

## Sierra Outpost

### A Well-Tended Garden

Our year started with a "Thought Shower" on August 11<sup>th</sup> when AAUW Members were asked to challenge the way we've always done things and brainstorm about their passions for the upcoming year. We considered:

- What activities/programs/projects should we keep
- What should we stop doing
- What should we continue to do with modifications

Six priorities developed from the feedback and our thought shower began to bloom into a beautiful garden that delivered spectacular programs, events and well-received projects. Member gardeners gathered on Sunday at the Gabe home to celebrate our 2018-2019 successes, say goodbye to the outgoing board (really just Sandi and Dawn) and welcome the new 2019-2020 leadership team.

As part of the festivities, members embellished a garden representation of our projects,



programs and interest groups. They were provided with leaves to add to flowers representing activities that they attended or helped create. Since so many members participated in multiple areas we quickly ran out of leaves. Bumble bees and ladybugs represented members' favorite activities and butterflies flitted around the next favorite events. A couple of raindrops were also added to represent interest in activities for next year (film festival anyone?) that might grow into a new flower.

Our ranks also grew with two former members rejoining (Sue Overstreet and Anne Dolchanczyk) and two new members joining (Belinda Gilbert and Karen Silver).

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<a href="#"><u>Advertisers</u></a>	21
<a href="#"><u>Annual Meeting</u></a>	1
<a href="#"><u>Backpack Project</u></a>	10
<a href="#"><u>Board Minutes</u></a>	18
<a href="#"><u>Contact Info</u></a>	21
<a href="#"><u>Events Calendar</u></a>	3
<a href="#"><u>Gift for Graduate</u></a>	5
<a href="#"><u>Membership Renewal</u></a>	5
<a href="#"><u>New Members– Welcome</u></a>	4
<a href="#"><u>Presidents' Message</u></a>	2
<a href="#"><u>Program– Creative Aging II</u></a>	7
<a href="#"><u>Shout Outs</u></a>	6
<a href="#"><u>SIG:</u></a>	11
<a href="#"><u>Book</u></a>	17
<a href="#"><u>Garden</u></a>	16
<a href="#"><u>Great Decisions</u></a>	14
<a href="#"><u>Hiking</u></a>	15
<a href="#"><u>International Study</u></a>	13
<a href="#"><u>Play Reading</u></a>	12
<a href="#"><u>Tech Trek</u></a>	9
<a href="#"><u>What Can I Do This Month?</u></a>	6

## Co-Presidents' Corner

### Volunteering

Volunteering is about giving, right? We think about it as donating our time and \$ for a cause that we feel strongly about. Surprisingly, that is only a small part of it. Volunteering is also about what we take away and fulfilling our own personal needs. How often do you have an opportunity to do what you love for a good cause AND develop deep and long-lasting friendships? Not often enough. But it does happen and it happened to me.

As I giddily write my last newsletter article of the year, I can't help but reflect on how much AAUW has impacted my life and the life of my family and friends. I know you are probably smiling because you think I am referring to the fact that I recruit ALL of my family and most of my friends (even if they live in San Francisco or Marin) to join me on adventures of creation – and that is part of it. But what I am really referring to is recognizing how AAUW has given me an outlet to make a difference in Mariposa while at the same time providing an opportunity to create and strengthen a community of friends and family.

Having a partner in this adventure has turned out to be more rewarding than I ever thought it could be. Dawn and I have formed a great partnership over the years and I am going to miss that day-to-day relationship supporting AAUW.

I wasn't brought up to appreciate team efforts and have usually been a loner. Who would want



—Sandi Gabe

to do things my way? Who could live up to my expectations? I didn't think I would be able to share any role, let alone the role of President. I was wrong – and I learned a lot.

- I learned to listen better.
- I learned to compromise.
- I learned that someone else can be just as exacting as me.
- I learned that sometimes there is a better way than mine.
- I learned that someone edits better than I do.

All this because I volunteered. My teacher was Dawn. She showed me it was possible to share and collaborate and enjoy the camaraderie of a team. She helped me understand that volunteering is a two-way street.

So on behalf of our dynamic duo, I encourage you to step forward. Get out of your comfort zone. Take on a role on the Leadership Team. It is worth the effort. You never know what you will find.

So on behalf of our dynamic duo, I encourage you to step forward. Get out of your comfort zone. Take on a role on the Leadership Team. It is worth the effort. You never know what you will find.



Dawn  
&  
Sandi



## The tenders of the garden:



## Events Calendar

## Mark your calendars

<b>June 9-15</b>	<b>Tech Trek Camp:</b> Fresno State University
<b>June 23</b>	<b>SIG– Wine:</b> 5:00pm, home of Marilyn Saunders
<b>July 2</b>	<b>SIG– Book:</b> 4:30pm, home of Helene Fiske
<b>July 3</b>	<b>Deadline</b> for donating backpack supplies
<b>July 23</b>	<b>Backpack Fill Day:</b> Methodist Church (details TBD)
<b>July 24</b>	<b>SIG-- Great Decisions:</b> time TBA, home of Becky Mock
<b>July 27</b>	<b>Backpack Distribution–</b> JCF Health Fair (North County)
<b>August 3</b>	<b>Backpack Distribution–</b> JCF Health Fair (Mariposa)



We Inspire Life-Long Learning



To Page 1

## Membership

[Dawn Johnson](#)

### Welcome to two more new members

Whoo Hoo! We have two new faces in our midst.

Linda Larragoiti represented the JC Fremont Volunteer Auxiliary at our recent Creative Aging event and decided to take a chance on something new herself and join us!

Linda attended Notre Dame and has a background in the pharmaceutical field.

Please add her to your AAUW Directory and say Hello when you see her big smile!

Linda Larragoiti

Phone: 209-966-3510

Email: [harleydiva7@me.com](mailto:harleydiva7@me.com)



Ruffina Roberts joined at Moroccan Nights and she must have been inspired because she has been doing a lot of traveling ever since. She just got her final paperwork in and we will be happy to see her big smile at our events. Ruffina's background is in Education and she is a retired principal.

Ruffina Roberts

Phone: 209-742-5355

Email: [iturriagabrajan@gmail.com](mailto:iturriagabrajan@gmail.com)



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp



To Page 1



## Membership

[Dawn Johnson](#)



### Stop whatever you are doing and RENEW

Members who came to the Annual Meeting/Gathering June 2nd heard about all the ways AAUW met the mandate that YOU gave us at the “Thought Shower” brainstorming event last fall.

We still have things to do, but we need YOU (and your dues!) to help make them happen. There is still time to renew.

We know you want to join us and keep it going!

There are two ways to renew:

- Online—yep, the easiest and fastest for you and us. You should have received a renewal email from National with oh-so-easy “click here” instructions to renew

by credit card.

- Can’t find that email because you have 4,923 other ones in your inbox? Go directly to your account at National and renew there at [Member Services Database](#).
- By Snail Mail---yep, still the slowest for you and us, but it works. Mail your check for \$94.00 made payable to AAUW Mariposa to:

Dawn Johnson  
3978 Van Ness Rd  
Mariposa, CA , 95338.

We look forward to seeing you next year!

## Give a Grad a Gift for \$0!

Forget the fancy pen. AAUW members can give recent college graduates a free, one-year AAUW membership within two years of graduation, at no cost to you or them.

A gift of AAUW membership will...

- Expose the grad to the power that comes from belonging to a national women-led organization of more than 170,000 members and supporters.
- Expand their networking opportunities
- Keep them current on the events and people that affect their life as they receive *Mission & Action*, *AAUW Outlook*, Action Network alerts, and more.
- Increase their buying power with access to member-only discounts.

That's how much it costs to give AAUW membership to the recent college grads in your life.

Give one, give 100, give 1,000!

AAUW

Search “Give a Grad a Gift” at [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org) or Click [here](#) to see how!

We Sponsor Community Forums

## What Can I Do This Month?



**Want to get involved?**

**Here are some easy ways:**

- **BUY SCHOOL SUPPLIES** for deserving local students served by our Backpack Project. Gift registry opened May 28. See [page 10](#) for the “how to.”
- **RENEW** your membership or we will miss you. See page 5 for details.
- **AGE CREATIVELY!**

## Membership

[Dawn Johnson](#)

### Shout Outs!



The Ponce de Leon award goes to the Creative Aging program planners **Becky Mock, Saralynn Nusbaum, Cindy Harp**, and the ubiquitous **Sandi** and **Dawn** for the successful Part 2 event. The planning aged them creatively.



The Pulitzer Prize goes to **Jill Rowney** for quietly producing a remarkable newsletter month after month, even though she has to remind some people more than once.



Put a party hat on the head of **Sandi Gabe** for hosting the Annual Meeting/Gathering at her home, even though she did the Holiday Party too.



Hats off to **all our members**. Your enthusiasm, support, participation (oh, and money) are what keep this branch thriving and productive. Now do the hokey-pokey and pat yourselves on the back.

**We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential**



[To Page 1](#)

## Programs

Becky Mock

"Creative Aging Part II: Be Positive" took place on Saturday, May 18. It was attended by many enthusiastic participants who came to hear and see presentations by 22 representatives of local organizations providing information about opportunities to participate in fun activities, volunteer activities, and activities to grow your life's philosophical well-being. The presenters surpassed our expectations with their clever "infomercials," decorated tables, special mascots, helpful handouts, clever costumes, lively demonstrations and an abundance of enthusiasm and positivity. Those who attended enjoyed the variety of information presented and the casual, intimate setting. Many presenters said that they want us to be sure and include them when we do this again next year. The Creative Aging Program Committee, Sandi Gabe, Cindy Harp, Dawn Johnson, Saralynn Nusbbaum, and Becky Mock want to express our thanks and appreciation to all who made the Creative Aging Program Series a wonderful success.

**Creative Aging Part 2**  
**BE POSITIVE**  
**Saturday, May 18**  
**10 am - Noon**  
 Mariposa County Board of Supervisors' Chamber  
**Choose your adventure presenters**

Counseling Resources	Master Gardeners
Health & Human Services Agency	Mountain Fitness
Jazzercise	Pickleball
JC Fremont Volunteers	Piecemakers Quilters
KRYZ Radio	Positive Living Center
Local Art Groups -	Pure Training
Rug Hooking and Fiber Arts	SCOPE
Local Author - Bill Yaley	Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Mariposa Community Choir	Sierra Hiking Seniors
Mariposa County Library	South Fork Trail Project
Mariposa History Museum	Storytelling
Mariposa Theater Alliance	Ukuladies



We Open Eyes



To Page 1



## Programs

Becky Mock

### Creative Aging Part 2



**BE POSITIVE**



**We Value Education**



## Project: Tech Trek

Trish Darcy, Barbara Silva



On May 5th the Tech Trek girls and their parents met at the home of Marilyn Saunders to learn a bit more about the camp and have a chance to ask questions. There were three girls who had previously attended camp there and they led the discussion with the girls we are sending this year. Kim Monson came to give the parents an overview of what will be happening at camp and to answer their questions. The five girls selected for this year's camp are: JJ Bolar, Abby Yancey, Pria Wellcome, Kheira Brower, and Reilly Poor.



## Five outstanding students head to Tech Trek June 9



We Inspire Life-Long Learning

## Project: Backpack

Cathy Owens, Karen Rust

### The Backpack Project has launched!

—Dawn Johnson

The beloved Backpack Project is underway, thanks to Cathy Owens, Karen Rust and Rebecca Swisher. We are proud to provide quality backpacks stuffed with necessary school supplies for deserving children in our community.



in any gaps in the supplies. Mail a check made payable to Mariposa AAUW to:

Cathy Owens  
5780 Clouds Rest  
Mariposa, CA 95338

This year, we are distributing 60 packs in partnership with JC Fremont Hospital at their two Back to School Health Fairs. It will be great to see the kids in person when they find all the treasures in their packs.

Here is how you can support this project:

1. Check the list of needed supplies [here](http://www.freegiftregistry.com/Mariposabackpacks). (<http://www.freegiftregistry.com/Mariposabackpacks>)
2. Choose what you would like to purchase and in what quantities. It is super easy. Buy the supplies anywhere you would like.
3. Drop off the items (or have them shipped) by the **deadline of July 3** to:  

Law Office of Anita Starchman Bryant  
4750 CA Highway 49  
Mariposa, CA 95338
4. Prefer just donating cash? All contributions are appreciated to help cover the cost of the backpacks themselves and fill

5. If you would like, help out at the Backpack Fill Day on **July 23** at the Mariposa United Methodist Church. Details forthcoming.
6. Consider helping to hand out the backpacks at the Back to School Health Fairs on **July 27** (North County) and **August 3** (Mariposa). You will see some excited kids! Details forthcoming.



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp



To Page 1



## SIG Overview

## Special Interest Groups

<p><b>International Study</b> <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><b>Hiking Group</b> <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><b>Cooking Group</b> <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><b>Book Group</b> <i>Saralynn Nusbaum</i></p>  <p>This group meets monthly to read nonfiction and fiction books.</p>	<p><b>AAUW</b> Mariposa (CA) Branch Special Interest Groups 2018-2018</p>	<p><b>Art Group</b> <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><b>Gardening Group</b> <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><b>Craft Group</b> <i>Elaine Keeley</i></p>  <p>The group meets monthly to experiment with new craft techniques.</p>	<p><b>Chess, Anyone?</b></p>  <p>Contact <b><u>Kim Monson</u></b></p>
<p><b>Wine Tasting</b> <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><b>Play Reading Group</b> <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><b>Great Decisions</b> <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 Sponsor Community Forums



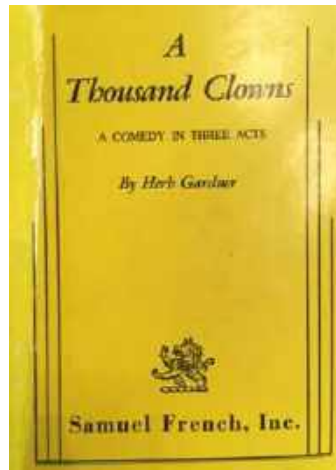
To Page 1

## SIG: Play Reading

Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)



There was a lot of clowning around when five of us read the funny and heartwarming play, "A Thousand Clowns." Surprisingly, only one of us had seen the famous movie version, so we took our liberties interpreting nonconformist Murray Burns, wiser-than-his-years Nick (or



—Dawn Johnson

whatever name he was using that year) Burns and, of course, Chuckles the Chipmunk. The group's rendition of the song, "Yes Sir, That's My Baby" was nothing less than Grammy-worthy. Sorry you missed it? Look for the Play Reading Group to continue next year and you too can be a drama diva.

### Excerpt from play fits into Creative Aging theme: "Don't let life pass you by!"

(This is Murray speaking)

...Oh, Arnie, you don't understand any more. You got that wide stare that people stick in their eyes so nobody'll know their head's asleep. You got to be a shuffler, a moaner. You want me to come sit and eat fruit with you and watch the clock run out. You start to drag and stumble with the rotten weight of all the people who should have been told off, all the things you should have said, all the specifications that aren't yours. The only thing you got left to reject is your food in a restaurant if they do it wrong and you can send it back and make a big fuss

with the waiter.. Arnold, five months ago I forgot what day it was. I'm on the subway on my way to work and I didn't know what day it was and it scared the hell out of me.... I was sitting in the express looking out the window same as every morning watching the local stops go by in the dark with an empty head and my arms folded not feeling great and not feeling rotten, just not feeling, and for a minute I couldn't remember, I didn't know, unless I really concentrated, whether it was a Tuesday or a Thursday--- or a---for a minute it could have been *any* day, Arnie—sitting in the train going

through any day—in the dark through any year--- Arnie, it scared the hell out of me. You got to know what day it is. You got to know what's the name of the game and what the rules are with nobody else telling you. You have to own your days and name them, each one of them, every one of them, or else the years go right by and none of them belong to you. And that ain't just for week ends, Kiddo. Here it is, the day after Irving R. Feldman's birthday, for God's sake—And I never even congratulated him...

 [To Page 1](#)

**We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential**



**SIG: International Study**Contact [Beth Tomsick](#)**Study of Iran concludes with food and politics**

—Beth Tomsick



Our International Studies Group ended the year with a wonderful Iranian dinner at Saralynn Nusbaum's house. Saralynn and her helpers, Kim Monson and Tiina Wilson, prepared many savory dishes for the group which were enjoyed by all. We were joined by Susan Zaker and her husband Reza, an Iranian couple, who had hosted us early in the year. Discussion centered around Iranian food and politics.

**We Open Eyes**[To Page 1](#)

**SIG: Great Decisions**Contact [Sandi Gabe](#)

## Great Decisions returns for another year

—Sandi Gabe

**During the Trump administration, the usual ways of conducting diplomacy have been upended.**

Many positions in the State Department have never been filled, and meetings with foreign leaders such as Kim Jong-un and Vladimir Putin have been undertaken with little advance planning. What effect are these changes having now, and how will they affect ongoing relationships between the United States and its allies and adversaries?

We will tackle these and more questions when we meet on July 24th at 5pm at Becky Mock's home. She will be leading a discus-

sion about *State of the State Department and Diplomacy*. For more information about the topic click [HERE](#) for more details on the Foreign Policy Association website.

If you would like to join the discussion group please contact Sandi [@sandi.gabe@hotmail.com](mailto:sandi.gabe@hotmail.com)

Here is our future meeting schedule:

September 19, 2019

November 21, 2019 (the week before Thanksgiving)

January 16, 2020

March 19, 2020

May 21, 2020



We Value Education



Interest Groups - **Hiking**Contact [Trish Darcy](#)

## Hiking through the newly-opened Mariposa Grove in Wawona

This month the hiking group traveled to Wawona to hike the newly re-opened Mariposa Grove Trail. Amidst warnings of long lines at the gate and many people on the trail, three of us-Karen Rust,



Jill Harry, and Trish Darcy-decided to brave it out and see what it would be like. No lines at the gate! We drove right through, parked and got on the waiting bus for the ride up to the Lower Grove. From there the trail passes many of the famous trees, the

Grizzly Giant, the Clothespin Tree, the Bachelor and Three Graces, and the Fallen Monarch. The 3.5 mile trail climbs up, up, and up leading to the Upper Grove. We took the spur trail out to Wawona Point. The view did not disappoint. It was well worth the climb. For part of the way down we took the Guardians Loop Trail to see the Galen Clark Tree and the boarded-up cabin that Galen Clark lived in. We were lucky to hear chickadees and saw ravens. The snow plants were bursting up from the soil on display for us and the manzanitas were in full bloom. As we approached the parking lot again to get on the bus, the crowds were arriving. The dogwood trees that were in bloom just outside the park were on point as well and we stopped for pictures on the way home. So all in all, for us, it was a nice



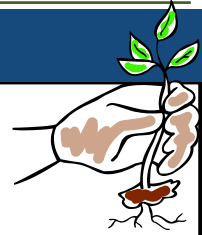
peaceful 7 mile hike through this grove of ancient mon-archs. We highly recommend going if you haven't seen the remodel or the grove. It is very well done. We do recommend going early and on a weekday, if possible, to



avoid the crowds. There are three hikes to choose from. The longer one that we did, a medium length one, and a short half hour one. Take some time and go visit! You will be greatly rewarded.

We Inspire Life-Long Learning

## SIG: Garden

Contact [Micki Finney](#)

## Friends don't let friends buy more iris

— Karen Smith

It was o'dark hundred when several members of the AAUW Garden Group assembled to test their willpower and visit Superstitious Iris Gardens. The sky was hazy, our willpower strong as we assembled at the garden. Our chant was 'Friends don't let friends buy more iris.'

Before we entered the gardens, we each took a deep breath and put our right hands on The New Western Garden Book: The Ultimate Gardening Guide

2018 Edition, and swore we would be strong and prevail to NOT buy more irises. We were only there to look. Fortified by a communal promise and chanting "We are only looking," we entered the fields. The haze lifted and we were overcome by the beauty of endless rows of color and secret thoughts of "I need that in my yard!"

Quietly walking the rows and commenting on the clever names; Drinks at Sunset, Don't Talk Back and Justa Musta, we felt smug by not making check marks on our price lists. But silently and secretly some made covert marks on their

sheets to purchase. It's just a wish list I tell myself. No need to buy any new iris. Take a picture and be happy.

My hand quivered as I checked Frosted Pumpkin and then Scatterbrain. Each is only \$5.00, such a bargain for incredible beauty. How could I resist the splendorous beauty in my yard?

The overwhelming beauty and the heady scent of the iris wore us out. With thousands of steps registered on our Fitbits, we headed towards the exit. But some had to stop and place their order. WHAT? I

have to confess, and rat out Jeanie Moje MacDonald. We both failed in our promises to not purchase more irises. Or now what I now call them 'Crack de Sabor.'

Might be a good name for an iris!

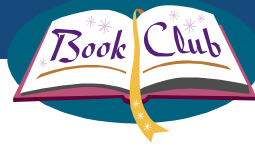


We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

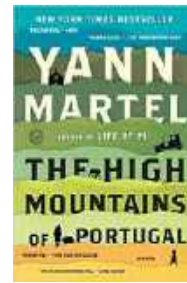


To Page 1

## sig - Reading

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

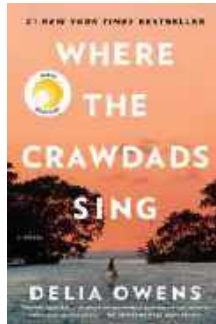
Our next meeting (tentatively) will be  
**Tuesday, July 9, 2019 at 4:30 pm**  
 at the home of Hélène Fiske where we will be discussing:  
***The High Mountains of Portugal***  
 By Yann Martel



## Discussion Review

By Carolyn Baker

Five-year-old Kya Clark knew that her alcoholic and abusive Pa was the reason that all her siblings kept growing up and leaving home. However, she couldn't figure out why not one of them took her with them. Eventually, one morning even her Ma walks out the door never to return. She does leave Kya with one happy memory before she leaves which was when she lined up Kya and her two older sisters in a row, then she painted their toes and fingernails, as well as her own. Ma came up with the idea that they should go out on the boat, something they had never done before. However, Ma didn't know much about it and they ended up stuck in the mud! "But we made it fun, we laughed, and that's what sisters and girlfriends are all about. Sticking together even in the mud, 'specially in mud!" Kya is surprised though that her family ultimately abandoned her to live alone in the swamp. After years of living alone using only her wits and clever



survival skills, she was surprised to gifts left for her in the forest. It seemed there was a boy who came on his own to leave to leave a rare and beautiful bird feather for her. It seemed unlikely that he meant harm, and it didn't fit that anyone who liked birds would be mean. It wasn't the shortest route, but she went by way of the oak clearing to leave him a swan feather. She knew the boy as Tate, the boy who had shown her the way home through the marsh when she was a little girl. When she looked up at him and said, "I can't read your note," Tate responded, "You know I could teach you to read." This opened immense new worlds to Kya. When she starts taking her boat to the store to purchase food and gas, she meets Jumpin' and Mabel who

basically take over the job of being her new Ma and Pa. Unfortunately, Tate's very long absences while he's away at the university were extremely lonely for Kya. As her collections of feathers and plants grow so does her loneliness. She uses the time to become a famous author and illustrator of books about the flowers and wildlife of the swamp. Kya wants to protect her heart, but her body wanted Chase, the town's handsome football star and playboy. His hurried, groping hands were only taking -not sharing or giving. Tate, however, was her soulmate and seemed as natural and accepting as all the other marsh creatures, unlike Chase who made her feel exposed, as if someone was filleting her like a fish. In a dramatic turn of events, Chase is found murdered and Kya is the prime suspect.

Read this engaging book to find out in greater detail why Kya's mother left, as well as a very exciting and interesting trial scene, and possibly a bit of a surprise at the end.



**AAUW Mariposa Branch  
Board Meeting Minutes  
Mariposa County Library**

**April 29, 2019**

\*May meeting was moved from 5/6/19 to 4/29/19.

**In Attendance:**

Dawn Johnson, Co-President  
Sandi Gabe, Co-President  
Dina Lambert, Treasurer  
Bernadette Falany-Davis, Co-Secretary  
Rebecca Swisher, Co-Secretary  
Becky Mock, Programs  
Jody Sergienko, Publicity

**Minutes:** Rebecca/Bernadette

Rebecca Swisher confirmed that the April 1, 2019 meeting minutes were approved online and sent to Jill Rowney for the May 2019 Newsletter.

**Updates**

**Programs:** Becky

**Report on "50/50" Film Event:**

This event was held last Thursday, and 12 individuals attended. After viewing the video, they split into groups to have lively discussions about factors that affect the uneven balance of women in power. Each group had four issue cards and three to four question cards. The board members who attended stated that this was a valuable activity.

**Report on Creative Aging Part 1:**

This event was held on April 16th, and it was a success with standing room only. The presenters were excellent and involved in the discussions with attendees. The speakers had been given guidelines in advance and were really well prepared.

**Report on Creative Aging Part 2:**

This event will be May 18th at 10:00 a.m. at the Supervisors Meeting Room. There are approximately 23 presenters currently on the docket. The focus is on encouraging enrichment activities. Extensive promotion is planned.

**Projects**

**Launch of Backpack Project:** [Cathy/Karen/Rebecca](#)

Dawn Johnson presented information from Cathy Owens. All backpacks will be delivered through the John C. Fremont Back2School event. The upcoming dates are as follows:

Online Purchasing: Opens May 28<sup>th</sup>

Supplies Due: July 3<sup>rd</sup>

Fill Day: July 23<sup>rd</sup>

[Greeley Hill: July 27<sup>th</sup>](#)

Mariposa: August 3<sup>rd</sup>

Rebecca Swisher requested two frames for the signage at this event. Sandi Gabe will look to see if she has frames from previous events.

Rebecca and Bernadette indicated that the north county health fair will be limited due to the recent fire affecting the building.

The event will not include vaccinations. The turnout may be impacted.

**Tech Trek Update:** Trish

Interview process and final selections

Dawn Johnson read the report provided by Trish Darcy. Interviews have been held. Becky Mock stated that the interview process went well and was managed well. Becky was thanked for stepping in when one interviewer was ill. There were thanks to those who assisted with this project! There is a Meet & Greet scheduled for May 5<sup>th</sup>. Kim Monson and past Tech Trek girls will be there to provide information about their experiences.

*(Continued on page 19)*

**We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential**

*(Continued from page 18)*

### **Publicity**

#### **Publicity Coverage for Creative Aging Part 2: Jody**

Jody Sergienko stated that she submitted the publicity to the Gazette for this event on 4/29/19. We are requesting two publication dates: May 6 and May 19. Communications with the Chamber of Commerce have been challenging. Jody will follow-up in person with the Chamber. Sandi Gabe discussed the updates she will make to the AAUW Mariposa Facebook page and where they will be posting the flyer that she created. Board members should get flyers from Sandi to post in locations they visit.

#### **Finance Report: Dina**

Approve April Treasurer's Report (Distributed at Meeting)

Dina Lambert presented the April 2019 Budget Report.

Income: \$275.00

Expenses: \$1,098.65

Checking ending balance: \$16,185.33

Rebecca Swisher moved to approve the April 2019 Treasurer's Report. Jody Sergienko seconded. Approved by all present with no nays or abstentions.

#### **Progress Report on Obtaining Branch Credit Card**

Dina Lambert stated she spoke to Matt of Yosemite Bank regarding having multiple cards available, but this is not possible since AAUW Mariposa is a non-profit, and there is no one individual responsible for the account. We will need to update our Board Members list at the bank in order for them to process the credit card application. Dina will continue to work on this project with the goal of having this finalized by June 2019.

#### **Update on Dues Renewal Process**

Dina Lambert will be sending out the e-mail to remind members to renew soon. Dina and Dawn Johnson will work together to update the spreadsheet of members who renewed.

### **New Business**

#### **CRITICAL ELECTION DISCUSSION: Sandi**

Slate of officers and composition/structure of next year's Board

Sandi Gabe presented recommendations/ideas for next year's Board:

Sandi recommended that we look at a new board structure and distribution of tasks, such as a 7-Member Leadership Team.

Becky Mock stated that if we do this, we will need to increase the amount of communication between members (e.g., action items and who is responsible listed on an ongoing basis). Those present agreed with this statement.

Dawn Johnson reviewed the Leadership Team Responsibilities and Essential Tasks list:

Administration-related: Be the assigned contact for national and state; Convene meetings; Make an annual calendar; Share information from state and national; Obtain insurance; Plan one Annual Meeting

Finance-related: Prepare and monitor budget; Manage banking; Handle dues and renewals; Submit taxes; Prepare Treasurer's report for meetings

Membership-related: Keep database of members; Process/Welcome new members; Prepare directory; Distribute directory; ; Conduct SIGs sign-ups

Secretarial-related: Take minutes; Get minutes approved

Programs-related: Decide on programs; Handle logistics per checklist

Projects-related: Decide on projects; Secure chairs

2018-2019 Project Chairs have agreed to continue on in 2019-2020.

Branch Communications-related: Keep mailing lists up to date; Distribute newsletter; Send mass mailings to members

Fundraising-related: Decide on fundraising activities, if any; Secure chairs; Monitor progress

Sharon Enrico has agreed to do the Yard Sale for 2019-2020.

We do not financially need to hold a big fundraiser in 2019-2020.

Rather than a "Board," AAUW Mariposa could call it a "Leadership Team" instead. We could rotate who leads the monthly meetings.

For legal requirements: We must have an elected point of contact person as president, finance officer, and recording secretary. The

*(Continued on page 20)*

## **We Open Eyes**

 **To Page 1**

(Continued from page 19)

team will need to designate whose names will be submitted by July 1, 2019.

Members who have agreed to participate on the 2019-2020 Board/Leadership Team: Kim Monson, Cindy Harp, Jody Sergienko, Rebecca Swisher, Becky Mock, Dina Lambert

Dawn Johnson moved that the AAUW Mariposa Board of Directors be restructured as a Leadership Team as a pilot for year 2019-2020 with the following characteristics. The team will consist of a minimum of five voting members and a maximum of nine voting members. In case of an even number of leadership team member volunteers, the Leadership Team will appoint an additional individual to serve as a voting member. Jody Sergienko seconded. All in favor with no nays or abstentions.

In light of not having enough volunteers for Board Members and the restructuring of this group to the Leadership Team, the call for additional members of the Leadership Team has been extended until May 15<sup>th</sup>, and there will be no nominations from the floor.

#### Old Business

##### Report on AAUW CA Annual Meeting: Dina, Jody, Rebecca, Dawn

Dawn Johnson opened the discussion about this meeting. Rebecca Swisher stated that the most beneficial aspect of this meeting was hearing what other branches were doing for projects and programs and learning the different ways that they meet the AAUW mission. Those who attended discussed Sacramento's "Days for Girls" project, which provides reusable feminine hygiene products, so that young women do not miss school due to their periods. The Board Members discussed the possibility of assessing the need for this type of project in Mariposa and to determine if there are other organizations with whom we could partner. Dina Lambert stated that she enjoyed listening to the Speech Trek finalists and learning about their collaborations with the schools. It was interesting that of all the California branches (125), only 17 branches participated, which may indicate that this project will not continue in the long-term. Jody Sergienko stated that her take-away was that for such a small branch, we have a lot of members and we are really well organized. She was disappointed that the presentation at the State Meeting did not cover more on the topic of how to increase and retain membership. She is interested in increasing the diversity (e.g., gender, age, education, work background, etc.) of Mariposa's branch.

##### Report on "Mariposa Main Street" Meeting: Dawn

Dawn Johnson reported on this launch meeting. The purpose of this meeting was somewhat exploratory to see how the different organizations can collaborate to improve the overall wellbeing of the community. There were both non-profit/volunteer organizations as well as business representatives. This meeting focused on events. Other than the desperate need to have one overall community calendar, there were no other decisions; however, there was no action item that delineated how this was going to happen. Dawn stated that she is not sure how the Mariposa Main Street group will coordinate with the Chamber of Commerce in the future.

##### Annual Meeting Planning: Sandi/Dawn

Sandi Gabe offered to host the Annual Meeting at her house. She will set up and does not need help with this. The pool will be open if folks want to bring their bathing suits. They have a plan to present what has been accomplished this year and with what folks were a part—this is so adorable, you'll have to attend to see it in person! (Rebecca Swisher has no idea how to present the image of what is going to happen with words.)

We will ask folks to bring a sweet or savory dish to pass.

We will present our slate of Leadership Team members for installation. No election is necessary as there are no contested positions.

#### Branch Buzz Assignment: Dawn

Jody Sergienko offered to prepare the Branch Buzz

#### Upcoming Dates – May and June

May 18 – Creative Aging, Part 2 – BOS Chambers, 10:00 am

June 2 – Annual Gathering/Meeting – Sandi Gabe's, 2:00 p.m. – ?

June 3 - Board Meeting, Library, 4:00 pm – CANCELLED due to Annual Meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup>

## 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.

We Value Education



To Page 1





**HARP**  
INSURANCE  
SERVICES

**Lynn Harp**  
INDEPENDENT BROKER  
CA LICENCE NO. 0803259  
[www.harpins.com](http://www.harpins.com)


**LIFE • HOME • HEALTH • BUSINESS**

MOBILE **831-649-4284** PHONE **800-959-5630**  
FAX **209-966-6263**

5634 HARRIS CUT OFF ROAD • MARIPOSA, CA 95338

To assist in the provision of quality health care services.

**IMAGING DEPARTMENT**  
**John C. Fremont Healthcare District**



Mammography  
Bone Density  
Ultra Sound  
X-Ray  
MRI  
CT

5189 Hospital Road  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
Phone: 209-966-3631  
ext. 5041  
Website: [jcf-hospital.com](http://jcf-hospital.com)



**ANITA STARCHMAN BRYANT**  
**STARCHMAN & BRYANT**  
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

4750 Highway 49 South, Suite 1  
Mariposa, California 95338  
(209) 966-6111

Telefax (209) 966-2320      [starchman-bryant@sti.net](mailto:starchman-bryant@sti.net)

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

**We Inspire Life-Long Learning**



**To Page 1**