



Sierra Outpost

AAUW Program-

Mariposa County Arts Council keeps the Arts alive and well



"Act as a conduit to better connect the community of Mariposa to issues, movements and opportunities beyond its boundaries. Serve the diverse interests of residents living in and around Mariposa County. Leverage the many positive facets...for constructive community engagement, civic dialogue and social change." Hmm... those goals sure sound in line with what we do here at AAUW Mariposa, don't they? Did you know those are all excerpts from our friends over at Mari-

--Maddie Brown

posa Arts Council? Join us Thursday, April 13th at 4:30 pm at Miner's Roadhouse 140 to hear from Cara Goger, the Executive Director of the Mariposa Arts Council. Cara will be discussing Mariposa Arts Council's interconnectivity of various events and the values the Arts Council hopes to instill through its many mediums, ranging from the ever-popular Concerts on the Green to the recent Storytelling Festival.



Thursday

April 13

4:30 p.m.

Miners' Roadhouse 140



April, 2017

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Co-Presidents' Corner

A little spring in our step...

Spring has sprung AAUWers! Over the next few weeks, we'll start seeing fawns roam through our yards, poppies set the river canyon aglow, and we'll feel delightful suspense anticipating the fantastically-themed Annual Meeting approaching in May! As with all things March, April and May, we have our own Spring Cleaning to do in-branch, such as by-laws and handbook updates at the April Board Meeting. We are also excited about formulating Board Leadership Role binders using the various documents that have been meticulously crafted for each role over the years along with additional support documents. Those members taking on Board Roles for 2017-2018 will be outfitted "to a T"!

We will be accepting nominations for Board Roles via email as well as on the day of the Annual Meeting, May 7th. So if you love planning events and want to try out Programs, or are awesome at building a budget and want to learn more about the Finance Officer role, or if you have hilarious or heartfelt topics you would like to write for Presidents' Corner messages for 2017-2018 that would put us out of business (*wink*), don't hesitate to raise your hand! There is truly something for everyone at the Branch Leadership Level. You can refer to your handbook, by-laws in the [Members section](#)

of the website, our Facebook page, or the email sent out at the end of March that details various roles at the Leadership level.

As we are both relative "newbies," we have benefitted from the "co-" approach to presidenting. We would both encourage members who are interested in a Leadership role, but may be apprehensive, to visit with a friend, or someone you enjoyed working with preparing for an event, but maybe don't know well (yet!) to team up and share a role. You too can put the "co-" in camaraderie, collaboration, colleague, cookies... someone has to clean up the left over cookies from events! So if you are feeling invigorated this spring and would like to try a role in Branch leadership, email either of us.

That would be co-ol.



*Rebecca
&
Maddie*

2016-17 Calendar



- April 1** **State Leadership Days:** 9:30am, CSU Concord
- April 7** **SIG Reading Group:** 4:30, home of Helene Fiske
- April 10** **SIG International Study:**
- April 22** **AAUW CA State Annual Meeting “Making Connections”:**
San Mateo
- May 7** **Annual Meeting & Member Gathering:** Details TBD
- June 11-17** **Tech Trek:** CSU Fresno

March program: Entertaining as well as enlightening

March's Program was one for the books with full seats and amused listeners! Mariposa County High School English teacher, Bryan Moczygemba, entertained attendees with vibrant stories of mishaps, learning moments, and his love for his home of 8 years, China. Bryan's stories of his time in a "small" (hundreds of thousands of residents) city in inland China and his years in Beijing had us laughing *and* crying. Attendees were able to look at yearbooks and magazine self-published(!) by the students at his high school. Bryan's vivid storytelling was



relatable with themes of being an outsider, building friendships in new places, learning things the hard way, and then learning you can always come home.

Photo via Sierra News Online

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp



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Fundraising

--Sandi Gabe

Home Tour cancelled

Take some time off!

Thanks to your generosity, the 'Evening in Paris' event raised enough funds to cover the expected income from the Home Tour as well. So, we have decided that it is time for a hiatus to enjoy the spring and summer without a fundraising event. We will be back in the fall with the yard sale!



An Evening in *PARIS* auction item

--Jill Rowney

Having won the bidding war with several others, Jill Rowney took advantage of skier Karen Rust's expertise and headed towards Glacier Point on those thin slats of fiberglass. (Nordic skiing is definitely NOT much like downhill skiing!! I'm not quite ready to dash out and buy my own back-country skis). My twelve-mile trek was on a glorious day. We devoured the gourmet lunch Karen packed while enjoying the spectacular back-country views of Yosemite.



Above: Lunch break with a view...Ahem...note the thumb resting on ice.



Below: The expert shows how it is done.



We Sponsor Community Forums

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Fundraising

--Sandi Gabe

An Evening in  *auction item*

--Peggy Shainberg

Peggy Shainberg and Cathy Owens had a good time getting started with a knitting project that Cathy purchased at the auction. Cathy is working on a beautifully colored wool scarf which should be ready to wear this summer. We will keep at it and maybe enter a winner in the fair.

From Cathy: "Peggy is a wonderful teacher... patient and thorough."



Amador County Home Tour

Our neighbors a bit to the north, AAUW Amador, are having their 45th (wow!) Home Tour in Sutter Creek this year on Saturday, April 22nd from 11am to 4pm. Not only will attendees visit historic homes this year, but

also some living history sites. You can visit their [website](#) for more information.

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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

We just keep growing!

--Dawn Johnson

AAUW must be the best game in town! We were honored to have four awesome new members join last month: Mindy Bolar, Christy Wall, Phyllis Weber and Katherine Ogilvie.



Mindy Bolar

Mindy is the Principal AND Superintendent of Sierra Foothill Charter School. Why do only one job when you can do two? That sounds like an AAUW woman to me! Mindy's university background is in Education, with an MA from Cal State East Bay and Administration and Teaching Credentials from Cal Poly. Mindy lives in Mariposa. Her phone is (925) 980-2286; email is mkbolar@gmail.com.

Christy lives in Mariposa and lists her current occupation as Mom. :-)

She also is the owner of LivingStone Farm which deals in grass-fed livestock. Christy has a Liberal Arts background and paralegal training. Her phone is (209) 377-9255; email is wallfamily@tds.net.



Christy Wall

Phyllis hangs out in El Portal where she was both teacher AND administrator of El Portal Elementary AND Yosemite Park High School. Another overachieving AAUW woman! Phyllis has an array of educational credentials, including a BA, MA and Teaching and Administration Credentials. Her phone is (209) 379-2289; email is phylliselportal@gmail.com.

And our last new member is Katherine Ogilvie, who is a business owner in Mariposa. Her company "Traditional Craft Kits" distributes craft-making products that use historical methods. Katherine's phone is (209) 628-0497; email is katherineogilvie@gmail.com.

Please add their names to your dog-eared directory and welcome them with enthusiasm!



Membership

--Dawn Johnson



New AAUW members rocked "The Pony"

--Dawn Johnson

New members Nancy Kemp, Becky Mock, Renea Kennec, Samantha Weber and Judy Eppler joined Co-President Rebecca Swisher, Membership VP Dawn Johnson and Director Cindy Harp for a fun "Meet and Greet" on March 18th at Pony Espresso.

We shared stories of where we came from, where we're going, what we care about and vital details about our couches and pets. Interspersed with the laughing, the group heard more about our ongoing projects, interest groups, communications and opportunities to get involved. Our branch will surely be enriched by the backgrounds, talents and interests of this neat group of women.

*Right, L to R:
Rebecca Swisher,
Judy Eppler,
Renea Kennec,
Becky Moore*



*Below, L to R:
Cindy Harp,
Nancy Kemp,
Samantha Weber*



We Inspire Life-Long Learning

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Project: Tech Trek

--Cathy Owens

SEVEN girls selected!

We are proud to announce the names of the seven girls who have been selected to attend Tech Trek this year. They are:

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Lupin Amstutz | Autumn Mangan |
| Claire Cleary | Ryan Ramirez |
| Madeline Coder | Aya Westerling |
| Lauren Elmore | |

We had an incredible group of girls apply this year, which made the selection process extremely difficult. We will have an orientation meeting with the girls and their families in April. The camp will be held at CSUFresno



on June 11 -17.

Thank you to the selection team (Dawna Hunter, Kim Monson, Betty Massey, Carol Hart, and Dawn Johnson) for your insight and judgment! .

Tech Trek Committee

Naoko Kada and Debbie Peters – co-chairs

Barbara Silva and Cathy Owens - assistants



Save the Date for

AAUW Summer Camp!

Our AAUW year is coming to a close and we've earned a summer vacation! Start packing your s'more sticks for this year's spring Member Gathering and Annual Meeting on Sunday, May 7th.

Time and place TBD. Watch your email for more details.

We'll review the year, elect new officers for 2017-2018, meet our plethora of new members, and tell some campfire tales.

It is not necessary to label your underwear.



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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Community

--Maddie Brown

Women's History Month Proclamation

"We urge all to observe this occasion by remembering all those women of history whose actions empowered future generations."

The members of AAUW Mariposa truly have a special place in the community, as was evident at March 7th's Board of Supervisors' meeting. Marshall Long read aloud our National Women's History Month proclamation, beautifully and thoughtfully crafted by Marilyn Saunders, and Sharon Enrico graciously accepted on our behalf. From branch members attending during morning work breaks, attending as employees and volunteers on behalf of their respective organizations, to sitting on the County Board of Supervisors, our branch is representative of the accomplishments and hard work supporting the cause of National Women's History Month. Thank you to all of our members whose actions continue to empower future generations.

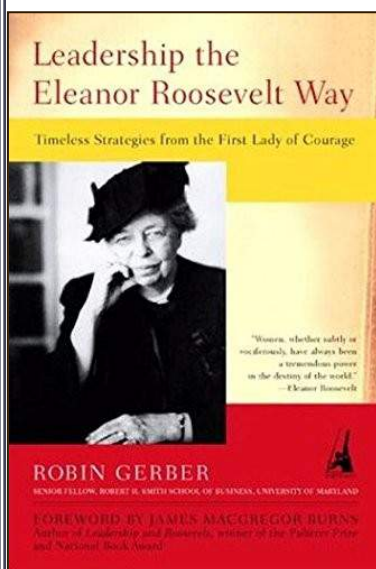


Pictured above: District 3 Supervisor, Marshall Long, reads proclamation and gives to Sharon Enrico.

California AAUW

--Dawn Johnson

Participate in a state-wide "virtual" book club



AAUW-CA is trying something new and different and YOU can participate. It's a state-wide initiative to study the concept of **Leadership: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow.**

What's different?

It's a "virtual" book club. One book will be selected each year to cover the three topics. Year One covers yesterday's leadership, examined through the remarkable Eleanor Roosevelt.

The next meeting is Tuesday, April 25 at 7 pm. We'll be discussing Chapter 8. (You do not have to have read the previous chapters in order to participate.)

Dial in: 1-877-885-3221

Passcode: 7770040

Contact [Dawn Johnson](#) with any questions.

We Sponsor Community Forums

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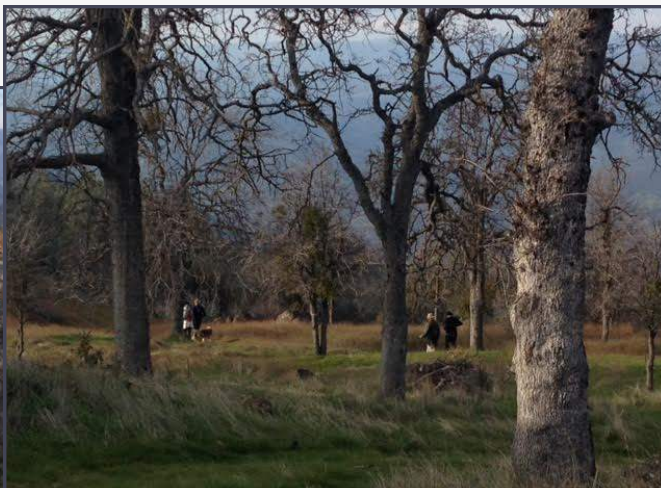
Interest Groups - Hiking

--Mary Ripma

***Hikers trek to Williams Peak***

--Mary Ripma

Our March hike took us to Williams Peak. We had fantastic views from the old fire lookout and a wonderful Enchilada dinner in Hornitos afterwards. Wonderful all the way around!

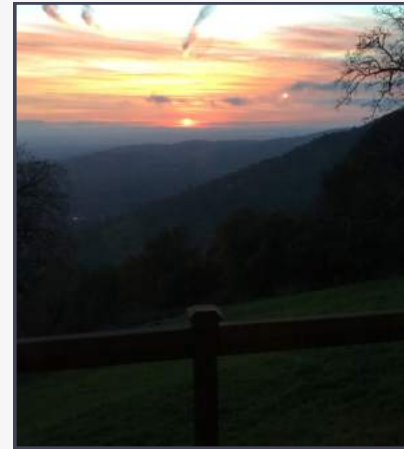
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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Interest Groups - **Wine**Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)**Malbecs and munchies with a view**

--Jill Rowney

Perched at 3500 feet, the home of Nancy and Dennis Martin set the stage for the last Corks and forks gathering. We enjoyed delectable food, spectacular views, a gorgeous sunset and a variety of malbecs. Of the eight bottles, there was one that appeared twice in the line-up.. And the second time it appeared, it scored better than the first (go figure!) With that in mind, the last bottle scored the highest... But it really WAS good!!

*Above L: Hostess, Nancy Martin**Above R: Sunset view from the Martin's deck.**Left: The 3 winners: First, from Pioneer Market at \$15, the "Ruta 22"; second, Gouguenheim; third, a 2014 Catena malbec.*Interest Groups - **International Study**Contact [Peggy Shainberg](#) or [Carolyn Baker](#)**March topic:**

--Peggy Shainberg

Customs and celebrations of Turkey

Thanks to Lori Tierney for hosting our March meeting. With daffodils bursting out all over, it really was the first day of Spring. We had a discussion of current affairs in Turkey and then Lori and Carolyn Baker presented on Turkish customs and celebrations. Lori read us a beautifully

illustrated Turkish children's book with a good story and moral. The next meeting will be at Dawn Johnson's house on April 10th with Dawn presenting on famous places and Jeanne MacDonald showing slides and talking of their sailing on the Turquoise coast.

Interest Groups- Reading



Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

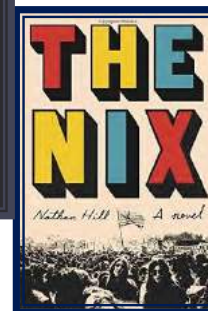
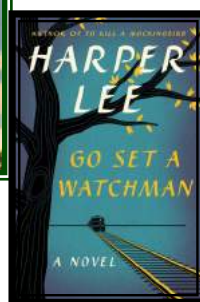
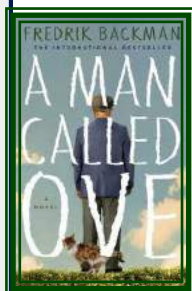
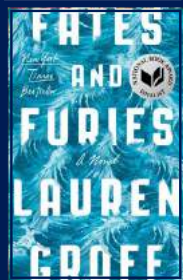
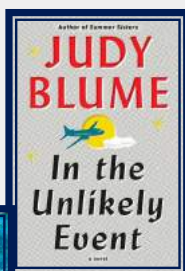
Our next meeting will be
Tuesday, April 4, 2017 at 4:30 pm
at the home of Hélène Fiske. We will be discussing

Brain on Fire by Susanna Cahalon



Book List for 2017

A Man Called Ove
by Fredrick Backman
In the Unlikely Event
by Judy Blume
Fates and Furies
by Lauren Groff
The Nix
by Nathan Hill
Go Set a Watchman
by Harper Lee
We are Unprepared
by Meg Little Riley
A Spool of Blue Thread
by Ann Tyler



All the Missing Girls By Megan Miranda

Discussion Review

By Lizz Darcy



During March, the Book Club met to discuss the book *All The Missing Girls* by Megan Miranda. This thriller had the unique format of having part of the story written backwards, which was intriguing and only slightly confusing. There were many questions, but overall most of us seemed to have enjoyed the haunting story with all of its twists and turns. Our discussion leapt from true crime to our favorite podcasts to the politics of small town living. Though we all liked the book, I think we all enjoyed the discussion much more!

AAUW Mariposa Branch Board Meeting Minutes Library, March 6, 2017

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:15 by Co-President Maddie Brown

Minutes submitted by Dawn Johnson in the absence of the Recording Secretary.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Johnson, Sandi Gabe, Maddie Brown, Rebecca Swisher, Dina Lambert, Bonnie Little, Cindy Harp, Naoko Kada

Approval of Minutes from February 2017 board meeting: Minutes were previously submitted, approved by email, & published in March 2017 newsletter.

PROJECT UPDATES:

TechTrek: Naoko Kada

The selection team (Dawna Hunter, Betty Massey and Kim Monson) interviewed eight finalists on Saturday, March 11. All were well qualified and it was a difficult decision. Our branch had planned and budgeted to send six students, however Naoko explained that the team strongly recommended sending a seventh girl who showed much promise. She explained that we had proactively reserved seven slots for the camp.

Rebecca S. moved and Dina L. seconded to approve funding \$900 to send one additional student to 2017 Tech Trek camp. Motion passed.

Maddie advised the Board that National AAUW will be returning control of the Tech Trek program to each state effective with this year's camps. This change will not significantly affect the operation of local Tech Trek camps.

Speech Trek: Maddie Brown for Jill Harry

The event went very well and the students' speeches were excellent. All agreed that the caliber of the speeches and the event has steadily improved. Maddie noted all the volunteers who assisted.

It was pointed out that the First Place winner's video was later found to be 4 seconds longer than the state contest requirement, so our branch will submit the Second Place student to the state level.

It was recommended that we modify our contest requirement to state a maximum of 5 ½ minutes instead of 6 to assure staying within state time limits.

Women's History Month Proclamation: Maddie Brown for Marilyn Saunders

The Mariposa County Board of Supervisors will officially declare March as Women's History Month at its meeting on Tuesday, March 7. This proclamation is sponsored by AAUW and will be accepted by Sharon Enrico. Maddie will send a reminder to members to show support by attending. Maddie thanked Marilyn Saunders for writing the proclamation and bringing it forward to the BOS.

FUNDRAISER UPDATES:

An Evening in Paris: Sandi Gabe

Sandi distributed a summary of the fundraiser's results. The event exceeded expectations for profitability attendance and member participation. The final profit was \$9,128. All agreed that it was very unique, well-

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organized, creatively decorated and resulted in a wonderful evening for the community. Sandi reported the “lessons learned” feedback from the planning committee regarding the ticket sales, event timing, auction, food, set-up and take-down, venue, etc. The written summary is on file with the Secretary. Sandi prompted for ideas for a new theme and format for next year’s spring fundraiser.

Sandi requested that the Board consider cancelling the Home Tour fundraiser planned for May. It was pointed out that fundraising income was far above budget and that no currently planned programs needed funding. Discussion ensued about adding or expanding projects for next year. Members may be a good source of new ideas.

Dina L. moved and Bonnie L. seconded to eliminate the May 2017 Home Tour fundraiser. Motion passed.

REPORTS:

Membership: Dawn Johnson

Dawn reported that the membership application has been revised to clarify the date windows for dues and that 15 more directories have been ordered. A “Meet and Greet” for new members is scheduled for Saturday, March 18 and 13 have been invited. The Board was asked to consider people to receive the five free Honorary Memberships that the branch has earned through the Shape the Future campaign. These free memberships are granted by National and waive the National dues, although our branch absorbs the cost for state and local dues. Nominees should be community and service-minded and have shown interest in AAUW and its values. Deadline is June 30.

Plans are underway for the May 7th Spring Gathering and Annual Meeting. The theme will be “AAUW Summer Camp” and tentatively will be held at an outdoor venue with campfire-type activities. 2017-2018 officers will be elected. It was suggested that the public be invited.

Treasurer’s Report: Dina Lambert

The February financial statements were distributed, showing increased activity due to Evening in Paris and Speech Trek. As of February 28, our ending cash balance is \$21,148.93. The report is on file with the Secretary.

Rebecca S. moved and Cindy H. seconded to approve the March 2017 Treasurer’s Report. Motion passed.

Publicity: Cindy Harp

Cindy reported that the publicity for recent events was released to all outlets and published. She will remind project coordinators of publicity deadlines for upcoming events. The Mariposa Gazette has offered to do a feature article on AAUW. Maddie will make arrangements for an interview.

Programs: Maddie Brown for Leslie Bernacchi

The next program is a presentation on the culture and education of China. All the arrangements are in place and publicity is done. Dawn will schedule an automated phone reminder.

ACTION ITEMS

None on the agenda.

NEW BUSINESS

National Dues Increase: Maddie Brown

The National Board of Directors will likely approve a \$10 increase in National dues, the first in ten years. It

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will take effect July 2018 and will not affect this year's renewals.

ABC Grant Requests: Maddie Brown

The Mariposa Academic Boosters' Club has announced new written guidelines for submitting grant request applications. Since ABC is an important partner in our Dinner with a Scientist project, Marilyn Saunders has prepared a draft application for a \$1,600 grant request.

Cocktails/Coffee and Convos Event: Maddie Brown

Rebecca and Maddie are meeting to plan an informal forum for members to discuss newsworthy topics relevant to the AAUW mission. The intent is to piggyback on national Equal Pay Day on April 4, 2017.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Leadership Days

AAUW-CA is hosting several days of leadership training throughout the state. They are open to all members interested in getting to know AAUW better and honing their own leadership skills. Dawn and Sandi will be attending the event in the East Bay on Saturday, April 1 and invite others to join them.

Program Recognition Award

It was announced that Marilyn Saunders has submitted our Dinner with a Scientist program for recognition at the California Annual Meeting. Maddie will follow up on the application's status.

AAUW-CA Annual Meeting

The California Annual Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, April 22 in San Mateo. Members are encouraged to attend and enjoy opportunities to meet other AAUW people, share best practices, learn about AAUW initiatives and watch the Speech Trek final competition. Our branch may be recognized for the Dinner with a Scientist program and our Speech Trek contestant may be a finalist. Registration is \$50 and can be done online. Fees will be reimbursed.

Nominations

Nominations for 2017-2018 officers should be published in the April newsletter to allow the required 30 days' notice before the Annual Meeting on May 7th. There was a discussion of candidates and how best to recruit. Maddie will prepare a summary of the openings and their job descriptions.

BRANCH BUZZ

April – Maddie

May - Bonnie

There being no further business, Rebecca S. moved and Cindy H. seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:54 PM by Co-President Maddie Brown.

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Board Officers— 2016-2017

| | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Co-Presidents | Maddie Brown maddie.s.brown@gmail.com Rebecca Swisher beccaswish@yahoo.com |
| VP Membership | Dawn Johnson dawnandjay.johnson@gmail.com |
| VP Programs | Leslie Bernacchi lesiann77@gmail.com |
| Recording Secretary | Saralynn Nusbaum saralynn@italiancreekdesigns.com |
| Finance Officer | Dina Lambert dinallambert@gmail.com |
| Directors at Large | Cindy Harp cindy_harp@earthlink.net Bonnie Little mbmsliddle@sti.net |

Project Chairs/Coordinators

| | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|
| Advertising | Sharon Enrico |
| Back Pack Project | Anita Bryant Cathy Owens |
| Dinner With a Scientist | Marilyn Saunders |
| Fundraising | Sandi Gabe |
| Good Will Ambassador | Margaret Brandenburg |
| HS Voter Education | Jetty Uebner |
| Newsletter Editor | Jill Rowney |
| Publicity | Cindy Harp |
| Speech Trek | Jill Harry |
| Social Media | Maddie Brown |
| Tech Trek | Naoko Kada Debbie Peters |
| Website | Sandi Gabe Maddie Brown |

The Sierra Outpost, newsletter of the Mariposa Branch of AAUW, is usually published on the 1st of each month. It is available online in pdf format. If you cannot access the on-line copy please contact Jill Rowney. Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the month. Send information/questions to editor: jillrowney@yahoo.com