



## Lompoc-Vandenberg Inc. (CA) Branch

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

Our International meeting at the Valley of the Flowers Church on January 23 was a lot of fun with great food and a French barge trip all in one evening. Thank you, Joyce Barker, for doing all the planning for this meeting and making your delicious lasagna! Billye Iverson, Leslie Sevier and Pat Grijalva did a fantastic job with their narrative and slides showing their adventures in France on their barge trip. Who is going next?

We were fortunate to have four wonderful speakers for our AAUW Central Coast Fellows Luncheon on Saturday, February 7<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Maria Country Club! Our CA AAUW President, Kathleen Doty and Sharon Westafer, State Director for AAUW Funds brought us up to date with California and National happenings. The Fellows were personable and told us about the interesting work they are able to do because of their grants. For the first time, we had a college student speak about her experiences at the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL) last May. Susan Pease, Tech Trek Director, UCSB Camp, told us about the experiences at camp for our Tech Trek 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls last summer. They all made us proud to be AAUW members!

Tuesday, April 14<sup>th</sup> is "Equal Pay Day!" We are requesting a resolution from the SB County Board of Supervisors and the Lompoc City Council. Watch for articles in the newspaper that explain why AAUW is working so hard to pass legislation for equal pay for equal work.

#### SAVE THE DATES:

- Saturday, March 28—Film "Miss Representation" viewing
- Tuesday, April 7—Carissa Phelps, author "Runaway Girl"
- Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup>-- Annual meeting and Installation.
- AAUW Convention -- San Diego, June 18th-21st!

We have a busy Spring planned. Hope to see you soon!

***Dianne Owens, President***

## **News & Events**

### **Live Stream AAUW's *Solving the Equation* Launch**

AAUW's latest research report on women in STEM, *Solving the Equation: The Variables for Women's Success in Engineering and Computing*, will be released on March 26, 2015, with an event and panel discussion at Samsung's new research headquarters in Silicon Valley. We know how much you care about AAUW and our STEM programs, so make sure you [sign up to watch the event as it happens](#).

### **Candidates for the 2015–17 AAUW Board of Directors**

It's time to meet the candidates! When voting opens on April 15, members will select the AAUW president, vice president, and 10 directors. It's your AAUW, so [learn about the candidates](#) and make your voice count.

### **Gear Up for Graduation Season**

With a blue and green graduation cord, students can show their AAUW pride when they walk on graduation day. Give the graduates you know an [AAUW cord](#) and a free [AAUW membership](#) to honor the occasion.

### **AAUW Santa Maria Branch Happenings**

The Santa Maria Branch AAUW has nominated their long-time member (and our dual member), **Claire** to be their nominee this year to represent them at the Santa Maria Women's Network annual **Women of Excellence Award** on **Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Santa Maria Country Club. Cost is \$45.**

At this event, outstanding women who have contributed greatly to the Santa Maria Valley are nominated by friends or associates and then honored at the awards dinner. There are four categories of recognition: Women Taking Creative Risks; Women of Spirit; Women Helping Women; Lifetime Achievement.

#### **Reminder: AAUW Santa Maria "Lunch With An Author," Ashleigh Brilliant, Pot-Shots**

- Saturday, March 21, 2015, 11:00 am - 2:00 pm, Santa Maria Inn, 801 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, Ca
- Cost: \$35.00, Meal Choices: Chicken Croissant, Grilled Salmon, Vegetarian Wrap
- Reservation Deadline: March 11, 2015. Mail your check, payable to AAUW to:

AAUW Author Event, 142 Riverside Ct., Santa Maria, Ca 93458.

## **Membership**

“The years have proven that a member sharing their passion about AAUW with someone else has helped to keep our numbers strong. The stronger we are, the more we can accomplish on behalf of women and girls.” from National AAUW.

New members who join after March 15 will get extra value for their dues! Not only will they be a member of AAUW for the rest of this year, their membership will continue for next year and won't expire until June 30, **2016**. Plus, members joining at our March 28 meeting will qualify for the Shape the Future 50% discount off national dues. Please share your enthusiasm about AAUW with your friends and invite them to our March 28th event. Thank you!

*Thank you, Barbara, Membership VP*

## **Programs**

### **"Miss Representation"**

Join us, Saturday March 28, 2015, to watch how [mainstream media](#) contribute to the under-representation of women in influential positions by circulating [limited and often disparaging portrayals of women](#). Valley of the Flowers Church, 3346 Constellation, South Vandenberg Village 10 a.m. Continental Breakfast will be served.

*This film*, made in 2011, is a 90 min. American [documentary film](#) written, directed, and produced by [Jennifer Siebel Newsom](#) and premiered in the documentary competition at the 2011 [Sundance Film Festival](#). The documentary includes interviews with Jane Fonda, Condoleezza Rice, Katie Couric, Nancy Pelosi and Rachel Maddow.

Reservations required by Monday, March 23.

### **From Juvie To J.D.: The Story Of A 'Runaway Girl'**

Mark your calendar today so you don't miss out!!! Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dick DeWees Community & Senior Center, 1120 W. Ocean Avenue, Lompoc.

Our speaker, Carissa Phelps, is a 38 year old Mexican-American author, attorney, and advocate for sexually exploited runaway children and homeless youth. Carissa's Organization, Runaway Girl, FPC, helps communities develop positive opportunities for runaways, former runaways, and survivors of trafficking.

*Cathy*

## **Public Policy**

Lompoc Vandenberg AAUW will be participating in Equal Pay Day in April. We are requesting both the Board of Supervisors and the Lompoc City Council to pass resolutions to acknowledge that women make only 77% of men for the same work and that they support equal pay for women.

We will also have an editorial in the local paper.

Here is another issue where AAUW has taken a stand which was on the recent AAUW e-mail. Make sure you are signed up for the "Two Minute Activist" so you can weigh in on important legislation affecting women. The link allows you to sign petitions, etc. and contact your member of legislature.

### **Tell Congress to Pass Earned Sick Time Legislation**

With flu season well underway, it's more important than ever that people stay home from work or school when they are sick. Yet nearly half of all private-sector workers in this country – millions of Americans – don't have the option of taking sick time without fear of losing their job or much-needed income.

It's time for the United States to join the more than 160 countries – including 14 of the world's 15 most economically competitive countries – that guarantee workers' right to earn paid sick days.

Take action below: Urge your members of Congress to support the Healthy Families Act, which would allow workers to earn paid sick time!

The Healthy Families Act would allow workers in businesses with 15 or more employees to earn up to seven job-protected paid sick days each year. Workers would be able to use the paid sick days to recover from their own illnesses, provide care to a sick family member, or recover or seek assistance related to a domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault incident.

For millions of American workers without paid sick days, the choice between their health and their job is one they are forced to face every time they or a family member gets sick. In these tough economic times, the decision to stay home sick without pay is a very difficult one. And if your job and your economic security are on the line, it's a risk many workers can't afford to take – more importantly, it's one they shouldn't have to take.

Urge your members of Congress to keep America's working families healthy and economically secure by supporting the Healthy Families Act today!

***Marell, Public Policy Chair***

**You Did It!!**

Dear Dianne,

When the House votes on reauthorizing the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), harmful voucher amendments will NOT be a part of the bill.

**Thank you for contacting your representatives and letting them know: Public education funding should not be redirected to private and religious schools that can discriminate against which students they accept and which teachers they hire on the grounds of categories protected by our civil rights laws.**

This is a big victory. No one watching this debate thought we would be able to stop the House Rules Committee from adding the voucher amendments to the bill for consideration by the full House

**But because of the quick mobilization by AAUW's e-advocacy network and other education advocates, we were able to stop the amendments before they even went to the floor.**

Your voice – our voices – made the difference. [Share AAUW's Facebook post](#) to show your network that when we all come together around a common goal, we can do amazing things.

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**AAUW**

1111 Sixteenth St NW  
Washington, D.C. 20036

**This is an example of the power of AAUW and the Two Minute Activist! If you aren't already a member, sign up now and let your voice be heard. Even if you think our Senators and Congresswoman agree with you, send them a message!!**

## Interest Groups

### **Armchair Travelers**

The Armchair Travelers will take a trip to Iceland via Jana Hunking. Jana and friends took a cruise to Iceland and saw amazing places. Please join us Thursday, March 26 at Sally home, Lompoc (Come up to Constellation, turn right on Aldebaran, right on Galaxy, and right at the second street, and right again and I'm on the right). We start at 7:00 p.m. Please RSVP Jana or Sally Please feel free to bring a snack or wine to share.

Reserve Thursday, April 16th to go on a trip to the Galapagos Islands with Mary and Bob Vossler.

If you know of a travel agent that would like to speak to our group or someone that would like to share a trip please let Sally Prentiss know.

**Sally**

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

The AAUW Dine-Out Group is not tired of fish yet, or they better not be.

Once again, we are staying in Lompoc and once again fish will be on the menu, however, this time . . . the menu is **new!**

Goleta's Nikka Fish Market & Grill has opened in Lompoc with a fresh-fish concept cultivated by the same Lompocans who own Sushi Teri restaurant. The original Nikka Fish Market and Grill opened in Goleta two years ago and that restaurant now has 5 locations, including this new one in Lompoc.

They had a soft opening while we were "dining out" at Dong Hae this past month and their manager, Dikran Ohanian, said they had a warm reception (We have heard they are improving service at a rapid pace!). Those who have eaten there are impressed with the appetizers (namely, the Avocado Bomb and Shrimp Toast), the clam chowder and the halibut fish and chips. The atmosphere is casual and the noise level isn't bad for as open as it is. They have 15 craft beers on tap and a fresh fish case.

We will meet Thursday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Nikka's Fish Enterprise at 825 North H Street. (This is where the old Red Zone and even older Saletti's used to be.)

**Leslie & Billye, Chairs**

**Roaming Readers**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book</u>
March 2	<i>The Boys in the Boat</i> by Daniel James Brown (Judy Rarick)
April 6	<i>This House of Sky</i> by Ivan Hoig (Cathy Rudolph)

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***

**P.M. Book Explorers**

March 18, "Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Streets" by Carissa Phelps. Ms. Phelps will be attending our April general meeting where we will be discussing the problems of trafficking on the central coast. Location: Dianne Owens, Beverage; Dianne Owens, Treats: ??

April 15, "The Meaning of Human Existence" by Edward O. Wilson

May 20, "Goldfinch" by Donna Tartt

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 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***

**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.

**Calendar of Events**

March 2	Roaming Readers: <i>The Boys in the Boat</i> by Daniel James Brown
March 7	Women's Literary Festival in Santa Barbara
March 12	Dine out, Food, Fun and Friends Group at Nikka's Fish Enterprise
March 14	Santa Maria Women's Network annual Women of Excellence Award
March 18	PM Book Explorers, <i>Runaway Girl: Escaping Life on the Street</i> by Carissa Phelps.
March 21	SM AAUW Lunch with an Author, <i>Ashley Brilliant</i>
March 26	Armchair Travelers – Jana Hunking's Travels to Iceland
March 28	Program "Miss Representation" Film viewing
April 6	Roaming Readers: <i>This House of Sky</i> by Ivan Hoig
April 7	Program: Carissa Phelps, author "Runaway Girl"
April 14	Equal Pay Day
April 15	AAUW National Election voting opens
April 15	PM Book Explorers, <i>The Meaning of Human Existence</i> , by Edward O. Wilson
April 16	Armchair Travelers – Galapagos Islands with Mary and Bob Vossler
April 18	AAUW CA Annual Meeting, Manhattan Beach
April 18 – May 8	AAUW CA voting period
April 19	AAUW Southern California Leadership Day, Manhattan Beach
May 1	Branch Annual Meeting, Installation and Potluck Dinner
May 20	PM Book Explorers, <i>Goldfinch</i> by Donna Tartt
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*