



Jimson Weed
Datura wrightii



Sierra Outpost



Dove Weed
Croton setigerus

New Leadership Team open to new suggestions

—Jody Sergienko

Summer is here! With it comes our summer break and a new Leadership Team. On June 5th our branch held our annual membership meeting for business and elections. That was immediately followed by a potluck picnic party. So sorry-- we were having too much fun to take pictures. As we were packing up, Anne Dolchanczyk volunteered to join our team as a Member at Large!

The new team for the 2022-23 year is:

- President: Jody Sergienko
- Finance: Dina Lambert and Rebecca Swisher
- Membership: Dina Lambert and Bonnie Little
- Secretary: Trish Darcy
- Members at Large: Saralynn

Nusbaum, Kim Monson, and Anne Dolchanczyk Summer break ends for the new team on July 31st when we meet to plan for the upcoming year. All are welcome to attend if you have any ideas or just want to join us! And what a year it will be. There were program ideas from last year that we just could not accommodate. Much is happening nationally and globally that is relevant to the AAUW mission. Send any ideas for this coming year to any of us on the Leadership Team ([pg. 12 for contact info](#)) or join us on the 31st. An invitation will be sent out prior to this meeting.

In the between time, consider what does AAUW and our

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

AAUW CA Events in Brief	4
Backpack Project	2
California Connection	4
Contact Info	12
Events Calendar	3
Leadership Team-Message	1
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes	10
Measure O- Thank You	5
Membership:	
Member Idea Exchange	4
SIG: Book	7
SIG: Hiking	8
SIG: Great Decisions	6
SIG: International Study	6
SIG: Play Reading	7
SIG: Wine	6

mission of **“To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy”** mean to you? I don’t know about you, but I feel like the foundations of where women are in society have been shaken, if not crumbling. Read this mission statement and reflect on that. Does this change where we go from here?

Have a great summer.
See you soon!

Project: Backpack



Backpacks ready for stuffing

—Kim Monson

The backpacks are ready for stuffing! Thanks to the generosity of our members, we have 72 backpacks and all the supplies necessary to help our middle school students learn and achieve. The backpacks will be given out at the Back to School Faire at the JC Fremont Hospital on Saturday, July 30th starting at 8:30 am. I would like to host the backpack stuffing party on Thursday, July 28th at my home in Ponderosa Basin. If you are willing to help stuff the backpacks on the 28th or give them away on the 30th, please

Stuffing Party

- Thursday, July 28
- Time TBD
- Home of Kim Monson

email me at kimellen13@gmail.com. Let me know the best time of the day for you on the 28th. I will collate responses and get back to you in early July.

Thanks, Kim Monson



Events Calendar

2022

July 5	SIG—Book: 4:00pm, home of Saralynn Nusbaum
July 9	SIG—Hiking: time and place TBD
July 12	SIG—Great Decisions: 4:30, home of Becky Mock
July 19	SIG—International Study: 4:00pm, home of Karen Silver
July 28	Backpack Stuffing: Time TBD, home of Kim Monson
July 30	Health Faire— Backpack Distribution: 8:30am, JC Fremont Hospital
July 31	Leadership Team Planning Meeting: 9:00am, home of Trish Darcy
August 7	SIG—Book: 4:00pm, home of Saralynn Nusbaum
August 13	SIG—Hiking: time and place TBD



We Value Education

Membership

Bonnie Little, Dina Lambert

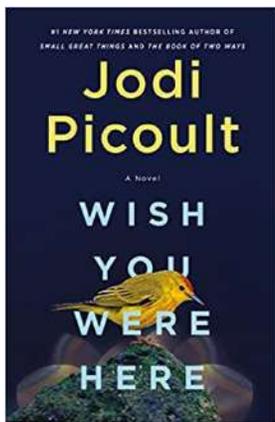


Member Corner: Idea exchange

Our members share what we have found enlightening and entertaining

—Bonnie Little

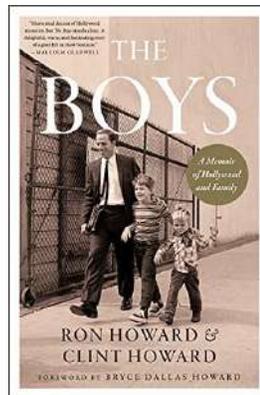
I hope that these hot days of summer have given you some time to relax and enjoy something to watch, play, listen to, or read. Here are some ideas to consider:



Georgia Gallagher recommends *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult. It is the story of a young woman who travels alone to the Galapagos Islands and then becomes stranded there due to the Covid lockdown. The novel explores the power of

people in the face of fear. The main character is forced to reconsider some of her life decisions as she waits for the lockdown to end. Georgia said that the book explores “an interesting side effect of Covid.”

Micki Finney enjoyed the memoir, *The Boys*, written by brothers Ron and Clint Howard. The book explores growing up as child actors in Hollywood. Ron Howard first came to our attention as Opie on *The Andy Griffith Show* and then went on to play Richie Cunningham on *Happy Days* and starred in movies such as *The Music*



Man and American Graffiti. He is currently an acclaimed producer and director of very successful movies. Clint Howard is best known for the TV series, *Gentle Ben*, and as a character actor in TV and movies. The Howard family was a tight-knit group, with strong leadership from the parents, which helped the boys avoid many of the pitfalls of being a child actor in Hollywood. However, there were many entertaining situations that make the book a fun read.

I recently finished a ten-episode series on Showtime titled *The First Lady*. It examined the early lives of three women who would become first ladies and concluded with their lives in the White House and beyond. Gillian Anderson portrayed Eleanor Roosevelt, Michelle Pfeiffer played Betty Ford, and Viola Davis was Michelle Obama. There were many other well-known actors in supporting roles. I found it a very compelling series to watch, especially when historical footage of actual events was added. Some of the portrayals were better than others, but I most admired Michelle Pfeiffer’s role as Betty Ford as she navigated through many life stresses and changes that were played out in public life.



We Inspire Life-Long Learning



Thank you for support of Measure O

—Karen Smith

Thank you AAUW members for your support for Measure O and for keeping emergency medical care in Mariposa County. We couldn't have made this happen without the support of so many people in the county —69.62% to be precise!

The hospital is busy getting organized to start the huge process of designing, obtaining the building permit from the state, and building the new wing of the hospital. Look for updates in the future of their progress.

The Committee to Save the Hospital thanks you all!

AAUW California

In Brief:

- **Membership renewal:** If you haven't already done so, be sure to renew your AAUW membership. Log in on National's [website](#) and renew online. There is a new procedure, so if you find it confusing, watch a how-to video [HERE](#) or read written instructions [HERE](#). Or just send a check for \$102 to one of our branch finance officers, Dina Lambert (dinallambert@gmail.com) or Rebecca Swisher (beccaswish@yahoo.com).
- **Title IX anniversary celebration:** In 1972, Congress passed the 37-word, historically profound Title IX amendment. Count them [HERE](#). Note that Title IX is NOT just about girls playing sports! AAUW had a lot to do with that. Join the celebration of Title IX's 50th anniversary [HERE](#) and be proud.



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

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

<p style="text-align: center;">International Study <i><u>Veronica Gross</u></i></p>  <p>Learn about a country, a culture, and a people. We study one country each year and meet bi-monthly.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Book Group <i><u>Saralynn Nusbaum</u></i></p>  <p>This group meets monthly to discuss both fiction and non-fiction books members chose to read the previous month.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Great Decisions <i><u>Becky Mock</u></i></p>  <p>This discussion group meets monthly to discuss a set of topics developed by the Foreign Policy Association (FPA).</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Garden Group <i><u>Karen Smith</u></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 style="text-align: center;">Environment & Social Issues <i><u>Gary Colliver</u></i></p> 	<p style="text-align: center;">Play Reading Group <i><u>Dawn Johnson</u></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 style="text-align: center;">Hiking Group <i><u>Trish Darcy</u></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 style="text-align: center;">Art Group <i><u>Jody Sergienko</u></i></p>  <p>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.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Wine Tasting <i><u>Carolyn Baker, Cindy Harp</u></i></p>  <p>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.</p>

We Sponsor Community Forums

SIG: WineContact [Carolyn Baker](#) or [Cindy Harp](#)**Favorite summer picnic wines to taste**

—Cindy Harp

Corks & Forks convened at the home of Lynn and Cindy Harp on Saturday, June 25th. Rather than choose one varietal to “judge” one label against another label, the invitation for the evening was to bring your favorite summer picnic wine, and for food, your favorite picnic dish. No pressure to “compete” for the best wine meant everyone could sample just the offerings they wished, and determine whether there might be some “new-to-me” favorites to enjoy.

It was a mellow and congenial gathering of

fourteen people counting the host and hostess, which was a perfect number to allow plenty of space. The format lent itself to individuals revolving through the various seating areas, with opportunities for all to converse with different groups. Everyone was so engaged, no one wanted to be the first to leave!

Stay tuned for more monthly meetings of the Corks & Forks SIG this new year, and be sure to sign up to join the SIG when your survey opportunity hits your inbox this summer!

**SIG: Great Decisions**Contact [Becky Mock](#)**Open invitation to “Myanmar-revisited”**

Great Decisions SIG will feature a slide presentation/narration of Karen Smith who had visited there before it became the political hotbed it is today. Everyone is invited to come— just let Becky Mock know so that she will know how many to expect.

Myanmar slide presentation

- **Date: July 12**
- **Time: 4:30pm**
- **Place: Home of Becky Mock**

**SIG: International Study**[Veronica Gross](#)**Culture of Scotland is focus for next meeting**

—Jill Rowney

The next meeting of the International Study SIG will be July 19th at 4:00pm at the home of Karen Silver.

We will be exploring the music (yes, the bagpipes!) and art of the Highlands.

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



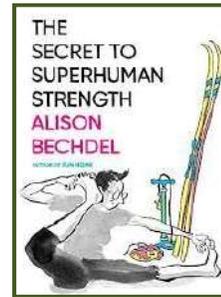
SIG - Book

Saralynn Nusbaum

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

We will be discussing:

The Secret to Superhuman Strength
By Alison Bechdel

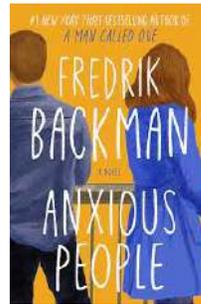


Anxious People

by Fredrik Backman

Discussion notes

by Rick Uebner



Have you read ***A Man Called Ove***, by Fredrick Backman? Then you might be interested in another Backman novel, ***Anxious People***. Can you picture a person trying to rob a cashless bank, then turning the episode into a hostage situation? And that is just into the first few pages. Enter the

local police, a father and son team not accustomed to dealing with a hostage-taker in this sleepy Swedish town. The hostages were viewing an apartment soon to be up for sale when the robber (seeking refuge) enters. Most of the rest of the account revolves around the

prospective buyers and their reasons for being there. Often humorous, this tale is not what you might expect, but an entertaining story of relationships, intrigue, and fate.

SIG: Play Reading

Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)



There's no such thing as a free lunch

—Dawn Johnson

But there is such a thing as a play titled "Lunch Hour." Six readers gathered to read this light comedy by Jean Kerr, author of "Please Don't Eat the Daisies." This fun 1980s play didn't have any botanical references, but it was an amusing tale of two married couples who discover their spouses are having an affair with each other. If you recognize the similarity with the theme of the hit Netflix series "Grace and Frankie," you're not wrong, although this play was more, shall we say, traditional. Ironically, the play's original Broadway cast included Sam

Waterston, who is one of the stars of the TV series. It also opened with Gilda Radnor, so we tried our best to channel her in our reading.

The Play Reading Group is on hiatus until the fall because it's possible our paper editions will spontaneously combust in the summer heat. Don't forget to join or rejoin when the Special Interest Group signups come out later. Remember, no dramatic talent is required, and you don't have to fake a British accent.

We Open Eyes

sig: HikingContact [Trish Darcy](#)**Destination: The Mariposa Grove**

—Trish Darcy

On Saturday, June 11th, Margarita, Lei Yue, Naoko and Trish ventured into Yosemite National Park to hike the Mariposa Grove. The hour drive to the South Entrance was a great time to catch up with each other and the line to get into the park was not bad. We got there at a good time to catch the bus up to the Lower Grove. From there we headed up to the Upper Grove, mostly using the Perimeter Trail to avoid the majority of people. We first came upon the Fallen Monarch and shortly thereafter The Bachelor and Three Graces. We finished off the Lower Grove with the Grizzly Giant and the California Tunnel Tree. At this point, there are fewer sequoias until you reach the Upper Grove. The trail is uphill, but not that bad. Once in the Upper Grove, with many sequoias surrounding us

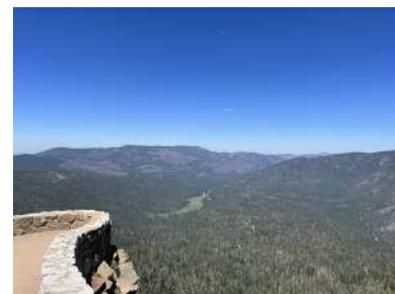


again, we visited the Telescope Tree, the Fallen Wawona Tunnel Tree, and the Galen Clark Tree. At this point Naoko wondered aloud whether any of the trees have been named after women—sadly, no. Hmmmmm, maybe something needs to be done about that.

We opted to hike the half mile to Wawona Point for the view and lunch. It was a

spectacular view to enjoy our lunch and the wildlife who were waiting for handouts! On the way back down we stopped at the Mariposa Grove Cabin which is on the site of Galen Clark's original cabin. We also saw the Clothespin Tree before heading back onto the Perimeter Trail to avoid the people again. It was a wonderful day filled with wildflowers,

wildlife, BIG trees, friends, and blue, blue skies! We were happy to see so many small sequoias starting their long life. The forest was full of 2' tall baby trees!



We Value Education



[To Page 1](#)



L to R:
Lei Yue, Naoko Kada,
Trish Darcy, Margarita
King



We Inspire Life-Long Learning



AAUW - Mariposa Branch
 Leadership Team Meeting
 May 2, 2022 6:00 p.m.
 Jody Sergienko's House

Members Attending:

Jody Sergienko, Co-President	Cindy Harp, Co-President
Kim Monson, Member at Large	Bonnie Little, Membership
Trish Darcy, STEM	Saralynn Nusbaum, Member at Large

Members Unable to Attend:

Dina Lambert, Finance Officer, Co-Membership
 Bonnie Little, Co-Membership
 Jaye Howes, Member at Large

Leadership Team Members Absent:

- Dina Lambert, Finance Officer
- Rebecca Swisher, Recording Secretary
- Jaye Howes, Member at Large

Meeting called to order at 2:20 pm

Minutes (*Rebecca Swisher*):

- Minutes were approved via email and submitted to Jill for inclusion in the June 1st news-letter.

Membership Update (*Bonnie Little*)

- Bonnie reported that we currently have 81 members. Dues are now \$102 with the \$5 increase from National. Checks may be put in the basket today or mailed to Dina. You may still renew online. It is a new process now and directions are in the email from the state.

Finance Report (*Jody*)

- Jody gave the finance report for Dina.
- Expenditures were \$20 for state dues, \$6 for website, meetings \$149.90, backpack project \$2050.07.
- No income for this month
- Ending balance \$5973.87
- Trish moved to accept the finance report. Kim seconded. Motion carried.

Co-Presidents' Report (*Cindy and Jody*)

- Jody gave a review of all we did this year. Cindy announced that she would be stepping down for next year and encouraged people to step in and get involved.
- They shared that we have ideas that we never got around to this year and we will possibly use these for next year.
- One goal for next year is to recruit younger members to build our membership and inject younger blood, energy, ideas, and leadership into our branch.
- Leadership Team Planning Meeting to be held on July 31st at noon. The location will proba-

(Continued on page 11)

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

(Continued from page 10)

bly be Trish's house on the deck, but details will be emailed out. All members are invited to attend.

End-of-year Project Reports

- **Tech Trek** (Trish)-Trish reported that we were able to select 3 girls this year and they leave for camp in a week. One was unable to get vaccinated in time and we are looking into getting her into the virtual camp.
- **Backpacks** (Kim)-Kim reported that we did 60 backpacks 2 years ago and increased it to 72 last year. We provide them for 6th-8th graders as other organizations have them for younger students. We did have some leftovers and were able to give those to counselors at the sites to give to students in need. So far Kim only has 26 backpacks. She will send out a reminder email so people can have them sent to her. Filling the backpacks will occur in July and she will send an email out to members for help with this. Members may choose to send money as a donation or send backpacks.
- **Tech Connect** (Kim)-Kim reported that we did not have any interest in this program this year. She has brainstormed with a group and they have some ideas to try again next year and will give it another go.
- **Dinner with a Scientist** (Cindy for Marilyn)-Marilyn will be reaching out to UC Merced to see if they will be willing to hold this in the fall-Covid dependent.

SIG Reports:

- **Corks and Forks**—Cindy-met for the first time in person last month and planning to meet again later this month.
- **Book Group**—Saralynn-meet the first Tuesday of the month and discuss the book that was chosen the previous month. Each member has a chance to select books and lead discussions.
- **Hiking Group**—Trish-second Saturday of each month. Each member has a chance to plan a hike.
- **Gardening Group**—Jody read a short report from Karen Smith. They are excited to be getting back on track and plan events for next year
- **International Group**—Peggy-studied Scotland this year. They meet every two months.
- **Art Group**-Jody-excited to be planning events for next year
- **Play Group**—Angela Heiss reported that this group laughs a lot! They get a different play periodically and meet to do a cold read. No previous talent or experience is needed to join!
- **Great Decisions**—Rebecca Mock-meet once a month to discuss pertinent topics in the world
- **Environment & Social Issues**—Peggy reported that this group was new this year and they were a small, but faithful group. They discussed relevant issues and read and discussed a couple of books.

New Business:

- Special Acknowledgements:
 - Cindy recognized Anne Dolchanczyk for being our Sunshine person and
 - Jill Rowney for faithfully putting together our newsletter each month.

(Continued on page 12)

We Sponsor Community Forums

(Continued from page 11)

- o She also thanked Sandi Gabe, Saralynn Nusbaum, and especially Karen Smith, and Beth Tomsick for working tirelessly to educate our community on the importance of Measure O, which is of importance to all voters in our county to make an informed decision. Rick Uebner has also served on the committee
- Jody thanked and recognized the board for their work this year.
- Cindy presented the list of nominees for the Leadership Team next year and asked for any other nominations. None were added and the slate of officers was presented as listed below and accepted as next year's Leadership Team:
 - President: Jody Sergienko
 - Finance: Dina Lambert and Rebecca Swisher
 - Membership: Dina Lambert and Bonnie Little
 - Secretary: Trish Darcy
 - Members at Large: Saralynn Nusbaum, Kim Monson

Meeting Adjourned at 3:30

AAUW- Mariposa www.aauwmariposa.com Facebook https://www.facebook.com/aauwmariposa		Project Chairs/Coordinators	
Leadership Team: 2022-2023		Back Pack Project	Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher
Jody Sergienko	President	Dinner With a Scientist	Marilyn Saunders
Dina Lambert	Co-Finance	Good Will Ambassador	Anne Dolchanczyk
Rebecca Swisher	Co-Finance	Newsletter Editor	Jill Rowney
Bonnie Little	Co-Membership	Publicity	open
Dina Lambert	Co-Membership	Social Media	Dina Lambert
Trish Darcy	Recording Secretary	Tech Connect*	Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher
Kim Monson	Team Member	Tech Trek	Trish Darcy & Barbara Silva
Saralynn Nusbaum	Team Member	Website	Dina Lambert
Anne Dolchanczyk	Team Member	Yardsale	Bonnie Little & Micki Finney
<p><i>The Sierra Outpost</i>, 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</p>		AAUW	https://aauw.org/
		AAUW California	http://www.aauw-ca.org/

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential