



From Pat's Desk...

We are entering a busy fall period. Please check the program schedule for all of the forums that Pam Buchanan and committee have set up for September and October. These are all open to the public and there should be plenty of space, so invite guests. It is important to have voters informed on the positions of candidates, the reasons for the bond measures, and the opportunity for those attending the meeting to ask questions/express opinions. We have two of our members running for office—Jenelle Osborne for Mayor and Gloria Grijalva for School Board.

At our first board meeting of the year we reviewed the attached proposed budget and it is submitted to you for your comment (attached separately). I need to have comments by Oct 5 and we will vote on the budget at the October General Meeting (date to be scheduled). Please note that there are 4 tabs on this document so you will need to look at least at the tabs marked budget general and budget EF Tech Trek and AAUW Fund. One item that we have changed this year is that the directory will be only be published electronically. Reasons for doing this are associated with publication costs. We have relied on members to obtain ads for the directory in the past and it seems that just a few members have ended up paying for most of the ads. You will be emailed a PDF or word copy of the document which you will be able to file on your computer or print yourself. I will print a few and mail to the members who do not maintain electronic access.

Joyce Barker is heading up the scholarship fundraising event again this year. This is the major fundraiser for our scholarships that we give annually at Cabrillo and Lompoc. It will be held September 30 at Babcock Winery. Call or email Joyce for reservations. Bring an appetizer or desert

I hope to see many of you at the forums and the Wine Tasting Event! Remember to register or re-register to vote (if you have moved or changed your political party preference) and encourage other community members to do the same.

Pat Grijalva, President

News and Events

Blast Off! Women led InSIGHT Launch Team Ignites AAUW Tech Trek Girls

We had full house in the Grossman Gallery for the inspiring program in August with the women led InSIGHT Launch team from VAFB inspired members and Tech Trek campers, both present and past. The InSIGHT Launch team was responsible for the spectacularly successful early morning launch on May 5 of NASA's Mission to Mars.

Led by Lt Col Meredith, the InSIGHT Team gave an overview of the mission of VAFB and the intricacies of a launch. She and her team then shared perspectives and personal stories on their journeys, including challenges which were overcome, that led them to their leadership positions in science, technology and engineering. The team offered their guidance and advice for the next step in the girls' journeys. Accompanying Lt Col Beg were InSIGHT Launch team members: Alessa, Ms. G, Devin, Jennifer and Sarah.



Each year the Lompoc Vandenberg Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and its partner at Space X provide 5 rising 8th grade girls an opportunity of a lifetime: attending AAUW's premier Tech Trek camp at UCSB. The AAUW Tech Trek campers learn about science, technology, engineering and math through hands on experiments taught by women subject matter experts. This year's campers from Lompoc Valley Middle School were Avigail, Dayanna and Yvette; campers from Vandenberg Middle School were Madison and Michelle. Wynn, AAUW Tech

Trek Chair, moderated a panel where the 2018 Tech Trekkers shared their camp experiences, what subject track each girl took and what was learned.

After the panel discussions by the Tech Trek campers and the InSIGHT team members, individuals from the two groups were paired up to continue the conversation and inspiration during lunch.

Empowerment, encouragement and inspiration were the words of the day.

Lucy

Tech Trek

Our 2018 campers are back and school has started. We had a fantastic STEM meeting Saturday, August 25, with four of our campers presenting their experiences at UCSB along with the ladies from the Mars InSIGHT Launch Team. Our members and current and past campers were inspired by the VAFB team's stories about their personal journeys, which led them to careers in STEM fields. The following are the thank you notes we received from our 2018 campers:

- Dear SpaceX and Lompoc -Vandenberg Branch,

Thank you for allowing me to experience this amazing opportunity! Every day has been filled with something new and exciting. I really appreciate being able to go through this and learning so much. It's also been the longest I've been away from home, so it's been helping me get more responsible as a whole.

Math is such an awesome core class to have. I love learning about things like Caesar's Ciphers and Pascal's Triangles. Plus, it's amazing to have a teacher that you don't feel pressured to get the answer right. Her teaching style is different than other schools, and I think it makes math class more fun. I also love dorm living and the great friendships I've made throughout the week.

Living/staying in the dorms with a roommate is super cool because it's away from home and my parents. It's very exciting and makes me feel more responsible. I've also grown super close to my dorm mates and our project group. Also, my dorm mom Paige is super cool. I've really enjoyed being around people I've grown so close to in just a few days.

Once again, thank you so much for allowing me to go through a week of something new and really exciting. This week has not only been so much fun, it's also helped me consider a career in STEM because it sounds like I would really enjoy doing something in that field. The friendships I've made and the many new things and experiences I've been through will always stay with me and I will always look back fondly upon these memories. I couldn't be more excited.

Sincerely, Michelle



- Dear SpaceX and AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch,

Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. I have had so much fun learning and having new experiences with friends. I had so many laughs with all the staff and new friends.

We have had so many fun games, like the amazing race. We ran around campus finding buildings and tracing pictures in front of them. We did this with our project group. Another game we played was 'cap the gusher'. We had to work together to put a ring on a pipe with

strings. We did this by working as a team and listening to our leader. I really liked this game because it brought me closer with my group.

Core class was very different than I thought it would be. This is because it taught me that math is in everything.

My project group worked really well together. Our project was to save the oil rigs with coral reefs underneath. Our idea was to build a resort on top of the decommissioned oil rig. We had to put together a model of the oil rig's jacket and what it would look like.

I would like to thank you for this amazing experience,

Sincerely, Madison



- Dear SpaceX and Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch,

Thank you for sending me to this amazing camp. It has been amazing. This camp is based mostly on confidence and it brought it up so much. So, I would like to thank you for that.

The things I loved about this camp included my core class, Aerospace Engineering, math night, and hanging out with my dorm mates/friends. I loved these things because I love to engineer. Second of all, math night was amazing, and I love to laugh and have a good time. I love engineering because I have been doing it since I was in elementary school. They changed the name to La Honda STEM Academy. I also loved math night because it was overall funny and interesting.

I also loved hanging out with my dorm mates because they are really nice and funny. We stayed in one room until 9:30. We all tell stories and work on our Problem of the Day. We are all reliable in many ways.

Once again, I would like to say thank you for an amazing time. This taught me to be confident and proud to be a girl. It gave me an opportunity that I never knew I had.

Sincerely yours, Yvette

- Dear Lompoc Vandenberg Branch,

Hello my name is Dayanna

, and I wanted to thank you for helping me get a chance to go to Tech Trek. It has been very fun. On the first day we were introduced to the counselors, dorm moms, and all the girls. We were introduced to the three global problems that we will have to find ways to help solve.

On the second day we got to meet and video chat with people that have been on the Nautilus. We learned a lot about the boat, remotely operated vehicles, and what it is like to be on the world exploration.

I have coding for my core class, and we created some apps guided step-by-step by Virginia, our teacher. Later we learned about the A through G requirements for college.

On the third day, we went on the Condor Express boat which was very fun and interesting. We got to see dolphins. Later we began our projects to help solve our global problem, sustainable table. We will solve this by explaining ways on how to reduce food waste. After that, we did the amazing race where we were given clues that described a location on campus, and when we found it, we needed photo evidence.

On the fourth day we got to keep working on our apps and projects. We learned about cyber security by watching videos and playing games. We then went over our presentation for our projects.

We also had a math night. It was the BEST, because of all the clever jokes. I am barely on the fourth day, so I won't be explaining the remaining days, but I'm sure they will be just as amazing.

I cannot thank you enough for this amazing once in a lifetime experience at Tech Trek.

Sincerely, Dayanna

- Dear Lompoc Vandenberg Branch,

A BIG thank you for giving me this opportunity to come to Tech Trek. I've loved it so much. I'm very thankful I got to come here and have an amazing experience.

I've liked everything here. The core classes, the activities, the dorm experience, and staff. I've loved my core class, Ecology. It's so much fun because my teacher, Scott, is so fun. He makes class fun and knows how to entertain us. He's taught us many things at the REEF—different species, environments, and traits the animals have. My favorite is the sea hair, it's slimy and soft and adorable. I really enjoy Marine Biology.

I also love the dorm experience. I've made new friends (which I really needed) and we always hung out and talked. I also made friends with my dorm mom, Leslie, and my Jr. counselor, Emma. They are the BEST! They are super fun and helpful.

One more time, thank you sooo much for giving me this super awesome experience. I don't regret anything, and I hope I'll be able to come back and help out. This week has been the best few days of my childhood. Don't mean to sound like a broken record, but thank you so much for this really meant a lot to me. I appreciate it all!!

Sincerely, Avigail

AAUW Tech Trek Chair, Wynn Clevenger

Branch Programs

Community Forums

In preparation for the upcoming November 6th election: The Lompoc - Vandenberg Branch, AAUW is Sponsoring a Series of Community Forums. All four Forums will be held at Lompoc City Hall, Council Chambers, 100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc from 6:00 to 8:00 pm and will be taped by TAP-TV.

Monday, September 17th: Lompoc Mayor/City Council candidates

Thursday, September 20: CA 35th Assembly District candidates

Monday, September 24th: LUSD/AHC School Bond Measures

Wednesday, October 3: LUSD School Board Candidates.

We would like to have good attendance from our branch members and the public will be invited. AAUW encourages the public to attend these non-partisan events to meet the candidates, learn of the issues, and engage in question/ answers opportunities, and to get out and Vote on November 6, 2018. Please mark your calendars and attend as many of the Forums as possible. (See enclosed AAUW Fall Forum Schedule flyer).

SPEECH TREK

Following our successful inaugural Speech Trek contest in January, our Branch will participate in 2019 Speech Trek - our local contest is planned for early February. Erin McCallon, our Branch's first place winner was awarded 4th placement at State level, and we have gotten very positive feedback from the students who participated, teachers, and from the community. The Speech Trek Contest Topic for 2018/2019 is : How Can We Eliminate Violence at Our Schools? How can we - students parents, faculty, our communities, and organizations such as AAUW-eliminate violence aimed at our schools? What actions can we take to prevent another tragedy from taking place?

We are looking forward to having a larger number of student participants, and look forward to our Branch's contributions in mentoring students, preparation for the contest, financial contributions, and assistance with the event. Schools in Lompoc-Vandenberg and Solvang/Santa Ynez areas will be notified in September of the contest, and Student Tool Kits will be sent out in October (they are available online if you'd like to view them). Please contact Pam, or email: if you'd like to join the committee or help in other ways. A huge thank you to Lucy who is already hard at work seeking funding for the 2019 event, and to all who worked so diligently to make our January contest such a success!

Programs, Pam



**The Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch, AAUW
Is Sponsoring a Series of Community Forums**

AAUW Fall Forum Schedule



Monday, September 17 - Lompoc Mayor/City Council

Thursday, September 20 - 35th CA Assembly District

Monday, September 24 - School Districts Bond Measures

Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD) - Measure E2018

Allan Hancock College (AHC) - Measure Y

Wednesday, October 3 - LUSD School Board Candidates

All Forums will be at the Lompoc City Hall, Council Chambers

100 Civic Center Plaza, Lompoc, CA

6-8 p.m.

Please Join Us to Meet the Candidates and Learn About the Issues!

Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

We'd like to remind those of you who have not yet renewed your membership to please do so **as soon as possible**. Membership fees are \$99.00, Life members \$40.00.

- To renew online: Go to aauw.org and log-in to the Member Service Database (MSD), enter your member number and password.
- To renew by mail: Mail checks payable to AAUW to Mary Beth
-

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



Interested in helping recruit and welcome new members? Contact Raquel to learn more about joining the Membership Committee.

If any of your contact information has recently changed, please inform us right away so we can promptly update our branch roster. Thank you.

Raquel, Membership VP

News and Notes from AAUW Fund

Remember those back-to-school days? AAUW Fund provides resources for women through the Educational Opportunities Fund, part of AAUW Fund, and other support for students at various levels. The National Conference for College Women Student Leaders is also made possible through the AAUW Fund. So, as donors, we are all going back to school!

To advance the mission of AAUW leading the way to gender equality, we must keep giving time and money. None of our organization's effectiveness happens without support from all of us. Any day is a good day to donate to AAUW Fund.

SAVE THE DATES: October 8 and October 25 (details later)

Kati, AAUW Fund Vice President

Public Policy

AAUW has taken a position against the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh. Please share this information with family and friends. Urge them to contact their representatives in Congress. This is not a partisan issue. All Americans should be concerned.

WASHINGTON — AAUW Chief Executive Officer Kimberly Churches released the following statement announcing AAUW's opposition to the confirmation of Judge Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court:"

"AAUW's expectation is that our next Supreme Court justice will support the fundamental rights of all individuals and understand that his or her decisions have a very real impact on the daily lives of women and their families. After careful review of Judge Brett Kavanaugh's available record, it is clear to us that he would not be that justice. Judge Kavanaugh's record shows that he is willing to do grave harm by undermining positions central to AAUW's mission, including upending employment and labor rights, opposing reproductive rights and access to health care, entangling public education and religion, and restricting voting rights. The Supreme Court is the arbiter of so many of the rights essential to women and girls, and if confirmed Judge Kavanaugh will have a say in those decisions for decades to come. Therefore, AAUW opposes Judge Kavanaugh's confirmation to the Supreme Court.

On the specifics of his available record, Judge Kavanaugh confirmation would put women's constitutional rights, including abortion, at risk. He has shown opposition to women's access to reproductive health care and contraception, seeking to delay a woman's access to an abortion, arguing in support of religious employers who obstruct their employees' access to contraceptive coverage, and calling into question protections of the Affordable Care Act.

Judge Kavanaugh has shown little support for workers' rights, including low-wage workers and workers of color. While on the bench, Judge Kavanaugh argued to weaken protections for race and age discrimination, as well as to narrow prohibitions against retaliation. He routinely argued to limit workers' rights to organize and to narrow the scope of our nation's labor laws. He has consistently sided with employers and against workers, refusing to support those who seek to improve workplace conditions and to protect those who have experienced discrimination.

While we continue to urge that Judge Kavanaugh's full record be released to the American public, his available record makes clear that he stands in opposition to the values and mission of AAUW. He is the wrong choice for the Supreme Court and for women and girls. Now more than ever we need a Supreme Court justice who is not beholden to ideology and will be an independent voice. The role the next justice will play in all of our lives is too important for anything less."

Marell, Public Policy Chair

Interest Groups**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.

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

The AAUW Dine-Out group will be going to The Garden Mediterranean Restaurant & Cafe in Santa Maria on Thursday, September 13th. Reservations are for 6:00 p.m. For those who would like to carpool, we will leave Saint Mary's church at 5:15. The restaurant is located at 122 East Boone. The cross street is McClelland.

Please make your reservation as we have to contact the restaurant a week in advance. We hope to see you there!

Leslie & Billye, Chairs

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

September 19, 2018 "The Paris Wife" by Paula McLain; Location - TBD; Treats - ??; Drinks - ??
Book club members will be notified of location details

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", "Lessons from a Third Grade Dropout", and "Wonder". 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. Please feel free to contact Gail for further information.

Gail, Chair

Interest Groups (Continued)

Roaming Readers (1st Monday of the month)

Date	Book & Author	Host
September 10	<i>Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea</i> by Barbara Demick	Judy
October 1	<i>Educated: a Memoir</i> by Tara Westover	Cathy
November 5	<i>Killers of the Flower Moon: the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI</i> by David Grann	Carol Ann
December 3	<i>When We Were Strangers</i> by Pamela Schoenewaldt	Myra
January 7	Reader's Choice	Cathy
February 4	Open	
March 4	Open	

Remaining books:

The Girl on the Train by Paula Hawkins and *An American Marriage* by Tayani Jones

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

AAUW WOW Group — "Women Of Wine"

Wynn and I have decided to discontinue WOW due to lack of interest. If another member wants to continue WOW, please do.

Billye

Armchair Traveler's

Our Armchair Traveler's Interest Group is in need of a leader. Sally can no longer put this group together since she is living part of the year in Tucson. If you would like to step up and lead this group, let me know. You can set your own schedule for meetings.

Calendar of Events

September 10	Roaming Readers: “Nothing to Envy: Ordinary Lives in North Korea” by Barbara Demick
September 13	Dine Out Group at the Garden Mediterranean Restaurant & Cafe
September 17	Lompoc Mayor/City Council candidates Forum
September 19	PM Book Explorers: “The Paris Wife” by Paula McLain
September 20	CA 35th Assembly District candidates Forum
September 24	LUSD/AHC School Bond Measures Forum
September 30	Scholarship Wine Tasting at Babcock Winery
October 1	Roaming Readers: “Educated: a Memoir” by Tara Westover
October 3	LUSD School Board Candidates Forum
October 5	Comments due on Branch Budget
November 5	Roaming Readers: “Killers of the Flower Moon: the Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI” by David Grann

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