



## Sierra Outpost

### Backpacks to be readied for start of school

--Cathy Owens



Since 2008, we have donated nearly 300 fully stocked backpacks to students attending public schools in our district. The packs are loaded with the essential tools for success recommended by their teachers, such as notebooks, folders, pens, pencils, and binder paper.

#### Fill Day:

- ◆ Monday
- ◆ August 8
- ◆ 5:30 pm
- ◆ Mariposa Elementary School Multi-Purpose Room

For the 2016 school year, we plan to prepare 46 backpacks, each costing approximately \$65 for the pack and supplies. By providing these backpacks, we are helping students start the year off ready to be successful! We have set up an online registry where you will find the list of items that are still needed. You may indicate which items you are going to purchase and donate to the project. The registry can be found at: [freegiftregistry.com/backpack](http://freegiftregistry.com/backpack).

There is still time! Donations should be delivered to Anita Bryant at the Starchman and Bryant Law Offices at 4750 Highway 49 South, Mariposa, CA during the month of July. If you are running a little behind, let [Cathy Owens](#) or [Anita Bryant](#) know of your intentions so they don't purchase more of the same items you are intending to donate.

### July-August, 2016

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<a href="#">Annual Meeting Photos-link</a>	2
<a href="#">Auction Item from 2015</a>	9
<a href="#">Backpack Project</a>	1
<a href="#">Board Meeting Minutes</a>	15
<a href="#">Calendar--Year</a>	14
<a href="#">Contact Info</a>	19
<a href="#">Equality Day</a>	7
<a href="#">Fashion Show</a>	8
<a href="#">Membership</a>	3
<a href="#">Presidents' Message</a>	2
SIG:	
<a href="#">Craft</a>	11
<a href="#">Garden</a>	11
<a href="#">Hiking</a>	11
<a href="#">International Study</a>	10
<a href="#">Reading</a>	12
<a href="#">Wine</a>	10
<a href="#">Tech Trek</a>	4
<a href="#">Word Game Solution</a>	18

## Co-Presidents' Corner

### Hello AAUW Members!

We are excited to be your co-presidents for 2016-2017 and look forward to a great term! To kick things off, the Board and Project Leaders met on July 16th to review last year's accomplishments and to discuss plans and budget for this year. We have such a vibrant and active group this year that scheduling conflicts required some preparation for the meeting. We sent out forms asking each leader/chair to share what went well, what they are looking forward to, their goals for the upcoming year, and what they need to make it all happen. Here are some highlights:

For 2015-2016:

- We exceeded our fundraising goals.
- We worked with other community organizations to hold well-attended programs.
- Our Special Interest Groups (SIGs) were very active, providing social experiences for members and helping with fundraising.
- Our projects provided essential educational supplies and opportunities to local youth and adults.

For 2016-2017:

- We are aiming for the same fundraising goals as last year.
- We will continue offering programs for

members that address AAUW's mission.

- We will continue to encourage members' SIG involvement and include these groups in meeting the organization's mission and goals.
- We will continue with the same projects as last year, but with enhanced goals.

As always, the success of our local AAUW branch is contingent on the passion and commitment of our members. We look forward to getting to know you all. We want to understand what made you join AAUW, so that we can meet your expectations and provide opportunities for you to be as involved as you want.

Please feel free to contact us at any time with questions, concerns, or suggestions.

(Maddie: [maddie.s.brown@gmail.com](mailto:maddie.s.brown@gmail.com) )

(Rebecca: [beccaswish@yahoo.com](mailto:beccaswish@yahoo.com) )

With enthusiasm and hope for this year,



*Rebecca  
&  
Maddie*

## Annual Meeting on May 22, 2016- Video online

This short video of photos from our Annual Meeting on May 22, 2016, is sure to bring a smile to your face with the reaffirmation that our Mariposa AAUW branch is comprised of such wonderful, generous, and dedicated people. Lucky us! Thank you, Sandi Gabe, for compiling these photos.

Click [here](#) for the photo video link

## Membership

--Dawn Johnson

### We're packing the house!

Thanks to a stampede of new members joining at our May Annual Meeting and so many loyal members re-upping, we're starting the year with a robust membership of 87! There's always room for more, of course, but it's remarkable that this small community can field such a large and active branch.

It's even more exciting that 63 members renewed ONLINE.

### Great year ahead!

The new Board is brainstorming ways to give you a great membership experience. We've got goals, we've got ideas, and we've got plans. Watch for things to come.

### Save the date!

Mark your calendar for the "AAUW Fall Membership Gathering" on **Saturday, October 8**. This will be a chance to meet and mingle, hear about AAUW's plans for the coming year, and tell us how you spent your summer vacation. More details to come.

### What's up with [members@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:members@aauwmariposa.com)?

Hooray! No more L-O-N-G lists of members' addresses in the TO: section of AAUW emails.

Thanks to Sandi Gabe's efforts, we have consolidated our members and their emails into distribution groups. An email addressed to [members@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:members@aauwmariposa.com) will automatically go out to all current members. You will soon see similar email addresses for the Special Interest Groups (such as [book@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:book@aauwmariposa.com)).

### Did you sign up for a Special Interest Group (SIG)?

We had a terrific response to our online SIG sign up to join smaller special study groups. Many of us want to connect with each other through a shared interest in books or wine or international studies. The SIG Coordinators are meeting to get on the same page about organizing their groups. If you signed up for something, you'll be hearing from the Coordinator soon.

### Help Wanted: A People Person

Are you.....a nice person? We have an opening on the Board for a **Member Liaison**. Your job, in a picture, would be to help the Membership VP ❤️ our members. The number one reason that people leave an organization is because they don't feel as if anyone would notice. Help us notice our members. Work with Dawn to find ways to give our members a

*Continued on page 11*

## Tech Trek

--Naoko Kada & Debbie Peters



### Two volunteers from the Mariposa branch assumed roles as “Dorm Moms” and accompanied our trekkers to Fresno State University

#### From Dawn Johnson:

Hello Tech Trek folks,  
Monday (*June 20*) dawned with good weather and I'm sure high excitement for our six Tech Trek campers.

I wanted to once again thank Debbie Peters and Naoko Kada for heading the Tech Trek project so competently and enthusiastically this year. It is a long process with many steps to send the best of the best to camp. These two dedicated people never lost sight of a single thing and handled this important project smoothly, professionally and with



true belief in its benefits.

Thanks also goes to Dawna Hunter, who always steps up to help with Tech Trek in so many ways, including assisting us at the TEDx conference, evaluating essays, interviewing candidates, and once again, as a Dorm Mom, sleeping on a hard dorm bed!

Welcome and thanks to Kim Monson, who stepped up as a Dorm Mom as well, and jumped right in with all sorts of other AAUW initiatives. How lucky we are to have such an enthusiastic new member! We welcomed Carol Hart to the application review team and, of course, no Tech Trek year would be complete without the experience and wisdom of Betty Massey.

It was wonderful this year to have Maddie Brown participate in reviewing applications, holding interviews, and sharing stories with the campers at the ice cream social hosted by Marilyn Saunders. Maddie's Tech Trek experience

(Continued on page 5)



## Tech Trek

(Continued from page 4)

was invaluable, and her lively exuberance made everything fun.

I am happy to report that all went well for all our campers. They will have memories forever.

Thanks everyone!  
--Dawn

### From 'Dorm Mom' Kim Monson:

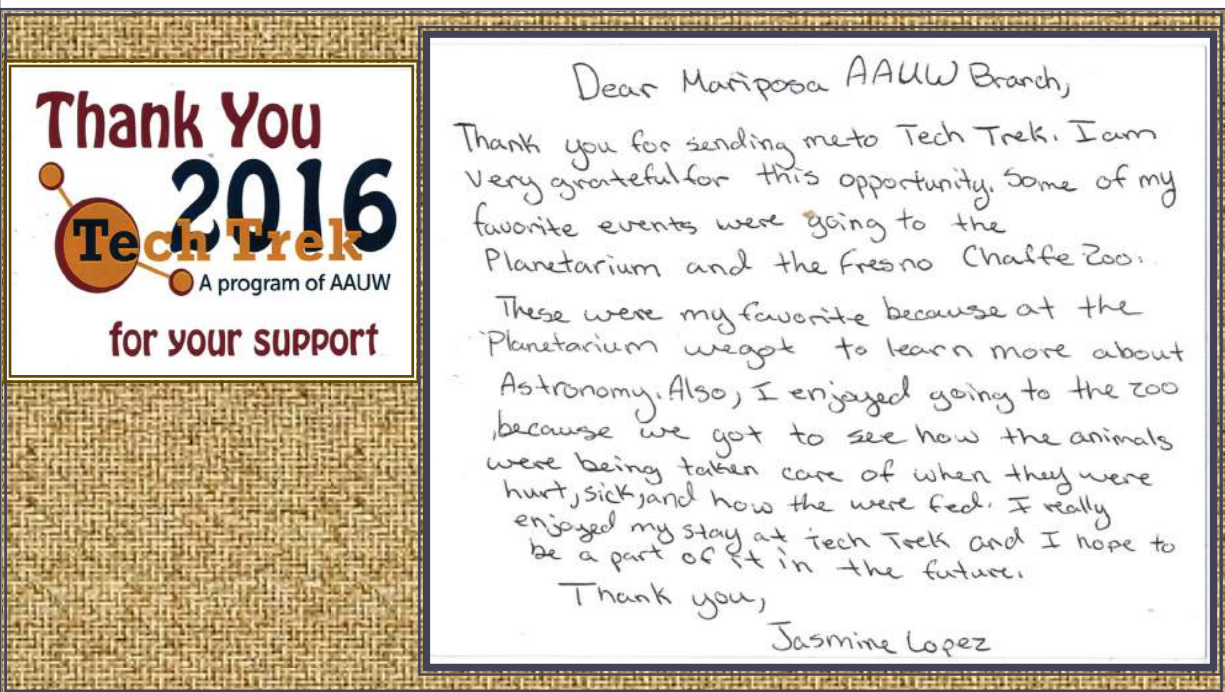
Tech Trek went really well last week. Dawna and I came home tired but happy with the Dorm Mom experience. I had El Portal resident Ava Dunlavy in my dorm group and she was

one of 12 really sweet and enthusiastic campers. Tech Trek is a mix of STEM and Social activities that really keep the kids busy from morning to night. What really hit home with me was that many of my campers mentioned in the thank you notes they wrote that they finally found a group of peers with whom they could relate. They felt much more comfortable and happy with their Tech Trek dorm group than they ever did with school mates they had known for years. I think that their shared interest in science and proud nerdiness brought them together quickly.

So, from CSI class to roller coasters, bridge structures, water rockets, and hot air balloon construction, our girls learned a lot and had a great time doing it.

### From Co-Coordinator, Naoko Kada:

We received the following thank you cards from our six campers, all of whom expressed deep gratitude to AAUW Mariposa and enthusiasm for future STEM careers in many words. Thank you, all our members, for supporting Tech Trek!





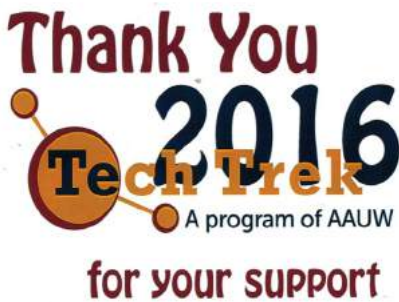
# Tech Trek

Dear Mariposa AAUW Members,

I would like to thank you for finding me to go and experience Tech Trek. I truly appreciate your efforts. It's been an experience I'll never forget. I learned so much that will help me choose and figure out what I want to do with my life. I learned that I want to go into interior design and model the interior formats. Thank you so much for helping me find my passion!

Sincerely,  
Emilee Cordero

Dear AAUW Mariposa Branch,  
I would like to thank you so much for presenting me with this great opportunity to come to Tech Trek. I have gotten so much out of this experience and am very grateful. During this past (and all to be honest) week, I have learned about the maintenance and care of a 1970, about the fascinating world of finger printing and crime solving known as CSI, and also about real women's careers. This has been a memorable time for my whole down and it makes me love the STEM subject even more. I will definitely pursue a career in Math, Science or Engineering. Thank you for helping young girls to flourish in the years to come. Sincerely, Ana Durovay



June 17, 2016

Dear Mariposa AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek this year. It has been an amazing experience that I will never forget. Every one of the counselors, teachers, and organizers are representing feminism by educating young girls and encouraging them to dive in to math and science and potentially get a job in that male-dominated field.

It has been really fun the past week, attending classes and living in dorm rooms. The classes are really awesome and I have learned so much. I have been in "Women in Math," and my teacher has taught us about the mathematical genius women in our past. She also challenged me with a mathematical problem that I been working on all week and just figured out!

The afternoon games are fun, always incorporating teamwork. My favorite game would probably be Ultimate Duck, Duck, Goose, multiple games compiled into one.

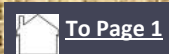
Thanks, again, for giving me this amazing opportunity. AAUW is an inspiring organization, and I hope to be involved when I am older!

Sincerely,  
Katelyn Jagger

Dear Mariposa AAUW branch,

Thank you for sending me to this amazing camp. I enjoyed being able to experience these once in a life time opportunities like going behind the scenes at the Zoo, eating and sleeping at a college, and even meeting people I never would of had the chance to meet in my home town. One of the cool things I did at was this core class called app inventing. I made the app called doodle booth. I can't explain how great full I am to have been given this opportunity. Once again thank you Mariposa AAUW branch

Sincerely,  
Rivilee Mayes



# Tech Trek

**Thank You**  
**2016**  
**Tech Trek**  
 A program of AAUW  
**for your support**

Dear Mariposa AAUW Branch  
 Thank you for raising the money to send me to Tech Trek. I have experienced many fun and interesting things here including my Core Class (Bridge Building) and living in dorms. During my time here, we've done labs like string art, geo punes, scavenger hunt, and making rockets out of paper and straws. My favorite lab was the scavenger hunt, where we went around campus finding specific buildings and statues. In my Core Class, we built and tested columns, based Lyle College of Engineering, tested structures made of spaghetti and gumdrops on levels 1, 2, and 3 of the Seismic Scale, and built bridges out of popsicle sticks and hot glue. Then, we went to the zoo, where we fed giraffes, learned about animal diets, and visited the animal hospital. After lunch, we split into our dorm groups and explored the zoo. Overall, I have had a wonderful time and have made many new friends. Thank you for making this possible.

Sincerely,  
 Coury Jones

## AAUW- National

### AAUW recognizes Equality Day,

### August 26

**It hasn't even been 100 years that women in the United States have had the right to vote!**



Today, AAUW gives us access to information and allows us the opportunity to act on such topics as Congress, the judicial system, and the rights of women and girls.

often recognized as the beginning of the campaign for women's rights in the United States.

The 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution (also known as the *Susan B. Anthony Amendment*) guaranteeing women the right to vote, was signed into law on August 26, 1920. It seems a long time ago now, but it was a long time in coming to fruition. Well before the Seneca Falls Convention in July 1848, women called for the right to vote. Lucretia Mott and Elizabeth Cady Stanton organized the 1848 convention to address a broad range of women's rights, both social and civil. This is

AAUW is an organization of *today* giving us access to information and activity in Congress, the judicial system and more, regarding the rights of women and girls. As we work to Empower Women in 2016 it behooves us to recognize that we are building on a legacy bought with not only energy and commitment, but also sacrifice by women and men over many years. We know we must keep at it!

Click [here](#) for more information.



## Fundraiser: Fashion Show

--Sandi Gabe

### It's Time....

for our next Fashion Show! Set aside Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> for this year's fun event where we will transform the Fairgrounds into a virtual time machine. In addition to local models sporting local fashions, our auction will be filled with experiences and unique handmade timepieces.

This year you will have two ways to contribute to the auction: donating an experience and/or creating a one-of-a-kind clock. While other organizations are starting to use experiences in their auctions, we stand out because we contribute **our** time and talents in providing opportunities to learn or



play in a small group setting. It's a fun and rewarding way to support the event and share your passion or talent.

We started the experience auction because we recognized that we all have enough "stuff" in our homes and most of us do not need to purchase anything else that we will just have to dust. Since some of our attendees are from out of the area, and an experience in Mariposa is difficult to redeem, we have included a few physical items in the auction. This year we will focus on the theme of time and include hand-made clocks.

Intrigued? If you would like to get in in on the planning, join our kick off meeting on Thursday, August 4<sup>th</sup> at my house at 5pm. Let me know ([Sandi Gabe](#)) if you are coming so I can have enough pizza to keep you nourished.

### Make a clock to support the event!

You can find great ideas on Pinterest.com. Put "DIY clock" in the search bar and you'll see some of these unusual clocks. Use your imagination and create your own treasure.





## 2015 Fashion Show Auction Item Redeemed

### And the AAUW Safari - Fashion Show Adventure Continues...

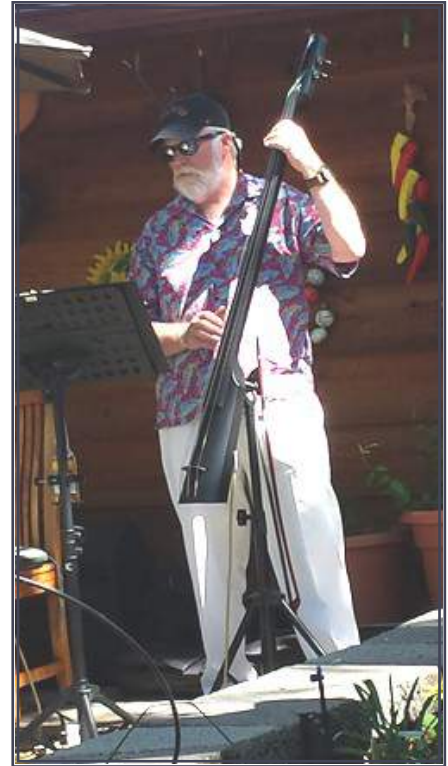
--Margaret Brandenburg



Ron Gaunt

Remember what a great time we all had at last fall's fashion show? It's a gift that keeps on giving. I was the lucky winner of the home concert donated by Ron Gaunt, Yosemite Park Ranger, occasional blue-grass musician, and good-hearted supporter of AAUW.

On June 18<sup>th</sup> nearly 30 family members and friends gathered at the Sky Ranch home of friends Frank and Peggy Hutchinson. Ron and fellow musician, bass player Scott Carpenter, regaled us with an hour of folk, blue-grass, and country songs.



Scott Carpenter

Then we all took a break to enjoy a BBQ and potluck. After that, our host Frank and his friend Rob Harris joined Ron and Scott for a little more music.



Thank you, Sue Gaunt, for giving us the opportunity to share Ron's love of music. Thank you Ron and Scott for donating your time to support AAUW!

## Interest Groups - International Study

Contact [Peggy Shainberg](#)

The International Study Group had its last meeting for the 2015-2016 year. Brazil turned out to be a very interesting country. We will all be watching to see what happens with the Olympics, the political upheaval, and general news from that country. Coming up this August, we will

enjoy a potluck/pool party and plan what country to consider studying for the 2016-2017 year. If you would like to consider joining the group, please send an email to [Carolyn Baker](#) or [Peggy Shainberg](#).



## Interest Groups - Wine

Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)



### Corks and Forks trek to Merced's Vista Ranch and Cellars

--Marilyn Saunders

On June 23rd, it was hot outside so we tasted wine indoors at **Vista Winery**, the one we pass on the way to Merced, just east of Arboleda Drive. We realized that Tom, our host, was someone who many of us know from the Wednesday night Mariposa Farmers Market. Tom offered not only white and red wines to taste, but also friendly chatter about farming in the San Joaquin Valley and the nature of wines from the valley. According to Tom, wines from the Valley turn out to be "lighter" due to the

heat as contrasted with wines from Napa and environs where the growing season is not so hot and nights are cooler. The wines on the menu ranged from Pinot Grigio and Chardonnay, both fermented and celled in stainless steel, to several reds and a sparkling white. Responses to the Chardonnay without oak varied. The winery bottles its wines under several labels: *Highway 140*, *Vista Cellars*, and *De Jager*.

We took advantage of the opportunity of being together to get to know each other better and to bring us up to date on our lives outside AAUW.

Our evening didn't end with the tasting, as several of us stayed to listen to Gail Dreifus in Vista's outdoor amphitheater. The delightful music, the excellent pizza, and the cooling temperature provided a welcoming venue for us. We agreed that we'd visit again.



We Sponsor Community Forums

 [To Page 1](#)

## Interest Groups - Hiking

Contact [Mary Ripma](#)

The Hiking Group is ready to hit the trails once again. Thank you to Mary Ripma who has kept us apprised of the hikes of the Senior Hikers as well as our own treks. The following dates are tentative. Destinations are yet to be determined. Be sure to contact Mary with your suggestions.

Sunday 9/11  
 Saturday 10/15  
 Saturday 10/29  
 No hikes in Nov or Dec  
 Saturday 1/21  
 Saturday 2/25  
 Saturday 3/18  
 Saturday 4/22  
 Saturday, 5/20



## Interest Groups - Garden

The Gardening Group is under cultivation and needs a coordinator to help it grow. Contact Dawn Johnson if you want to learn more about what's involved.



## Interest Groups - Craft

Contact [Joan Lee](#)



Stay tuned. The Craft Group has made some pretty amazing projects. Look for more intriguing activities. Hmm, I wonder if a clock for the fashion show might be on the agenda...

## Wanted! Membership Liaison

*Continued from page 3*

sense of belonging and personal connection. That might mean greeting and introducing members at our events, sending "care cards" for members' life events, giving welcome bags to new members, finding "buddies" for new members, checking in on members whom we haven't seen for a while and just, in general, finding ways to keep in

touch with the neat people in our organization. Who knows what we'll come up with! You'd also have a chance to help **party plan** for the various member events throughout the year and we'd hope to see you at the monthly board meetings. Want to talk more about it? [Contact Dawn](#).

 [To Page 1](#)

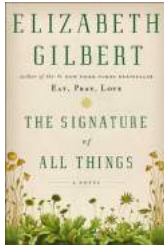
We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



**Interest Groups- Reading** Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)



Our next meeting will be  
**Tuesday, August 2, 2016**  
 at 4:30 pm  
 at [Helene Fiske's](#) home. We will  
 be discussing  
***The Signature of All Things***  
 By Elizabeth Gilbert



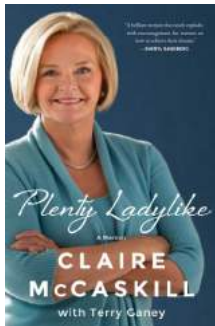
Assembly, a state auditor, but had to rethink strategy when she lost the election for Governor of Missouri. This gave her the opportunity to run for the U.S. Senate where she used her skills of investigation. Throughout the book, we learned of those who supported her efforts and those who acted against her.

Claire's story also included information about her family. She and her first husband had three children. Her husband was great with the children. They would later divorce, but they both worked to give a good life to them. Later she re-married and enjoyed more personal support.

We talked about Claire McCaskill's life, her work, her dedication, and the challenges she faced. We all got a chuckle about how she ran ads in the primary to support a Republican that she knew she would be able to beat in the general election.

Needless to say, with all of this political conversation we did discuss some of the current happenings in the 2016 primary campaign.

**June 7th Discussion Review**



***Plenty Ladylike***  
 By Claire McCaskill

--Andria Matala

Claire McCaskill shares her life in *Plenty Ladylike*. We learned of her supportive parents who supported her ambitions-

no Barbie for Claire and her sister, no sexist board games. She was out-spoken and strategic even in high school when she befriended others in order to become homecoming queen. She learned early on to talk to people and to listen to their concerns. An internship in the Missouri State Legislature taught her that females could be considered fair game by the males. She learned from waitressing that people appreciated having someone who listened. While completing law school she was a researcher for the Missouri Court of appeals, working as a prosecutor on fraud and rape cases and moving on to arson prosecution, being thorough so as to get the convictions. She was elected to the Missouri General

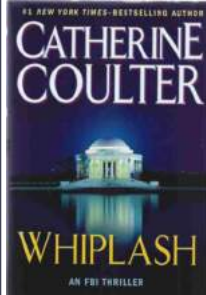
**Book title for  
 September 6  
 discussion:**

**Bobbed Hair and  
 Bathtub Gin**

by Marian Meade.



## Interest Groups- Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)**July 5th Discussion****Review*****Whiplash***

--Dawn Johnson

After enjoying two years of “protected status” in the Book Group because I was doing other things for the Branch, the job of leading the book discussion finally rolled around to me. I couldn’t have gotten a better book for my initiation. Not because it was so good, but because it was so bad.

Whiplash, by Catherine Coulter, is the fourteenth book in her popular series of “romantic paranormal FBI thrillers.” The plot revolved around two separate mysteries: the possible haunting of a US senator by his dead wife and the murder of a pharmaceutical executive whose company was illegally and unethically withholding production of an affordable cancer-fighting drug. The investigation was conducted by a married team of FBI agents with implausible names like Lacey Sherlock. For romantic interest, a “guest” agent was brought in who inappropriately involved his daughter’s ballet teacher (who, of course, just happened to moonlight as a private investigator). By the final chapter, the book was littered with eight bodies, one ghost, three love-struck agents, one clueless ballet

teacher, and lots of unanswered questions. We framed our discussion around whether or not we’d recommend this as a “plane book.” The consensus was NO, although it might help put you to sleep on a long flight. The characters were one-dimensional, the dialogue was ridiculous, the story was riddled with implausible, if not downright impossible, circumstances and coincidences and the author disappointingly failed to chew on the topic of big pharma’s ethical role in health care.

The only good thing this book provided was a lot of laughter, followed by a wonderful BBQ hosted by Saralynn and Don. Many thanks to them.

The following are titles from which we will consider in selecting our reading choices for the remainder of the year:

The Goddess Pose By Michelle Goldberg

The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet By David Mitchell

The Children’s Crusade By Ann Packer

Between You & Me By Mary Norris

## 2016-17 Calendar

Spring is puppy and kitten season, fall is the best part of baseball season, and late summer is hereby declared as AAUW season! We have a great line up of projects, programs, and fundraisers coming up for the year, several of which are discussed in this issue. Please note that many of the events will come with their own expanded schedules. Take a look below and pencil us in.

<b>July 25-</b>	<b>SIG Planning Session</b>
<b>July 28-</b>	<b>Dinner With a Scientist Planning Session</b>
<b>Aug 8:</b>	<b>Backpack Fill</b>
<b>Aug 27:</b>	<b>New Member Mixer</b>
<b>Aug 29:</b>	<b>Voter Registration Packet Fill</b>
<b>Oct 6:</b>	<b>Dinner With a Scientist</b>
<b>Oct 8:</b>	<b>Fall Membership Gathering</b>
<b>Oct 21-22:</b>	<b>Yard Sale</b>
<b>Nov 12:</b>	<b>Fashion Show</b>
<b>Dec 7:</b>	<b>Speech Trek Kickoff</b>
<b>Dec 11:</b>	<b>Holiday Party</b>
<b>Feb 22:</b>	<b>Speech Trek Main Event</b>
<b>Mar 7:</b>	<b>Women's History Month Proclamation</b>
<b>Feb/Mar:</b>	<b>Tech Trek Interviews</b>
<b>May 7:</b>	<b>Annual Meeting</b>
<b>May 20:</b>	<b>Home Tour</b>
<b>May TBD:</b>	<b>Tech Trek Ice Cream Social</b>
<b>June TBD:</b>	<b>Tech Trek</b>



**Meeting Minutes**  
**AAUW Mariposa Board of Directors**  
**May 2, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** at 4:05 by Co-President Sandi Gabe

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dawn Johnson, Sandi Gabe, Cindy Harp, Maddie Brown, Rebecca Swisher, Karen Smith, Carolyn Baker, Leslie Bernacchi, Marilyn Saunders, Dina Lambert, Saralynn Nusbaum

**Approval of Minutes from April 4, 2016 board meeting:** Minutes were previously submitted, approved by email, & published in April newsletter.

**REPORTS:**

**Membership:** Carolyn Baker

The minutes from the April board meeting stated that only one member who joined through the Shape the Future program has renewed in past years. Carolyn Baker clarified that it is honorary members, not Shape the Future members, who tend not to renew their memberships.

Of those offered honorary memberships, Kim Monson and Audrey Davis have accepted. A response has not yet been received from Carole Reiter or The Honorable Michael Fagalde. Cindy Harp will follow up with Carole, and Carolyn will contact Judge Fagalde.

One year membership dues discounts are available to past AAUW members who would now like to rejoin. Previous members Debbie Joseph and Libby Merrill have been contacted.

A member mixer was held at Creekside Nursery on April 19. Ten members attended; Jill Rowney and Tom Ritter guided the group through the nursery.

The annual meeting is scheduled for May 22 and will be held at The River Rock Inn. Special interest group coordinators have been asked to create story boards for display at the annual meeting. Sandi is sending out postcard invitations to those members who don't typically communicate by email.

It was mentioned that our branch diversity form needs to be updated.

On-line membership renewal requests have been sent and our new membership brochures are done.

**Publicity:** Cindy Harp

All home tour publicity is out.

The Speech Trek competition received coverage, with contrasting background, on page three of the Mariposa Gazette.

Candidates' forum publicity has been sent.

Cindy has developed a project template for the Mariposa Gazette, Goldrushcam.com, and the Sierra Star.

*(Continued on page 16)*

*(Continued from page 15)*

**Programs:** Karen Smith

The March 10<sup>th</sup> program on raptors given by John McCamman, was the best attended program of the year. The evening program on fighting fire in the Sierra was the most poorly attended. Possibly evenings don't work or the topic wasn't of interest. Programs on animals and travel seem to draw the most participation. Partnering with other organizations worked well, i.e. the "Half the Sky" screening. Leslie Bernacchi will serve as VP of Programs for the coming year.

**Treasurer's Report:** Dina Lambert

**Income:**

Tech Trek checks have been received - \$50/participant, \$300 in total.

**Expenses:**

Checks have been sent to reimburse expenses for state convention participation.

A replacement check of \$25 was sent to MCHS Grizzly Band Boosters replacing the lost check sent to commemorate the passing of Ti Shackelton.

Ending balance as of 4/30/16 - \$7,973.65

**PROJECT UPDATES:**

**Tech Trek:** Dawn Johnson

An ice cream social orientation meeting will be held on May 15 at Marilyn Saunders' home; Debbie Peters has been involved in organizing this meet & greet. We discussed whether we want to move Tech Trek from Fresno State to Merced; it would probably take 2-3 years to transition. Sandi Gabe is the treasurer for Tech Trek Fresno. Tracking has been completed for Tech Trek students who have participated over the past 5 years.

**Speech Trek:** Dawn Johnson

Mariposa High School student, Claire Gorham, earned third place and \$500 in the Speech Trek contest at the state convention in San Mateo on Saturday, April 16.

**Backpack Project:** Dawn Johnson

Anita Starchman Bryant and Cathy Owens will be meeting the week of May 9. The purpose of the meeting is to identify students before the break. Karen Rust will assist in identifying students.

**Dinner with a Scientist** has been scheduled for Thursday, October 6.

**Home Tour:** Sandi Gabe

Publicity is complete.

SIG gift baskets have been completed, and photos are on line.

*(Continued on page 17)*



The pre-tour has been scheduled for Friday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, and participants will be meeting at the Fairgrounds.

Gary and Reva Colliver will be placing signs.

Docents & bakers finalized.

Home photos are being posted on Facebook.

### **Voter Education**

Candidates' Forums have been scheduled for Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup> at the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors' Chambers and on Wednesday, May 18<sup>th</sup> in Greeley Hill. Only District 2 candidates will participate in the Greeley Hill forum.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Our amended bylaws are now certified.

Public Health Preparedness

The Mariposa Public Health Department held a meeting in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in April to discuss local impacts of climate change. Most of the attendees were from the health department along with two doctors from Yosemite and a forester. Jane MacLean attended on behalf of AAUW and submitted a written report to the board; contact the board secretary for a copy. Several AAUW members were in attendance including Gary Colliver, Karen Smith, and Margarita King. Karen Smith summarized the meeting for the board. Among the topics discussed were the Zika virus, food, and air quality. A survey conducted by the CDC indicated that 3.5% of Mariposa County residents do not have running water.

### **Transition Meeting**

Dawn, Sandi, Rebecca, and Maddie will be meeting within the next few weeks to develop a transition plan.

### **State Convention**

Sandi, Dawn, Cindy, Maddie, and Rebecca attended the AAUW state convention over the April 15 – 17 weekend. Dawn and Sandi led 5 sessions on leadership development. A documentary "The Hunting Ground" concerning campus sexual abuse was screened. We are considering this film for a future program, possibly a high school program. Other programs focused on fair pay, specifically not using prior salary history as a basis for determining salary, seduction of our youth –sexual predators on the internet, and financial literacy. It was mentioned that AAUW has a legal advocacy fund, purpose being to challenge sexual discrimination in higher education and in the workplace.

### **Review Goals status**

The 2015-16 Goals and Actions document which was developed at the annual planning meeting, was circulated, discussed, and updated. To review, contact the board secretary for a copy.

### **Board positions remaining open:**

VP of Membership

Two Directors at Large



It was discussed that we need to incorporate what AAUW does at our annual fashion show – invite Tech Trek participants to demonstrate their experiments and presentations by Dinner with a Scientist participants.

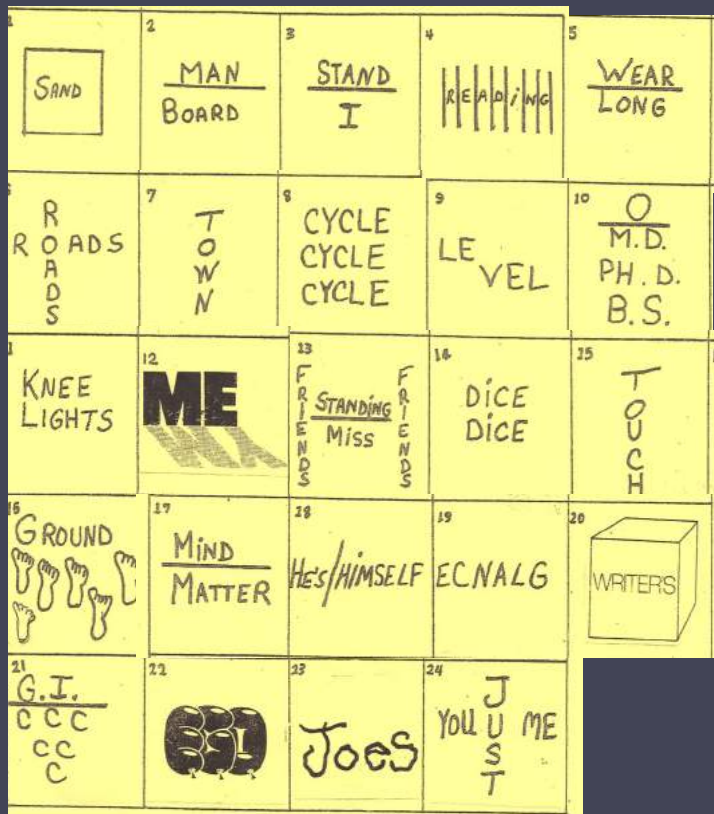
Assignment of June Branch Buzz – Sandi Gabe.

The June board meeting has been cancelled.

The meeting was adjourned by Co-President Sandi Gabe at 6:00PM.

## Word Game to activate brain cells

Attendees at the Annual Meeting in May played with a tricky word puzzle while enjoying the refreshments. For those who could not attend, here's the game.....AND the answers!!"



Answers:

Row 1: Sandbox, Man overboard, I understand, Reading between the lines, Long underwear.

Row 2: Crossroads, Downtown, Tricycle, Split level, 3 degrees below 0.

Row 3: Neon lights, Me and my shadow, Understanding between friends, Pair of dice, Touchdown.

Row 4: 6 feet underground, Mind over matter, He's beside himself, Glance backwards, Writer's block.

Row 5: G.I. overseas, Inflated ego, Sloppy Joes, Just between you and me.



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Directors at Large	Cindy Harp <a href="mailto:cindy_harp@earthlink.net">cindy_harp@earthlink.net</a> Bonnie Little <a href="mailto:mbmslitle@sti.net">mbmslitle@sti.net</a>

Project Chairs/Coordinators

Advertising	<a href="#">Sharon Enrico</a>
Back Pack Project	<a href="#">Anita Bryant</a> <a href="#">Cathy Owens</a>
Dinner With a Scientist	<a href="#">Marilyn Saunders</a>
Fundraising	<a href="#">Sandi Gabe</a>
HS Voter Education	<a href="#">Jetty Uebner</a>
Member Support Cards	Position Open
Membership Liaison	Position Open
Newsletter Editor	<a href="#">Jill Rowney</a>
Publicity	<a href="#">Cindy Harp</a>
Speech Trek	<a href="#">Jill Harry</a>
Social Media	<a href="#">Maddie Brown</a>
Tech Trek	<a href="#">Naoko Kada</a> <a href="#">Debbie Peters</a>
Website	<a href="#">Sandi Gabe</a> <a href="#">Maddie Brown</a>

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