



January 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

An inch of new snow fell at my house last night, giving me a glorious fairy tale view outside my office window

today of fluffy white flakes covering the pines and firs in my yard under brilliant Tahoe sunshine.

The end of December is bittersweet for me as I look forward to what the new year of 2023 will hold as I let go of the holiday magic that filled this past month, including a lovely AAUW North Tahoe holiday luncheon at Rosie's in Tahoe City. My husband and I were fortunate to have friends and family visiting in December, but all have departed, so I now turn my gaze towards what comes next.

A year ago, I reported in this column that I was pursuing my birding hobby more avidly, and I am happy to say that I really have, and it feels great to be immersing myself fully in it, both out in the field searching for and watching the feathered wonders, and in my favorite armchair reading bird books to prepare for going out in the field! Have you pursued any new interests or hobbies this year and how have you fared?

AAUW California is launching a new program in late January called **Gov Trek** to introduce high school junior and senior girls to careers in public service and elective office. For women to have a voice and influence in the public policy arena, they need to be at the table, and AAUW is trying to get more women into the halls of power. Please take a look at the Gov Trek information packet on the AAUW California website <https://www.aauw-ca.org/gov-trek/> and pass it along to any California high school girls who may be interested. Gov Trek takes place on five

Saturday mornings beginning on **January 28th**, and if you have time to volunteer to help out in the Zoom virtual meetings, scroll to the bottom of the webpage and look at the Volunteer Information section.

Beginning in January, our 2023 Nominating Committee will be looking for volunteers to fill our Officer positions for the 2023-2024 AAUW year, which begins on July 1st, 2023. Please consider becoming an influencer in our branch by taking on a leadership role!

I look forward to seeing many of you at our meetings and celebrations in 2023!

JoAnn S. Cobb

LEADERSHIP MEETING

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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GENERAL MEETINGS

January 12, 2023, 1 pm (Fairway Community Center, Tahoe City): Rescheduled presentation by Anne Greenwood from Placer County libraries

February 9, Noon (Fairway Center): We're rekindling our annual soup luncheon, our member and mission partners' appreciation event.

March 9, 1 pm (Fairway Center): Guest speaker from Keep Tahoe Blue (aka the League to Save Lake Tahoe).

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

The **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**.



On Thursday, December 8, **twenty-four** of us gathered at Rosie's Café in Tahoe City for our holiday luncheon. We were so happy to get together, despite the continuing Covid situation. We did lots of gabbing and catching up. There were loads of conviviality, holiday spirit, and way too many red sweaters! (more photos on pages 5-6).



We played our traditional, fun question and answer game, prepared by **Betsey Husted** and **Kym Pipkin**, which really got us thinking. The questions were on all kinds of different subjects from a game called "*I Should Have Known That!*", as well as AAUW questions. **Jo Ann Cobb** won first place. **Cheryl Allen** and **Dianne Lange** tied for 2nd place.

We sorely missed some members who were out of town or unable to beat the weather. We're hoping to continue meeting in person in 2023!

Priscilla Mills – VP Programs



The State **Public Policy** committee thanks each and every AAUW California member who voted, who assisted in our Voter Education (VE) campaign by spreading our messages on social media, who took the pledge to vote for Prop 1 (we had 437 sign up!) and who worked within their branches to do their own VE events.

For highlights of elections results, see **page 7** for some numbers and statistics presented by Kathi Harper, Public Policy Chair of AAUW-CA.

For a more detailed analysis of the election results, visit <https://www.aauw-ca.org/got-voter-fatigue/>



AAUW FUND

YOU DID IT! Now come the Honors...

Thanks to your continued generosity, we met our goal of raising **\$2,250** for the AAUW Fund and in return, you are able to name **3 Branch Named Gift Honorees!**

It is now time to start thinking about who you would like to nominate for this coveted award which is the highest honor bestowed to a fellow member. The chosen recipient will have exhibited outstanding service in promoting the AAUW mission to advance gender equality for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

Recipients of the **Named Gift Honoree Award** in the past have been:

2022: Johnnie Lee Don

2021: Jo Ann Cobb

2020: Patricia Watters, The Tahoe League for Charity

2019: Jan Potter

2018: Ruth Arizaga

2017: Meri McEneny

2016: Nancy Cline

2015: Kym Pipkin

The AAUW North Tahoe Branch Service Award was created a few years ago to complement the Named Gift Honoree, especially when there is more than one outstanding candidate. Whereas the Named Gift Honoree is an AAUW National award, the Branch Service Award is managed within the North Tahoe branch.

To qualify for the Branch Service Award, the candidate must have:

- 1- been a member for at least five years
- 2- made significant contributions of time, mentoring, leadership, and recruiting
- 3- held at least one elected or appointed board position
- 4- performed as chairperson of an interest group

In the past few years, recipients of this award have been:

- 2022: Dianne Lange
- 2021: Dana Loury
- 2020: Meri McEneny
- 2019: Johnnie Lee Don
- 2018: Carol Eyre
- 2017: Nancy Cline
- 2016: Patricia Watters

To nominate someone for the above awards you must:

1. Put forth the name of a worthy recipient for an award
2. Briefly state your reasons for this nomination

REPLY TO ME ONLY - bj3ramsey@gmail.com

Barbara Ramsey - AAUW Fund Chair



Happy New Year, North Tahoe members!

2023 is the 25th Anniversary of Tech Trek

Let's renew our engagement with this fun and empowering program!

The Tech Trek Memorandum of Understanding from AAUW-CA arrived and has been submitted by our president Jo Ann. This begins the process for our participation in Tech Trek 2023. By signing the MOU, we agree to these policies:

- Commit to fund the number of camperships our branch has requested. (Our final branch allocation will be determined at the state level and may be different from our original request).
- Designate a branch coordinator to be the point of contact and be responsible for decisions regarding final assignment of campers to camp.

We requested 5 camper spots, and have monies held by AAUW-CA Special Projects Funds to pay for these spots. Meri will continue as branch coordinator.

We can now request nominations from North Tahoe School 7th grade teachers in early January 2023. The

nomination forms are the same as the teachers used these last few years. Two of our teachers, and principal Lindeen confirmed their continued involvement (and enthusiasm!) this past October.

In January, the number of branch reservations will be confirmed by the individual camps, i.e., UC Davis Tech Trek. If that number is less than we requested, we will be given the opportunity to reassign the balance to virtual camp. We are expected to confirm or modify our camp reservations by March 1, 2023.

New this year is the CampDoc platform for TT camper registration and tracking. This platform will aid Camp Directors and branch coordinators in reviewing and updating all camper information more easily than before. CampDoc will be live January 25. CampDoc is the leading Electronic Health Record system for camps and youth programs: www.campdoc.com.

As the newest member of the TT-CA committee, Meri is learning first-hand the workings of the program, and the great women who volunteer for the program from State and the branches. AAUW-CA is actively working to find new camps and expand existing camps at Sonoma, UCD, Fresno or elsewhere in the north state.

Recruiting more volunteers is critical for maintaining or expanding camps.

If you are interested in learning how to be more involved with Tech Trek, or simply talking about the program, contact Meri, mmceneny@gmail.com, 775-831-6071.

North Tahoe AAUW members... you are awesome!
Kind, generous, charitable...

When Priscilla told me the results of the gift card to our Tech Trek family, I had to stop and cry. Thank You sincerely. Our mother and her children are blessed by your big hearts and stalwart efforts to make a difference in this world.

Meri McEneny- Tech Trek Coordinator

mmceneny@gmail.com, or 775 831-6071.



SCHOLARSHIP

The Tahoe Truckee Scholarship Committee (TTSC) shared this information with us, and we thought members of North Lake Tahoe AAUW would be interested in it as well.

In 2022, there were 231 scholarships awarded for a total of \$1.35 million. Of the 121 recipients, 50 were the 1st generation in their families to attend college. Our STEM Scholarship recipient for 2022, **Katherine Le**, is a first-generation college attendee in her family. Our one-year scholarship to her was for \$2,000. The TTSC awarded her an additional \$10,000.

Katherine Le's parents own the Unique Nail Salon in Tahoe City. Ellen has watched Katherine grow-up from 2nd grade and was delighted to see what an accomplished scholar she was at North Tahoe High School. She is attending Cal Poly at San Luis Obispo majoring in Biology. **Patricia Watters**, our Finance officer, has taken her out to lunch, and relays that Katherine is really enjoying her college experience. We appreciate Patricia's effort to support our scholarship recipient! We hope Katherine will be able to attend one of our meetings if she's home and available to do so.

Ellen Magnani & Kathie Julian- Scholarship Co-Chairs



MEMBERSHIP

A Big Welcome to our newest member, **Joan Lloyd** (joanlloyd4336@gmail.com) from Incline Village. She is interested in Book group, Gourmet (Culinary Capers) and Walking Group.

Johnnie Lee Don & Carol Eyre- Membership Co-Chairs



MEMBER COMMUNICATIONS

Please notify our corresponding secretary, **Linda Larish** (llarish526@gmail.com) about any member news that should be recognized with a card or note from our branch. The following note was sent to:

Shirley Allen Foundation – Thank you for the generous donation (12/20/22)



*Very best wishes to our
January Birthdays!*

Jan 27 - Esther Sonnenberg

Jan 29 - Patty Orlando

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

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 New Year!

Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen



IN STITCHES

If you would like to get crafty in the New Year, please join us on Wednesday, **January 18, 2023** at the home of **Barbara Ramsey**. The meeting is informal and is from 2-4pm. Whether you knit, crochet, needlepoint, quilt, etc..., all skill levels are welcome.

Reply to bj3ramsey@gmail.com

Julie Elmen & Barbara Ramsey



WALKING GROUP

It's Chickadee Feeding Time

The holidays were such a busy time for those in the walking group that I decided to reschedule the December 26 walk—the Incline Flume Trail—to **January 2**. If you are not receiving emails about Walking group plans, please email diannelange@me.com and I will add you to the list.

The **January 30** walk will take place as planned. This month, we're going to repeat the Chickadee Ridge snowshoeing that was such fun last year. We will meet at 9:30 on Mt. Rose Hwy near where the meadow trail begins. Bring bird seed and unsalted peanuts, which seems to be a chickadee favorite.

Dianne Lange – diannelange@me.com



CALENDAR

JANUARY

- 02: Walking Group (Incline Flume Trail)
- 12: Leadership and General Meetings
- 18: In Stitches
- 30: Walking Group (Chickadee Ridge)
- 31: Book Group



2022 HOLIDAY LUNCHEON





Elections Finally Over – How'd We Do in '22?

Kathi Harper, Public Policy Chair AAUW California

The election is finally over! In addition to an end to the non-stop requests for donations, AAUW members can be pretty happy with the results. Here are a few highlights:

- 1 woman each was added to the U.S. House and the U.S. Senate, bringing the numbers to 124 (H) and 25 (S)
- Of the total of 149, 54 are women of color
- We lost the most powerful woman in government (Nancy Pelosi) but still have a woman on the Minority leadership team, Minority Whip Katherine Clark
- Governors of 12 states are now women
- 23% of all mayors across the nation are women, including our brand new and **first** female mayor of Los Angeles, Karen Bass
- 20 women won new seats in the California Legislature and 30 female incumbents were re-elected, bringing the total to 50 – but still just 42%
- All executive positions in California except Governor are filled by women, including Secretary of State, Lieutenant Governor, Treasurer, and Controller, as well as the Senate Pro Tem
- Proposition 1 prevailed and women's right to control their own reproductive choices is now enshrined in our constitution.

And here are some fun facts:

- Only 3.2% of all members of Congress to date have been women
- California has sent more women to Congress than any other state – a total of 47 to date
- Vermont is the only state that has never sent a woman to either the House or the Senate