virtual program the week of June 28 through July 2.

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

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



In May, two training sessions were offered online for Social Coaches volunteering for **Virtual Tech Trek**. In the “gallery” photos, I saw **Patricia Watters** from our branch, and from South Lake branch, Jan Lynds, plus our UC Davis coordinator Martha Rees from Grass Valley. The level of training and thought going into VTT continues to amaze me, as well as the level of commitment from AAUW women!

AAUW National recently launched STEMEd for Girls, a new program designed for high school girls, with a particular focus on girls of color, and for their parents/caregivers who support their dreams and aspirations.

- All 5 of our 2021 campers registered, and 4 of our 2020 Tech Trek campers also registered

for the VTT camp. One family registered 30 minutes before the close of registration! The number of emails and online forms demanded one's attention, but normally the paperwork is extensive too, and we have none of that this year.

- Soon, I will ask for the \$20 parent contribution, except from the one family requesting a fee waiver.
- The President-elect of the Alhambra-San Gabriel branch emailed me asking for information about our **STEM Trek Day** (STD) which he read on the AAUW-CA website. He is interested in finding ways to stay involved with their former Tech Trek girls before they leave high school. I sent him a link to [our newsletter photo journal of the 2019 STD](#) featuring Women Solving Medical Mysteries, and also information about Girls in Aviation Day.
- Thank you, Dianne and Dana, for updating the [Tech Trek](#) and [STEM Trek Day](#) information on our website. New content, new photos and most importantly, up to date!
- On our website under [STD](#), we now highlight the [Aviation for Girls App](#), created by Women in Aviation International, [www.wai.org/giad](http://www.wai.org/giad), and sponsored in part by the US Air Force. The App is free and was created last year due to COVID to replace the cancelled Girls in Aviation Day events nationwide. The App offers many interesting and fun activities for different age groups of girls. Promoting this App is a way of [thanking Truckee Tahoe Airport for a grant to STD from their community sponsorship program](#).

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



## MEMBERSHIP

**Keep an eye on your snail mailbox!** We mailed [membership renewal packets](#) to all members on Monday, [May 24<sup>th</sup>](#).

Your personalized packet includes a renewal form complete with your personal information, a cover letter describing how your donation checks are spent, and a media release form.

Please review the packet and instructions promptly and return your **completed renewal form, checks, and signed media release form** as soon as possible. We need your information and checks **no later than June 30<sup>th</sup>** so that we can update our database and verify our data with the national AAUW database. Thanks for your cooperation!

A quick bit of trivia about our membership. We are small but mighty --- **58 members** living in different areas around Lake Tahoe in California and Nevada:

- 13 members from Carnelian Bay/Tahoe Vista
- 10 from Tahoe City
- 7 from Kings Beach
- 6 from Truckee
- 7 from California outside the Tahoe Area
- 7 from Incline Village
- 8 from Reno. A strong representative collection of folks in this area.

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

**Johnnie Lee Don** – [johnnieleedon1@gmail.com](mailto:johnnieleedon1@gmail.com)

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

Contact **Dianne Lange** ([diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com)) or 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 recently:

- To Marc Lamb at Truckee Tahoe Airport for their donation to STEM Trek Day.
- To Toomas Rebane for the loss of his wife Anga.



*Very best wishes to our  
Summer Birthdays!*

### June

- 5 – Sue DeVoe
- 12- Sharon Ekin
- 18- Diane Buckman
- 19- Christine Madden

### July

- 7 – Dana Loury
- 13- Carol Eyre
- 16- Donna Benner
- 21-Pat Castellucci
- 23- Cheryl Allen

### August

- 1 – Johnnie Lee Don
- 12- Rose Orenstein
- 25- Terry Yagura

## INTEREST GROUPS



### BOOK GROUP

Because most of us are fully vaccinated and ready to meet in person, our Book Group decided to meet outdoors for our last meeting of the AAUW year. Please bring a brown-bag lunch to the yet-to-be determined location on **June 29th**. We are looking for a quiet, shaded location with tables. If there is not enough seating, you may be asked to bring your own chairs.

At this meeting, we will hear a short summary of the recommended books for our 2021-2022 year (starting next September). Following the meeting, you will receive a voting email asking you to choose 8 or 9 books.

An email will follow soon listing our current book recommendations as well as further details about the location and time of our meeting. Please send in any additional recommendations ASAP if you haven't already done so.

We can't wait to see you in person on the 29th!

**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



### GOURMET & FRIDAY NITERS

Gourmet and Friday Niters hosted a WONDERFUL in person picnic at Burnt Cedar Beach in Incline Village on Friday May 14<sup>th</sup>. Twelve ladies participated, including **Lily** (Janet) **McNeil**, a new member, and Ginger Coltrin, a prospective member, both from Incline Village.

The weather was perfect, the view was perfect and gathering in person was beyond perfect (if

that's possible). It's been more than one year since many of us have seen each other in person. So, this was indeed a lovely event. Summer is the perfect time to meet outside and we are in the process of scheduling more fun events in the future.

**Linda Larish-** [llarish@sbcglobal.net](mailto:llarish@sbcglobal.net) – 775.720.3384

**Johnnie Lee Don-** [johnnieleedon1@gmail.com](mailto:johnnieleedon1@gmail.com) – 775.336.7639



Picnic at Burnt Cedar Beach, Incline Village



## GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions will meet on **June 15<sup>th</sup>** from 10am to 12pm. The subject will be “*Global Supply Chains and National Security*”. Our moderator will be **Jan Potter**, our Zoom coordinator is Jo Ann Cobb.

We will begin our meeting with a 20-minute video on the subject from the Foreign Policy Association. Our discussion on global supply chains will ask if China is an economic partner – or a strategic economic threat.

We meet on the third Tuesday for 8 months of the year. This is the last meeting before summer, after which we will resume in September, hopefully in person, outside, weather permitting. Does anyone have a large deck?

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



## WALKING GROUP

The walking group will meet on the last Monday of the month. The next hike will be on **June 28<sup>th</sup>**. I will send a reminder the week before. Please email **Dianne Lange** ([diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com)) if you want to join us on this walk and/or future ones.



## CALENDAR

### JUNE

- 15: Great Decisions
- 28: Walking Group
- 29: Book Group

## 2021 AAUW Fund Named Gift Honoree and Branch Service Awards

The **Named Gift Honoree** is the highest honor that we can bestow on a member for outstanding service in promoting the programs and goals of our branch and the national AAUW organization. For every \$750 that our branch contributes to the AAUW Fund, we can nominate one Named Gift Honoree. This year our branch donated \$877 to the Fund.

In the past few years, recipients have been – *Patricia Watters* and *Tahoe League for Charity*, *Jan Potter*, *Ruth Arizaga-Whisler*, *Meri McEneny* and *Nancy Cline*.

I am very pleased to announce that this year's Named Gift Honoree is:

### **Jo Ann Cobb**

As a relatively new member, Jo Ann has stepped right in and up into our President-elect position this past year. She has done a superb job and has done whatever it takes to keep our branch moving forward. After the pandemic hit and our branch transitioned to virtual meetings, Jo Ann took the responsibility of keeping us together by hosting our Zoom meetings. They have been well attended and have helped us to connect with each other when we could not meet in person.

She has also taken on other roles in our club. She has been our Parliamentarian, social media coordinator, and book group co-leader.

She has shown outstanding leadership, energy, and flexibility in promoting the goals of our branch and the national AAUW organization.

*Congratulations Jo Ann!!!!*

The **Branch Service Award** was created in 2014 to complement the Named Gift Honoree, especially when there is more than one outstanding candidate. Whereas the Named Gift Honoree is a national award, the Branch Service Award is managed within the North Tahoe branch. To qualify for the Branch Service Award, a candidate must have:

- been a member for at least 5 years
- made significant contributions of time, mentoring, leadership, and recruiting
- held at least one elected or appointed position
- performed as chairperson of an interest group

Past recipients have been – *Meri McEneny*, *Johnnie Lee Don*, *Carol Eyre*, *Nancy Cline*, and *Patricia Watters*.

I am pleased to announce that this year's Branch Service Award goes to:

### **Dana Loury**

Dana has served as our newsletter editor for the past 4 years. She has done nothing short of revolutionizing our entire communications processes and dragged our club kicking and screaming into the 21<sup>st</sup> century. She does an outstanding job of assembling all of our disparate messages into a beautiful newsletter to keep us informed of the good that the North Tahoe branch does in our community. She publishes new, beautiful scenes of Lake Tahoe in every issue and she has improved the readability of the newsletter by highlighting important dates, events, and people with underscores and bold font.

Dana has simultaneously kept our website up to date, sent out our club communications, and served as our photographer at meetings. She is thoughtful, articulate, creative, and always cheerful when met with challenges.

Thanks to Dana, our North Tahoe newsletter recently received recognition from AAUW-CA as a top small branch example of excellence. It is a shining example of good content and attractive and well-organized format. And this has most definitely raised interest in our club.

It has been a pleasure to also have Dana's participation in Great Decisions and Friday Nighters.

*Congratulations to Dana Loury,  
We so appreciate all that you do.*



**BOARD OF  
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**Dawn Johnson**  
Parliamentarian/  
Governance

**Julika Barrett**  
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**March 17, 2021**

**Dear Dana Loury,**

The AAUW California Leadership Team mentioned the North Tahoe branch newsletter, *Lake Views*, on February 24, 2021, in the webinar, *She Who Thrives, Survives*. The newsletter reflects consistent and thoughtful work. It is a pleasure, whenever we can, to highlight the work that branches do for their members.

The *Lake Views* newsletter caught our attention, worthy of mention in the webinar, as an example of a small branch "that does wonders with its newsletter," has a "particularly exciting picture on its masthead," and features "really unique activities." Thank you for producing a newsletter that we as well as your branch members enjoy reading.

Please note, for anyone who missed it, that the webinar, *She Who Thrives, Survives*, can be viewed on the AAUW-CA.org website under 2020-2021 Webinars.

**Sincerely,**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "E. Dianne Owens".

**Dianne Owens, President  
AAUW California**