



From Pat's Desk...

It is hard to believe that we are half way through our program year and the holiday season is upon us. I want to wish all of you a very happy season! Please make it a time to enjoy family and friends and all those who are important to you in your lives.

We have had excellent programs this year with our latest speaker being Niki Sandoval, Education Director for the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians. She gave a superb talk on how women have affected her growth and the programs that she has developed to stress the importance of heritage and education. All those present enjoyed her presentation and "pearls of wisdom".

December 3 will be our holiday get together at Kari Rosson's home, 304 Burnham Court from 2-4PM. This is a time to enjoy each other socially with some food, refreshments and a little bit of entertainment. Please remember to bring an appetizer, dessert or wine to share. It is also an opportunity to give support to AAUW Fund so if you would like to donate please remember to bring your check to the get together.

I sometimes like to add a quote to help us remember who we are and what we do. I found this one that I thought definitely applies to AAUW:

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed. It is the only thing that ever has." --Margaret Mead

Pat Grijalva, President

AAUW Fund

Our Gift to National AAUW Fund

The 2016 – 2017 annual gift of the AAUW Lompoc – Vandenberg Branch was sent to the national AAUW prior to the December deadline. This year, the Board decided to designate \$1,000 of the total amount to the Legal Advisory Fund due to the great need. We continued to support the Alicia Hetman (CA) Grant with \$500.

“A Holiday Affair” Offers Contribution Opportunity

At our holiday party on Sunday, December 3, we will be collecting checks and cash toward our annual donation to the national AAUW Fund for fiscal 2017 – 2018. Please make out checks payable to our branch with “AAUW Fund” on the memo line. If you forget your checkbook but still wish to participate, checks may be mailed to our Treasurer, Mary Bath Parks, at 3980 Pinehurst Drive, Lompoc CA 93436. For the purpose of income tax benefits, in most cases, the deadline for 2017 charitable giving is December 31.

Please remember: any day is a good day to contribute to the AAUW Fund and thank you for your support.

Kati, AAUW Fund Vice President

Branch Programs

Reminder: Sunday, December 3, 2017, 2-4 pm—A Holiday Affair

Our holiday social will be at a private home. Please bring your favorite holiday appetizer, dessert and/or favorite drink to share. The Cabrillo High School Band will entertain us, as they did last year!

Where: Country Club area off St. Andrews Way.

RSVP: Elena by December 1

SAVE THE DATE: Friday, January 12, 2018: International Night in India, Bhutan and Nepal at Valley of the Flowers Church, 6 pm for Indian potluck! 7 pm Program! More details will follow in the January 2018 “Scattered Seeds”

Dianne Owens, Program VP

AAUW Speech Trek

The Lompoc Vandenberg Village Branch is sponsoring Speech Trek this year, a speech contest for all High School students with the topic: How Can We Stand Up to Sexism? What can I do as an individual, what can organizations like AAUW do to break down stereotypes and biases in school, in the military, at work, and in our communities?

Our branch is inviting all actively attending high school students (all genders) to participate in the AAUW Speech Trek Contest. The deadline for the students to sign up to participate is Friday, December 8, 2017. Contact Pam to obtain information and required consent forms. There are AAUW members, some local teachers, and volunteers who will be available to mentor students as they prepare their speeches, and practice presentations.

Students will prepare and present a 5-6 minutes speech responding to the topic: How Can We Stand Up to Sexism?, to the AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch members, judges, and public attendees. Prizes (to be determined) will be awarded to the top three local winners, and each student will receive a certificate of participation.

The Speech Trek Contest will be held Friday, January 26, 2018 at 3:30 pm at the Lompoc City Council Chamber in City Hall, 100 Civic Center Plaza. The competing students will be videoed, and the local first place winner's presentation will be sent, via YouTube, to AAUW CA State judges. From the videos entered into the State competition, two contestants will be named as Honorable mentions and receive \$250 as the 4th place winner, and \$150 as the 5th place winner. The top three State level finalists will be invited to compete for cash prizes at the AAUW CA State Convention/Annual meeting to be held on Saturday, April 28th, 2018. The First-place winner at the State context will receive \$1500; Second-place winner at the State contest will receive \$1000; and -the Third-place winner at the State contest will receive \$500. The top three state level finalists and a chaperone will have travel expenses, lodging, and meals reimbursed by AAUW Speech Trek (not to exceed the approved budget).

A press release has been sent to The Lompoc Record and S Y Valley Star on November 14th.

We have teachers from Lompoc High, Cabrillo, Maple High and Santa Ynez Valley Union High on board.

Anyone members who would like to help with the contest or mentoring, please contact Pam.

Pam

Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

November 28th was the day when AAUW celebrated its 136 years of helping to level the playing field for women and girls. We are proud to belong to a community of 170,000 members and supporters dedicated to help AAUW grow all over the world.

Please welcome our newest branch members and add them to your 2017-18 directory.

As another busy year comes to a close, I would like to thank all our members for bringing about diversity and for staying involved. Wishing you a **new year** rich with the blessings of love, joy, warmth, and laughter.

Elena, Membership VP

Interest Groups

P.M. Book Explorers (3rd Wednesday of each month)

December - no meeting

January 17, "Dark Money" by Jane Mayer; Location - ??; Treats - ??; Drinks - ??

February 21, "Unfinished Business" by Anne Marie Slaughter; Location - ??; 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: "My Stroke of Insight", "In Dubious Battle", "Rogue Lawyer", "Just Mercy". 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. Please feel free to contact Gail for further information.

Gail, Chair

Roaming Readers (1st Monday of the month)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book</u>	<u>Host</u>
December 4	The Light Between Oceans (M.L. Stedman)	Eileen
January 8	Reader's Choice	
February 5	My Brilliant Friend (Elena Ferrante)	Myra
March 5	My Life on the Road (Gloria Steinem)	Leah
April 2	Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker (Jennifer Chiaverini)	Cathy May 7
	The Other Einstein (Maria Benedict)	Sally

Roaming Readers meets the first Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at a place of the host's choice. If a holiday falls on the first Monday of the month, we meet on the second Monday. Guests are always welcome. Questions can be directed to the co-chairs: Carol Ann and Cathy

Carol Ann and Cathy, Co-Chairs

Interest Groups (Continued)**Dine-out, Food, Fun and Friends Group (2nd Thursday of the month)**

The December Dine-out will be December 14th at The Far Western in Old Orcutt. We will send more details via email to the normal dine-out group. If you are interested in attending, please contact Leslie or Billye

Contact Leslie or email bookstor@verizon.net, or Billye to find out more about the 2nd Thursday of the month Dine-Out group.

Leslie & Billye, Chairs

AAUW WOW Group — "Women Of Wine"

The Women of Wine shall meet four times this coming year. January we shall be doing champagnes and desserts. More information will be provided at a later time.

Contact Billye for information if you are interested in learning more about wine.

Billye Iverson

Armchair Travelers (4th Thursday of the month)

In December we won't have a program and January will be the travel program at the AAUW general meeting and February I have a program set-up for Cuba. I also have to announce that I will have to give-up doing Armchair Travelers after the February program. I have done it for four years and feel I need to give someone else this opportunity.

Sally, Chair

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. If you are interested in walking on the weekends, please let the group know.

Calendar of Events

December 3	Holiday Social
December 4	Roaming Readers: "The Light Between Oceans" by M.L. Stedman
December 8	Deadline for students to sign up for Speech Trek
December 14	Dine Out Group at Far Western Tavern in Orcutt
January 8	Roaming Readers: Reader's Choice
January 12	International Night to India, Bhutan and Nepal
January 17	PM Book Explorers "Dark Money" by Jane Mayer
January 25	AAUW Speech Trek Branch Competition
February 5	Roaming Readers: "My Brilliant Friend" by Elena Ferrante
February 21	PM Book Explorers "Unfinished Business" by Anne Marie Slaughter
February 22	Armchair Travelers: Cuba
April 28	State Speech Trek Competition
August 11	Santa Barbara County IBC PCPA event: Mamma Mia!

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