



Sierra Outpost

Welcome to the new board and leadership team!



Our board meetings are always open. We meet on the first Monday of the month at 4pm in the library and would love to have your participation.

Joining the leadership team for the first time this year are Trish Darcy, Kim Monson and Jody Sergienko.

- Co-Presidents: Dawn Johnson and Sandi Gabe
- VP, Programs: Becky Mock
- Membership: Dawn Johnson
- Member Liaison: Margaret Brandenburg
- Finance Officer: Dina Lambert
- Recording Secretaries: Bernadette Falany-Davis and Rebecca Swisher
- Director at Large and Publicity: Jody Sergienko
- Dinner with a Scientist (DWS) Coordinator: Marilyn Saunders
- Fundraising Chair: Sandi Gabe
- Newsletter Editor: Jill Rowney
- Tech Trek Coordinators: Trish Darcy and Barbara Silva
- Speech Trek Coordinator: Kim Monson
- Back Pack Project Coordinators: Cathy Owens and Karen Rust
- Advertising: Sharon Enrico
- High School Voter Education Chair: Jetty Uebner
- Publicity: Jody Sergienko

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Co-Presidents' Corner

It is difficult to focus on upcoming branch activities when our community is once again being ravaged by fire. Last night I watched fire explode on Chowchilla Mountain and thought of how many people have been evacuated again this year in response to a disaster in the making. I am heartened to hear about how we are helping each other through this time by opening our homes and hearts. I hope that by the time you read this, things have settled down and are returning to normal.

Dawn and I are excited to be working together again this year as co-presidents of our branch. Dawn is enjoying a well-deserved birthday trip to Paris and she'll be back in time to join me in kicking off the year with several activities.

We'll be shaking it up a little this year by working together to share our talents on each endeavor instead of being strictly separated into Membership, Program, etc. We also hope to create more oppor-

tunities for you to participate and we want to collaborate more with other like-minded community groups on projects.

We want to know what your passions and interests are as we begin planning for the year. To continue our theme of listening, we will be hosting an informal open session for all members **on Saturday, August 11** at the Mariposa Public Utilities Department (**MPUD**) meeting room in the firehouse across from the DMV (5273 Hwy 49 N) at **9am**. Join us to share your thoughts, coffee and a light snack. If you can't attend and want to share your ideas, please send them to me via email.



Sandi



Saturday,

August 11

9:00 am

MPUD meeting room,

5273 Hwy 49 N

Town Hall Meeting

It is time to pick our brains and figure out our branch priorities for the year. Collectively we are a powerhouse of ideas and energy. We are passionate about what we do and stand for. Set aside Saturday, August 11 to gather and figure out where we should chart our course.

The venue is new to us. The MPUD meeting room is across from the DMV at 5273 Hwy 49 N. See you there!



We Value Education

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Events Calendar

August/September Activities



August 4	Backpack Distribution: Northside Clinic
August 4	SIG Coordinators' Meeting: 6:00pm, Grovehouse
August 6	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
August 8	SIG Reading: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
August 11	Town Hall Meeting: 9:00am, MPUD meeting room
August 11	SIG Hiking: Details TBD
August 11	Backpack Distribution: JC Fremont
September 4	SIG Reading: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
September 7	Cocktails and Convos: 7:00pm, location TBD
September 8	SIG Hiking: North Dome
September 10	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
October 13-14	Annual Yard Sale

Be a 2-Minute Activist

(from AAUW.org)

Urge your Senators to Fully and Fairly Vet Brett Kavanaugh

President Trump has nominated Judge Brett Kavanaugh to a lifetime appointment on the U.S. Supreme Court and the stakes are enormously high. If confirmed, Judge Kavanaugh will have a say in the health, education, and economic security of women and girls for decades to come.

The Supreme Court should serve as a check and balance

that protects us all, but President Trump has made it clear he wants a justice who will overturn Roe v. Wade and roll back the Affordable Care Act and its lifesaving protections. We should all be concerned that the next Supreme Court justice could do grave harm by undermining protections for workers, access to birth control and abortion, LGBTQ rights, voting rights, and other hard-won gains.

That's why it is so important that as the Senate provides its "advice and consent" on Judge Kavanaugh's nomination, we demand that he

clearly commits to upholding our fundamental rights. Click [here](#) to send a message urging your senators to fully and fairly vet Brett Kavanaugh's nomination to ensure he will be an independent, fair-minded jurist who will uphold the protections that are critical to the equity of women and girls. Urge them to only support a Supreme Court nominee who will uphold our fundamental rights to access healthcare, use contraception, have an abortion, have the freedom to marry who we choose, and other hard-won rights. Anything less is unacceptable.

Project: Backpack

Cathy Owens & Karen Rust



Overwhelming local support adds to this year's successful project

--Cathy Owens

Our membership surely has embraced the Backpack Project this year. We had 13 members purchase school supplies, 11 members donate money, and 13 members help at the Backpack Fill Party. We also appreciate the generosity of the Mariposa United Methodist Church for their donation and for providing their facilities for the Backpack Project. Once again, we are grateful to member Anita Starchman Bryant for the use of her offices as the drop off station for all of the school supplies. Many



thanks to all of you for your support of this beloved project.

Backpacks will be distributed to middle school students at every school in our district. Additionally, this year we are donating packs to students at the John C Fremont Back to School Health Fairs on August 4 and 11. If you would like to help distribute packs at either of these events, please contact Cathy Owens for details and locations. Again, thanks for helping 62 Mariposa County students begin the school year prepared with school supplies and ready to thrive in school.



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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Project: Tech Trek

Cathy Owens, Barbara Silva, Naoko Kada



Mariposa trekkers send their thanks

--Barb Silva

Meg: "I had so much fun. My favorite part was core classes, bowling and all the ridiculous activities. This was a wonderful activity!"

Shelsy: "I had no clue who anyone in my dorm group was, but when I got to know them, they were all cool. My favorite part was climbing a big sequoia tree stump; I was the first one in my group to get up there. Thank you so much for sponsoring me!"



...Meeting new people, trying new things, and being brave ...

Natalia: "I had so much fun this week. I never thought I could have so much fun in just a week. The most fun thing was building an app and learning so much about coding."

Sarah: "Thank you for giving me the chance to go to Tech Trek. We made ice cream and

had a pool party. My core class was App Inventor. I made a drawing app."

Makaya: "Meeting new people, trying new things, and being brave have been the highlights of the camp. I enjoyed walking through the beautiful forest filled with Giant Sequoias."



[Click here](#) to view more photos from this year's Tech Trek.

We Sponsor Community Forums

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SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups explode!

--Sandi Gabe

If you've ever wanted to get to know your fellow AAUW members, there's no better opportunity than to participate in a Special Interest Group. These small gatherings are focused on a particular area of interest and

range from fun to factual. This year we have five new groups! If you're interested but forgot to sign up, contact me and I will add you to the appropriate list.

<p>International Study <i>Ruthie Fruehauf</i></p>  <p>Learn about a country, a culture, and a people. We study one country each year and meet monthly.</p>	<p>Hiking Group <i>Trish Darcy</i></p>  <p>The hiking group meets monthly to enjoy each other's company while hiking new trails in and around Mariposa and Yosemite.</p>	<p>Cooking Group <i>Renea Kennec</i></p>  <p>The group will meet at a different members' houses and learn new cooking techniques or prepare an international food/meal.</p>
<p>Book Group <i>Saralynn Nusbaum</i></p>  <p>This group meets monthly to read nonfiction and fiction books.</p>	<p>AAUW Mariposa (CA) Branch Special Interest Groups 2018-2018</p>	<p>Art Group <i>Ruthie Fruehauf</i></p>  <p>The Art group will meet bi-monthly. Using Yosemite as our lure, professional guest speakers will be invited to share with us their experience as an international art dealer, artist or curator.</p>
<p>Gardening Group <i>Micki Finney</i></p>  <p>The Gardening group meets to discuss a wide range of topics such as the challenges of gardening in the foothills.</p>	<p>Craft Group <i>Elaine Keeley</i></p>  <p>The group meets monthly to experiment with new craft techniques.</p>	<p>Political Action Group <i>Kim Monson</i></p>  <p>Non-partisan and thought-provoking. Members meet to share thoughts on hot topics that cross party lines, such as immigration policies, and actions people might take.</p>
<p>Wine Tasting <i>Kathy Sutherland</i></p>  <p>The Corks and Forks Wine group meets monthly to experience different types of wines and to enjoy them with great appetizers and meals paired to compliment the varietal being tasted.</p>	<p>Play Reading Group <i>Dawn Johnson</i></p>  <p>'The play's the thing!' Meets monthly to do cold readings of various plays that are shared by several California branches.</p>	<p>Great Decisions <i>Sandi Gabe</i></p>  <p>This discussion group will meet 6-8 times per year to discuss a set of topics developed by the Foreign Policy Administration (FPA).</p>

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



Exploring trails nearby: August 11 hike begins the new year

--Trish Darcy

Welcome to the new members of our hiking group! With this fire and the smoky days, I know hiking is not really at the forefront of our minds, but we can get the organization done for this coming year as we wait for skies to clear.

This year our group will get together on the second Saturday of the month. Different people sign up for a date that works for them and organize the hike for the group. We communicate by email and use the "Reply All" button so that we can all share the discussions. I will send out an email a week or two before each hike and remind the group of the organizer for that date. Then the organizer will reply all with the details of the hike they have chosen. You may choose a

local hike in Mariposa, in Yosemite, Oakhurst, or anywhere else you decide. The more people who get involved, the more varied our experiences are. In the past, we have had someone organize a snowshoe hike in the winter that has been fun.

Here's the important part:

[Click here](#) for a link to an editable document. Sign up for a date that works for you, fill it in with the details (or just your name if you haven't decided yet!) We really depend on people willing to lead the hikes. We would like to get this completed in the next couple of weeks so that we have our year planned for us. Thanks for everybody stepping up and helping out. That's what will make our group more fun!

That being said, **the next date we have for a hike is August 11th**. No one has signed up for that yet. I will be camping in Yosemite that weekend (fire and the opening of highway 140 permitting) and will be unable to do a hike unless it is in Yosemite. I am MORE than willing to do that and can choose a destination along the Tioga Road. However, if someone else wants to organize that hike, feel free to fill it out. I'll check the document next week to see what has been filled in!

If you have ANY questions or comments, please let me know! We're open to everyone's ideas!

Happy hiking!

Trish Darcy

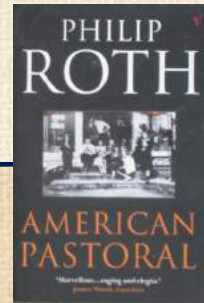
tbdarcy1@gmail.com

SIG - Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)



Our next meeting will be
Wednesday, August 8, 2018 at 4:30 pm
 at the home of H el ene Fiske. We will be discussing
American Pastoral by Philip Roth.



2018 book selections we have yet to read:

Behold the Dreamers

By Imbolo Mbue

Conversations with Friends

By Sally Rooney

Manhattan Beach

By Jennifer Egan

Ordinary Grace

By William Kent Krueger

[Click here for a complete list of titles selected for 2018.](#)

SIG - Cooking

Contact [Renea Kennec](#)

New cooking group to explore the culinary arts

I am interested in exploring all types of cooking, which is why I thought a group that focuses on food would be fun. I don't want to have any pre-set rules for this group, I was hoping that we, as a group, can make those decisions, beginning with selecting a great name for the group.

Here are some thoughts for the group. I hope you bring your great ideas to the first meeting.

Meetings at a different members house with the hostess deciding what the group will focus on.

- Focus on one recipe (or a few recipes) and have the whole group prepare and cook. I think a whole menu might be difficult but it might work if everyone splits the menu up.
- Check out a local restaurant's kitchen.

- Have a chef come to us and prepare/teach us a recipe.
- Go to a restaurant with great reviews (SF Chronicle top 100).
- Visit local farms.

Food ideas:

- Mexican, Thai, BBQ, Mediterranean, Chinese, Italian, gluten free, appetizers
- Pizza, pies, cookies, bread, tortillas, cheese making, candy, herb vinegar, spice blends, limoncello, homemade mayonnaise
- Putting food up; jam, jelly, jerky, anything pickled (kimchi)

The sky's the limit!

Thank you and I look forward to all the wonderful things we can create together.

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AAUW- Mariposa www.aauwmariposa.com Board Officers: 2018-2019		Project Chairs/Coordinators	
Co-Presidents	<u>Sandi Gabe & Dawn Johnson</u>	Advertising	<u>Sharon Enrico</u>
VP Membership	<u>Dawn Johnson</u>	Back Pack Project	<u>Cathy Owens & Karen Rust</u>
VP Programs	<u>Becky Mock</u>	Dinner With a Scientist	<u>Marilyn Saunders</u>
Recording Secretary	<u>Bernadette Falany-Davis & Rebecca Swisher</u>	Fundraising	<u>Sandi Gabe</u>
Finance Officer	<u>Dina Lambert</u>	HS Voter Education	<u>Jetty Uebner</u>
Director at Large	<u>Jody Sergienko</u>	Member Liaison	<u>Margaret Brandenburg</u>
		Newsletter Editor	<u>Jill Rowney</u>
		Publicity	<u>Jody Sergienko</u>
		Social Media	<u>Sandi Gabe</u>
		Speech Trek	<u>Kim Monson</u>
		Tech Trek	<u>Trish Darcy & Barbara Silva</u>
		AAUW	https://aauw.org/
		AAUW California	http://www.aauw-ca.org/

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