



March 2024



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Okay, everybody, I know you're all getting ready for March Madness! I'm sure you're just dying to fill in your brackets! Actually, though I don't really follow it, this tournament always makes me a little excited about what could be. Having grown up in Buffalo, living in Kings Beach, and having taught mostly low-income students, I always find myself pulling for the underdog. That's what's so fun about this college basketball tournament – it's nonprofessional kids out there giving it their all. It's so fun to pull for the Cinderella teams! I like to think that much of what we do in AAUW is giving the underdog a leg up. What could be a more worthy mission?



— Priscilla Mills



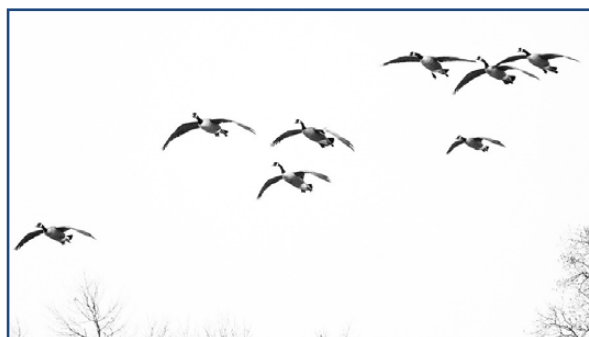
Very exciting news!
We have SEVEN candidates identified. Its been several years since we've had that many. These young ladies,

all juniors this year, will be interviewed at North Tahoe High School on Thursday, 2/29. Joining our interview team is Beth Sammis. We are so happy that she has agreed to participate in this process. Also, our ALA (American Legion Auxiliary) representative from Roseville, who is sponsoring our branch, will be joining us for the first time. The week for our chosen candidate at Sacramento State University will run from

Tuesday, 6/25/24 through Sunday, 6/30/24. If anyone else is interested in joining our interview team and learning more about Girls State, please notify Linda Larish or Christine Madden.

— Linda Larish & Christine Madden

PROGRAMS



March General Meeting – IT'S FOR THE BIRDS!

Will Richardson, Executive Director of the Institute for Natural Sciences will speak on the Spring Migration of Birds in the Tahoe Region.

Date: Thursday, March 21st

Time: 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Where: Meiling Training Room
(upstairs conference room)

948 Incline Way, Incline Village, NV

What to bring: Brown bag lunch, your regional bird books (optional)

Members and guests welcome.

— Barbara Ramsey

PROGRAMS *(continued)*

Art Class at Atelier/Reno Rescheduled

Amazing local artist Grace Davis will lead a class in botanical studies in gouache.



Gouache, body color, or opaque watercolor is a water-medium paint consisting of natural pigment, water, a binding agent, and sometimes additional inert material. Gouache is designed to be opaque. Gouache has a long history, having been used for at least twelve centuries.

Pictured above: "red + fuzzy" by Grace Davis (mixed media on paper)

This private workshop at Atelier in Reno is exclusive for AAUW North Tahoe members and their guests.

This is a beginner's class. No experience necessary.

DETAILS:

Artist: **Grace Davis**

<https://www.grace-davis.com>

Subject: **Botanical studies in gouache**

Place: **2135 Dickerson Road, Reno, NV**

Date: **Wednesday, May 22**

Time: **10:00 am – 12:30 pm**

Fee: **\$67/ student who bring their own supplies or use our rented supplies or \$95/ student which includes take home kit**

To enroll in the class simply click on this link:
<https://www.atelierinreno.com/workshops/p/privateworkshoppayment-k23j6>

Carpools can be arranged post sign ups.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

– **Barbara Ramsey**

SAVE THE DATE!



AAUW North Tahoe Branch is very excited to host our first AAUW Fund Speaker on Thursday, April 11, 2024.

Shuchi Dwivedi is a history major and a criminal lawyer who is currently a screenwriting fellow at the American Film Institute in Los Angeles. In 2022 she completed cowriting her first feature film. Shuchi will be speaking about her screenwriting experience.

The presentation will take place at Rosie's Café in Tahoe City from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm. Members and Guests are welcome. Look for further details in the April newsletter.



MEMBERSHIP

Meet our new member!

Barbara Klencke



Barbara Klencke has been a full time Incline Village resident since 2017. Formerly a practicing academic oncologist whose career included over 2 decades of clinical patient care, clinical research, and teaching, Barb then spent over 2 additional decades in biotech, where she made substantial contributions to the development and approval of numerous cancer medications. Having recently retired from her last full-time 'Chief Medical Officer' role at the end of 2023,

Continued on following page...

she now functions as an independent director on the board of numerous biotech companies. As a lifelong competitive swimmer, she has raced in the annual Donner Lake swim and the Trans-Tahoe swim many dozen times since the early 80's. She is also passionate about hiking, kayaking, and snowshoeing and is an active supporter of the Tahoe Environmental Research Center and other environmental organizations. Over the course of the past 2 years, she built, by hand, a gorgeous and light weight strip wood kayak. She is also on the board of 'Tahoe Music Alive', a non-profit established in 2023 to bring acclaimed musical artists to North Tahoe for small ensemble concerts intermittently throughout the year.



AAUW FUND

Since 1888, AAUW has been one of the largest funders of women's graduate education, investing in women who go on to change the world.

Below is a sample of AAUW FUND fellows and award winners in astronomy from the past to the present and into the future. Thanks to you for your AAUW FUND contributions.

— Jan Potter



Cecilia Payne-Gaposchkin

First full female Professor at Harvard. First Professional Astronomer at Harvard. 1924-25 AAUW International Fellow.



Kimberly Ennico Smith

NASA scientist. NASA New Horizons mission that captured images of Pluto. 1997-98 AAUW American Fellow.



Jessica Marquez

NASA Engineer. 2006-07 AAUW Selected Professions Fellow.



SCHOLARSHIP

Empowering Young Women Through AAUW North Tahoe Scholarships

In early February, our branch's 2023 scholarship award recipient Isabella Berberich and 2022 scholarship award recipient Katherine Le were able to carve out a little time for lunch near Cal-Poly State University in San Luis Obispo.

In her second year of biochemistry studies at CP, Katherine starts her classes at 8 am with labs lasting until 6 pm. Isabella takes a full load of five classes in her first year as a chemistry major. Both of these ambitious students joined STEM sororities and fraternities as well as several study groups to connect with like-minded students.

Isabella related her recent "epiphany":

A marketing student in her dorm asked her to take a survey about shampoo. The very next day, her chemistry class studied shampoo. She was struck by how higher education interconnects knowledge to get shampoo in your shower. Did you have a similar moment in your college years?

Katherine and Isabella confirmed the importance of their AAUW North Tahoe scholarships that allowed them to focus on their first year of studies. Both aim for PhD degrees in their field. I reminded them of AAUW's support for graduate work and related a few of the stories told by AAUW fellowship recipients in recent videos provided by AAUW Fund. Your generous gifts transform lives and pave the way for a brighter future for all.

— Patricia Watters



Left to Right:

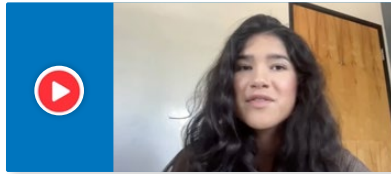
Katherine Le, Patricia Watters, Isabella Berberich



SCHOLARSHIP (continued)

Message from Mariana Bravo Corona, 3rd Year NT AAUW STEM Scholar

Mariana Bravo Corona, a first generation college student and our 2021 four-year NT AAUW STEM Scholarship awardee, is completing her junior year at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles where she majors in Civil Engineering. Mariana has sent us a video message. She has progressed in STEM and will undertake an internship in civil engineering with a company in Los Angeles this summer. We congratulate Mariana on her success and wish her the best in her final year of undergraduate study.



[CLICK HERE](#) to view Mariana's video message.

– *Kathie Julian*



Very exciting news!
We have SEVEN candidates identified. That is the most ever as far as I know. Usually we have 2-3. These young

ladies, all juniors this year, will be interviewed at North Tahoe High School on Thursday, 2/29. Joining our interview team is Beth Sammis. We are so happy that she has agreed to participate in this process. Also, our ALA (American Legion Auxiliary) representative from Roseville, who is sponsoring our branch, will be joining us for the first time. The week for our chosen candidate at Sacramento State University will run from Tuesday, 6/25/24 through Sunday, 6/30/24. If anyone else is interested in joining our interview team and learning more about Girls State, please notify Linda Larish or Christine Madden.

– *Linda Larish & Christine Madden*



*Very best wishes to our
March Birthdays!*

03 – Kymberly Pipkin

04 – Susan Chapman

14 – Michele Finch

16 – Barbara Ramsey

27 – Ann Lyman

INTEREST GROUPS



BOOK GROUP

**The Book Group will meet at 12:00 pm on
March 26th at the Tahoe Yacht Club to discuss
The Vanishing Half by Brit Bennett.**



This novel is about twin sisters, inseparable as children, who ultimately choose to live in two very different worlds, one Black and one White. Weaving together multiple strands and generations of this

family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett produces a story that is at once a riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing. It is a number one *New York Times* best seller and was named a Best Book of 2020 by *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, and NPR, as well as several magazines. It is one of Barack Obama's favorite books of the year. The book is available on Audible, Kindle, and hard copy.

Continued on following page...

Conversation and lunch will be from noon to 12:30 pm. Cheryl Allen will lead the book discussion from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm. This will be a hybrid meeting with an in-person group at the Tahoe Yacht Club and a Zoom Screen for remote attendees. We will send a Zoom link in advance for anyone who would prefer to join the discussion from home.

Looking forward to the discussion and sharing our ideas about this book!

– *Cheryl Allen & Barbara Ramsey*



BRIDGE

The Bridge Group “met” on the online program called Trickster on Wednesday February 7th. Kym Pipkin, Linda Larish, Patricia Watters and I played together. Linda Larish has volunteered her home for a “live” game, sometime in the future, depending on weather, to allow those who don’t play online to participate. In the meantime, Trickster remains our venue.

– *Betsey Husted*



CULINARY CAPERS

All February Winter Blahs were put to flight with our **Branch Soup Luncheon!**

There was a lot of socializing and a feeling of high energy as roughly 30 new and old members joined with a few of our Mission partners to **Turn Up the Love**, a phrase coined by member Patricia Watters a while back.

Interest Group Culinary Capers outdid themselves with six soups: Winter Night Beef, Thai Coconut, Tuscan Bean, Coconut Wild Rice, Tortellini and Potato Corn Chowder. We thank our soup making ladies: New member Gay Thomas, Newsletter editor, Linda Dunne, as well as dedicated old timers Carol Eyre, Jan Potter, Linda Larish and Jlee Don. The soups got raves galore!

Thank you to our many members who catered to our sweet “teeth”: Ellen Magnani, Cheryl Allen, Jo Ann Cobb, Tara Harris, and Priscilla Mills. NT branch does like its desserts!!!!

And we cannot forget our wonderful Bread Makers: Ann Yuhas and Shirley Cabo with corn bread, Judy Brown, Martha Cirata, and Barbara Ramsey with a variety of sour doughs. Yum!
[SEE THE SOUP LUNCHEON PHOTOS ON PAGE 8](#)

Our last Culinary Capers event, **Celebration of Winter**, was a huge success with many old and new members gathering at Johnnie Lee’s for good food (cheese fondue and all the trimmings!) and good conversation. **Our next event is to celebrate Mardi Gras!** We know this holiday is over but it’s such a fun and colorful event. Pat Castellucci has AGAIN offered to host the event and her home is decorated (always beautifully). It will be at 1:00 pm on Sunday, March 3, 2024. If there is too much snow on March 3, the backup date is March 10. If anyone is interested in coming (a few are signed up already), please contact Linda Larish at llarish526@gmail.com and Pat Castellucci at mtnseapac@sbcglobal.net and let us know what you are bringing. Partners are welcome also.

– *Linda Larish and Johnnie Lee Don*



CULTURAL GROUP

Often members let us know about movie, musical, and other interesting events here in Tahoe or further afield. Interested attendees then do the actual planning with help for notifications, car pooling etc. This past year included the Reno event of **BEYOND VAN GOGH** at the Convention Center which was like stepping into a Van Gogh painting. We followed up with lunch at The Stone House Cafe.

Later, in May, we enjoyed a visit to the Nevada Art Museum which was spotlighting **THE GHOST ARMY** with a film and many interesting inflatables and artist sketches. Lunch was at the Museum itself.

In the fall, folks were notified of the **Tahoe Film Festival**, an annual event occurring the first weekend of December. The proceeds benefit the UC Davis Tahoe Environmental Research Center in Incline Village. Also, there are the **Tahoe Truckee Community Chorus events** which from all accounts were absolutely wonderfully breathtaking! All ideas welcome. Email johnnieleedon1@gmail.com.

– *Johnnie Lee Don*



GREAT DECISIONS

Our next Great Decisions meeting will be on **Tuesday, March 19 at the Tahoe Yacht Club from 10 am to 12 pm.** Wendy Rudolph will be our moderator and our subject is **Science Across Borders**. A zoom link will be sent out for those who can't join us in person.

– *Ann Lyman*



IN STITCHES

Our group continues to enjoy producing handmade items for ourselves and others. We meet at members' homes monthly on the third Wednesday, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Currently we are designing our next group-made project to be donated to **Project Linus** when completed. Each participant will either knit or crochet squares that will be joined together to make a blanket. This a great way to build our skills while making an impact on a child's life. You do not have to participate in this project by joining our group.

Our next meeting will be on March 20th at 2:00 pm, location to be determined.

For any additional information please contact **Esther Sonnenberg** at esther.sonnenberg@gmail.com or **Julie Elmen** at jdelmen@gmail.com, co-chairs, In Stitches Group.

– *Esther Sonnenberg & Julie Elmen*



In Stitches Interest Group Meeting



WALKING GROUP

Because our February walk was canceled by weather, we will try the Tahoe City lake front path in March.

Our walks are always on the last Monday of the month (March 25). We will meet in front of Za's restaurant at 9:30 am. Afterward we will enjoy brunch at Rosie's Cafe.

– *Dianne Lange*

NOTES SENT

Jeanne Plumb MD – Thank you for presentation, 2/10/24



CALENDAR

MARCH

- 03:** Culinary Capers
- 19:** Great Decisions
- 20:** In Stitches
- 21:** General Meeting
- 25:** Walking Group
- 26:** Book Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAHOE MUSIC
Alive

**Tahoe Music Alive
Offers Six Concerts
in 2024**

Beginning May 4th and extending until November 9th, six exceptional listening experiences will be available in the North Tahoe area. Tahoe Music Alive presents world class musical artists in intimate settings, and was established to bring 'best of class musicians' to North Tahoe to inspire excellence and to provide year-round musical performances in the North Tahoe area. Since its founding in mid-2023, TMA produced three very successful, sold-out concerts in 2023 in North

Continued on following page...

Tahoe venues with world-renown musicians and has attracted major talent for an exceptional 2024 season with 6 concerts planned in 2024. In addition to the classical music focus highlighting the 2023 series, the 2024 year will also include jazz and international music, in addition to classical music ensembles. Tickets go on sale on March 15, 2024.

For more information, view the Tahoe Music Alive [events web page](#), or [join their email list](#) for updates and to volunteer for concert logistics, musician hospitality, and educational outreach.

FEBRUARY SOUP LUNCHEON PHOTOS

