



Lompoc-Vandenberg Inc. (CA) Branch

From Dianne's Desk....

What a fantastic program we had on November 20th at the Santa Maria Allan Hancock Campus! We learned so much about Human Trafficking from Opal Singleton, President and CEO of Million Kids and Megan Rheinschild, from the Santa Barbara County DA's office. It was also helpful to have the San Luis Obispo County DA, a law enforcement officer and a social worker speak about what is happening in our neighboring county. They have established a Human Trafficking Task Force modeled after the one in Santa Barbara County. Human Trafficking is the fastest growing crime in America and affects many of our young people on the Central Coast.

We had almost 140 people attend and many were college, high school and junior high school students. Alice Patino, Mayor of Santa Maria and Bob Lingl, Mayor-elect of Lompoc attended, as did representatives from the CA Senate and CA Assembly. Please see the horrific statistics from Million Kids in this newsletter. Stay tuned for more information, as we develop a follow up to this program! Thanks, Cathy and Dual member Martha Hight for all your work putting the program together!

I hope to see you at our Holiday Social on Sunday, December 7th, 2-4 pm at Stone Pine Hall. Our AAUW Wine glasses will be on sale for your holiday gifts. Remember: one glass for \$10 and two for \$20! You won't find this unique gift at that unique price anyplace else! Proceeds go to the AAUW Funds.

Happy Holidays! 2015 will be a great year!

Dianne Owens, President

MILLIONKIDS

Because one million kids are trafficked each year



Human trafficking is the fastest growing crime in America!

- **California is the number one state for human trafficking cases! Three out of four victims are U.S. citizens!**
- **Teenagers are the most likely targets to be groomed and lured into prostitution and exploitation.**

Targets:

- **Foster kids, homeless kids, runaway kids and pregnant teens.**
- **60% of kids engaged in prostitution in the U.S. are from the foster care system. 80% of homeless kids are from the foster care system.**
- **One out of three kids that run away will engage in “survival sex” within the first 48 hours.**

70% of kids in prostitution are accessed through social media.

70% of kids using social media believe they have a right to secrecy from their parents as to their online activity.

The FBI states there are over 750,000 predators on line at any given time.

Get involved – donate- volunteer- learn more

www.millionkids.org

Follow facebook: million kids riverside

Report human trafficking 1-888-373-7888

News & Events**Get in the holiday spirit with AAUW**

Sunday, December 7th, 2-4 p.m. Holiday Meet and Mingle at Lompoc Museum's Stone Pine Hall (next door to the Lompoc Museum). Remember, there is a parking lot behind the Museum at 200 So. H. St. Lompoc.

- Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share.
- Do invite any prospective members you know, also your significant other (yes, even males can attend this time)
- **Let's RSVP** so we can wear our name tags for the new members and guests.

Please RSVP to Cathy
by Fri. Dec. 5th if you can attend.

Scholarship Fund Financial Report – October 14, 2014

BALANCE AS OF JUNE 30, 2014		\$3837.81
INCOME:		
September 7, 2014 Wine Tasting – Babcock Winery:		
20 Reservation @ \$25.00	\$500.00	
Member donations in lieu of attending	\$275.00	
Wine Auction	\$343.00	
TOTAL INCOME:		\$1118.00
EXPENSES:		
Albertsons Picnic Lunches – Wine Tasting	(\$99.80)	
Colorado State Univ. Scholarship – Pat Davis	(\$1000.00)	
U.C. Irvine, Scholarship – McKell Davis	(\$1000.00)	
TOTAL EXPENSES:		(\$2099.80)
BALANCE As of October 14, 2014		\$2856.01

Joyce, Scholarship Ch

Membership

We are all part of the membership team and I want to thank everyone for their continued support for equity for women and girls, and for encouraging other women to do the same through AAUW membership. Thanks to you, we now have 107 members!

We also have two new dual members from the Santa Maria Branch of AAUW, Helen and Jeni , and we want to welcome them as well. More information about them later. Don't forget to check out our Facebook page, Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW, and "like" us!

Thank you, Barbara Bolton, Membership VP

Tech Trek Science & Math Camp for Girls

We are joining in the Holiday tradition of reminding you that you can make a tax deductible donation before the end of 2014! Your contribution can help to send a deserving girl to Tech Trek Camp at UCSB in the summer of 2015. Your support of \$100, 75, 50 or 25 will help fund a \$900 campership! It is still possible to send four girls to camp in 2015 with your help!

Make your tax deductible donation payable to: AAUW CA Special Projects Fund (AAUW SPF) and note Tech Trek in the memo corner. Mail contribution to: Pat . Plans are underway to organize a Tech Trek Alumni Club to continue to mentor and inspire our former campers throughout high school. What a great idea!

Thanks in advance! Wynn, Cathy, & Barbara

IGNITING THE SPARK: TECH TREK STEM CAMPS FOR GIRLS

SUMMARY OF SURVEY FINDINGS

Since 1998, AAUW has helped change girls' lives through Tech Trek, an experiential summer camp designed to pique the interest of rising eighth-grade girls in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). A 2013 survey of Tech Trek alumnae who attended the camp in California between 2006 and 2009 demonstrates the program's lasting effects on many levels, including interest and confidence in STEM fields, decision to pursue STEM curricula, and future career plans.

Interest and Confidence in STEM

A majority of alumnae surveyed believe that Tech Trek increased their interest in science (94 percent), technology (77 percent), mathematics (70 percent), engineering (52 percent), and computer programming (44 percent).

Increased self-confidence was another hugely important result.

91%

of girls reported that Tech Trek boosted their self-confidence in their ability to be successful in science classes, and 78 percent said the same for math classes.



Tech Trek operates on the belief that learning and achieving come from applying oneself rather than from an inborn predisposition. The camp builds a set of values and skills that equip girls to be persistent learners in any sphere and work hard to reach their goals. For many girls, the camp experience provides the life-altering "spark" that ignites their interest and encourages them on a path toward success.

Tech Trek was a life-changing experience for me. It sparked my passion for science and math and gave me the confidence to pursue advanced classes and research opportunities. I honestly don't think I would be where I am today without Tech Trek.

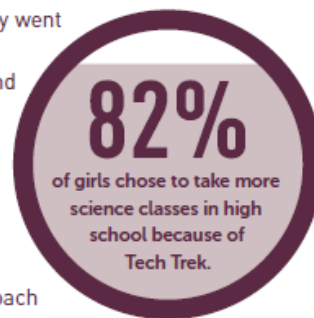
— Former attendee

Decision to Pursue STEM Curricula

Thirty-two percent of respondents said they went on to participate in after-school or extracurricular STEM activities during high school, and many started, led, or joined STEM-focused clubs. Others volunteered for or competed in STEM-related activities.

Students commented on the unique value of their one-on-one experiences at Tech Trek as distinct from what they did at school. Many remembered the camp's creative approach through "eye-opening," hands-on activities.

"The short time I spent at Tech Trek gave me the confidence to do what I love by taking advanced math and science courses," said one respondent, who went on to major in biology and neuroscience.



Tech Trek alumnae surpass the national average in most advanced math and science courses:

GIRLS WHO COMPLETED PRECALCULUS IN 2009



87%

of respondents had completed algebra II, compared with 78 percent of female students and 73 percent of male students nationally.

The majority (73 percent) of respondents were enrolled in four-year college or university programs and expected to graduate within four years from the time of the survey, and 23 percent were attending two-year colleges.

IGNITING THE SPARK: TECH TREK STEM CAMPS FOR GIRLS

SUMMARY OF SURVEY FINDINGS

Career Plans

"Tech Trek made me aware of all the possibilities in career choices. I realized how much of the world is dependent upon researchers and engineers."

—Former attendee



Alumnae credit Tech Trek's multi-faceted teaching and learning strategies with positively shaping their expectations and expanding their scope of opportunities in STEM.

After seeing, hearing, and working alongside women scientists and mathematicians during camp, many alumnae say they are less susceptible to negative stereotyping about women in STEM and more determined to achieve in whatever career interests them.



87% of respondents said Tech Trek introduced them to new STEM careers.



73% of respondents said Tech Trek introduced them to STEM college majors of which they were previously unaware.



Summary

Tech Trek opens up STEM possibilities for girls in many contexts. It expands and influences their academic and social lives, starting in middle school and continuing on into their careers. The program seeks out talented girls, sparks their interest, illuminates the value of a college education, and validates their passions. Tech Trek's exciting, hands-on approach offers a wide variety of experiences that translate into options well beyond the week of camp.



Programs

Mark your calendar now so you don't miss what's planned for 2015. More information to come at a later date.

January 23, Fri at 6 p.m. Valley of the Flowers Church. 3346 Constellation Rd., in the South Village, International Night. You will see an engaging and entertaining program showing the highlights of a week-long river boat ride in the French countryside presented by our members, Billye, Leslie and Pat.

February 7, 11:30 a.m. Santa Maria Country Club, Inter Branch Council (IBC) Luncheon with the branches from Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo counties. Guest speakers will be female graduate students working on their PhD's in various fields. These students have been awarded prestigious AAUW Fellows Grants to complete their studies. Join us and find out what areas of study AAUW members feel are important enough to fund.

Cathy, Program VP

Public Policy

If you are concerned about women's issues, the easiest thing to do is sign up for the AAUW Two Minute Activist program. Just visit <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/> to learn about AAUW positions and to take immediate action.

This month saw some significant progress in fixing our broken immigration system which affects so many women and their families. According to the AAUW website, "President Barack Obama's Immigration Accountability Executive Actions will, in the face of congressional inaction, provide a long-overdue and fair path to legal status for some undocumented residents of the United States. The president's actions will also help update an outdated visa system. A comprehensive update of the immigration system is still necessary, and Congress and the White House must work together in a bipartisan fashion to fix what everyone agrees is a broken system.

AAUW's member-endorsed public policy priorities support the "civil and human rights of all immigrants, including a fair and just path to legal status." The president's actions provide a path to legal status for an estimated 4 million to 5 million of the 11 million undocumented immigrants in the United States, including

- Parents of U.S. Citizens and legal residents
- Victims of crime (U visas) and human trafficking (T visas)

Public Policy (Continued)

- Additional “dreamers,” i.e., those who entered the United States as children before January 1, 2010, regardless of how old they are today

The president’s plan to modernize the outdated visa system will reduce costs and burdens on employers and families, as well as crack down on fraud. Many of the president’s immigration reforms mirror policies that AAUW supported in the bipartisan, Senate-passed immigration reform bill, which the House never called up for a vote.” Marell Brooks, Public Policy chair

Marell , Public Policy Chair

Interest Groups

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.

Armchair Travelers

Armchair Travelers won’t have a meeting in December, but our next meeting will be Thursday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m. at Mary and Bob ’s home. Mary and Bob will talk about their trip to the Galapagos Islands.

Please RSVP to Sally. If you have an idea for a program please call Sally with your ideas.

Sally, Chair

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

Back by popular demand, the dine-out group Christmas dinner will be at the Far Western in Santa Maria on December 11. Reservations are at 6:30 p.m. Cars will be leaving St. Mary's between 5:45 p.m. and 6:00.

Again - please make your reservations. Please email or call Leslie or Billye to make reservations.

Leslie & Billye, Chairs

Interest Groups (Continued)**Roaming Readers**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book</u>
December 1	<i>Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak (Myra)
January 5	<i>The Devil in the White City</i> by Erik Larson (Julie)
February 2	<i>The Glass Castle</i> by Jeanette Walls (Eileen)
March 2	<i>The Boys in the Boat</i> by Daniel James Brown (Judy)
April 6	<i>This House of Sky</i> by IvanHoig (Cathy)

Roaming Readers meets for breakfast and discussion at 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday of each month, unless that day is a holiday. In that case, we meet at the same time on the second Monday of the month. Meeting place is selected by each month's host. All AAUW members are invited to attend and welcome to join the group at any time.

Co-chairs: Carol Ann and Cathy .

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P.M. Book Explorers

December 17, "100 Year Old Man/Climbed Out the Window" by Jonas Jonasson

Location: Billye , Beverage: Billye, Treats: Billye

January 21, "Eating on the Wild Side" by Jo Robinson

Location: Kristen, Beverage: ??, Treats: ??

February 18, "The Valley of Amazement" by Amy Tan

Location: ??, Beverage: ??, Treats: ??

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

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

Gail, Chair

Calendar of Events

December 1	Roaming Readers: <i>Book Thief</i> by Markus Zusak
December 2	Board meeting, Dianne's House
December 5	RSVP due for Holiday Social
December 7	Branch Holiday Social
December 11	Dine out, Food, Fun and Friends Group @ Far Western Tavern
December 17	PM Book Explorers, <i>100 Year Old Man/Climbed Out the Window</i>
January 5	Roaming Readers: <i>The Devil in the White City</i> by Erik Larson
January 21	PM Book Explorers, <i>Eating on the Wild Side</i> by Jo Robinson
January 22	Armchair Travelers – Bob & Mary's Travels
January 23	International Night
February 7	Joint Branch Fellows Luncheon in Santa Maria
February 18	PM Book Explorers, <i>The Valley of Amazement</i> by Amy Tan
March 7	Women's Literary Festival in Santa Barbara
April 6	Roaming Readers: <i>This House of Sky</i> by Ivan Hoig
April 18	AAUW CA Annual Meeting, Manhattan Beach
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