



## Sierra Outpost

### October Program: Fighting Fire in the Sierra National Forest



**Wednesday  
October 7  
7:00 pm**

--Karen Smith

To live in the foothills on the periphery of the Sierra National Forest is to live with the certainty of summer wildfires. Each year, from April forward, Californians watch the sky and sniff the air for telltale signs of smoke. While fire remains a constant threat, the strategy for combating it has evolved with the understanding of its beneficial role in the forest environment.

You are invited to meet Marcia Penner Freedman as she traces the history of firefighting and fire management from the forest's early years through the policy shifts that began in the 1960s and the measures used today.

This will be an informative program offering the community a chance to hear and talk with local author Marcia Penner Freedman

who, for fifteen years, split her career between writing and teaching psychology and child development at community college. Since her retirement she has devoted herself exclusively to writing, which has allowed her time to devote more energy to her activities as a board member of the Coarsegold Resource Conservation District (CRCD). This project has led to her interest in developing a community fuels reduction program through the CRCD.

Please join us on October 7th at 7:00 pm at the Miners Roadhouse 140 in Mariposa, CA. The event is free and open to the public.



October, 2015

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<u>Award Certificate</u>	13
<u>Board Notes</u>	14
<u>Calendar: Annual</u>	12
<u>Calendar-Oct/Nov</u>	2
<u>Contacts</u>	15
<u>Dinner with Scientist</u>	5
<u>Fashion Show Adventure</u>	5
<u>Membership Mixer</u>	3
<u>Presidents' Corner</u>	2
<u>Program</u>	1
Special Interest Groups:	
<u>Art</u>	11
<u>Craft</u>	9
<u>Hiking</u>	9
<u>International Study</u>	8
<u>Reading</u>	11
<u>Wine</u>	10
<u>Tech Trek and TEDx</u>	6
<u>Tech Trek Thanks</u>	6
<u>Yard Sale</u>	4

## Co-Presidents' Corner

### Thoughts from Dawn and Sandi



Well, so far this Co-Presidency gig is working out quite well for me. I went down a rabbit hole for several weeks to focus on my daughter's wedding and Sandi has been running the show. She has been deeply involved with Dinner with a Scientist, the Yard Sale and the *On Safari* Fashion Show Adventure as well as ongoing Branch administration (which ranges from producing that AMAZING directory you have hopefully received to making new magnetic nametags for all!). She does all this in addition to her "night job" as the Co-Chair of the state Leadership Training Committee. We are so fortunate to have her administrative skills, creative talents and unbridled enthusiasm touch so many AAUW efforts.

Sandi and I attended a meeting of the North San Joaquin Area branches, which is a day of sharing with other people in the trenches of leadership in our area. As always, we learned about the wonderful work other branches are

doing and had a chance to toot our own horn. My main takeaway was that we are relatively sophisticated in our use of technology, our extensive marketing and publicity efforts and

our multiple channels of communication with our members.

It's never too soon to start thinking of next year; the Board is beginning to canvass for 2016-17 candidates. I urge you to consider a role. It is personally rewarding to see ideas come to fruition, to use your skills, to work with neat people, to make things happen, to have a sense of accomplishment. Think about it.

Speaking of taking on a role, an amazing thing happened last month. We asked for someone to coordinate Speech Trek and Jill Harry stepped up. Hooray!

Sandi and I will see you at the next event. In the meantime, stay cool during these dog days of summer (or should I say, deer days, if your plants are as chomped as mine.)



*Dawn*

## Mariposa AAUW Calendar

### October

- 2-4 SIG: Art Group
- 5 Canceled- Board Meeting
- 7 Program-Fighting Fire in the Sierra  
Natl Forest -7 pm Miner's Roadhouse
- 12 SIG: International Study Group
- 17 SIG: Hiking Group-Lewis Creek
- 20 SIG: Reading Group
- 29 SIG: Craft Group

(SIG = Special Interest Group)

### November

- 2 Board Meeting
- 14 Tech Trek event at TEDx- 11 am MCHS
- 21 AAUW Safari- A Fashion Show Adventure  
3pm Fairgrounds Bldg A



(See Master Calendar on [page 12](#) ) for a more complete schedule)

# Membership

--Carolyn Baker

## Social Mixer at River Rock Cafe



We had a great turnout at our September 10 Mixer. Inside or out, it was a perfect time to spend part of our busy schedules with friends. Thanks to Carolyn and Bonnie for planning this relaxed social affair!



 [To Page 1](#)



# Yard Sale

--Sandi Gabe

## Can you say S U C C E S S ?

That's the best word to describe our Yard Sale this year. Expanding to two days, using a bit more social media (Facebook/Mariposa Swap) and having a lot of really cool stuff seemed to tip us over the edge to a large increase in sales.

After a few small expenses, we ended the weekend with a profit of \$2,400.00! Way to go team!

At the risk of missing someone (it's not intentional if I do.)...

No one person is responsible for the smashing success, but serious kudos need to go to our leader, Sharon Enrico for organizing the schedule, talking folks into purchases they had no idea they wanted to make and for always smiling even with blisters on her feet. As part of the Enrico team, Larry made sure we had pizza, sandwiches, cold water and even some bubbly Friday night when we were all pooped. He also made sure our signage was superb.

Helene Fisk's corner house (and our expanded lot across the street) was a prime location with a steady stream of parents dropping off and picking up kids at school. She and Bill made it so convenient for us to drop off items and she's still storing things that will be moving off to their next yard sale appearance.

Carolyn, Margaret, Flora, Wendy, Kris, Sharon, Micki, Helene, Sandi, Georgia, Dawna, Joan, Bonnie, Joan, Sharon, Lori, Cathy, Sara, Marilyn, Peggy, Carol, Kathy, Burney, Beth and Jetty provided tables, unpacked boxes, sorted, priced and moved things around all day to give us the best



L-R: Sharon Moore, Margaret Brandenburg, Joan Lee, Sharon Enrico, Micki Finney, Marilyn Saunders, Kathy Sutherland, Helene Fiske, Flora Burlingame

opportunity to sell things. As in past years, we were amused to find that moving an item to a new location, or even just oohing about it, made it sell. There was a lot of that going on.

And then the end of the day came and magic happened again. All the leftovers found a space in a box and then the boxes and tables made their way into trucks that John, Bill, Howard, Glen, Tom, and Dana used to deliver them back to their respective homes or to the Methodist Church who will graciously include them in their next selling event.

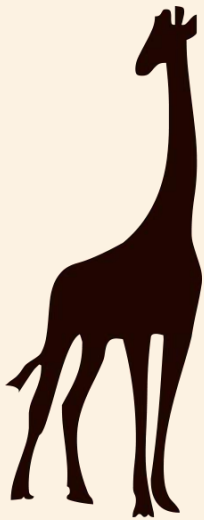
Of course, none of this would have been possible if YOU didn't generously clean your closets, garages and storage rooms and donate "good stuff in good condition"! Most items were clean which made the setup much easier. We'll be doing this again next year, so I hope you'll set aside a corner for your "AAUW Yard Sale pile" and watch it grow over the year.

Thanks to all you who donated, worked, purchased and spread the word. It worked!

## Fashion Show 2015

--Sandi Gabe

### AAUW SAFARI- FASHION SHOW ADVENTURE



Grab your safari hat and put on your best outback outfit for our fashion show adventure on November 21st at 3pm. Building A of the Fairgrounds will be turned into a magical wild animal park complete with its own giraffes and watering hole where you'll be able to purchase beer and wine while you search for an auction item.

In addition to stunning models sporting Mariposa's finest fashions, this year we're adding a costume contest (guess what you have to wear??) to the fun. We'll have a cool prize for the person with the best safari duds!

We still need your help to make this a success. Here's what you can do:

- Volunteer to help with food

prep – contact Joan Lee

- Donate an auction item – contact Sandi Gabe
- Sell tickets

You'll be receiving 2 tickets to sell shortly. We know it's easier to sell them if you don't have to track them down. If you can't sell them, there is no need to return them. If you do sell them, please write PAID on the back and send the check in the envelope provided.



It's time to put your thinking caps on and conjure up some enticing items for the experience auction at the Fashion Show on November 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Dinner with a Scientist

--Marilyn Saunders

**Wednesday**  
**September 30**  
**UC Merced**



Look for a report in next month's issue of a fantastic successful evening with many girls participating.



Sponsor Community Forums

## Tech Trek

--Dawn Johnson

### Planning Underway for Tech Trek Booth at TEDx



We have NINE enthusiastic girls ready to man (er, woman) our AAUW booth at the November 14<sup>th</sup> TEDx event at MCHS. We are focusing on Tech Trek and, during the breaks between speakers, the students will be demonstrating neat experiments that they learned at camp in a special area called *Innovation Alley*. Tentatively, we'll dazzle the audience with things like geoplanes, programming, robotics and battery-operated cars.

**TEDx** YOSEMITE

Saturday

November 14

Richard D. Fiester Auditorium

Mariposa County High School

Tech Trek Co-Chairs, Debbie Peters and Naoko Kada met with TEDx Chair and AAUW member, Noel Morrison and we couldn't be more excited about this event. It promises to be a great showcase for AAUW and the impact of our programs, but also a fascinating and stimulating day for our community. Be sure to put TEDx on your calendar. For more info, visit the TEDx Yosemite [website](#).

### Thanks from our 2015 Trekkers

Dear Mariposa Branch,  
Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek! It has been an amazing experience, and this week has been fabulous. I have met a lot of girls here, and made a ton of friends. I have also learned a lot of things. I have learned the most in my CSI class. There has been so many fun activities. Yesterday we went to the zoo. We went bowling a few days ago, we are doing a



rocket project, and today is the pool party! Thank you sooooo much!

-Colleen Weinburke

More letters on next page.

 To Page 1

Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



## More thanks from our 2015 Tech Trekkers

Dear AADW members of Mariposa

Thank you so much for giving me this opportunity. I have learned so much. I learned a lot in my bridge building class. We build bridges out of popsicle sticks and hot glue. We have learned a lot about construction and engineering.

We went to the zoo and learned a lot of things of science like computer programming and a lot of other cool things. This has been an amazing experience and I hope it keeps going and other girls can get this experience.

Sincerely,  
Taylora Dinkich

Dear Mariposa County branch members,

Thank you so much for sending me and letting me have the best time of my life. Let me tell you a little bit about what we are doing. On Sunday I got to meet my fabulous roommate. I also found out on Sunday that my core class is CSI which was really exciting. Monday was my first full day of camp. I learned about my teacher and solving cases. It rocked. Tuesday we went bowling and had the most fun time. I love tech trek and want to stay involved in it. I want to be a counselor. Thank you so much.

Sincerely,  
Christina Hotchkiss

Dear Mariposa Branch,

Thank you for choosing me to go to Tech Trek. I had lots of fun meeting new people, and hanging out with my old friends. One of the most fun things were in math in Art was the sewing because it was easy and fun to learn how many shapes you can make with string, paper and a needle. My second favorite thing was going bowling because it brought me closer to my great-grandpa who passed away. The reason it brought me closer was because he was a bowling champion in Oakhurst. So thank you for choosing me to go.

Sincerely,  
Courtney McInnis  
Courtney McInnis  
2015 Tech Trek camper

Dear Mariposa Branch,

Thank You for giving me a Scholarship to go to Tech Trek at Fresno State University. From the first day, I knew I would have fun and meet tons of new people. On Monday we learned how to make scale drawings and did a strawberry DNA extraction. On Tuesday we went bowling and most of the time I threw gutter balls, but it was still fun. In labs we learned how to play scratch and my partner and I made a cat and mouse game. My core class was app inventor and my teacher was amazingly funny and when we weren't making the apps we played games. I had so much fun. On Wednesday we went to the zoo and we got to go behind the scenes, it was amazing! My favorite part was feeding the giraffes and going and touching the sting rays for the first time. On Thursday we had a scavenger hunt and made geo planes in our lab. At the end of the day we went swimming and played activities in the grass. I had so much fun and made so many new friends. Thank you so much again for this amazing opportunity, I had so much fun.

Sincerely,  
Clarice

 To Page 1

Interest Groups- **International Study**

Contact Peggy Shainberg: 209.966.2076

**Study Group Delves into Geography of Brazil**

---Sandi Gabe

--Margaret Erhart

Brazil's geography was the topic of discussion at the International Group this month. Starting and ending with a brief language lesson, Margaret Erhart and Sandi Gabe reviewed facts about forest, rivers, and the climate. The largest county in South America and the 5th largest country in the world by size and population, Brazil has a population of over 203 million people, including more than 70 isolated and uncontacted native tribes. With over 60% of the Amazon river basin within the borders of the country, the more than four thousand miles of river water ways cover and hold about 2/3rds of the country's area and holds about 1/5th of the world's fresh water. The Amazon rainforest, which covers 60% of Brazil's geography and produces 20% of the earth's oxygen, is in danger of being depleted by the end of the 21st century.



Sandi's house for this meeting! In our first foray into embracing technology whole hog, Sue Gaunt, in Yosemite, joined us via FaceTime! The sky's the limit!

If your interest is piqued and you want to find out more about Brazil's geography, visit our [website](#) to download the presentation and watch related YouTube videos.

We weren't limited to the borders of



Next meeting will be at Peggy Shainberg's on October 12 to discuss the history and politics of Brazil.

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## Interest Groups- Hiking

Contact Mary Ripma: 831-334-2223

We had a successful outing this morning (9/26/15) at the Stockton Reservoir with 3 dogs, 3 spouses and 6 AAUW members. Good exercise and good company, plus beautiful views.

Our next hike is slated for October 17 where we'll trek to Lewis Creek. You are all welcome to join us! Contact Mary.



*Editor's note: Mary Ripma has embraced leadership of this group and has been proactive in apprising us of the activities of the very active "Sierra Hiking Seniors". Thanks for the awesome job, Mary!*

Hikers L-R: Dawn, Jay (and dog, Maddie), Reva, Mary, Helene, Naoko, Lori (and her 2 dogs), and Bill. (Mark was behind the camera lens).

## Interest Groups- Craft

Contact Joan Lee: 209.966.2505



The craft group met September 29 for a pumpkin fest- a very creative group indeed!

Next meeting will be October 29 for a photo transfer project.



Crafters Anne Dolchanczyk, Cathy Owens, Bonnie Little, Sandi Gabe, Joan Lee, and Micki Finney.

 [To Page 1](#)

Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

Interest Groups- **Wine**

Contact Kathy Sutherland:209-742-6131



## Corks and Forks savor and compare several zinfandel wines

--Cindy Harp

The Corks & Forks wine tasting group met Friday, September 25 at the home of Cindy and Lynn Harp in Ponderosa Basin. It was a small but lively group, and we tasted some very fine Zinfandels.

Smoking Loon Old Vine Zinfandel 2012 was the overall winner, and was brought by Kathy and Glenn Sutherland. This was their first winning wine, so it was very exciting! (Yes, we know it really isn't a competition, and there are no "losers" but it's still nice to have your wine chosen as the best, in our subjective opinions!

2<sup>nd</sup> place: 2008 Easton Fiddletown Old Vine Zin, Rinaldi Vinyard

3<sup>rd</sup> place was a tie: Edmeades 2011 Mendocino County Zin; and Gnarley Head Vintage 2013 Old Vine Zin, Lodi

4<sup>th</sup> place: Opolo Vinyards Summit Creek Zin, Paso Robles 2013.

We all agreed that each of the wines was



*Carolyn & Dennis Baker, Lynn Harp, Glen and Kathy Sutherland, Marilyn Saunders, Jeff & Sandi Gabe. (Cindy Harp was behind the lens)*

excellent, and except for the 3<sup>rd</sup> place tie, were very different in character.

As the final tasting, Cindy provided a bottle of last year's winning Zinfandel, Peachy Canyon 2013 Zinfandel from Lodi. The majority opinion was that Peachy Canyon was still the best, even topping this year's winner.

It was a fun evening, and we are all looking forward to October's gathering at Carolyn and Dennis Baker's home on Baker's Acre!



Sponsor Community Forums

 [To Page 1](#)

## Interest Groups- Reading

Contact Saralynn Nusbaum: 510.913.6994

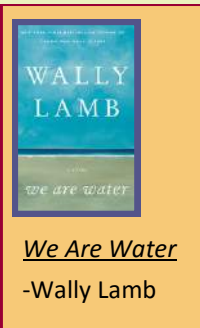


Our next meeting will be  
Tuesday, October 20

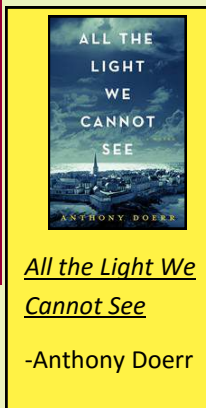
at 4:30 pm

at Jill Rowney's home at  
4131 Silver Bar Road  
where we will be reviewing book  
titles for next year's discussions.

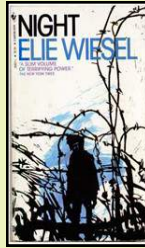
**Remaining titles selected for 2015:**



We Are Water  
-Wally Lamb



All the Light We Cannot See  
-Anthony Doerr



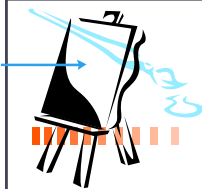
## Discussion Review

--Carol Sill

Reading "Night" by Elie Wiesel was somewhat provocative. It was a new translation of the book dedicated to his grandparents. Reliving the life of Elie when he was at Auschwitz at age thirteen was difficult. The author indicated that in order to understand the many other books that he has written, it was necessary to read "Night". He believes it is his "moral obligation to try and prevent the enemy from enjoying one last victory by allowing the crimes to be erased from human memory". The group members did vary in their opinions of the book so there was a lively discussion that makes the book club a fruitful endeavor. As we sampled our ideas, we did investigate how AAUW might intervene into the community in additional ways to influence improving the life that surrounds us here in Mariposa. You say that sounds vague, but the discussion led us to choosing books for next year. We might consider suggesting books by women who contribute strength, insight to the present day, and inspire us to do more to help our fellow man.

## Interest Groups- Art

Contact Margaret Brandenburg: 559.760.1431



On Saturday September 12 several members of the Art Group attended the Sierra Art Trails, 2015 Open Studio Artists' Reception at Stellar Gallery in Oakhurst. It was a chance to meet some of the artists, view the artwork and sample some yummy appetizers. The Open Studio Tour begins Friday October 2 and runs through Sunday October 4.

AAUW is proud to have so many of our members participating. Jeanne MacDonald artist #89 is showing mixed media, sculpture and painting at her home studio. Saralynn

Nusbaum artist #97 and AAUW reading group coordinator will be showing her jewelry at Penny Otwell's studio on Sixth Street. Marissa Guerrero, artist # 93, who has helped with so many of our events, is showing her mosaics at Casto Oaks downtown.

Anyone wanting to join in a carpool contact Art Group coordinator Margaret Brandenburg. Cost is \$18 for 2 tickets and the catalog with maps to all the tour sites. Purchase your tickets/catalog in Mariposa at Casto Oaks Fine Wine and Art, Mariposa Co. Visitors Bureau, Mariposa County Arts Council or online at <http://www.sierraarttrails.org/>



To Page 1

Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential





## 2015-2016 CALENDAR

- 04 Independence Day  
26 Board Planning Mtg

JULY 2015						
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JANUARY 2016						
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- 04 Board Meeting  
18 M.L. King Day  
14 Program – Miner's Inn

- 04 Birthday Card Project (HS Voter Registration)  
11 Back Pack Fill  
13 Half the Sky Movie  
17 Board Meeting

AUGUST 2015						
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- 01 Board Meeting  
15 Presidents' Day  
18 Program – Miner's Inn  
23/24 Speech Trek  
23 AAUW Regional Mtg

- 07 Labor Day  
10 Member Mixer  
18/19 Yard Sale  
22 AAUW Regional Mtg  
28 Board Mtg  
30 Dinner with a Scientist

SEPTEMBER 2015						
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- 07 Board Meeting  
10 Program – Miner's Inn  
27 Easter Sunday

- 07 Program – Miner's Inn 7pm  
12 Columbus Day  
31 Halloween

OCTOBER 2015						
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- 04 Board Meeting  
15-17 AAUW State Convention

- 02 Board Meeting  
11 Veterans Day  
21 Fashion Show  
26 Thanksgiving Day

NOVEMBER 2015						
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- 02 Board Meeting  
08 Mother's day  
14 Home Tour  
22 Brunch 2 -4 pm  
30 Memorial Day

- 07 Board Meeting  
25 Christmas Day

DECEMBER 2015						
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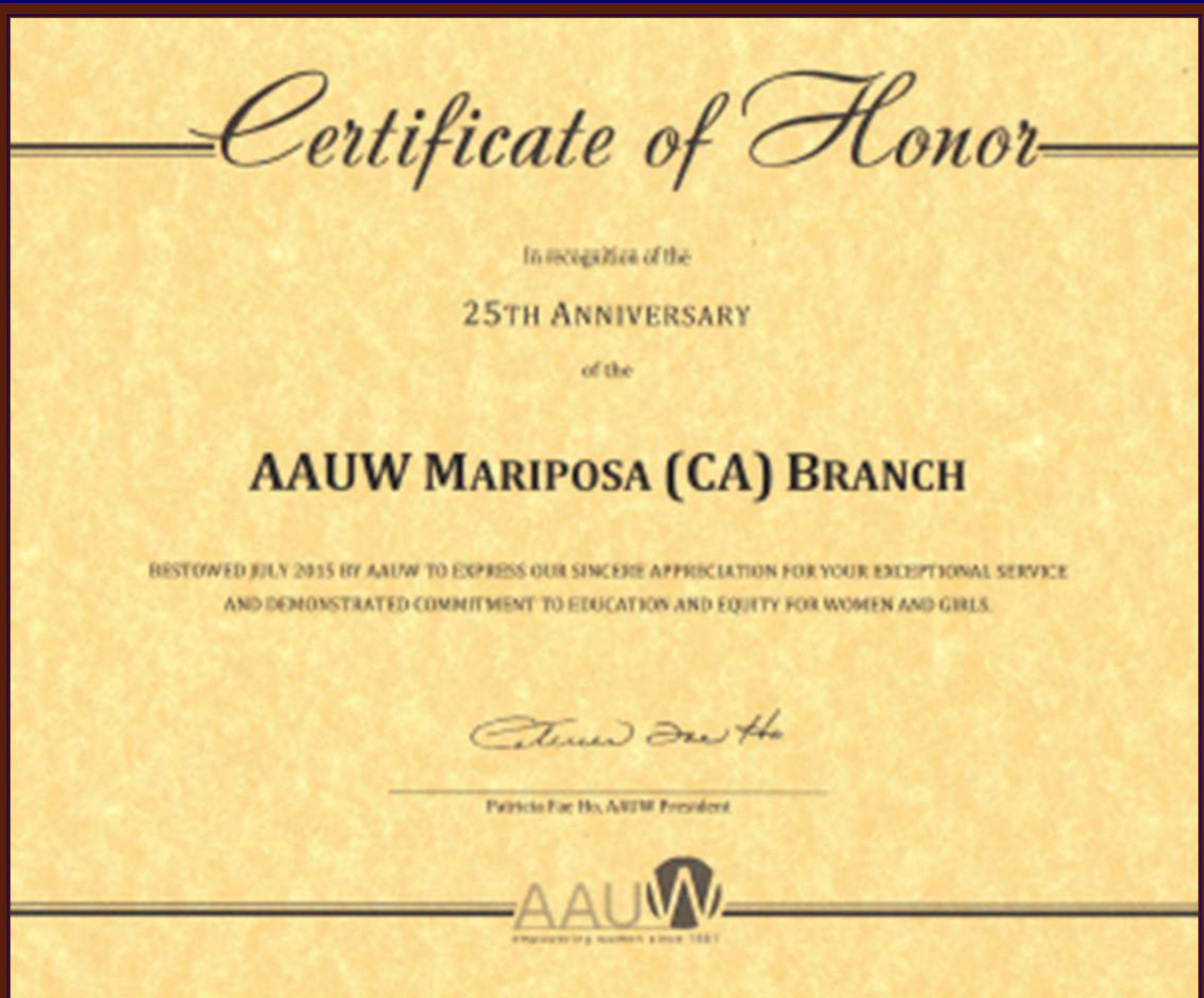
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Updated 9/11/15



## Mariposa branch honored by AAUW

Certificate from AAUW in honor of our branch's 25th Anniversary: "to express our appreciation for your exceptional service and demonstrated commitment to education and equity for women and girls."



## Board Action- September, 2015



*The Board of Directors' meetings are typically the first Monday of the month at 4:00 at the library. As always, everyone is invited to attend and see what we do! If you would like to be on the agenda at any time, please let Dawn or Sandi know. If you have any questions, would like to have a copy of the minutes or more information on any Board actions, contact Dawn or Sandi.*

### Now Let's Get Down to Business.....

#### Highlights of Sept 28, 2015 Board of Directors' Meeting :

- Approved the Aug 17 meeting minutes and Aug 31 and Sept 28 Treasurer's Report. Noted for the minutes that the 2015-16 Annual Budget was approved by the membership on Sept. 10.
- Heard report on Membership. Currently 89 members. Member Mixer at River Rock Inn on Sept 10 was very successful with 39 attending in spite of heat. The inaugural New Member Packet has been mailed. Plans are underway for an AAUW "Ladies' Night" at the Alley.
- Heard a report on the successful BackPack Project. Project Chairs presented a summary of outcomes and plans for expanding the project.
- Heard report on Fundraising. Yard Sale profit exceeded projections. Event was expanded to two days and promoted via new social media channels. Reviewed suggestions for next year. Plans for the next fundraiser, "On Safari with AAUW" Fashion Adventure are progressing. Key tasks have been assigned. Promotional materials are designed and printed. Tickets have been distributed to members.
- Under "Programs", announced that the October 7 program is on the history and methods of firefighting in the Sierra Nevada.
- In "Project Updates", heard that DWS team is well prepared for the 9/30 event. 55 high school girls will attend the dinner featuring table talks with female scientists; 20 will participate in an earlier program of lab tours. The expense budget will be exceeded due to a reduction in the anticipated donation for meals. Also heard that the application for a \$5,000 grant for an all-day Tech Savvy event has been submitted. Anticipating a response in mid-October. Reported that nine girls will man Tech Trek demonstration booths at the TEDx event on Nov 14.
- Under "New Business", heard presentations by two speakers on possible opportunities for community action by AAUW members. Nancy Martin spoke about One Mariposa, a tutoring program initiated to help at risk youth, which is currently building participation at four schools. Tutors are asked to commit 1 hr/wk. Mariah Lord presented on Mariposa Safe Families, which helps families access resources to navigate through crisis. Volunteer mentors are asked to commit 1 hr/wk for 6 months to work with families on varying needs. The Board agreed to expose the two programs to our members and offer details for volunteering.
- Under "New Business", reviewed the status of the annual goals to date. Discussed recruitment of members for 2016-17 leadership positions. Reviewed the Oct. Branch Buzz for distribution to SIG Chairs.



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## AAUW- Mariposa

[www.aauwmariposa.com](http://www.aauwmariposa.com)

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