



Sierra Outpost

Meet the Tech Trekkers

How was the food?

You can ask our Tech Trek girls this burning question (and dozens of others) at the **November 7th Member Meetup at 5:00 pm at the library.**

Tech Trek is our most beloved and "bragged on" project. Take this opportunity to learn more about what happens at camp and personally meet the grateful girls whose lives may have been changed by YOU.

They are anxious to "give back" by sharing what they learned.

Please drop by to feel warm and fuzzy about what Mariposa AAUW does!

Meet our amazing
Tech Trek girls!

@

Member Meetup

Nov 7th – 5 pm

Library

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Member Meetup

Dates for your
calendar:

- Wednesday, Nov. 7
- Saturday, Dec. 1
- Tuesday, Jan. 15
- Saturday, Feb. 2

- Friday, Mar. 8
- Saturday, Apr. 20
- Thursday, May 2
- Saturday, June 1

Co-Presidents' Corner

Are you ready to make a difference?

It's time to cast your vote!

- ◆ Are you registered to vote? Are your family and friends?
- ◆ Have you already cast your ballot?
- ◆ Do you wonder if your vote makes a difference?

Yes, of course! Or maybe not...

You may think that the answers to these questions are obvious but there are a variety of reasons that we become complacent and put off voting. We might even think that our vote is not worth casting. Perhaps we are busy or uncertain that we know the issues well enough to cast an educated vote.

You may or may not be in this position but you might know someone who is. What to do?

We hope that we have provided opportunities for you to become a knowledgeable voter. Here are a couple of resources to help.

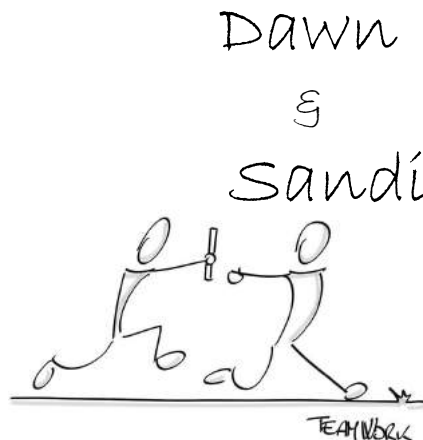
Local issues - We provided a debate on Measure M and a candidate forum for the District 3 school board candidates. Read about it in the [Mariposa Gazette](#).

State Propositions - AAUW California has taken positions on several of the propositions. See the article on [page 11](#) for a list of priorities and recommendations.

National Election - AAUW National provides a copy of the congressional record. How have our elected officials [voted](#)?

Not only is your vote worth casting, when you do you set an example for your friends and family. Start the conversation. Consider:

- ◆ Asking if your family and friends are registered to vote. A new option known as [conditional voter registration](#) allows eligible citizens to register and vote on the same day, today through Election Day.
- ◆ Carpooling to cast your ballot. No excuses! Make an event out of it!
- ◆ Mailing in your ballot. Now!



AAUW Mariposa

2018-2019 Branch Priorities

Continue Tech Trek, Dinner with a Scientist, Speech Trek and Backpack projects with some modifications.	Give members, especially new ones, more ways to participate.	Partner with other organizations to expand our impact and avoid duplication of effort.
Engage in more education and advocacy on non-partisan political and community issues.	Implement more initiatives that support adult women.	Build a stronger, sustained presence at the high school.

Events Calendar

November/December Activities



November 3	SIG Play Reading: 10:00am, home of Dawn Johnson
November 5	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
November 6	SIG Book: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
November 7	Member Meetup: 5:00pm, Mariposa Library (see pg. 1)
November 10	SIG Hiking: Hites Cove, Renea Kennec
November 11	SIG Garden: Forestiere Underground Gardens tour, contact Karen Smith
November 14	SIG International Study: Details TBA contact Ruthie Fruehauf
November 18	SIG Cooking: 10:00am, home of Karen Rust
December 1	Member Meetup: Details TBD
December 3	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
December 4	SIG Book: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
December 12	SIG International Study: Details TBA
December 13	SIG Great Decisions: 5:00pm, home of Karen Smith

December 16  **Holiday Party: 4:00pm, home of Sandi Gabe** 

2019

February 26	Speech Trek
March 2	Moroccan Nights Fundraiser: Mariposa Fairgrounds

We Inspire Life-Long Learning

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What Can I Do This Month?



Want to get involved? This new feature in the newsletter will suggest opportunities to participate. Some are small; some are not-so-small. All promise to reward you and our branch

- ♦ **By all means, get thyself to the Member Meetup on Nov. 7 to meet real live Tech Trek girls!** See what you support! 5:00 pm at the library.
- ♦ There is no Fountain of Youth, so what else can we do? **Share your ideas for a program on "Creative Aging"** in a planning session **Wednesday, Nov. 14 at 1:00** at Becky Mock's house.
- ♦ **Be on the lookout for an invitation sign up as a coach for Speech Trek.** You do NOT have to be a Toastmaster or have a degree in Speech and Elocution. Do you know a good speech when you hear one? Then you can coach a student!
- ♦ **Attend the meetings for whatever SIG group(s) you joined.** Without YOU, they'll fold. And if you say you'll come and then change your mind, let the Chair know, okay?
- ♦ **VOTE!**

Membership

[Dawn Johnson](#)

Shout Outs!

- ♦ HUGE thanks to **Kim Monson** for stepping up to organize the Election Forum. Just figuring out which question went to which speaker was a feat!
- ♦ More HUGE thanks to **Sharon Enrico** and her sidekicks **Micki Finney** and **Cathy Owens** for the super successful Yard Sale. Who else could make \$3000 selling 1950's bowling trophies?
- ♦ Even MORE HUGE thanks to **Marilyn Saunders** for quietly pulling off another wonderful Dinner with a Scientist evening in spite of the near disaster of a late bus.
- ♦ **كرا جزيلة** (That's "Thanks a Lot!" in Arabic) go out to **Jetty Uebner** for kicking off Moroccan Nights with some early shopping and cool food ideas and to **Margaret Brandenburg** for already making LOTS of cozies for warm tea.
- ♦ RESPECT to **Trish Darcy** and **Barbara Silva** for responding to Jill Harry's email about opportunities to mentor our young high school women through the Community Connections program. They read it and signed up!!!!



Fundraising

Annual yard sale– another successful endeavor

—Sharon Enrico

This year's annual AAUW yard sale raised almost \$3,000 for our programs. Despite being a slow-moving sale, we had enough big-ticket items that sold before the sale as well as that weekend, to bump the numbers up. It never ceases to amaze me how much all the little amounts add up to make a big total. Just goes to show that every single contribution makes a difference. Together we are better!

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 bring tools to fix items that needed it (and supply donuts for the workers!). Helene



Left: Super model, Dawn, sporting the fabulous fur coat



worked continuously before, during and after the sale.

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

Fundraising

—Sandi Gabe

Fundraiser: **Moroccan Nights** March 2, 2019 Mariposa Fairgrounds

—Sandi Gabe



Save the date! Call your friends! Get your costume ready! Moroccan Nights is the theme for our annual fundraiser on Saturday, March 2nd. Scene design is already underway and you can be a part of transforming the fairgrounds into a magical wonderland or creating a special experience auction item. There are several ways you can lend a hand to help:

Set design

Converting Building A takes a bit of effort and we have a plan to turn it into an amazing colorful, sensory extravaganza. We need volunteers to spend a little time in the following ways. Materials, inspiration and instructions will be supplied.

- ◆ Grab a paint brush and create cardboard arches
- ◆ Dye sheets to become drapes and tablecloths
- ◆ Paint columns
- ◆ Set up
- ◆ Clean up

Food

Kathy Sutherland is coordinating our feast again this year. She'll need help creating and serving Moroccan style goodies to entice our guests.

Experience Auction

While many organizations include a silent and/or live auction in their fundraising events, AAUW is unique in creating auction items that provide an opportunity for our members to get to know each other better, and share our talents while limiting the “stuff” we take home and don't have a place for on the shelf. It also reduces our need to ask local businesses to donate an item for the event. You supply the experience. We supply the participants. You have fun!

Put your thinking caps on and create an experience that will be a hit. Past events have included themed dinners, lessons or coaching, services such as Costco runs and weeding. Not only will you enjoy providing the experience (except perhaps in the case of weeding), you might meet a new friend in the process!

Other Auction Items

We know that some attendees want to support us with a donation but can't find an experience that suits their needs or they live outside Mariposa. For those attendees we will have a couple of amazing food items themed for the event and a few selected take-home items.

Watch your email for an invitation to our planning meeting later this year.

AAUW– Local

Budget approved!

—Sandi Gabe

Your dues and our fund raising dollars allow us to provide programs such as filling backpacks for middle school students, Dinner with a Scientist, and sending campers to Tech Trek. How we spend those precious resources is outlined in our annual budget which is developed by the board and approved by you, the member. In the past the

budget was approved at an all-member meeting in the fall. In order to encourage every member to vote (and frankly read the budget!), we used an electronic system this year. The budget was approved with 40 yes, and 1 abstention. Budget details can be found on page 8 of the [October newsletter](#).

Project: Dinner With a Scientist

Dinner With a Scientist– 2018

—Kris Casto

On October 17th girls from Mariposa County High School were invited to the October 7th “Dinner with a Scientist” at UC Merced. Our AAUW branch has organized this event with the Mariposa Youth Impact Project and the University for the last seven years.

Thirty-two girls representing 9-12th grade were hosted to a dinner and conversation with seven prominent women and professors in their STEM disciplines.

They were greeted by Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, Dr. Charles Nies. He welcomed the students with encouraging words about keeping an open mind about their choices for the future and the opportunities



that are available to them. Event Chair Marilyn Saunders greeted the girls and thanked all the participants. Sitting at round tables with these established professionals, conversations were active as students were eager and inquisitive. They spent 45 minutes in two rotations and shared a dinner while conversing.

(Continued on page 8)

Project: Dinner With a Scientist

(Continued from page 7)

AAUW would like to thank the following for assisting in this successful event: UC Merced, which was essential in coordinating the event, Tavis for donating the bus transportation, and the MCHS Academic Boosters Club for its

financial support. Thank you to MCHS staff and teachers who helped arrange for the students to attend. Lastly, thank you to the AAUW members who had a hand in this successful event: Marilyn Saunders, Chairwoman, Jill Harry, Judy Eppler, and Kris Casto.



Above: Students speaking with Dr. Carrie Kouadio, Executive Director NSF-CREST Center for Cellular and Biomolecular Machines and Professor, Engineering, UC Merced.



Right: Students with the SaveLACougars mascot brought by Beth Pratt, the California Regional Executive Director for the National Wildlife Federation. She advocates for our state's remarkable wildlife, including leading the [#SaveLACougars](#) campaign.



Left: Dr. Camille Carvalho is an assistant professor in Applied Mathematics. Her research interests are at the interface between physics and mathematics, including simulations and mathematical modeling of unusual wave phenomena in exotic materials.

AAUW: Local

Election Forum a success

—Dawn Johnson



Forum organizer, Kim Monson, introduces the debate on local Measure M

They came. They listened.
They decided.
Now they just have to vote.

From the comments we heard, the October 4th Election Forum with a Q&A for school board candidates and a structured debate over Measure M (our first!) was a great success. We packed the house and reached beyond with live broadcast on KRYZ radio and extensive Mariposa Gazette coverage.

Sure, there were a couple of small glitches, like trying to cover up a wrong speaker's nametag with a Sharpie, but no one noticed. A couple of the speakers offered praise for how well structured and well run it was.

Hats off to **Kim Monson** for taking the lead organizing



School Board Candidates:

Above: Judy Eppler

Below: Christy Wall



such a large event, to **Sandi Gabe** for all the preparation she did before running off to Italy to eat pasta and to all these volunteers for swooping in to make it look easy and seamless:

- ♦ Moderators: **Jaye Howe and Elaine Keeley**
- ♦ Question Compilers: **Sharon Enrico, Dawna Hunter, Cindy Harp**
- ♦ Audience Greeters: **Sharon Enrico, Cindy Harp**
- ♦ Membership Table: **Micki Finney, Bonnie Little**
- ♦ Timer: **Dina Lambert**
- ♦ Photographer: **Jill Rowney**
- ♦ Refreshments: **Kim Monson**

It takes a lot of phone calls, emails, list-making and car-packing to pull off something like this. Thanks to everybody for fitting it into their busy lives. The event was of real value to the community and a great endorsement of AAUW.

Community Action

Get out and vote!

—Sandi Gabe



The November Ballot

There are 11 measures on the November ballot which cover a variety of issues. The AAUW California Public Policy Committee reviewed the ballot measures and outlined how they match our AAUW California priorities.

The committee recommends supporting Proposition 2.

Prop 2: Homeless Housing Bond – No Place Like Home Act of 2018. Over 130,000 Californians are homeless. A great number of our homeless population suffers from mental illness. Prop 2 allows the use of previously allocated unspent money to be used to provide permanent supportive housing for people who need mental health services and are either currently homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Women comprise a significant percentage of the homeless. This measure does not

involve a new state bond.

Committee is Neutral on Propositions 1, 4, and 5. These propositions have a bearing on our principles, but they include elements that undermine some of our priorities along with elements that support our priorities. The Committee adopted a “Neutral” position on these measures.

Prop 1: Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond – Authorizes \$4 billion in general obligation bonds to build and preserve affordable homes for veterans and aid veterans in purchasing a farm, home or mobile home. While AAUW priorities do not address issues specifically related to veterans, we do support affordable housing for low income families and many veterans are women. A negative aspect of the measure is that general obligation bonds are paid for from the state’s General Fund, where money is needed for schools, health care, other housing programs and state services.

Community Action

Prop 4: Children's Hospital

Bond – Prop 4 would use \$1.5 billion in general obligation bond money to support 5 children's hospitals in the University of California system and other public and private hospitals that serve children. The bond money would be used for construction, expansion, renovation, and equipment projects. On the one hand, this measure supports health care services to children. On the other hand, the use of state funds to support private facilities diverts money from public projects, such as schools.

Prop 5: Property Tax – Proposition 5 would amend Proposition 13 (1978) in the State Constitution to allow homebuyers who are age 55 or older or severely disabled to transfer the tax assessed value from their prior home to their new home, no matter (a) the new home's market value; (b) the new home's location in the state; or (c) the number of moves. This measure would assist some older or disabled women when they change residences. However, seniors already are able to retain their property tax base when they move within set parameters – Prop 5 expands that program. The Legislative Analyst states that this would reduce state revenues from property taxes by up to \$1 billion per year. Property taxes are the major source of funding for schools and local services.



The committee classified the remainder of the Propositions as “No Position.” They include:

Prop 3: Water Bond – \$8.8 billion in general obligation bonds for managing and developing water resources in ways that benefit the environment.

Prop 6: Gas Tax Repeal – Repeals the recently-enacted 2017 package of taxes and fees approved by the State Legislature to fund transportation projects, removing \$4.7 billion in annual funding earmarked for transportation.

Prop 7: Daylight Saving Time – Authorizes legislature to provide for permanent daylight saving time if federal government changes the law. *Prop 8: Dialysis* – A complex measure that would regulate the cost of dialysis treatment by establishing a cap on certain costs.

Prop 10: Repeal Costa Hawkins/Rent Control – Gives local communities the authority to make decisions on rent control based on the housing needs of their communities.

Prop 11: Ambulance Drivers – Allows ambulance providers to require their workers to remain on call during breaks paid at their regular rate.

Prop 12: Farm Animals – Bans the sale of meat from animals that are confined in spaces below specific sizes.

AAUW - Beyond Our Branch

AAUW Takes a Stand!

—Dawn Johnson

The Kavanaugh Appointment

National AAUW reacted strongly to the appointment of Judge Kavanaugh as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court. Our CEO, Kim Churches, issued this strong statement:

AAUW denounces the Senate's vote today to confirm Judge Kavanaugh to a seat on the Supreme Court. The integrity of the Court, which has the final say on the health, education, and economic security of women and girls, will be forever altered by the confirmation of a Justice rushed through a partisan process.

We have been watching this process closely and, from the very beginning, called for a full and fair vetting process for any nominee, including a careful examination of their record, qualifications, and temperament.

Judge Kavanaugh did not meet any of those standards. AAUW opposed Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation on the basis of his available record, which demonstrated his hostility to AAUW's policy priorities. When credible allegations of sexual assault surfaced, we called on the Senate to allow a comprehensive inquiry by the FBI — not the prescribed-by-politicians, time-limited, and superficial investigation that we saw. And when last week's hearing revealed Judge Kavanaugh's troubling biases, we called for his nomination to be withdrawn.

By each and every one of AAUW's standards, Judge Kavanaugh does not belong on the Supreme Court, and we are dismayed that he was confirmed by the Senate. Votes matter, and Senators should expect to continue to hear from AAUW members and supporters every day.

What's Happening with AAUW-related Legislation at the State Level?

If you've been tracking AAUW California legislation in the last few years, you'll note the number of bills related to closing the gender pay gap. We've made tremendous headway since 2015 working with the Stronger California coalition. The Fair Pay Act has been improved and California now limits the use of one's prior salary to establish a new salary. Just this year, an additional refinement was made so there is no doubt, an employer cannot inquire or use one's prior salary. There are still other areas to be addressed, including pay data transparency so that employers and the public can better understand a company's pay practices. Unfortunately our cosponsored bill on this issue was stalled in the legislative process this year.

Momentum on the equal pay bills was assisted by the #MeToo movement and awareness that sexual harassment is fueled by disproportionate power dynamics, as is the gender pay gap. Many bills made it to the Governor's desk, with mixed results. Most importantly, Governor Brown signed a bill addressing discrimination and harassment in the workplace - also known as the "no free grope" bill.

For a full list of our bills in 2018 and what their status is, go to the Public Policy section on the AAUW CA [website](#).

SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups

<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>Chess, Anyone?</p>  <p>Contact <u>Kim Monson</u></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>

SIG

SIG RSVP Protocol

—Sandi Gabe

What's a party planner's worst fear? Scheduling the party and having too many unfilled chairs! Have you planned on attending a Special Interest Group meeting and then your schedule changed? Thought you were going to attend but got a better offer? It happens. When it does, take a moment to let your SIG chair know in a timely manner that you are

not coming so that they can adjust the event. Our Special Interest Group Chairs volunteer their time to schedule and organize the groups meetings and need your help to be successful.

Groups come and go...

—Sandi Gabe

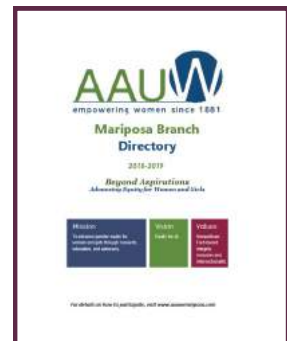
Bye-Bye: After several attempts to get together it appears there is not enough interest to launch the Political Action Special Interest Group.

Up and Coming: Kim Monson is interested in starting a Chess Special Interest Group. Contact her at kimellen13@gmail.com if you are interested in joining.

Directory now available online

—Sandi Gabe

Are you more inclined to look up an address or phone number online than to tote around an address book? We have just the answer for you! Our directory is online and you can download it from the members-only section of our website. Because of the sensitive nature of the information, it is password protected. Can't remember the password? You'll receive a reminder email shortly after the newsletter is distributed.



**SIG: Wine**Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)

The Corks and Forks' September ended on the 30th at the Rusts' home. Willy Rust prepared a Vietnamese meal to pair with Gewürztraminer for dessert tastings. Deference to the discriminating

tasters in our midst: the wines numbered 1 and 2 were identical. Wines 1 and 2 were also the highest scoring! I forgot to write down the name and date.

—Karen Rust

**We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp** [To Page 1](#)



SIG: Wine

Contact [Kathy Sutherland](#)

Tasting the red Bordeaux

—Cindy Harp

The Corks and Forks SIG met on October 20th at the home of Lynn and Cindy Harp. Twenty-seven members and spouses/companions dined on chili, several versions of cornbread and deviled eggs, and various other delicious appetizers, along with a decadent salted caramel-topped chocolate cake and chocolates for dessert. All of this was accompanied by much laughter and dynamic conversation—the place was abuzz with so many people gathered to taste the wine of the evening—Red Bordeaux.

With a group this unusually large, there were



remarkable. Most of the wines ranged from \$10 to \$20 in price, with one wine topping out the price range at \$45.00.

Judging by the empty bottles and the order in which the wine disappeared, the apparent top three wines were **Chateau de Parenchar Bordeaux** Superieur (\$18 at Pioneer Market), **Chateau Haura, Graves 2015** (\$18 at Total Wine), and **LaCroix Ducru-Beaucaillou 2014** (\$45).

The consensus of the group is that no one particularly enjoyed sipping Bordeaux, a fairly dry, subtle (some say “wimpy” but that’s just uncharitable!) red wine blend. But then, as

one of our members commented, Bordeaux is meant to be paired with the appropriate foods to bring out its best characteristics and to complement the food with which it is paired. Although we barely scratched the surface of Bordeaux styles, all tasters agreed that they prefer the bolder, more fruit-forward style of our California red blends in a similar price range. Still, it was interesting to taste something in a different style from our usual California wines.



many bottles of wine to taste—thirteen counting two duplicate bottles! Since thirteen bottles is way too many for a meaningful tasting and rating, the decision was made to simply line up the various labels and let each person taste the ones they chose. Instead of rating the wines by the usual characteristics, paper and pens were available for each taster to make notes on any of the wines they found

If you are a member of the Corks and Forks SIG, Kathy Sutherland is looking for hosts to fill out the remaining schedule for the 2018-19 season. Please contact Kathy if you have any questions about the duties of hosting, or if you have a date for which you would like to sign up to host.

SIG - Great Decisions

Contact [Sandi Gabe](#)

The Waning of Pax Americana

--Becky Mock

The Great Decisions SIG met at Sandi Gabe's home on Oct. 18, 2018 and had a lively discussion on the topic of the "Waning of Pax Americana¹," one of the 2018 Great Decisions topics presented by the Foreign Policy Association. The meeting began with watching the Foreign Policy Association's DVD presentation on the same subject. Do we feel that Pax Americana is over? We explored military, economic, political, cultural, scientific, and educational aspects to help understand why we

(the US and the world) are where we are today. There are no easy answers, but the group does feel that a pathway to understanding and acceptance will be necessary and is possible. The Foreign Policy Association asks those who read and study their Great Decision topics to participate in filling out an "Opinion Ballet" that Dr. Lauren Prather, who is a faculty member at the School of Global Policy and Strategy at the University of California, San Diego, has developed. Dr. Prather uses the opinion ballet to develop

information on the opinions of the educated public. More information about the Foreign Policy Association and the Great Decisions discussion program can be found <https://www.fpa.org>.

Our next meeting is Dec. 13 and the topic will be "Global Health: Progress and Challenges."

¹ Pax Americana is the period in history when the US is the stabilizing force of the world through military and economic superiority which began at the end of World War II.

SIG: Garden

Contact [Micki Finney](#)

—Cindy Harp

The first meeting of the Garden group was held on Tuesday, October 16. We discussed ways to structure our group and agreed that it is nearly impossible to find a day and time that works for everyone. We decided on an informal structure with a few scheduled meetings. The group is open for members to contribute events they plan to attend, or to arrange a demonstration/speaker on topics in which they have a special interest. Some suggested events are garden tours, nursery tours, demonstrations, and guest speakers.

A lively discussion followed about our own struggling gardens and attempts to keep wild critters from decimating our very lovingly planted and tended landscapes! Micki offered everyone free Western Garden books that she got from the Friends of the Library book sale, and Karen won the door prize of a Chrysanthemum!

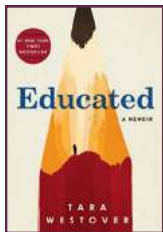
Our next event will be a tour of Forestiere Underground Gardens in Fresno on November 11th that Karen Smith is arranging.

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

SIG - Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

Our next meeting will be
Tuesday, November 6, 2018 at 4:30 pm
 at the home of Hélène Fiske. We will be discussing
Behold the Dreamers by Imbolo Mbue



Discussion Review of ***Educated*** By Tara Westover

From the Publisher:

Tara Westover was seventeen the first time she set foot in a classroom. Born to survivalists in the mountains of Idaho, she prepared for the end of the world by stockpiling home-canned peaches and sleeping with her "head-for-the-hills bag." In the summer she stewed herbs for her mother, a midwife and healer, and in the winter she salvaged in her father's junkyard. The family was so isolated from mainstream society that there was no one to ensure the children received an education, and no one to intervene when one of Tara's older brothers became violent. As a way out, Tara began to educate herself, learning enough mathematics and grammar to be admitted to Brigham Young University. Her quest for knowledge would transform her, taking her over oceans and across continents, to Harvard and to Cambridge. Only then would she wonder if she'd traveled too far, if there was still a way home. With the acute insight that distinguishes all great writers, Tara Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes, and the will to change it.

2018 book selections we have yet to read:

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.](#)

Discussion Review —Ruthie Fruehauf

Our book group really enjoyed this book and we were collectively impressed that Tara was able to extract herself from such an abusive and narrow life. After reading the series of harrowing episodes in her childhood we were surprised to watch a television interview in which the author was clearly minimizing her past. Denial can run very deep. This was an excellent book.

SIG: International StudyContact [Ruthie Fruehauf](#)

An evening of Persian culture, history, and food



The AAUW International Study Group met in Lushmeadows at Susan Zaker and her husband Rheza's straw bale home. Susan and Rheza were born in Iran and the evening was filled with stories of Persian culture, history, and food. Susan welcomed us with Persian tea, and she had made a wonderful red and brown rice dish which was accompanied by dishes brought by members for a very tasty meal! Rheza, who had come to the States to study engineering, talked about the situation in Iran before the Revolution of 1978-1979. He also brought us up to date on the changes that have transpired under radical Islamic rule in Iran since the Revolution. Both hosts were open to questions and we left with even more interest in this year's study of Iran!

**We Value Education** [To Page 1](#)

**AAUW Mariposa Branch
Board Meeting Minutes
Mariposa County Library
October, 2018**

Call to Order: 4:03 p.m. by Co-President Dawn Johnson

Members Present:

Dawn Johnson, Co-President
Sharon Enrico, Yard Sale Coordinator
Jody Sergienko, Publicity
Kim Monson, Election Forum Coordinator
Rebecca Swisher, Co-Secretary
Bernadette Falany-Davis, Co-Secretary
Dina Lambert, Treasurer

Board Members Absent: Sandi Gabe, Co-President, Becky Mock, Programs VP

Approval of Minutes from September: September 2018 Board Meeting Minutes were submitted via email. Rebecca Swisher moved to accept the minutes with one change to strike the sentence, "Kim will work with the local radio station to broadcast this event." Jody Sergienko seconded. Approved by all present with no nays or abstentions. Dawn Johnson and Sandi Gabe will determine what method the Board uses to approve the minutes in the future.

Finance *Dina Lambert*

Dina Lambert presented the financial report for October 2018. Dina noted that we are no longer being charged bank fees.

Dawn explained that the proposed 2018-2019 budget will be presented to the members for approval in an online survey to be sent after 10/15.

Approval of Treasurer's report

- Rebecca Swisher moved to accept this report. Jody Sergienko seconded. Approved by all present with no nays or abstentions.

Updates:

Membership *Dawn Johnson*

Dawn reported that she is working to manage the membership end of leadership.

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Current Statistics

- We have 80 members currently, had 17 non-renewals, which is a typical number (e.g., two (2) moved; two (2) financial; five (5) time constraints, and have three (3) additional individuals who have expressed interest to whom she sent information packets. This year's focus is on member engagement rather than strict numbers.

Member Meetup (Saturday 10/6/18: Topic Women's Travel Stories)

- Dawn Johnson will be hosting, and the focus will be what it's like to travel as a woman, stories about traveling as a woman, etc.

SIG Updates

Art Appreciation "Open" Event:

- AAUW Mariposa did a lot of promotion for this as a pilot for opening up special SIG meetings to all members. Attendance included 12 AAUW members and 10 from outside organizations for a total of 22. This topic is not mission specific, but we are considering that this is a way to open our minds.

Possible Closure of Cooking Group:

- Dawn Johnson reported that there had been some discussion about this SIG closing; however, there is an event planned, so its status is uncertain and will be confirmed.

Closure of Political Action Group:

- Kim Monson reported that there was not enough critical mass to proceed with this group.

Approval of Chess Group:

- Kim Monson proposed a new SIG for Chess. Dina Lambert moved to accept this proposal. Jody Sergienko seconded. Approved by all present with no nays or abstentions. Dawn explained "next steps" for Kim to launch the group.

Directory Update: Distribution at Election Forum, Member Meetup, Yard Sale

- Dawn Johnson reported that we will be distributing the directories at the upcoming election forum, member meetup, and yard sale. The board agreed to mail the remaining directories after the yard sale.

Programs:

Review of Program Schedule (Dawn Johnson for Becky Mock)

- Members should review the 2018-2019 Events Calendar.

Election Forum (Kim Monson and Dawn Johnson)

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- Kim Monson discussed the election forum topics and debate questions. There will be a Q&A for Candidates for School Board for District 3 and a debate over Measure M. Kim Monson is waiting to hear back about the cost of the room. Tables x3 and chairs will be provided. Kim requested that the microphones be available as well. There will be a different moderator for each of the two parts of the forum. There was a discussion regarding the best way to manage the audience questions.

Art Panel (Dawn Johnson)

- Dawn Johnson stated that this event will be cancelled.

Creative Aging Program (Dawn Johnson)

- Dawn Johnson explained that they are working on this 3-part series. A planning meeting is scheduled for November 14 and all are invited to participate .

Mentoring Program (Dawn Johnson)

- Information will be sent out to see about membership interest level. A meeting with Jill Harry to develop the program is scheduled for November 13.

Iron Jawed Angels (Dawn Johnson and Kim Monson)

- We will be showing this film about the Women's Suffrage movement in the spring.

Projects:

Dinner with a Scientist October 17, 2018 (Report Submitted by Marilyn Saunders and Read by Dawn Johnson)

- Marilyn Saunders reported that five (5) people volunteered to participate in this project. Two to four fewer girls applied this year, which may be related to day of the week or timing in the month. The school chaperone is still to be determined. ABC will help cover cost of meal. Tavis has covered the cost of the buses again this year.

Speech Trek (Kim Monson)

- Date changed to February 26, 2019
- Planning meeting changed to October 25, 2018
- The AAUW CA Memorandum of Understanding to conduct Speech Trek as required (attached to packet) was presented for approval: Jody Sergienko moved that the board sign this memorandum. Dina Lambert seconded. Approved by all present with no nays or abstentions. Kim Monson will be responsible for sending it to AAUW CA.

Fundraising:

Yard Sale Sharon Enrico

- Sharon Enrico reviewed plans for advertising, including day-of advertising. She also

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discussed needs for volunteers.

Publicity Update: *Jody Sergienko*

•Jody Sergienko reported that the election forum and yard sale information has been sent out to all of the organizations on our publicity list. Kim Monson has not received a call back about broadcasting the forums on our local radio station. Jody will check with the Gazette to see if they will provide coverage. Jody has been working on updating the contacts for the organizations as well as the processes/timelines for contacting these publications. When submitting a press release please submit a current photo as the publications appreciate photos.

•There was an inquiry about the policies and legalities of publishing members' photos in promotional material. Dawn will investigate and report back.

Branch Buzz Assignment:

Dina Lambert will do the Branch Buzz for October 2018 and send it to the Leadership and SIG e-mail addresses.

New Business:

Kim Monson inquired about AAUW sponsoring a scholarship for high school girls who are pursuing careers in STEM. Discussion followed but no action was decided.

Upcoming Events:

- October 4: Election Forum – BOS Chamber, 6:30 p.m.
- October 6: Member Meetup – Pony Expresso, 9 a.m.
- October 13-14: Yard Sale
- October 17: DWS – UCM
- October 25: Speech Trek Planning Meeting – Pony Expresso, 2 p.m.
- November 5: Board Meeting – Library, 4 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned @ 5:32pm





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Board Officers: 2018-2019

Co-Presidents	<u>Sandi Gabe & Dawn Johnson</u>
VP Membership	<u>Dawn Johnson</u>
VP Programs	<u>Becky Mock</u>
Recording Secretary	<u>Bernadette Falany- Davis & Rebecca Swisher</u>
Finance Officer	<u>Dina Lambert</u>
Director at Large	<u>Jody Sergienko</u>

Project Chairs/Coordinators

Advertising	<u>Sharon Enrico</u>
Back Pack Project	<u>Cathy Owens & Karen Rust</u>
Dinner With a Scientist	<u>Marilyn Saunders</u>
Fundraising	<u>Sandi Gabe</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>

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

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