



June 2023



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Last year, I wrote my June column after helping with the Truckee River Railroad's first run of the 2022 season over Memorial Day Weekend in Truckee River Regional Park, and this year I am writing before the first run of the 2023 season. I treasure the continuity of annual events that bring meaning and structure to our lives, especially when they also benefit our communities! The Train is owned and operated by the Truckee Donner Railroad Society, and girls and boys love to ride on it and watch it, especially the engines. As I observe some of the 5-, 6-, 7-year-old girls jump up and down with excitement, I wonder how many of them may be our future Tech Trek girls, with an interest in engineering inspired by watching the mechanics of a train engine. What a joy to participate in such an upbeat activity. What do you say and do that may influence the elementary-age girls in your life to become inspired, engaged, and involved with STEM fields or other areas of their choosing?

Thanks to **Maria Snideman** and **Priscilla Mills**, VP Programs, for arranging an excellent and informative tour of the Truckee KidZone Museum, followed by a delicious lunch at Moody's that included recognition of some of our outstanding members (see p. 2-4 for the list of awardees).



Priscilla presented beautiful spring bouquets to our Branch Leaders and thanked them for their service. I am very grateful to spend time with all of you who believe in the mission of AAUW and devote

your time, talents, and dollars to support our mission for the benefit of girls and young women in North Lake Tahoe!

Still to come this spring and summer is a Culinary Capers outing to "Nothing to It" in Reno and a June Book Group meeting during which book selections will be discussed for the next reading year, September 2023 through May 2024.

A sincere thank you to **Meri McEneny** for spearheading the planning and organizing of our Tahoe-AAUW-Branches STEM Trek Day on **June 3rd** at the Tahoe Environmental Research Center in Incline Village.

It has been an honor and pleasure to serve as your President the past few years, and I am looking forward to serving as Finance Officer next year, especially after **Patricia Watters** worked so hard to bring our financial records and investments into tip-top shape. Patricia will continue to serve our Branch as Scholarship Co-chair with **Kathie Julian**.

Let us all applaud and support **Priscilla Mills** as she takes on the mantle of President for 2023-2024. The Leadership Team will be holding a planning meeting during the summer; please contact any of your Officers if you have some ideas and suggestions for next year that you would like the Team to consider.

Thank you to those who have already returned your AAUW North Tahoe Membership Renewal Forms and included donations to our various programs. To those who have not yet returned your Renewal Forms, we hope that you will continue to support and participate in this amazing group of sincere, caring, and dedicated women.

Enjoy the glorious summer months at Tahoe!

JoAnn S. Cobb - jscobb@sbcglobal.net

GENERAL MEETING PROGRAM

On Monday, May 22nd, our branch held its General Meeting at the KidZone museum in Truckee. We had 18 people turn out for a tour of this excellent early childhood learning and play center. **Maria Snideman** is very involved with the KidZone and suggested a visit to learn more about it. We were quite impressed with what the KidZone offers the community, and about its plans for the future, which include building a bigger facility near the Truckee Regional Park (photos on p. 8-10).

After our tour, most of us repaired to Moody's, where we enjoyed an excellent lunch and some lively socializing. Our current and outgoing leaders were acknowledged, and our branch's AAUW Fund Named Gift Honorees and Branch Service Award recipient were announced.

We're so fortunate to have such a vibrant, active, and fun-loving branch!

Priscilla Mills – VP Programs



AAUW FUND

Congratulations to the 2023 Awardees!

Each year, our branch is able to nominate one Named Gift Honoree for **every \$750** that our branch donates to the national AAUW Fund. This award is the highest honor that we can bestow on a member for outstanding service and leadership in promoting the programs and goals of our branch and the national AAUW organization.

For the first time since 1994, our club has donated enough money (\$2,308) to qualify for three Named Gift Honorees.



Terry Yagura

A founding member of the AAUW North Tahoe Branch, serving as Membership Chair in 1983.

In 1984, Terry founded the "Arts for the Schools" program to provide arts education in local schools when funding was drastically reduced by the state.

Click here for [Arts for the Schools History](#)

2004-2005: Chair of Arts for the Schools

2009-2010: Co-VP Programs

2016-2017: Co-VP Programs

In May 2022, our branch held our general meeting at the Boys & Girls Club in Kings Beach. During the tour of the facility, we learned that with the Yaguras' financial support, the Art room is dedicated to the memory of Terry's parents, especially to her father Takeo: "*My dad was a self-taught artist who wanted to attend college as his father did in the early 1900's. His ambition for a career was dashed by being incarcerated along with all Japanese Americans at the onset of WWII, as he graduated High School for the length of a college enrollment.*"

Terry's elegance and dignified demeanor gives little trace of a life spent in Japanese internment

camp and as a target of senseless acts of discrimination. Rising above the fray, Terry, in multiple capacities, has generously given her time and money in support of this organization which she helped form. She is a role model of how to handle adversity and build a better, more beautiful world. We are honored as a Branch with her presence.



Priscilla Mills

*Member since 2018
2020 - Parliamentarian
2021-23 – VP Programs
2022 - Nominating committee & President Elect
Dorm Mom at UC Davis
Tech Trek Camp & Coach
for TT Virtual Program*

Priscilla has stepped right up with enthusiasm to meet the branch needs where she sees them. She is currently serving as Programs VP, an extremely tough position that she navigated with patience and grace in light of COVID restrictions. Priscilla has a teaching background which makes her very intuitive about the abilities and needs of rising young women in our community. She knows how to mentor young women to be future leaders in their professions and in the community by embodying the values of AAUW. Priscilla’s generosity of time and energy is greatly appreciated and admired. She is well deserving of this award.



Founded in 1925, the mission of the Tahoe Yacht Club is to develop a sense of community and friendship grounded in the nautical traditions begun by the Club's founders, by providing a year-round calendar of on and off the water activities, social events, and collaboration with the greater Tahoe community.

AAUW North Tahoe Branch is very grateful for the Tahoe Yacht Club in fostering our sense of community and friendship by serving as a meeting place for our interest groups, Great Decisions and Book Group, and for other social functions.

The Tahoe Yacht Club is aware of and supportive of the AAUW mission. The manager’s daughter participated in the Tech Trek/STEM program. We also share dual membership with a number of our members being members of the Tahoe Yacht Club.

To show our appreciation, the AAUW North Tahoe Branch bestows the high honor of being a Named Gift Honoree to the Tahoe Yacht Club. In addition, the AAUW North Tahoe Branch chooses to donate \$300 for the youth sailing program.

Branch Service Award

The Branch Service Award was created to complement the Named Gift Honoree, especially when there is more than one outstanding candidate. It is a local award that is managed within the local North Tahoe Branch. The candidate must have:

- been a member for at least 5 years
- made significant contributions of time, mentoring, leadership, and recruiting
- held at least 1 elected or appointed board positions
- been chairperson of an interest group



Linda Larish

*Member since 2014
2015-2019: Co-Recording Secretary
Girls State Co-Chair
Corresponding Secretary
Culinary Capers Co-Chair*

Linda joined our branch in 2014 and has been actively involved in many different capacities. She served as Co-Secretary for 4 years (from 2015 to 2019) and took detailed minutes at leadership

and general meetings. After stepping down as recording secretary in 2019, she continues to be our corresponding secretary, responsible for sending lovely thank you notes and caring sympathy cards on behalf of our branch.

Since 2019, she has been co-chairing Girls State with Christine Madden.

In addition to holding elected and appointed officer positions, Linda has been leading the Gourmet group (now Culinary Capers) since 2020 and is actively involved in Bridge group.

She is often the first to raise her hand whenever help is needed, whether to bring food to parties and meetings or to assist with setup/clean-up duties. She also coordinated the Petra fundraising dinner event for several years before the pandemic.

She is kind, cheerful, enthusiastic, and her “can do” attitude is contagious. For her leadership, dedication and commitment to our branch, Linda is well deserving of the branch service award.

Barbara Ramsey – AAUW Fund Chair



Ella Costello-Muzyczka, our Girls State delegate from 2022, has been chosen to be the class Valedictorian for her

graduation. She will attend UCLA this coming fall.

Patricia Watters has issued the final check for expenses to our 2023 delegate, Arelly Calderon, to attend the program in late June. Linda and I will deliver the check to her in mid-June.

Christine Madden & Linda Larish



Our 5 Tech Trek campers Aleyda, Ava, Dana, Leilani and Ximena are dealing directly with the UC Davis TT camp directors now regarding what to bring, when to arrive and

other details. Since our dorm selection is not quite finalized yet, there is some uncertainty, but we will be in the Tercero area of campus. All of us working at camp are happy that the ‘hot walks’ to field trips on campus will be shorter from this location.

Our new President **Priscilla** returns as a dorm mom, and **Cheryl Allen** will again help Virtual TT as a build or social coach. Thank you both!

Please mark your calendars for **Visit Day at UCD Tech Trek** on Thursday, **July 13, 2023, 9am-12:30pm**. Members and supporters are invited! Talk to Meri if you want to visit the morning core classes and enjoy lunch with our girls. This is also a great opportunity to meet other AAUW members from throughout northern California who support girls and STEM.

Working on the Professional Women’s Evening, July 12, 6:30-8:30 pm, has been inspiring and gratifying. Women professionals, some unaware of AAUW, are willing to spend an evening explaining their careers to our 90+ girls and perhaps open the girls’ eyes to new possibilities.

STEM Trek Day

STEM Trek Day has 13 girls registered and there is space for more girls, 12-18 years old. If you know a girl who might be interested to attend the **June 3rd** event, have her contact Meri ASAP. This will be a special day of earth and life science exploration with a focus on exponential growth in nature. Many activities are outside the TERC facility on UNR LT campus. We also plan math and art activities inside.

Our own Erin Loury is the first presenter. Erin will share her extensive knowledge about fisheries and communications along Incline Creek including a predator/prey game and writing a poem. I can’t wait to share the morning with her.

Members who are interested in coming for some or all of the June 3 event please contact **Meri**, 775 831-6071, or mmceneny@gmail.com. We will be spending a good part of the day outside, walking to the creek, and throughout the Demonstration Garden. Mobility and hearing might be a challenge for some activities so give me a call to discuss what activities you will enjoy most.

Thank you all for your support!

Meri McEneny -Tech Trek/STEM Trek Day Coordinator



MEMBERSHIP

A Friendly Reminder...

First, a thank you to those of you who have filled out your 2023-2024 membership renewal form and returned it in the SASE included.

Next, for those of you who still have it on your "to do" list, please try to send it back ASAP.

Our Finance Officer has to report to the national AAUW organization by the end of June. Since there is quite a bit of "paperwork" for her to complete, it is a great help to her to have all on hand way before then.

Many thanks for your continued membership and participation in our branch.

Carol Eyre & Johnnie Lee Don - Membership Co-VPs



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.

The following notes were sent:

Anne Greenwood - Thank you for presentation

Linda Dunne - Get well from bicycle accident

KidZone - Thank you for presentation

Betsy Peterson - We'll miss you and hope it's a positive move for you



Very best wishes to our Summer Birthdays!

June

05- Sue DeVoe

12- Sharon Ekin

18- Diane Buckman

19- Christine Madden

July

06- Betsy Peterson

07- Dana Loury

13- Carol Eyre, Linda Dunne

16- Donna Benner

21- Pat Castellucci

23- Cheryl Allen

August

01- Johnnie Lee Don, Carol Cunha

12- Rose Orenstein, Maria Snideman

23- Elayne Lester

25- Terry Yagura

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP



On Tuesday **June 27th**, **Linda Dunne** will lead the discussion on the June book selection "*The Chancellor: The Remarkable Odyssey of Angela Merkel*" by Kati Marton. The meeting will

be held at noontime in North Tahoe Regional Park. The “captivating” (The NY Times), definitive biography of German Chancellor Angela Merkel, detailing the extraordinary rise and political brilliance of the most powerful—and elusive—woman in the world.

It is available on Kindle, Audible, in hardcover and paperback and hopefully, at the library nearest you.

Also, In June, we will be voting on what books to read for the months of Sept 2023 - June 2024.

Please submit the following information for each book that you recommend:

- TITLE OF BOOK
- AUTHOR
- GENRE (F, HF, NF, B, M, SCI-FI) *
- COPYRIGHT DATE
- NUMBER OF PAGES
- BRIEF DESCRIPTION (2 to 3 sentences)

* F- fiction, HF - historical fiction, NF - nonfiction, B - biography, M - mystery, SCI-FI - science fiction

Please send your book suggestions to cherylkallen@cs.com and bj3ramsey@gmail.com.

Barbara Ramsey & Cheryl Allen



CULINARY CAPERS

Join us for a trip to “*Nothing To It*” Culinary Center in Reno for a cooking demonstration, followed by lunch and time to peruse the well- stocked gourmet kitchen shop. It will happen on **June 14th** at **9:30am**. Address: 225 Crummer Ln, Reno

There is still room for anyone who would like to attend. There is a **minimum of 15 people**, and we have **14** so far.

Contact **Linda Larish** at llarish526@gmail.com and mail a check made out to Linda for **\$50** (\$10 of that is returned to AAUW as a donation) to: 526 Jensen Cir, Incline Village NV 89451

Linda Larish & Johnnie Lee Don



CULTURAL GROUP

On Wednesday May 17th, we enjoyed a very lovely cultural event organized by **Jan Potter** and **Johnnie Lee Don**. Several of us visited the Reno Art Museum, featuring the *Ghost Army*.

This was a group of 1,100 soldiers who played a key role in deceiving the Nazis, time and time again. The exhibit was a multi-media presentation, including 90 + inflatables used to trick the Nazis, artwork by the soldiers, multiple photos of key players with written notes explaining how this process worked, and finally a documentary which was fascinating to watch.

We all highly recommend a visit to see this exhibit. It was extremely informative on a subject that many of us knew only a little about. It will run through July 23.

[Ghost Army: The Combat Con Artists of WW II](#)

Linda Larish



GREAT DECISIONS

Our Great Decisions group will resume on **September 19** with a discussion on *Global Famine*. Our moderator will be **Barbara Ramsey**.

October 17's topic will be *Iran at a Crossroads* and we still need a moderator.

Our last meeting for the year will be **November 21** on *Climate Migration* with **Priscilla Mills** as our discussion leader.

Our meetings are on the third Tuesday of each month from 10am to noon and we will keep you posted by email on meeting location. They are usually at the Tahoe Yacht Club and always available by zoom if you are unable to attend in person.

Ann Lyman & Jo Ann Cobb



IN STITCHES

Spring is here, and summer is on the way!

Our AAUW-North Tahoe In Stitches hosting schedule for the next few months is set. We hope you'll consider joining us this summer for some knitting, crocheting, quilting, needlepoint, or cross-stitch! We're pleased to have a few new stitchers, and we welcome other AAUW-NT members of any ability level. We are all constantly learning!

In addition to working on individual projects, the In Stitches group spends some time working together to create handmade items for others. Two of our members recently finished a crocheted pet blanket for a local unhoused person with a canine companion.



Several others have been knitting textured squares that will soon be assembled and donated to Project Linus for a child in need of some extra security.

Our meetings are from 2pm - 4pm on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. In Stitches members receive an email (including the host's address) about a week before each meeting.

Here are the dates and hosts for this summer:

June 21: Nancy Cline

July 19: Dianne Lange

August 16: Carol Eyre

We are looking forward to some fun times together this summer!

Julie Elmen & Barbara Ramsey

In Stitches Co-Leaders



JUNE

03: STEM Trek Day

10: Interbranch Luncheon SLT

14: Culinary Capers

21: In Stitches

27: Book Group

General Meeting May 22, 2023

KidZone Museum, Truckee

(Photos courtesy of Kym, Meri and Jo Ann)





Lunch at Moody's Bistro Bar & Beats

