



Sierra Outpost

Spring: A time for new beginnings

Spring.....aaaahhhh

A time for new beginnings. The snow has melted, dormant plants have begun to grow, new seedlings have sprouted out of the ground, and those blasted ground squirrels have awakened!

This is AAUW's "spring" as well. Our fiscal year will soon begin anew and, as you might guess, opportunities to serve on our board abound. Some of our long-serving members are ready to pass the gavel. I can attest that our board is a very collaborative group and our seasoned board members are happy to provide guidance to new members; you will never be abandoned! Can't serve on the board just yet? How about stepping up to facilitate one of our special interest groups? I bet you have some friends and maybe new neighbors who are

—Saralynn Nusbaum

hoping to engage with our wonderful Mariposa community; how about inviting them to one of our events?

What's on tap so far for the new year?

Right around the corner on **April 22 is AAUW California's Annual Meeting**. The theme is "The Academy Awards." Red carpet interviews with AAUW directors and actors, screenings of finalists for the Speech Trek competition, trailers for the Tech Trek program, and of course the after-party! Click [here](#) for more information.

Over the past three years, our social time has been limited but next month we will be celebrating "**Cinco de Mayo**" at the **Grove House**.

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Click on the article title for a direct link to

Show up any time after 5:00 for a drink and maybe even have dinner. Families are welcome as well. This is just a fun gathering for our membership and the Grove House is open to the public, so you never know who you might find to visit with!

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Our **annual Yard Sale** is scheduled for May 19 & 20. Hopefully, you have been saving your treasures for this sale. Watch for details from Bonnie coming soon.

Our **Annual Meeting** will be held at Trish Darcy's house on June 11.

This year, we'll be doing a **virtual fundraiser** rather than an in-person event. The purpose will be to raise funds to enable us to send girls to Tech Trek camp. The flier on the next page has more details and will be sent to all members.

AAUW provides so many opportunities to support our community, further our goals, and, once we are able to shed our rain gear, gather and just enjoy each other!

Fundraiser:

Send a Virtual Girl to camp



Donate to help us "outfit" an imaginary girl with some of the things she'll need for camp. See flier on [page 3](#).

Events Calendar

2023

- April 3 **Leadership Team Meeting:** 6:00pm, Mariposa County Library
- April 4 **SIG—Book:** 4:30pm, home of Saralynn Nusbaum
- April 8 **SIG—Hiking:** time and place TBD
- April 19 **SIG—International Study:** 5:00pm, home of Jill Rowney
- April 22 **AAUW California Annual Event:** via Zoom, Click [HERE](#) for more information
- May 5 **Informal Gathering:** 5:00pm, Grove House
- May 13 **SIG—Hiking:** time and place TBD
- May 19-20 **Annual Yard Sale:** home of Helene Fiske
- June 11 **Annual Meeting:** home of Trish Darcy
- Mar 16 **SIG—Great Decisions:** 4:30pm, location TBD



We Value Education

This flier will be emailed to all members so you can fill it out online.
It is included here for your information.



Send a Virtual Tech Trek Girl to Camp




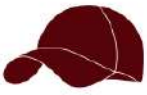



Support AAUW Mariposa Tech Trek!



AAUW Mariposa is committed to sending curious, enthusiastic, and teacher-recommended 7th-grade girls for a week of STEM learning at Tech Trek camp at Fresno State University. They'll experience college life in a dorm, experiment with fun STEM-based activities, meet other like-minded girls, and interact with women in STEM professions. We want them to know that college life is exciting and STEM is okay for girls!

Help us sponsor the cost of this life-changing experience.

Donate to help us "outfit" an imaginary girl with some of the things she'll need for camp.

	Item	Price
	Backpack	\$50.00
	Tech Trek Bear	\$15.00
	Shower Flip Flops	\$5.00
	Baseball Cap	\$15.00
	Sunscreen	\$5.00
	Tennies	\$25.00
	Notebook	\$10.00
	Toiletries	\$10.00
	I want to purchase everything!	\$125.00
	I want to add a little more in case she left something at home.	
	Enter your grand total HERE 	

Name _____ Email _____

Send your donation check payable
to AAUW Mariposa to
Dina Lambert
4939 Ponderosa Way
Midpines, CA 95345

OR

Pay by PayPal using this QR code

by April 30th



100% of your non-deductible monetary donation will be used to support the cost of sending Mariposa students to AAUW California's Tech Trek camp. Thank you for supporting Tech Trek!

For more information contact: Trish Darcy at tbdarcy1@gmail.com or 209-617-0631



Program

Enlightening the public about disabilities

On March 15, a good crowd filled the Board of Supervisors room to hear information on disabilities of all kinds, whether easily visible or not. Our first speaker was Dr. Angelica Guevara (pictured below). She describes herself



as a “Neurodivergent Latina with a Reading and Writing Disability.” When Dr. Guevara was going through UCLA, it became apparent that she was having great

difficulty with reading assignments. The words appeared very distorted to her. After much testing, her disability was diagnosed and modifications were made for her. Now she is able to hear the material presented orally and has an excellent auditory memory. We also learned about the legal ramifications of hiring and accommodating people with disabilities. The audience was very engaged and asked excellent questions.

Our second speaker was our very own Anne Dolchanczyk. Anne was a Special Education teacher in Mariposa for many years and after retirement, returned to be an aide in the Special Ed classroom. That’s dedication! Anne provided very specific resources to consider, especially for parents who suspect that

—Bonnie Little

their child might have a learning disability. Besides our school district, there are additional organizations that can help. Once again, our audience had valuable insights to share.

After the program, comments were very positive about the quality of our event. Thank you Angelica and Anne for your enlightening presentations!



Anne Dolchanczyk

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

SAVE THE DATE!

ANNUAL YARD SALE

FRIDAY, MAY 19 AND

SATURDAY, MAY 20.

Please keep saving those items that you no longer need but someone else will treasure. Sign-ups for ways you can volunteer to help will be coming soon.

As always, please don't bring books or clothing to sell. We have also found that electronic items do not sell well. So please, take your computer or TV equipment to the recyclers instead.

So, what kind of items do we want? Here are some ideas:

- Small appliances
- Furniture

- Home décor items
- Holiday decorations
- Kitchen items
- Sports equipment
- Artwork
- Baby and Child equipment and toys
- Jewelry

Think of something you look for if you go to a yard sale!

Let's work together to make this a major success!

—Bonnie Little



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 Sponsor Community Forums



Project: Tech Trek



Six Mariposa girls selected to attend Tech Trek 2023

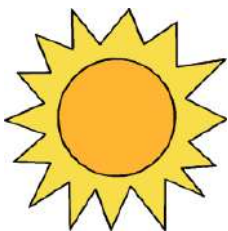
—Trish Darcy

We have selected our girls for this year! They are Annalee Blagg, Harmony Buckner, Sophie Constancio, Savanna Green, Harmony Miltmore, and Khloe Reynolds. Congratulations to them all! We budgeted for five girls to go this year, but all six candidates were so outstanding and we have a generous benefactor willing to pay for the sixth girl to attend. We are just waiting for final confirmation from camp that we can send an extra camper.

Thank you to Liz Darcy, Becky Mock, and Sara Robison for being our interview team.

Thanks also to Dawna Hunter and Barbara Silva for speaking with the parents during the interviews to fill them in on all the details for camp.

We will be setting up a meeting in May for the girls to meet Sophie Pike, who went to camp last year, and hear all about how it went. They will be able to ask her any questions as well. While that is going on we are hoping to have Dawna Hunter and Kim Monson meet with the parents to give them camp details and allow for questions as well.



Being there for each other

—Anne Dolchanczyk

Please let me know whenever you or any member needs our support. I will get the word out. We are definitely stronger together!
dolchanczyk1944@gmail.com.

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Membership

Bonnie Little, Dina Lambert



Member Corner: Idea exchange

Our members share what we have found enlightening and entertaining

Are you looking for something to read or watch if the weather suggests that it is better to be indoors? Check out these suggestions from our members!

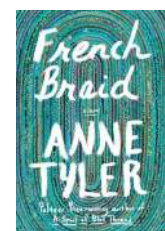
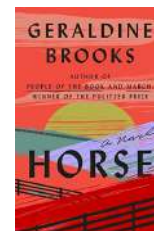
Have you watched Apple TV's **Ted Lasso**? Jody Sergienko recommends this comedy/drama which is starting its third season. It is the story of an American football coach who is hired to coach a British soccer team called AFC Richmond. He is hired despite the fact that he does not have experience coaching soccer. What the coach lacks in experience, he makes up for in optimism, determination, and biscuits (in the U.S. we call them scones). Ultimately his "folksy" leadership proves successful. The show has won numerous Emmy awards and is called "a show with heart" and "quirky and engaging". Ted Lasso is played by actor Jason Sudeikis and can be watched on Apple TV.



Last month Micki Finney recommended three books. I checked them out of the library and

—Bonnie Little

first read **The Reading List** and found it very charming. A library employee finds a piece of paper tucked into a book with a list of eight books. This list ultimately finds its way into the hands of many people and relationships are formed. I've read almost all of the books on this list of eight, but am determined to read them all. If you are curious about the books, check out **The Reading List** by Sara Nisha Adams. I'm now reading Micki's second recommendation, **French Braid** by Anne Tyler. Next I will be reading **Horse** by Geraldine Brooks.



If you read, watch, or listen to anything recommended in this column, I would love to hear your feedback. Please keep sending me your ideas!

mbmslittle@sti.net

We Open Eyes

SIG Overview

Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

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 Value Education



SIG: International Study

Veronica Gross

Estonia: Struggle for sovereignty

—Jill Rowney

On Tuesday, March 28, Tiina Wilson continued her presentation on the history and politics of Estonian people. This little country has been a “political football,” being tossed from one aggressor to another, namely Russia and Germany. We were treated to a portion of the documentary, *The Singing Revolution: A single nation, a million voices, the fall of an empire*. The “Singing Revolution” is the story of humankind’s irrepressible drive for freedom and self-determination. Tiina concluded

by emphasizing there are so many people in this world who suffer and are fighting for their freedom and those who enjoy freedom cannot take it for granted lest it be wrested from them.

At our next meeting we will be exploring the natural dyes, weaving, and colorful textiles of the Baltic Region. We will meet again at the home of Jill Rowney on April 19 at 5:15pm.



SIG: Wine

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

Syrah or Petite Syrah: what’s your preference?

—Jill Rowney

Finally, a chance to taste these varietals back to back and note the differences.... Or not.

We had four of each varietal from a varied geographic range— from California (of course), to Washington State, to Australia (where Syrah is usually known as Shiraz) and a varied price range— from \$40 (Donati, Paso Robles, CA) to \$7 (a Lindeman Shiraz from Australia). We tasted, then tasted some more. We came to the conclusion that both varietals were very similar to our palates and not a single one stood out as the

hands-down winner. Winners, however, were the tasters who enjoyed not only the wines, but the chance to socialize after being held hostage for so long by the weather!



We Inspire Life-Long Learning

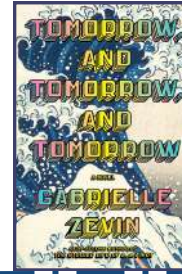


SIG - Book

Saralynn Nusbaum

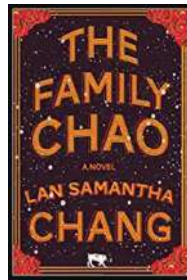
Our next meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 4 at 4:30 pm** at the home of Saralynn Nusbaum. We will be discussing:

Tomorrow and Tomorrow and Tomorrow
By Gabrielle Zevin



The Family Chao
by Lan Samantha Chang

Discussion notes
by Anne Dolchanczyk



The Family Chao was highly rated on various sites, including NPR book reviews. The characters were certainly not very likable. The writing was very good. The author is the director of the Iowa Writing Project. She wrote this book as an homage to *The Brothers Karamazov*. The plot had many twists and turns and is character driven. The patriarch of a Chinese restaurant in a small town in Wisconsin is murdered.

Several characters had cause to commit the murder. The trial has a surprising ending. The novel confronts the truth about the immigrant experience and family dysfunction. Some of our members really enjoyed the book and appreciated the insight into lives of immigrants in America. Others found the writing a little disjointed... we never did find any closure at the end, but perhaps that was the author's intention.



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www.MariposaNativePlants.com
MariposaNativePlants@gmail.com
209-966-3770

See our website for plant availability and upcoming sales locations.

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

SIG: Hiking Contact [Trish Darcy](#)



With the inclement weather we have had, the hiking group has had to cancel the last hike and stay indoors. Hopefully we will be blessed with clear skies to hit the trail this April 8th and May 13th. Call or email Trish at tbdarcy1@gmail.com for more details. -Jill R



SIG: Garden Contact [Karen Smith](#)

As the weather becomes more gardener-friendly, most members will be quite busy in their own plots, preparing soil for planting, weeding, etc. But there are timely workshops given by Master Garden-

ers and seasonal events (opening of iris nurseries) that Karen usually notifies us about. Contact Karen at smithandmartin@sti.net if you would like to be added to her contact list. —Jill R



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

Alas, due to the bad weather, we had to cancel last month’s reading of *Plaza Suite* by Neil Simon. Stay tuned to see when our next

thespian experience will be and hope the weather cooperates! —Jill R



SIG: Great Decisions Contact [Becky Mock](#)

Laurel Nguyen lead the discussion on “Foreign policy, economic power, and U.S. industrial policy” at the March 30 meeting. We usually meet on the third

Thursday every other month, but our meeting this month got moved out a couple of weeks because several members had conflicts. Our next meeting will be May 18.

We Sponsor Community Forums





AAUW - Mariposa Branch
Leadership Team Meeting
February 6, 2023
6:00 PM

Members:

- Dina Lambert, Co-Finance Officer/Membership
- Rebecca Swisher, Co-Finance Officer-unable to attend due to work
- Bonnie Little, Co-Membership
- Kim Monson, Member at Large
- Trish Darcy, Recording Secretary/STEM
- Jody Sergienko, President
- Saralynn Nusbaum, Member at Large
- Anne Dolchanczyk, Member at Large

Jody called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm

Minutes (*Trish Darcy*):

Approval of February meeting minutes - Minutes approved online and submitted to Jill for the newsletter.

Membership Update (*Dina Lambert, Bonnie Little*)

- Current Member Numbers - New member makes it 81.
- Directory Update-still have several needing to be delivered. We will have them at the Disabilities event to hand out.

Finance Report (*Dina Lambert, Rebeca Swisher*):

- Dina presented the finance report. The expenditures were \$6 for website hosting, \$141.68 for rental of the Miner's Inn, and \$296.89 for the new banner. The income was \$68.50 membership and \$102 donation. The \$102 was an overpayment by a new member and will be reimbursed. It was entered under donations as a placeholder and will be credited once the refund is processed. The ending balance is \$4653.32. Trish moved to approve the finance report as presented. Bonnie seconded. Motion carried.
- The dues will go up another \$5 for next year. It was a 3-year plan to raise the dues and this is the 3rd year.
- There was discussion of how difficult the National website is to maneuver. It is difficult to get new members into the system. There is too much to do and it is frustrating.

Standing Projects:

- **Dinner with a Scientist** (*Marilyn Saunders*)-This was pushed to spring 2023, but we have not heard from her to determine if/when this will happen. We will put this on hold until we hear from Marilyn.
- **Backpack** (*Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher*)-Holding until May or June
- **Tech Trek** (*Trish Darcy*)-We got 6 applications turned in. Scorers have the applications now and they are due to Trish Saturday. Interviews will be March 18th. They all seem to be viable candidates. If the

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We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

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applications and interviews support it, we may want to send all 6 (if Becca can take another camper). The camp did not increase in price and stands at \$900 per camper. We budgeted \$3000 and with what we have in our camp account down there now, we only have to pay \$2700, leaving \$300 of our budget. We would need \$600 more if we decide to send another camper. We have one person that has reached out and offered to donate toward that.

- **Tech Connect** (*Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher*) -Still waiting to start up again. We are excited to choose our own topic for next year and see this as a way to get more interest.

Fundraisers:

- **Yard Sale** - May 19th and 20th. Bonnie will reach out to Helene and see if this is still possible. If they are unavailable to have it there this year, Bonnie will reach out to the members to see if anyone can host. If not, we will look into renting a place in town, but that will cut into our profit.
- **Mad Hatter Fundraiser/non-event event** -Sandi has redone her proposal changing it to “**Send a Girl to Camp.**”
 - Check or cash can go to Dina
 - Paypal or Venmo-Dina will look into setting up a Venmo
 - Contact Sandi, Trish or Dina for questions
 - Due date April 30th.
 - We send a minimum of 5 girls.
 - The board gave the approval to have Sandi get this going.

Programs: These are our current plans

- **March - Disabilities** - March 15th at Board of Supervisors. Advertising is out on Social Media, email, and we have sent an article to the Gazette. We discussed doing a Robo Call next Monday evening for a reminder for the members. Dina will have to look to see that the phone numbers are current. Trish will type up something for Dawn to say and Bonnie will contact Dawn. Trish will get the PA system to someone. We will see if someone can do a Facebook Live that we can put on our page.
- **April - Homeowner’s Insurance**-Jody hasn’t been able to contact the speakers yet as they are out of town. She will work to make contact with them to get this organized. This may need to get pushed back if contact cannot be made in time.
- **April 22nd** - AAUW California’s annual meeting, The registration is not out for this yet.
- **May - Social time** at the Grove House for Cinco de Mayo 5:00 May 5th.
- **June - Annual Meeting** on June 11th.

Old Business:

- Vinita’s program- Vinita did a great job. We had a little over 20 people attend. She also has another program from her being in a terrorist attack. Something to think about for the future. It sounded interesting to us all.
- Instagram Account -This is up and running!

New Business:

- Location for next month’s meeting-We are set up to meet at the library at 6 pm every month.

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We Value Education

(Continued from page 13)

- Butterfly Parade-May 6th, deadline to apply April 26th-no one is stepping up to organize it so we will scrap it for this year.
- Next month we need to start talking about next year's board. The slate has to be in the May newsletter so that we can vote at the June 11th meeting. We all need to look around and talk to people. We will be losing some board members for next year, so need to fill the spots.

Newsletter Assignments:

- Member Profile: April 2023 - Kim will do this
- Lead article (Admin Overview): April-Saralynn will write something about the State annual meeting as well as looking for new members for next year's board.

Leadership Meeting Lead:

April 2023: (agenda) - Jody will do this

Branch Buzz (Trish Darcy):

Trish Darcy will send out the Branch Buzz

Action Items:

- Bonnie will finalize the location of the yard sale and then begin the organization for it.
- Trish will get back to Sandi about the fundraiser with the answers to her questions.
- Dina will look into setting up Venmo.
- Dina and Bonnie will work with Dawn to do a Robo Call as a reminder for the March 15th event.
- Jody will organize the April event on Homeowners' Insurance.

We all will think and talk to people about joining our team.

Upcoming Dates:

March 15th Hidden Disabilities
April Insurance
April 22nd AAUW California Annual Meeting
May 5th Cinco de Mayo at The Grove House
June 11th Annual Meeting at Trish Darcy's house

Meeting adjourned at 7:22 pm

AAUW- Mariposa
www.aauwmariposa.com
 Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/aauwmariposa>

Project Chairs/Coordinators

Leadership Team: 2022-2023

Jody Sergienko	President
Dina Lambert	Co-Finance
Rebecca Swisher	Co-Finance
Bonnie Little	Co-Membership
Dina Lambert	Co-Membership
Trish Darcy	Recording Secretary
Kim Monson	Team Member
Saralynn Nusbaum	Team Member
Anne Dolchanczyk	Team Member

Back Pack Project	Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher
Dinner With a Scientist	Marilyn Saunders
Good Will Ambassador	Anne Dolchanczyk
Newsletter Editor	Jill Rowney
Publicity	open
Social Media	Dina Lambert
Tech Connect*	Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher
Tech Trek	Trish Darcy & Barbara Silva
Website	Dina Lambert
Yardsale	Bonnie Little & Micki Finney

AAUW	https://aauw.org/
AAUW California	http://www.aauw-ca.org/



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp