



Lake Views

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April 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

What a difference a month makes!

At the end of February, I wrote my message to you while looking out my office window at fresh-fallen snow. Today, I can see my daffodils have begun to sprout in the yard, and a red-breasted nuthatch is climbing down the trunk of a Jeffrey Pine next to my house. Early spring is such a joy to behold as the deciduous trees begin to leaf out and seasonal streams burble with the spring melt! I am filled with optimism for new beginnings, especially since some of our interest groups have begun once again to meet in person.

For our April General Meeting, your Leadership Officers encourage you to take a few hours to attend some or all of the Virtual **AAUW California Annual Event & Meeting** on Saturday, **April 30th**, from **9:00 AM to 3:00 PM** -- to celebrate the many successes throughout California branches and get inspiration for what our branch can do this next year. Click this link to register [AAUW California Annual Meeting](#) and see the agenda for the day.

The top three **Speech Trek** young women will be giving their speeches, and we will find out who will receive the top recognition. This year's Speech Trek question was actually two questions, namely, "*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?"* I am looking forward to hearing what these young women have to say about this very timely topic. I hope to see you there!

Jo-Ann S. Cobb

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GENERAL MEETINGS (Thursdays)

May 12 @ 1 pm - Speaker: Mindy Carbajal (Boys & Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe).

PROGRAMS

Saturday April 30 (9:30 – 1:00, webinar) Members are encouraged to sign up for the virtual [AAUW California Annual Meeting](#).

May 12 at 1:00 pm- *Mindy Carbajal* will give us a presentation on the Boys and Girls Club of North Lake Tahoe.

Following the presentation, we will have our new officer installation celebration.

This will be an in-person meeting, but the location is yet to be determined.

Priscilla Mills - VP Programs



On March 17, we interviewed four outstanding high school Junior girls who were applying to be our delegate to the 2022 California Girls State sponsored by American League Auxiliary. Two members from the ALA Auxiliary South Shore also joined us for the interviews.

After making a hard decision, the panel chose Ella Costello-Muzyczka.



We are very impressed with this young lady and are sure she will represent North Tahoe High School as an excellent delegate. She has completed and submitted her application to CA Girls State to attend the 1-week session in late June at CA State University Sacramento.

We hope to have her speak about her experiences at our fall branch meeting.

Christine Madden & Linda Larish



SCHOLARSHIP

The branch leadership agreed to revise our AAUW NT STEM Scholarship Program, beginning with the new award for a worthy graduating high school senior in June 2022. Owing to a downward trend in contributions to the STEM Scholarship Fund, future awards would be reduced from \$5,000 allocated over four years to a one-time award of **\$2,000** for the awardee's first year. The scholarship will continue to go to a highly qualified young woman who has focused on STEM subjects in the North Tahoe High School attendance area, is committed to majoring in a STEM subject at a four-year college or university and has demonstrated financial need.

During the upcoming academic year 2022-23, our branch will continue to support three talented young women at: the University of Arizona, Tucson; UC

Riverside; and Loyola Marymount University, in addition to a new awardee to be selected soon.

As of June 2022, outstanding commitments to our three existing STEM Scholarship recipients, together with our new June 2022 awardee, will total **\$8,000**.

Tax-deductible donations to our STEM Scholarship Fund are welcome at membership renewal in May 2022.

Please read the lovely Thank You letters from Jaquelyne Velazquez-Gutierrez, 2020-21 recipient, on page 7.

Ellen Magnani & Kathie Julian



The last day of March, our Tech Trek interview team gathered in the conference room of North Tahoe High School for in-person interviews with nine nominated 7th-grade girls. It seemed so normal!

A beautiful new splash was the presence of **Marion Snideman** joining the team. She is now a sophomore at the high school and attended the 2019 Tech Trek camp at UCD representing the Truckee-Donner branch. Marion joined Christine, Cheryl, Priscilla and myself for interviews. She provided valuable insight into each of the nominated girls. Marion applied for TT Junior Counselor this year at UCD, and very best wishes to her!

AAUW-CA asks that all girls be mailed a letter of their selection status, on the same day, so that everyone receives their letters at the same time. In the next newsletter, I will announce the girls selected for each camp (UCD or Virtual), and alternates. Once again, it was a unique and inspiring group of girls.

I recently saw the mother of our former TT camper Ella Chan. Mom was delighted to share that Ella had just done well on a test in Organic Chemistry at UC Santa Cruz. Yay Ella!

Saturday **June 4, 9-12 noon**, is our **STEM Trek Day** at TERC in Incline Village. Shorter schedule, no catered food, and support from 5 local AAUW branches; welcome aboard Capital City branch of Nevada!

Two topics include Aviation with Anna Serbinenko, (some may know Anna as SkyDancer at the Truckee Air Show); and Technology with women reps from

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board and League to Save Lake Tahoe discussing the Tahoe Keys Control Methods Test and the technology used for monitoring the project.

Following the Technology section, teams of girls will create design-based learning projects of a “Never Before Seen Marina”.

Thank you, members, for your support of STEM for girls.

Meri McEneny- Tech Trek Coordinator



MEMBERSHIP

Time to Renew!

It's membership renewal time again! Please check your mailboxes during **mid-April!** 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 \$67**, an increase 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 30th** so we can update our database and verify our data with the national AAUW database. Thanks for your cooperation!

Johnnie Lee Don & Carol Eyre

The [online member directory](#) is password protected. Contact [Dianne Lange](mailto:northtahoeaauw@gmail.com) (northtahoeaauw@gmail.com) for the password.

The [2021-22 directory in booklet format](#) (PDF file) and [printing instructions](#) are on the website.

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 notify our corresponding secretary, **Linda Larish**, about any member news that should be recognized with a card or note from our branch.

A card was sent to:

[Ann Yuhas](#) – Heal well from hip replacement

Erin Holland – Thank you for presentation

Amanda Milici – Thank you for presentation

Ann Grant – Thank you for presentation

Tia Rancourt – Thank you for presentation



Very best wishes to our April Birthdays!

04 - Linda Larish

07- Vera Daegling

21 - Kathie Julian

28- Jan Burt

Foriver Breakfast Invitation

May 24th, 7:30 -9:00

Ritz Carlton, Lake Tahoe

Invitation Flyer on page 8

Johnnie Lee Don is hosting a table
for AAUW

RSVP by April 29



INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

Ten members of the Book Group gathered for our first in-person meeting since the pandemic at the Tahoe Yacht club to discuss “*The Henna Artist*” by Alka Joshi. This book is book 1 of the Jaipur Trilogy and is being made into a miniseries and film.

Esther Sonnenberg, clad in a lovely hand embroidered tunic garnered from one of her 3 trips to India, led the lively discussion. All enjoyed the Indian snacks and sharing of her fabric souvenirs.

Christine Marsh-Madden, clad in a lovely Pakistani dress, brought photos of various henna adornment worn by the bride, herself and others at a recently attended friend’s wedding.

Thank you also to **JoAnn Cobb** who set up Zoom for those choosing to use that option.



The book for April is “*A Life on Our Planet*” by David Attenborough. **Barbara Ramsey** will lead the discussion on Tuesday, **April 26th** at **12:30 pm** at the yacht club in Tahoe City. David, at the age of 94, has seen more of the natural world than any other. This book and the Netflix documentary of the same name is his witness statement. The message is a hopeful one. This book is available on Audible, in hardcover and on Kindle.

Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen



BRIDGE

The Bridge group has been limping along with various members playing online with Trickster.

This erstwhile group leader spent the month of February sick from illness contracted from our delightful 3-year old grand-daughter, as did all the family. She now has tubes in her ears. March offered multiple family visits.

This month, an in-person Bridge event is being offered, finally. Apologies to all. Anyone wanting to play, please contact me and I will help facilitate it; husbands, friends and relatives are welcome.

Betsey Husted



We've also scheduled a couple of more events and hope you all can attend.

Pat Castellucci and **Cheryl Allen** will host a Gourmet dinner on Sunday afternoon, **May 29th** at **3pm** at Pat's home. The event will have a Hawaiian theme and Pat wants lots of you to attend. She can easily seat 18-24 people and spouses are invited. She and Cheryl will determine the menu and assign dishes to bring.

The second event falls under the heading of a cultural event. **Rachael Swift** will be purchasing 10 tickets to visit *Beyond Van Gogh* in Reno on Wednesday, **August 31** for the **10:30** time slot. This exhibit is being shown nationwide and is innovative and **OUTSTANDING!** The price will be **\$30.99**, a discount due to a purchase of multiple tickets.

After the exhibit, we will go to lunch on the patio at **The Stone House**, a very good restaurant with a lovely patio. Please contact **Rachael Swift** to reserve a place. See your directory for her contact information.

Linda Larish



GOURMET FRIDAY NITERS

The combined Gourmet & Friday Niters group leaders, specifically **Johnnie Lee Don** and **Rachael Swift**, hosted another incredibly fun event. Our Cheesy April Celebration was held at Johnnie Lee's home. We enjoyed an array of cheeses, crackers, fruit, salad and nuts. It was all consumed on Johnnie Lee's beautifully set table, celebrating spring. We started the event off with mimosas, and all enjoyed the food and lively conversations as well.



GREAT DECISIONS

The April meeting for Great Decisions was changed from April 19th to **April 5th** at our members' request as the April 19th date interfered with family Easter celebrations.

It will be held at the Tahoe Yacht Club from **10am until noon**. No refreshments will be served.

Jo Ann Cobb will run a Zoom meeting from the Yacht Club for members who want to join virtually. Please contact Jo Ann for the Zoom link.

The April topic of discussion is “*Russia*” and the moderator is **Shirley Nelson**. Russia has turned a corner in its relationship with the US and the world. This will be an interesting subject to pursue.

We generally meet on the third Tuesday of the month for 8 months of the year.

Linda Schwoob



WALKING GROUP

Seven members walked to Chickadee Ridge on February 28. The weather and birds cooperated. We had blue skies and several members fed chickadees from their hands.



We also met a few ladies of AAUW Tahoe NV and joined them for a group photo.



On Monday **April 25**, Betsey Husted will lead us on a walk along the Truckee River in Reno.

Contact **Dianne Lange** if you would like to be added to the group’s email list. Friends, families, and well-behaved dogs are welcome.



CALENDAR

APRIL

- 05: Great Decisions
- 25: Walking Group
- 26: Book Group
- 30: AAUW-CA Annual Meeting (Webinar)

Letters from 2020-21 STEM Scholarship recipient

Jaquelyne Velazquez-Gutierrez

Dear NT AAUW,

I would like to thank you for allowing me to choose the college I wanted to attend based on my choice rather than financial ability. I really enjoyed that I did not know I had received your scholarship before awards night. When my name was announced, I was stunned, I thought there was a mix-up because I had not heard from you. Then when I received the email affirming that the scholarship was for me, I was shocked. I began to rethink what college I would attend and now it was based on where I wanted to go.

Not only did you have an impact on my decision, I also felt honored to receive a scholarship that is for women. Having had strong women all around me from a young age, I felt as though I had made them proud. By awarding me this scholarship, you have given me further resources to make those around me proud.

Thank you again,

Jaquelyne Velazquez-Gutierrez

Hello NT AAUW,

I am a student at UC Riverside. I am currently in my second year, and I am pursuing a bachelor's degree in Biology. I am a lucky recipient of your scholarship, and I would love to take the time to thank you.

Adjusting to college life has been difficult because the first year was entirely online. I struggled to keep up with school while so many things were happening all around me, especially with the COVID-19 pandemic. Fortunately, thanks to the money I received through NT AAUW, the financial burden was slightly lifted off my shoulders.

I waited to claim this year's scholarship money because the financial aid I was awarded and the money I earned through working was enough to cover most of my needs. I am now looking to find an apartment close to UC Riverside in order to lessen my commute to school which is what I am planning to use the scholarship money for.

I am very grateful for the times that you have checked in on me, and the opportunities that this scholarship has provided me with.

Thank you once again,

Jaquelyne Velazquez



join us!

2022 River Breakfast

May 24th, 7:30-9AM

The Ritz-Carlton, Lake Tahoe

Come learn how we're
fixing our watershed forever—
and how you can be a part of it.

Plus, enjoy a tasty breakfast.

Johnnie Lee Don is hosting a
table for AAUW.

RSVP by April 29, 2022

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TRUCKEE RIVER WATERSHED COUNCIL

www.truckeeriverwc.org