



Clarkia (Farewell to Spring)
Clarkia dudleyana



Madia elegans

Sierra Outpost

Annual Meeting and Potluck

—Trish Darcy



We hope you have received the Evite to our Annual Meeting and Potluck. Group emails from sites such as Evite have a tendency to go to Spam/Junk. Darn them! We try to send out the link to the Evite as well, in case yours went on a 'Cyber Trek' somewhere. It will again be held at Trish Darcy's house (5150 Darrah Rd.) on June 8th at 1:00. Bring something to share for lunch—savory or sweet! We will have non-alcoholic drinks available, but you may bring whatever else you may want to drink.

This year we have chosen the

theme of **"Make New Friends."** We have had several events in the last few months that have brought us several new members, so we figured this is a good way to increase membership. Sooooo, rack your brains. Is there someone you know who might be interested in joining us? Maybe you know someone from church, or work, or the gym, or your neighbors, or the checker at the store, or the med tech at the doctor's office. Invite them to come and see what we are all about. Just be sure to include them in your RSVP numbers so that we can

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Annual Meeting/Potluck

Sunday, June 8

1:00 pm

Home of Trish Darcy

5150 Darrah Road, Mariposa

Leadership

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have enough seating. You can edit your RSVP on the Evite or you can just email tbdarcy1@gmail.com and we will keep track.

We will be voting on next year's leadership team and letting you know of the new Members at Large who have offered to join us as well. We are excited to be growing our team and it is not too late to add your name to the group!

We will also be asking you to reflect back on this year and let us know what you enjoyed the most. This helps us plan for next year. We also will ask if you have any ideas for events or programs that we might look into for next year. Our annual planning meeting is scheduled for July 10th at 11:30. We will start with lunch and then spend the next few hours creating our outline for the coming year. It is always an exciting time and members are always welcome to give us ideas!

Proposed Leadership Team for 2025-26

Elected positions:

- **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

Appointed positions:

- * **Member at Large**-Kim Monson
- * **Member at Large**-Anne Dolchanczyk
- * **Member at Large**- Shelly Gerken

- * **Member at Large**-Mary Jensen
- * **Member at Large**- Christina Oborn
- * **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

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 Value Education

Events Calendar



2025

| | |
|---------|---|
| June 5 | Leadership Team Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa County Library |
| June 8 | Annual Meeting: 1:00pm, Home of Trish Darcy |
| June 9 | SIG—Book: 2:00pm, Home of Jaye Howes |
| July 10 | Leadership Team Planning Meeting/Potluck: 11:30am, Home of Jill Rowney |
| July 26 | Backpack Project: Coulterville |
| Aug 2 | Backpack Project: Mariposa |

Project: Tech Trek



Prepped and ready to go!

—Trish Darcy

We hosted our seven Tech Trek campers and their families at Barbara Silva's house for an afternoon of camp information and questions. Dawna Hunter and Kim Monson spoke to the parents, giving them an overview of camp and entertaining questions. Rio Pelote, Aelah Brum, and Natalie Keyes, who attended camp last summer, met outside with this year's campers. They presented an overview of camp from the girls' point of view and answered questions as well. There

was a lot of laughing going on as they chatted and enjoyed their ice cream. This is always a great opportunity for the campers and families so that they feel more comfortable with what goes on at camp. This year's campers are Maddy King, June Twiss, Chloe Sheets, Astrid Ardell, Stella Newman, Liv Engstrom, and Maya Lower. This looks to be a great group we are sending this year. They are excited and ready to go!



We Inspire Lifelong Learning

**Project: Backpack****Backpack Project 2025 gets underway**

—Kim Monson

It's backpack time again! We have purchased supplies early to avoid the tariffs so now we're ready for those backpacks. After they have been filled with the school supplies, they will be distributed to students in the county:

- Coulterville on July 26th
- Mariposa on August 2nd

Yes, I know, school isn't quite out yet and already we're planning "back to school" stuff. But that gives you almost two months to order those backpacks! As usual, we're giving them to middle schoolers, 6th through 8th graders so please take that into consideration when picking out a style.

Please have them delivered to me, Kim Monson, at 2440 Coachman Rd, Mariposa, CA 95338. If you want me to let you know I received them, please include a gift notice. That's the best way to let me know you have sent one (or two).

I'll be asking for volunteers to help stuff those backpacks in the 3rd week of July, so be on the lookout for that request.

Thanks on behalf of Mariposa County Kids,

Kim

Membership**Ideas and opinions abound**

—Trish Darcy



We enjoyed one last Cocktails and Convos this last month. We met at The Alley and sat around a table outside on a beautiful spring evening having multiple conversations. We are looking forward to more of these next year!

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp[To Page 1](#)

Membership



Member Corner: Idea exchange

—Bonnie Little

Our members share what we have found enlightening and entertaining

This month our recommendations are all about things to watch on streaming platforms.

Jill Harry recommends a series on Showtime/Paramount Plus, titled ***The Agency***. It stars



Michael Fassbender, Jeffrey Wright, Jodie Turner-Smith and Richard Gere, among others. Covert CIA agent Martian, played by Fassbender, has been working undercover in

Africa for six years and is being sent back to the London office. His life is thrown into chaos when he reconnects with a love he left behind. How far will he go for love? This espionage thriller also involves covert operations in Russia and Iran.

Jill says this series is well-written and entertaining, with a great cast of actors.

I enjoyed a movie on Netflix called ***Nonnas***. After losing his beloved mother, a man named Joe Scaravella realizes



that he has wasted time in his life and decides to honor his mother by opening an Italian restaurant in her honor. He decides to hire actual nonnas (grandmothers) as the chefs. Joe is played by Vince Vaughn and the nonnas are played by Susan Sarandon, Lorraine Bracco, Brenda Vaccaro and Talia Shire. This movie was inspired by the true story of Enoteca Maria, a restaurant on Staten Island, New York, that employs grandmothers as chefs. It pays homage to the Italian women who made Joe love cooking, his mother Maria, grandmother Domenica, and sister Mariana.

In case you need a Scottish "fix", Jill Rowney has been enjoying ***Monarch of the Glen*** streaming on Amazon Prime. Archie MacDonald returns home to Scotland to find that he has inherited



his father's title as Laird of Glenbogle and is tasked with the struggle to get the 40,000 acre estate back on its feet. It is like watching a Scottish version of *Downton Abbey*.

We Sponsor Community Forums



To Page 1

Membership

A warm welcome to our newest members!

Ellen Bergstone
2627 State Highway 49S
Mariposa, CA 95338
ellenbergstone@gmail.com

Janne Zhong
4403 Triangle Rd.
Mariposa, CA 95338
janneyz@yahoo.ca

Heartfelt thanks from Peggy

Peggy Shainberg has been having a difficult time getting around— so fixing food for herself and her husband, Howard, has been next to impossible. Up stepped AAUW members!

“Thank you, thank you so much for all your thoughts, support and the FOOD! Howard and I wish especially to thank Beth Tomsick for organizing it all— ‘Thank you, Beth!’ Really, we



appreciate and look forward to all you have done for us. The meals have been so delicious, I am thinking maybe we should publish an AAUW cook book.

I am plodding around with a walker and wheelchair, UGH, but hope to get back to normal at some point in the near future.

Thank you again, so much!”

Membership dues increase

Don't forget to renew your membership before the July 1st increase. You can either

- renew online for \$109 or
- bring a check for \$109 made out to AAUW Mariposa to the Annual Meeting/Potluck on June 8.

If you can't make it, you can mail your check to

- Liz Darcy at PO Box 1444, Mariposa, CA, 95338, or
- Jill Rowney at 4131 Silver Bar Rd., Mariposa, CA 95338

before June 15 so it can be processed before July 1. (Memberships processed after July 1 will be \$119, reflecting the \$10 increase in state dues.)

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

Fundraiser

Auction item from the Tea Party: Pizza Party for 6

—Trish Darcy



Rick and Jerry Uebner purchased the **Pizza Party for 6** at the Mad Hatter event last May. Recently, after finally getting schedules to sync, they brought Micki and Dana Finney and Bonnie and Mike Little to Trish and Tom Darcy's house to enjoy the fun of making their own pizzas. The evening began with drinks and appetizers. After that each participant created their own pizza using an

array of topping choices. While everyone enjoyed a salad, Tom cooked the pizzas and we had a contest to see who made the best pizza. Bonnie won the prize!! The evening was topped off with strawberry shortcake with fresh strawberries from the garden. A good time was had by all and the weather cooperated for a delightful evening!

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 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.

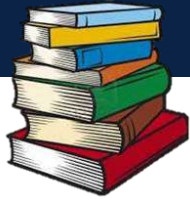


Does something else tweak your interest? Consider coordinating a new SIG!

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.

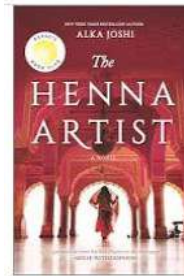
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SIG: Book

Contact [Jaye Howes](#)

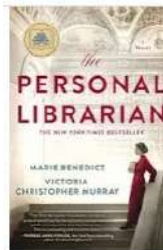
Our next meeting will be on
Monday, June 2, at 2:00 pm
at the home of Jaye Howes
We will be discussing
The Henna Artist
by Alka Joshi



Discussion notes
by Rick Uebner

The Personal Librarian
By Marie Benedict and
Victoria Christopher Murray

Seldom do you see a book written in the first person. In addition, this book was written by two acclaimed authors. This work of historical fiction follows the path of Belle Marion Greener (aka Belle da Costa Greene) who, as a very young librarian at Princeton, finds herself hired as the personal librarian of J.P. Morgan, one of the wealthiest people in the world. It is her job to organize his world-renowned library collection and assist in the acquisition of new art and literature. But there is a caution: she is a light-skinned woman of African American descent



who is "passing" as white. Set at the beginning of the early 1900s, she tiptoes through high society, rubbing elbows with the wealthy and top dealers in art and print. The book touches on racism and the challenges a person of color faced daily during those tumultuous times.

The book, being historical fiction, prompted a lively discussion of the characters, how they were portrayed, and how we might relate to them. We also questioned the alignment of the narration with two separate authors and their different writing styles.



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See our website for plant availability

We Inspire Lifelong Learning

SIG: Play ReadingContact [Dawn Johnson](#)

We had the time of our lives reading *Time of My Life*

—Dawn Johnson

Four readers gathered to read six characters' parts in the dramatic play *Time of My Life* by British author Alan Ayckbourn. It was challenging, but nothing is too hard for AAUW women fueled by coffee and chocolate biscotti.

All the scenes were set in the same Italian restaurant, but with a revolving set of characters composed of the parents, an older son and his wife, and the younger son and his new girlfriend. To complicate things, the play had a challenging timeline, with scenes jumping from the present to the future, back to the past, then to the future, then to the present and so on until we were not at all

sure what century we are currently living in. As we got more comfortable with the format, we began to appreciate it as a metaphor for how complicated family relationships are with their skeletons from the past and their portents for the future. Luckily, we didn't have to think too much about those deeper meanings because the dialogue was frequently punctuated by silly comments from the waiters, who spoke some kind of Pidgin Italian that was hard---but laughable—to read aloud.

All in all, it was a satisfying read, although we were all left with a strange craving for meatballs.

**SIG: Wine**Contact [Anne Dolchanczyk](#)

Idle afternoon at Idle Hours Winery

—Anne Dolchanczyk



The wine group spent a lovely afternoon at Idle Hours Winery in Oakhurst. We had lunch, then sampled their delicious wines. If you haven't been there, it is certainly worth taking time to go.

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

**SIG: Hiking**Contact [Becky Mock](#)

On May 10, the AAUW Hiking SIG held its last hike of the 2024-2025 year enjoying a spectacular day in Yosemite. Members Trish Darcy, Dina Lambert, Iris Chynoweth, and Becky Mock were joined by Trish's husband Tom, Becky's husband Frank, and friends, Terri and Nate Johnson. We

hiked from Lower Yosemite Falls out to Mirror Lake along the Valley Loop Trail, logging around 7.2 miles in around three hours. We all were very much reminded of how lucky we are to live so close to this national treasure.

**We Sponsor Community Forums**[To Page 1](#)



AAUW Branch
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
May 1, 2025
Mariposa County Library

Members:

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

The Meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Minutes (*Becky Mock*)

- Trish did the April 3 meeting minutes and they were approved online.

Membership Update (*Liz Darcy, Bonnie Little*)

- Directories have been sent to new members
- SIG leaders have been informed of their SIG choices
- One more new member from Women's Health event

Finance Report (*Jill Rowney*)

- Income: \$45.00; Expenses: \$1,266.53; Ending Balance: \$8,448.96
- Included a refund for the Rosebud Room after Lunch with Leaders was cancelled
- Included payment for 2 additional Tech Trek students
- Trish moved, Becky seconded, all voted for passing the financial report.
- The payment for the Supervisor's meeting room used for the Women's Health presentation has not yet been made. Jill will follow up and make payment.

Standing Projects:

- **Backpack Project**-Kim
 - Kim has purchased some supplies for the next school year's distribution because of potential increase in cost
 - Members will be contacted in June to start purchasing backpacks
- **Tech Trek**-Trish
 - A pre-camp get together has been scheduled on May 18 for the attendees and their parents
 - Kim will participate
 - Some previous Tech Trek attendees will be there
 - Purpose is to help the girls be less nervous
 - Camp is June 15-21
- **Lunch with Women in Leadership**
 - Will work with others next year to try to get adequate participation
- **Scholarship-**

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential

(Continued from page 12)

- Karen Sutton has requested to work on this
- Will start developing in the fall

Fundraisers:

- **Butterfly Festival**
 - [Butterfly Festival Sign Ups](#)
- Sandi working on a fundraiser for Spring of 2026
- **Fun Run**
 - Would like to evaluate a "Fun Run" as a potential fundraiser
 - Potentially Jenni Kiser might have insight in how to organize
- **Pioneer Receipts-**
 - Pioneer Market will donate to nonprofits that turn in Pioneer Market receipts.
 - Would require someone to manage

Programs/Events:

| | | |
|------|---|---------------|
| May | Butterfly Festival Volunteer May 3rd and 4th Cocktails and Convos-May 14 | Anne Trish |
| June | Annual Meeting-June 8th | Trish |

Old Business:

- **Mentor Project** (*Anne Dolchanczyk*)
 - This project is cancelled
- **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 amd Template](#)

New Business:

- **Member Spotlight**-Kim will do for May newsletter
- **Annual Meeting**-June 8th 1:00 at Trish's house
 - SIG Leaders should make a short presentation on their SIG
 - All members should consider inviting someone who might be interested in joining AAUW
- **Branch Buzz**- Becky
- **July planning meeting date** July 10th 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? Becky volunteered. If this comes to be, there will need to be a new Recording secretary.

Elected Positions:

| | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| President | Trish-one more year |
| Recording Secretary | Becky Mock |
| Finance Officer | Jill Rowney |
| Vice President of Membership | Liz Darcy and Bonnie Little |
| Vice President of Programs | Open |

(Continued on page 14)

(Continued from page 13)

Appointed Positions:

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Member at Large | Kim Monson |
| Member at Large | Anne <u>Dolchanczyk</u> |
| Backpack Project | Kim Monson and Rebecca Swisher |
| Fundraising | Sandi Gabe |
| Goodwill Ambassador | Ann <u>Dolchanczyk</u> |
| Newsletter Editor | Jill Rowney |
| Publicity and <u>Social Media</u> | Sandi Gabe and Dawn Johnson |
| Tech Trek | Trish Darcy and Barbara Silva |
| Website | Sandi Gabe |
| Member-at-Large | Christina Oborn |
| Member-at- Large | Shelly Gerken |
| Member-at-Large | Mary Jensen |

Upcoming Dates:

- Butterfly Festival-May 3rd and 4th
- May 14th-Cocktails and Convos at The Alley
- June 8th-Annual Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

AAUW- Mariposa:

www.aauwmariposa.com

Facebook:

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

Instagram:

AAUW_Mariposa

Leadership Team: 2024-2025

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Trish Darcy</u> | President |
| <u>Jill Rowney</u> | Finance |
| <u>Bonnie Little</u> | Co-Membership |
| <u>Liz Darcy</u> | Co-Membership |
| <u>Becky Mock</u> | Recording Secretary |
| <u>Anne Dolchanczyk</u> | Team Member |
| <u>Kim Monson</u> | Team Member |

Project Chairs/Coordinators

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Backpack Project | <u>Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher</u> |
| Fundraising | <u>Sandi Gabe</u> |
| Good Will Ambassador | <u>Anne Dolchanczyk</u> |
| Newsletter Editor | <u>Jill Rowney</u> |
| Gov Trek | <u>Kim Monson</u> |
| Programs/Events | <u>open</u> |
| Publicity | <u>Sandi Gabe</u> |
| Social Media | <u>Trish Darcy</u> |
| Tech Trek | <u>Trish Darcy & Barbara Silva</u> |
| Website | <u>Dina Lambert</u> |

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