



Sierra Outpost

AAUW Program-

“Traveling the Silk Road on a Virtual Globe”



Dr. Ruth Mostern

UC Merced

When: Wednesday

February 17

Time: 4:30 p.m.

Where: Roadhouse 140

The history of travel, exchange, and politics across Eurasia covers tens of thousands of miles of territory, many of the world’s religions, dozens of languages, and the entirety of human history from hominid migrations to contemporary conflicts in Iran and Afghanistan.

This talk introduces the Silk Road and explains how Dr. Mostern teaches it to students at UC Merced using digital history techniques. Students

learn to use Google Earth to organize information about the Silk Road and to create maps that depict historical narratives. Each student completes an interactive digital map about the journey of one Silk Road traveler.

Dr. Mostern will talk about the Silk Road and showcase some of the students' work.



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Co-Presidents' Corner

Change is in the wind

A few weeks ago, we sent all of you a message titled "Transitions."

Just in case you overlooked it in favor of more pressing—or more stirring-- items in your inbox, we thought we'd share the information again here.

After much thought and discussion, we have decided that we will step down from the role of Co-Presidents for 2016-17 in order to take on more responsibility at the state level.

That doesn't mean we are abandoning our beloved Mariposa branch. Not at all. It just means that other people will have a chance to guide it.

We expect to continue as active members and take responsibility for many of the tasks we are currently doing. Certainly, we see a busy role as advisors to new branch leaders and perhaps having a seat at the table in the new "Board Directors-at-Large" positions.

Your branch is in an excellent position to make this transition to new leadership. It is

fiscally sound. The Projects have transitioned well to new Chairs this year so they should be in good hands going forward. All our branch activities are well documented and can be easily handed off. We have continuity with Board Members who have committed to serve next year as well as a pool of former Board Members who remain highly active and helpful.

Please take another look at Sandi's "[Transitions](#)" email (Jan 18) to learn what the opportunities are for YOU to get in on the ground floor of our fresh-faced branch for 2016-17. Don't forget job-sharing! Many of us have found kindred spirits when working on projects together---why not take that synergy to the next level and share a larger role?

We deeply care about this branch, its members and its hard-working leaders. We expect to be a part of its journey in 2016-17, but just in different roles.



Dawn

Mariposa AAUW Calendar

February, 2016

(See Master Calendar on [page 10](#) for a more complete schedule)



- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Board Meeting- 4:00 at Library | 20 SIG: Hiking Group: 9am |
| 2 SIG: Book Group- 4:30 at Helene Fiske's | 23 AAUW Regional Meeting- Modesto |
| 8 SIG: International Study Group | 24 Speech Trek- 6:00pm, MCHS Auditorium |
| 13 SIG: Craft Group: 1-4pm at Sandi Gabe's | 29 Board Meeting- 4:00 at Library |
| 17 Program-4:30pm at the Miner's Inn- | |

Speech Trek

--Jill Harry, Coordinator

AAUW Mariposa hosts its 5th Annual



Speech Trek

Wednesday

February 24th

MCHS Fiester Auditorium

Please save the date and bring your family and friends to this year's Speech Trek contest happening Wednesday, February 24, starting at 6 PM at the MCHS Fiester Auditorium.

We currently have 8 students working with their AAUW coaches on perfecting content and delivery of 5-6 minute speeches on *Gender Bias and Inequality*. Students must address what these terms mean, what impact they have on people, and why organizations such as AAUW should or should not work to change their practices. We have encouraged students to go beyond pay inequality and glass ceilings and have given them lots of ideas (5 pages' worth!) of possible "jumping off" points. I can't wait to see what they come up with!

Thanks so much to AAUW members who have stepped up to coach: Margarita King, Kris Casto, Letha Goger, Cindy Harp, Pam Gingold, Kendra Atkins, Georgia Gallagher, and Dawn Johnson (who is also so helpful in showing me the ropes).

Thanks also to Bryan Starchman for being the high school liaison extraordinaire, encouraging students, giving them tips on

what makes a great speech, and helping AAUW with logistics at the high school. Bryan's help is invaluable.

We've gained an additional high school helper this year. Kim Monson, who teaches upper grade chemistry and physics, is looking to start an academic decathlon team at the high school. She has a plethora of knowledge and experience regarding speech contests that she is sharing with us and the competing students. Kim is a wonderful addition to our team!

We have amazing judges lined up for this event: District 1 Supervisor, Rosemarie Smallcombe; Mariposa Superior Court Judge, Mike Figalde; and Director of Human Services, Chevon Kothari. Retired District 3 Supervisor Janet Bibby is our back-up judge.

Can you help? In addition to showing up the night of the event (please do!), might you also be willing to

- get refreshments for the evening,
- set up tables with AAUW signage and materials,
- greet people at the door,

See "Preparations in place" on page 4)

Preparations in place for

Speech Trek (from page 3)

- stand behind the refreshment table during break,
- hold up signs letting students know when their time is almost up,
- and/or help in any other way that might be needed?

Please contact me and let me know. I would appreciate your help.

Here's to another successful Speech Trek event, empowering our young people with the extremely useful tool of public speaking.

Jill Harry
Speech Trek Coordinator
209-374-3392
jill.e.harry@gmail.com (preferred method)

Tech Trek

--Naoko Kada

Application process begun for Tech Trek 2016

We are excited that our branch is able to send five girls to Tech Trek, an exciting opportunity for seventh grade girls to participate in a weeklong camp with "hands-on activities in science, math and related fields" at Fresno State University on June 12-18.

We received 25 nominations of worthy girls from teachers at four schools. During the last two weeks of January, school liaisons (AAUW volunteers who facilitate the application process at each school site) held informational meetings with the nominated students. Many thanks to Cathy Owens, Jill Harry, and Naoko Kada for handling those school visits.

Tech Trek applications are due by February 29th. Applications are scheduled for review the first week of March by a team of



AAUW members. Interviews of the finalists are slated for March 12th with a team of caring and experienced AAUW members. By March 18 we will know which lucky girls will be chosen.

Our campers will be selected on the basis of their interest, aptitude and promise in math and science, not their grades. We also consider what other enrichment opportunities they may have and how much they might benefit from this possibly life-changing experience. We're looking forward to another great crop of campers.

AAUW Mariposa Branch Bylaws Changes

--Sandi Gabe

Occasionally, AAUW CA or AAUW National mandates changes to our bylaws. This year we received a few updates that we incorporated. Since they were mandated, they do not require branch approval.

While making these changes the board reviewed and recommended some additional changes to the bylaws so that they more closely match the way our branch is organized. In January, the board approved the following changes. They will require a vote of the membership.

Board composition (Note: With these changes, there will be seven voting members)

- Eliminate president elect appointed position.
- Eliminate Public Policy and Funds appointed positions and replace with two at-large appointed positions with

voting rights.

- Eliminate parliamentarian appointed, non-voting position.

Committee changes:

- Eliminate the executive committee as it duplicates the voting members.
- Eliminate the nominating committee as the board functions in this capacity. Designate that a board member will serve as Chair with up to two other members.

Meetings:

- The bylaws will state that we are required to hold at least two membership meetings annually instead of five. (Note: *Programs* are not considered membership meetings.)

Scholarships available from San Francisco AAUW

The San Francisco AAUW branch will offer scholarships of \$2000 each to help upper division and graduate school women complete their final year of study in an accredited college or university for the school year 2016-2017. The courses can be online if students are fulfilling their requirements through the colleges or universities. Candidates must live or be attending a university or college within a 100 mile distance of San Francisco and be on track to complete their

course of study by June, 2017. There is no restriction on the use of the funds. Completed applications are due by April 30, 2016.

If you are interested, or have friends or relatives who may benefit from the scholarship, please check the Silver Jubilee information on the AAUW San Francisco website at www.aauwsf.org.

Membership

--Carolyn Baker

Welcome to our newest branch member

At our January 14th program, we not only heard a very interesting talk about Operation Baby-lift but we also gained a new AAUW member!

We warmly welcome Yue Lei to our Mariposa AAUW. She resides at 3959 Trishs Moon Road in Mariposa. You can contact her via email at leiyue.math@gmail.com or call her at (209) 966-6458. She is currently a university professor at UC Merced. She earned her B.S. at Peking University, her M.S. at California Institute of Technology, and her Ph.D at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.



Look for her at an upcoming AAUW meeting. Those of you in the Book, International, Wine, Craft, and Hiking interest groups, can also be on the lookout for her at one of your meetings as well.



March 1st the Board of Supervisors will again recognize "Women's History Month"

--Marilyn Saunders

Save the date and be there!

On March 1st, the first Tuesday in March, the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors is scheduled to proclaim the Month of March as "Women's History Month." This proclamation is at the behest of our own Mariposa AAUW. We had a good contin-

gent of AAUW members at the Board meeting last year. Let's repeat that with a strong showing at their March 1st meeting. The proclamation should take place some time between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.



Interest Groups- **Hiking**

Contact Mary Ripma: 831.334.2223



Exploring the river road at Briceburg

On Saturday, January 23, the hiking group met at the Midpines Post Office then drove on to park at the stone house at Briceburg. The six of us walked across the bridge and down the rock-strewn road for 2 hours which was not quite enough time to let us reach Rail-road Flat. As usual the trip back seemed shorter.



It was glorious weather and company including several of these beautiful California newts (*Taricha torosa*) pictured above.



Who would believe that both Helene and I were sorry we hadn't brought our sunglasses?

In February we'll be hiking together on Saturday February 20 at 9am and we are looking for suggestions of where to go. Any great ideas out there?

Above, L-R: Gary & Reva Colliver, Helene Fiske, Mark & Mary Ripma, Bill Fiske and a very happy canine.

Interest Groups- **Wine**

Contact Kathy Sutherland: 209.742.6131

CORKS AND FORKS

Malbecs are to come under scrutiny at Wendy Carman's house at the next gathering on January 31st. It should be a very enlightening, delicious, and fun evening-- if we don't get snowed in.



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Interest Groups- International Study

Contact Peggy Shainberg: 209.966.2076

Our January New Year meeting was held at Wendy Carman's home with good conversation and good food and a great program. Leslie Bernacchi and Sharon Moore presented the music and art of Brazil.



Our next meeting will be on February 8.



Above: Joan Lee, Wendy Carman, Joan MacLean, Sandi Gabe. Left: Bonnie Little, Beth Tomsick.



Interest Groups- Art

Contact Margaret Brandenburg: 559.760.1431



ART Group's next event is the Mariposa Storytelling Festival.

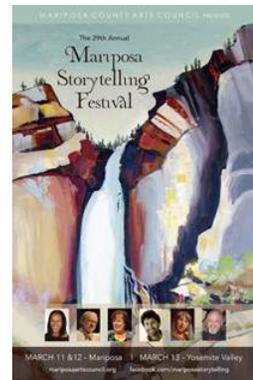
LOOKS LIKE IT'S TIME TO BUY TICKETS.

This festival begins in historic Mariposa, with storytelling events on Friday, March 11 and Saturday, March 12. On Sunday, March 13, the festival moves to Yosemite National Park for the finale in the East Auditorium at the Yosemite Valley Visitors Center.

To view and/or print this year's schedule, click here: [Mariposa Storytelling Schedule 2016](#). To view and/or print a registration form, please click here: [Mariposa Storytelling Registration Form 2016](#).

Order your tickets early! The evening shows typically sell-out several weeks before the festival.

To order tickets, visit our [online shop](#). Order online before February 19th and receive \$5 off the Special 2-Day-Festival Passes. You may also order your tickets by calling the Arts Council at (209) 966-3155 or (800) 903-9936.



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Interest Groups- Craft

Contact Joan Lee: 209.966.2505



On January 26th the Craft group gathered at Anne Dolchanczyk's house. Working with alcohol ink they created these beautiful tiles.



Next up: Bling & Beauty. It's time to add a little bling to our wardrobes. The craft group will be creating beauty on Saturday, February 13th from 1-4 pm at Sandi's house as we create these pieces of wearable art.

Interest Groups- Garden

Contact Micki Finney: 209.966.4644

On Hiatus; stay tuned.



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Interest Groups- Reading

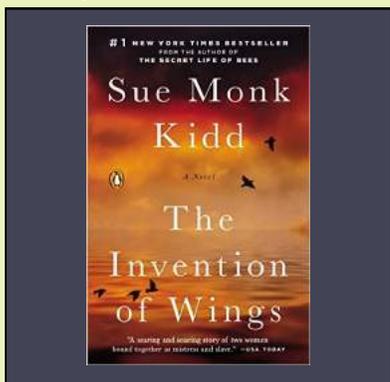
Contact Saralynn Nusbaum: 510.913.6994



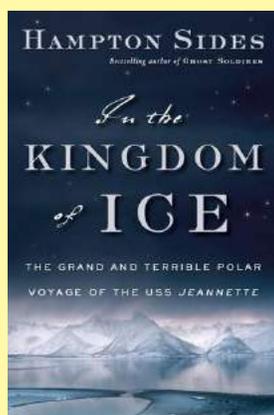
Our next meeting will be
Tuesday, February 2, 2016
 at 4:30 pm

at Helen Fiske's home on
 4975 6th Street. Margaret Erhart
 will lead a discussion on:

The Invention of Wings
 By Sue Monk Kidd



March's book for discussion:



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

Behind the Beautiful Forevers

By Katherine Boo

Big Magic

By Elizabeth Gilbert

Blue Jasmine

By Kashmira Sheth

Bobbed Hair and Bathtub Gin

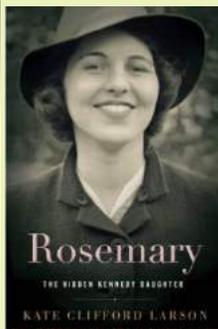
By Marion Meade

Flight Behavior

By Barbara Kingsolver

In The Kingdom of Ice

By Hampton Sides



Discussion Review

--Andria Matala

Rosemary, the Hidden Kennedy Daughter
 had several interesting points that led to
 a good discussion. We knew that Joe
 Kennedy was a man of importance, but
 had not known of some of his shady
 dealings and later some of his work for

FDR. We knew that Rose Kennedy was a woman who
 placed high value on her religion and family, but learned
 of her weaknesses. It appeared that this was due to the
 limits put on her when she was not allowed to pursue her
 desired future when her family blocked her from attend-
 ing the college she had been planning to attend. Through-
 out her period of history women were treated as lesser
 human beings. Rosemary's birth was delayed as a nurse
 held her in the birth canal until the arrival of the doctor.
 She was slower to develop and learning was difficult.
 What a difficult circumstance for someone with highly
 intelligent brothers and sisters. Her parents tried so many
 ways to help her with tutors and private schools, eventu-
 ally agreeing to a lobotomy when the procedure was in its
 early stages.

Our reactions to the story included disgust at the delay of
 birth, respect for many efforts to help Rosemary, concern
 for the ways in which they worked to pass her off as
 normal, the abhorrence for the lobotomy and dislike of
 the institutionalization. Much of this was done so that
 Rosemary's brothers could shine without her shadow to
 fall upon them.

The Goddess Pose

Michelle Goldberg

The Senator Next Door

By Amy Klobuchar

The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet

By David Mitchell

Whiplash

By Catherine Coulter

The Children's Crusade

By Ann Packer

Between You & Me

By Mary Norris

Wild

By Cheryl Strayed

Plenty Ladylike

By Claire McCaskill



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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
- 14 Program – Miner’s Inn
- 18 M.L. King Day

- 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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28	29					

- 01 Board Meeting
- 17 Program – Miner’s Inn 4:30
- 24 Speech Trek
- 23 AAUW Regional Mtg
- 29 Board Meeting

- 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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MARCH 2016						
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- 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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APRIL 2016						
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- 04 Board Meeting
- 15-17 AAUW State Convention

- 11 Veterans Day
- 14 TEDx Event
- 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

- 13 Holiday Party
- 25 Christmas Day

DECEMBER 2015						
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JUNE 2016						
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Update 1/7/16

Meeting Minutes
AAUW Mariposa Board of Directors
January 4, 2016

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:06PM by Co-President Dawn Johnson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Johnson, Sandi Gabe, Karen Smith, Dina Lambert, Saralynn Nusbaum, Cathy Owens, Cindy Harp

Approval of Minutes from November 2, 2015 board meeting:

Minutes were previously submitted, approved, & published in December newsletter.

REPORTS:

Membership:

Carolyn Baker was unable to attend so the membership report was postponed.

Dawn thanked Jill Rowney for providing her home for the holiday party and Sharon Enrico for helping.

Programs: Karen Smith

Bill Yaley is the speaker scheduled for the next program on January 14. He has presented to several other local organizations and Karen has advised him that attendance could therefore be light. Notification of the program has been published in Goldrush.com and the Mariposa Gazette.

Our next program will be the Chinese Silk Road.

Publicity: Cindy Harp

Our next event is Speech Trek on February 24. An article is scheduled for two weeks prior.

79% of the branch membership opened the newsletter email and 40% clicked through.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dina Lambert

- The 11/30/15 Treasurer's Report was circulated. To review, contact the Board Secretary for a copy.
- Income - \$6,189 for the fashion show and \$80 residual income for the yard sale.
- Expenditures – \$100 for chamber dues, a credit of \$8 for the Backpack Project.
- Ending cash balance - \$14,563.
- The 12/31/15 Treasurer's Report was circulated. To review, contact the Board Secretary for a copy.
- Income - \$176 residual income for the fashion show.
- Outstanding checks - \$50 for MCHS Band Boosters issued on 2/3/15 in memory of Ti Shakelton and \$330 for UC Regents (Dinner with a Scientist)



issued on 10/1/15. Dina is to follow up.

- Ending cash balance - \$14,739.
- With the fashion show proceeds, we have covered our annual budget. A discussion ensued as to whether or not the Home Tour will be scheduled. A decision was not made and it was agreed that we will discuss further at our next meeting.

Dawn moved to approve the Treasurer's Report and Sandi seconded the motion.

PROJECT UPDATES:

Tech Trek: Dawn Johnson

Several meetings have been held and the project is well underway. Tech Trek is now a national program. Applications have been standardized and the essay topic is "How Math or Science will Help the World." Any donations for Tech Trek will go to AAUW but each camp will still have a separate bank account. As of today, all Mariposa County 7th grade math teachers have been contacted and provided with a list of criteria. They have been asked to recommend applicants; each teacher may nominate up to five students. Member volunteers are needed to meet with the nominees to explain the program.

Speech Trek: Dawn Johnson

Dawn and Jill Harry have had several meetings and have met with Bryan Starchman. Information was sent to all schools mid-November. In December, an email was sent to all members asking for coaches; five members have signed up. There was a soft-launch on 12/29/15 at the high school and the official launch is scheduled on 1/13/16 to be followed with a coaches' meeting. The judges will be Mike Figalde, Rosemarie Smallcombe, and Chevon Kothari.

ACTION ITEMS (non-routine):

Mandatory bylaws amendments: Dawn/Sandi

- Our branch's mandatory revisions were sent to AAUW and some changes were then recommended:
- Board composition – the president elect position will be removed.
- Public Policy and Funds– these appointed positions will be eliminated and replaced with two at large appointed positions with voting rights.
- The appointed, non-voting position of parliamentarian will be eliminated.
- With these changes, there will be seven voting members.
- The executive committee will be eliminated as it duplicates the voting members.
- The nominating committee will be eliminated as the board functions as that and a board member will serve as Chair with up to two other members. The bylaws will state that at least two instead of five membership meetings will be held annually.

Dina moved to approve the changes to the bylaws and Karen seconded the motion.

NEW BUSINESS:**Informational: Leadership Workshops @ April AAUW CA convention**

Dawn and Sandi will be facilitating leadership development workshops in Southern California and at the upcoming AAUW CA convention, April 15-17 in San Mateo.

Review Goals status

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

Assignment of Branch Buzz for February & March

- February – Saralynn Nusbaum
- March – Karen Smith

Update: Women's History Month Proclamation

Marilyn Saunders prepared a proclamation to be presented to the Board of Supervisors in recognition of Women's History Month, March 2016. The proclamation was circulated; to review, contact the Board Secretary for a copy. Marilyn will submit the proclamation to the county clerk. Members are encouraged to attend the March Board of Supervisors meeting. A volunteer is needed to accept the proclamation.

Girls on Ice

Carol Hart asked our branch to consider support for Girls on Ice, a 12 day University of Alaska wilderness education program focused on exploring glaciers. Nine girls will be selected from high schools in the western US. This is not an AAUW sponsored program. With regard to our support, Marilyn Saunders expressed concern that we have not had an opportunity to properly vet the program. Dawn made a motion that we send information on the program to the Dinner with a Scientist participants, with a disclaimer that this is not an AAUW program; Karen seconded the motion. Karen will forward information on this program to Robin Hopper, School Superintendant via Rotary.

Board Recruitment action plan

Dawn and Sandi will be stepping down from their roles as co-presidents for the 2016/17 year.

Sandi is considering a run for a California State Board Directorship and Dawn will also be taking on state responsibilities. Carolyn Baker will be stepping down from the role of Membership VP and Karen as well as Programs VP. A discussion ensued regarding how to recruit from the membership for these positions.

Get Out the Vote

An AAUW national webinar on this topic is scheduled for January 13.

The next board meeting will be on February 1 and the March board meeting will be held on February 29.

The meeting was adjourned by Co-President Dawn Johnson at 5:43PM.

SAVE THE DATE!



Habitat for Humanity of Mariposa County
will hold a Birdhouse Auction at
Savoury's
Wednesday, March 16 from 6-9pm

Unique birdhouses and garden art by local contractors,
woodworkers, and other artisans will be featured!

IT'S NOT JUST AN AUCTION, IT'S A PARTY!

Enjoy the Blue Skies Trio's "brilliant sound", wine tasting,
hors d'oeuvres and desserts by Mirriam,
an exciting auctioneer, and great company!



Ticket includes all of the above: \$35

***PROCEEDS WILL GO TOWARD
HABITAT'S 4TH PARTNER FAMILY HOME!***
Call the office at 966-7444 for ticket information.



MALINA BONDISHU
 Jazzercise Fitness Studio
 Class Owner

5011 5th St.
 Mariposa, CA 95338

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 malinajazz@yahoo.com
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Bonnie Newman
 Imaging Supervisor & Mammographer 

John C. Fremont Healthcare District

5189 Hospital Road ~ P.O. Box 216
 Mariposa, CA 95338-0216
bonnie.newman@jcf-hospital.com
 209-966-3631, x 233 or 244 ~ FAX # 209-966-2972




WINE TASTING ROOM & GALLERY

KRIS CASTO
 Email: Castokris@aol.com

5022 Highway 140, Mariposa CA 95338
 209-742-2000 209-377-8203
 www.CastoOaksWine.com

AAUW- Mariposa

www.aauwmariposa.com

Board of Officers— 2015-2016

Co-Presidents	Dawn Johnson dawnandjay.johnson@gmail.com Sandi Gabe sandi.gabe@hotmail.com
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