

February 2019

Scattered Seeds



From Pat's Desk...

I want to wish all of you a Happy Valentine's Day. It is a fun holiday often celebrated with flowers, cards and candy. I remember all the little cards we'd get in grade school and I'd try to make sure that everyone in my class got one. While we don't suffer too much from the doldrums of winter, it still is hard for some who may be alone on a day like Valentine's. Think of surprising someone, maybe one of our members, with a short note or phone call. It might just bring back some of those fun memories.

It will be interesting to hear what the students have to say at the February 8 Speech Trek contest. The topic this year is "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?" It has been almost a year since the shooting at Parkland High School in Florida where 17 were killed on February 14, 2018. We have seen marches and demonstrations, as well as subsequent shootings. While I am not aware of any new laws or restrictions on purchase or possession of guns that have had a significant impact on violence in our schools or elsewhere, we need to keep the topic at the forefront. One of AAUW's Public Policy priorities is **To guarantee equality, individual rights, and social justice for a diverse society** and included in that priority is freedom from violence and fear of violence, including hate crimes, in homes, schools, workplaces and communities. Speech Trek is a forum to keep us talking about what we can do locally or in support of national policies. I hope many of you will attend the contest, listen and discuss the ideas that may come from the contest. Just keeping the discussion going is one way to help.

Pat, President

News and Events

AAUW Speech Trek Contest - February 8, 2019

The Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of the American Association of University Women will welcome local high school students to participate in our second annual Speech Trek contest on Friday, February 8, 2019, at 4:00 pm, in the Lompoc City Hall Council Chambers, 100 Civic Center Plaza.

The contestants will speak for five minutes on the theme as was selected by State Level AAUW: How Can We Eliminate Violence Aimed at Our Schools?

Local community leaders will serve as judges. The public is invited and light refreshments will be served. There is no cost for the event, however donations are accepted as we continue to sponsor this yearly event.

The local First Place Winner will receive \$250 and automatically advance to the State semi-final competition where three finalists from throughout the state will be chosen to compete at the AAUW State Annual Convention/Annual Meeting. The Second Place Winner in the local contest will be awarded \$150, and the Third Placement \$100. Coast Hills Credit Union is the sponsor for the cash awards and costs of the event are met through support of AAUW members, Lompoc's March for Our Lives Action Committee, and generous community donors.

Please contact Speech Trek Coordinator: if you would like to participate as a student mentor, or volunteer in any capacity. Of course, donations are always appreciated - whether it is the gift of your time, materials, or cash to support the cost of the event.

Pam

AAUW Fund

Thank you for your generous support for the AAUW Fund.
Remember, any day is a good day to donate!

Kati, AAUW Fund VP

Tech Trek Fundraiser Reminder

Our Applebee's breakfast fundraiser for Tech Trek will be **March 16, 2019** from **8am to 10am**. Tickets are available.

Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

AAUW has a number of ways you can get involved in promoting equity for women and girls. At the local level, there are opportunities to lend a hand in several of the board positions that will become available in the 2019-2020 fiscal year, in our Speech Trek Committee and, of course, in our Membership Committee. If you are interested in a one-time commitment come help us decorate the windows at South Side Coffee Co. on Feb. 28th, as we put together a display celebrating Women's History Month.



Any **new** member joining the branch between now and March 15 is eligible to pay one-half of AAUW national dues, full AAUW CA dues and full branch dues (total \$69.50). Any new member joining after March 15 is eligible to pay the full amount of dues (\$99.00), which will cover his/her dues for the remainder of the current and the following fiscal year.



We believe we can do great things together and we thank you for your continued support.

Raquel, Membership VP

Branch Programs

Save the dates:

Friday, February 8, 2019: AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch second annual Speech Trek Speech Contest at Lompoc City Council Chambers (see separate article on page 2).

Saturday, February 9, 2019: IBC Fellows Luncheon at Hilton Garden Inn, Goleta, featuring Daisy Muralles, AAUW Career Grant Recipient 2018-2019.

Tuesday, April 23, 2019, 7:00 pm program: "Water is Life" at the Lompoc Library. A General Meeting will be held prior to the program at 6:30 pm.

Pam, Program VP

Public Policy

This was sent by national to state PP Chairs and to all Branch PP chairs on January 29, 2019. We expect that it will pass the House, but the Senate is another story!

Hi State and Branch Public Policy Chairs,

Ten years ago today, President Barack Obama [signed into law](#) his very first piece of legislation: the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. AAUW advocates were critical to that success – but with the gender pay gap stuck at 20 cents, we know that the fight for fair pay isn't yet over. That's why tomorrow, the Paycheck Fairness Act (PFA) will be introduced in both chambers of Congress with robust and bipartisan support.

In honor of the occasion – and to help build the drumbeat for swift passage of the PFA – AAUW and partner organizations will be hosting a Twitter & Facebook storm at 2:00 pm Eastern on Wednesday, January 30. I invite you to join us by posting PFA-related calls to action on your personal and AAUW-affiliate social media accounts.

Our media team has compiled a toolkit of sample Tweets, Facebook posts, and graphics for you to use, available at <http://bit.ly/PFAsmtoolkit>. We encourage you to use the hashtags #PaycheckFairness and #Ledbetter10. In addition, our [Two Minute Activist page](#) may be shared widely. If you are unable to participate in real time during tomorrow's social media storm, consider using [a platform like Tweetdeck](#) to schedule your message for the appropriate time.

Your voices will be vital to passage of the PFA, just as they were to the enactment of the Ledbetter bill ten years ago. Thank you for all that you do for AAUW.

*Elizabeth Holden
Grassroots Advocacy Manager
American Association of University Women (AAUW)*

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

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

Dine Out will be on Valentine's Day in February.

We are going to Sissy's Restaurant and we're anticipating they will be busy. Reservations will be for 5:30 p.m.



Leslie & Billye, Chairs



Roaming Readers (1st Monday of the month)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book & Author</u>
February 4	<i>The Good Neighbor: the Life and Work of Fred Rogers</i> by Maxwell King
March 3	<i>The Home for Unwanted Girls: A Novel</i> by Joanna Goodman
April 1	<i>The Soul of America: the Battle for Our Better Angels</i> by Jon Meacham
May 6	<i>The Last Juror</i> by John Grisham
June 3	<i>The Restless Wave</i> by John McCain
July 1	<i>Becoming</i> by Michelle Obama

Remaining books: *The Girl on the Train* by Paula Hawkins, *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.

Carol Ann and Cathy, Co-Chairs

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

February 20 TBD: Contact Gail or another book club member for the current list and location.

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. If you suggest a book, please check to see if it is in paperback or available through the library.

Gail, Chair

Calendar of Events

February 4	Roaming Readers: "The Good Neighbor: the Life and Work of Fred Rogers" by Maxwell King
February 8	LV Branch Speech Trek Contest at Lompoc City Hall Council Chambers
February 9	AAUW Central Coast Fellows Luncheon at Hilton Garden Inn, Goleta
February 14	Dine Out Group at Sissy's
February 20	PM Book Explorers: TBD
March 3	Roaming Readers: "The Home for Unwanted Girls: A Novel" by Joanna Goodman
March 16	Applebee's Breakfast Fundraiser for Tech Trek
March 30	Women's History Month Brunch with Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson
April 23	General meeting and Program: Water
May 17	Annual Meeting and Installation of Officers

Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch Information

LV Branch Website: <http://lompocvandenberg-ca.aauw.net/>

LV Branch Mailing address: P.O. Box 2523. Lompoc, CA 93438

LV Branch e-mail address: lompocvandenberg-ca@aauw.net

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.