



Lompoc-Vandenberg Inc. (CA) Branch

From Dianne's Desk....

On Wednesday, October 29, we will hold our annual STEM meeting with our three Tech Trek Campers, **Liliana Magneson-Gutierrez and Michelle Hill from Lompoc Valley Middle School and Tabitha Maikrzek, from Vandenberg Middle School.** They will share their experiences during their week long camp at UCSB the first week of August.

Katie Brenna, Systems Safety Engineer at Vandenberg AFB will speak about her job and her experiences as a female engineer working in the STEM fields and the US Space Program. Katie, a native of the east coast, majored in Marine Biology and took her first job in Public Health in Florida while studying for an additional BS in Environmental Engineering. She first came to Vandenberg AFB in 1984 and came back in 2004. She has held her current job since 2012. Our meeting begins at 6:30 pm in the Grossman Gallery, Lompoc Library with our program following at 7 pm.

You are invited to join our Tech Trek girls and our speaker at Mi Amore Pizza and Pasta, 1321 N. H St at 5 pm before the meeting. For reservations call Wynn.

STEM to STEAM! I first heard this from our AAUW member, Brenda French, who has a BS and MS in Art Education. If we add Art + Design to the equation---STEM becomes STEAM. STEAM is a movement championed by Rhode Island School for Design and has been widely adopted by institutions, corporations and individuals. Adding Art + Design will transform our economy in the 21st century just as science and technology did in the last century.

Dianne Owens, President

News & Events

Tech Trek Science & Math Camp for Girls

Our Tech Trek campers returned after their week at UCSB in August. One of our members, Cathy Trevino, was at camp with them as a counselor. You will have the opportunity to meet our campers at the October 29 STEM meeting. Thank you all for your continued support. Their thank you notes are included below:

Thank you for supporting me and fundraising so I can be part of the community of girls. When I came here I didn't know what to expect, but when Virginia was telling her jokes and she was hilarious!! I almost peed myself!!

My core class is physics. It's really fun for me because I like building things hands on with tape, newspaper, pasta, straws, tooth picks, and glue.

THANK YOU so much for supporting me through this camp and fundraising a great deal of money so I can come and experience having a great time with my new friends!!!

Thank You!! So Much!!

Michelle Hill 2014

Thank you very much for sponsoring me and giving me the amazing opportunity to be able to experience the Tech Trek Camp. It's been wonderful to experience Tech Trek, meeting new people and stepping out of my comfort zone to think differently and using both sides of my brain.

The core class I'm in is Alternative Energy. It's very interesting and we discuss things that I never would think was possible, there are more ways to naturally and safely harness energy without harming the Earth. It's a very interesting class and a very interesting experience, and I enjoy it very much.

I am very blessed to be able to experience all of this. It's been very fun and enjoyable.

Thank you very much,

Tabby Maikrzc

News & Events (Continued)

Tech Trek Science & Math Camp for Girls (Continued)

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. I had a blast. My favorite part was the boat ride to see platform Holly. I was working with a group of girls on a project to do with Holly.

I love the food and that it's a variety. I learned a lot about energy and how to make a paper solar oven. Then on the day before we left, we went to the beach and it was fun. I also made some new friends.

Thank you so much for sending me here.

Sincerely,

Liliana Magneson-Gutierrez

Tech Trek is a summer one week residential science and math camp sponsored by AAUW CA for girls entering 8th grade. If you would like to help create these opportunities for girls in 2015, you can send your support (\$10, \$15, \$20...) to fund a camper. The cost is \$900 each per year.

Make your Tax Deductible Donation payable to: AAUW CA Special Projects Fund (AAUW CA SPF) and note Tech Trek in the memo corner. Mail donations to: Pat. Must be received by February 28, 2015

Wynn, Tech Trek Coordinator

2014-15 AAUW Directory

Your copy of the 2014-2015 AAUW Directory has either been delivered to you or will be soon! Please let Dianne or Barbara know if there are any corrections or additions. New member information and corrections will be included in future editions of "Scattered Seeds."

Telephone Tree Committee

The Telephone Tree Committee will be calling to remind our Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch members of upcoming AAUW events this year. Thank you to Carol Ann, Chair, Donna, Charlotte and Lois for volunteering for this important job. And a special thank you to Denise for chairing this committee the past two years!

Membership

Welcome to AAUW!

Please welcome two new members to our Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW:

Thank you, Barbara, Membership VP

BREAKING THROUGH BARRIERS FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Programs

Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch STEM Night at the Grossman Gallery

Join us Wed. Oct. 29th for an exciting talk by Systems Safety Engineer at Vandenberg AFB. Katie will speak about her job, experiences as a female engineer and the exciting things going on so close to home. This is also a chance for you to hear our three Tech Trek Scholarship winners share their camp experience from their week-long August adventures at UCSB.

- 5:00 pm-- Pizza at Mi Amore with Tech Trek campers and our speaker (call Wynnfor reservations)
- 6:30 pm-- Branch business meeting
- 6:45 pm—Presentation by Liliana, Michelle and Tabitha, 2014 Tech Trek campers
- 7:00 pm—Katie—Systems Safety Engineer, VAFB

Human Trafficking, The Fastest Growing Crime in America

Join us to hear our special speaker, Opal Singleton, CEO of Million Kids, tell us the story behind her foundation's fight to stop perpetrators of child trafficking. Opal will give us the global and national view. The battle requires resources and expertise from everyone in the community. We will hear from the DA's offices in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties for the local perspective.

Yes, it's taking place around the world, but also in our own backyard. A 17 year old girl was kidnapped from San Francisco and kept captive and sold for a sex slave. A fire captain in Cayucos, CA is now being prosecuted for this crime.

Who: This program is sponsored and partially paid for by the AAUW Santa Barbara County Inter-Branch Council (Lompoc-Vandenberg, Santa Maria, and Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley) and several San Luis Obispo County branches in conjunction with other community partners yet to commit.

When: Thursday, November 20, 2014

Time: 5:30 p.m.

Where: Alan Hancock College, Santa Maria, The Forum

How: We will carpool from The Village Market (we will leave at 4:45 pm)

Why: Because we care and have to help stop this madness. Knowledge and awareness are our best weapons.

Learn about Opal and Human Trafficking: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UEg8GlvnSyo>

Please mark your calendar today and contact Cathy for your carpool reservation or questions

Cathy, Program VP

Identifying Someone Being Trafficked

Identifying victims of trafficking will depend a lot on the circumstances in which you see them. In health care settings you can see excessive work related injuries, untreated chronic illness like diabetes, malnutrition and poor dental health. In sex trafficking there is evidence of sexual assault, physical restraint, STDs, and in many, severe psychological distress.

When we frequent a business, do the employees get to leave the premises, are they working seven days a week? Do they live with their employer? Is there any fearful or submissive behavior? Who communicates with the customers? Are the majority of the laborers unable to speak English? Do they seem to have a canned speech they give about their boss or their immigration status?

From a law enforcement viewpoint: Who has control of the passports or work permits? Is there a foreman or supervisor who tries to keep the group away from the officers? Are there brawls between people in which money is owed? Is someone "safekeeping" the money for the employees?

Don't expect people being trafficked to volunteer that information or to beg for help. Most have been severely threatened and fear the loss of their lives or their families. Many in the sex business are hooked on drugs first, gang raped a few times and then finally put with paying customers.

In the next month's blog, I will discuss federal laws against Trafficking. Here is the numbers to call if needed. National Human Trafficking Hotline 1-888-373-7888 or text BeFree (233733).

Donella, co-president, San Luis Obispo Branch

Public Policy

Candidate Forum

On Wednesday, October 1, our branch will sponsor a Lompoc City Candidates forum at 7 p.m. in the Grossman Gallery of the Lompoc Public Library. Dianne, branch president, will moderate the forum in which mayoral and city council candidates will both participate. We will use our regular forum format which includes an opening statement, candidate responses to five prepared questions, a break to collect audience question cards, a time for candidates to answer these questions, as time allows, and a closing statement.

The earlier Mayoral forum was cancelled due to a conflict with a special City Council meeting on the September 23rd date.

AAUW has many ways to encourage Get Out the Vote events. Check the online communiques and the Two Minute Activist so you can choose candidates who support our issues.

Marell, Public Policy Chair

Interest Groups

Armchair Travelers

Armchair Traveler's next get together will be Thursday, October 23 at 7:00 p.m. We will travel the canals in France with Billye, Pat and Leslie. We will meet at Billye's home. RSVP to Sally or Billye. If Billye, Pat and Leslie don't have time to put a presentation together when they get back from France, Sally will do a presentation on Traveling with Road Scholars.

Sally

Dine out, Food, Fun and Friends Group (2nd Thursday of the month)

Our dine-out group will be going to The Sage Restaurant at the Village Country Club on Thursday, October 9th at 6:00 p.m.

Please email or call Leslie or Billye to make reservations no later than Tuesday, October 7th.

Leslie & Billye , Chairs

Interest Groups (Continued)

Healthy Gourmet

AAUW Members,

We are forming new interest groups called "Healthy Gourmet." We will be bringing a healthy meal with a recipe to a group member's house once a month. I will collect recipes and publish for all. Each group should be composed of no more than six people so we don't have to cook so much and so our houses will accommodate everyone. If you are interested in meeting for a healthy meal and good company, please forward your name, your partner's name (if attending), the week of the month you prefer to meet, and the day of the week you prefer to meet to Kristen I will organize information, disseminate lists, and email all interested members.

I would like to meet on the last Sunday of each month at 12:00 for a gluten free lunch.

Healthy Eating,

Kristen

Mission Walkers Group

Join the AAUW women who walk the La Purisima Mission every Monday through Friday at 8:30 am. Just show up to enjoy the walk and company. If you need more information, contact Marell If you are interested in walking on the weekends, please let the group know.

Roaming Readers

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book</u>
November 3	Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel
December 1	Book Thief by Markus Zusak

Roaming Readers meets at 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday of each month (the second Monday if the first is a major holiday) at the Lompoc Restaurant. Membership in the group is open to all AAUW members and all are invited to attend any meeting. Books are selected by the group based on suggestions from members. For more information contact Carol Ann or Cathy, co-chairs.

Co-chairs: Carol Ann and Cathy

Interest Groups (Continued)**P.M. Book Explorers**

October 15, *Gone Girl* by Gillian Flynn
Location: Cathy, Wine: Leah, Treats: ??

November 19, *Unbroken* by Laura Hillenbrand

We usually meet the 3rd Wed. of each month at members' homes. Members whose homes are not convenient for meetings can volunteer to bring treats or beverages. The hostess will provide water and tea. Please e-mail me your volunteer treats or beverage and possible book choices.

Other titles suggested for the group to read are: *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline, *100 Year Old Man/Climbed Out Window* by Jonas Jonasson, *Husband's Secret* by Liane Moriarty, *Goldfinch* by Donna Tartt. Please let me know your choices and if you would like to be the discussion leader.

We are always looking for additional "explorers," so please feel free to contact Gail for further information.

Gail, Chair

Calendar of Events

October 1	Candidate Forum for Lompoc City Council
October 7	Board Meeting, Dianne's home, 6:45 pm
October 9	Dine Out Group at Sage
October 15	PM Book Explorers, Gone Girl by Gillian Flynn
October 23	Armchair Travelers Group
October 29	Program on STEM and branch meeting
November 3	Roaming Readers: Wolf Hall by Hilary Mantel
November 4	Board meeting, Dianne's, 6:45 pm
November 19	PM Book Explorers, Unbroken by Laura Hillenbrand
November 20	Program on Human Trafficking
December 1	Roaming Readers: Book Thief by Markus Zusak
February 7	Joint Branch Fellows Luncheon in Santa Maria
March 7	Women's Literary Festival in Santa Barbara
April 25	Legal Advocacy Fund Litigant Speaker, SM
June 18-21	AAUW National Convention in San Diego

Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch Information

LV Branch Website: <http://lompocvandenberg-ca.aauw.net/>

LV Branch Mailing address: P.O. Box 2523. Lompoc, CA 93438

Facebook: Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW

AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There is no barrier to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, or disability.

Scattered Seeds Editor: Julie.