



Sierra Outpost

The Tutoring Project

A project to launch students to success

--Maddie Brown

Do you have an hour a week you'd like to spend helping children in our community? As you have seen mentioned a few times throughout the newsletter, our branch is kicking off a new project, The Tutoring Project! Here is a brief outline for what you can expect while we iron out the details...



Many students benefit from the positive influence of one on one time with an adult, which is just as powerful as reading

through a chapter or working through a math problem.

If you are interested in learning more about what it takes to run this project, getting in on the ground level is a great time. Please keep an eye out for additional information as the fine print for the project is still in the works. Meetings have been set with site principals in mid-August to gather information. We are looking to begin the tutoring itself in late September once students have settled in. We are looking forward to rolling The Tutoring Project out!

Originally an existing passion project brought to us by Nancy Martin, she will be heading up the project this year. Nancy has been heading up the Tutoring Project with Mariposa Elementary School, Greeley Hill, Woodland School, and Mariposa County High School (peer tutors). Anyone can be a tutor regardless of background!

August, 2017

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Co-Presidents' Corner

AAUW Action

Maddie's Dad often says "Life doesn't wait for bad things to happen just one at a time," which was absolutely the case for so many branch members and Mariposans when the Detwiler fire started a few weeks ago. While the fire raged, many had other things going on in their lives from injuries, illnesses, family emergencies, and work stresses. All of that didn't stop just because a big fire came along. Fortunately for all of us, life doesn't wait for **good** things to happen just one at a time either. And in the midst of the insanity the last few weeks, multiple good things came out of the branch. Our branch was able to expand the Backpack Project to accommodate children of all grades whose homes were lost or damaged during the fire, and we will be able to help those families have one less thing to worry about as back-to-school approaches, and help the children return to a semblance of normalcy. The Board formally adopted the Tutoring Project, a passion project shared with us all by one of our members. Following a summer like this one, our soon-to-be tutors will be able to help mentor kids who may feel off track or distracted by the summer's events beyond their control, as well as kids who could really

just use some one on one time to go over math flashcards, or read a book to an adult who is only listening to that child. A little positive reinforcement can go a long way. And last, but not least, seeing members, friends, and even stranger helping people move livestock, covering a meal for someone, giving hugs, or opening homes, there was goodness throughout our many little communities. Join us Friday, September 1st, the first of our new recurring "non-agenda'd" monthly get togethers to keep the good feelings up. Bring a hug and a smile for friends you haven't seen in a while, and a "Welcome!" for new faces. This impressive edition of the newsletter has all of the details of the above activities and more. We hope the good things in your life continue to happen more than one at a time, and the bad things happen as few and far between as possible!



*Rebecca
&
Maddie*

Welcome to a Dawn “renewed”

--Dina Lambert

Please welcome returning member Dawn Pederson. Dawn was an active member serving on various committees and holding various offices including President of the Mariposa AAUW branch back in early 2000. We are excited that she has decided to resume her membership in our group. Dawn has decided to join the Book and Craft Special Interest Groups.

Dawn’s hometown is Port Orchard, Washington. She met her husband, Romie, in college at the University of Montana. They have two daughters, Scarlett and Caroline, and one granddaughter. Dawn and Romie moved to Mariposa in 1989 where Dawn was a teacher. Since retiring from teaching in 2013, Dawn and her husband Romie have been enjoying traveling.



Activities Coming Soon



- August 22** **SIG International Study:** Potluck planning luncheon
- August 23** **Assembly of High School Voter Packets:** Contact [Jetty Uebner](#)
- Sept 1** **Cocktails and Convos:** 5:00pm, The Alley
- Sept 5** **SIG Reading:** 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
- Sept 9** **SIG Hiking:** Details tbd
- Sept 11** **Board Meeting:** 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
- Sept 16** **SIG Craft:** Planning meeting, 10:00am, home of Annie Mahle
- Sept 30** **Membership Mixer**
- October 5** **Dinner With a Scientist:** UC Merced
- October 7** **Coffee and Convos:** 9:00am, Pony Espresso
- October 13-14** **Yard Sale**

Planning Session

--Maddie Brown



Ideas abound, setting stage for coming year

The July Leadership Team Planning Session, coupled with a full branch Brainstorming Session that was both enlightening and motivating (hello Passion Projects!), really set the stage for a tremendous 2017-2018! The Brainstorming Session began with large poster sheets

applied to the walls around the JCF Board Room. Attendees suggested the following topics for discuss. Each topic header was written on a sheet and attendees took turns taking notes and discussing their thoughts about said topics. Here are the summaries of the notes from the poster sheets.

Brainstorming Session:

Changing membership calls for more mission based programs.

The board can recommend that programs have a mission-based approach. Panel movie screenings have been highly successful in the past. "Barriers to education for young women" such as **feminine health** was one idea that was presented. Community partnerships could be beneficial, as was done with film screenings in the past. A few groups to coordinate with could include the PTA or Girl Scouts, as well as Chamber of Commerce. Based on the success and continued buzz surrounding the Financial Literacy event, we hope to see a continuation of that theme.

We have an election year coming up. We should **revisit voter registration card cam-**

paigns as we have done previously. We should coordinate with other groups for the Forum (Chamber, Gazette) to make sure we don't compete for attendees. We can coordinate registration activities with other community events such as the fair, flu shot campaigns, etc. to reach a greater number of people. We may want to consider tracking hours using a sign-in sheet. As we have a election primary year coming up, we will need to begin this process in 9/2017.

More opportunities for involvement may help encourage membership retention. Some non-renewal is normal, approximately 15 per year. We could use carpool **incentives to encourage members to get to know one another and get new members in to the fold.** Remind members of opportunities for ways to get in touch in newsletter – e.g. "**3 Tips for Involvement**". Consistent monthly gatherings and smaller events may encourage ongoing interaction. More reminders about events.

Projects may expand or decrease from year to year for a variety of reasons, including, but not limited to more/less interest in a particular speech topic, conflicting events, laws (HIPA, Title 9). It is okay to reevaluate branch programs and projects to see where members' skills and interests lie then adapt accordingly.

Common themes throughout the day were participation and retention, expanding educa-

(Continued on page 5)

Planning Session

(Continued from page 4)

tion opportunities in the community, and encouraging a mission-based approach, along with Passion Projects! Be sure to read up on The Tutoring Project, a passion project introduced to us by our very own Nancy Martin!



also available on our [website](#) in printable form, as well as in a Google Calendar. Take a close look- there are several new items! In addition to the Tutoring Project, we have evolved the Coffee/Cocktails and Convos to be a recurring monthly event (see page xxx). Items to be discussed or voted on in upcoming board meetings include; budget finalization, calendar finalization, and usage of the P.O. Box. One recurring theme during the Planning Session was the success of our fundraisers in 2016-2017, and how we can set ourselves up for a year of efficient spending.

Planning Session:

The afternoon planning session focused on two main topics- budgeting and calendar creation, as well as the formal vote to adopt the Tutoring Project. Our budget is set to be finalized at the August Board meeting, and our initial Calendar is included here in the newsletter for you to peruse. The calendar is

Cocktails and Convos



Conversations continue as members meet once a month

---Rebecca Swisher

One of the primary suggestions that we heard from members during the Planning Session was for our branch to have an ongoing opportunity to get together. With the positive feedback we received regarding last year's Cocktails/Coffee & Convos events, we decided to continue these into this year. As you can see from the calendar in this newsletter, the first Friday of the odd months will be Cocktails & Convos, and the first Saturday of the even months will be Coffee & Convos. We will meet for hugs, smiles, and conversations about topics important to our branch.

Our next event will be held at The Alley at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, September 1, 2017. We look forward to seeing many of you there!

Next Cocktails and Convos:

Friday, September 1

5:00 pm

The Alley

2017-2018 Budget Worksheet

	2016-2017 Budget	2016-2017 Actuals	Variance	Notes	2017-2018 Proposed Budget
Beginning Balance					\$ 15,183.22
Income Actuals are Net Profit					
INCOME					
District Portion of Dues	1,500	1,470	(30)	\$15 per member	1,500
Donations					
Undesignated	900	149	(751)		900
Designated:	4,000	0	802	Surpassed the goal	4,000
Backpack		856		1800 for DWS in designated	
Tech Trek		447			
Speech Trek		0			
Dinner w/ Scientist		3,500			
Fundraisers		0			
Yard Sale	1,500	2,129	629		1,500
Spring Event	5,000	9,158	4,158	1 small event for 2018	2,000
Fall Event	2,500	96	(2,404)	No Fall Event 2018	
Apparel Sales	30	0	(30)		30
Ads	200	200	0		200
TOTAL INCOME	15,630	18,004	2,374		10,130
EXPENSES					
Administration					
Directory	350	433	83	Membership increase	450
Awards/Gifts	50	15	(35)		50
Insurance	400	398	(2)		400
Postage / PO Box	100	93	(7)		150
Supplies	200	0	(200)		200
Nametags	0	0	0		0
Website Hosting / Google Acct	80	71	(9)		80
Phonevite	25	0	(25)		25
Meetings	120	89	(31)		200
Chamber Dues	100	100	0		100
Member Events		0	0		
Mixer (Fall)	300	72	(228)		200
Orientation	50	85	35	2 @50	100
Holiday Event	50	44	(6)		200
Annual Mtg/Brunch	250	167	(83)		250
Programs		0	0		
Facilities	100	29	(71)	\$50 / ea	200
Hospitality	100	0	(100)		100
Miscellaneous	250	0	(250)		1,000
Projects		0			
Backpack	2,397	1,412	(985)		1,800
Tech Trek	5,500	6,300	800	7 Girls were sent 2017 - Price	6,000
Speech Trek	530	554	24	No Coordinator	0
Dinner w/ Scientist	4,300	4,091	(209)		3,800
Voter Education	50	0	(50)	Aug 23 10:00am Jetty Uebne	80
Tutoring	0	0	0		300
Funds Assessment	60	0	(60)		300
Leadership Development	5,000	1,050	(3,950)	State Convention	5,000
Marketing	500	0	(500)		500
Equipment	50	0	(50)		50
Miscellaneous	300	0	(300)		300
TOTAL EXPENSES	21,212	17,725	3,487		21,835
Projected Checking Account Balance June 30, 2018					\$ 3,478.22

AAUW Mariposa Activities Calendar 2017-18

August 2017

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

7th: Board Meeting
 10th: Backpack Fill Day
 23rd: HS Voter Packets

February 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28			

3rd: Coffee and Convos(am)
 5th: Board Meeting

September 2017

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

1st: Cocktails and Convos(pm)
 11th: Board Meeting
 30th: Fall Mixer

March 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

2nd: Cocktails and Convos(pm)
 5th: Board Meeting
 6th- Women's History Month Proclamation

October 2017

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

2nd: Board Meeting
 5th: Dinner with a Scientist
 7th: Coffee and Convos(am)
 13th-14th: Yard Sale

April 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

2nd: Board meeting
 7th: Coffee and Convos(am)
 27th-29th: State Convention

November 2017

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

3rd: Cocktails and Convos(pm)
 6th: Board Meeting
 14th: Fall Program

May 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

4th: Cocktails and Convos(pm)
 7th: Board meeting
 20th: Annual Meeting

December 2017

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

2nd: Coffee and Convos(am)
 4th: Board Meeting,
 10th: Holiday Gathering

June 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

2nd: Coffee and Convos(am)
 4th: Board Meeting

January 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

5th: Cocktails and Convos(pm)
 8th: Board Meeting

July 2018

Sun	Mo	Tue	We	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

TBD- Planning Session
 6th: Cocktails and Convos(pm)



Interest Groups - International Study

Contact [Peggy Shainberg](#) or [Carolyn Baker](#)

Time to select another adventure



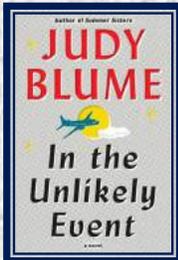
--Peggy Shainberg

We will be meeting for a potluck lunch pm August 28 to discuss the country we will be studying for the next year. If you haven't already signed up for this group, please let [Peggy Shainberg](#) know if you are interested in joining us for the potluck and perhaps attend our meetings. Our goal is to share in the adventure of opening the doors of discovery and broaden our understanding of other cultures.

Interest Groups- Reading



Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

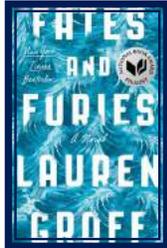
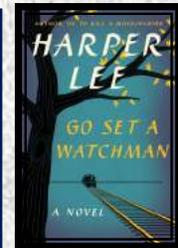
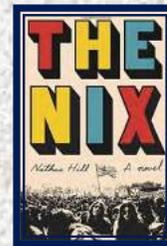


Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at 4:30 pm at the home of H el ene Fiske. We will be discussing *In the Unlikely Event* by Judy Blume.

Remaining titles for 2017:

The Nix by Nathan Hill
and

Go Set a Watchman by Harper Lee



Fates and the Furies by Lauren Groff

July Discussion Review

--Saralynn Nusbaum

Lauren Groff's third novel, *Fates & Furies*, landed on more 2015 year-end best-of lists than any other work of fiction, and Amazon made it official, stamping its endorsement on *Fates and Furies* as the book of the year. The cherry on the top came from Barack Obama, who told *People* magazine he liked *Fates* and

Furies more than anything else he'd read in 2015. What did our group think? Not so much.

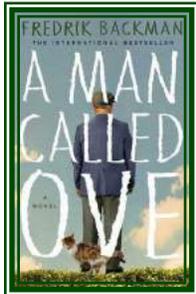
Fates and Furies is about a marriage in which each partner has a radically different view of their union. The first part of the book, *Fates*, is the husband's view of the marriage and the second, *Furies*, the wife's. Some of our best discussions

occur when we have mixed reactions to a book. Beyond discussing the marriage we wove in a conversation about the *Fates and Furies* of Greek mythology and how that title was applicable to the two sections of the book. I think our group found the book interesting but we were mixed on whether we would recommend. ..I would.



***A Man Called Ove* by Fredrik Backman** **August Discussion Review**

--Marilyn Saunders



Ove (pronounced OOvay) feels old and useless because his job ended resulting in his early retirement. The Swedish author, Fredrik Backman, introduces his protagonist gradually as the story develops. We get to know him as he more or less bumps up against his neighbors, his neighborhood and the local government authorities: the white shirts. Ove knows what is right and wants things done the right way. Are you getting a hint about this curmudg-

eon? There is plenty of humor throughout. Take a leap and meet Ove. Your first impression about him may change as you walk with him through this story.

Backman's technique of telling the "backstory" as the current story progresses worked well for most of us. We liked the story and the telling of it. One member reported that the movie based on *Ove* is good and follows the book.

Interest Groups - Craft

Contact [Annie Mahle](#) and [Margaret Brandenburg](#)



Confessions of a Pinterest Junkie

--Margaret Brandenburg

While the cold rainy days of winter are perfect for crafting, I've discovered that crafting is also a good way to avoid summer's midday scorches. Another way is of course to get lost in Pinterest. My excuse is that I'm looking for ideas for our Craft SIG. I found a plethora of projects on Pinterest and posted to my board, <https://www.pinterest.com/margaretbranden/>. Crafters, you are welcome to look and see if any interest you. Here are a couple ideas I tested. The treat jar was easy and inexpensive. I tried a couple different techniques with the washer jewelry. All instructions are posted on my Board.

Annie Mahle and I are looking forward to coordinating the Craft SIG this year. We've scheduled the planning meeting for **Saturday, September 16, 2017 at 10:00 AM at Annie's home.** Mark your calendars and watch your email for the Evite.





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	Rebecca Swisher beccaswish@yahoo.com	Back Pack Project	Cathy Owens Karen Rust
VP Membership	Dina Lambert dinallambert@gmail.com	Dinner With a Scientist	Marilyn Saunders
VP Programs	Becky Mock	Fundraising	Sandi Gabe
Recording Secretary	Bernadette Falany-Davis	Good Will Ambassador	Margaret Brandenburg
Finance Officer	Sandi Gabe	HS Voter Education	Jetty Uebner
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		Speech Trek	OPEN
		Social Media	Maddie Brown
		Tech Trek	Cathy Owens Barbara Silva
		Yard Sale	Sharon Enrico
		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