



Sierra Outpost



AAUW Holiday Bash

Sunday, December 13th,

4:00 - 7:00 pm

Home of Jill Rowney:

4131 Silver Bar Road

It's time to kick up our heels, rest on our laurels, celebrate the season, and relax with friends. Mariposa AAUW has been instrumental in affecting lives of everyone in our community - in furthering education, awareness, thus increasing our own visibility. Hats off to us! Bring your spouse (significant other-- or just yourself!!!), an hors d'oeuvre and/or a party beverage and be ready to bask in the warmth (good will, that is) of the season. There will be outside heaters so we can also bask in their warmth in this cooler weather of the season! Rain or snow or clear and crispy cool-- we have it covered!



December, 2015

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*The Garden and Wine groups were on hiatus this month.

Co-Presidents' Corner

Thoughts from Dawn and Sandi



fortunate and encouraged high school students to embrace their voting responsibilities as adults... and more.

The end of the year brings the opportunity to look back at past accomplishments and to look forward to exciting new adventures. It provides a time of both reflection and anticipation. By the time this issue is published, we will have enjoyed time with family and friends celebrating Thanksgiving and many will be filling their holiday lists in anticipation of holiday parties and events.

As you take this personal journey and look back, I hope you will remember the impact that AAUW has had on our community and realize that your participation is important and has a large impact. Because of your support we sent six girls to Tech Trek, inspired 75 girls over conversations and lab tours with scientists, provided backpacks for 35 students who are economically less

2016 brings opportunities to engage students in voicing their opinions through public speaking, educate our community through public programs, attend the AAUW state convention...and more.

I hope that your holiday season is filled with joy and hope and love and that your look back makes you smile in appreciation of how fortunate we are to live in this amazing community surrounded by generous and talented friends. I also hope you realize that *you are* one of those amazing people who make a difference. Thank you for all you do.



Sandi

Mariposa AAUW Calendar

December, 2015

- 1 SIG: Book Group
- 7 Cancelled: Board Meeting: 4pm Library
- 13 AAUW Holiday Party

January, 2016

- 4 Board Meeting
- 5 SIG: Book Group
- 16 SIG: Hiking Group

(SIG = Special Interest Group)

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



AAUW SAFARI- FASHION SHOW ADVENTURE



Miss Mariposa Rodeo Queen, Dawn Johnson-EmCee, Sandi Gabe- Chair, Betty Massey- Model Coordinator and Carolyn Baker-Registration.

Thanks to the Safari Crew

- ♦ Game Warden
--Dawn Johnson
- ♦ Costume Contest
--Cindy Harp
- ♦ Model Coordinator
-- Betty Massey
- ♦ Dressing Room
--Mary Ann Dvorak
-- Anne Dolchanczyk
-- Kris Casto
- ♦ Serengeti Snacks
--Kathy Sutherland
-- Joan Lee
-- Helene Fiske
-- Rosemary Callaberos
--Bonnie Little
- ♦ Set Design
-- Karen Smith
- ♦ Set Up
--Gary and Reva Colliver
-- Dawna Hunter
-- Joan McCamman

It seems fitting that the Thanksgiving holiday follows closely on the heels of our Safari Trip as I am stunned by the generosity of our members and our community. On the morning of the trip, our happy, happy, happy crew transformed the fairgrounds into a savannah fit for wild animals, game wardens and adventurers. Big game animals, broad Acacia trees and colorful masks provided the backdrop.

As the crowds filed in with smiles on their faces, the models were anxiously getting fitted in

their outfits behind the scenes. In addition to picking out their outfits before the show, they had a cat walk session in the morning. They were ready to go!

The Serengeti Snack crew was cooking, plating and tasting the nibbles to be sure they were ready for consumption. As they placed the delicacies on the table, swarms of adventurers surrounded the tables and began grazing. The Watering Hole was busy keeping everyone hydrated.

Auction items lined the

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Trading Post at the edge of the savannah. Pencils and pens were poised to make bids on future adventures. And then... the adventure began.

Fashionably clad models strutted the runway (yes, we had one this year!) showing off their colors accompanied by descriptions of fabric, style and length. Occasionally an item was auctioned to the highest bidder as the crowd engaged in the action.

The models weren't the only ones sporting fashions. The audience got in the action during the costume contest and Dr. Livingstone stole the show, mustache and monkey in tow. The live auction and dessert provided a break in the action and an opportunity to place final

bids on dreams for the future or amazing art-work. As the bidding drew to a close, the models once again stepped onstage and transfixed the audience.

How do you pull off such an amazing event and raise nearly six thousand dollars so that we can continue to provide opportunities for girls to be inspired to explore STEM careers? Well, all you need is a dedicated safari team that was relentless in seeking out just the right decorations, publicity, auction items, models and clothing. They were an amazing team and deserve a round of applause.

If you weren't able to attend, you can still experience the thrill of being on safari by checking out pictures from the trip [here](#).

Thanks to our Merchants

- Anahata Fair Trade
- Bling N Things by Tami
- Class A Consignments
- Fremont House
- Italian Creek Designs
- Locogal Woman's Clothing
- Mariposa Marketplace
- Past To Present Mercantile
- Simplicity Boutique
- The Vault
- Wisdom and Folly
- Yosemite's Elite Spa



Thanks to our Models

- Evelyn Baker
- Lisa Carisio
- Barbra Carrier
- Donna Frederickson
- Jazzy Hawley
- Naoko Kada
- Autumn Lee
- Julie Maccarone
- Ophelia MacInturff
- Jill Rowney
- Amy Schumacher
- Stormi Smith



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Fashion Show 2015



Above L-R: Donna Fredrickson, model; "Dr. Livingstone"- Winner of 'Best Safari Costume', Lisa Cariso - model

Left: Jill Rowney- model



Models extraordinaire!



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Sponsor Community Forums

Membership

--Carolyn Baker

Mariposa's AAUW Membership Rocks!



After our recent AAUW Fashion Show I was feeling mighty proud to call myself a Mariposa AAUW member. Of course I was only a small cog in the recent event and much of the thanks belongs to our amazing Fundraising Chair Sandi (as well as Dawn) but many hands did pitch in to make this event a reality!

When I first walked into Building A on Sunday morning, I was truly inspired seeing sooooo many of our members engaged and involved in this event! Obviously, our membership realizes that it takes a village to support the women and girls in our community and they turned out en masse to help . . . and help they did: from the inspired cooks who prepared the delicious appetizers and desserts, the members who sold tickets to all their friends and their entire neighborhood, the table coverers, the spouses who picked up and later returned the risers, the members who set up the chairs, the models and the coaches that helped

them prepare, the members and friends who donated auction items, the shop owners who provided the clothing and the members who encouraged them, the members and their guests who purchased the auction items, the members who picked up the various outfits from the stores, the ticket collectors, the bartenders, the clean-up crew, and especially the painters and planners who truly transformed Building A into an amazing venue that truly set the stage for our AAUW Safari! Who could have imagined that our Building A could ever look so amazing? Please excuse me, as I'm sure that I have undoubtedly left out many of the jobs that our wonderful membership took on to make this event a truly remarkable event! Whether or not I mentioned your contribution please know that you played a vital role in making this event the success that it was. Thank you to all!



Crew behind the scenes :

L-R: Helene Fiske, Kris Casto, Joan Lee, Saralynn Nusbaum, Gary Colliver, Reva Colliver, Mary Ann Dvorak



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Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Tech Trek at TED^x

--Dawn Johnson

Tech Trek girls wowed 'em at TED^x

Nine Tech Trek graduates amazed the crowds at the AAUW exhibit during the inaugural TED^x Yosemite conference at the high school on Saturday, Nov. 14. The successful conference's theme was "Woven" and it featured an array of interesting speakers talking about cutting edge research as well as out-of-the-box ideas related to the environment.

The AAUW display anchored the "Innovation Alley" portion of the event, which was an area of displays and demonstrations planned to showcase local people and ideas. The girls manned three tables, each of which featured ongoing demonstrations of some of the cool science experiments they learned at Tech Trek camp: geoplanes, robotics and fractals. If you don't know what those are, you should have come...

The girls were enthusiastic and charismatic and represented the best of Mariposa's youth. We were fortunate to have so many girls commit to this event, even during soccer season! It was particularly neat to



"Innovation Alley" entertained the throngs in the hallway outside the auditorium.

have graduates from several different years, even 2010.

AAUW received public recognition for supporting the TED^x conference, but the real beneficiaries were the girls themselves. They were able to attend the stimulating talks, mingle with lots of STEM-minded people, share what they learned and have fun representing Tech Trek. Thanks go to:

Sylvie Amstutz

Taylor Jones

Izamarly Marquez

Alexandra Marquez

Eliza Amstutz

Natalie Marquez

Jaylynn Dulcich

(and her stand-in sister during the soccer game)

Christina Hotchkin

Courtney McInnis

(and a few of their friends who dropped by and joined in).

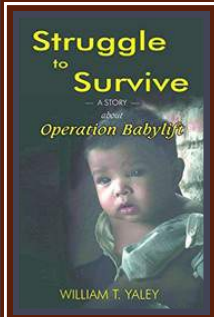
This couldn't have happened without the help and energy of our Tech Trek Co-Coordinator, **Debbie Peters** and **Naoko Kada**, as well as **Dawna Hunter**. What a great day for AAUW and the girls we impact!

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Programs

--Karen Smith

"Operation Babylift"



January 14

4:30 p.m.

Miner's Road-
house 140

AAUW hosts local author, William Yaley

Bill Yaley, author of the book, *Struggle to Survive: A Story About Operation Babylift*, will be our January speaker. In his book, Yaley, a former marine lieutenant in Vietnam, captures the intense drama of the two months preceding President Gerald Ford's Operation Babylift. Be sure to reserve this date on your calendar for a very informative and thought-provoking program.

Tech Trek at TED^x

--Dawn Johnson



Interest Groups- International Study

Contact Peggy Shainberg: 209.966.2076

Study Group explores history and politics of Brazil

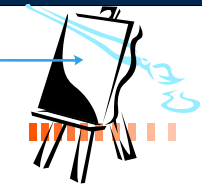
---Peggy Shainberg

We had another session on Brazil at Barb Silva's home. We started out in the dark but PG&E turned the lights on again. Lori, Barb, Carolyn and Anne

presented the various traditions and celebrations of Brazil along with good food and a dancing Brazilian turtle. Our next meeting will be in January.

Interest Groups- Art

Contact Margaret Brandenburg: 559.760.1431



Several members of the Art Group enjoyed the local production of "The Goldman Project" put on by the Mariposa Theater Alliance and sponsored by the Mariposa Arts Council. The local

amphitheatre stage was transformed into an intimate "repertory theater" setting. The entire stage area was closed to the outside with a set of folding "doors". The interior accommodated its audience with tiered seating of about 50 chairs and a very classy stage setting. The play itself explored the relationship of a mother (holocaust survivor), her son and an ex-girlfriend doing research on survivors of the holocaust. Hats off to the actors, the directors, and all of the support crew for an outstanding performance!

--Jill Rowney

**Interest Groups- Hiking**

Contact Mary Ripma: 831-334-2223

**November's Hike to Mirror Lake**

--Mary Ripma

Mark and I walked the Mirror Lake hike with our dog, Kyah, as far as is allowed with dogs and then returned to our car parked near Upper Pines Campground. We started from the Midpines post office at 8:15am and were back home by about 1:30pm, picnicked at the Village Store. It was fabulously beautiful weather and free of the tourist crowds. Next hike is scheduled for January 23, 2016.



Deer along the paved trail were evidently too busy eating to pay attention to hikers passing by.

Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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Interest Groups- Craft

Contact Joan Lee: 209.966.2505

Photo Transfer Project taught by Kathy Delaney

On October 29th, the Craft SIG met at Sandi Gabe's and learned how to transfer photos to wood. Kathy Delaney guided the group through the process with these fabulous results.



Above: Marilyn Saunders, Margaret Brandenburg, Anne Mahle, Kathy Delaney, Lori Tierney, and Cathy Owens.



Photos by Sandi Gabe.

Interest Groups- Reading

Contact Saralynn Nusbaum: 510.913.6994

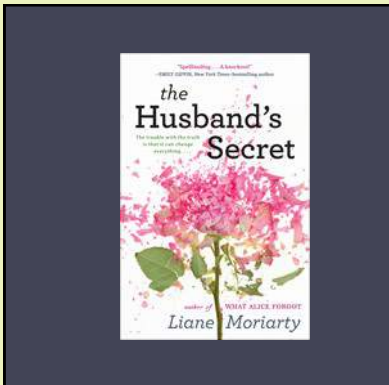


Our next meeting will be

Tuesday, December 1

at 4:30 pm

at Helen Fiske's home on
4975 6th Street. We will be
discussing *The Husband's Secret*
by Liane Moriarty.



Discussion Review

--Margaret Erhart

November's book group discussion of *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr, was well attended, and members agreed that Helene's home made a fantastic meeting place. The Pulitzer Prize winning novel is beautifully written and tells the stories of a blind French girl trying to survive occupied France and an orphaned German boy trying to use his love of learning and expertise at radio to escape having to work in the mines that killed his father. Their paths cross in Saint-Malo, France, at the end of World War II--she helping the French Resistance, and he increasingly reluctant to help the Nazis. Doerr knew that if he wanted to write another World War II novel, he needed to use a different slant, and he succeeded in this best-selling novel, ten years in the making.

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

Behind the Beautiful Forevers

Katherine Boo

Big Magic

Elizabeth Gilbert

Blue Jasmine

Kashmira Sheth

Bobbed Hair and Bathtub Gin

Marion Meade

Flight Behavior

Barbara Kingsolver

In The Kingdom of Ice

Hampton Sides

Invention of Wings

Sue Monk Kidd

The Goddess Pose

Michelle Goldberg

The Senator Next Door

Amy Klobuchar

The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet

David Mitchell

Whiplash

Catherine Coulter

The Children's Crusade

Ann Packer

Between You & Me

Mary Norris

Wild

Cheryl Strayed

Rosemary: The Hidden Kennedy Daughter

Kate Clifford Larsen

Plenty Ladylike

Claire McCaskill



Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



2015-2016 CALENDAR

- 04** Independence Day
26 Board Planning Mtg

JULY 2015						
S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
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JANUARY 2016						
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31						

- 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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FEBRUARY 2016						
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28	29					

- 01** Board Meeting
15 Presidents' Day
18 Program – Miner's Inn
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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MARCH 2016						
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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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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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MAY 2016						
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29	30	31				

- 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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Updated 11/30/15

Board Meeting Minutes



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.

AAUW Mariposa Branch Board Meeting Minutes Library, November 2, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: at 4:08PM by Co-President Dawn Johnson.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dawn Johnson, Sandi Gabe, Carolyn Baker, Karen Smith, Dina Lambert, Marilyn Saunders, Saralynn Nusbaum

Approval of Minutes as amended from September 28, 2015 board meeting: Sandi moved, Karen seconded. Motion passed.

- It was agreed that the board minutes, in lieu of a separately written board report, will be submitted for publishing in the branch newsletter. The recording secretary will provide to the board a draft of the minutes within two weeks of the meeting. Upon approval, the recording secretary will then provide the minutes to the newsletter editor.

REPORTS:

Membership: Carolyn Baker
Current membership is 89.

- A holiday party has been scheduled for December 13, 4 – 7PM, to be held at Jill Rowney's home. Members will be asked to bring food or wine. Dawn will make a robocall and send an invite to announce the event. A \$50 budget will be provided for paper goods.
- Ideas were discussed for a future member activity to be held in late winter or early spring.

- An AAUW national webinar on membership recruitment and retention will be presented on November 18 at 4:00PM. This is a one hour webinar and advance registration is required.

Fundraising: Sandi Gabe

- "On Safari" Fashion Show update
- A \$550 fee is required for rental of building A at the Mariposa County Fairground.
- To date 25 auction items have been submitted and 20 additional items are anticipated.
- \$600 in tickets sold to date as compared to \$735 in total prior to last year's event.
- Ten stores have agreed to participate along with two individual clothing artists.
- Other community events are scheduled on the same day which is a concern in terms of attendance.

Programs: Karen Smith

- Turnout was poor for the firefighting program held on October 7. A survey was circulated among the membership to determine the factors contributing to the poor turnout. 21 members responded; 33% indicated that the date was inconvenient, 21% the time was inconvenient, 14% were not interested in the topic, and 5 % were unaware of the program.
- Bill Yaley is the speaker scheduled for the next program. He has presented to several other local organizations and concern was expressed that turnout would again be disappointing. Sandi suggested that we

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(Continued from page 13)

cancel the program and Karen will do so. Marilyn Saunder's sentiment was that people join AAUW for the interest groups and she questioned whether we are serving the membership by providing programs.

Publicity: Cindy Harp

- Three articles featuring AAUW were published in the October 28 edition of the Mariposa Gazette, the "On Safari" fashion show was announced, Dinner with a Scientist, and AAUW was mentioned as partner for the CASA fundraiser.
- Cindy Harp is developing a calendar for submission and posting of articles. She is also making changes to the publicity procedures. The position of publicity editor will be eliminated.
- Dawn Johnson is working on the next article publicizing the fashion show.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Dina Lambert

- The 10/28/15 Treasurer's Report was circulated. To review, contact the Board Secretary for a copy.
- Income - \$600 was received from the Academic Booster's Club in support of Dinner with a Scientist and \$50 was received for newsletter ads.
- Expenditures - \$350 to AAUW national for insurance which allows us to provide for \$1M in umbrella coverage for our events. A \$27 payment was made to the Miner's Inn for the October 7 program.
- Ending cash balance - \$8,385.

Project Updates:

Tech Savvy: Sandi

- Our branch was not awarded a grant and we did not receive any explanation from AAUW national as to why our branch was not selected. A list of the grantees will be published on the national website. A discussion ensued regarding whether we would be interested in independently pursuing our own Tech Savvy program.
- **Tech Trek presentation at TEDx:** Dawn
- Three demonstrations will be presented by

10 of the Tech Trek participants during breaks at the TEDx conference. Dawn is looking for some "science type" tabletop décor for the exhibit.

Casa Fundraiser support: Dawn

- Six AAUW members baked cupcakes for the CASA fundraiser. CASA expressed appreciation and recognized AAUW in its publicity; the cupcakes raised more money than the bar at the event.

One Mariposa/Safe Families follow-up: Sandi

- At the September 28 board meeting, Nancy Martin of One Mariposa and Mariah Lord of Mariposa Safe Families made presentations to the board. Both organizations requested volunteer support from AAUW members. An article about these organizations was published in our newsletter and Sandi followed up with both Nancy and Mariah. Three AAUW members are now volunteering as tutors at Woodland School.

ACTION ITEMS (non-routine):

DWS funding request: Sandi/Marilyn

- It was anticipated that Dinner with a Scientist would receive \$1,200 from the Academic Boosters Club but only \$600 was received leaving DWS \$696 over budget. A request was made that the shortfall be covered by the general fund. Sandi made a motion to approve, Marilyn seconded, and the motion was passed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mandatory bylaws amendments: Dawn
- Changes have been made to the AAUW bylaws. A copy of the current bylaws was circulated with the changes redlined. It is mandatory that these changes be incorporated into our branch bylaws, therefore member approval is not required. Dawn and Sandi will review the bylaws and recommend if any additional changes should be considered.
- **Board Recruitment recommendations**
- A discussion ensued concerning defining and filling board positions for the coming year. It was agreed that project leaders should not

(Continued on page 15)

(Continued from page 14)

be tapped to fill board positions though they should be encouraged to attend board meetings. A suggestion was made that we change the board meeting times to make it possible for working members to attend meetings and to consider board positions.

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.

Non-Agenda Items

- We have not yet been asked by Salvation Army to volunteer for bell ringing. AAUW

prohibits fund raising for other organizations. Should we be asked, per this policy, we will need to decline.

- A motion was passed authorizing Marilyn Saunders to prepare a proclamation to be presented to the Board of Supervisors in recognition of Women's History Month, March 2016, and AAUW's work in the Mariposa community.
- The November "Branch Buzz" was circulated.
- Saralynn will prepare the December "Branch Buzz" and Marilyn will be responsible for January's.
- The December meeting will be cancelled. The next meeting will be on January 4.
- The meeting was adjourned by Co-President Sandi Gabe at 6:20PM.

Check out Sonora's featured homes

AAUW Home Tour & Tea December 5

AAUW Sonora Branch presents

49th Annual
HOME
TOUR



*"There's gold in them thar hills."
And it all goes to scholarships
for Mother Lode women.*

DEC 5 Tour Four Mother Lode Homes
11 am to 4 pm
Tea, Boutique & Baskets
at Church of the 49ers in Columbia
1 pm to 5 pm

Tickets \$25
Available at Mountain Bookshop,
Joan's Boutique, or call 735-0950 aauwsonora.org

The AAUW Sonora Branch presents its 49th annual Home Tour & Tea on Saturday, December 5. This major fundraiser for AAUW Sonora Branch features a tour of four outstanding homes in Sonora and Columbia - open from 11 am to 4 pm - and a Tea, Boutique, and Basket Drawing in holiday-decorated Faith Hall at the Church of the 49ers in Columbia between 1 pm and 5 pm. Enjoy tea and coffee, tea sandwiches and cookies, shop for unique gifts at the boutique, and participate in the popular basket drawing (need not be present to win). You may tour the homes and visit the Tea in any order.

Tickets are \$25 for the affair, and available at Mountain Bookshop and Joan's Boutique in Sonora, or by calling 209-735-0950. Proceeds are distributed to local women for college scholarships, and to send incoming eighth grade girls to Tech Trek, an annual math and science camp.



MALINA BONDISHU
Jazzercise Fitness Studio
Class Owner

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Cellular: 209-769-8198
email: SmithandMartin@sti.net




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Imaging Supervisor & Mammographer



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bonnie.newman@jcf-hospital.com
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**WINE TASTING
ROOM & GALLERY**

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Email: Castokris@aol.com

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