



From Pat...

In case you haven't looked at the AAUW website recently, it is worth a little time to review their gender policy agenda which outlines AAUW's priority issues for the 2020 election season. Some of us may only think of our membership as the local branch and our local programs, but we are all part of a much larger organization that works very hard to advance causes that are important to most women. Equal pay for equal work has long been one of the priorities for AAUW, but our organization is also focused on paid leave and sick leave at both the federal and state level. The leaders of AAUW are working to raise the minimum wage and eliminate the tipped minimum wage which affects the income of so many women. Defending and strengthening Title IX is also a priority, as well as defending and expanding the right to vote. Healthcare and opportunities for women in STEM are equally important issues. Thank you, members, for contributing to these worthy causes and don't forget that your membership is important to keep making progress. Encourage others to join AAUW, even if they cannot attend our local meetings.

Pam and her committees have done an excellent job with programs this year. We will be enjoying international night on February 7—it's a favorite of mine and I will try to come up with something tasty to celebrate Italy. March will be a celebration of Women's History Month with some emphasis on the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment. I always enjoy seeing members exchanging ideas and having a meaningful conversation at our events. Make sure you mark your calendars and come out to socialize and enjoy the speakers!

We will be having a change in our local leadership next year and a nomination committee has been formed. They will be reaching out to members to encourage someone to step up to the leadership roles that we need filled to keep our branch running. Please reach out to the committee of Barbara Bolton, Barbara McReynolds and Julie Schneringer if you can fill the needs or know of someone who you think would be great in a leadership position, but needs some encouragement.

From Pat (Continued)

Tech Trek is rapidly approaching and the UCSB camps need Dorm Moms. I have done this for several years and always enjoy my time at Tech Trek. It is an amazing opportunity for the young women who attend. Dorm Moms are in charge of overseeing 8-10 girls during their stay—it is basically making sure that they know their schedule and are where they need to be at the right times. You make sure that they are following camp rules and participating in the scheduled events and are under adult supervision for their safety. The camps are very busy and Dorm Moms get to sit in on the classes and other activities and assist where needed. All of your meals are provided (the dining hall is actually quite good) and you have your own dorm room. Please contact me if you are interested and available for one of the camps beginning July 11 thru July 18, or July 18 thru July 25.

Pat, President

Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

Last month, we welcomed a new member: Carolyn M. Carolyn earned an MA in Sociology/Gerontology from San Francisco State in 1993. She moved to Lompoc in September from Los Angeles and is a friend of Mary Vossler. Her interests include politics, reading and sometimes exercising. She loves movies and theater. Until a few years ago, Carolyn worked at Shriners Hospital for Children in Los Angeles in the medical information department.

We also welcomed another new member: Terry F.
We now have a total of 91 members in our Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch.



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.



Voting period for AAUW's annual art contest entries goes from January 31 to February 10, 2020. Cast your vote at <https://www.aauw.org/contests>.

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 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

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**International program**

On Friday, February 7, 2020, we will have our International Program at Valley of the Flowers Church of Christ (3346 Constellation Rd, South Vandenberg Village) from 6 to 8 pm. This year's theme for the potluck dinner and the presentation is **Italy**.

Dinner will begin at 6 pm, followed by a short business meeting, then a slide show and presentation by member Elena on her 2-week trip to northern Italy in October 2019.

The public and prospective members are invited to join our AAUW branch for dinner and/or the program. **Please RSVP by February 4** with the number of attendees and the dish you will be bringing: email lompocvandenbergc@aauw.net or call 805-588-2916.

If you are not into cooking, please consider bringing a cold dish of hors d'oeuvres or something to drink.

Save the dates:

Women's History Month Program	March 21, 2020 The Sage Restaurant, Vandenberg Village
Environmental Program	April 2020
Installation of Officers	May 2020

Pam, Programs VP

AAUW Public Policy News

January 21, 2020

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AAUW Releases Gender Agenda for 2020 Election

Urges federal and state candidates to commit to policies protecting women's economic security

With the election season moving into high gear, the American Association of University Women (AAUW) has released its 2020 Gender Policy Agenda, which outlines the organization's top priorities for advancing the economic security of women and their families.

“Women make up the majority of American voters, and we have the power to ensure that all the candidates pay close attention to the policies that directly affect our lives and the lives of our families,” said Kim Churches, AAUW’s chief executive officer.

“While we are a fiercely non-partisan organization, we are not values neutral: Throughout our 140-year history, we have advocated for laws that improve the lives of women and girls—and we’ll continue to do so.

“We urge all candidates for state and federal office—regardless of party—to commit to these priorities. We also ask *every* American to stand with women and to cast their vote in what is arguably one of the most consequential elections in our nation’s history,” Churches said.

For more information go to: <https://www.aauw.org/article/aauws-2020-gender-policy-agenda/>

Dianne, Public Policy Chair

AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch Speech Trek 01/31/2020

Olivia, a senior at Dunn High School, won first place and \$250 in the third annual AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch Speech Trek contest held at Lompoc City Council Chambers on January 31, 2020. Yazmin took 2nd place - \$150 and Edgar placed 3rd and received \$100.

The YouTube video of Olivia’s speech will automatically be submitted to AAUW CA to be judged at the state level.

High school students from the mid-Santa Barbara County area (Lompoc, Buellton, Solvang and Santa Ynez) were invited to participate in the AAUW statewide competition. In conjunction with the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, seven students presented meaningful speeches on the topic: “Are men and women truly equal today, or are the Suffragettes of 1920 still suffering in 2020?” The other participants were: Isabella, whose speech included an original poem, Victoria C., Joseph and Victoria G.

The students presented their speeches to the public and to a panel of community leaders who served as judges: Robin Ghormley, Chief of Public Affairs, 30th Space - State of the Wing at Vandenberg AFB; Claudia Ortiz, Youth Development Director of the Lompoc Family YMCA; Dr. Lynne Portnoy, visiting physician at Lompoc Health; Jim Throop, City Manager at City of Lompoc; Aaron Crocker, co-owner of Grocery Outlet, and alternate judge Ben Walters, Production Controller, Missiles 581st MMXG at VAFB.

Mayor Jenelle Osborne presented the awards and certificates of participation to the students. CoastHills Credit Union was the gold-level sponsor for the total of \$500 in cash awards. Additionally, The Bookstore and Lompoc Foursquare Church were gold-level sponsors this year,

contributing \$500 each to make the contest possible, along with AAUW member donations and multiple fundraisers.

Many thanks to all those who donated, participated in the fundraisers, served on the committee, mentored students and helped with the workshops and the contest. Special thanks go to our community volunteers: Sonia (Speech Trek Committee, fundraisers, workshops and contest refreshments), Mike (Speech Trek Committee, fundraisers, mentoring, workshops and school contacts) and Mayra (moderating, mentoring and workshops).

Pam, Speech Trek Coordinator

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 Dine-out group will do lunch at Old Town Kitchen and Bar on Thursday, February 13 at 1:00. Old town restaurant is small and must have an accurate number of reservations. Please make reservations by calling Billye no later than Tuesday, February 11. We are looking forward to seeing each of you.

Leslie & Billye, Co-Chairs

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

Please contact P.M. Book Explorers members for the book and location for February. 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>
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.

Carol Ann Johnson and Cathy Rudolph, Co-Chairs

Calendar of Events

February 3	Roaming Readers: "The Matriarch: Barbara Bush and the Making of an American Dynasty" by Susan Page
February 4	AAUW LV Board Meeting, 6pm at the President's house
February 7	International Potluck (Italian)
February 12	Deadline for Central Coast AAUW IBC Fund Luncheon reservations
February 13	Dine Out Group at Old Town Kitchen and Bar
February 19	PM Book Explorers: TBD
February 22	Central Coast AAUW IBC Fund Luncheon
March 2	Roaming Readers: "The Lake House" by Kate Morton
March 12	Dine Out Group at TBD
March 18	PM Book Explorers: TBD
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.

Scattered Seeds Editor: Julie S.