



February 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our fledgling Cultural Activities Interest Group enjoyed a lovely afternoon at the *Bolshoi Ballet* via broadcast to the Century Summit Cinema in Reno on Sunday, January 23rd. Our group did shrink due to Omicron exposure or concerns, but four of us were able to attend and enjoy the beautiful dancing and musical scores. If you'd like to receive emails about future outings, please send me an email stating your interest.

I mentioned to some of you that I was going to attend a Stanford Continuing Studies webinar entitled "*Wintertime Mindset: Norwegian Strategies for Enjoying Winter*" by Health Psychologist Kari Liebowitz, Ph.D.

Dr. Liebowitz started by covering the idea of mindsets, which some of you may have read about in Carol Dweck's book "*Mindset: The New Psychology of Success*" and how it has been observed in students who flourish or fail. Dweck describes two basic mindsets: fixed and growth, and how people with a fixed mindset believe their abilities are fixed traits that can't be changed and give up if they don't get something easily, whereas **growth mindset** people keep trying and put in the time and effort to learn and grow.

Liebowitz used the idea of mindsets when studying how people approach the idea of seasons, and winter in particular, and how

mindsets play a powerful role in health and well-being. When you think of winter, are you filled with gloom and dread, or do you look forward to what you can do and see outside that is unique to the winter season?

People attended the webinar from all over the world, and I found it interesting how some attendees felt undone by rain in the winter – having just lived through our big December snowstorms, the idea of rain made me want to grab my umbrella and sing as I splashed through puddles!

In addition to focusing on the enjoyable things that you can do and see outside in winter, another positive approach is to make your home life cozy, warm, and comforting, from food and beverages to snuggly clothes and blankets and soothing hobbies. Think about how you can harness your mindset to enjoy the winter season!

And to bring this back to AAUW, *how can you use some of your cozy and contemplative winter hours inside to further our mission?*

Jo Ann S. Cobb – jscobb@sbcglobal.net

LEADERSHIP MEETING

March 10: 10:00 am (Zoom)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GENERAL MEETINGS (Thursdays)

February 10 @12 noon (Zoom) - Bring your own brown bag lunch. "Show the love" by wearing something **RED**.

March 10 @ 1 pm – Erin Holland, Public Information Officer, NT Fire Protection District

PROGRAMS

In lieu of the in-person Annual Members and Partners Soup Appreciation Luncheon, AAUW NT's general meeting on **Feb. 10th at noon** will feature each member BYOBBL (Bringing Your Own Brown Bag Lunch) to Zoom!

Wear something RED to remind us of the days when we hoped there would be enough hot soups, breads, and dessert to show Leadership's appreciation of the support you all give! (and there was always enough!)

On Zoom, we can visit (when not chewing) and participate in 8-10 Gift Card Drawings to show Leadership's current appreciation of your support during this *loooong* stay of the various Covids.

You will be represented in each AAUW NT category in which you participate, i.e. Book Group, Appointed Officer, In Stitches, etc. You must be present to win. Please plan on joining us for a fun time!

Our speaker for the March General Meeting will be Erin Holland from NT Fire Protection District, to update us on our ever-worrying forest fire situation. This meeting will be on **March 10 at 1:00 pm**, most likely on Zoom.

Priscilla Mills - pmills7624@yahoo.com

Johnnie Lee Don – johnnieledon1@gmail.com



Pat Castellucci won the prize for the most correct answers to Kym Pipkin's challenging holiday quiz at our Holiday party.

Congratulations Pat!



AAUW FUND

Thank you to everyone who made nominations for the AAUW Fund Gift Honoree and the

Branch Service Award. I received many excellent recommendations and truly wish we could honor them all.

In February, the named Gift Honoree is sent to National AAUW and all awardees will be presented at our June meeting.

Barbara Ramsey - AAUW Fund Chair
bj3ramsey@gmail.com



Packets were provided to Jeff Ream, counselor at North Tahoe High School, in December. He has been

contacted last week to see if there are any applicants. He hopes to follow-up on this matter soon.

Linda Larish – llarish@sbcglobal.net

Christine Madden – madden@garlic.com



SCHOLARSHIP

The process of selecting our 2022-23 Scholarship Recipient will begin in February. We hope to be able to announce the recipient by early June 2022.

Our 2021-22 recipient, Ms. Mariana Bravo-Corona is a student studying civil engineering at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Mariana will join us for a Zoom meeting sometime in the next few months as her schedule allows.

Ellen Magnani – gilmagnani@aol.com

Kathie Julian – kathiejulian@gmail.com



A Big Thank You to our returning interview team of **Cheryl Allen, Christine Madden** and **Priscilla Mills**, with **yours truly**.

AAUW-CA suggested that branches consider including former campers in the interview process, and we welcome **Marion Snideman** (daughter of our member Maria Snideman) who has agreed to join our Tech Trek interview team.

Marion attended UC Davis TT camp as a student from the Sierra Expeditionary Learning School in Truckee and is currently a sophomore at North Tahoe High School, enjoying STEM and other AP classes. Thank you, Marion!

Dianne Owens, President of AAUW-CA State Board of Directors, announced that “*After a great deal of thoughtful discussion, the board made the decision that our Tech Trek program will always include a state-wide virtual camp option with a standardized curriculum. In other words, the board endorsed having a single type of virtual camp instead of versions at each site.*

The advantages of a standardized virtual camp are consistency of the camp experience, more

efficient use of resources, more manageable volunteer requirements, a unified presence for donors, and avoiding unnecessary duplication of effort.

It is not the board’s intention that the virtual option will ever replace our beloved residential camps. But, for 2022, our traditional program will be dependent on campus availability and, of course, the state of the pandemic. We are certainly working hard to host residential camps but are grateful to have a virtual alternative with a volunteer to direct it.

The curriculum of the standardized virtual camp is still being developed and it is my hope that our Tech Trek stakeholders will contribute their talents to enhancing the experience we were able to offer in 2021.”

The UC Davis TT camp that our girls attend has been scheduled for **July 17-23, 2022**. We cannot rule out this could change due to the coronavirus pandemic. At this time, our UCD camp is one of only two camps scheduled in California, out of 10 residential college camps convened previously. Planning a standardized virtual camp will assure Tech Trek continues in 2022.

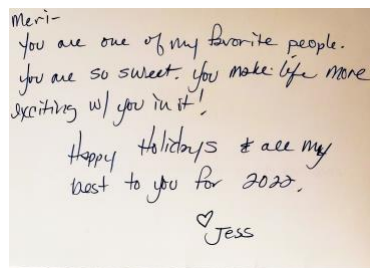
At my request, Martha Rees (UC Davis co-coordinator) sent me the information and procedures for starting a Tech Trek Alumnae Group, which some of our former campers have expressed interest in. The campers run the group with guidance and support from branch mentors.

Heather Segale, Outreach and Education Director for UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center (TERC) in Incline Village, would love to host a girls STEM Trek Day event with us once TERC reopens. They follow the same protocols as UC Davis, so if our TT camp moves forward, then a STEM Trek Day may also.

Meri McEneny- Tech Trek Coordinator
mmceneny@gmail.com

Meri McEneny received a lovely holiday Thank You card from **Tahoe City Public Utility District**.

We are grateful to have Meri as our ambassador who continually builds meaningful connections with the community. Thank you, Meri!!



Meri-
You are one of my favorite people.
You are so sweet. You make life more
exciting w/ you in it!
Happy holidays & see my
best to you for 2020.
♥ Jess



One of the real joys of the Holiday Season
is the opportunity to say Thank You
and to wish you the very best for the New Year



MEMBERSHIP

Please welcome our new member **Michele Finch**! She is interested in the Book Group, Gourmet Group, Great Decisions Group and Walking Group. Her email is mwfinch14@gmail.com



I grew up in Berkeley, CA. I went to UC Santa Cruz for a few years, then to Cabrillo Community College to get my RN degree. I worked as an RN for 36 years, retiring 6 years ago.

I learned to ski in my 30's and loved it!! Eventually I bought a house up in Talmont (Tahoe City) during the El Nino years in the 90's. That was a rude shock when winter came.

As a child, my family traveled to many places around the world: South America, Europe, Japan, often taking freighters to get from one country to the next.

I have continued the love of travel as an adult. The flexibility of my job allowed me to take 1 or 2 trips/year.

I have 2 sons who are married and have children. I love being a grandmother.

I love having the best of both worlds: the ocean and the mountains. I like to hike, swim, kayak, paddleboard. I had to give up skiing this year after knee surgery, but I still love to be in the snow.

I enjoy reading, mostly novels, I'm in a birding group in Santa Cruz.

I heard about AAUW from my friend **Nancy Cline**. Her enthusiasm and description of the different groups and the focus on community service intrigued me. I was a member of Omega Nu in Santa Cruz for many years, and I was a board member of the Lake Tahoe Historical Society here in Tahoe.

I look forward to joining your association.

The electronic 2021-22 membership directory in booklet format (PDF file) and instructions for printing at home have been emailed to all members. Click [here](#) to access the PDF file on the website.

We encourage you to print at home, but if you wish to order a printed booklet for \$10, kindly email Johnnie Lee at johnnieledon1@gmail.com by February 10th.

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.

Our branch received a beautiful Thank you card from the family of Diane Buckman.



*Very best wishes to our
February Birthdays!*

- 17 - Joyce Grunauer
- 18 - Ellen Magnani & Betsey Husted
- 19 - Rachael Swift
- 20 - Louetta Riley

Repairing our Riparian Habitat and Promoting AAUW North Tahoe

Many of us Zoomed our November meeting to observe the work done by the **Truckee River Watershed Council** (now called **Foriver**). Some of our members have participated in some of the TRWC's programs to improve water quality and habitat in our beautiful landscapes. Many of us have participated in [Truckee River Day](#), a one-day clean-up event held every October.

Now we find out that these efforts will fight climate change. (Click [here](#) or paste this link into your browser:

<https://www.truckeeriverwc.org/our-work/coldstream-canyon/> to read about the successful work done at Coldstream Canyon near Truckee.)



Just a few hours of your time over the course of a year will help reduce river and stream water temperatures by restoring riparian areas. You will enjoy some exercise and scenery as you learn more about the science of our environment. Plus, AAUW North Tahoe's volunteers will be recognized in TRWC's [Currents](#) publication, sure to attract new members.

TRWC offers an initial training session in **May 2022**. They will also provide an exclusive training session for interested members of our branch. After we are comfortable with the water monitoring equipment, we will be assigned a site and equipment for teams or individuals to monitor the location four times in summer months (May, June, July, and September). Already, seven members of your leadership team committed to take part. Please contact me if you want to join us!

Patricia Watters

E: pwrl@aol.com

C: 949.274.3938

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

The Book Group will continue to meet via Zoom until our members are comfortable meeting in person.

Our next meeting will be on **February 22nd** at **12:30 PM**. Book group members will receive an invitation to register on Zoom a couple of weeks in advance. Please register by responding to the invitation. We will be discussing "*An Olive Grove at the Edge of the World*" by Jared Gulian. **Christine Marsh-Madden** will be our discussion leader.

Cheryl Allen and **Barbara Ramsey** have agreed to share the Book Group Leader position. If you have questions or would like to join the Book Group, please contact Cheryl or Barbara.

Cheryl Allen – cherylkallen@cs.com

Barbara Ramsey - bj3ramsey@gmail.com



BRIDGE

After our one brief in-person bridge game at the home of Linda Larish on November 18th, we are once again back to playing on Trickster. Covid numbers have chased us back to the computer. We are fortunate to have that avenue.

Our next Trickster game will be on this **Saturday, January 29th at 2PM**. Playing will be **Linda Larish, Sharon Ekin, Kym Pipkin and Betsey Husted**. When the Covid numbers become amenable, we will again try some in-person games, available to those who have been vaccinated and boosted. In the meantime, perhaps more members will join us on Trickster. Anyone interested, please contact me by email or cell phone. Thanks.

Betsey Husted – betseyhusted18@gmail.com
702-499-4332



GOURMET FRIDAY NITERS

Gourmet/Friday Niters is on pause during the Covid surge. We are hoping to resume in February. Information will be provided once we feel it is safe to resume.

Linda Larish – llarish@sbcglobal.net



GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions will meet on Tuesday, **February 15th from 10am until noon**.

The topic for discussion will be Outer Space Policy and **Barbara Ramsey** will be our discussion coordinator.

In this new era, China and SpaceX are but the exemplars of a range of new actors creating new

opportunities and threats in space. The catch phrase “*To infinity and beyond*” has taken new meaning!

We meet on the third Tuesday of each month for 8 months via Zoom coordinated by Jo Ann Cobb until the group decides that the Omicron variant is not a threat to in-person gatherings.

Linda Schwoob – lschwoob@yahoo.com



WALKING GROUP

On January 24, six Walking Group members and one guest got their doses of vitamin D sunshine walking four miles on the Dollar Creek Trail. It was a glorious blue-sky day, and the groomed trail didn’t require snowshoes or ice tracks.

The itinerary for the **February 28th** walk is undecided and weather dependent. We may snowshoe in the meadow off Mt. Rose Hwy or do a walk along the Truckee in Reno. If you’d like to be on the email list sent out a week before each hike, please let **Dianne Lange** (at diannelange@me.com) know.

A reminder: Feel free to bring a guest on the walk. It’s a great way to introduce prospective members to AAUW. Well-behaved dogs are welcome, too.



CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 10: General Meeting
- 15: Great Decisions
- 22: Book Group
- 28: Walking Group