



October 2021



### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last month, I asked all of you to brainstorm ideas for some new activities or events for our branch. Some of us would like to start a **Speech Trek Program** for our local high school students. Last year's AAUW California Speech Trek finalists were very inspiring, and we want to encourage more young people to explore public speaking and advocating a position on a substantive issue.

Go to the [AAUW California website Speech Trek page](#) to watch and listen to contestants from the past few years. If you would like to join our [AAUW North Tahoe Speech Trek Committee](#), please email me now, and I will send you a link to a Zoom chat that the Committee is having on Monday, **October 4th @ 9:00 AM** to plan our path forward.

The 2021-2022 topic for students to write and speak about is:

*Has the United States lived up to its pledge of "liberty and justice for all"? Would requiring the study of diversity, equity and inclusion in a high school setting help ensure liberty and justice for all?*

Another amazing event that we can participate in is [Lunafest](#), an annual traveling film festival by and about women that the Luna Bar company started in 2001. Over the past 20 years, the festival has celebrated and shared the work of

170 women filmmakers and raised over \$6 million for local women's causes.

Before the pandemic, the festival traveled to cities across the United States for live screening events that were also fundraisers for the sponsoring local nonprofit. Last year, the festival screenings were all virtual, and I attended the AAUW Tahoe Nevada's screening and fundraiser of Lunafest 2020. It was fabulous and fun to watch the work of inspiring and thought-provoking women filmmakers and their subjects.

**Lunafest 2021** has 7 short films and a total run time of 86 minutes. Our sister branch **AAUW Tahoe Nevada** is once again holding a virtual screening of Lunafest as a fundraiser for its Scholarship Fund. Here is how it works...you sign up and pay for Tahoe Nevada's screening of the festival (\$30), and the 86 minutes of films are available for you to watch via streaming to your home over a 48-hour-time period starting on Friday night, November 5th at 4:30 PM until Sunday, November 7th at 4:30 PM. After you sign up, you will receive instructions on how to access and watch the films.

It would be great if some of us could create a virtual watch party for this year's Lunafest 2021, after which we can hold our own [AAUW North Tahoe discussion of the films](#) the following week on a date and time TBD. We can also consider whether we would like to hold a AAUW North Tahoe screening in 2022 as our own fundraiser.

Please email me if you are interested in attending Lunafest 2021, and we will figure out the particulars together.

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

## GENERAL MEETING

**Oct. 14 @ 3:30 pm:** Please join us to meet our 2020 & 2021 Tech Trekkers. See the Tech Trek report below for more details.

The meeting will be held outdoors at a location TBD. An update on location will be sent to members on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

## LEADERSHIP MEETING

**October 14:** 10:00 am (Zoom)



Thank you, **Tahoe League for Charity (TLC)**, for the delightful, outdoor, luncheon on Sept. 13, at President Margaret Lewicki’s house in Truckee. What a beautiful setting!

Lunch was provided by their member Marlies Pendarvis, caterer extraordinaire, with a special group of generous women and 5 deserving non-profits. TLC continued their support of Tech Trek with a grant of **\$850**. **Thank you, TLC!**



Meri, representing AAUW Tech Trek, among 5 grant recipients from TLC.

Below is the Thank You note to Meri and AAUW from TLC.

Sept. 20, 2021

Dear Meri,

Thanks so much for coming and speaking to the ladies of the Tahoe League for Charity last week. Your talk was educational and fun to listen to. TLC very much appreciates the great work that AAUW does for girls in the Tahoe Truckee community through the Tech Trek program.

Sincerely,

Margaret Lewicki, President

+

Rachael Swift, Grants Chair

Please plan on joining our **Oct 14 general meeting** to hear our 2020 & 2021 Tech Trek campers talk about the Virtual Tech Trek camp this summer and describe their Wearable Tech invention.

We meet after school, starting at 3:30 pm, outdoors at a location TBD (new Tahoe City Community Center or Fairway CC). We will **Not** be hosting an ice cream social that day, but rather focus on the Wearable Tech created by our campers.

I sent our North Tahoe School 7th grade STEM teachers and Principal Lindeen, a link to the Flipgrid videos created by our Virtual campers which explain their Tech creations. These 4 school staff were invited to our Oct 14 meeting to see our campers present their Wearable Tech. Two teachers attended our TT showcase in October 2019.

The future of Tech Trek residential camps is uncertain due to persistence of Covid. AAUW-CA president Dianne Owens recently emailed Camp

Directors and branch coordinators that the Tech Trek board will review data from all the campus contacts for residential camps at their annual meeting on October 10. She is asking us to be flexible in our planning process. Updated information will follow the meeting, so branches are prepared to notify their members, schools, and supporters.

Dr. Mary Isaac (La Mesa/El Cajon branch), Director of the Virtual camp, surveyed branch coordinators regarding the online camp and also asks everyone to remain flexible. She believes residential camp costs will increase next year, and that volunteers and teachers may have Covid concerns about residential camps.

Dr. Mimi wonders how many girls could attend in person camps relative to co-mingling rules. She is confident we have a good back up plan. More to follow.

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



## AAUW FUND

### There is always Time to be Inspired...

Brew your favorite cup of coffee or tea and in the comfort of your own home, sit back and just listen. Over the course of three Saturdays, **October 23<sup>rd</sup>**, **October 30<sup>th</sup>** and **November 7<sup>th</sup>** from 10 am to 12 noon via Zoom, you will hear the personal stories and fascinating studies (think black holes, rural women's health, social classifications) of 37 Fellow/Grant Recipients studying in California this year.

These webinar events are taking the place of the AAUW Fund Luncheon Events. There is no fee, but a tax-deductible contribution to the AAUW Fund would be greatly appreciated and would help our branch to reach the **\$750** in contributions necessary to have a branch gift honoree.

An added benefit to tuning in to these events is being able to ask one of the Fellow/Grant Recipients to speak at one of our programs.

Please go to [AAUW 2021 Fund Events](#) to register.

**Barbara Ramsey** - AAUW Fund Chair  
[bj3ramsey@gmail.com](mailto:bj3ramsey@gmail.com)



## SCHOLARSHIP

Our 2021 AAUW North Tahoe Scholarship recipient is Ms. **Mariana Bravo Corona**, a graduating senior at North Tahoe High School. She is an accomplished young woman who has excelled in STEM subjects with a 4.2 GPA while taking AP courses in calculus, chemistry, and biology.

Mariana has a keen interest in engineering and has been accepted to San Diego State University's program in civil engineering. Our recipient comes from a modest background and demonstrates strong financial need. Mariana will be a 1<sup>st</sup> generation college attendee.

**Ellen Magnani** - [gilmagnani@aol.com](mailto:gilmagnani@aol.com)

**Kathie Julian** - [kathiejulian@gmail.com](mailto:kathiejulian@gmail.com)



## MEMBERSHIP

We have **52 members** who have renewed for the 2021 - 2022 year. We are updating our membership database to include all the latest contact information and will create a new 2021-2022 Membership Directory and contact lists for the interest groups.

A printed copy of the new directory will be available for purchase (\$10) in time for our November meeting. In the meantime, if you have signed up for an interest group and have not heard from your group leader, please contact her.

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

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



To get a **membership application form**, download it from our [website](#) (*JOIN NOW* on upper right of home page) or click here: [Member Application Form](#)



## MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

### Check Out Our NEW Website!

The AAUW North Tahoe (CA) Branch website had a spring makeover, and if you haven't already visited the site, now is the time to take a tour.

Click on [northtahoe-ca.aauw.net](http://northtahoe-ca.aauw.net) and take five minutes to check out the **new landing page** and all the information now available to you on the various menu tabs across the top.

Under **Interest Groups**, you'll find [Great Decisions](#), for instance, with a calendar of upcoming topics. On the [Book Group](#) page, you'll find links to book lists and dates, past and present.

Scroll down the landing page and you will also find a **monthly calendar** on the side bar. Click on the day of any event, and you may get more details like time and place.

A password is Not needed for anything on the website except the list of members under the **Members** tab. If you don't know the password, email me: [diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com)

All suggestions for further improvement are welcome. We'd love to see the website become a useful communications tool for all members.

**Dianne Lange** - Webmistress  
[diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com)

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 card was sent in the past month to: *Linda Schwoob* – Get well card

### Update from Carol Eyre:

*Since September 20<sup>th</sup>, Laurie and I have moved to a rented house at [565 Urban St in Reno](#). Laurie will have a better quality of life there than at the assisted living place.*

*My mailing address remains the same:  
PO Box 1294, Genoa, NV 89411.*



*Very best wishes to our October Birthdays!*

**02 – Dianne Lange**

**12 – Shirley Cabo**

## INTEREST GROUPS



### BOOK GROUP

Book Group will meet on Tuesday, **October 26th**, at **12:30PM**, via Zoom, to review "[The Moment of Lift](#)" by Melinda Gates. Our reviewer will be **Jo Ann Cobb**.

A Zoom invitation will be sent prior to the meeting, so please register in advance of the meeting.

**Esther Sonnenberg** – Book group coordinator  
[esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com](mailto:esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com)  
530.412.3045 (cell)



## GREAT DECISIONS

On Tuesday, **October 19<sup>th</sup>**, Great Decisions will discuss the chapter on “The World Health Organization’s response to Covid – 19.” Our moderator will be **Kathie Julian**. Our Zoom meeting from **10am until noon** will be coordinated by Jo Ann Cobb.

In this discussion, we will study the WHO’s coordinating role in global health as well as the direction and authority of international health organizations. We meet each month on the third Tuesday for 8 months of the year. This is a lively group of very knowledgeable women!

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



## WALKING GROUP

Clear skies at last! The walking group was again out on the trail in September.

July and August walks were canceled because of smoke, but this walk in **Martis Valley** was glorious. We had a bit of surprise-bushwacking at the end of the Martis Creek loop, but we did it with good humor and a sense of adventure.

Walks are on the last Monday of the month. Guests and well-behaved dogs are welcome.

If you’re interested and not already in the Walking Group, email [diannelange@me.com](mailto:diannelange@me.com) to join and receive notifications.

**Dianne Lange**



Jo Ann, Esther, and a guest on the trail in Martis Valley.



Dianne and Esther



## CALENDAR

### OCTOBER

- 14: General and Leadership Meetings
- 19: Great Decisions
- 26: Book Group