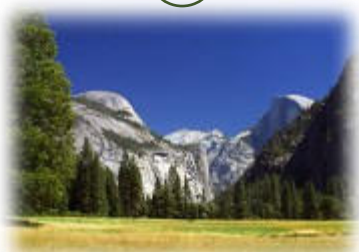




Jimson Weed
Datura wrightii



Dove Weed
Croton setigerus

Sierra Outpost

Planning for 2025-26

—Trish Darcy

On June 8th, about 30 of our membership gathered on my deck (despite the heat and mugginess). We celebrated the year and elected the Leadership Team for next year. We saw new faces as well as faces we haven't seen in a while. This gave us time to catch up while enjoying the wonderful food that was brought to the potluck. Isn't it funny how we get such a wonderful selection of food without even trying to organize anything?

Here are some items to keep in mind and watch for:

Membership Dues

If you have not already renewed your membership, please do so ASAP. Most of us have memberships that expire on June 30th each year. The dues as of July 1st are now \$119 for the year. Please send your check made out to AAUW Mariposa to Bonnie Little at 4463 Kimberly Dr. Mariposa, CA 95338. It is important that we get the membership renewed so that we can begin to work on our directory and have it ready in a timely manner. Thank you to everyone who has already renewed!

Membership Directory

Speaking of the directory, Dina has volunteered to do this for us again this year. Thank you, Dina! If any information of

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Planning Meeting

Thursday, July 10

11:30 am

Home of Jill Rowney

\$\$ Pioneer Receipts \$\$

If you shop at our local Pioneer Market, save your receipts. Send them to Peggy Moore* or Pat Elka* before August 8 to have them redeemed for this year. If you miss this date, don't worry. There is no expiration— so keep saving them! This is an easy way to help support our local AAUW branch.

Leadership

(Continued from page 1)

yours is incorrect or you want a new picture in the directory (or if you don't have a picture in there yet), please email her now to let her know of the corrections. dinallambert@gmail.com Also, many of us are using our cell phones rather than land lines. It is really helpful for people to have access to your cell number as it is now an easier way to reach most people. If you would like your cell number added to the directory, email her as well. The sooner the better on this as well!

SIG Sign-up for next year

Be looking for an email in August asking if you want to be in a SIG for next year. There will be a link to a Google Form (which is a survey) for you to respond to letting us know which SIG (s) you wish to participate in. It is very important for you to understand that these lists are created from scratch each year, so **just because you were in a particular SIG last**

year does not mean that you are automatically in there this year. You must complete the survey to be on the new SIG email list.

New SIG ideas

Speaking of SIGs, does anyone have ideas for a new Special Interest Group? Ones we have had in the past are an Art Group and a Gardening Group. We could start those up again, but we could also start up something new if anyone wants to. New ideas are always appreciated!

Planning for 2025-26

Our planning meeting is July 10th and we appreciate the input you gave at the annual meeting. We will use this to help plan for next year. We welcome new members to the board and members who are taking new positions.



We Value Education

Events Calendar

2025

July 10	Leadership Team Planning Meeting/Potluck: 11:30am, Home of Jill Rowney
July 22	Backpack Stuffing: 9:30am, Home of Kim Monson
July 26	Backpack Project: 9:00am, Coulterville Park
Aug 2	Backpack Project: 8:00am, Mariposa Safe Families Offices
Aug 8	SIG—Book: 2:00pm, Home of Jaye Howes



Leadership Team for 2025-26

Elected positions:

- **Co-Presidents**-Trish Darcy and Becky Mock
- **Recording Secretary**-Mary Jensen
- **Finance Officer**-Jill Rowney
- **Vice President of Membership**-Bonnie Little and Liz Darcy
- **Vice President of Programs**-OPEN
- * **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

Appointed positions:

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

Thank you all for volunteering to be part of the team!

AAUW California



The end of an era

—Jill Rowney

For the past few years, we have enjoyed Dawn Johnson's witty summaries of happenings at the state level. The **California Connection** was a wonderful, light hearted way of keeping us current. Alas, all good things must come to an end and June, 2025 was the

final edition. Dawn has decided to "get a life" and retire from this chapter of her life's work. We will try to let you know what might be pertinent to us at the local level– but it won't have Dawn's delightful spin. Thank you, Dawn, for all you have done!

We Inspire Lifelong Learning





Project: Backpack

Backpack project is underway

—Kim Monson

Hello AAUW members! The backpack project is progressing once again this summer. We have purchased all the supplies to fill 72 packs.

We currently have 40 backpacks and need 32 more. If you can afford to support this worthwhile effort, please do. We provide good quality backpacks filled with supplies for middle school-aged kids in need and there is a lot of need in our county. Since we include a 1.5-inch binder, be careful not to send a backpack for elementary age kids. The binders just don't fit. Send them to:

Kim Monson
2440 Coachman Rd
Mariposa, CA 95338

Have your vendor include a gift card so that I'll know whom to notify when they arrive.

For those of you who are interested in helping to stuff those backpacks, we will do it again at my house. I will provide munchies after the work is done. We'll meet at 9:30 am on Tuesday, July 22nd.

We will be distributing the filled backpacks at two back-to-school events in Mariposa County. The first event is at Coulterville Park on Saturday, July 26th, from 9am to noon (or whenever we run out). The second event is on August 2nd, at the Mariposa Safe Families offices on 8th Street between Bullion and Jones Streets from 8am to noon. I could certainly use help at these giveaway events as well as stuffing the backpacks. Please email me at kimellen13@gmail.com if you are available. Thanks everyone!

—Kim

Schedule of Events

Stuffing of packs:

July 22, 9:30am

Home of Kim Monson

Distribution:

Coulterville Park:

July 26, 9:00am to noon

Mariposa Safe Families Offices

August 2, 8:00am to noon



We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp

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 Sponsor Community Forums

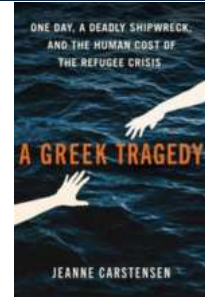




SIG: Book

Contact [Jaye Howes](#)

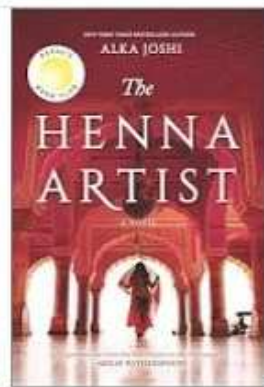
Our next meeting will be on
Monday, August 8 , at 2:00 pm
 at the home of Jaye Howes
 We will be discussing
A Greek Tragedy
 By Jeanne Carstensen



Discussion notes
 by Rick Uebner

The Henna Artist by Alka Joshi

From 1858 until 1947, England ruled over India under the name of the Raj. *The Henna Artist* takes place shortly after this in the early 1950s. Vestiges of the former regime still linger. Escaping from an abusive marriage, seventeen-year-old Lakshmi Shastri makes her way alone from her rural village to the pink city of Jaipur. There she becomes the henna artist and confidante most in demand to women of the upper class. With her career well underway, she is



surprised by a visit from her thirteen-year-old sister, Radha, whom Lakshmi didn't know even existed. Add to that her colorful helper, streetwise Malik, who says he is nine, but we never know. The book was engaging not only for the discussion of henna art, but also the herbal remedies that Lakshmi becomes known for. We all agreed it was a good read. There will be no July Book SIG meeting. See you August 11.

SIGs of the past, ideas for the future

—Jill Rowney

Have you an special interest in a particular subject that other members might share? In the past, members have enjoyed meeting together to discuss world affairs (Great Decisions is one option that has an existing format already and a guide produced by the [Foreign Policy Association](#)). We have also had the Cook's Corner, sharing special dishes, techniques, and styles. The Garden Group

visited members' yards, went on field trips, and shared joyful as well as frustrating experiences of gardening in the Sierra Foothills. We've had groups interested in Art, Card Making, Crafts, Ecology, and Chess. This is only a partial list. The possibilities are endless. Got an idea? Contact a member of the Leadership Team and let's give it a try!

We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



SIG: **International Study**

Contact [Veronica Gross](#)

Final meeting: Members treated to authentic cuisine and cultural history



—Veronica Gross

The AAUW International Study Group held its final meeting on the study of Vietnam on Saturday evening, May 31, at the home of Veronica Gross. Guest presenter, Kiet Truong, native of Vietnam and former art student of Veronica, treated the group to an amazing home made traditional Vietnamese meal of vermicelli with marinated grilled pork and egg rolls. He followed this with a wonderful talk on the rich and fascinating early history of the Vietnamese people

highlighting their ancient mythology, literature, and events which inform to this day their identity as a people with inspiring resilience to keep vibrant their own culture and rich heritage. We were delighted that Susan Flaming brought a friend from Vietnam, Thanh Pham, who added to the discussion by sharing some of her own Vietnamese story. She also made delicious spring rolls to share.



We Open Eyes



AAUW Branch
Annual Meeting Minutes
June 8 2025
Home of Trish Darcy

Team Members:

- Bonnie Little, Co-Membership
- Liz Darcy, Co-Membership
- Becky Mock, Recording Secretary
- Trish Darcy, President/Tech Trek
- Kim Monson, Member at Large
- Jill Rowney, Finance/Newsletter
- Anne Dolchanczyk, Goodwill Ambassador

The Meeting was called to order at 1:54 p.m.

- Peggy Shainberg told the membership how much she (and her husband) appreciated all of the meals that were provided to her.

Minutes (Becky Mock)

- Minutes were approved on line

Membership Update (Liz Darcy, Bonnie Little)

- 75 current members
- To save \$10, members must complete renewal June 15 if paying by check, and by June 30 is renewing online

Finance Report (Jill Rowney)

- Beginning balance: \$8,448.96; Income: \$264.00; Expenses: \$1,911.66; Ending balance: \$6,801.30
- Dina moved, Kim seconded, all were in favor to approve the financial report

Standing Projects:

- **Backpack Project-Kim**
 - Kim has ordered some supplies for filling the back packs
 - A total of 72 backpacks for middle school kids will be distributed
 - Backpacks are to be sent to Kim Monson, and, if you order from Amazon, please send as a gift so she can know who sent them
 - Members have the option to contribute cash
 - Backpacks will be distributed on the last Saturday in July and the first Saturday in August
 - Stuffing date TBD
- **Tech Trek-Trish**
 - Seven girls will attend Tech Trek which starts Sunday, June 15
 - Dawna Hunter and Kim Monson will be teaching at the camp
- **Lunch with Women in Leadership-**
 - Did not work out this year, but will try again next year
- **Scholarship**

We Value Education

- Liz Darcy will lead effort to work on this

Fundraisers:

- Sandi working on a fundraiser for Summer of 2026
- Fun Run
 - Looking for someone who has worked on a Fun Run before
- Chess tournament??
- **Pioneer Receipts**
 - Peggy Moore ? volunteered to manage

Old Business:

- **Planning Meeting:**
 - July 10th at 11:30 at Jill's Potluck lunch

New Business:

- **Branch Buzz-** Becky
- **CASA Volunteer Fair** July 19th-Sandi and Dawn
- **Elections**
 - Jay moved and Beth seconded, and the following officers were elected unanimously :
 - Trish Darcy and Becky Mock: Co-Presidents
 - Mary Jensen: Recording Secretary
 - Jill Rowney: Treasurer/Newsletter
 - Liz Darcy and Bonnie Little: Co-Membership
 - Anne Dolchanczyk: Goodwill Ambassador
 - Kim Monson and Rebecca Swisher: Back Packs
 - Trish Darcy and Barbara Silva: Tech Trek
 - Sandi Gabe and Dawn Johnson: Publicity

Upcoming Dates:

- July 10th-Planning Meeting
- July 19th-CASA Volunteer Fair
- Anything else? We will need to ask members if they want their education in the directory.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:33 p.m.



AAUW- Mariposa:
www.aauwmariposa.com

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

Instagram:
 AAUW_Mariposa

Leadership Team: 2025-2026

Trish Darcy &	Co-President
Becky Mock	Co-President
Jill Rowney	Finance
Bonnie Little	Co-Membership
Liz Darcy	Co-Membership
Mary Jensen	Recording Secretary
Anne Dolchanczyk	Team Member
Shelly Gerken	Team Member
Kim Monson	Team Member
Christina Oborn	Team Member

Project Chairs/Coordinators

Backpack Project	Kim Monson & Rebecca Swisher
Fundraising	Sandi Gabe
Good Will Ambassador	Anne Dolchanczyk
Newsletter Editor	Jill Rowney
Programs/Events	open
Publicity	Sandi Gabe & Dawn Johnson
Scholarship	Liz Darcy
Social Media	Sandi Gabe & Dawn Johnson
Tech Trek	Trish Darcy & Barbara Silva
Website	Sandi Gabe

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

Pioneer Receipts– Mail to:

Pat Elka, PO Box 1406, Mariposa, CA 95338 or

Peggy Moore, PO Box 752, Mariposa, CA 95338

We Sponsor Community Forums



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