



Lompoc-Vandenberg Inc. (CA) Branch

**From Dianne's Desk...**

AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg was "front and center" during April with our 3<sup>rd</sup> Supervisorial Candidate Forum featuring all five candidates. We also accepted proclamations promoting "Equal Pay Day" at the SB County Board of Supervisors and the Lompoc City Council meetings. We sponsored a thought provoking presentation on "Immigration" with federal, state and local perspectives from Hazel Davalos, Director of CAUSE (Central Coast alliance for a sustainable Economy). She explained the Farmworker Bill of Rights for SB County which CAUSE is sponsoring.

Cathy and I drove to the AAUW CA Convention in San Mateo where we attended stimulating workshops and heard inspiring speakers which re-energized us for our work in advancing equity for women and girls. We also sold ALL our remaining AAUW wine glasses with the proceeds supporting the Fellowships and Grants program, AAUW Fund! Cathy and I saw old friends and met new ones, as almost everyone attending the convention came by our display! See our Convention report on page 2.

May 12 is our Annual meeting/Installation with reports from officers and interest group chairs and the Installation of Officers. Nominations are open from the floor that evening. Cathy will be our installing official. Please see page 3 for more details.

Thanks to all of you for the opportunity to be your President the last four years! It has been fun and a rewarding experience! We have a great AAUW Branch! We are fortunate to have Pat Grijalva as our next President. I will continue on the Board as the Program VP. The new and old Boards will meet on June 21 at my home for dinner before our meeting!

I hope to see you on May 12! Have a wonderful month of May and June.

***Dianne Owens, President***

## News & Events

### **April 5, 2016 Board Meeting Highlights**

- A quorum was present and the minutes from the March 1 Board meeting were approved.
- Treasurer, Pat, reported \$1532.88 in the General Fund and \$3,429.53 in the AAUW Fund.
- Board discussed and planned the Annual Meeting/Installation on May 12, 6 pm at Kari Rosson's home, VV.
- Board discussed a Breakfast Planning Meeting for all branch members for July. Firm date will be set at the May 3 Board meeting.
- Saturday, August 20 was set as the Membership Event at Kari's home for 10 am with a Kentucky Derby theme—hats and all....
- Mandatory Branch By-Law changes were discussed. The Board will approve these at the May 3 Board meeting. Because they are mandatory changes brought about by the 2016 AAUW National Convention in San Diego in June, they do not require a branch vote.
- The Board discussed how to preserve our branch history from our fading scrap books of the past 52 years. Kari suggested that it might qualify to be a Senior Project at Cabrillo next year and she will investigate that possibility.
- Board agreed to publish a May/June edition and a July/August edition of "Scattered Seeds."
- Next Board meeting set for May 3, 6:45 pm at Dianne's home.

### **AAUW CA Convention 2016 "Empowering You!"**

Cathy and I attended the 2016 AAUW CA Convention in San Mateo, April 15-17. I was invited to attend the branch president's luncheon on Friday (with new and continuing presidents) as a panelist. We talked about what is important in the job as branch president.

We shared our documentary THE HUNTING GROUND at the Opening Plenary on Friday afternoon. After the viewing, we had a great panel discussion with one of the girls from the film, who was at UC Berkeley, a Rape Crisis Center Director and an AAUW member whose daughter was raped during college. That evening, AAUW National Board Chair, Patricia Fae Ho, spoke to us about leadership and AAUW present and future.

## **News & Events (Continued)**

### **AAUW CA Convention 2016 “Empowering You!” (Continued)**

We participated in the AAUW Marketplace and sold all of our AAUW wine glasses with the proceeds going to the AAUW Fund Fellowships and Grants. In between selling glasses, we attended workshops and listened to the three finalists for Speech Trek. They were all very good! Saturday evening was an AAUW Fund gala dinner and we wrapped up the convention on Sunday with a Public Policy Luncheon and a terrific speaker, Aileen Rizo, who is one of our Legal Advocacy Fund (LAF) plaintiffs. On Sunday morning, we participated in “Open Space” which was a brilliant way to self-organize the attendees into small discussion groups on topics relevant to our AAUW work! It was a high energy morning and a very productive three days!

*Cathy and Dianne*

## **Programs**

### **AAUW Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers**

Help us thank our present board for their tireless service to our branch while welcoming our new board for the 2016-2017 year on Thursday, May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

Current and prospective members will gather at the new home of Membership VP Kari, located in the new development of Falcon Crest, just off St. Andrews Way. Meet our two scholarship recipients, one from Lompoc High School and the other from Cabrillo. Our AAUW Fund Named Gift honoree for 2015-16 will be named.

Members are invited to bring a finger food appetizer, sweet or savory, to share. Beverages will be provided. We really want you to attend, so please let Cathy or Dianne know if you would like a ride to the event.

RSVP to Cathy by Tues. May 10th so we can prepare for the group.

*Cathy, Program VP*

## Membership

### **It's Time to Renew your AAUW Membership!**

Membership dues are \$86.00 (Life members \$37.00) for the year beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. Our branch has opted in to the AAUW Membership Payment Program (MPP), a secure, on line dues processing alternative that will allow members to pay their national, state and local dues on-line with a credit card. To pay on-line:

1. Go to [aauw.org](http://aauw.org)
2. Log-in with AAUW membership number
3. Go to the Member Service Database (MSD)
4. Click Membership Payment Program (MPP)
5. Follow directions to renew your membership

This is very easy and convenient as you will save yourself a *check and stamp costs!* You may also mail a check, payable to AAUW, to Kari by June 1, 2016. As a bonus, members who have paid their dues on or before the May 12, 2016 Installation Event will be eligible for a DOOR PRIZE. Wow!!

Need assistance? Our branch also can help a member with paying their AAUW national dues. All requests are confidential. Please contact me for more information.

***Thank you, Kari, Membership VP***

## **Public Policy**

At our April general meeting, we hosted Hazel Davalos from CAUSE (Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy). She presented some very interesting and sometimes disturbing information regarding the working conditions for our local residents who work in the fields, especially for women laborers. The report is a result of a survey taken by more than 300 farmworkers. I am sharing with you a press release from CAUSE regarding their Farm Workers Bill of Rights. You will be seeing more about this if they are able to get the item before the Board of Supervisors.

"Farmworkers do one of the hardest, most dangerous and most underpaid jobs in our community. The people who put food on our tables deserve human rights and dignity!

Too many farmworkers face daily abuses like extreme overwork, wage theft, and health and safety risks. Harsh labor conditions can often include exposure to toxic pesticides, working in the fields while pregnant, limited access to clean bathrooms and drinking water, unpaid and stolen wages, not receiving 10 minute rest breaks, sexual assault, injuries without compensation, intimidation and retaliation for filing complaints or speaking up.

We urge the Ventura and Santa Barbara County Boards of Supervisors to pass a Farmworker Bill of Rights that would set and enforce the most basic protections for workers in our fields.

The Farmworker Bill of Rights, developed by local community organizations and farmworker advocates, uses the powers of the local county government to:

- 1) Curb extreme overwork by ensuring workers get real rest breaks with 10 minutes to use water, shade and bathrooms and preventing farmworker women from losing their jobs for taking time off during pregnancy.
- 2) Crack down on wage theft by hiring county staff to help with investigations of unpaid wages, increasing penalties for violations, and establishing an anonymous hotline for complaints.
- 3) Protect health and safety by providing health and safety education for farmworkers, inspecting farms for access to clean bathrooms, helping growers who want to transition away from harmful pesticides, and aiding victims of sexual assault.

Read more about local farmworker labor conditions and the Farmworker Bill of Rights policy proposal on the CAUSE website: <https://causenow.org/article/farmworker-bill-rights-central-coast>"

*Marell, Public Policy Chair*

## Interest Groups

### Roaming Readers (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book</u>
May 2	Death of a Cozy Writer (G.M. Malliet), Betty
June 6	Bring up the Bodies (Hilary Mantel), Sally
July 11	The 100-year-old Man Who Jumped Out the Window and Disappeared (Jonas Jonasson), Mary
August 1	On the Move: a Life (Oliver Sacks), Eileen

Roaming Readers meets the first Monday of each month (unless that falls on a holiday, in which case we meet the second Monday) at 9:00 a.m. for breakfast at the restaurant of the moderator's choice. All AAUW members are invited to attend. Contact info: Carol Ann or Cathy.

*Co-chairs: Carol Ann and Cathy*

### P.M. Book Explorers (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month)



May 18, "Stones from the River" by Ursula Hegi; Location – Kristin's house  
Treats - ??; Drinks - ??

June 15, "The Wright Brothers" by David McCullough; Location – Gail's house;  
Treats - ??; Drinks - ??

We usually meet the 3rd Wed. of each month at 7 p.m. Members whose homes are not convenient can volunteer to bring treats or beverage. The hostess will provide water and tea. Please e-mail me if you would like to volunteer treats or beverage and possible book choices. The following books have been suggested: "Sarah's Key", "My Stroke of Insight", and "In Dubious Battle". If you suggest a book, please check to see if it is in paperback. Some of our members do not use e-books and find hardbacks would not be their first choice to purchase if the book is not available through the library. The three books listed are all available in paperback. "The Wright Brothers" will be in paperback the first week of May.

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

**Gail, Chair**

### **Interest Groups (Continued)**

#### **Armchair Travelers (4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month)**

May 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Pat traveled to Guatemala again to help build a school. She will share another area of this country with us. Last time she talked to us about Guatemala was June 2014. Pat will host the meeting at her home. Please RSVP to Pat.

June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 pm Elena will share her native home, Italy. She will have pictures to share from South Tyrol to Tuscany plus Venice. It should be a wonderful evening. The location will be sent to you in an email.

Make sure you reserve the date now as June gets rather busy. Please let Sally know if you would like to present your trip or if you know of anyone that would.

***Sally, Chair***

#### **Dine out, Food, Fun and Friends Group (2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month)**

We will have NO dine-out for May.

The Dine Out Group is going to Nikka's Fish Enterprise in Lompoc on June 9, Thursday at 6:00 p.m.



825 N H St, Lompoc, CA. <http://www.nikkafish.com/>

Please RSVP by contacting Billye or Leslie.

***Leslie & Billye, Chairs***

#### **Learning About Wine In 2016**

Let's meet in late July or August to discuss and plan this new interest group with the goal of learning more about wine, which is a major industry in our County. I will let those that are interested know by email where and when we will meet for the first time and will also put the date in the July/August "Scattered Seeds." Please call or email if you are interested and haven't told me yet.

***Dianne***

**Interest Groups (Continued)****Mission Walkers Group (Weekdays)**

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 great company. If you need more information, contact Marell Brooks. If you are interested in walking on the weekends, please let the group know.

**Calendar of Events**

May 2	Roaming Readers, "Death of a Cozy Writer" by G.M. Malliet
May 3	Board meeting, Dianne's home
May 12	Annual Meeting & Installation, Kari's home
May 18	PM Book Explorers, "Stones from the River" by Ursula Hegi
May 26	Armchair Travelers: Pat traveled to Guatemala again to help build a school.
June 6	Roaming Readers, "Bring up the Bodies" by Hilary Mantel
June 9	Dine Out Group: Nikka's Fish Enterprise Restaurant in Lompoc
June 15	PM Book Explorers, "The Wright Brothers" by David McCullough
June 21	Old/New Board Meeting at Dianne's House
June 23	Armchair Travelers: Elena Jones will share her native Italy
July 23	PCPA "Shrek the Musical," SBC IBC Theater Night
August 20	Membership Event

**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*