



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

My husband and I enjoyed a break from our “Endless Winter” here at Lake Tahoe by traveling to Florida in mid-March to visit one of my brothers on the East Coast and Dan's sister and brother-in-law on the Gulf Coast. As I have mentioned in previous columns, I am now an avid birder, and South Florida is an absolute birder's delight. Our relatives took us to places to see wildlife (*Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge*, *Fort Myers Six-Mile Cypress Slough Preserve*, and *Naples Corkscrew Swamp Sanctuary and Audubon Center*), and we enjoyed spotting alligators, river otters, and some fabulous birds! In particular, we loved watching Anhingas, Little Blue Herons, Tricolored Herons, Great Blue Herons, Green Herons, Limpkins, White Ibises, Great Egrets, Wood Storks, and more!



Our vacation was terrific, but we were ready to return home, when I almost got stranded in Florida. When TSA security ran my California Driver's License through its scanner, my license was associated with someone else's boarding pass, perhaps related to the fact that my first name has a space in it. The United Airlines personnel were wonderful as they tried to sort through the snafu for over an hour, but to no avail, so I told my husband to go ahead home on our scheduled flight, because it was unclear how long it would take to figure out what was causing the problem. I felt calm as this played out, in part because I knew my sister-in-law would come pick me up and be happy to have me as a houseguest for more days. I envisioned having my husband FedEx my passport to me once he arrived home. We still don't know what the problem was, but a bit of a fluke allowed me to get through TSA Security late in the day and onto a later flight. The whole experience reminded me that the equanimity and flexibility that we've all developed during the pandemic may be called upon at the most unexpected times!

On the first day of spring, March 20th, the UC Berkeley Central Sierra Snow Lab issued its latest snowfall data, and this winter's **677 inches** (so far!) is now the **second biggest snow year** since the Lab started keeping records in 1946! The biggest snow year was 1952, when 812 inches fell. While there will be snow on our mountain tops for many more months, let's hope that the

roads stay clear so that many of you can attend the interesting programs planned for our General Meetings in April and May! Also, the AAUW South Lake Tahoe Branch is in the process of planning the AAUW Tahoe Area Interbranch Luncheon that has been postponed since 2020, and an email announcement will be sent out as soon as the details are finalized.

All of the snow that we have in our yards and the nearby mountain meadows should result in a magnificent spring bloom of flowers – something for all of us to look forward to!

JoAnn S. Cobb - jscobb@sbcglobal.net

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

GENERAL MEETINGS

April 13, 1 pm @ Fairway Center, Tahoe City

May 22, 10 am @ KidZone Museum, Truckee

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

We'll meet on **Thursday, April 13th** at **1:00 pm** at the Fairway Community Center for our General Meeting. We'll hear a presentation by Anne Greenwood from Placer County libraries.

Our May General Meeting will not be held on the second Thursday, but on **Monday, May 22**. We will meet at the KidZone Museum (11711 Donner Pass Rd, Truckee) at **10:00 am** for a tour of this fun activity facility.

After the tour, we'll go to lunch where we'll also install our new officers and appreciate those who have served this past year. The restaurant has not been chosen yet. More info to come!

Priscilla Mills – VP Programs



AAUW FUND

California AAUW Fund
DONATIONS SOAR!

Your determination and generosity helped AAUW donations reach even higher levels of giving.

As of 12/31/2002, the donations were:

\$595,562 by individuals

\$124,300 by branches

\$719,862 total

Our North Tahoe Branch also reached new heights with **\$2,308** donated. This allowed our Branch to have 3 Named Gift Honorees. I will be announcing our awardees in May and am honored to acknowledge these wonderful members of our organization.

Thank you for such generosity.

Barbara Ramsey – AAUW Fund Chair



Our delegate, Arely Calderon, has submitted her application to CA Girls State. She will spend one week at Sacramento State

University in June acquiring leadership experience.

Linda Larish & Christine Madden



We have **five campers** for UCD Tech Trek 2023: Aleyda A., Ava B., Leilani C., Dana V., and Ximena T.

Even with encouragement and prodding, 2 nominees did not apply, and 3 others who did apply had family plans come up. This is why we ask the teachers to nominate 10 girls.



Tech Trek campers 2023- L to R: Dana V., Ava B., Leilani C., Ximena T. Absent: Aleyda A.

Since we had 5 applications for 5 spots at UCD, no interviews were held this year, simply an informal meeting with 4 of the 5 girls with **Maria Snideman** and **Meri** during lunch in Mrs. McGuire's math classroom (Aleyda had a family emergency but she is super excited about camp).

We congratulated the girls and discussed the next steps, including the importance of committing to attend camp, as we have no alternates. We are grateful to have 5 campers. Other branches would jump at an extra spot at TT UCD if we have one available.

Maria told the girls she will host a pre-camp social event for them and their families when the weather warms up. Her daughter Marion and another former TT camper will answer questions about camp and tell fun stories.



Maria and Meri at North Tahoe School after congratulating this year's TT campers.

The girls were invited to **STEM Trek Day** at TERC on June 3. We hope to develop a strong cohort among these girls. Thanks, Maria, for your enthusiasm and ideas!

Our branch has no Virtual campers this year. Two former virtual campers have been accepted as Virtual TT coaches this summer: Vallerie Laguna, TT 2020, and Kaira Patton-Rodriguez, TT 2021.

STEM Trek Day is on track for **June 3rd** at the Tahoe Science Center in TERC, on the campus of UNR Lake Tahoe, **9:30am-3pm**. Our presenters will show examples of Exponential Growth in Nature as seen in Fisheries (highlighting Communications), Forests (specifically Sugar Pines), and Watersheds (focusing on microplastics).

We request a refundable \$10 registration fee during the online registration created by the Tahoe NV branch. The fee is returned at check-in, and we include lunch. It's nice to serve with the other local branches.

Meri is working with the new UNR staff regarding planting sugar pines in the Demonstration Garden. Perhaps this will spearhead enthusiasm for reinvigorating the garden. *Stay tuned for more opportunities to become involved!*

If you are interested in learning more about Tech Trek, STEM Trek Day or both, contact Meri, mmceneny@gmail.com, 775-831-6071.

2023 is the 25th Anniversary of Tech Trek



SCHOLARSHIP

We will begin our review of scholarship applications provided to us by the coordinating body for all North Tahoe Scholarships, the Tahoe Truckee Community Scholarship Committee.

We expect to have 12-15 applicants for our scholarship, all young women accomplished in

and committed to STEM studies. Our award for the academic year 2023-24 will be announced in June 2023 and will provide a **one-time \$3,000 scholarship** to the successful applicant.

This past year, we have supported four young scholars — **Katherine Le** in her first year at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo; **Mariana Bravo Corona**, in her second year at Loyola Marymount; **Jaquelyne Velazquez-Gutierrez** in her third year at UC Riverside, and **Jillian Ferre** in her fourth year at the University of Arizona, Tucson.

Kathie Julian & Ellen Magnani – Scholarship Co-Chairs



MEMBERSHIP

Time to Renew!

It's membership renewal time again! Please check your mailboxes during May. 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. Note that **National AAUW dues are now \$72.**

We need current contact information from everyone so that we can make sure you receive all the important information about our branch events.

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 – 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 note from our branch.

A Thank You note was sent to **Marilee Movius** from the *League to Save Lake Tahoe* for her presentation on March 9th.



Very best wishes to our April Birthdays!

04 - Linda Larish

07- Vera Daegling

21 - Kathie Julian

25- Lynn Flagg

28- Jan Burt

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP



An instant New York Times, Washington Post, and USA Today best seller - based on the true story of the heroic librarians at the American Library in Paris during World War II - *The Paris Library* is a moving and unforgettable "ode to the importance of libraries, books, and the human connections we find within both". This book is available on Kindle, Audible and in hardcover and paperback.

Linda Schwoob will be presenting "The Paris Library" on Tuesday, **April 25th** at the Tahoe Yacht Club in Tahoe City. Brown bag lunch from 12-12:30 pm followed by the book discussion. The meeting will be in hybrid format with Zoom option available.

Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen



BRIDGE

On Monday March 6th, Linda Larish, Patricia Watters and Kym Pipkin played bridge on Trickster.

Anyone interested in playing should contact me, **Betsey Husted**, either by phone or email.

702-499-4332

betseyhusted18@gmail.com



CULINARY CAPERS

We had a very successful, truly gourmet luncheon on March 16th that celebrated Mardi Gras.

After being rescheduled twice due to weather concerns, we celebrated sunshine as well as Mardi Gras at **Pat Castellucci's** lovely home. Her table was unbelievably beautiful with green, purple and gold decor, including Mardi Gras beads and boas. Recipes were based on a Louisiana theme and every one of them was delicious!

Linda Larish





IN-STITCHES



Esther Sonnenberg crocheted these squares as part of a blanket project the In-Stitches group is planning to donate to a local program. Other members of the group are knitting a blanket made up of blue and white squares.

It is fun to see how these blankets come together with each member adding their personal creativity as to what stitch pattern was used. We would warmly welcome anyone interested to join us.

The next meeting of the In Stitches group will be on Wednesday, **April 19** from **2-4 pm** at the home of **Barbara Ramsey**.

Barbara Ramsey & Julie Elmen



GREAT DECISIONS

Great Decisions will be held at 10 am on **April 18th** by **Zoom only**. **Priscilla Mills** will send out the Zoom notice so you can sign up.

The subject is *Economic Warfare* and will be moderated by **Ann Lyman**.

Ann Lyman



CALENDAR

APRIL

- 13:** General meeting
- 18:** Great Decisions
- 19:** In-Stitches
- 25:** Book Group