

***From Pat...***

As I sit here writing this today, I am on my seventh day of mostly isolation. I returned from Guatemala on Monday, March 16 and felt relieved that my flight left. It was the last day that Guatemala was allowing anyone, including their citizens, to cross their borders either way. The government there imposed a curfew for everyone not allowing anyone outside between 4pm and 4am. I would much rather be here in the USA with a more robust health care system and some likelihood that basic necessities are available.

I know that we have all been dealing with the restrictions and repercussions from the COVID-19 virus. It is unprecedented and I can only guess that things will get worse before they get better. Hopefully all of us will escape the virus, but I know that we are all feeling the impact. I will try to keep you posted on any developments with programs—the next one was scheduled for April 22 at the library, but is now cancelled. The State Convention is now being held as a virtual meeting on the 18th and everyone should have received an email about this—you can either go online or phone in.

Hopefully as summer progresses we will be able to get back to something more normal. I have seen questions on Tech Trek camps, and planning is still ongoing to hold the UCSB camps as of now. UCSB has some provisions in their contracts that allow them to cancel if they cannot be held safely. Luckily, the UCSB Tech Trek sessions are not until mid-July. I am sure that the young ladies who may be selected for camps will be anxious to attend, as long as there is a safe way to gather. It is such a great experience for those who attend.

From Pat...(Continued)

I can tell there is a lot of use of the internet—mine has certainly slowed down as the load has gone up. Thank goodness I have books to read, have recorded a number of movies, can still have phone conversations, and can take a good walk with my dog! I hope as a group we are checking on our friends and neighbors to make sure they are OK. It's a good time to catch on things that you always find yourself too busy to do. This will come to an end at some point, but in the interim please be careful and choose your outings wisely. Stay home, reach out by phone or email if you need something or just want to talk, do your part to slow the spread of this virus!

Pat, President

**Nominations for the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW Board of Directors**

The nominating committee is happy to announce the 2020-2021 slate for the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW Board of Directors

- President: Pam
- Program VP: Lucy
- Membership VP: Pat
- Secretary: Elena
- Treasurer: Leslie
- AAUW Fund VP: Marell

Vote for approval of slate of candidates or nominations from the floor will take place at the annual meeting to be held May 22.

Pat, President

**Tech Trek**

Tech Trek activities are on hold until the students return to school.

Wynn, Chair

AAUW Speech Trek 01/31/2020

The CA AAUW (American Association of University Women) 2020 Speech Trek Semi-Finals have concluded and Olivia Berman (Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch's 1st placement - Dunn High School) is one of three students in California who advanced to the finals at the CA AAUW State-level competition.

Carter Hill, of the Foothills of El Dorado County Branch, and Jackson Patten, of the Stockton Branch, are the other two students who placed in the top three. Honorable Mentions are 4th-placed Namita Shyam of the CA Online Branch and 5th-placed Gelasia Tiwana of the Morgan Hill Branch.

Finals for the top three were scheduled to be at the AAUW CA Convention, which is now being held virtually. AAUW CA will proceed with the Finals virtually. The Finals Judges will judge each Finalist by viewing his/her YouTube video. The ballots will be then be tallied and the results announced on April 18 (3rd Place, 2nd Place and 1st Place). Award Certificates and cash awards will be mailed to the Contestants at the mailing address provided in the Branch Notice of Contest Semi-Finalist.

For more information on Speech Trek or the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW, please email lompocvandenberg-ca@aauw.net.

Pam, Speech Trek Coordinator



Branch Programs

Due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) crisis, the program scheduled for Earth Day on April 22, 2020, has been cancelled. We hope to be able to reschedule the meeting and program "The Lompoc Valley: Planning for Climate Change".

The general meeting and Installation of Officers is (at this time) still scheduled for the evening of May 22, 2020, at the home of Kari.

Depending on the circumstances, we will also attempt to reschedule the Women's History Month Brunch later this summer.

July 11, 2020, is reserved for 9 a.m. to 12 noon for our annual planning meeting at Valley of the Flowers United Church of Christ in Vandenberg Village.

Keep safe and well during these challenging times! Our primary concern is the health and safety of our members and the public. We are all in this together.

Pam, Program VP

Membership

Dear Fellow Members,

Our membership year began on March 16th and our goal is to get 100% of our 92 branch members to renew.

You may start paying your renewal dues for fiscal year 20-21 by either sending a check to our P.O. Box or by logging on to your account at aauw.org. The Member Services Database (MSD) allows you to manage your membership online. As always, do not hesitate to contact me for assistance.

Any **NEW** member joining our branch now is eligible to pay the full amount of dues (\$99.00), which will cover his/her dues for the remainder of the current year AND the following fiscal year.



Virtual events

AAUW has launched a convening series that will mark the 100th anniversary of women's right to vote. The virtual programs will spotlight the work you and others are doing on behalf of AAUW to ensure women and girls everywhere have equal opportunities to learn, lead and earn the salaries they deserve. Listen to the recording of the inaugural webinar at <https://www.aauw.org/event/2020/01/2020-vision-the-gender-agenda/>

Barbara, Membership VP

Interest Groups

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

The Dine Out group will not be meeting in April. Call Leslie or Billye for information on the Dine-Out group or for future plans

Leslie & Billye, Co-Chairs

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

Please contact P.M. Book Explorers members for the future books and locations.

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)

Please contact Roaming Readers members for the future books and locations.

Potential 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

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.

Calendar of Events

April 6	Roaming Readers: TBD
April 15	PM Book Explorers: TBD
April 18	Virtual AAUW CA Convention
May 4	Roaming Readers: TBD
May 20	PM Book Explorers: TBD
May 22	Installation of Officers
July 11	Annual Branch Planning Meeting
September 20	Scholarship Fundraiser at Longoria Winery

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