



## Sierra Outpost

### Treasures in your garage?

--Sharon Enrico



**Friday-Saturday**  
**October 21-22**  
**Home of Helene Fiske**

AAUW's annual yard sale is just around the corner. Our dates this year are **Friday and Saturday, October 21 & 22** and we have once again reserved the ideal location of Helene and Bill Fiske's house.

Now that summer is moving into fall, take time to look around your house and yard to find any items that you no longer need but someone else may value. Keep in mind we love those clean, unbroken treasures that can bring in lots of bartering fun.

We are not selling any clothing this year (it just doesn't seem to move

and is hard to display) unless you have some one-of-a-kind gems that might entice a buyer.

At the beginning of October, I will send out an email to all members telling when Helene's garage is open for donations. I will also be asking for recruits to help set up, work the sale, and/or load up the leftovers.

This important event is a money maker for all of the projects our branch supports. I hope each one of you will be able to donate, set up, sell, or just come and buy stuff!

**NOTICE!!!** The **October 3rd board Meeting** has been relocated to the Mariposa Unified School district Board room due to a scheduling conflict with the library. The meeting will still be held at 4 pm.

### September 2016

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## Co-Presidents' Corner

### All about looking good

There's an old adage that reads something along the lines of, "When you look good, you feel good, and when you feel good, you do good." While the emphasis of investing in one's self is important in being the best version of themselves they can be, sometimes the saying just feels a little off...

Have you ever had a rough day at work, or house guests who have overstayed their welcome?

Then you get a little time to yourself and head to an AAUW project...

And fill backpacks for Mariposa County kids and find yourself laughing with a new branch member...

Or hum and dance along while setting up the Fashion Show...

Or teach someone something interesting at the Home Tour...

Here you are, doing something good, that

makes you feel good, and you are looking happy in the photos we see online and in the Gazette.

If we revisit that phrase and put our own AAUW spin on by turning it on its head, you end up with "When you do good, you feel good, and when you feel good, you look good (read: happy!)."

Now that we are back in to the school year and our full force of programs and projects, there are plenty of opportunities to invest in our community while also investing in yourself. So whether you are helping stuff High School Voter Registration Packets, or partaking in the Hiking Special Interest Group's first hike of the season, we hope that whatever you choose to participate in, that you do good and feel good!



*Rebecca  
&  
Maddie*

## Advertise your business or personal message

Putting an ad in our very own AAUW newsletter is a great way to reach at least 100 people every month. For a mere \$50 a year your ad will be seen by highly motivated women and friends. In addition to advertising a business you can put in a one-time ad for \$10/month

—Sharon Enrico

and announce to all the birthday celebration of a member, an upcoming anniversary, a new grandbaby, a graduation milestone. Be creative and share good news! Call or email Sharon Enrico for more information (966-3062, [slenrico@sti.net](mailto:slenrico@sti.net))

## Membership

--Dawn Johnson



### Lattes and learning at the new members' Meet and Greet

Six new AAUW members gathered under the Dachshund to sip coffee, swap stories and learn about all things AAUW on Saturday, August 27, at Slim's Koffee Shak. We welcomed Trish and Lizz Darcy, Ellen Jones, Kim Monson, Deb Wiebe and Caroline Fruth. We missed new members Jill Balingier, Linda Cameron, Audrey Davis, Elaine



*Lizz Darcy, Maddie Brown, Deb Wiebe*



*Ellen Jones, Maddie Brown*

Keeley, Nancy Martin, Sue Overstreet, Gail Talmadge and Margaret Williams, as they had prior plans.

We shared a bit about ourselves, discovering that some have dogs, some have cats, some have kids, some do not, some are working and some are retired, some have lived in New York, and some have lived in Uganda. Everyone seems to have a couch, but only one person has a pink fireplace. Our new members do share two things: a tremendous breadth of skills and experi-

ence and an interest in making a difference.

We were joined by knowledgeable representatives of our branch, including Co-Presidents Maddie Brown and Rebecca Swisher, DWS Chair Marilyn Saunders, TT Co-Chair Naoko Kada, Backpack Co-Chair Cathy Owens and Voter Education Chair Jetty Uebner. In addition to describing the AAUW projects that they coordinate, they disclosed a few personal experiences,



*Kim Monson, Trish Darcy, Caroline Fruth*

(Continued on page 4)

## Membership

--Dawn Johnson

*(Continued from page 3)*



*Welcome Table*

including failing to create anything remarkable in the Craft Group and modeling in the fashion show.

Everyone poked through the Welcome Packets to find FAQs, brochures, useful reference guides, business cards and a directory (to be replaced in October with the 2016-

2017 version). The parting message was to read the newsletter, read the emails, read the Evites, read our website, read our Facebook page and read the newspaper. Listen for our call to action to see when, where and how you can get involved with what matters to you.

## Program: Dinner with a Scientist

--Marilyn Saunders

### Plans for Dinner With a Scientist continue as it launches its fourth year

New developments keep the Dinner with a Scientist program exciting. The flyers and applications were handed out at the orientation for freshmen and new students before school started. Now that school is in session, girls are coming in to the Counseling office to pick up applications. We want to continue to increase participation in this event, now in its fourth year. We appreciate the support of the High School, its faculty and staff.

Mariposa Youth Impact Project (MyIP) now has campus club status at UC Merced (UCM) while keeping its identity as a sponsor for activities at Mariposa County schools. Some UCM members of the club are interested in volunteering as host/guides on the lab tours. Since we want our Mariposa students to see themselves as future



college students, this will help bridge the age gap.

Please remember to thank our local sponsors, Tavis Corporation and the MCHS Academic Boosters Club. The School of Natural Sciences at UC

Merced is continuing to sponsor the event with a strong dollar commitment through our sponsor, Mariposa Youth Impact Project (MyIP).

Although we are not recruiting chaperones this year, we will need volunteers to assist in tasks such as stuffing folders for the girls as the date of the event nears. We need your support and will keep you posted. Kudos to AAUW for providing the sustainability for Dinner with a Scientist. Our branch is recognized as the power behind this event.

## Fundraiser: Fashion Show

--Sandi Gabe

# It's time.... for a challenge

Can we top last year's Fashion Show success? It's time to find out!

We have some mind blowing changes in mind for this year as we swing into full production mode. Our models won't be the only ones on the runway as our signature projects will also play a part through short vignettes (think very cute commercials) that will highlight where our contributors' hard-earned money will go. They will be choreographed by Dawn Johnson, so get ready to have a good time. Get ready to cheer on our new MC! We discovered that Cindy Harp has great stage



presence when she trained the models for their runway walk. She's agreed to expand her role and lead us through the event.

Some things won't change. We'll still have local models sporting local fashions and we are bringing back male models and kids into the lineup. The auction and yummy food will also make a repeat performance.

If you have not been to a fashion show you might not know the best part: our experience auction. Last year members donated more than 60 unique items for the auction. These one

of a kind personal gifts of time link AAUW members to the community and provide an opportunity to get to know other members and the community in small settings. They are wildly popular. Put your thinking caps on!

On the auction front, we will use our theme of time to request that any physical item donated be a hand-made clock. In addition to seeking out local artists, you are encouraged to make your own distinctive clock.

So here is the challenge:

How many of these things can you do to help us meet our goal????

- Donate an experience auction item
- Volunteer to help with the event
- Make a unique clock
- Sell/purchase tickets
- Bring your family and friends

### Volunteers needed

- Set up
- Clean up
- Stage design
- Model/store coordinator
- Food preparation

## Program: Backpack

--Cathy Owens & Anita Bryant

# Backpacks stuffed and delivered, launching students to success

--Cathy Owens

A big thank you to branch and community members who contributed their time, funds, energy and support to making this year's Backpack Project a great success! This year our branch provided forty-six fully stocked quality backpacks to Mariposa Elementary, Woodland, Sierra Foothill Charter School, Lake Don Pedro, Greeley Hill, and El Portal/Yosemite middle school students. Fifteen members donated school supplies, six members gave cash donations, and fourteen members gave of their time by helping fill of the backpacks. We received \$670.00 in cash donations and spent \$742.00 in club funds that were budgeted for our project. The

backpacks were carefully selected from different manufacturers in different colors and styles so that the students receiving the backpacks blend-in with their classmates. Special thanks to Karen Rust who assisted in communicating with the schools and identifying the students who would receive the packs. You all deserve a huge thank you for impacting these students' lives in such an immediate, meaningful and positive way.

*Editor's note: Special thanks to Cathy Owens and Anita Starchman Bryant for co-chairing this important project.*



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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

## Membership

### New! Group Email address shortcuts!

Great news! No more L-O-N-G lists of members' email addresses in the AAUW messages that you find in your inbox.

Thanks to Sandi Gabe, we have consolidated our members and their emails into distribution groups. Each group has its own email address. For example, the Book Group can now be reached with the email [book@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:book@aauwmariposa.com). If someone sends an email to that new group address, it will automatically go to all the people in that group.

If you receive a message because you are part of a group and want to reply only to the person who sent the email, hit **Reply**. If you want to reply to everybody in the group, hit **Reply All**, just like usual.

The groups, their email addresses and the people you would reach are listed below:

**Board of Directors:** [board@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:board@aauwmariposa.com)

Maddie Brown	Dawn Johnson
Rebecca Swisher	Leslie Bernacchi
Dina Lambert	Bonnie Little
Saralynn Nusbaum	Cindy Harp

**Leadership Team:** [leadership@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:leadership@aauwmariposa.com)

<b>Board of Directors:</b>	<b>Project Chairs:</b>	<b>Extended:</b>
Maddie Brown	Cathy Owens	Sandi Gabe
Rebecca Swisher	Anita Bryant	Jill Rowney
Dina Lambert	Marilyn Saunders	Sharon Enrico
Saralynn Nusbaum	Debbie Peters	
Leslie Bernacchi	Naoko Kada	
Dawn Johnson	Jetty Uebner	
Bonnie Little	Jill Harry	
Cindy Harp		

**Special Interest Group (SIG) Chairs:** [sig@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:sig@aauwmariposa.com)

Saralyn Nusbaum	Mary Ripma
Kathy Sutherland	Joan Lee
Peggy Shainberg	Sandi Gabe

**Special Interest Group Email Addresses:**

Book Group: [book@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:book@aauwmariposa.com)  
 Gardening Group: [gardening@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:gardening@aauwmariposa.com)  
 Corks and Forks: [wine@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:wine@aauwmariposa.com)  
 Craft Group: [craft@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:craft@aauwmariposa.com)  
 Hiking Group: [hiking@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:hiking@aauwmariposa.com)  
 International Group: [international@aauwmariposa.com](mailto:international@aauwmariposa.com)

## Membership

--Dawn Johnson

### Help Wanted: "Good Vibrations" Ambassador

We want our members to know that we care. Whether they're experiencing the ups or the downs of life, we want to be supportive.

We have an opening for a "Good Vibrations Ambassador" to send Hallmark-type cards of support to those who have experienced something significant in their lives. It could be good news or not-so-good news. We rely on our members to let us know who needs a "Shout Out" and then ask our Ambassador to send a card. This occurs perhaps four or five times a year.

If you'd like to help us give members a little extra "love in their life," please contact Dawn Johnson, Membership VP, at [dawnand-jay.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:dawnand-jay.johnson@gmail.com) for details about this opportunity.

And...everybody, if you don't tell us, we won't know. Please send Dawn names and helpful details about any member who should receive a Good Vibrations card.

Let's show that we're thinking of each other.



## National AAUW- GOTV



### Let's *Get Out The Vote* (GOTV)

The 2016 election is shaping up to be like none other, and although AAUW is nonpartisan, we can play a meaningful role by encouraging community members to register to vote.

Through its ***Get Out The Vote (GOTV)*** campaign, the National AAUW office has prepared training programs and tools to help local branches increase voter awareness and registration.

Can our branch spring into action to help ***Get Out The Vote?*** This could run the gamut from something as simple as standing in front of Pioneer and handing out voter registration forms to hosting debate watch parties to distributing AAUW advocacy literature to our members. There are plenty of ideas, many very simple to do, at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).



In addition, National is offering three webinars with information and tips on how to register, educate and turn out voters. They are scheduled for 8/31, 9/28 and 10/18 from 4:00-5:00 pm. Registration is free and easy [here](#). "Attend" one or all three or listen to them later online to get motivated!

We just need an enthusiastic team to make some plans (large or small) and mobilize some people (many or a few) to ***GOTV***. This is a chance to make a difference. Contact Maddie Brown and offer to help out. If we have enough interest, we can form an action team to share some ideas.

Let's make a difference on Election Day!

# 2015 Auction Item Redeemed

--Sandi Gabe

## Fun in the sun

The Gabe pool was the backdrop for a fashion show auction item gathering in August. Guests from the Bay Area enjoyed the pool, barbeque and a rousing tournament of games that included Pinochle, Euchre, Up the River/ Down the River, Pedro and Horseshoes. The



tournament results were so close that they had to be verified by an auditor! Sandi and Jeff (seen below with Mike Burns) staffed the event with Jeff's amazing culinary skills front and center. Will this item be on the auction block next year??? Stay tuned!



L to R: Mike Burns and Jeff Gabe

## Interest Groups - International Study

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



We held our annual planning meeting at Carolyn and Dennis Baker's home, this past August. Here we are enjoying margaritas beside the pool. During the potluck lunch we discussed several countries to study this year. We narrowed it down to sub Saharan Africa and Turkey and decided on Turkey, a country with a lot of history.

We will meet on the second Tuesday of each month.



## Interest Groups - Wine

Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)



With Autumn right around the corner, we're looking forward to our next Corks and Forks wine tasting.

Kathy and Glenn Sutherland will host the get together on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6:00pm. Whether you are joining us for the first time, or you have enjoyed the wine tasting events for several

years, we welcome you to another year of discovering new wines, tasting delicious food, and enjoying one another's company. We'll spend a few minutes introducing the new members to what we have done in the past, and will discuss just how casual and low-key our get-togethers are. If you haven't signed up to join the Corks and Forks, but you would like to join us for the evening, please call Kathy at 742-6131.

## Interest Groups - Hiking

Contact [Mary Ripma](#)

The following dates are tentative. Destinations are yet to be determined. Be sure to contact Mary with your suggestions.

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



We Sponsor Community Forums

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## Interest Groups - Craft

Contact [Joan Lee](#)



The craft group met recently to plan our crafts for the year. We were a small but productive group with many ideas of great



projects we look forward to creating each month. We will be sending out our schedule to those who signed up to be part of our group. Sandi and I are looking forward to another great year!

## Interest Groups - Garden

The Gardening Group is on hiatus. It will bloom again in the spring.



## Interest Groups- Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)



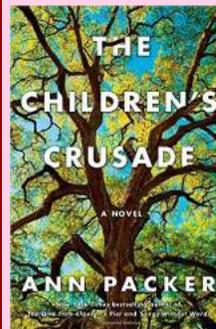
Our next meeting will be  
**Tuesday, September 6, 2016**  
**at 4:30 pm**

at Marilyn Saunders' home.  
(5156 Campbell Way)

Jan Mac Lean will be leading  
the discussion of

***Bobbed Hair and Bathtub Gin***

By Marian Meade.



Book title for  
**October 4 discussion:**  
**The Children's  
Crusade**  
by Ann Packer

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

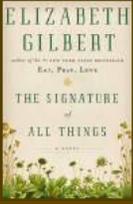
[Between You & Me](#) By Mary Norris

[The Thousand Autumns](#)

[of Jacob de Zoet](#) By David Mitchell



We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



### August 2 Discussion Review:

## *The Signature of All Things* by Elizabeth Gilbert

—Sandi Gabe

Having just returned from the world of Darwin on my recent trip to the Galapagos, I was struck by the coincidence of also leading the discussion about “The Signature of all Things”. Elizabeth Gilbert (of *Eat, Pray, Live* fame) weaves a captivating tale of love, adventure and discovery based on a fictional account of Alma Whittaker, a woman whose emersion into the of world of botany leads her to develop her own evolutionary perspective and provides the framework for the story.

Gilbert’s ninth novel begins with the story of Alma’s father rising from poverty and achieving his dream of wealth. It continues with Alma’s birth in 1800 into her very rich family in Philadelphia and continues across two generations and several continents. Born to a charismatic botanist and severe Dutch mother, Alma is modeled after several prominent upper class women related either by birth or marriage to men of science.

Gilbert’s interest in plants coupled with a discovery of a 1974 edition of “Cook’s Voyages” in her attic that belonged to her grandfather sparked her desire to write a novel with a female character and based in that moment. The writing is beautiful, poetic at times, and captivating.

Alma is fascinated with botany and spends much of her early life secluded in her family’s Philadelphia estate. She’s highly intellectual

and allowed to pursue science at a time when women typically did not have the opportunity. The story becomes increasingly complex and interesting over the course of her life as other richly developed characters are introduced.

Alma’s sense of self is challenged when the family adopts a beautiful young girl, Prudence, as Alma herself is not very attractive and their relationship is tumultuous over time. Retta, a childhood friend who initially provides a whimsical contrast to Alma’s serious nature, provides a glue between sisters. Both Retta and Prudence marry and Alma is left single, alone, and wondering if she’ll ever find a life partner.

Twenty years pass as Alma continues her study of mosses and plants that result in two publications in her own name. In her early fifties Alma discovers a lithographer, Ambrose, who creates exquisite pictures and she invites Ambrose to the estate. They hit it off and are married. Unfortunately for Alma, Ambrose desires to live in a higher plane and their marriage ends quickly and without consummation. Ambrose is banished to Tahiti to oversee a family vanilla plantation and after three years Alma gets word that he has died. When she opens his only worldly possession, a valise, she discovers more beautiful drawings; this time of an attractive native man. Alma is stunned and intrigued and journeys to Tahiti to discover his hidden mysteries. After much searching (you have to

(Continued on page 13)

## 2016-17 Calendar

<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>

*(Continued from page 12)*

read the book to find out what happens!) she leaves Tahiti and ultimately ends up in Holland at the estate of her Uncle where she is given the job as Curator of Mosses. Throughout her life she has worked on an evolutionary paper that she cannot bring herself to publish because she cannot explain why some organisms sacrifice themselves for stronger ones, such as a stranger who drowns to save a drowning child. Darwin publishes "On the Origin of Species" and Alma is shocked to find that it is her theory, only better written and that Darwin sidestepped the issue of altruism completely.

Our group discussion could have gone on for hours as the novel peels like an onion with many layers. We barely scratched the surface of the potential topics: strong woman charac-

ter, travel, sex, family dynamics, and sibling rivalry just to name a few. Gilbert's portrayal of Alma's struggle to publish mirrors a Harvard Business Review article published in August 2014, "Why Women Don't Apply for Jobs Unless They're 100% Qualified". The article illustrated "men apply for a job when they meet only 60% of the qualifications, but women apply only if they meet 100% of them." We were left with the observation that Alma suffered the same fate when she could not publish her article on the evolution of moss because she felt it was not complete. Darwin, on the other hand, took the 60% route and published without resolving this issue!

Mariposa AAUW					
2016 - 2017 Budget Worksheet					
	2015-2016 Budget	2015-2016 Actuals	Variance	Notes	2016-2017 Proposed Budget
Beginning Checking Balance					<b>12,182.48</b>
<b>Income Actuals are Net Profit</b>					
<b>INCOME</b>					
District	1,350	2,281	931	\$15 per member	1,500
Total Dues 2015/2016	1,350	2,281	931	\$700 of the \$900 Actuals is for 2017	
<b>Donations</b>					
Undesignated	900	325	(575)		900
Designated:	500	5	2,139	Cash donation from Tavis \$2500. \$600 from ABC for DWS	4,000
Backpack		900			
Tech Trek		375			
Speech Trek		64			
Dinner w/ Scientist		1,300		\$600 of 1300 if for 2016/2017	
<b>Fundraisers</b>					
Yard Sale	1,500	2,525	1,025	2 days now - more income + Online presales	1,500
Fashion Show	5,000	6,345	1,345	online auction possible	5,000
Home Tour	2,500	2,782	282	SIG donate baskets??	2,500
Apparel Sales	30	0	(30)		30
Ads	200	110	(90)		200
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>11,980</b>	<b>17,013</b>	<b>5,028</b>		<b>15,630</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>					
<b>Administration</b>					
Directory	300	300	(0)		350
Awards/Gifts	50	43	7		50
Insurance	400	350	50		400
Postage	100	0	100		100
Supplies	75	0	75		200
Nametags	348	371	(23)		0
Website Hosting /Google Acct	20	0	20		80
Phonevite	25	25	0		25
Meetings (Planning & Board)	100	0	100		120
Chamber Dues	100	100	0		100
<b>Member Events</b>					
Mixer -3	150	200	(50)	3 mixers	300
Orientation - 2	50	0	50	2 orientations	50
Holiday Event	50	0	50		50
Annual Mtg/Brunch	150	350	(200)		250
<b>Programs</b>					
Facilities	100	54	46		100
Hospitality	100	16	84		100
Miscellaneous	200	225	(25)		250
<b>Projects</b>					
Backpack	1,500	1,628	(128)	\$2760 Supplies at \$60 per pack. Some will be donated	2,397
Tech Trek	5,100	5,472	(372)		5,500
Speech Trek	450	530	(80)		530
Dinner w/ Scientist	950	2,347	(1,397)		4,300
Voter Education	50	0	50		50
<b>Funds Assessment</b>	60	60	0		60
<b>Leadership Development</b>	1,500	1,500	0	Very important to encourage leadership growth	5,000
<b>Marketing</b>	800	249	551		500
<b>Equipment</b>	50	0	50		50
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	300	0	300		300
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>13,078</b>	<b>13,819</b>	<b>(741)</b>		<b>21,212</b>
<b>Projected Checking Account Balance June 30, 2017</b>					<b>6,600.48</b>

**AAUW Mariposa Branch  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Library, August 1, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER:** at 4:00 by Co-President Rebecca Swisher

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dawn Johnson, Sandi Gabe, Maddie Brown, Rebecca Swisher, Leslie Bernacchi, Marilyn Saunders, Dina Lambert, Saralynn Nusbaum, Dawna Hunter, Bonnie Little, Sharon Enrico, Anita Starchman Bryant

**Approval of Minutes from May 2016 board meeting:** Minutes were previously submitted, approved by email, & published in June newsletter. Minutes from the annual planning session held on July 16 were approved; Rebecca moved and Bonnie seconded.

**PROJECT UPDATES:**

**Backpack Project-** Anita Starchman Bryant

We will be providing 46 backpacks this year; 45 were purchased and one was left over from last year. To date \$1,182 has been spent; last year \$1,131 was spent and this year for an additional \$50 we were able to purchase 10 more backpacks. Along with supplies, we received \$630 in cash contributions; last year we received \$709. In addition to the Mariposa schools, we will be distributing backpacks to El Portal, Greely Hills, and Lake Don Pedro. A backpack fill meeting will be held on Monday August 8 in the MES multipurpose room at 5:30PM.

**High School Voter Registration Packets-** Maddie Brown

We will be preparing 130 birthday/voter registration packets for high school seniors on August 29<sup>th</sup> at the home of Jetty Uebner, time TBD. We'll need 5 volunteers to assist. Included in the packets will be coupons for pizza, ice cream, voter registration materials, and guides from the California Bar Foundation.

**Dinner with a Scientist-** Marilyn Saunders

Dinner with a Scientist has been scheduled for Thursday October 6. The initial meeting has been held with the new UC Merced contact. Trish Gilger and Naoko Kada have updated the application. This year we will not have docents attend the meeting but we will need 3-5 members to assist with packet stuffing. Each attendee will receive a notebook and a lanyard. Tavis Corporation will be making a \$2,500 donation toward the project. Two buses will be needed, estimated cost is \$1,000. Dr. Lori Ritter will be the high school representative.

**Tech Trek-** Dawna Hunter

Natalie Marquez, a past Tech Trek attendee returned as a counselor this year. The Mariposa campers were outgoing and met and mingled with others. Sandi Gabe has served as the Fresno camp treasurer and the state Tech Trek committee will need to seek a replacement. Sandi asked for volunteers from the Mariposa branch.

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## **FUNDRASIER UPDATES**

### **Fashion Show-** Sandi Gabe

The date is November 12 and the theme is "It's Time". We will be soliciting local artists for handmade clocks; the craft group may also make clocks. We will continue to have experience auction items but it is difficult for out-of-town guests to take advantage of these, hence the clocks. We would like to involve Tech Trek and Dinner with a Scientist participants in this year's program as we want to focus more on what AAUW does in the community. The first organizing meeting will be held at Sandi Gabe's home, Thursday August 4 at 5:00PM.

### **Yard Sale-** Sharon Enrico

The yard sale will be held on Friday October 21 from 1-4PM and Saturday October 22 from 9-2 at the home of Helene Fiske. We'll need 2 cashiers on Friday. Sharon will send an email to the membership and she will create flyers. We do not accept donations of clothing. The Methodist church will take all leftovers.

## **REPORTS:**

### **Membership-** Dawn Johnson

Our branch has 88 members and the database has been updated as has the evite and phonevite list. Applications for the 2016/17 year have been updated. Using Google for Work, Sandi created distribution lists for administration, members, board of directors, leadership team, SIG coordinators, and special interest groups. Dawn Johnson hosted a meeting for the SIG coordinators on July 25 and each SIG chair was provided with a list of members. Each coordinator will review the list, be responsible for newsletter articles, website updates, and communicating meeting dates. Mid-year, the coordinators will assess whether their group has critical mass for continuation. The gardening group is in need of a coordinator; Dawn will set up a meeting and if no one volunteers, the group will be disbanded. Maddie and Rebecca have set a goal for each group to tie one activity to the mission of AAUW. There will be a membership mixer on October 8. We have an opening for a membership liaison.

### **Programs-** Leslie Bernacchi

Leslie is planning to meet with Karen Smith to discuss scheduling programs at the Miners Inn. The tentative plan is to continue to hold programs on Thursdays at 4:30 or 5PM. It was suggested that we coordinate with Mariposa Community Radio, KRYZ 98.5, to rebroadcast our programs. There will be 4 programs scheduled and the budget is \$400. Ideas for future programs are:

- Local author Cheryl Davis to discuss her new book on Mariposa area hikes.
- The Made in Mariposa project and a discussion on starting a business in a small town.
- Financial program discussing estate planning.

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- In conjunction with Alliance for Community Transformation, the screening of The Hunting Ground with a follow up discussion.

Dawn Johnson has put together guidelines to assist speakers, which Rebecca will forward to Leslie.

### **Treasurer's Report-** Dina Lambert

The May financial statements were approved, Sandi moved and Bonnie seconded.

The June financial statements were approved, Saralynn moved and Sandi seconded.

The July financial statements were approved, Dawn moved and Bonnie seconded.

Discussion of 2016/17 budget

As of July 31, we have \$11,040 cash on hand. Sandi suggested that we look to ways to spend and consider cutting back on fund raising goals. She suggested possibly sending board member(s) to Washington DC for the AAUW national convention in June. To cover this expense, the leadership budget was increased to \$5,000, which will be evaluated in April based on funds available. Other budget items were discussed and adjusted, particularly the projections for fundraising income. The budget will be published in the next newsletter and will be voted on at our fall membership meeting.

### **ACTION ITEMS:**

As the September board meeting falls on Labor Day, we will reschedule to Monday September 12.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

August 26 is Equality Day and this will be noted in the newsletter.

We will again do a proclamation for Women's History Month.

Sandi will continue using Mailchimp to send the newsletter to the membership in order to allow tracking and will also be responsible for posting it on the website.

Assignment of Branch Buzz:

August – Saralynn

September – Marilyn

October – Leslie

The meeting was adjourned at 5:57PM by Co-President Rebecca Swisher.



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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 on-line 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)