



Poison Oak
Toxicodendron diversilobum



Tarweed
Holocarpa heermannii

Sierra Outpost

Busy month ahead

—Trish Darcy

Hearing from our Tech Trek campers:

Do you ever wonder where AAUW Mariposa's money goes and why it is important for us to fundraise for our projects? Seems fair that you hear from those who benefit from our efforts, right? Tech Trek is our biggest outlay of cash and we think it is also our project that has the biggest impact on girls—preparing them for STEM and leadership roles later in life. Last summer's Tech Trek campers are ready to share their experience with you and will answer questions as well.

We will gather at **Gold Cup Creamery** again this year to hear from them on Sunday, **Oct. 5th** from 2:00 to 4:00 pm. Grab yourself an ice cream treat and join us out back to hear from them! These girls are amazing and will be going places and doing amazing things in their futures!

Coffee & Convos Cocktails & Convos

These two events were very popular last year and we want to continue hosting these events for you. Our first one will be Cocktails and Convos on **October 15th at 5:00 pm** at **The Grove House**. Come with topic ideas to discuss, grab yourself a drink, and join us for riveting discussions on a wide range of topics.

In November we will host Coffee and Convos on **November 15th at 10:00 am** at the **Cinnamon Roll place**. Again, come with topics, grab a coffee and enjoy the conversations. Topics can range all over the place. They can be from gardening to cooking, to travel to Halloween costumes, to vegetarianism to whatever your heart desires. We just ask that conversations are "gentle" and we remember that

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everyone does not always share the same viewpoints. In this tumultuous world, we want these gatherings to be comfortable for all.

Pioneer receipts = cash for our branch

As of September 1st, we can now begin saving receipts again. We hope to make this profitable for our branch, so if you know people who do not already save them for another organization, please ask them to begin saving them for us.

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So save, save, save! Below are the addresses to send them to:

Peggy Moore	or	Pat Elka
PO Box 752		PO B ox 1406
Mariposa, CA		Mariposa, CA
95338		95338

Events Calendar

2025

Oct 2	Leadership Team Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa County Library
Oct 5	Tech Trek Alumni: 2:00-4:00pm, Gold Cup Creamery
Oct 7	SIG—Play Reading: 9:30am, home of Dawn Johnson
Oct 13	SIG—Book: 2:00pm, home of Jaye Howes
Oct 14	SIG—International Study: 3:00pm, home of Veronica Gross
Oct 15	Cocktails and Convos: 5:00pm, The Grove House
Nov 1	Holiday Shopping: Downtown Mariposa
Nov 6	Leadership Team Meeting: 4:00pm, Mariposa County Library
Nov 15	Coffee and Convos: 10:00am, The Cinnamon Roll Place
Dec 7	Holiday Gathering: home of Veronica Gross



Mariposa Native Plants

www.MariposaNativePlants.com

MariposaNativePlants@gmail.com

209-742-1540 Ron & Beverley

See our website for plant availability



Cindy Harp

AGENT

CA LICENSE NO. 0M04815

CELL: 831-241-1611

EMAIL: cindy_harp@earthlink.net

LIFE • HOME • HEALTH • BUSINESS

PHONE/FAX: 209-966-6263 OR 1-800-959-5630

5634 HARRIS CUT OFF ROAD, MARIPOSA, CA 95338

www.harpins.com

We Value Education



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AAUW California



Positive impacts of Prop 50

*Just in case you missed this email from **Missy Maceyko and Amy Hom, Co-chairs of the AAUW California Public Policy Committee**, we have published it in the newsletter for your review.*

This year, AAUW California will focus on GOTV for the special election on November 4, 2025. Our focus will be on providing information about and emphasizing the positive impacts of Proposition 50.

Normally, AAUW California publishes a list of formal recommendations to support or oppose propositions. National has advised that, as an organization, we are not able to make a formal recommendation about Proposition 50. Instead, we will advance **information-centered messages**, including those that emphasize **the potential benefits of Prop 50** for all Californians. In sum, as AAUW California members, we can focus on providing Californians with information that is currently absent from public discourse, namely that support of Proposition 50 is a non-partisan move to:

- Preserve wider democratic norms in California
- Oppose Project 2025 implementation in California

- Continue to advance AAUW California's mission & public policy priorities

We invite you to:

1. Check out the [Proposition 50 and Get Out the Vote \(GOTV\) 2025 Guide](#) - a set of resources to educate and support your GOTV efforts, including a Prop 50 Messaging Guide, Prop 50 Overview, FAQ, flier, voting timeline, and much more.
2. Join our webinar "Project 2025 Impacts on AAUW Values - One Year Later: How to Stop Ongoing Implementation" - Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7 pm PT. Register [HERE](#).
3. If you have any questions about the Prop 50 GOTV campaign, please:
 - a. email us at publicpolicy@aauw-ca.org, or
 - b. join us at our office hours: Fridays 3-4 pm PT, Sept 26th, Oct 3rd, 10th, or 17th. Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81730279210>

Please support GOTV 2025 to preserve and advance democracy and AAUW California's public policy priorities around gender-based equity and social justice. Every single action counts.



We Inspire Lifelong Learning

Leadership

AAUW Mariposa earns 4 stars in the 5-Star Program



Last year, National AAUW instituted a Fived Star Program to “provide branches with a framework to ensure they are financially healthy, sustainable, and aligned with AAUW’s mission and priorities.

Branches can earn a Star by meeting the criteria in one of the five categories: Advancement, Public Policy & Advocacy, Governance & Sustainability, Programming, and Communications & External Relations. Branch leaders can share their progress towards these criteria in the Annual Branch Survey.” *

We received this letter last month:

Dear AAUW Mariposa Branch,

I’m delighted to share that the Mariposa (CA) Branch has earned a Public Policy & Advocacy, Governance & Sustainability, Programming and Communications & External Relations Star in the Five Star Program for

FY25! This achievement reflects your branch’s commitment to advancing gender equity and aligning your programs, advocacy, and sustainability efforts with AAUW’s strategic priorities.

We are so grateful for the time and energy you and your fellow leaders devote to this work. Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition and we look forward to celebrating your success further in the months ahead, including through future highlights in Membership Matters and on the AAUW website.

With appreciation,

*Tremayne A. Parquet ([he/him/his](#))
Deputy Director of Advancement*

Hats off to AAUW Mariposa! We are on a great path!

*Click [here](#) for more information.



Just a reminder– the portion of our membership dues that we pay to National AAUW (\$74) is fully tax deductible. Be sure to let your tax accountant know.

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: International Study

Contact [Veronica Gross](#)

Iran is selected for this year's study

—Veronica Gross

The AAUW International Study Group met September 9, at 4pm. at Peggy and Howard Shainberg's home.

After munching on delicious appetizers and quenching thirst with a variety of beverages, each member introduced him/herself to the group. Then we tended to the business at hand which was to settle on a country to study for the year. Suggestions were: Mongolia, Scandanavian countries, Iran, Cuba,

Indonesia, India, and Ukraine. By a vote, Iran was chosen.

Jaye Howes volunteered to begin the study by presenting an overview of the country at the next meeting which will be at Veronica's home on **Tuesday, October 14, 3pm.**

Until then members are encouraged to think about what aspect of Iran they wish to study and present to the group.

Beth Tomsick and Sue Overstreet will assemble a bibliography of books, and movies. Members are encouraged to contribute titles for this list.

Thanks to Peggy and Howard for hosting this successful and fun meeting!



We Provide Opportunities for Women to Reach Full Potential



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SIG: Book

Contact [Jaye Howes](#)

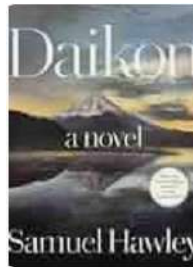
Our next meeting will be on
Monday, October 6, at 2:00 pm
at the home of Jaye Howes.
We will be discussing
The Wedding People
by Alison Espach.



Discussion notes
by Jaye Howes

Daikon
by Samuel Hawley

We discussed the novel “Daikon” by Samuel Hawley. This is a strange combination of a how-to, a text book, a manual, and a WWII story all set in Japan. The premise is based on a big “what if” there were three atomic bombs headed



to Japan and not two? And what if one of those bombs landed undetonated in the hands of the Japanese? We agreed the basic story was suspenseful, but the author’s minute detailing of technical specifications was a somewhat grueling task to read.



SIG: Play Reading

Contact [Dawn Johnson](#)

Cold readings kick off October 7

—Dawn Johnson

The Play Reading Group is kicking off its eighth year of gathering to do cold readings of plays that are rotated between dozens of participating branches across the state. The plays are eclectic, inspiring serious thoughtful conversations or hysterical uncontrolled giggling. No dramatic talent is required and the parts are randomly assigned (and changed) as the morning progresses. Participants may have to read anywhere from three words to multiple soliloquies depending on where they're sitting on the couch. One reader had to play the part of a dog last year. It's a go-

with-the-flow experience.

The first play we received to read for 2025-2026 is a 2006 drama by Mark St. Germain titled *A Plague of Angels*. It is apparently the story of Typhoid Mary's struggles with the New York Health Department and sounds terribly jolly. The first meeting is **Tuesday, Oct. 7th at 9:30 am** at Dawn Johnson's house. If you signed up for the Play Reading Group, let Dawn know whether or not you can make it. If you didn't sign up but would like to join in, call or email Dawn ([contact info on page 10](#)).

We Open Eyes



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AAUW Branch
Leadership Team Meeting Minutes
September 4 , 2025
4:00 pm
Mariposa County Library

Members:

- | | |
|---|---------------------|
| • Bonnie Little, Co-Membership | present (via phone) |
| • Liz Darcy, Co-Membership | present |
| • Becky Mock, Co-President | present |
| • Trish Darcy, Co-President/Tech Trek | absent |
| • Kim Monson, Member at Large | absent |
| • Jill Rowney, Finance/Newsletter | absent |
| • Anne Dolchanczyk, Goodwill Ambassador | absent |
| • Mary Jensen, Recording Secretary | present |
| • Christina Oborn, Member at Large | absent |
| • Shelly Gerken, Member at Large | present |

The Meeting was called to order at 4:00pm (Bonnie participated over the phone)

- Five members attended, but 3 members left early, so a quorum was not met. Consequently, no decisions were made, only updates were given.

Minutes (*Mary Jensen*)

- Aug.14th minutes were previously approved by email.

Membership Update (*Liz Darcy, Bonnie Little*)

- Update email lists: Leadership email list has been updated. Confirmation needed for Membership email list updating.
- Membership total at 71. Bonnie will send a welcome-introductory letter for two new members.
- Directory: Delivered to printer Aug.11th.
- SIG sign ups: SIG leaders need to confirm participants. Email lists need to be updated for the current year.

Finance Report (*Jill Rowney*)

- No financial report was provided.

Meeting Date and Time for this year -

- no changes

Standing Projects: No updates

- **Backpack Project-Kim:**
- **Tech Trek-Trish:**
- **Scholarship-Liz: needs to decide and provide information**
- **Lunch with Women in Leadership-pivot to UC Merced field trip, needs leadership**

Fundraisers: No updates

- Sandi working on a fundraiser for Summer of 2026
- **Pioneer Receipts:**
- **Pickleball tournament-Kim:**
- **Member donations:**

(Continued from page 8)

Old Business: No updates

Event planning guide:

Date	Event/Program Name	Who's responsible?
Sept	9/25: Member Gathering/ Budget Vote at The Grove House– 4:00pm-6:00pm	Bonnie and Liz
Oct	10/5: Tech Trek presentation with the girls at Gold Cup Creamery 2:00pm 10/12: Cocktails & Convos at The Grove House 5:00pm Pickleball Tournament (10/25-10/26 (2 days)	Kim Kim
Nov	11/1: Holiday Shopping 11/15: Coffee & Convos at Cinnamon Roll– 10:00am	Anne TBD
Dec	12/7: Holiday Gathering , time TBD	Jill & Nickel
Jan	1/31: Self Defense Date TBD: “Preparing for the Golden Years	Kim Trish and Anne
Feb	Date TBD: Line Dancing	Trish
Mar	Date TBD: Women’s history month	Kim & Trish
Apr	Date TBD: Preparing for the Golden Years	Trish & Anne
May		
June	Date TBD: Annual Meeting	Trish

New Business:

- “Branch Buzz” - Mary will do it this year. Becky will provide template for Mary
- Tech Trek Presentation at Gold Cup Creamery 2:00 on Oct.5: we are all set for this. Kim is expecting us. Girls will get 1 scoop of ice cream. The rest of the family is on their own.
- Member Gathering- Bonnie reported it will be at the Grove House Sept. 25 from 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
- Becky will submit insurance forms for the two events

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We Inspire Lifelong Learning

(Continued from page 9)

Upcoming Dates:

9/25 Fall Member Gathering
 10/2 Leadership Meeting
 10/5 Tech Trek Alumni
 10/12 Cocktails and Convos

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25pm

AAUW- Mariposa:
www.aauwmariposa.com

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

Instagram:
 AAUW_Mariposa

Leadership Team: 2025-2026

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

Project Chairs/Coordinators

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

AAUW <https://aauw.org/>

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

*underlined names are hyperlinked to their email addresses

Pioneer Receipts– Mail to:

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

Peggy Moore, PO Box 752, Mariposa, CA 95338

We Send Girls to Science/Math Camp