



Sierra Outpost

Deeper in Debt: the Student Loan Crisis

Did you know women are disproportionately affected by student loan debt burdens after attending colleges and universities? There are many factors that play into this from inadequate access to funds to pay inequality after leaving school. Come to AAUW Mariposa's upcoming free public program to learn about this topic, discuss why it occurs, how we can prevent it, and how we can take action!

As people who have attended colleges and universities, many of us may have experienced, are currently experiencing, or have family members who are about to experience the crisis of student loan debt

--Maddie Brown

Fall Program

Tuesday

November 14

4:30-6pm

Miner's Roadhouse 140

Free to public- invite a friend!

in America. By better educating ourselves, friends, and family members, we can hopefully help to improve the situation and set future students up for success through understanding the current state of the debt crisis.

We look forward to seeing you there. Feel free to bring a friend!

DEEPER IN DEBT

The Student Loan Crisis

November, 2017

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Co-Presidents' Corner

The beat continues strong

Well, ladies and gentlemen, we cleaned house literally *and* figuratively at this year's Yard Sale fundraiser! Thank you to the many members who volunteered their time and donated their goods to help us raise money, to Sharon Enrico for coordinating the event and to the Fiske family for donating the use of their perfectly-situated home! The branch raised so much from this Yard Sale; in fact, we have almost met our fundraising goal for the entire year! Wow! That is a lot of sentences with exclamation points, but there surely is a lot to be excited about.

While November is a slightly quieter month activity wise, we have the ability to make a LOUD statement this month at the "Deeper In Debt" public program we will be holding on Tuesday, November 14, from 4:30 – 6pm at Miner's Roadhouse. While we get to be excited about the many fun activities we do throughout the year, there are some not so exciting, but equally important things that our branch often discusses throughout the year, such as the specific targeting of single women by for-profit colleges (*can you believe they really do that?!).* The program "Deeper In Debt" confronts many realities about how women are disproportionately impacted by student loan debt. There is no doubt many branch members and their family members have had to work their way through, or around, the challenges of student loan debt.

Come learn a bit about the numbers behind it all and take action through guided postcard writing to local legislators.

For a bit of lighter fare before we dive in to the debt discussion, we are holding our third "...and Convos" event on Friday, November 3rd at The Alley at 5pm. Stop by for a beverage or delicious snack and camaraderie. These un-scripted events lead to fun, and sometimes serious or thought-provoking, conversations amongst members that can cover a range of topics from access (or lack thereof) to access to medical providers while living in a rural community to the changes and challenges for high school students in a digital world to funny stories about our pets and kids.

If you are crunched for time as the holiday season approaches but are looking for some hands on activities with the branch, check out our new feature, the "Times Table" to see what participation opportunities are available for the near future.



Rebecca
&
Maddie

Save the Date!!!

Fundraiser:

Moroccan Nights

April 21

4pm

Mariposa Fairgrounds



How much time do you have to spare?

AAUW Mariposa Times Table

10 Minutes

Call and invite a friend to "Deeper In Debt"!

Occurs: Once multiplied by how every many friends you can think to invite!

30 Minutes

Join the set up team for "Deeper in Debt" by arriving at Miner's Road-house at 4pm on Nov. 14

Occurs: Just this once! Don't miss out.

60 Minutes

Sit in on a Board Meeting the first Monday of the month at the Mariposa County Library at 4pm

Occurs: Once a month

120 Minutes

Participate as a Coach with our Learning Club Project. Email Nancy Martin to get lined up!

Occurs: Every Wednesday

*not necessary to attend every Wednesday.
We are aiming for a 10x per year commitment.

November/December Activities

November 3	Cocktails and Convos: 5:00pm, The Alley
November 5	SIG Wine: 5:00pm, Home of Jill Rowney
November 6	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
November 7	SIG Reading: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
November 13	SIG International Study: Home of Reva & Gary Colliver
November 14	Fall Program, "Deeper in Debt": 4:30pm, Miner's Roadhouse
December 2	Coffee and Convos: 9:00am, Pony Expresso
December 4	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
December 10	Holiday Gathering: 5:00pm, Place TBD



Membership

--Dina Lambert

Membership Mixer

--Dina Lambert

The Annual Fall Member Mixer was held September 30, 2017 at The Alley in downtown Mariposa. This beautiful day found us lounging in the back patio of The Alley sipping on adult beverages and snacking on all the delicious savory and sweet snacks brought in by the members. Co-Presidents, Maddie Brown and Rebecca Swisher, briefly went over the upcoming year projects and programs. The budget was presented and voted on by all members present.

It was again a great get together with members getting to meet the board and new

members. We all enjoyed the relaxed setting talking about what we did (or didn't do) during the summer and of course the horrible fires we all endured. We are all looking forward to what the new AAUW year brings to our local branch with more opportunities for these types of member functions with the monthly "Coffee and Convos" scheduled for the first Saturday of each EVEN number month, and "Cocktails and Convos" scheduled for the first Friday of each ODD number month.



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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)

We Sponsor Community Forums

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Membership

--Dina Lambert



Saturday morning "Coffee and Convos..."

The first Coffee and Convos of the new AAUW year was held Saturday, October 7 at Pony Expresso in Mariposa.

Our group may have been small but we were sure mighty! We managed to cover many topics ranging from exercise to health care to Jeopardy! Yep, you heard right ... Jeopardy! Dawn Pedersen's daughter Scarlett appeared on the popular game show (See Spoiler Alert below). Dawn wasn't allowed to tell us the outcome because she was sworn to secrecy but we all planned on watching the program on Oct 12th. Yes we did talk about many subjects and probably solved a few of the

world's problems. We welcome all members to join our Coffee or Cocktails and Convos monthly gatherings.

***SPOILER ALERT ***

Scarlett Pedersen Sims beat the reigning champ Austin Rogers. The question? "A 1947 FBI study chided this holiday film's 'attempt to discredit bankers ... a common trick used by communists.' "

Austin, at \$16,600, and Scarlett, with \$21,200, both submitted the correct answer: "It's a Wonderful Life." Austin nearly doubled down, while Scarlett bet less — but just enough.

Scarlett won, \$33,201 to Austin's \$33,150. Congratulations Scarlett!



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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Fundraising

Sandi Gabe



Yard sale- almost meets entire year's fundraising goal!

--Sharon Enrico

This year's annual AAUW yard sale was the biggest success ever, raising **almost \$3,500** for our programs.

Our fabulous hosts, Helene and Bill Fiske, had their garage clean and organized the week before to accommodate early drop-offs. Bill was ever ready to help unload or

donating, cleaning.... Thank you!!

Several non-members contributed this year along with our many members. One in particular was Penny Otwell, who donated six original paintings - of



bring tools to fix items that needed it (and supply donuts for the workers!). Helene worked continuously before, during and after the sale.

The jobs done by the multitude of people who help with this event are diverse and unique: Publicizing, setting up, donating, bringing tables, pricing, donating, putting out signs, selling, staging, buying, packing up,

which five sold for a total of \$590.

She is an awesome supporter of our organization!

Start your pile for next year now. Make a little space in your garage to store those treasures throughout the year. We appreciate them!!



We Open Eyes



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Dinner With a Scientist

Marilyn Saunders

32 high school students take advantage of locally sponsored STEM career experience

--Jill Harry



Mariposa AAUW was thrilled to take 32 MCHS 9th-12th grade female students to UC Merced to enjoy an evening of dining and Q & A table talks with professional women who chose careers in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM). Students were thoroughly engaged in all three rounds of table discussions. It was a completely successful evening. Thanks so much to Trish Gilger, MyIP, for developing this event – this was the fifth year and it is here to stay!

Thanks also to Marilyn Saunders, AAUW DWS Event Coordinator; Hannah Ewing, UC Merced School of Natural Sciences Event Coordinator; the many professional scientists who donated their time and expertise in spending an evening inspiring our high school attendees, and the many sponsors including UC Merced School of Natural Sciences, MyIP, Tavis Corporation and MCHS Academic Boosters Club.



Fundraising

An Evening in  auction item

--Dawn Johnson

Zippity Doo Dah!

Kathy and Glenn Sutherland and their guests, Sandi and Jeff Gabe, checked their insurance policies and then redeemed their auction prize for an afternoon of ziplining at the Johnsons' place.

We had a very fun afternoon with beautiful weather and no need for medical aid. After a bit of liquid courage, everyone trooped out to the wooden towers on the back property and surveyed the challenge. They learned how to properly cinch up the harness (not the most flattering apparatus), place their hands correctly on the overhead brake, sit down to push off from the tower and shout the mandatory "Caw Caw" to let everybody



Above: Glenn in flight

know they were coming. After zipping 300 feet through the air, they landed on the back tower (some more successfully than others). All the "zipper" demonstrated extreme bravery and exemplary form, with Sandi probably being the most accurate at landing. Everyone gave the ride a big thumbs up, then rode ATVs back up the hill for another go.

After a few runs, we kept our feet on the ground with an array of appetizers, more adult beverages and lots of good conversation. There were many suggestions for additional carnival-worthy rides in our back yards. Look for Kathy and Glenn to offer giant slide rides at our next fundraising auction!



L-R: Dawn assists a wary Kathy Sutherland; Kathy in flight; Jay and Jeff ready to catch the "zipper".



AAUW California

[Sandi Gabe](#)

AAUW CA Online Book Club Launch:

Online discussion on *I am Malala* began October 15th, but it's not too late to join in the discussion!

AAUW California has launched an online Book Club. You can read in your jammies and connect online from the comfort of your home.

Discussion postings will be made weekly on Fridays. Sign on at least once per week to remain active in the book club or set your settings so that you receive email notifications (see below).

Register through [goodreads](#).

"All I want
is an education,
and I am afraid
of no one."
- MALALA



The first selection is, [I Am Malala](#) by Malala Yousafzai. Malala reminds us by her actions why we are all passionate about AAUW. She so strongly believes in education for girls that she almost died for her beliefs.

Group Email Preferences

get emails:

digest

individual

all

notification only

none

AAUW CA Book Club — all discussions

☒

☐

☐

☐

☐

See all discussions I'm following

When discussions I subscribe to with "digest" have new posts, email me:

Daily

▼

☒ When I leave comments on other items, follow discussions by default.

☒ Email me when one of my groups is about to start reading a book.

Save email settings

Advertising

Get the word for your business out to a larger audience

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 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).

Be sure to thank our two advertisers in this newsletter – Harp Insurance Agency and Jazzercise – when you can.



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Interest Groups - Hiking

Contact Trish Darcy

Perfect hiking weather to enjoy trek to Big Oak Flat

--Renea Kennec



It was a beautiful fall day when we started our hike at the Big Oak Flat Trailhead. The trail traveled up and away from the road then wrapped around the mountain northward toward Cascade Creek. Western Yosemite Valley came into view including Turtleback Dome, Bridalveil Fall, and the massive monolith, El Capitan. Autumn yellows, golds, and reds were abundant all along the trail especially in the creek basins. The most notable plant of the day was Indian rhubarb with its enormous leaves found along the tributaries. The group hiked about four miles to the Old Big Oak Flat Road and Cascade Creek bridge. Gorgeous day, wonderful company, amazing hike.



Hikers above: Dawn & Jay Johnson, Naoko Kada, Renea Kennec, Phyllis Weber, Jane MacLean

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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Interest Groups- Reading



Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

Our next meeting will be

Tuesday, November 7, 2017 at 4:30 pm

at the home of Hélène Fiske. We will be discussing book titles to choose for next year's reading.

Interest Groups - Wine

Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)



This month's gathering will be November 5th at the home of Jill Rowney where we will put our taste buds to the test to discern popular varietals and see if the descriptions on the labels actually relate to the given wine.

Interest Groups - International Study

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

Impact of Christianity on Korean culture and other Asian religions



--Peggy Shainberg

We met at new member Allison Byerley's home to discuss religion in the Koreas. Allison introduced her colleague, John Song, of the La Grande Methodist church. We discussed the role of Christianity, its impact on Korea and other eastern religions.

Our next meeting on November 13 will be at Gary and Reva's home



We Open Eyes

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AAUW Mariposa Branch**Board Meeting Minutes****Mariposa County Library, October 2, 2017**

Pending approval

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:21 by Co-President Rebecca Swisher**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rebecca Swisher, Sandi Gabe, Dina Lambert, Becky Mock, Bernadette Davis.**Approval of Minutes from September 11th.** Minutes were submitted, reviewed, and approved via email, no major corrections just additions. The approved minutes were included in the October newsletter.**PROJECT UPDATES:****The Yard Sale: *Reported on by Sandi for Sharon***

Yard Sale set for October 13th and 14th. The hours will be 8-4 Friday, and 9-12 noon Saturday. Left over items will be delivered to the Methodist Church as we have done for the last several years. Drop off week leading up to event. Email Sharon if you want to help.

Dinner with a Scientist: *Reported on by Rebecca Swisher for Marilyn*

On track for October 5th. All ready to go. Co-President Rebecca Swisher will be attending and having a table discussing Healthcare.

Backpack Project: *Cathy Owens/Karen Rust*

We will be contacting Mariposa Community Fund for support with the cost of the additional backpacks. Still waiting on check from MCF.

The Learning Club (formerly Tutoring Project): *Reported on by Rebecca Swisher for Nancy*

Will be able run successfully until to-dos are completed. Reviewed Maddie's report, discussion was held and voted to consider the program a pilot for 1yr and reassess at the end of the yr. Voted to reimburse Finger printing & TB if commitment to 10 sessions/yr. Sandi motioned, Dina 2nd. Approved by all present, with no nays or abstentions.

FUNDRAISER UPDATES: *Sandi*

The spring fundraiser will be held possibly in April. As previously discussed, the theme we are leaning towards will be Arabian Nights style event. As the planning sessions are held, details as well as naming will be finalized. The branch is looking forward to celebrating a region rich in colors and culinary flavors, as well as activities. The planning session will be October 4th at Sandi's home at 4:30pm. Theme will be finalized and confirmed.

REPORTS:**Membership: *Dina***

We are currently at 91 members. The Mixer was held at The Alley on September 30. The budget was

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

presented to the branch for branch approval. Marilyn Saunders made the motion, Beth Tomsick 2nd, and the budget was approved by those present. Membership distribution lists were given out.

Publicity: All (Cindy Harp)

Nothing to report

Programs: Becky Mock

Deeper in Debt theme. How student loan debt disproportionately effects women. Will be on November 14th at 4:30pm at Miners Inn.

Treasurer's Report: Sandi

Beginning Balance: \$14,029.88

Ending Balance: 13,411.90

Dina motioned and Rebecca 2nd to approve treasures report. Approved by all present, with no nays or abstentions.

Action Items

A vote was taken to give \$50 to Kids First in honor of friend and member Andria Matala. Sandi motioned and Rebecca 2nd. Approved by all present, with no nays or abstentions.

Announcements

None

Assignment of Branch Buzz:

October- Sandi

*Sandi will distribute the Branch Buzz at the time that the newsletter is released.

Upcoming Events:

October:

4th : Planning meeting at Sandi's for Fundraiser event in the spring.

5th: Dinner with a Scientist

7th: Coffee and Convos (Dina)

13th and 14th: Yard Sale

November:

3rd: Cocktails and Convos (Rebecca) – There is parking in back and can enter through lower patio of the Alley.

6th: Board Meeting

14th Fall Program – Deeper in Debt.

December:

2nd: Coffee and Convos (Becky)

4th: Board Meeting

10th: Holiday Party

The meeting was adjourned by Co-President Rebecca Swisher at 5:20PM. Sandi motioned to close, Bernadette 2nd. Approved by all present, with no nays or abstentions.



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Board Officers: 2017-2018

Co-Presidents	Maddie Brown maddie.s.brown@gmail.com Rebecca Swisher beccaswish@yahoo.com
VP Membership	Dina Lambert dinallambert@gmail.com
VP Programs	Becky Mock
Recording Secretary	Bernadette Falany-Davis
Finance Officer	Sandi Gabe
Director at Large	Molly Wilson
Director at Large	Pam Gingold

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

Project Chairs/Coordinators

Advertising	Sharon Enrico
Back Pack Project	Cathy Owens Karen Rust
Dinner With a Scientist	Marilyn Saunders
Fundraising	Sandi Gabe
Good Will Ambassador	Margaret Brandenburg
HS Voter Education	Jetty Uebner
Newsletter Editor	Jill Rowney
Publicity	Cindy Harp
Speech Trek	OPEN
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Yard Sale	Sharon Enrico
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