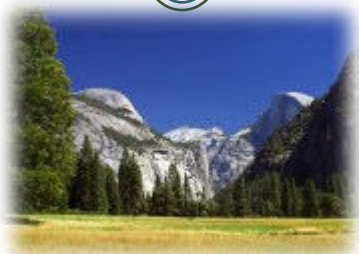




*Lupinus polyphyllus*



*Madia elegans*

## Sierra Outpost



### Butterfly Festival: AAUW members to work the information booth

—Trish Darcy

Our signup sheet is full and we are ready to man the information booth at the Butterfly Festival! All volunteers receive a wristband for the day they work so they can come and go as they wish . This should be a fun event .

#### Butterfly Festival:

**Saturday, May 3**

10:00am-5:00pm

**Sunday, May 4**

10:00am-4:00pm

Mariposa County Fairgrounds

If you are working, please arrive a few minutes before your shift to be ready to go. If you have any questions, email Anne Dolchanczyk at [Dochanczyk1944@gmail.com](mailto:Dochanczyk1944@gmail.com). Also, if you did not get a chance to sign up and still wish to do so, email her and she will find a slot for you. You can never have too many volunteers! Wear your polo if you ordered one! We will have them for you before the event.  
Thank you to those helping out.

#### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

California Connection	<u>4</u>
Contact Info	<u>13</u>
Events Calendar	<u>2</u>
Leadership Team:	
Annual Meeting/Potluck	<u>2</u>
Leadership Team Nomination Slate	<u>3</u>
Minutes– April	<u>11</u>
Scholarship Committee	<u>4</u>
Membership:	
Auction Item: Bocce Ball	<u>7</u>
Butterfly Festival	<u>1</u>
Cocktails and Convos	<u>5</u>
Program: Fab after Forty	<u>5</u>
Welcome to New Members	<u>6</u>
Special Interest Groups:	
SIG: Book	<u>9</u>
SIG: International Study	<u>9</u>
SIG: Play Reading	<u>10</u>
Tech Trek	<u>4</u>

## Events Calendar

### 2025

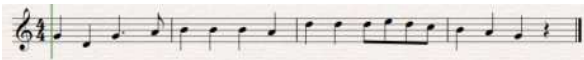
May 1	<b>Leadership Team Meeting:</b> 4:00pm, Mariposa County Library
May 3-4	<b>Butterfly Festival,</b> Mariposa County Fairgrounds
May 12	<b>SIG—Book:</b> 2:00pm, home of Jaye Howes
May 10	<b>SIG—Hiking:</b> Yosemite Valley
May 14	<b>Cocktails and Convos:</b> 5:00pm, The Alley
May 31	<b>SIG—International Study:</b> 5:15pm, home of Veronica Gross
June 8	<b>Annual Meeting:</b> 1:00pm, Home of Trish Darcy



## Leadership

### Make new friends, and keep the old.....

—Trish Darcy



Our annual meeting is scheduled for Sunday, June 8th, at 1:00 at Trish Darcy's house. Be looking for an Evite in the next couple of weeks. It is hard to believe another year is getting ready to come to a close!

We will start with a potluck lunch so bring something yummy to share. We will have all the plates, cups, and utensils as well as non-alcoholic beverages, but if you want something else, please feel free to bring your own.

We will do a review of the year as well as entertain suggestions for next year. If you are a project coordinator or a SIG leader, please be ready to tell us briefly what you did this year and/or are planning for next year. If you are unable to attend, please designate someone in your group to share with us.

We would like to use this event as a membership drive as well and have chosen the theme of "Make New Friends, but Keep the Old."

We encourage you to bring a friend or even just an acquaintance who might be interested in becoming a member. Think of someone you know from church or work or the gym or a neighbor or a business owner-get creative!

We hope to make this a fun day and meet new people!

### Annual Meeting/Potluck

**Sunday, June 8**

**1:00 pm**

**Home of Trish Darcy**

We Value Education



To Page 1

## Leadership

### Proposed Leadership Team for 2025-26

—Trish Darcy

It is that time of year again to nominate members for next year's Leadership Team. The team works together to make decisions for YOU, the membership. We are always looking for new members of the team. There are several reasons to recruit new members.

1. It is always good to have someone with a new perspective.
2. New people mean new ideas!
3. It shares the workload so that people don't get burned out. Consider volunteering to help us out next year.

Being a Member at Large means that you attend the monthly meetings and give input. That is it. Beyond that, it is your choice as to what else you get involved in. This is a great place to start. You can also volunteer to Co-chair with someone. That makes the job easier as well. We are super easy to work with and would love to have you join us!

In the May newsletter we publish the nominees for the positions so that the membership is ready to vote at our annual meeting on June 8th. This allows people time to consider throwing their hat in the ring for a position as well. We have five elected positions. The nominations for these positions are:

- **President**-Trish Darcy (one more year!)

- **Recording Secretary**-Becky Mock
- **Finance Officer**-Jill Rowney
- **Vice President of Membership**-Bonnie Little and Liz Darcy
- **Vice President of Programs**-OPEN (This could be you, but you would not be alone. The team is always helpful when it comes to programs.)

We also have several positions that are appointed. These are as follows:

- \* **Member at Large**-Kim Monson
- \* **Member at Large**-Anne Dolchanczyk
- \* **Member at Large**-Mary Jensen
- \* **Backpack Project**-Kim Monson and Rebecca Swisher
- \* **Tech Trek**-Trish Darcy and Barbara Silva
- \* **Fundraising**-Sandi Gabe
- \* **Goodwill Ambassador**-Anne Dolchanczyk
- \* **Newsletter**-Jill Rowney
- \* **Publicity and Social Media**-Sandi Gabe and Dawn Johnson
- \* **Website**-Sandi Gabe

Please come to our annual meeting/potluck on June 8th at 1:00 at Trish's house to make the final vote for these positions.

We Inspire Lifelong Learning



To Page 1



## Project: Tech Trek

# Girls to meet with experienced “Trekkers”

—Trish Darcy

We are looking forward to hosting our seven campers at a meeting in May to get them acquainted with the details of camp. We will have past campers there to speak with this year's group and share their experiences. They will also have the opportunity to ask any questions they may have. We will also have our members, Dawna Hunter and Kim Monson, there to

talk with the parents and answer questions they may have as well. We have found that this helps with the jitters that some campers feel before going to camp. It also helps to calm any hesitations that the parents may have. We are excited for this meeting as the girls' excitement rubs off on us and it makes us want to pack our bags and join!



## Scholarships anyone?

We have some interest in developing an AAUW scholarship program. There are many pieces to be considered. If you are interested in looking into this and helping to set it up, please email Liz Darcy [edarcy6@gmail.com](mailto:edarcy6@gmail.com) to let her know that you would like to be on the committee.

## AAUW California



## 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



[To Page 1](#)

## Membership

### Cocktails and Convo: Last one of the year

Come join us for our last Cocktails and Convo of the year. We will be at The Alley this time and will start at 5:00. We have had such fun times at these events and have had such a wide range of topics to discuss. Grab your cocktail and join us outside, downstairs for this one.

**Cocktails and Convo**

**Wednesday, May 14**

**5:00 pm**

**The Alley**

### “Fab after 40” provided wealth of information

The “Fab after Forty” Women’s Health Event on Saturday, April 26th, was a great success. The presentations by Hannah Fouch, Malina Bondshu, Rose Fluharty, and Stacey Lynch were very informative, and everyone who attended loved the wealth of information that was provided. These women, all of whom are originally from Mariposa, are dedicated to helping our community members live healthy, productive lives. Their presentations were lively and interesting and those who attended had many great questions. A huge thanks to Liz Darcy for engaging this great group of local health advocates.



**They covered all the bases.**

L-R:

Stacey Lynch, Behavioral Health Specialist

Hannah Fouch, Nurse Practitioner

Rose Fluharty, Nutritionist

Malina Bondshu, Physical Fitness Trainer

**We Sponsor Community Forums**

## Membership

# Welcome to our newest members!

New members keeps our branch alive with fresh perspectives and new ideas. Thank you and a warm welcome to:

Sue Beatty  
CSU Humboldt  
[77beatty@gmail.com](mailto:77beatty@gmail.com)

SIG: Hiking and International Study

Debbie Bennett  
Virginia Tech, BA  
West Virginia College of Law, JD  
[deborah@mercedlawyer4kids.com](mailto:deborah@mercedlawyer4kids.com)

Peggy Moore  
CSU Humboldt, BA  
UC Berkeley, MS  
[pemoore4@gmail.com](mailto:pemoore4@gmail.com)

SIG: Hiking

Lisa Wellard  
U of Oregon  
Wisconsin's Governor's Univ.  
[lisaw765@gmail.com](mailto:lisaw765@gmail.com)  
SIG: Hiking, Wine, and International Study

Contact Bonnie Little for more information.

## WELCOME TO AAUW

The American Association of University Women (AAUW), founded in 1881, is the nation's leading organization advocating equity for women and girls. Its national membership of 170,000 members and supporters seeks to advance equity for women and girls through

- ♦ RESEARCH

- ♦ EDUCATION

- ♦ ADVOCACY

People of every race, creed, age, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, and level of physical ability are invited to join.

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



## Fundraiser

—Rick Uebner

### Auction item from the Tea Party: An afternoon of Bocce Ball, snacks, and camaraderie

A good time was had by the Gibbons and the Matlocks, winners at last year's AAUW fund raiser, at the Uebners' bocce ball court in Catheys Valley. The game was accompanied by a charcuterie board full of goodies with the help of the Californian in Mariposa.





**Mariposa Native Plants**

www.MariposaNativePlants.com  
MariposaNativePlants@gmail.com  
209-742-1540 Ron & Beverley

See our website for plant availability



**HARP**  
INSURANCE  
SERVICES

**Cindy Harp**  
AGENT  
CA LICENSE NO. 0M04815  
CELL: 831-241-1811  
EMAIL: cindy\_harp@earthlink.net

**LIFE • HOME • HEALTH • BUSINESS**

PHONE/FAX: 209-966-6263 OR 1-800-959-5630  
5834 HARRIS CUT OFF ROAD, MARIPOSA, CA 95338  
www.harpins.com

We Value Education



To Page 1

## 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 monthly.

### Book Group Jaye Howes



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

### 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 Becky Mock



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



**Does something else tweak your interest? Consider coordinating a new SIG!**

### Wine Tasting Anne Dolchanczyk



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

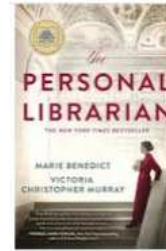




## SIG: Book

Contact [Jaye Howes](#)

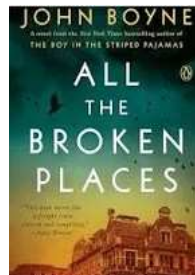
Our next meeting will be on  
Monday, May 12, at 2:00 pm  
at the home of Jaye Howes  
We will be discussing  
***The Personal Librarian***  
by Marie Benedict and  
Victoria Christopher Murray



Discussion notes  
by Rick Uebner

*All the Broken Places*  
By John Boyne

Ninety-one-year-old Gretel Fernsby lives a quiet, comfortable life in London despite her disturbing, dark past. She doesn't talk about her escape from Nazi Germany, or about her father, a commandant at one of the Reich's extermination camps. Her journey takes her through Paris, Sydney, Australia and finally London. Nevertheless, she can't



escape the haunting memories of her past and the guilt that follows.

Once a solitary soul, she becomes friends with her neighbors, one flight below her apartment. A series of unsettling events lead her to make a life-changing decision. The story starts in 1946 and ends in present day.



## SIG: International Study

Contact [Veronica Gross](#)

### Music of Vietnam with strings attached

—Jill Rowney

The International Study group met at the home of Nancy and Peter Sproul in April. Atop Mt. Bullion we were treated with magnificent views and amazing food as well as a comprehensive look (and listen) to traditional music of the Vietnamese culture. As with so many cultural folk traditions, the instruments serve an important role in ritual ceremonies and

story telling. The stringed instruments resemble those of others around the globe, from the single stringed "Danbau" to the many stringed "Dan tranh" zither. Some are plucked, some strummed, some played with a bow. Similarly, the drums, percussive wood, gongs, double reeds, and flutes, as seen throughout the world, have a unique look and sound in the



Vietnamese tradition. Peter shared his extensive research and the instrument models he and Nancy have collected.

We Inspire Lifelong Learning

**SIG: Play Reading**Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)**We were in our prime for *Marjorie Prime***

—Dawn Johnson

A small but loquacious group gathered to read the drama, *Marjorie Prime*. It was a nice departure to read something that was written about “modern” times and not the era before indoor plumbing.

Written in 2016, the play ironically predicted the coming age of artificial intelligence, which was encapsulated in a humanoid “robot” that served as a youthful, handsome companion to an elderly woman experiencing dementia. Her endearing and patient “Prime” was programmed to collect only the memories she chose to share and fed them back to her endlessly in a self-curated story of her life.

As the play moved along, we met three members of the woman’s family who tried to share different, possibly more authentic memories. But, in a delightful twist at the end, we learned that two of them were, in fact, “Primes” too.

The author’s question was: What would we remember, and what would we forget, if given the chance? But the real question was: how far will technology go in mimicking the human mind? This play probably felt science fiction-y in 2016. Not so today. Order your Prime now.

**We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp**



AAUW Branch  
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes  
April 3, 2025  
Mariposa County Library

**Members:**

- Bonnie Little, Co-Membership (present)
- Liz Darcy, Co-Membership (present)
- Becky Mock, Recording Secretary (absent)
- Trish Darcy, President/Tech Trek (present)
- Kim Monson, Gov Trek (absent)
- Jill Rowney, Finance/Newsletter (present)
- Anne Dolchanczyk, Goodwill Ambassador (absent)

**The Meeting was called to order at 3:59 pm**

**Minutes** (*Becky Mock*)

Approved online and sent to Jill for the newsletter

**Membership Update** (*Liz Darcy, Bonnie Little*)

- Current number 73, 4 of them are new and Jill has a possible new one!
- Price increase-\$2 increase for National will take the total to \$107 to \$109. There will be another \$2 again next year.
- Trish will help Bonnie and Liz reorganize the member spreadsheet
- Bonnie will be sending an email to the members welcoming the new members
- Membership Drive at Annual Meeting-start letting members know to bring a friend to the meeting. Email, article for May newsletter

**Finance Report** (*Jill Rowney*)

- Income: \$71 Dues, \$850 donation to Tech Trek, \$60 for Polo Shirts for a total of \$981 of income.
- Expenses: \$56 dues, \$7.20 for web hosting, \$2700 for Tech Trek for a total of \$2763.20 of expenses.
- Balance of \$9670.49.
- Trish moved to approve and Liz seconded. Motion carried.

**Standing Projects:**

- Backpack Project-Kim-done for this year
- Tech Trek-Trish-waiting for parents to fill out registration, May 18th meeting with parents and girls at Barbara Silva's house.
- Lunch with Women in Leadership-postponed or restructured for fall
- Scholarship-will have a committee to discuss for next year, we'll put a blurb in the May newsletter and then mention it at the annual meeting in June.

**Fundraisers:**

- Butterfly Festival
  - [Butterfly Festival Sign Ups](#)
  - Trish will coordinate with Anne and send out sign up form to membership
- Sandi working on a fundraiser for Spring of 2026

We Sponsor Community Forums

- Other ideas-fun run might be an idea, tie it to something specific, like Tech Trek
- Pioneer Receipts-would we qualify to collect these and turn them in?

March	29th 11-2 pm Lunch with Women in Leadership 15th 3-5 Women's History	Trish Kim
April	Women's Health after 40-April 26	Liz and Becky
May	Butterfly Festival Volunteer Cocktails and Convos-May 14	Anne Trish
June	Annual Meeting-June 8th?	Trish

### Programs/Events:

#### Old Business:

- Mentor Project (*Anne Dolchanczyk*) *Is this something we want to pursue*
- Women's Health-Trish will organize having cookies and water at the intermission
- Cocktails and Convos will be May 14th at 5:00 at The Alley
- Event Planning Timeline and planning template-in progress
- [AAUW Program/Event Planning Timeline and Template](#)

#### New Business:

- Member Spotlight-Kim will do for May newsletter
- Annual Meeting-June 8th 1:00 at Trish's house. Potluck first and then the meeting, Theme is Make New Friends so each member will be encouraged to bring a friend and they will get a ticket for a drawing,
- Branch Buzz-Trish for Becky
- July planning meeting date July 9th at 11:30 at Jill's, potluck lunch
- Nominations: Anyone interested in doing the agendas and meetings and Trish will do the rest for next year?
- Proposed Leadership slate, elected:
  - **President**-Trish Darcy (one more year!)
  - **Recording Secretary**-Becky Mock
  - **Finance Officer**-Jill Rowney
  - **Vice President of Membership**-Bonnie Little and Liz Darcy
  - **Vice President of Programs**-OPEN
- Proposed Leadership slate, appointed:
  - **Member at Large**-Kim Monson
  - **Member at Large**- Mary Jensen
  - **Member at Large**-Anne Dolchanczyk
  - **Backpack Project**-Kim Monson and Rebecca Swisher
  - **Tech Trek**-Trish Darcy and Barbara Silva

(Continued on page 13)

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



To Page 1

(Continued from page 12)

- **Fundraising**-Sandi Gabe
- **Goodwill Ambassador**-Anne Dolchanczyk
- **Newsletter**-Jill Rowney
- **Publicity and Social Media**-Sandi Gabe and Dawn Johnson
- **Website**-Sandi Gabe

**Upcoming Dates:**

- April 26th-Fab After 40
- Leadership Team mtg-May 1st
- Butterfly Festival-May 3rd and 4th
- May 14th-Cocktails and Convos at The Alley
- June 8th-Annual Meeting
- Anything else? We will need to ask members if they want their education in the directory.

**The meeting was adjourned at 5:12 pm**

AAUW- Mariposa:

[www.aauwmariposa.com](http://www.aauwmariposa.com)

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/aauwmariposa>

Instagram:

AAUW\_Mariposa

**Leadership Team: 2024-2025**

<a href="#">Trish Darcy</a>	President
<a href="#">Jill Rowney</a>	Finance
<a href="#">Bonnie Little</a>	Co-Membership
<a href="#">Liz Darcy</a>	Co-Membership
<a href="#">Becky Mock</a>	Recording Secretary
<a href="#">Anne Dolchanczyk</a>	Team Member
<a href="#">Kim Monson</a>	Team Member

**Project Chairs/Coordinators**

Backpack Project	<a href="#">Kim Monson &amp; Rebecca Swisher</a>
Fundraising	<a href="#">Sandi Gabe</a>
Good Will Ambassador	<a href="#">Anne Dolchanczyk</a>
Newsletter Editor	<a href="#">Jill Rowney</a>
Gov Trek	<a href="#">Kim Monson</a>
Programs/Events	<a href="#">open</a>
Publicity	<a href="#">Sandi Gabe</a>
Social Media	<a href="#">Trish Darcy</a>
Tech Trek	<a href="#">Trish Darcy &amp; Barbara Silva</a>
Website	<a href="#">Dina Lambert</a>

AAUW <https://aauw.org/>

AAUW California <http://www.aauw-ca.org/>

**We Open Eyes**



**To Page 1**