



manzanita



baby blue eyes

Sierra Outpost

Next program:

Yosemite: Past and Present

—Trish Darcy

We invite you to attend our next program titled *Yosemite: Past and Present*. We have two wonderful speakers lined up to educate and entertain us. Emily Dayhoff is a current employee of the park and Laurel Munson-Boyers retired in 2008. They both have lots to share with us and we look forward to hearing from them. This event is free and open to the public. Please feel free to bring family and friends to join us on March 13th from 2:00-3:30 at the Mariposa Town Park in the Pavilion Area.



Emily Dayhoff

Emily is a Mariposa local, graduating from Mariposa County High School in 2011. She graduated from Merced College with two AA degrees in 2013, one in social and behavioral science and one in history. She received a Bachelor of Arts in history from Sonoma State University in 2015 and is currently working on her Master of Arts in cultural heritage management from Johns Hopkins University. Emily is also from one of the Traditionally Associated Tribes of Yosemite, the Southern Sierra Miwuk, and loves

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sharing the culture of her people with others from around the world.

In 2015 Emily started working for the National Park Service in Yosemite for eight months as an intern with the Student Conservation

“Yosemite: Past and Present”

Sunday, March 13

2:00 pm

Mariposa Town Park (Pavilion)

This event is free and open to the public.

Program

Yosemite: Past and Present

(Continued from page 1)

Yosemite internship, she worked for the US Fish and Wildlife Service in Minnesota as an environmental education intern and in 2016, the US Forest Service in Wyoming as an interpretive intern at the Medicine Wheel. In 2018 She returned to work in Yosemite as a seasonal intern and then secured a permanent position in the park with the Division of Interpretation as an Interpretive Park Ranger and Indian Cultural Demonstrator.

She spends most of her time studying for her grad school classes. But when she is not glued to the computer, some of her favorite things to do are hiking, fishing, and backpacking in and around Yosemite. She also enjoys spending time crafting, whether it is learning new native crafts and techniques or teaching herself to knit during the pandemic. Emily loves talking about all history. But she especially enjoys talking about Yosemite, her people, and the way the area has changed over the years.

Laurel Munson-Boyers was born in Yosemite Valley. Her parents worked for the concessioner and she and her brothers spent their early years there. During her school years (4th grade thru high school) she lived in Oakhurst, but returned to a park summer job immediately out of high school, never to leave



Laurel Munson-Boyers

again for more than a few months. She attended both Fresno State and Humboldt State Universities pursuing a double major in music and natural resources but decided it was not her true calling. She chose to travel the world and work in the park rather than finishing a college degree and found her true education came with visiting every continent (except for Antarctica) and spending her life in the natural world afforded by her circumstances in the park.

Her first job in the park service was issuing wilderness permits in Tuolumne Meadows, which led to a 31-year career in backcountry and wilderness management. As her skills and experiences in the wild areas of Yosemite increased, she worked in all of the disciplines involved in managing the park's backcountry: from a clerk-typist in the backcountry office to a full law enforcement patrol person, traveling the park's trails on foot, skis, and horseback. She issued permits, supervised permit operations, supervised backcountry rangers, and finally ended up as Yosemite's first female wilderness manager. In this position, she managed the public use of 95% of the designated wilderness in Yosemite. From there, she retired in 2008.

She has lived inside Yosemite for 56 years. She and her husband own a home in Foresta, a relatively small piece of private land within the boundaries of the park. She is still devoted to spending some of each day outside, although her current "hobby" is writing a book about her life and the importance of wild places.

We Value Education



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Project: Tech Trek



2022 selection process begins

—Trish Darcy

We have started our Tech Trek process.

Nominations submitted

The teachers have nominated their students and those names have been submitted. The next step is for the parent to complete a couple of online forms giving their daughter permission to apply.

Applications with essay

Following that the girls will receive their application and the topic for their essay. Phyllis Weber, Barbara Silva, and Trish Darcy will meet with the girls to guide them in the processes of filling out the application and writing their essay. The applications will be due in March and they then get handed over to our scoring team. Thank you to Rick

Uebner, Karen Sutton, Naoko Kada, Dawn Johnson, and Jill Harry for volunteering to do this for us.

Interviews

Those who score high enough on their application and essay will be selected for an interview which will be held in early April. Thank you to Sara Robison, Becky Mock, and Vinita Bali for offering to do the interviews for us. From the interviews, we look at the scores and select the top five girls who will be attending Tech Trek camp at Fresno State University in June. This is such a rewarding project and we are happy to be able to sponsor the girls for this amazing experience.

Events Calendar

2022

March 1	SIG—Book: 4:00pm, home of Saralynn Nusbaum (outside)
March 6	SIG—Hiking: time and place TBD
March 7	Leadership Team Meeting: 6:00pm
March 13	Program: “Yosemite: Past and Present” - 2:00-3:30pm, Pavilion at the Mariposa Town Park
March 15	SIG—International Study: 5:00pm, home of Jill Rowney
March 16	SIG—Great Decisions: 4:30pm, home of Becky Mock
April 4	Leadership Team Meeting: 6:00pm
April 5	SIG—Book: 4:00pm, home of Saralynn Nusbaum
April 9	SIG—Hiking: time and place TBD



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We Inspire Life-Long Learning

Membership

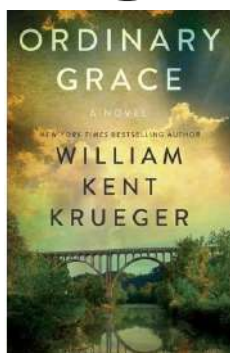
Bonnie Little, Dina Lambert



Member Corner: Idea exchange

Our members share what we have found enlightening and entertaining

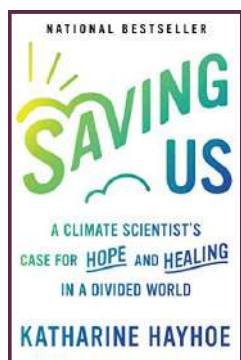
—Bonnie Little



Sara Robison recommends **Ordinary Grace** by William Kent Krueger. It is a well written coming of age story set in the Midwest. Sara resonated with this novel as it reminded her of her husband's stories of growing up in small town Ohio. She was so impressed with the writing of this author that

she discovered **Lightning Strike**, which is a prequel to the **Cork and Connor** series. O'Connor is an Irish American-Ojibwe Police Detective. Sara says she is hooked and has discovered some of her friends are as well!

Gary Colliver is reading for the second time, **Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World**. The author is Katharine Hayhoe, a preeminent scientist with many accolades and was one of Time Magazines 100



Most Influential People. Gary says the book is well written and is filled with scientific facts and personal stories and anecdotes. The author hosts a PBS digital series and also a TED talk about how to fight Climate Change. Both can be viewed on YouTube.



Vinita Bali is enjoying the online game **Wordle**. Each day the challenge is to figure out a secret five letter word. Six chances are given to guess. The rules are simple to follow and Vinita says these are

perfect little brain teasers with a bit of strategy and a bit of luck, and only one each day. Many people are loving this game! This link will help you get started: [Wordle - The New York Times \(nytimes.com\)](https://www.nytimes.com/games/wordle)

There is also a math version. <https://www.mathler.com/>

Peggy Shainberg is in the International Group studying Scotland. The **Shetland** series on PBS has been already been recommended, but she would like to add **Monarch of the Glen** (available in our local library) to the Scotland list. It has



(Continued on page 5)

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

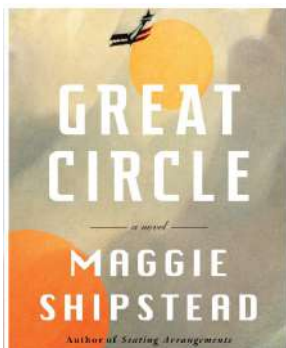
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Membership



(Continued from page 4)

a good storyline and likeable characters. Interestingly, while Julian Fellowes was acting in the series, he wrote the ever-popular *Downton Abbey*.



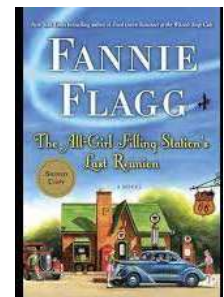
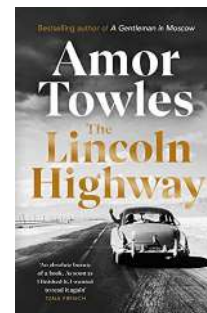
Jaye Howes suggests a book she says is brilliantly written titled *Great Circle* by Maggie Shipstead. It is the story of two women spanning time from 1914 to present day. One is a pilot/adventurer and the other is a famous Hollywood actress. They never meet, but their stories are connected. Jaye says that it is one of the best books she has read in years with flawless writing. That is an impressive recommendation!

Saralynn Nusbaum recommends a podcast titled *70 over 70*. The host interviews 70 remarkable people over the age of 70 who have many accomplishments in their chosen field, and they



discuss what they have learned, what they are still learning, and what comes next. Some of the guests are Barney Frank, David Crosby, Norman Lear, Dan Rather, and Anthony Fauci.

Books that Saralynn has recently enjoyed are *Crossroads* by Jonathan Franzen (see [page 10](#) for this month's book group review), *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles, and *The All-Girl Filling Station's Last Reunion* by Fannie Flagg.



Jill Rowney has been enjoying the PBS series, *Around the World in 80 Days*. Although the premise is a bit antiquated, the acting is excellent and there are adventures to keep you on the edge of your seat!

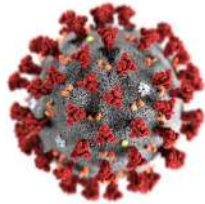
Another excellent group of suggestions across different genres and styles. Many thanks to our members who keep us motivated to learn and enjoy!

We Sponsor Community Forums



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Health



Covid Corner

-Jody Sergienko

Need to remain vigilant, despite the loosening of official mandates

The CDC has changed tracking COVID activity from using the data tracker to measuring actual community-level activity. The data tracker monitored activity by looking at case rates and test positivity. This is replaced by tracking case rates and hospitalizations for COVID patients. We don't know yet how this will impact us, the state is looking at this now. It may change how we as a community approach this.

Because of this CDC announcement, many people in our community will stop wearing masks right away. Be aware that our case rates are still pretty high!

On Friday the 25th of February, Governor Newsom announced that the emergency provisions for the pandemic will be rescinded in steps. The first phase effective immediately that affects us is that state offices are now open and teleworking is going away. Phase two as of March 31st, the waivers for education will be lifted. Those who had waivers for

substitute teaching requirements will no longer be able to work.

On the 30th of June, the measures in place to manage surge capacity will be lifted. Measures such as waivers for out-of-state licensed personnel and EMTs being able to do testing or vaccinations are going away. We also return to previous staffing ratios for nurses, losing bed capacity. This means that the availability of hospital beds and staffing will be affected and will impact how we access health care. Locally we do not know when we will lose our mobile testing site.

All this said, the pandemic is not over. The virus is still around and has developed new variants. Feel free to take sensible precautions, to wear a mask when indoors in a public setting or with people you do not know.

More news as it happens!

AAUW California

Annual Meeting— easy to participate

—Trish Darcy

Keep your eye out for upcoming information about the AAUW California Annual Meeting information. This will be a virtual event again this

year, so it will be easy for you to be a part of what is going on around the state.

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Membership

Bonnie Little, Dina Lambert



Spotlight on Jaye Howes

—Kim Monson

Jaye Howes is a new member of Mariposa AAUW just this year, but not new to AAUW. It turns out she was a member of a Los Angeles chapter many years ago but wasn't very involved because of professional commitments. But now that Jaye is here and retired, she's stepped right up and joined the leadership committee. Hooray for volunteers!



Jaye was born in Boston, graduated from Arlington High School, and went on to get a BA in comparative literature from Boston University. After finishing that part of her education, Jaye worked at Harvard in Human Resources and then at MIT as the secretary in the Life Sciences Department. Good move, going to MIT because that is where Jaye met Bill, the love of her life. Bill Howes was doing post-doctoral work in molecular biology.

Later, the couple moved to Chicago where Bill became a member of the medical school faculty at the University of Illinois, and Jaye was hired as the personnel manager for the school support staff. Unfortunately, that gig only lasted a few years because research grants dried up for Bill. It was the time of the Viet Nam War and Lyndon Johnson's Great Society and America had other priorities.

As a result, Jaye and Bill moved to the Los Angeles area where they started their own

business in advertising and graphics for the real estate industry. Jaye became handy with Mac graphics programs and went on to earn a teacher's certificate so she could teach those skills in adult school. Well, LAUSD got wind of that and drafted her to teach the same stuff at Canoga Park High School in the Regional Occupational Program (ROP).

While Jaye was in Los Angeles, she learned to fly and possesses licenses for both commercial and instrumental flying. She then joined the Ninety-Nines, an organization of women pilots, so named because there were 99 original charter members. Interestingly, Amelia Earhart was their 1st president.

Jaye and Bill retired and moved to Mariposa in 2008 because Bill wanted to be near Yosemite, which, of course, he loved. How many of you have moved here for a similar reason? Me too! Unfortunately, Bill passed in 2015. Jaye has busied herself with the Democratic Club where she is a past president, and now the AAUW board. She enjoys gardening in the many pots around her property, playing word games, and reading. These days wandering down to Costco, or especially to Trader Joe's, is a highlight, because none of us get out much. She is looking forward to the end of COVID, as are we all!

We Open Eyes



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Leadership Team

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

—Lenore Gallin,
AAUW CA-DEI committee member

DO UNCONSCIOUS BIASES AFFECT YOUR LIFE?

While it is well-known that people do not always speak their minds, exploring implicit or unconscious bias helps us realize that people do not always know their own minds. Implicit bias refers to the attribution of certain qualities to members of a particular group. Because these biases operate almost entirely on an unconscious level, they are different from prejudices that are intentional and controllable. It is not uncommon for someone to express support for a certain group, behavior, or belief while maintaining the opposite biases on a more unconscious level. Furthermore, implicit biases may not align with the personal identity an individual presents to the public. People can hold positive or negative associations toward their own group and oppose or align themselves with their oppressors or the oppressors of other groups.

The phenomenon of colorism or skin tone bias helps us understand how an implicit/unconscious bias for lighter skin affects equity and inclusion in a racially and culturally diverse society. In the aftermath of Black Lives Matter protests, for example, we continue to face the widespread phenomenon of colorism. Unlike racial bias, where individuals of one race oppose members of another race, colorism can be observed among members of the same ethnic or racial group.

CNN has weighed in on this issue with a new series called "White Lies," which investigates skin whitening practices and the industry that profits

from colorism. As often happens with implicit/unconscious bias, people fail to recognize the contradictory messages that occur when companies virtue-signal their commitment to Black and Brown lives are manufacturing and marketing products associating lighter skin with privilege, prosperity, and desirability.

Understanding the nature of implicit bias and self-realization promotes meaningful interactions with people of diverse backgrounds and physical characteristics. Opportunities to see others as individuals, not stereotypes, helps to reveal affinities in the differences between people and to build tolerance and understanding through familiarity. The rewards come in new acquaintances, fresh ideas, more successful problem solving, and the prospect of a more inclusive and equitable world view.

We urge everyone to take the Harvard Implicit Association Test by clicking [HERE](#). It is a great first step in recognizing we all have implicit biases.

The State DEI Committee means what it says about the importance of "inclusion!" The appointment of a Diversity point person in each branch ensures that we hear your voices and enlists your support in AAUW's bold move to build a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization in California.

We Value Education

SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups

International Study Veronica Gross



Learn about a country, a culture, and a people. We study one country each year and meet bi-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 Becky Mock



This discussion group meets monthly to discuss a set of topics developed by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA).

Garden Group Karen Smith



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

Environment & Social Issues Gary Colliver



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.

Art Group Jody Sergienko



A new group to dabble in creative pursuits. Learn together— arrange casual workshops in painting, sketching, quilting, beading; patronize local arts— art shows, museum visits, etc.

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 Inspire Life-Long Learning



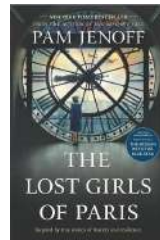
SIG - Book

Saralynn Nusbaum

Our next meeting will be on
Tuesday, April 5 at 4:00 pm
at the home of Saralynn
Nusbaum.

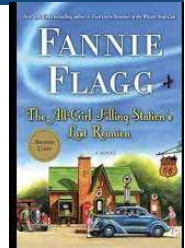
We will be discussing:

The Lost Girls of Paris
by Pam Jenoff



Book for March 1 discussion:
***The All-Girl Filling Station's
Last Reunion***

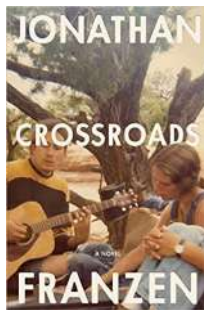
by Fannie Flagg



Crossroads

by Jonathan Franzen

—Review by Jaye Howes



The Book Group had a spirited discussion at its February get-together. The subject was ***Crossroads***, a new novel by Jonathan Franzen. Opinions varied from, “I loved it,” to, “Please! Too much information.” This book is the first installment of a trilogy entitled *A Key to All Mythologies*. Whether future efforts will center on the Hildebrandt family and their progeny is unknown, but we all agreed that there is no further backstory regarding the five Hildebrandts that Franzen hasn’t already explored (in-depth!).

Franzen’s greatest strength is his ability to build characters and to create settings of time and place. The reader is transported to 1972 in a suburb of Chicago. “Crossroads” is the name of a youth group headed by a cool, progressive, bearded dude who attracts kids to himself like a magnet. Crossroads is also a symbol of the choices we are faced with in life.

Franzen brings to life the era of the '70s: long hair, folk music, guitars, marijuana, and Vietnam.



Connect to the ***California Connection***

Did you read your “California Connection?” It is a witty outline of what is happening at the state level in an entertaining, personal fashion. And it is written by our own Dawn Johnson! Click [here](#) if you missed it!

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp



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SIG: Great Decisions

Contact [Becky Mock](#)

Two Koreas: More to the Story

—Becky Mock

The Great Decisions discussion group met on February 16 at Becky Mock's home. The topic for the evening was "Brexit: Taking Stock and Looking Ahead." As the article pointed out, the 2016 EU membership referendum vote was the "uncontested lead story in modern Britain" until the Covid-19 pandemic. Though the referendum to leave the EU was approved in 2016, there remains much unfinished business in the transition. Included in that category is how to deal with trade in Ireland, where Northern Ireland is part of the UK and no longer part of the EU, but the Republic of Ireland

remains in the EU. The US still has not created a trade agreement with the UK, though negotiations are underway. Stanford University professor Russell German notes that "American prosperity and security depend on the transatlantic relationship. The scope of the European economy is comparable to ours, and access to it remains vital."

Our next meeting will be at 4:30 pm, Wednesday, March 16 at Becky's home. The topic will be "Putin's Russia."

SIG: Wine

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

—Cindy Harp



Yes, Corks and Forks (the wine group) has been quiet, but that does not mean we haven't been tuning up our tastebuds on some very nice libations! We are most anxious to have a "grand re-opening" of the wine SIG, but am waiting for



the warmer weather to return so we have outdoor options; also waiting to be sure the current COVID varietal is actually waning to (hopefully) nearly nothing. With these two criteria in mind, it will more than likely be April, rather than March, before we can meet.

We Sponsor Community Forums

SIG: HikingContact [Trish Darcy](#)**A walk in Ahwahnee Hills Regional Park**

—Becky Mock

The hiking group met on February 12th at the Ahwahnee Hills Regional Park and enjoyed a nice, easy-going walk before it got too warm. That day happened to be one of the warmest days in the month and totally warmer than what one might normally expect in mid-February!

In the photo, left to right, Becky Mock, Frank Mock, Jody Sergienko, Shannon Gadd, Trish Darcy, and Liz Darcy. Companion pooches made sure we did not miss any interesting sites along the way.

**SIG: Garden**Contact [Karen Smith](#)

—Karen Smith

Thank you, Dan Horner and Helen Willoughby Peck for enlightening us on how to prune fruit trees! Dan clipped through Saralynn and Don's impressive orchard, snipping and whacking at a speed only rivaled by Edward Scissorhands. Dan assured us that pruning fruit trees is not as difficult and scary as we believed. It is, however, an important chore to keep fruit trees healthy and productive. Trees that are left to grow unchecked are not just unsightly and bear less fruit, but they get cranky and mean.

Pruning in the winter has several advantages for both the tree and the pruner! With their leaves gone, branches are easy to see and cut. Even more importantly, because fruit trees are dormant in the winter, there is little stress to a tree when it is pruned. Without the leaves, the trees can check out each other's new 'haircut' and make snide comments.



Master-Gardener, Dan Horner demonstrating pruning techniques

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AAUW- Mariposa

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Project Chairs/Coordinators

Leadership Team: 2021-2022

[Jody Sergienko](#)

Co-Admin

[Cindy Harp](#)

Co-Admin

[Dina Lambert](#)

Finance, Co-Membership

[Bonnie Little](#)

Co-Membership

[Rebecca Swisher](#)

Recording Secretary

[Trish Darcy](#)

Team Member; Tech Trek

[Kim Monson](#)

Team Member

[Saralynn Nusbaum](#)

Team Member

[Jaye Howes](#)

Team Member

Back Pack Project

[Kim Monson &](#)[Rebecca Swisher](#)

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Tech Trek

[Trish Darcy &](#)[Barbara Silva](#)

Website

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Yardsale

[Bonnie Little &](#)[Micki Finney](#)

The *Sierra Outpost*, newsletter of the Mariposa Branch of AAUW, is currently published on the 1st of each month.

Deadline for submissions is the 25th of the previous month. Send information/questions to editor:

jillrowney@yahoo.com

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We Open Eyes


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