

Sierra Outpost

Program:

—Becky Mock

Creative Aging Part I: Be Prepared

Please join us at 5 pm on April 16 at Miner's Roadhouse 140 for **Creative Aging Part I: Be Prepared** program. We have seven community members who have volunteered to be our panel of experts with subjects ranging from financial and estate planning to how to avoid cyber scams and identity theft and what to do when Grandma becomes too for-

April 16
5:00 pm
Miner's Roadhouse 140

Each expert will give a short presentation. Our presenters include Anita Bryant, Attorney-at-Law who will speak about wills

...avoid cyber scams... what to do when Grandma becomes too forgetful to take care of herself...

getful to take care of herself.

The information presented will be useful in many situations, whether you are currently retired, planning for retirement in the near or distant future, or have elderly relatives for whom you might have to make hard choices at some point. You will learn how you can effectively navigate through the decisions you face.

and trust; Sandi Gabe, Co-President, Mariposa Branch AAUW who will speak about compiling practical information to be used if you are incapacitated; Cindy Harp, Life-Only and Accident and Health Agent will speak about insurance; Morris Jones, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Manager will discuss emergency preparedness; Jennifer Lobaugh, Deputy Sheriff

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Aging: what to expect and being prepared

will speak about elder scams and safety, cyber security, and identity theft; Martha Jo Patterson Attorney-at-Law will speak about secrets to getting help paying for nursing home care; and Shawna Petrushkin, Certified Financial Planner will speak on financial planning. The presentations will be followed by a Question and Answer period.

We hope that you will attend this program and bring your friends and family. We very much appreciate our volunteer presenters for taking time to prepare and speak at our event. We hope for an enthusiastic and engaged audience to let our presenters know that we appreciate and value those efforts.

Co-Presidents' Corner

What a difference a month makes!

Just a few short weeks ago, Sandy Sandi and Desert Dawn were putting on jewels and kaftans to trek to the exotic casbahs of Morocco. Now, we're just doing laundry and pulling weeds like everybody else. But our three wishes for Moroccan Nights were granted: the AAUW purse is again filled with gold; nearly every member helped or came; no camels were harmed during the making of the event.

Time to move on to new adventures and keep the Moroccan Nights energy going.

This spring is packed with activities that should appeal to every segment of our membership. Just take a look at the calendar! Whether you are interested in films or fairs or float building, you can find a way to stay in-

involved. And don't let the spring planting season take you away from your SIG meetings either. Plant a different kind of seed by joining fellow members to keep AAUW vital in our community and your own life.

We hope to see you as much next month as we did last month. Just maybe not in a belly dancing costume.



Dawn
&
Sandi

We Value Education

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Events Calendar

Mark your calendars



April 1	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
April 2	SIG Reading: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
April 6	State Annual Meeting and Speech Trek Finals: San Diego
April 13	SIG Hiking: Hensley Lake
April 16	Program: "Creative Aging, Part I: Be Prepared" (panel), 5:00pm, Miner's Roadhouse 140
April 25	Program: "50/50" (film) , Time/Location TBD
May 4	Butterfly Days Parade: Details TBD
May 6	Board Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa Library
May 7	SIG Reading: 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
May 11	SIG Hiking: Trail to Wawona Grove
May 18	Program: "Creative Aging, Part II: Be Positive" (interactive booths), 10:00am, Board of Supervisors' Chambers
June 2	Branch Annual Meeting: Time/Location TBD
June 9-15	Tech Trek Camp: Fresno State University

Let's "float" AAUW in the Butterfly Festival Parade!

Feeling creative? Kim Monson certainly is! She thinks it is about time to have AAUW represented in the Butterfly Festival parade on Saturday May 4th. Interested? We have a flatbed trailer and LOTS of cool props from Moroccan Nights. All we need is some energy to pull a few things together.



What a chance to wave like the queen, hand out candy, and publicize our community projects! To get in on the ground floor of the planning, contact Kim at kimellen13@gmail.com.

Membership

[Dawn Johnson](#)

Shout Outs!



- ◆ A+++ to **Cathy Owens, Karen Rust, and Rebecca Swisher** for ramping up with early plans for another successful Backpack Program.



- ◆ Gold stars to **Rebecca Swisher** for stepping up to coordinate the distribution of backpacks at the JCF Back to School health fairs.
- ◆ The Marie Kondo award to **Sandi Gabe** for finally clearing out all the Moroccan Nights stuff from her garage so they could park a car in it for the first time in five months.



- ◆ Girl Scout Explorer's Badges to **Jody Sergienko** and **Sharon Enrico** for volunteering to beat the bushes for candidates to join our Board next year.
- ◆ 100 out of 100 points to **Dawn Pedersen, Peggy Shainberg, Becky Mock, Lizz Darcy** and **Carol Hart** for volunteering to score the Tech Trek applications and essays to help us select the best candidates.
- ◆ Oscars to **Kim Monson** and **Sandi Gabe** for organizing the screening of "Iron Jawed Angels" for Women's History Month. The popcorn alone was worth leaving the house for.



Our ranks are growing!

Please welcome our newest members and add their names to your directories.



Heather Bromberg

Email: hbromberg09@gmail.com

Heather popped up lately at a couple of AAUW events and decided to join! She is a graduate of the

University of Vermont and works with the Mariposa County Health Department. She is also involved with the Upper Merced Watershed Council.



Jacqui Dozier

Email: jacquiblu5@yahoo.com

This lady needs no introduction. We've seen her bright smile at AAUW events for many years

and are happy to see that she is rejoining us!

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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Programs

Save the Date—

April 26

50/50 (film)

What? Is this a film about a Creamsicle ice cream bar???

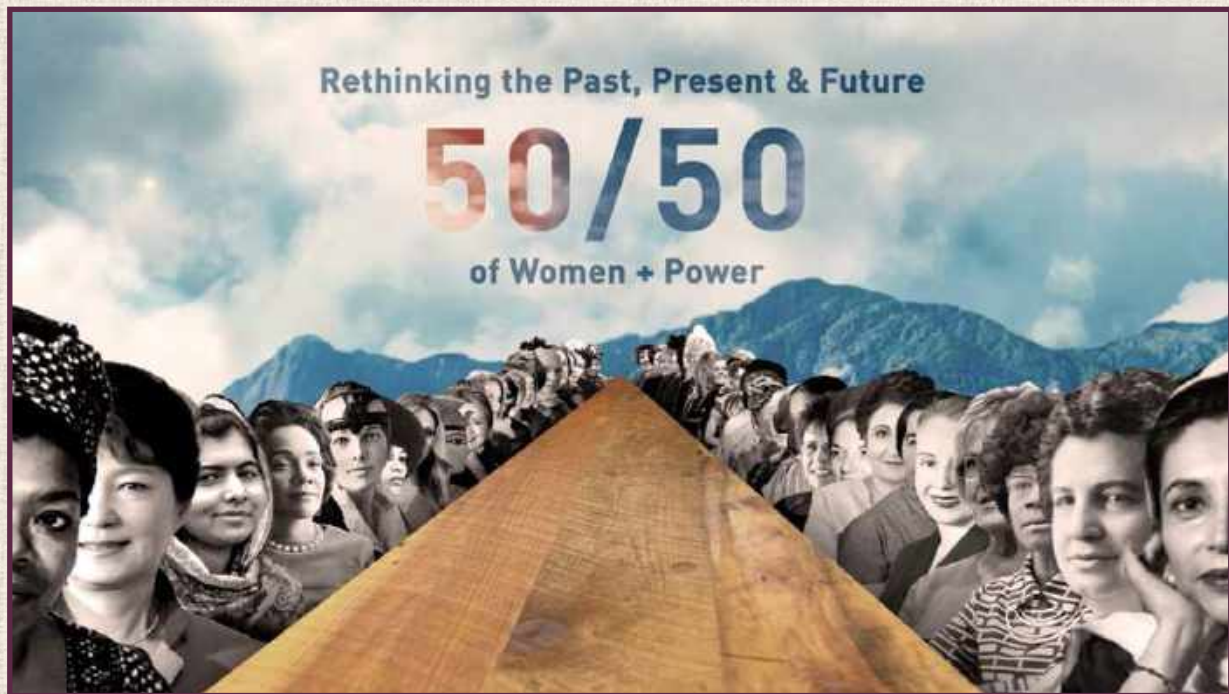
Not quite, but that does sound delicious.

The 50/50 film is an outgrowth of the 50/50 Day project to promote equal representation of both women and men in the key areas of our lives: economy, politics, identity, culture and home.

The film is a fast-moving, compelling 20-minute look at the past, present and future of women and power.

There will be plenty of opportunities to stop and discuss some of the eye-opening issues this film raises.

Time and location are still in the works. Watch your email for exact details. Meanwhile, put it on your calendar.



We Sponsor Community Forums

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Looking for speakers

**Creative Aging Part II's theme is
"Be Positive"**

We have great plans for a "choose your own adventure" event featuring lots of booths for members to explore different ways to make "elderhood" creative and rewarding—anything from brain exercises to volunteer opportunities to storytelling.

Would YOU or someone you know like to host a 15-min session on a fun, interactive creative aging topic?

Contact Becky Mock at starmock@sbcglobal.net



We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

What Can I Do This Month?



Want to get involved?

Here are some easy ways:

- ◆ **Take action on Equal Pay Day April 2.** This date symbolizes how many days into the year women must work to earn what men made in the previous year. If you have...
 - ◇ **One minute:** Register for [Work Smart Online](#) to learn salary negotiation skills
 - ◇ **Two minutes:** Become a [two-minute activist](#) to encourage Congress to pass the [Paycheck Fairness Act](#).
 - ◇ **Five minutes:** Send an email to five women you know who could use a raise to tell them about [Work Smart Online](#).
 - ◇ **One hour or less:** [Write a letter to the editor](#) or op-ed about the gender pay gap for your local paper.
- ◆ **Come to the program on Creative Aging Part I** on April 16 and see if you're prepared!
- ◆ Speaking of creative, contact Kim Monson to **help plan a FLOAT** (yes, a FLOAT) for the Butterfly Days parade. kimellen13@gmail.com
- ◆ Share your secrets to staying positive and connected! **Sign up to host a BRIEF session** at our Creative Aging Part 2 program. See article on [page 6](#).
- ◆ **Find out what "50/50" means.** Come see the film. See article [page 5](#).

Just in case you want to repeat one of the yummy snacks from our Moroccan fare:

Sugared Pecans (or almonds)

1 lb pecan halves	1 egg white
1 Tbsp. water	1 cup sugar
1 tsp. salt	1 tsp cinnamon

Preheat oven to 300 degrees. Beat egg white with water into a froth. In a large, zip-closure plastic bag, combine sugar, salt, and cinnamon. Dip pecans in egg white. Place coated pecans in the bag containing sugar mixture and shake, coating them well. Place on a well-greased baking sheet. Bake for 40 minutes, or until egg white is dry. Stir every 10 minutes. Cool on waxed paper.

Fundraising

Moroccan Nights!

The genie is out of the bottle... and is traveling around Mariposa having the time of his/her life at an auction item near you!

After months of preparation that included painting, sewing, assembling, cardboard management, sanding and wood ripping, Morocco was built in less than a day and destroyed in an exciting 30 minutes. When the candles were lit, all of the arches were aligned and the lights turned down, there was an audible gasp at the effect. My favorite mental picture of the night was when Lorna Pollock (who donated some beautiful artwork) came into the room and looked around and said "Wow", not once but three times. I knew then that our transformation was complete.

Was it worth all the effort? In a word, YES.

Thanks to the generosity of our members (over 78% participated!) and supporters, nearly \$8,000 will go into our coffers to provide backpacks, tech trek trips and dinners with scientists.

The exhilaration will live on as our auction items are redeemed over the next few months. If



you're holding a auction item event, please send a short note and picture to [Jill Rowney](#) so it can be placed in the newsletter to entice future donations and bidding wars. These events are a wonderful way to share AAUW with our community. Do not be shy about asking your guests to join AAUW if they are not members. They already care enough to attend our events and donate. Encourage them to get involved by joining the group.

It is always tricky to shout out to the stars of the event as it is so easy to miss someone who played a key role. If I have missed you or someone on your team, please know it was not intentional but more due to short nights, long days and the fact that nearly everyone played a role.

Kathy Sutherland – despite being home in bed nursing what must be the worst cold of the year, her team managed to help us

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easily add five pounds to our waistline. It's a good thing that we were all in those shapeless caftans! What you probably don't know is that the group not only came up with the



tasty morsels, they also tried them all ahead of time and adjusted recipes so that they would all be perfect. Joining Kathy was Karen Rust, Joan Lee, Rosemarie Smallcombe, Saralynn Nusbaum, Rosemary Caballero, Helene Fiske, Joan McCamman, Kim Monson, Bonnie Little, Renea Kennec, Judy Eppler, Marilyn Saunders, Mary Anne Dvorak, Karen Smith, Jody Sergeinko, Carol Sill, Beth Tomsick and Becky Mock. Rosemary was Kathy's co-chair and pulled off the evening without a hitch. You could hear folks talk about specific items they were waiting for! I myself wished I got a few more of those bacon wrapped dates!

Sharon Enrico – Making a special appearance this year all the way from Seattle,

Sharon flew in just for the event and to help with last minute preparations. She and Micki Finney managed the check in and check out process and with the help of Dina Lambert and Saralynn Nusbaum. Cathy Owens and Sharon also helped me put together the scenes that we hope helped to make an emotional connection with our guests while considering which auction items to bid on and help them part with their money. Gary and Reva again greeted all of our guests at the door and made them feel welcome. Karen Rust made sure that no one bid *after* the tables closed.



Jill Rowney – When we first came up with the idea for the arches Jill was adamant that they had to be 3D. To say I was skeptical that we could pull it off would be an understatement. After a couple of consultations



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We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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and practices we came up with a workable design. Jill then ripped 2x4s to create all of the supports that outlined the back of the arches (you couldn't see them) so that they didn't curl up. She also made all of the curtain rods which Joan Lee sanded so that the curtains wouldn't stick! And....it worked!

The painting team – We had several painting sessions where the arches and signs picked up their color. Karen Smith, Renea Kennec, Dawn Pederson, Joan Lee, Sharon Enrico, Rosemary Caballero, Kathy Sutherland, Dawn Johnson, Peggy Shainberg and Kim Monson were on hand to create the magic. Anita Bryant, Becky Mock and Karen Smith painted the wall scenes that included palm trees, camels, and mosques.

Dawn Johnson – It goes without saying that we have the most talented creative writer in Mariposa among our ranks. Who else could write auction descriptions for things she never saw and cleverly engage the audience



in what we thought would be an impossible task of getting their attention to watch the belly dancer? She also met with the Gazette and wrote engaging articles. I could not have done this event without my partner in crime! You have no idea how many late nights we spent emailing back and forth on details, bolstering each other when we were tired and feeling like there wasn't enough time in the day to do everything and helping each other juggle all of the other AAUW items (local and at the California level) and our own personal lives.

Marilyn Saunders – The high school students were gathered by Marilyn through her connections with the Dinner with a Scientist program, Interract Club and relationship with Trish Gilger. They were adorable passing appetizers and dancing with our belly dancer, Berenis.

Cindy Berry – I have to make mention of the countless hours of work and inspiration that my Bay Area friend provided. We scoured the Bay Area looking for vases,

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votive candle holders, fabric and all things Moroccan. She spent several weekends in Mariposa helping me cut out all those table cloths and curtains and working on scenes and the displays for the Bazaar. While Cindy is a member of the Alameda branch you have done more to welcome her (and my other friend, Kathi) into our community than her home branch has done. For that I am immensely thankful.



To Sandi: ...If I were granted three wishes, one of them would be to have your vision; one would be to work again with this incredible group of people; one would best be kept a secret... —Dawn J

Jetty Uebner and Margaret Brandenburg – Tasty warm nuts and candy filled the coasters, mandalas and cozies that were in our very own booth that looked so inviting. I cannot imagine how Margaret did her part while in the middle of selling her house and moving! Jetty's eye for style made the booth a frequent stop in the bazaar.

Auction Items – Our unique offering of experience auction items are the talk of the desert. They were generously donated by: Carolyn Baker, Cindy Berry, Margaret Brandenburg, Anita Bryant, Rosemary Caballero, Kris Casto, Kathy Chappell, Gary Colliver, Reva Colliver, Lizz Darcy, Kathy

Delaney, Ruth Fruehauf, Sandi Gabe, Cindy Harp, Angela Heiss, Dawna Hunter, Dawn Johnson, Elaine Keeley, Renea Kennec, Yue Lei, Bonnie Little, Rebecca Mock, Kim Monson, Saralynn Nusbaum, Penny Otwell, Dawn Pedersen, Karen Rust, Jody Sergienko, Peggy Shainberg, Karen Smith, Kathryn Sutherland, Jetty Uebner, Phyllis Weber, and the Yosemite Conservancy.

The **"Guys"** – Not only do our members jump in with both feet, they also bring along their spouses. Our success in setting up the room on Friday was in large part due to the assistance of Howard Shainberg, Max Lee, Mike Little, Jay Johnson and my own Jeff who

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We Sponsor Community Forums



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stepped in and used their amazing problem solving skills to knit the room together so that it stayed in place throughout the event. Jay even went home to get more wood to secure the tops of the arches so that they were in a straight line. Several months ago I jokingly asked Glen Sutherland if he could create a magic carpet. He came through and everyone commented on how that little piece of magic set the stage when they walked in. Glenn and Jeff were also our



bartenders extraordinaire, keeping our guests in spirits throughout the night. I know it is an overused phrase but it is so true in this case. It does take a village to transform the white box of the fairgrounds into an enchanting place. I am proud to be a part of this village of Mariposa.

Auction Items and Donors

Auction #	Donor	Description	Winning Bidder
1	Carolyn Baker	Backyard Pentathlon Games	Chevron Kothari
2	Margaret Brandenburg	4 Passes to Fresno Art Museum	Eric Sergienko
3	Anita Bryant	Beekeeping Experience for 2	Rebecca Swisher
4	Kris Casto	4 Swimming Lessons	Naoko Kada

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Fundraising

Auction	Donor	Description	Winning Bidder
5	Kathy Chappell	Historical Tour-Yosemite Area	Nickel Gross
6	Gary Colliver	Stories and Climbing film of El Capitan	Rick Uebner
7	Reva Colliver	Original Watercolor: Moroccan City	Dina Lambert
8	Reva Colliver	Original Watercolor: Bayou Town	Sandi Gabe
9	Lizz Darcy	1 hour Nutritional Counseling	Jody Sergienko
10	Kathy Delaney	Workshop: Photo transfer to wood	John Tomsick
11	Ruth Fruehauf	Consultation on Book Publishing	Christine Obers
12	Sandi Gabe	Gourdy Gals Companions-craft class for 4	Art Bagget
13	Cindy Harp	Portofino Dinner for 6	Jill Harry
14	Angela Heiss	Vintage Fire Engine-child's toy	Mike Little
15	Dawna Hunter	Costco Shopping Trip	Art Bagget
16	Dawna Hunter	Beginner's Belly Dancing Class	Susan T
17	Dawn Johnson	Backyard Zipline Adventure	Naoko Kada
18	Elaine Keeley	Make a succulent wreath or bouquet	Janet Chase-Williams
19	Renea Kennec	Gourmet dinner for 4	R. Smallcombe
20	Yue Lei	Hand-knitted shawl	Dawna Hunter
21	Bonnie Little	6 bottles of red wine	Eric Sergienko
22	Bonnie Little	6 bottles white wine	Dennis Baker
23	Rebecca Mock	1 week-wine country resort in Windsor	Nancy Martin
24	Kim Monson	3 nights-Mariposa vacation rental & BBQ dinner	Harp
25	Kim Monson	Amber/amethyst necklace	Harp
26	Kim Monson	Handmade fossil necklace	Lydia Mayberry
27	Saralynn Nusbaum	Woodfired pizza dinner for 4	Kris Casto
28	Dawn Pedersen	Giants fan basket & 2 game tickets	Caballero

March Program featured Golden Globe winning film:

Iron Jawed Angels



There were over a dozen AAUW Mariposa members who gathered in the MCHS Auditorium to see Iron Jawed Angels on March 8th in celebration of Women's History Month. The movie portrayed the efforts of Alice Paul, Lucy Burns and dozens of other women to win women the right to vote. They endured violence during their peaceful and legal demonstrations, slander, jailing and, in Alice Paul's case, forced feeding. Eventually their treatment in prison became public and the outraged citizenry became more sympathetic to the suffrage cause. In 1919 Congress passed the 19th Amendment to the Constitution and it was ratified the following year. It's been almost 100 years now. Isn't it past time for the US to pass the ERA? Happy Women's History month everyone!

Defiant young activists take the women's suffrage movement by storm, putting their lives at risk to help American women win the right to vote.



We Value Education



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Project: Tech Trek

Trish Darcy, Barbara Silva



Tech trek applications have been turned in and scored. Thank you to Carol Hart, Peggy Shainberg, Dawn Pedersen, Lizz Darcy, and Becky Mock for taking their time to read and score these applications and essays. Eight

young girls will be interviewed on April 6th by our team and scored on several aspects of their interview. Thanks also to the interview team which consists of Dawna Hunter, Sara Robison, and Judy Eppler. After the interviews, the committee will put together all the scores to determine the top five applicants and an alternate. We have some very qualified girls who have applied this year and are excited to be sending a fabulous group to Fresno State this June. This could not all have been possible without the help of our members stepping up to help! Way to go, ladies!

Project: Speech Trek

Kim Monson

Making a positive impact

We received the following thank you note from Coury Jones, one of the Speech Trek participants.

A photograph of a handwritten note on white paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: 'Dear Mariposa AAUW Branch, I wanted to thank you all for the wonderful experience I gained by participating in the Speech Trek competition. I appreciate all the opportunities you have provided for me and all the other young women in our community. Sincerely, Coury Jones'. There are some small blue ink marks at the bottom right of the note.

Dear Mariposa AAUW Branch,
I wanted to thank you all for the wonderful
experience I gained by participating in the
Speech Trek competition. I appreciate
all the opportunities you have provided
for me and all the other young women
in our community.
Sincerely,
Coury Jones

AAUW– Local

Bragging rights!

Let's show some AAUW pride!

The Mariposa Gazette is once again sponsoring the Readers' Choice awards for the Best of the Best in Mariposa County.

If you think AAUW should be the Best Service/Civic Club for 2019, take a minute to cast your vote [here](#).

The deadline is May 6. No pressure though.



AAUW Takes a Stand

It's not over until the fat lady sings.

Remember the Aileen Rizo pay equity case in Fresno? It took a strange twist.

Several of us have been fortunate enough to hear Ms. Rizo speak about her court case against the Fresno County Office of Education. She sued the district for discrimination because she was paid less than men with lower qualifications based on past salary histories. Ms. Rizo's case went to the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals, where the Justices agreed to uphold her claim by a 6-5 vote that prior salary history cannot be used to establish pay. Unfortunately, one of the justices in the majority died before the decision was made final. The court issued

—Dawn Johnson

the decision anyway. However on February 26th it was reversed by the U.S. Supreme Court on the basis that there was no majority at the time the ruling was made final. A new justice has been appointed to replace the deceased member and the case has been returned to the 9th Circuit for reconsideration.

Her fight goes on. AAUW has supported her cause since 2015 and will continue to do so.

Beyond the Branch

Equal Pay Day is April 2

Why should we care about equal pay if we are retired?



A woman in the United States makes 80 cents per dollar made by a man of similar qualifications. The pay gap is worse for women of color. In an era when women make up nearly 50% of the workforce, this pay gap burdens individual family finances and the economy. A recent study estimated the impact on society if the pay gap was corrected.

How would closing the pay gap be expected to impact families?

- 60% of working women and 66% single working mothers would see an increase in their pay

- Poverty rates for working women would drop by half from 8% to 3.8%
- Poverty rates for single working mothers would drop from 28.9% to 14.5%

How would the US economy benefit?

Closing the pay gap would increase gross domestic product an estimated \$500 million, roughly 2.6% of the GDP of our entire nation. The increase in women's earnings would be roughly 16 times what federal and state governments spent in 2015 for temporary assistance to needy families

The pay gap adversely impacts American families. Closing it would raise many out of poverty and reduce the need for public assistance. The question to ask our elected officials is not whether we as a society can afford to pay men and women the same income for the same work. The question is, how can we afford not to?

Archana Maniar, AAUW California Public Policy Committee Source: The Impact of Equal Pay on Poverty and the Economy 2017, Institute of Women's Policy Research

***Yale Climate Connections* publishes a list of books and reports on gender and climate change**

—Gary Colliver

...The challenges posed by climate change cannot be met without also addressing gender issues. Because their lives are more vulnerable even under stable conditions, women face greater risks when climate-related impacts – droughts, floods, hurricanes – disrupt their communities. Conversely, giving women more power over their


lives typically results in more resilient communities. For these reasons, *Yale Climate Connections* has chosen to observe Women's History Month by publishing a list of books and reports on gender and climate change... Click [here](#) to see the entire article.

Women's History Month Proclamation presented to AAUW at the Board of Supervisors' meeting March 12, 2019. Those who don't have fading memories may notice that the theme is the same as last year, due to a staff clerical error. We think the message still rings true though and thank the Board of Supervisors for the honor.



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>

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

SIG: Great DecisionsContact [Sandi Gabe](#)

Russia's Foreign Policy will be the topic of our next discussion on April 5th.

SIG: International StudyContact [Beth Tomsick](#)

Group discusses Iranian history and events contributing to the Iran of today



International Studies met on March 13 at Peggy Shainberg's house. The group discussed current events concerning Iran. Margaret Erhart shared insights from the years she lived in Iran in the 70s, and Tiina Wilson talked about Iranian history leading to the '79 Revolution which deposed the Shah and about

Iran today. International Studies will not meet again until Wednesday, May 8, when Saralynn Nusbaum will prepare an Iranian dinner for us and will talk about Iranian food in general. We are looking forward to that evening! Bon appétit!

SIG: WineContact [Kathy Sutherland](#)

Corks and Forks gathered at the home of Jody and Erik Sergienko to taste the Malbecs from Argentina and one Merlot. We played which one is not like the other. It was a small group but everyone enjoyed a good time.

—Jody Sergienko

**SIG: Play Reading**Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)

April 3rd will find the thespians at the home of Dawn Johnson. Another good read is in the works!

We Open Eyes

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Interest Groups - Hiking

Contact [Trish Darcy](#)



—Becky Mock

On Saturday, March 9, eight of us took advantage of the break in the weather to get in a beautiful hike.

We visited Ahwanee Hills Regional Park in Ahwahnee-so close to home. We started the morning with beautiful blue skies and took



the 2.7 mile loop trail of the park. We saw a turtle in the lake, a bluebird, and a large bird's nest high in an oak tree. The path meandered through the oak woodland for the first part



and then headed up a hill for a great view of the lake before we headed back down and walked alongside of the lake. The last part of the trail went along a meadow and then wound around back to the parking lot. The



day ended with complete cloud cover, but no rain!

Future hikes:

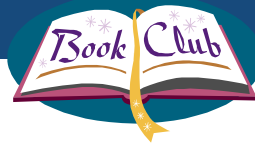
April 13th Sandi to Hensley Lake

May 11th Trail to Wawona Grove (road conditions permitting!)

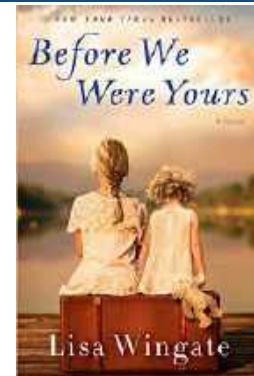
We Value Education

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SIG - Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

Our next meeting will be
Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 4:30 pm
 at the home of Hélène Fiske where we will discuss
Before We Were Yours
 by Lisa Wingate.



Discussion Review by
 Becky Mock

The Book SIG met on March 5 at Helene Fisk's home. We had a wonderful discussion of Michelle Obama's autobiography, *Becoming*. I think most of us in the discussion group would love to know Michelle Obama personally. *Becoming* chronicles her life from early childhood through the end of her tenure as First Lady of the United States. She introduces us to her family in the south side of Chicago where she lived until she went to Princeton as an undergraduate and on to Harvard Law School. Then she returned to live in the same south Chicago house with her parents as she embarked on her adult life. We learn about all the people in Michelle's life that have mentored or otherwise helped her be successful, starting with loving parents, grandparents and other family members through staff members in the White House. We learned how important Michelle feels



these relationships are, and how very much Michelle appreciates these relationships. She attributes her ability to succeed to those relationships. We learn about her tenacity and commitment to succeed, her dedication to making a difference, her love of her husband and children, and her disdain for politics. We see how the importance of family, education, friendship, responsibility, and service have guided Michelle even when detractors would paint her with less admirable qualities. The book touches on the plight of the African American, but race relations is not a central theme of the book. It is about how anyone who works hard and diligently can create a successful life and make a positive difference to society.

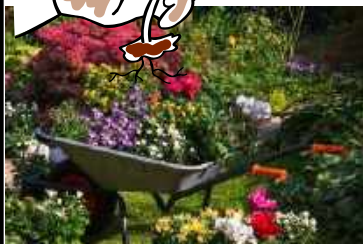


SIG: Garden

Contact [Micki Finney](#)

Garden Group visits the Fresno Home and Garden Show

—Karen Smith



Beth Waldo, Kris Casto and I braved the elements and ventured down the hill to the Fresno Home and Garden Show on March 3rd. Luckily the rain stopped and we were able to explore every aspect of the show from fish tacos to rosemary toffee to spas then on to massive landscape and home improvement ideas.

We started out small. Kris wanted to check out succulents and synthetic grass, Beth was interested in spas and I wanted to see the Tiny House Village.

After trying out all the spas (good thing we brought our suits), we moved on to fake grass and learned which length of grass dogs most like to poop on! Armed with that knowledge, we made ourselves at home in the tiny houses. Great fun was had when we challenged others to a contest to see who could cram the most people in one house. Those suckers are tiny! That was exhausting, but we made lots of new close friends!

We needed a break and a nap so headed to the Mattress Firm display booth. We totally enjoyed working the controls of the beds, you

know the ones that go up and down, have cup holders for your wine glass and will catapult your spouse out of bed when they snore. Next time you are in Fresno, stop by their showroom, but don't tell them who sent you.

We noticed security guards moving in so we moved on. But not far, right around the corner was a booth with fabulous kitchen knives. We listened quietly to how balanced, well-made and incredibly sharp they are. The rep was really nice and didn't call security when we inquired how accurately the knives flew when thrown. We didn't get to try that out, so moved on.

We decided we each needed to win at least \$100,000 in the lottery to fulfill our separate dreams. Of course there is that thing of having to buy a ticket to ever win.

It was fun, more home improvement than gardening exhibits, but still a fun afternoon. I'm busy trying to figure out how to make my husband think we need an outdoor swim spa and have it be his idea. For a mere \$20,000 I think we can make it work. Any ideas?

**AAUW Mariposa Branch
Board Meeting Minutes
Mariposa County Library
March 4, 2019**

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. by Co-President Dawn Johnson.

In Attendance:

Dawn Johnson, Co-President
Jody Sergienko, Publicity
Rebecca Swisher, Co-Secretary
Bernadette Falany-Davis, Co-Secretary
Becky Mock, Programs
Dina Lambert, Treasurer
Trish Darcy, Tech Trek (Non-Voting Role)

Minutes: Rebecca/Bernadette

Minutes of February 4, 2019 meeting approved online

Updates:**Membership:** Dawn Johnson

- [Shape the Future memberships at recent events](#)
- Membership growth is well done through public events. Reminder that we can offer discounts on national dues when folks sign up for membership at our public events. Three new members have signed up at our two most recent events (one person signed up at Speech Trek and two signed up at Moroccan Nights).

Programs: Becky Mock

- Plans for "Iron Jawed Angels" film:
This film will be shown Friday, March 8, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in the auditorium at the high school. Snacks will be provided. We did not provide public publicity on this due to the challenges with location that we were experiencing. We will be doing AAUW Mariposa internal advertising. The showing of the film was also opened to students at the high school. No follow-up activity will be presented at this event due to the length of the film.
- **Creative Aging, Part I:** status of planning
This event will be held April 16, 2019 at Miner's Roadhouse. The planning for this event is done. Becky has ensured that the location and presenters are lined up. Guidelines have been distributed to all the presenters. The press release has been submitted to the Publicity Chair.
- **Creative Aging Part II:** need for ideas and participants
Brainstorming for ideas for the set-up for this event is in progress.

(Continued on page 25)

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“50/50” film: information on film and preliminary plans

Planning for this event is a work in progress.

Projects

- **Speech Trek Update:** Kim Monson

Results and feedback

In Kim’s absence, Dawn presented a brief report on this event. Speech Trek was held last Tuesday with three presenters. All three were excellent. They each took a different approach to the topic. The winner’s video has been submitted to AAUW California for competition for the state award.

- **Tech Trek Update:** Trish Darcy

- ◊ Change of Fresno camp dates

- ◊ Update on camper selection process

- ◊ Trish reported that Fresno State had not confirmed the dates when AAUW California sent out the original information. We had to start the project process before the dates were confirmed with Fresno State. The dates for Tech Trek are now the last week of school. The coordinators discussed this situation and came up with a game plan. Trish approached the school district to see if they would support independent study for this event, and this idea was well received. The students and their parents are also on board with this plan thus far. The applications are due this Friday, and then volunteers will score the applications. A meeting of the scorers has been scheduled to review the process. We are anticipating 14 applications this year. The details of the final interviews and a Meet and Greet for the campers have been confirmed.

Fundraisers

Moroccan Nights

Preliminary report of results: Dawn Johnson

Folks have been raving about what a great event this was. Dawn and Dina reported that the preliminary income is approximately \$6,000. An in-depth report will be presented next month after all the data has been collected, and Sandi has had time to recuperate.

Publicity

- Publicity coverage for Creative Aging Part I, Tech Trek students: Jody Sergienko
- The press release has been submitted to the Publicity Chair for **Creative Aging Part I**. Jody will send the information out per the publicity schedule.
- Dawn stated that we have previously submitted publicity on those students selected for Tech Trek. Trish and Jody will ensure that there is a photo op and a blurb for this program. Trish will ensure that a consent was signed for each of the girls for this type of publicity.
- The publicity needs for the “50/50” film will be determined when further planning is done and Jody will be advised.

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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

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Finance Report: Dina Lambert

- Approve February Treasurer's Report (distributed at meeting)
- Income \$0.97 (to test Square to ensure this program worked)
- Expenses: \$6,531.59
- Includes \$1,030.76 for leadership development (plane tickets, hotel rooms, Dina's registration for state convention; Rebecca and Jody will submit for their registration reimbursement)
- Checking Ending Balance: \$7,621.26
- Dina transferred funds from the General Fund to the specific programs that the monies support.
- Becky Mock moved to approve February's treasurer report as presented. Jody Sergienko seconded. All in favor, with no nays or abstentions.

Old Business: Dawn Johnson

- Discussion of possible budget surplus: (To be postponed to April meeting)
- Co-Officers' voting rights: (To be postponed to April meeting)
- Nominating Committee
- We will need to recruit board members and have a finalized list to present to the membership at least 30 days before our June membership meeting.
- Jody Sergienko volunteered to serve on the Nominating Committee.
- Butterfly Festival Float- Kim Monson is coordinating an AAUW Mariposa float for the Butterfly Festival parade. She is looking for volunteers!
- Update on attendance at state Annual Meeting in San Diego
- Dina Lambert, Rebecca Swisher, Jody Sergienko, and Dawn Johnson, will be in attendance. They will bring back information to the rest of the membership.

New Business

- Discussion and action on partnering with JCF for backpack distribution: Dawn Johnson
- Dawn provided background on last year's event, including notes from Cathy on the pros and cons of participating in the Back2School Fair event. We donated 38 backpacks to the Back2School program, and an additional 24 were given to the schools (total of 62 backpacks). We have been asked by JCF to participate again this year in the Back2School event. Rebecca provided feedback on last month's Back2School coordinators' meeting as well as last year's event from an attendee perspective. Dawn stated that Cathy is willing to coordinate the school part of this year's Backpack Project. Rebecca Swisher stated that she is willing to coordinate the Back2School part of the Backpack Project.

Dates:

Northside Clinic or Coulterville: Saturday, July 27th: 10:00am-3:00pm

Mariposa (Front Lawn): Saturday, August 4th : 10:00am-3:00pm

Dina moved that AAUW Mariposa partner again with JCFHD at the Back2School Fair, do-

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nating 50 backpacks and supplies, and also donate a minimum of 25 backpacks with supplies directly to the schools. Becky Mock seconded. All in favor with no nays or abstentions.

- Mariposa Homeless Food Program: Kim Monson
To be postponed to April meeting

Branch Buzz Assignment: Dawn Johnson

March 2019: Trish Darcy

Upcoming Dates – March and April

March 8 – Program: “Iron Jawed Angels” film – High School auditorium, 5:00 p.m.

March 12 – Women’s History Month Proclamation – BOS Room, 9:00 a.m.

April 1 – Board Meeting, Library, 4:00 p.m.

April 6 – AAUW State Annual Meeting and Speech Trek Finals, San Diego

April 16 – Program: Creative Aging Part I – Miner’s Roadhouse, 5:00 p.m.

April 25 – Program: “50/50” film - details TBD

Adjourned:

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 p.m. by Co-President Dawn Johnson.



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AAUW- Mariposa
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Board Officers: 2018-2019

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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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