



From Pat...

We have finished another year and on to the next—hard to believe that we have arrived at 2020! This year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of women getting the right to vote and is also an election year. AAUW will commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act by launching a project called “Every Voice. Every Vote.” In keeping with its mission to advance equity, AAUW is committed to recognizing voting rights for women over the past century—including the fact that when the 19th Amendment was adopted, not all women earned the right to cast their ballots. It wasn’t until 45 years later, when the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed, that women of color were granted the right to vote. Yet there are still challenges with voter access and voting suppression, which is why AAUW is focused on ensuring that everyone’s vote counts. Women will play an important part in elections as both candidates and voters. Please be sure to exercise your hard earned right to vote beginning with the county elections and local issues in March.

As we finished out 2019, our president was again in the news with the House of Representatives voting to impeach him. The beginning of 2020 will find the Senate holding a trial to determine if President will remain in office. The outcome of the trial will also affect the 2020 election cycle and I am quite sure this will be much in our news for weeks to come. Public opinion of whether he committed the acts upon which he was impeached seems to be pretty evenly divided. The divide that we have seen in the past four or more years will likely continue, but hopefully we will see more dignity and respect in the election process.

Please put the Speech Trek contest on your calendars. I am always interested in hearing what our youth has to say and I am anxious to hear their perspective on “Are men and women truly equal today...”. So much has changed since I graduated from high school and our youth are exposed to much more in some ways. The world is smaller and information can travel so much more rapidly. I hope we have a good turnout for the contest.

Best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year.

Pat, President

AAUW Fund Annual Branch Contribution

Our Lompoc-Vandenberg branch exceeded its AAUW Fund goal for the 2019 year. We almost doubled our previous contribution. Thank you to those members who contributed to the Fund both via our branch and also online directly to national. The State goal this year was \$500,000 so hopefully that amount was achieved.

Marell, AAUW Fund VP

Tech Trek

Dear AAUW Members,

We had a very nice Holiday Party at Kari Rosson's house where we drew the winning tickets for the two cases of wine. Congratulations to our winners, Janet Blevins and Jayne Scalise. Thanks to all who bought tickets in support of our campers. Your continued generosity is greatly appreciated. Camper applications for 2020 will go out to the schools in January.

Happy New Year,

Wynn, Tech Trek Coordinator

Speech Trek 2020

Mark your calendars for January 31, 2020! The Speech Contest will be held at Lompoc City Council Chambers from 4 - 6 pm. (Those who are assisting with the event will arrive earlier).

Thank you so much to everyone who donated baked goods/time/money or mentored, to make our 3rd annual Speech Trek happen! The December 6 bake sale/opportunity drawing donations and other donations at the Holiday Get Together totalled \$512! Kari R. won the wine gift basket and Galilea S. won the toy drawing.

There will be two workshops for interested students: January 24 from 4 - 6 pm at Lompoc City Council Chambers and on January 25 from 9 am to 1 pm at Vandenberg Community Service District Conference Room. Some of you have already notified the committee that you are willing to help out at the workshops and/or the contest. The more, the merrier if you'd like to sign up to help.

Pam, Speech Trek Coordinator



2020 Speech Trek Contest prompt:
**“Are men and women truly equal today,
or are the Suffragettes of 1920 still suffering in 2020?”**

Cash awards:

1st - \$250, 2nd - \$150, 3rd - \$100

Date: Friday, February 7, 2020
Community Invited!!

When: 4:00-6:00 pm

Where: City of Lompoc Council
Chambers, 100 Civic Center Plaza

Who: Open to any high school
student in Lompoc, Buellton,
Solvang, or Santa Ynez

Deadline to register:
before Jan 13, 2020



Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

As we greet the new year and set our good resolutions, let us welcome our 89th member: Carolyn M.

Save the date: AAUW's annual art contest will open on Jan. 7, 2020. Go to <https://www.aauw.org/contests/> to submit your entries. Show us your talent!

Barbara, Membership VP

Central Coast AAUW IBC Fund Luncheon, February 22, 2020

The Santa Maria AAUW branch is hosting our annual Interbranch Council Central Coast AAUW Fund Luncheon this year. The theme this year is "Celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Right to Vote." Everyone is encouraged to wear white to honor the suffragettes.

When: Saturday, February 22, 2020

Where: Santa Maria Inn, 801 S. Broadway, Santa Maria, CA

Time: 11:30 arrival and registration. Lunch and program: 12:00 noon to 3 p.m.

Guest speaker: Kristan C., 2019-20 Career Development Grant recipient, studying at UCSB in Natural Resources Management. Part of her grant is funded by the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch Research & Projects Endowment.

Lunch choices (Includes choice of beverages and cake):

Grilled salmon w/rice pilaf & grilled vegetables

Chicken Cordon Bleu w/mashed potatoes and vegetables

or Mediterranean Pasta (vegetarian)

Cost: \$35 per person. Please indicate lunch choice on your check.

Deadline: Wednesday, February 12, 2020

Call Pat to make a reservation and lunch selection. Send checks made out to Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch, AAUW to our P.O. Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438 and be sure to indicate your lunch preference on your check.

Early reservations are encouraged as seating is limited to 100 guests in the Santa Maria Room. The Santa Maria Inn is handicap accessible with ample parking.

AAUW IBC FELLOWS LUNCHEON

Sponsored by the Santa Barbara County Interbranch Council

Saturday, February 22, 2020

11:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Santa Maria Inn

801 South Broadway, Santa Maria

Keynote Speaker

Kristan Culbert

2019-2020 AAUW Career Development Grant Recipient

Tickets: \$35

Includes choice of grilled salmon with rice pilaf & grilled vegetables; chicken cordon bleu with mashed potatoes & vegetables; or Mediterranean pasta (vegetarian); all options include choice of beverage and dessert. **Deadline for reservations is February 12, 2020.**

Please, send payment directly to your individual branch treasurers (include meal choice).

They will mail a final branch check payable to AAUW-SM with all menu choices to:

Marion Patterson, 1663 Chadwell Dr, Santa Maria, CA 93454.

Seating is limited to the first 100, so reserve early! Accessible facility and ample parking.

Wear White
for a Centennial Suffrage Celebration

Kristan Culbert is an environmental scientist working at the intersection of conservation and environmental justice. Her research focuses on the use of green infrastructure to improve both urban hydrology and health outcomes. In Summer 2019, she studied community-based water management in rural India. After completing her master's degree in environmental science and management at University of California, Santa Barbara, she plans to complete her Ph.D. and work as a research scientist at a nongovernmental or government agency. She is sponsored by several AAUW branches including Lompoc-Vandenberg.



Branch Programs Calendar

Forum: 3rd District Supervisor Santa Barbara County Candidates	January 16, 2020, 6 - 8 pm Vandenberg Village area RSVP: lompocvandenberg-ca@aauw.net
Speech Trek Contest	January 31, 2020, 4 - 6 pm Lompoc City Hall Council Chambers 100 Civic Center Plaza
International Potluck (Italian)	February 7, 2020, 6 - 8 pm Valley of the Flowers Church of Christ 3346 Constellation Rd.
Women's History Month Program	March 21, 2020 The Sage Restaurant
Environmental Program	April, 2020
Installation of Officers	May, 2020

Pam, Programs VP**AAUW Public Policy News****News from AAUW CEO Kim Churches, December 17, 2019**

As 2019 draws to a close, I'm proud of our accomplishments this year: Whether it's through our training programs, respected research, fellowships and grants, or advocacy efforts around the country, we're making steady strides toward achieving economic security for all women.

Something else I'm proud of: The high level of involvement of our members and supporters, who give us the insights, inspiration and resources to move forward. I am honored to work alongside them and pleased to share some of our top successes in 2019.

With our members' help, this year AAUW has:

1. Trained women everywhere to "Work Smart."

Thanks to a \$500,000 grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation, the largest corporate gift in AAUW history, we trained more than 102,000 women in salary-negotiation skills in 2019 through our [Work Smart](#) and Start Smart programs.

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2. Empowered women leaders.

The grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation also enabled us to implement Empower, our new leadership development and networking event. This year, we hosted programs in Atlanta, Chicago, Charlotte, Boston, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. Empower is designed to help women explore their own leadership journeys.

3. Raised funds to advance our mission.

AAUW is thankful for our members across the country who gave their time and treasure to the organization, particularly [AAUW Champions](#) – individuals who give \$5,000 or more to support our efforts – and branches that have given \$5,000 or more. These gifts support our Greatest Needs Fund, which gives us the flexibility to respond to the most pressing gender-equity challenges. In addition, AAUW is proud to partner with many organizations, including alliantgroup, Arconic Foundation, BAE Systems, The Coca-Cola Foundation, GEICO, IE University, Junior League of Wichita, LinkedIn, Mooneen Lecce Giving Circle, Morgan Stanley, PPG Industries, Starbucks and the U.S. Secret Service.

4. Advocated for equity on Capitol Hill.

AAUW led the effort to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act in the House of Representatives last spring. And we delivered testimony to Congressional committees on the Equal Rights Amendment, LGBTQ anti-discrimination protections, and paid family leave, as well as sending letters to Congress in support of the Building Blocks of STEM ACT for women and girls and on ending workplace harassment.

5. Shifted the state legal landscape toward fair pay.

We also helped 11 states to pass equity legislation in 2019, nearly double the six states that passed such laws in 2018, 2017, 2016 and 2015. Nearly every state now has some form of equal-pay legislation in place.

6. Championed the next generation of women.

More than 800 young women from 307 colleges and universities gathered to learn and be inspired at the annual [National Conference for College Women Student Leaders](#) (NCCWSL), the country's premier leadership event for college students. Speakers included Dr. Tererai Trent, an AAUW 2001–02 International Fellow who is now a world-renowned scholar, humanitarian and educator recognized as Oprah Winfrey's favorite guest. The keynote was delivered by best-selling author and feminist Roxane Gay.

7. Produced groundbreaking research.

This year, we updated our hallmark study, [The Simple Truth About the Gender Pay Gap](#), with new census data showing that women still only get about 82 cents for every dollar paid to men. In the

AAUW Public Policy News (continued)

latest version of our report [*Deeper in Debt*](#), we showed that women now hold almost two-thirds of the country's \$1.4-trillion student debt. And, in November, we released a new report, [*Limiting Our Livelihoods*](#), indicating that sexual harassment can have long-term repercussions on women's health, economic security and access to leadership positions.

8. Provided millions in fellowships and grants.

For the 2019-20 academic year, AAUW awarded more than \$4.3 million in [*fellowships and grants*](#) to 270 recipients to advance educational and professional opportunities for women around the globe. AAUW members have been so generous over the years that the organization now has sufficient funding to support fellows and grantees for the next 50 years!

9. Spread our message far and wide.

AAUW's work in 2019 was covered by more than 140 media outlets, including *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *National Public Radio*, *MSNBC*, *Time*, *Newsweek*, *Money*, *Fortune*, *The Oprah Magazine* and more. We also raised our profile on social media platforms, garnering over 5 million impressions on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn and Twitter.

10. Prepared for 2020—a pivotal year for women.

Next year, we'll commemorate the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment and the 55th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act by launching a project called "Every Voice. Every Vote." In keeping with its mission to advance equity, AAUW is committed to recognizing voting rights for women over the past century—including the fact that when the 19th Amendment was adopted, not all women earned the right to cast their ballots. It wasn't until 45 years later, when the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was passed, that women of color were granted the right to vote. Yet there are still challenges with voter access and voting suppression, which is why AAUW is focused on ensuring that everyone's vote counts.

*For more details on each of these accomplishments, check out our [*complete review of AAUW's 2019 accomplishments*](#). I look forward to continuing the fight for equity in 2020.*

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.

Interest Groups (Continued)**P.M. Book Explorers (3rd Wednesday of each month)**

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)

Date	Book & Author	Host
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, Co-Chairs

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

The Dine-out group will do lunch at Sissy's on January 9th at 1:00 pm. Please make reservations through Billye only.

Leslie & Billye, Co-Chairs

Calendar of Events

January 6	Roaming Readers: Readers Choice
January 7	AAUW L-V Board Meeting, 6pm at the President's house
January 7	AAUW Annual Art Contest opens
January 9	Dine Out Group at Sissy's
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 at Lompoc City Council Chambers
February 3	Roaming Readers: "The Matriarch: Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty" by Susan Page
February 7	International Potluck (Italian)
February 12	Deadline for Central Coast AAUW IBC Fund Luncheon reservations
February 13	Dine Out Group at TBD
February 19	PM Book Explorers: TBD
February 22	Central Coast AAUW IBC Fund Luncheon
March 21	Women's History Month Program
April 17-19	AAUW CA Convention, Location: Westin San Francisco Airport

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.

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