



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Beginning my second term, I'm still humbled and honored to be presiding over Nevada's oldest and most prestigious club for women. This year marks the Club's 130th anniversary of service to the community. We are each stewards of the TCC, its values, and mission for the next generation of women to come.

By their nature, and term limits, boards are designed to be fluid and invite fresh perspectives. This year, we are fortunate to have Joy Orlich, Robin Mercer, and Jill Navarrette join the board. This month's Member Profile introduces us to Publicity Chair Kendall Brown. Kendall will be the one behind the camera—smile! Long-time member, Tricia Murray, continues to volunteer her PowerPoint skills to create the overhead slides for the luncheons. We still need volunteers. Joy has posted a request for luncheon volunteers (see right). I hope you will consider helping.

With members renewing their commitment to the Club, we begin the year 50-plus strong. This is important because commitment leads to action and our actions bring us closer to making a difference in our community. Joy and Robin have put together an exciting luncheon year. Luncheons provide a way for us to “disconnect” and actively engage in conversation and laugh with others—TCC luncheons are good for your health. We can add that to Joy's “9 Good Reasons.”

In addition to the Book Club, Bridge and Mahjong, the TCC has new social offerings through the Gardening Arts events starting on August 24th with “The Rose Whisperer—Diane Coons” and next month's “Booze & Botanicals.” “Booze & Botanicals” brings together two of Reno's iconic entities: TCC, the city's most prestigious women's club, and Abby's Highway 40, Fourth Street's classiest dive bar. Yes, the members of the TCC were part of Reno's Temperance Movement marching to shutdown the then thriving Fourth Street brewery district. I like to think they would be tittering about this event.

I look forward to seeing you in September.

Kimberly Elliott



Lunchtime Volunteers Needed

Can you help us out at lunchtime? We need two volunteers to check people in for the luncheons, and two people to sell raffle tickets before the program begins. You can volunteer for September–December or January–May (or both!). Contact Program Chair, Joy Orlich, at joyrolich@sbcglobal.net to sign up or for more information.

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

“Friendships between women, as any woman will tell you, are built of a thousand small kindnesses...swapped back and forth and over again.”

Michelle Obama
Becoming

SEPTEMBER 14 | TCC'S LUNCH & LEARN

Who Doesn't Love a Good Mystery?

Join the TCC on September 14 for an enthralling presentation by acclaimed mystery writer, Todd Borg. Borg is the author of the Owen McKenna mystery series, set in beautiful Lake Tahoe. His 21st book, "Tahoe Flight", was just published in August. Todd will talk about using Lake Tahoe as the setting for his books, the art and craft of writing, and what it takes to keep a series going this long. Audiences love his entertaining storytelling! Want to read up in advance? Todd's books are available at Sundance Books and Grassroots Books in Reno, and online at Amazon.com. Books will also be available for purchase and/or signing at the luncheon. ■



SEPTEMBER'S DIRECT DONATION BENEFICIARY



The League to Save Lake Tahoe

Who hasn't seen the ubiquitous bright blue bumper sticker "Keep Tahoe Blue" while driving on northern Nevada's roadways? The League to Save Lake Tahoe is the watchdog of the Lake Tahoe Basin—working to protect and restore the environmental health, sustainability and scenic beauty of the area. They focus on water quality and its clarity for the preservation of a pristine Lake for future generations. There's always something you can do to keep Lake Tahoe blue—whether it's through activism, volunteerism, or by simply writing a check.

We've made it easy, you can just add a donation to your luncheon reservation. ■

PROGRAM CORNER | 9 GOOD REASONS

We think we have a terrific lineup of monthly luncheon programs this year that you won't want to miss! Our September program brings back Todd Borg, author of the Tahoe Mystery Series. Todd was originally scheduled to speak last March but had to cancel due to weather. Maybe it's a good thing, as his latest book, "Tahoe Flight", (with an interesting back story) has just been released. A recent book signing at Sundance Books was standing room only; it's clear he has a large and loyal following.

In October and November,

we turn our attention to domestic matters - that of domestic violence and our housing shortage, especially among young people and seniors. Kristen Kennedy recently took the helm of the Domestic Violence Resource Center and has greatly ramped up funding for support services in our community. Monic DuPea, executive director of the Nevada Youth Empowerment Program has teamed up with builder and longtime NYEP volunteer, Bob Lissner, to create the GenDen, a creative affordable housing solution that pairs seniors with

young adults to provide companionship and services for older residents and job skills training for young adults.

Our December, February, and March programs all feature fascinating stories about Nevada and Nevadans, and we hope to have a special treat for you at our April Philanthropy luncheon. All in all, we think we have 9 good reasons for you to attend our meetings this year! ■

Joy Orlich
VP—Programs

CHARITABLE GIVING IN 2022 DROPS

Charitable giving in the United States declined in 2022 according to the Giving USA report which was released in June 2023. This is only the fourth time in four decades that donations did not increase year over year.

In sum, total giving fell 3.4% in 2022. Those 2022 donations came after two record-setting years for charitable giving. *Una Osili, the Giving USA report’s lead researcher, said, “At the beginning of the 21st century, two thirds of Americans gave. Today, that is down to under 50%.”* Thus, the trend is that giving has grown, but it also appears fewer people are participating.

According to the Giving USA report, 64% of charitable donations in 2022 came from individual

donors, 21% from foundations, 9% from bequests (will or estate plan) and 6% from corporations. In 2022, corporations donated 0.9% of their pre-tax profits in the United States.

The authors of this report, from Indiana University’s Lilly Family School of Philanthropy, say the findings are not entirely surprising. “Drops in the stock market and high inflation caused many households to make tough decisions about their charitable giving for the year,” said *Josh Birkholz, Chair of Giving USA Foundation and CEO of philanthropy consultancy firm BWF.* “But despite uncertain economic times, Americans demonstrated how essential they view the nonprofit sector and its

ability to solve big problems—by still giving nearly half a trillion dollars in 2022,” he added.

What will this mean for non-profits in 2023? As the chances of an economic recession grow, it means that nonprofits are losing the supporters who could help them navigate a downturn, according to a new report. Our economy has negatively affected charitable giving, resulting in fewer donations, only three times since 1982. “It appears individual donors were impacted by changing economic conditions.” *Wendy McGrady, Secretary / Treasurer of Giving USA Foundation.* However, Giving USA’s data also provide a case for hope as charitable giving has rebounded after each decline historically. ■

Robin Mercer
VP—Philanthropy



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

SEPTEMBER’S 50/50 RAFFLE BENEFICIARY IS TCC

The 2024 Spring Basket Extravaganza is scheduled for our May meeting, but it is not too soon to begin thinking about donations to our philanthropic goals and efforts. Your donations last year helped TCC raise more than \$1800 towards our nursing scholarship at TMCC. Our goal this year is to raise \$3000 for scholarships.

The September 50/50 raffle beneficiary is the TCC’s nursing scholarship program. The item shown at right is being donated to the TCC for our September 50/50 raffle. This month, you will have two chances to win—either the 50/50 cash prize or a handmade fused-glass art piece. You won’t want to miss out so consider purchasing your raffle tickets in advance when you register for the September luncheon. ■ *Jill Navarrette, Secretary*



MEMBERSHIP REPORT—WE ARE 54 STRONG

Welcome back, everyone, I hope your summer is going well and I look forward to seeing everyone at the September lunch.

As of August 5, 2023, the membership is 54. This represents a net loss of 22 as membership was at 76 in May 2023. We lost 14 out-of-town members – we may be getting at least one of those back. Additionally, eight members did not renew. Obviously, membership numbers continue to be a concern. I do believe our members are our best recruiters.

Please consider inviting your special friends to join us for a lunch. The Programs and Philanthropy Chairs have an outstanding agenda scheduled for the coming year.

I am going to take that schedule to a couple of close friends and see when (not if) they would like to attend a TCC lunch.

We have a very special event planned for the September lunch. We will award a new LIFE membership! Can you guess who it is?

Membership packets for the Club 2023-2024 will be available to TCC Board members at the September 12, 2023, Executive Board meeting. Members who have agreed to receive an electronic copy of the packet will be emailed during the week of September 10. Additionally, membership packets will be distributed at the September 14th lunch. The balance of the packets will be US Mailed to members. ■

Peggy Slattery
VP—Membership

MEMBER PROFILE—MEET KENDALL BROWN



If there is adventure to be had, sign Kendall up! Her passions include horseback riding, scuba diving, tango dancing, rock climbing, mountaineering and any activity that ends around a campfire with a whiskey in hand. She loves photography, reading murder mysteries books and exploring new countries.

Currently she runs a business with her husband raising and training service dogs for mobility aid. She is thrilled to have joined the Twentieth Century Club, and looks forward to promoting and capturing the Club's amazing work in the community!

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN SEPTEMBER

Birthdays are great anytime of the year—it is one's special day. But, there are a multitude of reasons why September might be one of the best months to celebrate—great weather, reduced travel fares, so many clothing choices, it's Jack Daniels Month, and a birthday stone that they made an entire movie based upon an expedition searching for a sapphire necklace called the "Heart of the Ocean." Celebrating birthdays this month are:



Sarah Britt, Lynda Knepper, Jan Maddock, and Diane Rose

Wishing you a day filled with happiness and a year filled with joy. Happy Birthday!

TCC BOARD ACTIONS AND ACTIVITIES

The TCC Officers and Directors meet monthly from August through May. The August meeting is the planning meeting for the coming year. Below are highlights from the meetings. Minutes from the meetings are available upon request.

TCC Revises Memorandum of Understanding with TMCC

Society has changed in the past decade, and it is not surprising that the TCC’s original scholarship memorandum of understanding (MOU) with Truckee Meadows Community College contained some discriminatory language. TMCC Scholarship Manager, Samantha Bellwood, spoke to the board at its August board meeting and explained that there had been a civil liberties complaint filed with the Scholarship Office. As a result, their office flagged the MOUs that needed to be revised. Going forward, the TCC’s scholarships will be awarded to a second-year, full-time student with a 3.0 GPA and 24 units of study completed. Preference is given to students with the most need. This action was unanimously approved by the board.

Board Approves 2023-24 Operating Budget

Treasurer Jan Browne convened the Budget Committee on August 7th to develop the Club’s 2023-24 operating budget. Several cost cutting measures were discussed at the board meeting. An amended \$14,260 balanced budget was unanimously approved.

50/50 Raffle and Direct Donation Beneficiaries Approved

The Club’s bylaws require approval of the fundraising and direct donation beneficiaries. Through TCC’s nine luncheon raffles and direct giving opportunities—up to 18 local organizations may benefit each year. Vice Presidents Joy Orlich and Robin Mercer identified eight local nonprofits and the TCC’s scholarship program as beneficiaries. The organizations were approved unanimously.

2023-2024 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT
KIMBERLY ELLIOTT

1ST VP-PROGRAMS
JOY ORLICH

2ND VP-PHILANTHROPY
ROBIN MERCER

3RD VP-MEMBERSHIP
PEGGY SLATTERY

SECRETARY
JILL NAVARRETTE

TREASURER
JAN BROWNE

DIRECTORS

RONI NICORA
(2022-2024)

BEV WALDRON
(2023-2024)

ROBERTA GERBER
(2023-2025)

TATJANA VUKOVIC
(2023-2025)

APPOINTEES

KENDALL BROWN
PUBLICITY

TRICIA MURRAY
POWER POINT DESIGN

BARBARA OPPIO
CORRESPONDING
SECRETARY

Save the Date!

Thursday, September 28, 2023 | 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

TCC's Gardening Arts presents

BOOZE AND BOTANICALS



NEW GARDENING ARTS!

The TCC's venerable garden club has been reimagined with contemporary garden and lifestyle programs and events that would delight the club's founding members. Gardening is an art—but like other art forms such as creative or performing—it takes many forms. Join us on the fourth Thursday of the month as we explore Reno's gardening arts lifestyle.

Thursday, August 24th @ 9:30 a.m.

What better way to kick off the Gardening Arts than by paying homage to TCC's emblem—the pink rose? Situated between mountains, the high desert landscape brings uniqueness to Reno's climate and growing season. From the English Thomas



À Becket shrub rose to the show-stopping Neil Diamond rose—roses abound in gardens across the Truckee Meadows. Join us for coffee @ Swill where our own master gardener and “rose whisperer,” Diane Coons, will share tips for the selection, planting, and care of your rose garden. Swill is conveniently located at 3366 Lakeside Court. The group is chaired by Kimberly Elliott. ■

TCC'S WELL-READ WOMEN

The TCC Book Club continues to embrace different genres and authors. The selection for September 20th is “The Lost Apothecary” by Sarah Penner. Hidden in the depths of eighteenth-century London, a secret apothecary shop caters to an unusual kind of clientele. Women across the city whisper of a mysterious figure named Nella who sells well-disguised poisons to use against the oppressive men in their lives. Aspiring historian Caroline Parcewell spends her tenth wedding anniversary alone running from her own demons. When she stumbles upon a clue to the unsolved apothecary murders that haunted London 200 years ago, her life collides with the apothecary's in a stunning twist of fate—and not everyone survives.



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). ■

BEAT BRAIN RUST JOIN THE TCC BRIDGE GROUP

“Many games provide fun, but Bridge grips you. It exercises your mind. Your mind can rust, you know, but Bridge prevents the rust from forming.” Omar Sharif, Film and Television Actor

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. Each player contributes to the prize pot distributed at the end of the afternoon to the winners. The Bridge Group proudly donated funds to the TCC's Nursing Scholarship Fund in 2022-23. The Bridge Co-Chairs: Joan Brick, Roberta Gerber and Jane Chapman. ■

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.