



December 2022



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

As the years go by and we settle into the routines in our lives, it can get harder to do things outside of our comfort zones.

Thanksgiving morning found my husband Dan and me driving to Carson City, where we had volunteered to help serve the annual community Thanksgiving lunch that is coordinated by Nevada FISH, **Friends in Service Helping**. We didn't know what to expect. Dan and I tried to remember the last time we had done something that we didn't have a hand in running ourselves or at least knew those who were organizing the event.



Well, it turned out to be a heartwarming and enjoyable experience, from providing a delicious holiday meal to those who came through the doors, to serving with our fellow volunteers.

Another bonus for Dan and me was that since volunteers got to sit down and eat together

after the meal service was completed, we ate our fill of savory smoked turkey, so we didn't feel the need to spend a few hours preparing and baking another turkey for our family meal later in the day. Instead, we served a simpler roast pork along with the traditional side dishes. Before returning home to cook our Thanksgiving dinner, we had time to enjoy a lovely walk along the Carson River. We did things differently this year and felt very content and peaceful by the end of the day.

My Thanksgiving Day experiences reminded me of how important it is to just show up in life and make yourself available for what might unfold. One of the awesome things that we AAUW members do for local girls and young women is help them show up for activities and experiences (such as Tech Trek, STEM Day, Girls State, college) that can possibly change the trajectories of their lives. AAUW California is launching a new program this winter called **Gov Trek**, which will introduce 11th and 12th grade girls to the world of working in public service and running for elective office. I am so proud and thankful to belong to a group that continues to explore new ways to empower women and help them get seats in the halls of power.

Leading up to Thanksgiving, I read a couple news articles about *gratitude* and how expressing thankfulness more consciously and frequently can lead to more optimism and hope. One writer emphasized being *thankful for the ordinary things* that we have and do throughout our days, which sometimes we don't even notice. As we move through this last month of 2022, I hope you find joy and peace in the ordinary and extraordinary people and activities around you this holiday season!

JoAnn S. Cobb

LEADERSHIP MEETING

Thursday January 12, 2023 – 10:00 am via Zoom

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Holiday Luncheon - Dec 8, 11:30– Rosie's Café,
Tahoe City

General Meeting - Jan 12, 2023, 1 pm – Fairway
Community Center, Tahoe City

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

We're looking forward to our Holiday Luncheon at [Rosie's Café](#) (571 N Lake Blvd, Tahoe City) on **Thursday, Dec. 8 at 11:30.**

So far, we have 20 branch members attending. If you haven't yet, **RSVP to Priscilla by Dec. 1.**

[Menu choices](#) and [payment options](#) are shown on **page 6** of this newsletter. Any questions - please email pmills7624@yahoo.com.

We're asking people to give \$10 that will go toward a Safeway gift card to help the family of one of our Tech Trek girls.

January 12th meeting will feature [Anne Greenwood](#) from Placer County Libraries (rescheduled from Nov. 10th). We will meet at the Fairway Community Center in Tahoe City at 1:00 PM.

Priscilla Mills – VP Programs



AAUW FUND

Close the \$170 Gap with a Year-end Donation

Because of the difference in fiscal years, December is the last month for our Branch members to get credit for donations to the National 2022 AAUW Fund.

If you were able to listen to the recent AAUW Fund Events featuring the impressive work of our Fellows and Grant Recipients, you are well aware our contributions are being well spent. It is a win-win situation as with each \$750 donation, our Branch is able to nominate a Named Gift Honoree. Your generous donations to date allow for us to select **2** such **Honorees**.

Alert! An additional **\$170** would permit our Branch to nominate a **third Honoree** which is something not done since 1994. Please give this some thought as you make your year-end donations. It would be greatly appreciated.

- Please mail your **donation check** payable to “AAUW Funds” **before December 25** to **Patricia Watters** at 1788 Orlen Lane, Templeton, CA 93465.

See **page 7** for the list of funds you can designate for your donation.

- Or make your **donation online**:

Go to auuw.org

Login with your email address and password.

Click “*Forgot your password*” if you’re a member logging in for the first time and follow instructions.

Go to <https://my.aauw.org/donation-product-detail>

Select one or more of the funds for your donation.

Choose the amount of your donation and mark other choices on this page.

Then click on the “Checkout” button.

Barbara Ramsey - AAUW Fund Chair



- Our last two TT 2022 campers created short videos of their camp experience for members to view, even the camper who moved to Reno. The process was as important for the girls as the end product, and I’m grateful for their willingness to complete this year’s camp experience.
- The AAUW-CA Tech Trek committee and Peer Support sub-committee hosted a statewide Branch Coordinators Peer Support Group meeting on Zoom, Nov. 14, 2022. The attendance was more than double our expectations, with 124 members attending. It was a lively and engaged meeting!
- Meri learned quite a bit more about Zoom as a breakout room moderator in the “Helping Families” room. AAUW-CA is determined to help branch coordinators throughout the entire nomination to camp experience. More “office hours” and Zoom meetings are scheduled in January - May 2023.
- Thank you to **Priscilla** for helping with the Zoom meeting.
- Tech Trek branch packets will arrive in a month.

Happy Holidays to all of you, wonderful women friends!

Meri McEneny- Tech Trek Coordinator
mmceneny@gmail.com, or 775 831-6071.



SCHOLARSHIP

Ms. Katherine Le, our 2022 \$2,000 STEM Scholarship recipient, is doing well at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo where she is majoring in Biology.

Patricia Watters has maintained contact with Katherine during her first semester and recently took her to lunch. We appreciate this member outreach and expect that Katherine will be able to attend one of our meetings by zoom in Spring 2023 to share her college experience.

The Scholarship Committee will begin its work on the 2023 STEM Scholarship award in February with review of candidate applications, followed by selection in May and a public announcement in June.

Kathie Julian & Ellen Magnani



MEMBERSHIP

Carol Cunha (carol.cunha@realestatemgt.com, 916-532-6649), is our newest member and a neighbor of Dianne Lange. In talking about the Walking Group, she got interested in that group as well as Culinary Capers.

Below are some interesting facts she shared with us. In welcoming her, Carol Eyre talked of also being raised in Orinda. It is a small world!

"I was raised in Orinda but our family no longer owns a home there. My family purchased our cabin up here in the late 1990's. I raised my family in Granite Bay and moved up here with my mother when my father passed. My mother is now in Sonoma in an apartment, and I spend time between the two locations. I have always dreamed of living up here full time and feel very fortunate to be able to enjoy the mountains.

I had my own business managing commercial property for thirty years while I raised my children, and had many consulting accounts. My last consulting contract just ended, so I'm basically retired but open to new positions if I have remote work options.

I had lunch with a colleague several weeks ago. We started talking about our careers which were in male

dominated sectors of real estate. We were both hired for looks, as our jobs were to market and support men. As I cruise the magazines recognizing women that have been successful, their careers seem to be mostly in female-dominated industries.

Real estate investment of course is my first love, but I also love to cook, sew, garden and just started playing pickleball. I ice-skated competitively for 8 years and just bought another pair of skates. I ski but haven't in a couple of years and need to work on getting back into it. I love to paddle a kayak around the lake. And I am looking forward to doing a little travel.

What else would you like us to know?

I'm in the middle of a divorce.

I have rescued over ten retrievers in my lifetime. This is the first time in my entire life I haven't had a dog let alone three. I would be happy to pet sit for anyone."

Johnnie Lee Don & Carol Eyre



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.

Shirley Cabo - Get well (10/10/22)

Rose Orenstein - Get well for husband (10/26/22)



*Very best wishes to our
December Birthdays!*

Dec. 09 - Judy Snook

Dec. 11 - Sandra Wolfe

Dec. 15 - Jo Ann Cobb

Dec. 18 - Fritzi Briner, Martha Cirata

Dec. 31 - Patricia Watters, Ginger Wilson

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

Book Group will not be meeting in December but remember that books make great gifts for any age.

Looking ahead, on **January 31**, **Patricia Watters** will lead the discussion on "*The Premonition: A Pandemic Story*" by Michael Lewis. This book is available in hardcover, on Kindle and on Audible.

Happy Holidays!

Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen



BRIDGE

After a small in-person gathering in October, we held a Trickster bridge group on November 7th. It snowed that day, but Trickster does allow for playing, no matter the weather.

For **December**, we have a Trickster Bridge game planned for **December 19th**.

Betsey Husted

betseyhusted18@gmail.com

702-499-4332



Granny Smith & Red Delicious



CULINARY CAPERS

Twelve women gathered at host **Johnnie Lee Don's** home on Friday, October 28 to celebrate "*Everything Apple*".

There was a delicious array of, well, everything apple! It was a perfect way to celebrate fall and friendship!



There will be no event in December due to our holiday party, but we're hoping to meet again in February. More information will follow.

Please contact **Linda Larish** (llarish526@gmail.com) if you would like to join us.



IN STITCHES

After a summer hiatus, the In Stitches group reconvened on September 21st at the home of Julie Elmen. Martha Cirata hosted a November 16th meeting, and our next gathering will be at the home of **Esther Sonnenberg** on Wednesday, **December 14th** from 2:00-3:30 pm.

If you would like to attend, please reply to esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com. All skill levels (knitters, crocheters, needle-pointers, etc.) are welcome!

Julie Elmen & Barbara Ramsey



WALKING GROUP

We had a chilly walk around Spooner Lake at the end of October--just in time to catch the last of the golden leaves remaining on the Aspen treetops and a day before the snow began to fall. Next time we visit Spooner, we hope to be wearing snowshoes.



On the last Monday in November, we're walking the West Fork of the Fork River Ranch Nature Conservancy near Genoa, Nevada. It follows the Carson River on a flat trail. After the in-and-out, 4-mile walk, some of us are having lunch at The Pink House in Genoa.



With few exceptions, we try to do a different walk every month. Coming up: the historic Kit Carson Trail in Carson City, Chickadee Ridge above the Tahoe Meadows, and the old Flume trail off Mt. Rose Hwy. Let Dianne know if you have a suggestion for a town or mountain walk and/or are willing to lead one.

Dianne Lange – diannelange@me.com



CALENDAR

DECEMBER

- 08: Holiday Luncheon
- 14: In Stitches
- 19: Bridge

DONATION TO AAUW FUNDS BY CHECK

Checks should be payable to "AAUW Funds". Members can specify a specific fund in the Memo line from the list below. If no fund is specified, the donation will go to Fund 9110, the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund.

If members send checks to me, I will fill out the AAUW Fund Contribution Form and mail it with the check(s) so our branch gets credit.

AAUW Program Names and Fund Numbers

9110 — The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, formerly called the AAUW Fund, gives AAUW the mobility to rapidly respond to new and emerging challenges or opportunities facing women and girls.

4449 —Economic Security Fund ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.

4450 —Education and Training Fund addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.

4452 —Leadership Fund supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.

4451 —Governance and Sustainability Fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future by implementing best practices in organizational functioning and inclusion and by diversifying revenue.

Patricia Watters – pwrl@aol.com

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