



November 2021



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What does ADVOCACY mean for our AAUW organization? It means that we work on local, state, and federal levels to support laws and policies that enable women's success.

Our North Tahoe Branch programs that enable local girls and young women to develop and grow as individuals and citizens are terrific, but to have a broader, bigger, and sustainable impact beyond our immediate community, we have to pay attention to and champion changes through our laws and public policy initiatives.

One AAUW focus is on fair pay and economic opportunity – remember, women get just 83 cents for every dollar paid to a man, and it is even less for women of color. Unequal wages stand in the way of a woman's ability to pay off student debt, build wealth, and save for a secure retirement. Men continue to dominate the top roles and highest-paying professions. As AAUW members, we fight to remove the barriers and biases that stand in the way of gender equity.

What can you do?

Visit the [AAUW of California public policy website](#) and read about our state priorities and why these are our priorities. Delve into the details on the [AAUW CA Bill Tracking Report as of October 2021](#), then talk to friends and neighbors about these bills and call your

representative to express your support. On March 24, 2021, AAUW California held a successful ["virtual" Lobby Day](#) with California legislators. Another Lobby Day is planned for March 2022 and when the actual date is announced, I will ask you all to consider attending and speaking up for our values and initiatives.

Here is a sample of bills that AAUW California supported, and what happened to them once they reached the Governor's desk towards the end of this year's legislative session:

SB 62 (requires fair pay, instead of "by the piece" payment, for garment workers): **SIGNED**

AB 367 (free menstrual products must be provided in girls/women's bathrooms in schools): **SIGNED**

AB 887 (allows domestic violence restraining orders to be filed electronically): **SIGNED**

AB 123 (increases paid family leave benefits to 65 – 75% of regular pay): **VETOED**

AB 1074 (requires hotel and janitorial workers who have lost their jobs due the pandemic to be prioritized for hiring as businesses reopen): **VETOED**

Next year, be in the know about proposed laws that AAUW California prioritizes and speak up and act to champion them!

JoAnn S. Cobb – jscobb@sbcglobal.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GENERAL MEETINGS

November 11 @ 10:00 am -Zoom:
Presentation by Foriver, Truckee River Watershed Council, followed by business meeting.

January 13 @1:00 pm -Tahoe City Community Center: Learn all about how the Boys and Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe contributes to our community.

February 10 @1:00 pm -Tahoe City Community Center: Member Appreciation.

Note: Any or all of these meetings may need to be changed to Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions.



Their largest annual volunteer outing, the 26th Annual [Truckee River Day & Fair](#) on October 17, 2021 included nearly 400 volunteers who pitched in across eight project sites.



Working in teams throughout the watershed, volunteers repaired the impacts from historical logging, grazing, rail and road building. The hands-on work called for volunteers to build

willow fascines and check dams, plant wetland sedges, sod plugs and native pine trees, and spread seed and mulch.

LEADERSHIP MEETING

November 11: 1:00 pm (Zoom)



AAUW FUND

One more Opportunity...

Listening to the two hours plus October 23rd [AAUW Fund Event webinar](#) nearly made my mind explode! All the presenters were so passionate about what they were doing, and they are doing amazing things. Surely, this diverse group of Fellows are going to make their mark on the world, be it mouse lemurs, black holes, college admission standards, etc. To say it was inspiring does not say enough about the breadth and depth of these webinars.



Holiday Party

We're tentatively planning to have a Holiday party on **Thursday, Dec. 16** from **11:30 am to 1:30 pm** at

Priscilla's house in Kings Beach.

We'll be watching the COVID statistics and decide at the November's general meeting if we feel safe going ahead with these plans. Stay tuned!

NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING

Please note the time change to morning

Join us on ZOOM, **November 11th at 10 am**, for a River Talk to discover how the [Truckee River Watershed Council](#) accomplishes watershed restoration and what YOU can do to help.

Some of their restoration projects include Coldstream Canyon, Dry Creek Meadow and Martis Valley. All these have felt the effects of past practices.

The **November 7th 1:00pm** webinar gives you one last opportunity to hear from the 2021 Fellows/Grant Recipients. These webinars are FREE, but you will need to REGISTER at <https://www.aauw-ca.org/aauw-2021-fund-events>. By opening this link, you will find photos of each speaker along with a description of their presentation.

Also, if you would like to do some catchup, you can use that link to view the October 23rd and October 30th webinars. This method enables you to watch as your schedule permits and in segments by clicking the YouTube pause and go button.

These three webinars take the place of the traditional AAUW Fund Luncheons. The hope is that you will make a donation to the AAUW Fund. I sincerely hope you will consider doing so. Your contribution goes toward our \$750 gift honoree goal and it very well might be the one that gets us to the finish line. Note, also, that **AAUW** is celebrating its **140th year** and with that in mind, putting \$140 into the birthday hat would be super cool.

How to make a donation:

1. On the same link as above, you will find a DONATE button to click on. If you choose that option, make certain our North Tahoe branch gets "credit" for the donation. (*"Credit" to show up for the AAUW North Tahoe branch is dependent on your member ID. Member IDs can be found in the [Member Services Database](#) on the Branch Member Roster on the AAUW National website*)

OR

2. You can send checks to **Patricia Watters** at 1788 Orlen Lane, Templeton, CA 93465.

Patricia will go to the AAUW National website to complete the "paperwork" and then send the checks to AAUW National to process.

3. In both cases, the donor can designate a specific "sub fund" of AAUW Fund. For example, Greatest Needs. For more information regarding

sub funds go to <https://www.aauw-ca.org/category/aauw-fund-internal/>

Thank you so very much!

Barbara Ramsey - AAUW Fund Chair
bj3ramsey@gmail.com



We were very fortunate to be able to meet in person for our general meeting this month!

This allowed us the pleasure of meeting our outstanding Girls State candidate, **Denali C.**, in person for the first time. Denali is delightful and delivered a very engaging and articulate speech about her experience at the virtual Girls State program this past June. She is poised, very accomplished and a lovely breath of fresh air after virtually no contact with young people for such a long time. She is definitely a model to look up to for the younger Tech Trekkers. We couldn't have chosen a better candidate.



We are in the process of having reservations made for our branch for next year through the American Legion Auxiliary in South Lake Tahoe. It's a vital program for a senior interested in our government and leadership.

Linda Larish and Christine Madden –



A big thanks to our 20 or so members who bundled up for the beautiful but cool October 14 general meeting at the Tahoe City Community Center, next to the Tahoe Tree nursery.

The outdoor venue was a perfect setting to listen to the fun and uplifting presentations by our **2020 & 2021 Tech Trek campers** who told us about the Virtual camp this summer and described their Wearable Tech invention. (photos on pages 8-9)



Priscila and Vallerie

The 5 girls, **Priscila** and **Vallerie** from 2020, **Riley**, **Serene** and **Maria** from 2021, 4 parents, and 7th grade Science teacher Julia Anderson all came wearing their masks and looked more comfortable in them than we did!

Although we did not host an ice cream social, Johnnie Lee delighted the girls with gift bags, and sent girls home with bags for their cohorts who could not attend due to a sports commitment.

Thank you, **Johnnie Lee** for these and the great photos! Thank you, Tech Trek girls and parents, and Mrs. Anderson!

Please click [here](#) to view the video of their 5, short presentations, which began with a brief presentation from our 2021 Girls State representative, Denali.

The persistence of these girls was notable, for they stuck with a weeklong online camp, inside, on a computer during summer vacation. Their Wearable Tech creations withstood some assaults since the camps this summer, and one went to a cousin in L.A., but each girl recalled the themes of their online groups, meeting new girls, challenges to the coding and circuitry process, and their Strengths, Values and Interests, identified during the creative process.

Whether Tech Trek can be held in-person on campus next year or not, there is an alternative that is interesting, educational and fun.

The future of Tech Trek residential camps is uncertain due to persistence of COVID. AAUW-CA Tech Trek board is reviewing data from all the campus contacts for residential camps but no determination has been reached. Stay tuned!

Meri McEneny- Tech Trek Coordinator
mmceneny@gmail.com



SCHOLARSHIP

We received the lovely Thank You letter below from **Brianna Kissmann**, a senior at UC Santa Barbara.

In 2018, Brianna became the first recipient of our branch 4-year scholarship pledge which awards \$2,000 for the first year, and \$1,000 for each of 3 consecutive years if the awardee maintains a 3.0 or better GPA in her full-time college studies in STEM.

Dear North Tahoe American Association of University Women,

Thank you so much for allowing me to renew your generous scholarship for a fourth year. I feel very fortunate to have your continued confidence and support as I am continuing to take this next step into my future.

After over a year of online classes, it is exciting to finally be back on my beautiful campus and to have the opportunity to once again have classes in person for my final year here. I was also able to finish my third year with a 3.56 GPA.

I am attending University of California Santa Barbara as a fourth-year student, and I am majoring in Psychological and Brain Sciences, B.S.

I will be using this scholarship, money that I earn working my part-time job, and some additional financial aid through my university to help pay for my tuition and housing expenses. I'm looking forward to enjoying my last year at UCSB and graduating in the spring.

With Gratitude,
Brianna Kissmann

AAUW North Tahoe 4-yr Scholarship Recipients:

2018: Brianna Kissmann

2019: Jillian Ferre

2020: Jaquelyne Velasquez-Gutierrez

2021: Mariana Bravo Corona

Thank you, members, for supporting our scholarship program!

Ellen Magnani - gilmagnani@aol.com

Kathie Julian - kathiejulian@gmail.com



MEMBERSHIP

Cheryl Allen has been patiently getting me (Johnnie Lee Don) up to speed on our membership renewal Excel spreadsheet.

Wheew!!! For folks who have not yet renewed, it is time to get your info and checks to Patricia Watters.

Thank you to all those members who have helped make our job easier, particularly **Patricia**. We currently have **52** members.

All the Interest Groups now have the names of folks who checked their interest for the coming year.

We will be compiling a list of folks who expressed an interest in helping in other areas i.e, Summer party/Winter party/General meetings and will make them available per requests of Chairs of those events.

We are working on the 2021-22 Membership Directory which will be finalized by the end of the year. A printed copy will be ready for distribution at our first in-person meeting in January. A current directory will be available online on our website.

Johnnie Lee Don – johnnieledon1@gmail.com

Cheryl Allen – cherylkallen@cs.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

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 card was sent to:

Nancy Zachariasen – Sorry for illness necessitating her resignation from AAUW (10/8/21)



Very best wishes to our November Birthdays!

07 – Martha Russell

09 – Nancy Cline

15 – Julie Elmen

16 – Jan Potter

18 – Meri McEneny

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

Book Group will meet on Tuesday, **November 30th**, at **12:30 PM** via Zoom, to review "Caste" by Isabel Wilkerson. Our discussion leader will be **Patricia Watters**.

A meeting invitation will be emailed to current Book Group members. However, if you wish to participate in this discussion but haven't formally joined the Group, please email or text Esther. We will continue to meet using Zoom until members feel safe to meet in person and we have a place to meet.

Esther Sonnenberg – 530.412.3045 (cell)
esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com



BRIDGE

The bridge group is stumbling along with occasional Trickster Games. However, with boosters now available, people are becoming more comfortable with the idea of in-person gatherings. I have been asked to collect vaccination information. I am planning to try for a mid-November gathering. I will probably ask for vaccinated people only.

Betsey Husted - betseyhusted18@gmail.com



GOURMET

On Thursday, **October 28**, nine lucky ladies from Gourmet and Friday-Niters will enjoy a ladies' day out in historic downtown Genoa, NV.

The highlight of the day will be lunch at the **historic Pink House** right in the center of town. The Pink House was built in 1855 and is one of the oldest surviving buildings in Nevada. It has borne witness to many significant events in Genoa's and Nevada's past.

The current owner's, Dan and Lois Wray, have worked with the Douglas County Historical Society and the State Historic Preservation Office to restore the building to its original Gothic Revival splendor. Where possible, the original wood was refurbished so that it could retain its stature as a National Registered Historic Site. Careful attention has been taken to maintain the integrity of the structure and the interior has been redone to match the style and décor of the late 19th century.

The Pink House has a tasty menu of soups, salads, sandwiches, quiche, and charcuterie. Seating is available both inside and outside on the wrap around porch.

There are also a number of cute shops nearby to browse in, and Mormon Station State Historic Park right across the street.

To read more about the Pink House and to view its tasty menu, click on this website.

<http://www.thepinkhousegenoa.com/>

Rachael Swift – racswift@gmail.com



GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions will hold the last meeting of the year on Tuesday, **November 16th**.

The subject to be covered is “End of Globalization” and **Cheryl Allen** will be our discussion moderator. The success of globalization has made a difference in the world and will offer interesting dialogue.

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 10am until noon.

Briefing books for 2022 have been ordered and 19 members are committed. We will meet by Zoom through the winter – hopefully we can meet in person in spring if the COVID situation is stabilized.

Linda Schwoob - lschwoob@yahoo.com



CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

- 11: General and Leadership Meetings
- 16: Great Decisions
- 30: Book Group

GENERAL MEETING OCTOBER 14, 2021

2021 Girls State Representative 2020 & 2021 Tech Trek Campers



Denali



Meri and Serene



Riley



Maria



Priscila & Vallerie



Priscila