



From Pam...

As we proceed in the 57th year of our Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch, CA in the days of COVID-19, I'm thinking about the year 1964 when the Branch was formed, and the social unrest, inequalities and injustices during that time. I'm thinking that the mothers of our Branch founding members were born before any woman in the United States had the right to vote. I'm thinking about my own Grandmother Hessie, who turned 14 years old in 1920. Once she was able to vote, she never missed showing up at the polls. She talked to her grandchildren about how important it was to vote and do well in school. Her education ended at 4th grade, as she had to stay home and take care of her younger siblings in rural North Carolina. The rights and education of women and girls were not considered important by most in those days. I'm grateful that she lived to be 84 years old and knew that all six of her granddaughters had graduated from college.

Our Branch was formed just eight years after all Native peoples were given the right to vote in 1956, and it could be said that all in our Country have the right to vote - but can they? It is most distressful to be aware of the facts that, in 2020, voter suppression is as real today as it was in Jim Crow days. Watching the documentary "13th" gives insight to the history of voter suppression tactics. The news today tells the stories of polling places being removed to effectively disenfranchise voters in many areas, as well as efforts to block voting by mail. As AAUW and other organizations continue to fight for equality and equity in education, jobs, women's reproductive health rights, healthcare, and life in general, there is a lot of work to be done!

From Pam...(Continued)

March 27, 2020, marked our Inauguration of Officers at the home of Kari along with Zoom participation by other members (Thank you, Kari!). Lucy, our newly inaugurated Program VP and activist, is setting the pace for our Branch, as we strive to gain knowledge, use our voices and continue to advocate. The first program scheduled for our 2020-2021 fiscal year will be a virtual meeting in August, when we will explore “Implicit Bias” and we’ll move on to September with sponsoring pre-election forums at City Hall. Pat, who now holds the role of Membership VP, will lead the way for all of us, along with AAUW National, to achieve diversity in our membership. Elena continues as Secretary, Leslie as Treasurer, Marell as AAUW Fund VP, and Dianne will continue as Parliamentarian. I look forward to serving as Branch President this year with this remarkable team and membership.

A very special thank you to Pat who served as our Branch President for four years and received the Named Gift Honoree to AAUW Funds for 2020!

Pam, President

**Membership**

This is my first month as Membership VP and I hope that I can follow the footsteps of Barbara M. and all the previous Membership VPs by keeping up with members and encouraging new ones to join our group. My first responsibility is to remind everyone who has not renewed their membership to please do so. Our year runs through June 30 and, as of June 25, only 39 of our current 91 members had renewed. You can renew in one of two ways. The easiest for everyone is to go online at www.aauw.org and go to the Membership selection on the right hand side of the main page, then enter the Member Services Database (MSD). You will need your member number and password to log in. Once you are in MSD, you will see a box that contains a “Renew my Membership” link, click that and use your credit card to pay your dues. If you do not want to do that, mail a check to AAUW, P.O. Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438 and Leslie will process your payment. Dues are a total of \$99 for the year (\$59 for National, \$20 for State, and \$20 for Branch). Please remember if you are a life member you still need to pay State and Branch dues. I appreciate your attention to this and your continued support of AAUW at all levels.

Please do not hesitate to call or email me if you need help renewing your membership or know of a new prospective member. Best way to reach me is on my cell phone, 805-708-4190, or email at plgrijalva@msn.com.

Pat, Membership VP

Programs

Breaking News: 2020/2021 AAUW Program Calendar is Revealed!

Thanks to quick work by the 2020/2021 program team last week (thanks Pam, Julie & Marell!), an exciting calendar of programs, included below, is set for 2020/2021. The program topics were selected on the basis of alignment and relevance to AAUW's mission and strategic plan, along with subjects of high relevance/impact to the community. **Want to join in the fun** of seeing these programs come to life? Contact the Point of Contact listed for the event you are interested in assisting and let them know you can help! This is an outstanding way to become involved in our branch's impact.

Most meeting venues are being planned this year to be *virtual* to protect our members and the community who may be in a high risk for COVID-19 category. If there is a vaccine and new guidance, which would allow an in-person venue, we'll adjust accordingly.

The year will kick off in August with a conversation facilitated by AAUW with a panel of subject matter experts addressing *Implicit Bias* which is front and center for us at the national, state and local levels. To help us learn and prepare for the conversation, *the famous Lompoc Bookstore* is accepting pre-orders for the bestselling book "Biased – Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice That Shapes What We See, Think and Do" by **Dr. Jennifer Eberhardt, available for \$14.40 to the general public and to *AAUW members for a discounted price of \$13.50 for the paperback*. On Amazon the full price is \$18.00. Members save \$4.50 per book! ***Pre-order yours today by calling The Bookstore directly.*****

2020 marks the 100th year milestone of votes for women. What better way to celebrate the milestone by voting and encouraging others to vote in November with informed decisions on candidates? In September and October, once again AAUW will host a series of nonpartisan ***Candidate Forums*** for the Lompoc community: Lompoc Unified School District School Board Candidates, City of Lompoc City Council Candidates, City of Lompoc Mayor Candidates and State Assembly District 35 Candidates.

We'll all certainly be ready for a fresh start to a New Year in 2021! Due to the changes in this year's school district guidelines and with dialogue with the Speech Trek committee, a decision was made to hit the pause button on the program for this year with a continuation planned for 2021/2022. Instead, in January, we'll focus on some **Healthy Living** with Route 1 Village Farmer's Market and Healthy Lompoc combined with **Tips for Cooking with Cannabis** (for us novices)!

In March, it's Women's History month! Our program focus will be on **Women's Activism, Achievements and Leadership**.

In honor of Earth Day, our April program will address current **Environmental** issues impacting our planet and us with subject matter experts.

The final program of the year will be **Women/Girls in Technology**. We plan to feature a panel of women subject matter experts in STEM fields, the new Tech Trek 2021 cohort and a Tech Trek Alumna.

Installation of newly elected AAUW officers is planned for June 2021.

Specific dates for each program are being confirmed and will be included in both the monthly newsletter and on our website along with instructions on attending the programs in the virtual world!

2020/2021 AAUW Lompoc Vandenberg Branch Programs

Topic	Month	Venue*	Point of Contact	Objective	Audience	Mtg
Implicit Bias	Aug	Virtual	Lucy Thoms-Harrington	Diversity/Community Interest	Open	x
Candidate Forum 1	Sept (3 rd week)	Live via Tap TV (Candidates/Moderator at City Hall)	Marell Brooks, Janet Blevins & Team	Community Interest Equity	Open	x
Candidate Forum 2	Early Oct	"	"	"	Open	
Scholarship Fundraiser	Sept 20	Longoria	Joyce Barker	STEM	Open	
Candidate Forum 3	Mid Oct	Live via Tap TV	Marell Brooks, Janet Blevins & Team	Community Interest Equity	Open	x
Christmas Social	Dec	?			Members	x
Healthy Living: Farmer's Mkt & Cooking with Cannabis	Jan	Virtual	Julie Schneringer Emily Casarez Dulcie Sinn	Community Interest	Open	x
IBC Luncheon	Feb	?	IBC		Members	
Women & Activism – Women's History Month	Mar	Virtual	Lucy Thoms-Harrington	Equity	Open	
Earth Day Environment	Apr	Virtual	Marell Brooks	Community Interest	Open	x
Women/Girls in Tech	May	Virtual	Julie Schneringer/Lucy Thoms-Harrington/Wynn Clevenger	STEM	Open	x
Installation of Officers	Jun	?			Members	x

Lucy, Program VP

News and Announcements

Third District Appointees

Joan Hartmann has announced that her office currently has the following vacancies for Third District appointees:

- Commission for Women
- Guadalupe Cemetery District Board of Trustees

Marell Brooks and Fran Clow have both served on the Commission for Women, so AAUW has a history of providing commissioners in 3rd district.

If you're interested in serving, you can apply at Joan Hartmann's website or call her office at 805-568-2192 if you have questions.



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)

Because of the restrictions that restaurants are under due to COVID-19, formal Dine Out is canceled for now.

But please support our local restaurants by ordering take-out. There are two places to find out who is serving and what you can order. The first is the Lompoc Chamber of Commerce and the other is the Lompoc Restaurants Facebook page.

Thanks everyone.

Leslie & Billye, Co-Chairs

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

Please contact P.M. Book Explorers members for 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.

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.

Carol Ann and Cathy, Co-Chairs

Calendar of Events

July 6	Roaming Readers: TBD
July 15	PM Book Explorers: TBD
August 3	Roaming Readers: TBD
August 5	Branch Board Meeting via Zoom
August 19	PM Book Explorers: TBD
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](https://www.facebook.com/Lompoc-Vandenberg-AAUW)

Instagram: [@aauw_lompocvandenberg](https://www.instagram.com/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



