



# Twentieth Century Club CONNECTIONS

August/September 2022 | Issue 136

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Serving as the vice president for programs, I spent a lot of time behind the Twentieth Century Club (TCC) luncheon podium introducing our guest speakers. Each time, I was awed to think of the amazing women that had stood there before me. I'm both humbled and honored to become 102nd president of Nevada's oldest and most prestigious club for women.

We are each stewards of the TCC, its values, and mission for the next generation of women to come. The American clothing designer, Ralph Lauren, articulated this philosophy of things that are timeless and enduring as having an—"appreciation for what has come before, so that we may work together to inspire and create the heritage of tomorrow."

With members renewing their commitment to the Club, we begin the year 50-strong. This is important because commitment leads to action and our actions bring us closer to making a difference in our community. Without commitment, nothing happens.

By their nature, and term limits, boards are designed to be fluid inviting fresh perspectives. This year, we are fortunate to have Diane Coons and Sue Moore-Fry join the board. Annette Luckow served on the budget committee this summer. And, longtime member, Tricia Murray is volunteering her PowerPoint skills to create the overhead slides for the luncheons.

The TCC's officers and directors convened in August to discuss and plan the coming year—from the operating budget and standing rules to luncheon programs and the nonprofits we will support through our fund drives and raffles. The most difficult decision for the board was to raise the luncheon price to \$35 to offset the Atlantis' new banquet menu pricing.

Diane reviewed your surveys and based upon your input has an exciting luncheon series planned. September's luncheon will provide a look at The Healthy Nevada Project—the biggest little genetic study taking place right here in Northern Nevada. The luncheon program is a benefit for the genetic liver disease study at Desert Research Institute.

I look forward to seeing you on September 8th.

Kimberly Elliott

### 2022-2023 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT  
KIMBERLY ELLIOTT

1ST VP-PROGRAMS  
DIANE COONS

2ND VP-PHILANTHROPY  
TATJANA VUKOVIC

3RD VP-MEMBERSHIP  
PEGGY SLATTERY

SECRETARY  
SUE MOORE-FRY

TREASURER  
JANE CHAPMAN

### DIRECTORS

EDIE FERGUSON  
(2021-2023)

BARBARA KOROSA  
(2021-2023)

JAN BROWNE  
(2022-2024)

RONI NICORA  
(2022-2024)



## SEPTEMBER 8 | TCC'S LUNCH & LEARN

What is the Healthy Nevada Project? What does it mean to me and my family? What has it learned and were there any surprises? Find out all about this at our September 8, 2022 luncheon.



The Biggest Little Study in the Biggest Little City

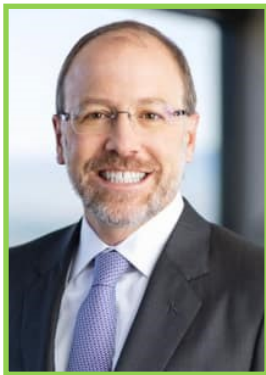
**58,000**  
Participants

**135**  
Zip Codes

Our kickoff presentation for the 2022-2023 season of Twentieth Century Club is Renown Healthy Nevada Project's Dr. Joseph Grzymiski. Dr. Grzymiski conceived and is the Principal Investigator of Healthy Nevada Project, the largest community sponsored population health program in the US.

Also, as the CSO of Renown Health, Dr. Grzymiski helped launch the largest liver disease genetics study in the United States in partnership with the pharmaceutical company, Gilead Sciences. Renown Healthy Nevada Project is a partnership between the Renown Institute for Health Innovation and the Desert Research Institute. ■

## MEET THE RESEARCHERS BEHIND THE PROJECT



**Dr. Joseph Grzymiski**

In September 2016, 10,000 people from 135 zip codes across northern Nevada volunteered to participate in the Healthy Nevada Project (HNP) launch. The project is a partnership between the Renown Institute for Health Innovation and the Desert Research Institute that offers no-cost genetic testing to Nevadans 18 and older. Since its launch, the project has enrolled more than 58,000 participants and continues to grow and support extensive, more complex research studies.

The goals of the Healthy Nevada Project are expansive. On an individualized level, participants learn about their ancestry, diet insights and genetic risks linked to heart disease and certain cancers. Participants receive clinical

results for genetic variants associated with increased risks. Leveraging Renown's forward-thinking approach to community healthcare and Desert Research Institute's data analytics and environmental expertise, this population health study also aims to better understand how genetics, environment, social factors and healthcare interact to help predict who may be at greater risk—allowing for quicker diagnoses and more precise treatment.

With more than 20 years in the field, Dr. Joseph Grzymiski conceived and is the Principal Investigator of Healthy Nevada Project. He serves as the Director of the Renown Institute for Health Innovation; the Chief Scientific Officer for Renown

Health; and a Research Professor in Computational Biology and Genetics at the Desert Research Institute

Shaun Dabe is the Supervisor for Research Genetics at Renown Health and the Lead Clinical Research Coordinator for the Healthy Nevada Project. Shaun has 5 years of Human Subject Research experience and 8 years of Pre-Clinical Research experience working with primates. Shaun is SOCRA certified and has a BS in Biology from the University of Nevada Reno. Shaun directly oversees an amazing group of Genomic Representatives, helping patients learn more about their genetic risks. He facilitates the successful return of genetic findings to patients at increased risk for certain genetic conditions. ■

## MEMBERSHIP—WE ARE 50 STRONG!

Welcome back from our summer break. Hope you are all staying cool.

Membership is currently at fifty, including four Life Members and one new Member, Joy Orlich. Welcome Joy!

As in the past, membership is a challenge and we would like to increase our numbers. Please do consider inviting a guest to one of the lunches—it is our best recruiting tool

and you will get a free lunch for every new member you host as your guest at a lunch.

The new roster for the 2022-2023 year is complete and material for renewing members has been completed. Thanks to everyone for getting Membership Renewals submitted in a timely manner. The Membership Renewal packets will be distributed at the September lunch and the balance of the packets will be

distributed via US Mail. This year approximately 25% of the membership have opted to receive their renewal packets electronically.

Sorry to inform you that long time member, Nancy Kasper, recently passed away. She was very active in our bridge group.

I look forward to a good year.

*Peggy Slattery*  
*Membership Chair*

## PHILANTHROPY—A RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Most donors—96% of us to be exact—want to give back to their community and tackle inequities by using our good fortune to help others whether it be financial or through volunteering a needed skillset. We continue to support organizations that are worthy of our trust and commitment.

Transparency and dependability are key, but so is getting a return on investment. Nonprofits are businesses—they need to have an entrepreneurial mindset. After all, “donors” are basically the “venture capitalists” of nonprofits. Like venture capitalists we provide funds and expertise—and, need to get

a return on our investment. Is the nonprofit solving the problem or simply putting a band aid on it? Successful nonprofits are social disrupters—they look to bring about change by breaking the problem’s cycle.

Northern Nevada HOPES is a good example of a disrupter. The medical center recognized early on that they needed to provide wrap-around services for their patients to thrive. TCC board members Peggy Slattery and Kimberly Elliott toured their facility this summer. Representatives from HOPES will be guests of the Club at the December luncheon.

Looking at return on investment is one of the criteria that the TCC Philanthropy Committee considers when making annual awards from the Legacy Fund and approving the organizations that we fundraise for at our luncheons.

The business magazine “Inc.” has a social entrepreneurship newsletter which features an article on why donors should demand a return on investment.

To learn more, you can read the full article at this link: <https://www.inc.com/naveen-jain/philanthropy-why-you-should-demand-an-roi.html> ■

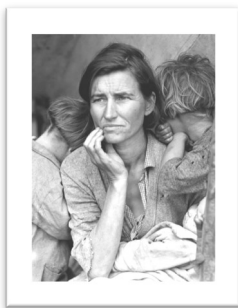
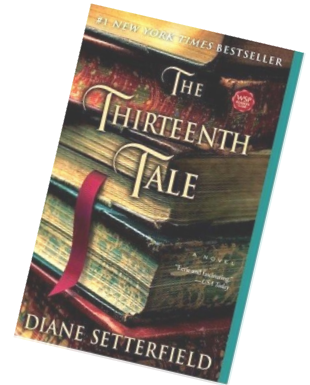


*“The measure of the worth of an organization to its community is found in its ability to embrace opportunities for service.”*

## TCC BOOK CLUB—FALL READING

The TCC Book Club continues to embrace different genres and authors. The selection for September 21st is “The Thirteenth Tale” by Diane Setterfield. It is Gothic strangeness at its best by an author who loves words and knows how to use them. Barbara Oppio will be leading September’s discussion.

“The Thirteenth Tale” introduces the reader to reclusive author Vida Winter, famous for her collection of twelve enchanting stories, who has spent the past six decades penning a series of alternate lives for herself. Now old and ailing, she is ready to reveal the truth about her existence and the past she has kept secret for so long. Calling on Margaret Lea, a young biographer troubled by her own painful history, Vida disinters the life she meant to bury for good. Sometimes, when you open the door to the past, what you confront is your destiny. Together, Margaret and Vida confront the ghosts that have haunted them while becoming, finally, transformed by the truth themselves.



October 19th will find the group discussing American historical fiction. Roni Nicora will lead the discussion on “The Four Winds” by Kristin Hannah. This novel delves deeply into the Great Depression, the Dustbowl, and the subsequent migration of 70,000 displaced Americans that traveled to California—the land of milk and honey—seeking opportunity and a chance at a better life. The novel is richly written and evocative of John Steinbeck’s classic “The Grapes of Wrath.” Hannah uses words to capture the desperation as Dorothea Lange did in her iconic photograph “Migrant Mother.”

The group is chaired by Barbara Oppio and meets at 10:30 a.m. the third Wednesday of each month for coffee at the Barnes & Noble’s Starbucks (5555 South Virginia Street). ■

## BRIDGE CLUB—ON THE MOVE WITH A NEW LOCATION

The TCC’s Bridge Club is on the move. Beginning Friday, September 2nd, the Bridge Club will meet at the home of Jan Browne—4025 Bitter Creek Court, Reno, Nevada. You can order from Moxie’s menu or bring your own lunch. Cost: \$1 for prize money. Bridge Co-Chairs: Joan Brick, Roberta Gerber and Jane Chapman.

The TCC Bridge Club meets on the 1st Friday morning of each month. Play begins at 10:00 and ends at 2:30 in the afternoon. ■

## THE MAHJONG CLUB—TCC’S “QUINT”-ESSENTIAL WOMEN

Mahjong is a game of skill, strategy, and luck. The game is played with a set of 144 tiles based on Chinese characters and symbols. Base hands are called “quints” or five of a kind. To win a game, a player must be both offensive and defensive – the aim is to complete the best hand as quickly as possible, while not discarding tiles that will be of advantage to other players. The group meets at Swill Coffee & Wine Café on Mondays —9:30 am to 2:30 pm. The address is 3366 Lakeside Circle. Linda Felices is chair. ■

## LUNCHEON MEETINGS

The Twentieth Century Club meets September through May on the second Thursday of each month. Check-in and socializing begins at 11:30 a.m. with the luncheon service and program starting at noon. The meetings are held at the Atlantis Casino Resort which is conveniently located at 3800 South Virginia Street, Reno, Nevada.

For more information about the Club’s activities and upcoming programs, please visit the website at [twentiethcenturyclub.org](http://twentiethcenturyclub.org).