

***From Pat...***

It is hard to believe that it is December already! I have just finished my after Thanksgiving clean up—putting away dishes and leftover food from my get together with friends. Now it is time to start preparations for the Christmas holiday season. Whether you celebrate Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanzaa or just holiday gatherings, I want to wish all of you the merriest of the season! Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy Kwanzaa! May your season be filled with warmth and togetherness! It is a wonderful time to strengthen friendships and renew ones that may have slipped away. Sometimes this season is hard for those who have lost loved ones or find themselves alone, so try to give the gift of friendship to those who may need an extra hug or phone call to let them know that they are remembered.

Our membership in AAUW is not only a way to meet individuals in our community, but it is also a way to show support for many issues that are important to women and girls in our nation. Lately the news has been filled with questions of impeachment of our president. Regardless of where you stand on this issue, it is important to listen and follow the issues. We will be entering the primary season shortly after the holidays and, after that, elections. AAUW helps keep us informed on issues and pending legislation and is an influence on elected officials to keep them in the know about what is important to women. We still have the gender pay gap, and health care security, college debt and retirement security are issues that should concern all of us. Even if you cannot attend our local programs, thank you for your membership and support given by joining and continuing in this organization.

As you know, this is my last year as President of our local chapter. Our by-laws limit the office to no more than 4 years, and I am serving in my 4th year. It is not too early to think about volunteering for an elected office in our branch for the

From Pat...(Continued)

next year. Leadership cannot always be left to someone else, so please consider stepping up to help keep our branch running and functioning.

Best wishes for a very Happy Holiday season!!!

Pat, President

**Speech Trek 2020**

“Are men and women truly equal today, or are the Suffragettes of 1920 still suffering in 2020?”

Date & Time: January 31, 2020, 4:00 to 6:00 pm

Place: Lompoc City Hall Council Chambers

Anyone interested in volunteering for mentoring, helping with January student workshops, or the event on January 31, are still invited to participate, and donations are gratefully appreciated!

Pam, Speech Trek Coordinator

**Tech Trek**

Dear AAUW Members,

I received a letter notifying our branch that UC Irvine camp will be closed in 2020 resulting in a 20% decrease in bed availability at the SoCal camps. This means that our branch will be limited to 4 campers next year. We have a commitment from SpaceX to sponsor 3 girls which leaves us 1 camper to support. We will save the rest of our Tech Trek funds for 2021.

Thanks to all who bought wine raffle tickets or sent a donation to support our campers: we raised \$2,100.00. The drawing will take place at our December Holiday Party. You don't have to be there to win, but it would be nice to see everyone.

Thanks for your continued support,

Wynn, Tech Trek Coordinator

AAUW Fund Annual Branch Contribution due in December

Thank you to those members who were able to give to our branch contribution for AAUW Fund. We have exceeded our goal for 2019. I will wait to send in our donation until after the holiday gathering, in case anyone else still wants to contribute. Make your check payable to Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW.

According to State, almost 300 AAUW members and guests attended the three October AAUW Fund luncheons in the Bay Area and Southern California. Nineteen of the 36 California Fellows and Grant recipients spoke at the luncheons to talk about their field of study and to thank us for the opportunity AAUW has given them this year. They were all very inspirational and made us proud to be AAUW members and to be a supporter of AAUW Fund. More information and pictures of the recipients will be featured in the winter edition of the California Perspective.

"The deadline for submitting contributions to AAUW Fund for 2019 is December 31, 2019. Help California reach its goal of \$500,000 this year. Branch donation results will be revealed at the 2020 convention on April 18th at the Westin San Francisco Airport. Don't miss our Gala Celebration!"

Marell, AAUW Fund VP

**Membership**

Dear Fellow Members,
As of this month, we stand 99 strong.

Whether your heart lies in **being a voice** for women facing discrimination and harassment, **fostering** women's leadership careers, **challenging** harmful policies on Capitol Hill, or **helping** end the deleterious gender pay gap, know that your **membership** in AAUW matters.

For those who have yet to renew their 2019-20 membership, move forward with us: there's a whole world of women and girls relying on your support!

Barbara, Membership VP

Branch Programs

Holiday Events

December 6 - [Bake sale for Speech Trek](#) at 104 S H Street, Lompoc, during the Christmas Parade from 4 to 8 pm. **If it rains on Friday, 12/06/19 - then the Bake Sale will be moved to Friday, 12/13/19.** The City's website gives this date as the alternate for the Christmas Parade.

We will set up at 4 pm, and have everything put away by 8 pm, and Pam is available to pick up baked goods from anyone who would like to contribute but can't be there.

Email lompocvandenberga@aaauw.net to let us know that you will contribute and if you would like to have your baked goods picked up for the sale.



December 8 - Holiday get together at Kari's house from 1 to 3 pm.

This will be a western-style Christmas party, so dress for the occasion!

Please bring a holiday appetizer or dessert, and/or your favorite beverage to share. RSVP by Dec. 4 by emailing us at lompocvandenberga@aaauw.net.



Save the Dates:

Thursday, January 16, 2020	Forum for 3rd District SB County Supervisor Candidates
Friday, January 31, 2020	Speech Trek Contest at Lompoc City Council Chambers 100 Civic Center Plaza, 4 - 6pm
February 07, 2020	International Potluck at Valley of Flowers Church of Christ 3346 Constellation Rd., 6:00 pm
March, 2020	Women's History Month

Pam, Programs VP

AAUW Public Policy News**Update from AAUW California****Governor Signs 12 AAUW-Supported Bills Into Law**

by Magaly Zagal, Legislative Advocate for AAUW California

The 2018-19 legislative season has come to a close, and by October 13, 2019, Governor Newsom signed 870 bills out of the 1,042 bills that were presented to him. Among the most significant of these were twelve bills which will become law due to the advocacy and research support offered by AAUW California.

To learn more and view these bills, visit the AAUW CA website at:

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/governor-signs-14-aauw-supported-bills-into-law/>

What is the Five Star Recognition Program?

The AAUW 5 Star Recognition Program for Fiscal Year 19-20 is underway for Branches and States. Branches can earn stars in Programs, Advancement, Communications & External Relations, Public Policy & Research and Governance & Sustainability.

Here is how the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch can earn 5 Stars by June 30, 2020!

- **PROGRAMS:** Host 3-5 strategic plan-related programs (e.g. Forum on Economic Security, Work Smart Online Training Day, Operation Equity: Reading for Results participation, panel on Women and Leadership), Branch completes the Community Resource Mapping Exercise.
- **ADVANCEMENT:** \$30 per capita (member) gift raised for Greatest Needs by December 31, 2019, Shift focus to AAUW Fund from fellowships and grants/LAF to Greatest Needs, Retain 90% or more of branch membership & submit annual dues by September 30, Increase Legacy Circle members in branch by 10%.
- **COMMUNICATIONS & EXTERNAL RELATIONS:** All existing websites and social media presences include an Economic Security Focus and Work Smart Online. (Monthly posts are required for social media; Work Smart Online must be included on website home page,)
- **PUBLIC POLICY & RESEARCH:** Conduct an annual meeting with U.S. representative(s) and/or state legislators around a strategic plan area of focus, Branch Public Policy Chair is appointed who collaborates with CA Public Policy Chair, Host at least one public event where Action Network sign-ups are collected.
- **GOVERNANCE & SUSTAINABILITY:** Align planning with CA AAUW and AAUW national strategic plans, Branch Board institutes a succession plan to ensure new ideas and perspectives are included in future branch leadership.

Dianne, 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.

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

P.M Book Explorers will not have a meeting in December.

We will meet January 15 at Billye's home at 7:00 pm. we will be discussing "The Library Book " by Susan Orlean. Contact Billye to let her know you will be coming.

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. Please feel free to contact Gail for further information.

Gail, Chair

Roaming Readers (1st Monday of the month)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Book & Author</u>	<u>Host</u>
December 2:	<i>Bear Town</i> (Fredrik Bachman)	Myra
January 6:	<i>Reader's Choice</i>	(No Host)
February 3:	<i>The Matriarch: Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty</i> (Susan Page)	Betty
March 2:	<i>The Lake House</i> (Kate Morton)	Mary

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. Questions can be directed to the co-chairs: Carol Ann and Cathy R.

Carol Ann and Cathy, Co-Chairs

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

The dine-out group will have their Christmas dine-out at Hitching Post in Buellton on December 12. Please contact Billye or Leslie for the time and meeting location.

Leslie Svier & Billye, Chairs

Calendar of Events

December 2	Roaming Readers: "Bear Town" by Fredrik Bachman
December 6 (or 13)	Speech Trek Bake Sale Fundraiser at Lompoc Christmas Parade
December 8	Holiday Get Together
December 14	Dine Out Group at Hitching Post in Buellton
December 18	PM Book Explorers: Not meeting
January 6	Roaming Readers: Reader's Choice
January 7	AAUW LV Board Meeting, 6pm at the President's house
January 15	PM Book Explorers: "The Library Book" by Susan Orlean
January 16	Forum for 3rd District SB County Supervisor Candidates
January 31	Speech Trek Contest
February 7	International Potluck
March	Women's History Month

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](#)

Instagram: [@aauw_lompocvandenberg](#)

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.