



From Pat's Desk...

I am sure that most of you have seen the news from AAUW CA that as of January 22, 2018 the vote to change AAUW California back to a Public Benefit Corporation **failed** due to four “no” votes. AAUW CA must be reclassified, one way or another, in order to remain an affiliate of AAUW and to participate in all AAUW programs, to include Tech Trek. Any member who cast a “no” vote has the opportunity to change that vote to a “yes” vote up until February 10, 2018, by contacting governance@aauw-ca.org and requesting that their vote be changed. After that date, AAUW CA will move into a complex and costly appeal process with the State of California. I am not sure how long this process will take and what to expect, so more to follow on this.

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) has announced awards of \$3.7 million to its 2017–18 class of fellows and grantees. These 250 recipients represent diverse backgrounds, locations, and areas of study but have one thing in common: They all aim to promote equity for women and girls. This is one of the important reasons to contribute to AAUW Fund. To find out more about this year's exceptional class of awardees, visit <https://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/educational-funding-and-awards/directory-of-recipients-and-sponsors/>.

Did you know that AAUW has an on-line book club? Women authors are much less likely than male authors to have their books reviewed in major publications like the *New York Times* and *Harper's Magazine*. That's why AAUW created the ¡Adelante! Book of the Month Club to spotlight engrossing stories and writing by women from all backgrounds. AAUW also connects our members to some of the authors we feature through web discussions. February's webinar celebrates Black History Month with a discussion on “The Firebrand and the First Lady”. Just go to AAUW's website and search book club and you will be taken to the site to register for the webinar and also obtain a recommended reading list.

Pat Grijalva, President

AAUW Fund: Bits and Pieces

Several of our members have expressed their hope that we will not have to hold another fundraiser this year, other than our benefit breakfast at Applebee's to fund our students for Tech Trek. The Board of Directors has acted on that expectation by adding a \$5 "extra" cost to our Women's History Month brunch on March 10. This is the amount that will be tax deductible and added to our AAUW Fund. The remainder of the ticket price will reimburse the Mission Club for the food and the facilities. A few additional gifts to AAUW Fund from 2017 remain outstanding and any others would be most welcome!

The Inter Branch Council Annual Fellows Luncheon is coming up on February 24 at the Madonna Inn in San Luis Obispo. The arrangements are under the auspices of the San Luis Obispo Branch and will include an excellent luncheon, good fellowship and a chance to hear from some of the individuals whose efforts the AAUW Fund supports. Please put that date on your calendars and join in.

Kati, AAUW Fund Vice President

Tech Trek

The letters to 7th grade math and science teachers have gone out. They will be selecting girls to nominate for Tech Trek 2018. I will meet with the candidates in February to explain the camp experience. Once the applications are returned, the girls will be interviewed by a group of three members. We will then select the campers who will attend the UCSB camp in July.

Letters have been sent to members explaining our March 17th fundraiser at Applebee's. I hope you will all continue your support for this exceptional program.

We are still waiting to hear the final decision from SpaceX, but their representative sounded positive about continuing their support for 3 campers in 2018.

Thanks again for making this possible. I hope to see you at the breakfast.

Wynn, Coordinator



AAUW Speech Trek

The inaugural Speech Trek contest for our Branch was held on January 26, 2018 at The Lompoc City Council Chambers.

The event was very professional and successful - with seven high school students participating - "The Magnificent 7" as Lucy so rightly named them. The topic was "How can we stand up to sexism? What can individuals and organizations such as AAUW do to break down stereotypes and biases in school, at work, in the military and in our communities?"



1st place winner: Erin -Lompoc High - \$200
 2nd place: Sarah - Cabrillo High - \$150
 3rd place: Matthew - Lompoc High- \$100

In addition to our top 3 finishers, Alfonso and Deeanna participated representing Maple High; Angel and Allison were also participants from Lompoc High.

Our 1st place winner, Erin is a student of Carolyn. Erin's drama teacher is Sarah, and

Erin will be performing in Lompoc High's production of Suessical in March.

The video presentation of our 1st place winner will be submitted to AAUW CA state judges who will select 5 state level winners who will receive additional cash prizes. The top 3 state winners will compete at the AAUW CA annual convention in Irvine on 04/28/18. 1st place will receive \$1500, 2nd place \$1000, and 3rd place \$500 - with travel expenses and those awards covered by AAUW CA.

Many thanks to Lucy, Jenelle, Elena, Pat, and Dianne who served on the committee, and to Mary Beth for assisting at the workshop, and at the contest as the official timer. Also, thank you to Claire, Anne and Lucy who served as mentors. Thanks to all of our Branch membership - for funding Speech Trek - along with anonymous community sponsors. Thank you to the judges Lompoc Mayor Bob, Mischa, Deb s, Barbara, and Nora.

Pam, Speech Trek Coordinator

Branch Programs

Saturday, February 3, 2018: “Healthy Me”

Our branch “Healthy Me” breakfast and program will be held on Saturday, February 3 at 9 am at the Valley of the Flowers Church, 3346 Constellation Road, South Vandenberg Village. A short business meeting will follow breakfast. Our healthy breakfast will be furnished by your board members.

The program this year will feature chair exercises (that you can do at home) led by AAUW member Kari followed by a discussion of issues relating to arthritis – foods to eat (and to avoid), and what you can do to help alleviate the problem. Handouts on arthritis topics will be available.

Reservations are necessary and should be made by e-mailing or calling by February 1. Please bring a prospective member with you. The community is also invited to join us.

Please wear comfortable clothes and wear RED to recognize February as American Heart Month! Heart Disease is the leading cause of death for both men and women in the United States. Exercise and healthy eating can help to prevent heart disease and stroke in both men and women. So, let’s start the year with Good Health!



Central Coast AAUW Fellows Luncheon, February 24

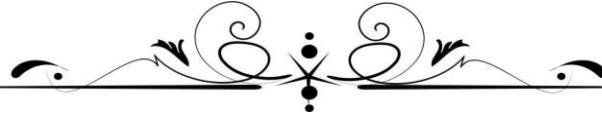
Our annual Central Coast Fellows Luncheon will be held Saturday, February 24 at the Madonna Inn, San Luis Obispo from 11:30 am to 2:30 pm. Tickets are \$25 each. Please see flyer for reservation details and join us in San Luis Obispo. We will arrange car pools.



Save The Date: Saturday, March 10 for a brunch celebrating Women’s History Month at 10 am at the Sage Restaurant, Mission Club. Our keynote speaker will be Assemblywoman Monique Limòn, 37th Assembly District. Brunch will be \$25 each for eggs, bacon, potatoes, fruit, croissant, orange juice, coffee. Join us to hear an inspirational woman who is making history! Details for reservations will be in the March 2018 Scattered Seeds!

Dianne, Program VP

IBC FUNDS LUNCHEON



Sponsored by San Luis Obispo & Santa Barbara County Interbranch Councils

Saturday, February 24, 2018

11:30 AM – 2:30 PM

The Madonna Inn Garden Room San

Luis Obispo, CA

TICKETS: \$25

Opening Remarks

Donna Mertens, AAUW CA President

Susan Pease, Tech Trek Camp Director

Sharon Westafer, AAUW CA Director, AAUW Fund

Guest Speaker

Daisy Benitez, AAUW Fellow

Please RSVP by **February 12** to Dianne Owens, dianneowens9@gmail.com /805.733.1734

Include your menu choice (Thyme & Basil Chicken, Roast Pork, or a Vegetarian option) on your check. Make checks payable to “**Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch, AAUW**” and mail to **Lompoc, CA 93436**.



Daisy Benitez: “Work with your mind, not with your hands.” Recent graduate Daisy Benitez grew up hearing these words so often it became her mantra. In fact, her life was shaped by this saying and by the lives of its authors: her parents. As a first-generation college student, Benitez was determined to build a future that her parents once dreamed of. After earning a bachelor’s degree in environmental engineering (’17), she will continue her work in sustainability through the Master in Green Technologies program, with her graduate studies funded by the National GEM Consortium Engineering Fellowship, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) Fellowship, and the Switzer Environmental Fellowship. As the first member of her family to earn an undergraduate degree, Benitez never even considered attending graduate school. For one, she didn’t know if she could afford it coming from a low-income household, and two, not many of her friends gave graduate school much thought. It wasn’t until last year when Benitez was elected as the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers student chapter president that the club started encouraging its members to pursue graduate degrees.

Public Policy

Right now there are several opportunities for AAUW members to get active in local decision-making.

LUSD board seeking candidates to fill vacancy

There is an opening on the Lompoc Unified School District Board of Education. The Lompoc Unified School District board of education is seeking candidates to fill a vacancy on the board that was created by the Dec. 18, 2017, death of board member Richard King. The deadline is fast approaching, (like this Friday!!). There are no women on the current board and I know that among our members, we have dozens of potential strong candidates. If you are considering submitting your name/application, please do so ASAP. Call me if you have any questions.

Anyone interested in serving on the board is encouraged to pick up an application between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. weekdays at the LUSD Office of the Superintendent, 1301 North A St. Applications need to be turned in to the superintendent's office by Thursday.

Board candidate interviews, which will be followed by an appointment and swearing-in ceremony, are expected to begin Friday.

For more information, contact the LUSD at 742-3300.

Lompoc City Council

Later this year, the city of Lompoc will have district elections. It would be great if we had at least one woman running in each of the eligible city districts. Again, if you would like to get more information about running for public office, call me.

Besides elected office, there are usually openings on local and county commissions. Check the websites for both the City and the County to see if there are any current openings.

Marell, Public Policy Chair



Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

As a general reminder, please know that any new member joining the branch between January 1 and March 15 shall pay one-half of AAUW national dues, full AAUW CA dues and full branch dues. Any new member joining after March 15 shall pay the full amount of dues, which will cover his/her dues for the remainder of this fiscal year and the following fiscal year.

AAUW's Annual Art Contest

Have you entered this year's competition? If so, let us know so we can rally for you! Voting period goes from February 6 to March 4, 2018, and AAUW members can vote for up to 10 pieces.

The two works I entered are called "Peaceful Lake House" and "Dynasty Floral" (needlework). Visit the gallery of artworks at https://art.aauw.org/contests/art_contest/

The six winning entries - announced in late March - will be featured in a collection of note cards mailed to AAUW members in the spring.

For more information, go to <https://www.aauw.org/contests/>

Elena, Membership VP

Interest Groups

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

The Dine-Out Group will be going to Sake Sushi Korean BBQ on Thursday night, February 8 at 6:00 p.m. The restaurant is located at 1325 N. H Street in the CVS shopping center next to Eddie's Burgers. Please RSVP to 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

Interest Groups (Continued)

AAUW WOW Group — “Women Of Wine”

The Women of Wine shall meet four times this coming year. More information will be provided at a later time. Contact Billye for information if you are interested in learning more about wine.

Billye

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

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>
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)

Armchair Travelers (4th Thursday of the month)

February 22: Barbara will share her Maiden Cruise on the Royal Caribbean. She went to Mayan Ruins and to Havana, Cuba. In Cuba she had an outstanding guide that drove them around in a 1956 Chevy. Meeting starts at 7:00 p.m.

Sally will host the talk at her home.

This will be the last meeting for Armchair Travelers unless someone steps up to take over the group. Sally would be very happy to support a new volunteer for a while, but her travels would interfere with her continuing this chair position.

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

February 3	“Healthy and Happier Me” Brunch & Program
February 5	Roaming Readers: “My Brilliant Friend” by Elena Ferrante
February 9	Dine Out Group to Sake Sushi Korean BBQ
February 21	PM Book Explorers: “Unfinished Business” by Anne Marie Slaughter
February 22	Armchair Travelers: Cuba
February 24	Central Coast Fellows Luncheon at the Madonna Inn, SLO
March 5	Roaming Readers: “My Life on the Road” by Gloria Steinem
March 10	Women’s History Month Luncheon
March 17	Tech Trek Breakfast Fundraiser at Applebees
April 27-29	AAUW-CA State Convention at Irvine Marriott (see Winter 2018 California Perspective for details)
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.