



Sierra Outpost

Maintaining branch activities while "sheltering in place"

—Trish Darcy

On March 19th Governor Newsom issued a statewide "shelter in place" order. What does this mean for us here with AAUW Mariposa? The good news is that our county has been taking steps to work up to this since the beginning of the outbreak. All places of public gathering are closed. This includes churches and the schools. Social centers are closed as well as, yes, I am devastated too, the gyms. Restaurants, cafes, dining establishments are open with takeout or drive-through/walk-up only, pubs are closed. Grocery stores, pharmacies, gas stations, and

person interactions, and open only to call-in or internet-based services. I am sure more details on that will be forthcoming.

For more information- <https://covid19.ca.gov/img/Executive-Order-N-33-20.pdf>

<https://covid19.ca.gov/safety-in-public-places/#top>

Just a few days ago the Leadership Team asked you all to not meet in person for SIG's. We started making arrangements for our Leadership Team meetings to be done via "Zoom," and the

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As of today and going forward for the foreseeable future there will be no in-person meetings sanc-

"...We are all strong, capable, intelligent people ..."

"essential-to-daily-life" businesses are remaining open. Many of our county services are closed to in-

meeting details will be posted on our Facebook and website pages.

tioned by our organization. We have many other ways at our disposal to keep in touch with

(Continued on page 2)

Leadership Team Notes

(Continued from page 1)

each other. The hiking SIG is doing a distance challenge complete with Excel spreadsheet of miles walked, solo, during self-isolation. Our play reading SIG has sent out links of performances for each member to view and then discuss via "Zoom." I am challenging the garden SIG to plant Victory Gardens this spring! Later this summer our new initiative, "Neighbor Helping Neighbor," can spread excess harvest to those who are lacking access to resources.

Over the next few days members will be getting calls from the Leadership Team to check on how you are doing. Do you need groceries, a ride, medications, information or even just social contact? If you do, please let us know sooner rather than later! If you have the ability to help those with needs also let us know that. We are all in this together and together we will get through.

We are all strong, capable, intelligent people. All of us on the Leadership Team are here to support you in any way we can and to connect you in supporting each other.

Check our Facebook and website pages for announcements and most current news.

Events Calendar 2020



- April 1** **SIG Play Reading:** 9:00am, online chat via "Zoom"
- April 7** **SIG Book:** 4:30pm, online discussion via "Zoom"
- ~~**April 7** **SIG International Study:** cancelled for this month~~
- April 14** **Leadership Team Meeting:** Watch for an email for a link to a meeting via one of the internet group meeting options
- ~~**April 17-19** **AAUW California Convention:** Millbrae, CA~~
- April 18** **AAUW California Annual Meeting - Going Virtual!**
1:00pm, online, (details on [page 7](#))
- ~~**April 25** **Mini Member Meet Up**~~
- May 18** **"Mad Hatter Party" Fundraiser Planning Meeting:** 11:00am, Fairgrounds
- June 7-12** **Tech Trek:** CSU Fresno
- Aug 8** **Fundraiser-Mad Hatter Party:** 5:00pm, Mariposa Fairgrounds Picnic Area

We Value Education



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Membership

Meet our Members

—Jody Sergienko

Meet Margarita King!

Margarita emigrated to the United States from the Philippines at the age of nine years. Her mother was anxious to improve the social determinants of health (housing, education, food, fiscal opportunities, etc.) for her children. *(See how we worked our year's program focus in there!)* While at UCLA, Margarita met her husband Bill. They have been married for 32 years and boast of three children they raised in Mariposa. Gabrielle, Jon and Erik are all successful adults. Today Margarita works at our Health and Human Services Agency. She is the senior community health nurse.



Q: What is it that makes you you?

"Fairness. I work towards reaching a "fair" state. Providing opportunities for some who may not have what I grew up with. To do this, I work at Public Health running different health programs such as MCAH- maternal child adolescent program. I also volunteer: at school when my kids were young and now in the community as a member of AAUW and Rotary as well as other commu-

nity opportunities."

Margarita doesn't recall the year she joined AAUW. She remembers that Sharon Enrico recruited her when her youngest was only 3 years old and he is now going to be 21 in March. Let's not do the math and just say that it has been a while.

The best things she likes about our Mariposa branch are the camaraderie and the opportu-

nities that this group provides for youth: Tech Trek, Speech Trek, Back-pack project, and Dinner with a Scientist.

Her suggestions for programs include additions to STEM programs and encouraging youth to be entrepreneurs or artists. We all cannot be mathematicians, scientists or doctors.

Q. How can we recruit more youth or men?

"Maybe by decreasing the membership fee? Or adding more fun activities (however I'm not sure what)."

Thanks Margarita!!

"Mini Member Meetup" on indefinite hiatus

Our next member get-together may not happen for a while yet. Obviously we will not meet on April 25. For now, it may be best not to plan on a May 16 meeting. Keep checking our website and Facebook pages for updates.

Dates and Hosts:

- ~~April 25, Cindy Harp~~
- ~~May 16, Kim Monson~~



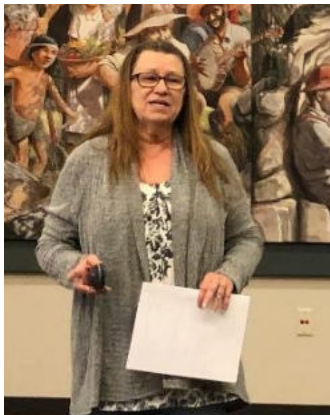
We Inspire Life-Long Learning

Programs

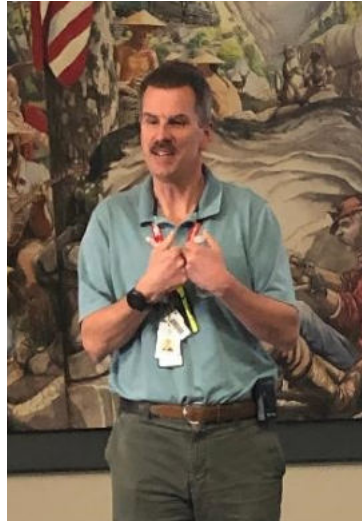
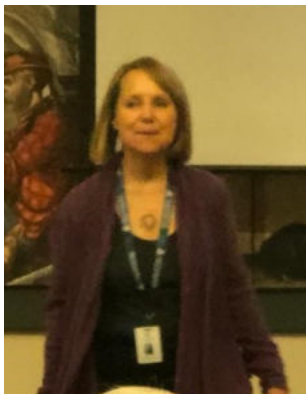
Adjusting our social life for good health

—Jill Rowney

Part II of our program series, "Rural Access to Healthcare-Social Determinants of Health," was on Saturday, February 29. In their presentations, Debbie Barcellos focused on food insecurity in Mariposa County and the programs we



Above: Debbie Barcellos
Below: Ginnie Day



Dr. Eric Sergienko

have to address the issue. Ginnie Day, the senior community health nurse and Public Health Nurse manager, honed in on use of tobacco and the interventions in place that address food insecurity in our community.

Mariposa County Health Officer, Dr. Eric Sergienko, was our third speaker. He

had just arrived back in town after an emergency state-wide meeting about the COVID-19 virus threat to the US. Armed afresh with the latest information, he shared what he knew and how our community is preparing for a potential epidemic.

He was thinking he might have been a bit off topic with the bulk of his talk focused on the pending epidemic, but upon closer examination we see that our general society's norm of large and small group gatherings for meetings, parties, or just visiting is a huge social determinant of our health. No one expected to be isolated to such extent as we are presently (April 1, 2020). His information was timely and right on topic!

Keeping the germs and viruses at bay

Rebecca Swisher received this public service message from Verizon and requested we share it with everyone. In addition to washing your hands, remember to clean your cell phone!

Keep your phone clean



Always unplug your device, turn off and remove the case and accessories before cleaning

What you need:
• Spray bottle
• Microfiber cloth
• Distilled water
• Rubbing Alcohol

1. Mix water & alcohol 1-to-1 ratio in the spray bottle
2. Lightly spray the microfiber cloth (don't soak it!)
3. Wipe your phone down front & back
4. Let your phone sit 15 minutes
5. Wipe down your case while you wait

Stay healthy and safe!

Tech Trek

—Trish Darcy



Five lucky girls selected to go to camp in June

—Trish Darcy

We have chosen our Tech Trekkers for June's camp! On March 7th we interviewed seven well-qualified candidates to attend this STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) based camp at Fresno State. From those seven we selected the five lucky girls who will attend camp. They are selected based on the composite scores of their application, essay, and oral interview. The three interviewers and I were very pleased with the quality of the girls' character this year and know they will be excellent candidates who will get a lot out of attending. Congratulations go to Annie Bryant, Emberly Witt, Cassie Luffy, Tiffany Hyde, and Hope Hespeneide. All five of them were ecstatic to receive the phone call saying they have been selected. Some even squealed!

We are lucky we got the ball rolling early this year and had our interviews completed by the time COVID-19 rolled around. We are now just in the paperwork gathering phase and that can be done electronically for the

most part. We are hoping things will calm down a bit by May when we hope to have our girls attend a gathering at the town park where they will meet with the girls who went last year for information and questions. At the same time, the parents will meet with adults who work at the camp to hear helpful information and have their questions answered. This has proven to be a very valuable time for the girls as they get ready to head off to camp. It can help to relieve any nervousness they may have.

Again, thanks to so many members who have helped out along the way. This is truly one of our projects where you can get involved in a small way to help out our branch in a big way. Thanks go to Barbara Silva, Phyllis Weber, Rick Uebner, Carrie Lindstrom, Belinda Gilbert, Dawn Johnson, Jody Sergienko, Carol Hart, Becky Mock, Sara Robison, and Dawna Hunter. This project succeeds because of you!

Mad Hatter Party



We Sponsor Community Forums

Project



Grant application submitted for new branch project

—Kim Monson

This year, AAUW California requested that local branches submit applications for grants to help fund new programs. After noting dwindling participation in Speech Trek due to a number of factors, the AAUW Mariposa Leadership Team worked together to envision a new approach to this project. **"Tech Connect: Multimedia Messages,"** a video presentation contest, was created. There are several advantages to the video approach to this contest:

- Students will continue to research the AAUW-approved Speech Trek topic.
- They can capitalize on their use of technology, including audio, video, and computer skills.
- Students can incorporate their visual artistic talents.

- They can work in groups as well as alone.
- AAUW member coaches will still be needed to assist the students with idea development, research, and presentation.

With enthusiasm, the Leadership Team applied for one of the state grants, and this group is excited to proceed with a pilot of this project regardless of the outcome of the grant application! We will be putting together a committee to flesh out the details of this project and to work on specific guidelines and rubrics. We will be finalizing the particulars over the summer. Please put on your thinking caps, and share your ideas about this reinvented Speech Trek! We look forward to your involvement!



Shelter-in-place offerings

Those of us in SIG Great Decisions who subscribed to the Foreign Policy Association's educational curriculum series received the following invitation to share this amazing opportunity with our community. Peruse through these 22 outstanding video offerings they posted to Youtube by clicking on the link below.

Many participants from libraries to classrooms and houses of worship have asked to share this year's television series with their broader community during this public health crisis. We have decided to release this season of *Great Decisions* on YouTube to provide a single link to post online and share with your community.

Foreign Policy Association



During this period of isolation, groups across the country are using teleconferencing tools from Google Hangouts to Zoom to continue their discussions online. Please encourage your community to debate, discuss, and decide. In a democracy, it takes an informed public to inform policy.

Link: [Great Decisions television series on YouTube](#)



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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

AAUW California



AAUW California—meeting going virtual!

Go to the Annual Meeting without ever leaving home!

The following email was sent out to all members. If it slipped past you or perhaps was redirected to your spam folder, we have included here for your reference.

Greetings AAUW California Members,

In this unprecedented time of the COVID-19 virus, we must look for creative ways to stay connected with family, friends, and fellow AAUW members.

Challenging times often trigger innovation and AAUW members love a good challenge. So, even though the convention was sadly cancelled, we have a creative solution to still hold our important and inspiring Annual Meeting. We will be able to celebrate our successes with you...but we'll do it VIRTUALLY! We are creating an online event to share some of the important activities that would have occurred at the Annual Meeting. You can still be there without leaving your own home!

Meeting Details

It's easy to participate. You can join by phone (audio only) or by computer. The meeting materials will be posted on the AAUW California website [HERE](#) prior to the meeting so that you can follow along if you are unable to join by computer.

Meeting Date: Saturday, April 18th

Time: 1-3 pm

How to Join:

By computer:

Join the meeting by clicking [HERE](#).

- Click *Open Zoom Meeting* if prompted.

When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 414 976 6806

By phone:

- Dial 301-715-8592

When prompted, enter the meeting ID: 414 976 6806

SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups

International Study**Tiina Wilson**

Learn about a country, a culture, and a people. We study one country each year and meet monthly.

Book Group**Saralynn Nusbaum**

This group meets monthly to discuss both fiction and non-fiction books members chose to read the previous month.

Great Decisions**Sandi Gabe**

This discussion group meets 6-8 times per year to discuss a set of topics developed by the Foreign Policy Administration (FPA).

Garden Group**Micki Finney, Karen Smith**

The Gardening group meets to discuss a wide range of topics such as the challenges of gardening in the foothills.



Mariposa, CA Branch

**Special Interest Groups
2019-2020**

Play Reading Group**Dawn Johnson**

"The play's the thing!" meets monthly to do cold readings of various plays that are shared by several California branches.

Hiking Group**Trish Darcy**

The hiking group meets monthly to enjoy each other's company while hiking new trails in and around Mariposa and Yosemite.

Chess Group**Kim Monson****Wine Tasting****Carolyn Baker, Cindy Harp**

The Corks and Forks Wine group meets monthly to experience different types of wines and enjoy them with appetizers and meals paired to complement the varietal being tasted.

We Open Eyes



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SIG: **Hiking**Contact [Trish Darcy](#)**COVID-19 won't stop our hiking SIG!!**

—Trish Darcy

The hiking group decided, via email to keep with social distancing, to keep track of our miles and/or our steps through this difficult time. We may not be able to gather and hike and chat, but we will be using a Google Spreadsheet to record our miles and steps and at the end we can make all kinds of fun graphs and charts of our results that we can

share with you in the newsletter. This certainly will not replace our monthly get-togethers where we can hike and chat and catch up, but we plan to have fun doing it! We hope the other SIGs are coming up with creative ways to "meet but not meet" with their groups and keep things rolling in a semi-normal way. Stay healthy!

Intrepid hiking group blows goal "out of the water!"

UPDATE: The hiking group has moved to a creative format during the COVID-19 crisis. Since we can't meet and chat while hiking, we have decided to begin tracking our steps and miles in a shared Google Sheets document. We originally thought to set the goal of 50 miles, but have blown that out of the water! As of noon on March 29th we have 255 miles and 88,524 steps as a group! Whoop! Whoop!

Some people have also sent the group pictures of their walks and even the location so that others can check out new spots! This has proven quite fun and we have found that we are connecting more than once a month by doing this. This has been a very successful alternative to our face-to-face hiking once a month that I am sure we will get back to in a few months. Stay safe and healthy and keep exercising!

SIG Hiking Covid-19 Steps and Miles Tracker			Total Miles	Total Steps
			255.06	88524.2
Name	Activity	Date	Miles	Steps
Reva	Walking	3/25	2	
Gary	Walking	3/25	2	
Reva	Walking	3/26	3	
Gary	Walking	3/26	3	
Dawn	Dog walk	3/26	8.1	
Trish	Jazzercise/Daily activities	3/26	7.8	3.2
Becky	Walking	3/27	2	
Dawna H	dog walk	3/24	1.15	
Dawna H	dog walk	3/25	1.15	
Dawna H	dog walk am	3/27	1.3	
Trish	Jazzercise/daily activities	3/27	5	12000
Trosh	Daily activities	3/28	1.5	3800
Renea	Daily dog walk	3/24/20	7.1	
Renea	Daily dog walk	3/25/20	5	
Renea	Daily dog walk	3/26/20	5.4	
Renea	Daily dog walk	3/27/20	6.5	
Renea	Daily dog walk	3/29/20	6.8	
Becky	Walking	3/28/20	2.2	
Becky	Walking	3/29/20	2	
Dawna H	dog walk pm	3/27	1.3	
Dawna H	dog walk	3/28	5.96	
Dawna H	dog walk am	3/29	1.3	

We Value Education

SIG: Great Decisions

Contact [Sandi Gabe](#)

Migration– not just a recent phenomenon

—Belinda Gilbert

The Great Decisions group was hosted on March 11 by Betty Massey and Belinda Gilbert. Six members were in attendance. The discussion ranged widely and covered both the book topic “Refugees and Global Migration” and the migration of Guatemalan refugees to the southern border of the United States. This latter topic was of special interest to Betty, as she had recently attended an International Studies SIG meeting which focused on the challenges of living in Guatemala.

According to the Great Decisions article, migration has been an integral part of all world cultures throughout history and is not simply a phenomenon that can be stopped. Migration occurs along a spectrum. At one end there are those who have no choice and are forced to move (persecution, to escape war or conflict and because they can no longer support their families). At the other end of the spectrum are those who move by choice (for work, education, health resources, for family reasons). Since 2015 the governments of many countries have closed their borders to migrants. Regular migration access to Europe was already limited, but after the 2015-16 mass migration from Syria, and other mid-eastern and African countries, borders have been closed entirely. Migration has become exceedingly more difficult.

Many countries see migration as a problem which must be solved. This takes many forms:

- giving people incentives and training to people to remain in their own countries

- preventing people from gaining access by building borders and walls
- using repatriation methods such as forced deportation
- giving voluntary incentives to people to return to their own countries or to transit countries.

Many of the policies and programs to help people stay in their home country are funded at the national or international level by Europe or America, based on the assumption that improving the situation of people in their home countries will make them less likely to want to leave. The reintegration or repatriation of returning migrants is a policy initiative to encourage people not to migrate again.

One such program mentioned in the article about Guatemala was an initiative financed by the United States in 2015. This was a national initiative project to help villages in Guatemala respond to climate change. The total grant was \$190,000 over three years which was enough for trained agronomists to show community members how to diversify crops, conserve water and how to reforest surrounding countryside. (Many residents had resorted to making money cutting down trees to sell as firewood during drought years). This initiative resulted in the community members making tremendous advancements in agriculture. In 2017, during the Trump administration, the initiative grant ended. The members of the “Great Decisions” noted the positive effects of this initiative and hope it can be reintroduced in the near future.

We Inspire Life-Long Learning

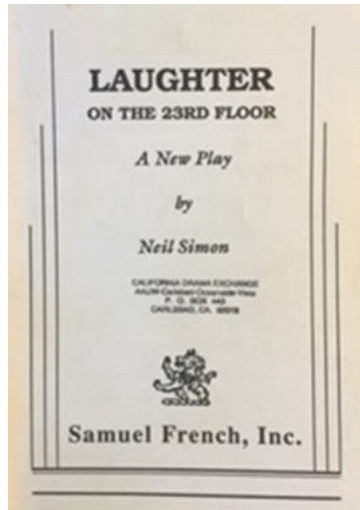

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SIG: Play Reading

Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)

Looking for the laughter on the 23rd floor

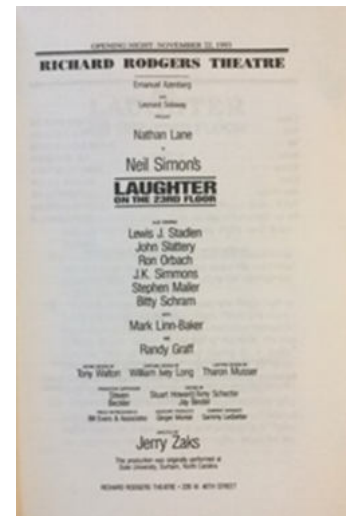
—Jill Rowney



On Saturday, March 7th, thespians of our branch read through Neil Simon's "Laughter on the 23rd Floor." The play takes place in 1953 in the writing studio of a television hit comedy, "The Max Prince Variety Show." We found many places for a

chuckle or two, but the play reflected the politics of the times- the communist witch hunt of McCarthy and the television networks feeding the public more inane, less sophisticated material. Here, the network was requesting Max Prince and his staff to "dumb down" their material and cut their 1.5 hour program by 30 minutes and cut their budget eliminating one person from each department- including the writers. Amidst the banter and barrage of one-liners, one got a more serious glimpse into life of the 50's. There

were only four of us to take on nine characters but we managed to keep track of who we were even when we had a few conversations with ourselves!



SIG: Wine

Contact [Carolyn Baker](#) or [Cindy Harp](#)

Stay tuned. Stay healthy. Corks and Forks appears to be on hiatus, since wine tasting and dining in a group setting has been its format. Anyone think of a way to explore and share ideas as we shelter in place? How about everyone doing a comparison of two specific wines and sharing individual results— or would that be too exposed— our opinions would no longer be anonymous! Just thinking.....

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

SIG - Book

Contact [Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 4:30 pm
 at our own homes via "Zoom" on the internet
 where we will be discussing:

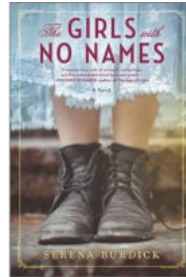
Next Year in Havana
 by Chanel Cleeton



The Girls with No Names

by Serena Burdick

Discussion Review
 —Sandi Gabe



Serena Burdick's The Girls with No Names tells the tale of free-spirited sisters Luella and Effie Tildon who live in New York City, near the House of Mercy, a home for wayward girls that is anything but merciful. Effie can't conceive of a time when she and Luella won't be living happily ever after—until Luella disappears, setting in motion a devastating series of events. Believing that her sister has been committed by their father to the House of Mercy, Effie hatches a plan to get committed—and when she discovers she's wrong, she becomes a prisoner, largely dependent on another resident, Mable. Effie's parents, meanwhile, have no idea where she is, believe she's been kidnapped, and are moving heaven and earth to find her. Told from the alternating points of view of Effie; her mother, Jeanne; and Mable, the narrative combines lush prose with a quick and riveting plot... (Content liberally adapted from Publishers Weekly review).

Our discussion covered the typical book group questions that you can imagine but then the conversation got more interesting when we reviewed some historical information about Magdalene Laundries, the institutions that housed

"wayward" women to ostensibly teach them a trade, and wrestled with the inevitable questions about how things went so terribly wrong. How did the admirable concept of providing support to women in need result in the torture and treatment of those same women? We were reminded of the [Stanford prison experiment](#) that investigated the psychological effects of perceived power, focusing on the struggle between prisoners and prison officers. While the method and results of that experiment have been called into question, it reminded us of the impact of unequal bases of power.

We delved into the background of women's prisons. The Indiana Women's Prison, originally known as the Indiana Reformatory Institution for Woman and Girls, has been considered to be the first separate

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We Sponsor Community Forums



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prison for women in the United States. That designation was called into question by two researchers in the Indiana Women's Prison Higher Education Program when they evaluated the type of inmates that were sent to the prison. They noted that despite the fact that sex-related offenses were common, few inmates were incarcerated for that reason. They proposed that the Magdalene Laundries established throughout the nation in the 1940s actually served as the first private women's prisons. The House of Mercy was one of 18 such institutions founded before 1900.

Initially the House of Mercy, established in the 1850's, was built to house 154 female "inmates" and staffed by the Roman Catholic Sisters of Mercy. While conditions inside the House of Mercy might be considered inhumane by modern standards, the huge brick structure included such amenities as steam heat, light, ventilation and plumbing.

Not long after the house was established, reports began to surface claiming that cruel and unusual punishments, isolation cells, and bread and water diets were routine behind the walls of the House of Mercy and the institution was accused of "locking inmates in a small room or cell without food or water for periods varying from one to five days...

corporal infliction by whipping, the use of a gag, handcuffs and a straight jacket....that inmates are not permitted to communicate with or to see friends for long periods of time." Surprisingly the nuns did not contest the statements.

By March of 1919, the House of Mercy had fallen on hard times and by 1921, the storied building, ironically, was leased briefly to the New York Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

In 1933, New Yorker contributor Morris Markey made a trip to Inwood Hill Park and toured the ground going through dark, cluttered halls where he found the old laundry room with its slate walls. On them, dimly visible in that light, were messages of despair from forgotten souls who once wept above the suds.

- "I wish I was dead."
- "God help me to get out of here."
- "I was put in this House of Mercy for nothing."

While the book has achieved acclaim in the literary community, most of us were lukewarm about recommending it. Some felt emotionally wrung-out by the continual descriptions of abuse while others were unmoved because many of the scenes seemed implausible and the book lacked character development.

SIG: International Study

Contact [Tiina Wilson](#)



Our two presenters and most of our IS group members have opted to postpone our April meeting. We did discuss having our meetings via Zoom which was the favored option for the near future.

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

AAUW Mariposa Branch**Board Meeting Minutes****Mariposa County Library****March 10, 2020**

Team Meeting Dates

2020
01/14
02/11
03/10
04/14
05/12
06/09

Meeting Called to Order at 5:11 p.m. by Cindy Harp.

Attendees:

Cindy Harp, Co-President
 Jody Sergienko, Co-President
 Dina Lambert, Finance Officer
 Rebecca Swisher, Recording Secretary
 Becky Mock
 Kim Monson

Absent: Trish Darcy

Guests: None

Minutes (*Rebecca Swisher*):

February 11, 2020: Approved electronically and submitted to Jill Rowney for inclusion in the March newsletter.

Updates:**Membership Update** (*Dina Lambert*)

Dina Lambert reported that two new members joined AAUW Mariposa for a total of 81 members. Dina stated that year-end for membership is June 30, 2020, so members should be alert for e-mail reminders to rejoin in the couple months leading up to this deadline.

Member Mini Meet-Up – April 25, 2020 (*Cindy Harp is coordinating*)**Membership Spotlight Article in Newsletter**

Jody Sergienko will resubmit Margarita King's interview for inclusion in the April newsletter.

Annual Meeting – June 7, 2020

Venue: Trish Darcy's house

Planners: Leadership team members concurred that discussions regarding this event will begin at next month's meeting.

California State Conference – April 17-19, 2020**Attendees:**

- Jody Sergienko – Has made reservations.
- Rebecca Swisher – Will make reservations this week.

We Open Eyes

- Cindy Harp – Will likely not be able to attend.

Projects:

Dinner with a Scientist (*Marilyn Saunders*)

No new report.

Backpack Project (*Rebecca Swisher*)

Rebecca Swisher stated that she, Kim Monson, and Cathy Owens are collaborating on this project this year. Therese Williams, John C. Fremont Healthcare District Community Outreach and PR Coordinator, has started planning for this event. Rebecca stated that it will be difficult for her to attend the planning meetings this year, as her role in Public Health does not entail this type of event at this time. Kim stated that she will likely be able to go to the planning meetings. Rebecca will put her in touch with Therese.

Tech Connect: Multimedia Messages (Speech Trek) (*Rebecca Swisher & Kim Monson*)

Rebecca Swisher reported that she submitted the grant application and received notification that the application was being processed. There was no estimate on when we would find out if AAUW Mariposa would be awarded the grant; however, in the past, state AAUW has announced these types of awards at convention in April. The leadership team members reiterated their commitment to pursuing this project regardless of the outcome of the grant.

Tech Trek (*Trish Darcy*)

Trish Darcy provided electronic update. Interviewers agreed on the final five applicants, and those chosen have been notified. Registration paperwork will be sent in May, and there are plans to have a party for 2020's attendees to meet 2019's attendees.

Fundraisers:

"Mad Hatters Party" – August 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. at the Fairgrounds (*Sandi Gabe*)

Sandi Gabe sent an e-mail to all members updating everyone on planning thus far. Please see the e-mail for details regarding opportunities to contribute and volunteer. The goal is to sell 200 tickets, and folks are encouraged, but not required, to come in costume.

Yard Sale – October 26-27, 2020

None of the leadership team members have been approached by folk(s) interested in coordinating this event. It was noted that in order to have this popular event held, AAUW will need at least one person to take the lead. Dina Lambert will have Sharon Enrico contact Becky Mock to provide details on this fundraiser.

Programs:

Rural Access to Health Care Round II: February 29, 2020

Overall the feedback that was received was positive. Attendees thought that the presentations were very informative. Cindy Harp stated that she has been thinking about what she can do to help address food insecurity in Mariposa and was excited to connect with the coordinator for the "Plant a Row" project.

College Partnership with Reedley College in Oakhurst (*Cindy Harp*)

Cindy Harp reported that she spoke with Darin Soukup. He will submit some materials to her for the leadership team to review. He will attempt to make the May 12th meeting; however, he is understaffed at the college and unsure if he will be able to make a leadership team meeting. Those in attendance concurred that this is a long-term project, and we are willing to take the time needed to coordinate with Darin.

Finance Report (*Dina Lambert*):

Dina Lambert reported that she has not been able to rectify the error that national has made regarding how much money we are reimbursed for memberships: it was \$9.50 rather than \$15.00. She has contacted them twice, but has not received a response. She will collaborate with AAUW state to obtain assistance in fixing this issue.

Revenue:

Dues: \$94.00

Expenses:

\$203.00 for deposit to Fairgrounds for the Mad Hatter fundraiser event

\$150 for presidents' pins

\$6.00 for website

\$45.00 reimbursement for previous miscellaneous charge to PayPal

Total Income: -\$109.00

Total Expenses: \$190.00

Checking account ending balance: \$19,749.24

—It was identified during this meeting that there was an issue with the allocated Speech Trek funds carrying forward correctly month-to-month, starting after August 2019. Dina Lambert will correct this issue and present updated financials at the next meeting.

—Rebecca Swisher moved to approve the finance report with stated corrections. Becky Mock seconded. All in favor. No nays or abstentions.

Purchase of Projector:

After the last Rural Access to Health Care event, it was noted that updating the audiovisual equipment would be beneficial. Dina Lambert moved to transfer the \$1,100 originally allocated for Speech Trek towards the purchase of new equipment. Cindy Harp seconded. All in favor with no nays or abstentions. The motion passed. Dina will get three quotes for the purchase of a new projector and present them at the next meeting.

Purchase of New PA System:

Jody Sergienko will continue to work on collecting three quotes for the purchase of a new sound system.

Status of Credit Card:

Dina Lambert reported that Yosemite Bank changed their process for a credit card application. Dina redid the paperwork and will turn in the application.

Old Business:AAUW Member Participation Log (*Jody Sergienko & Cindy Harp*)

- Rebecca Swisher reported that the roster from the Rural Access to Health Care event had been filled out. She will get the sign in sheet to Jody Sergienko, so that she can update the member participation log.
- Jody will send a reminder e-mail to SIG leaders to submit a list of participants for each of their gatherings.
- Since this is a new process, and folks are not used to submitting attendance for SIG gatherings, it was considered to include a reminder in the Branch Buzz.

New Business:

Women's History Month Proclamation

This was done today. Jody Sergienko and Marilyn Saunders accepted the proclamation. Dina Lambert will scan the proclamation and submit it to Jill Rowney to include in the April newsletter.

Officer/Leadership Team Candidates for 2020-2021 Year

Nominations Committee

- Cindy Harp stated that the new year is approaching. The leadership team members concurred regarding the need to approach individuals 1:1 about interest in joining the leadership team next year.
- Dina will send the membership roster with phone numbers and e-mail addresses. Those who are available will meet March 18th at 5:00 p.m. at Becky Mock's house to huddle and brainstorm about nominations.

Non-Partisan Women's March (*Kim Monson*)

- Kim Monson reported that there has been discussion about having a non-partisan women's march; however, she has not heard back from the coordinators. The march will be part of the Fair parade, which is excellent timing, as the anniversary of women's suffrage is in August. This march will be open to all political groups as well as other organizations that wish to participate. Kim will put a blurb in the newspaper under her name as an individual requesting for interested participants.
- As long as this march remains non-partisan, AAUW can invite members to participate. Those present concurred with the decision to include this event in the AAUW Mariposa calendar and to invite members to attend.

Path to Wellness (*Rebecca Swisher*)

Rebecca Swisher reported that Mariposa Community Health is holding a free wellness event on April 4th from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. in the Art Park and along the Creek Pathway. In fitting with this year's theme of health, those present concurred with her request to include information on this event in the newsletter. Due to timing, Rebecca will also send out an e-

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp



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mail to members notifying them of this event.

John C. Fremont Healthcare District's Women's Dinner (*Trish Darcy*)

Trish Darcy provided an electronic update about this event. Rebecca Swisher reported that due to national bylaws prohibiting AAUW from funding other organization's events, we are not able to sponsor a table at this event. Those present felt that the timing was not conducive for them to staff a "vendor" table. However, as this event is free to attendees, those present felt that notifying members of this opportunity was appropriate. Dina Lambert will notify Trish about these decisions, and Trish will communicate with Therese Williams, JCFHD Community Outreach and PR Coordinator.

Leadership Meeting Lead:

April 14: Jody Sergienko (agenda); Becky Mock (key).

Branch Buzz (*Trish Darcy*):

Trish Darcy (Dina Lambert volunteered to do this if Trish is not available.)

Upcoming Dates:

Leadership Team Nominations Meeting – March 18, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., Becky Mock's

~~Path to Wellness (Community Health Event) – April 4, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., Art Park and along the Creek Pathway. CANCELLED~~

Leadership Team Meeting – April 14, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., **ONLINE WITH ZOOM**. E-mail Rebecca Swisher if you would like to attend virtually, so she can send you an invite!

~~California State Conference – April 17-19, 2020 CANCELLED~~

Member Mini Meet-Up – April 25, 2020 at 9:00 a.m., Pony Espresso (*Cindy Harp* is coordinating) **POTENTIAL FOR CANCELLATION. LOOK FOR E-MAIL UPDATES.**

~~Women's Dinner (John C. Fremont Healthcare District Event) – May 6, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., RSVP required due to limited seating. Contact to Therese Williams at 209-966-3631 to RSVP. POST-PONED~~

AAUW Mariposa Annual Meeting – June 7, 2020, details to be announced.

"Mad Hatters Party" – August 8, 2020 at 5:00 p.m., Mariposa County Fairgrounds

Meeting Adjourned at 6:27 p.m. by Cindy Harp. Becky Mock moved to adjourn the meeting. Kim Monson seconded. All in favor with no nays or abstentions.

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Leadership Team:

[Trish Darcy](#)
[Cindy Harp](#)
[Dina Lambert](#)
[Becky Mock](#)
[Kim Monson](#)
[Jody Sergienko](#)
[Rebecca Swisher](#)

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

Project Chairs/Coordinators

Advertising	Sharon Enrico
Back Pack Project	Cathy Owens & Karen Rust & Rebecca Swisher
Dinner With a Scientist	Marilyn Saunders
Newsletter Editor	Jill Rowney
Publicity	Jody Sergienko
Social Media	Dina Lambert
Speech Trek	Kim Monson
Tech Trek	Trish Darcy & Phyllis Weber
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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



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