



From Pam...

September 2020 in the time of the Covid-19 pandemic, and still we persist! So, I am using some downtime to reflect back and to look forward. I took a look at what Pat Grijalva wrote in the 2019 August/September edition of Scattered Seeds: "I hope that all of you are enjoying summer whether it is just enjoying the pleasant weather with lots of hours of sunlight, meeting with friends or family or traveling." How different my message is this year: "I hope that all of you are keeping safe, staying at home as much as you can, wearing a mask when you have to go out, and getting together on Zoom!" As for the weather, it is not so pleasant this year - August 2020 Climate Change brought to us unprecedented dry lightning strikes, high temperatures and fires burning over one million acres in California alone - in less than three weeks! That brings to mind our April 5, 2018 program, arranged by Dianne Owens, "Climate Change: Reasons for Concern, Hope and Action", which was presented by Dr. Deborah Lee Williams, Phd. The book Dr. Williams recommended, [Drawdown: The Most Comprehensive Plan Ever Proposed to Reverse Global Warming](#), has a section entitled "Women and Girls". To summarize: "Due to existing inequalities, women and girls are disproportionately vulnerable to its impacts from disease to natural disaster." "Women and girls are pivotal to addressing global warming successfully - and to humanity's overall resilience." The solutions outlined spotlight women in agriculture, women and girls - family planning and EDUCATING GIRLS! As AAUW members, we are part of the solution as we advocate, educate and VOTE!

Thank you to Lucy-Thoms Harrington, Program VP, for arranging and managing the outstanding August virtual program on "Implicit Bias" led by Eric Abrams, the Chief Inclusion Officer of Stanford University's Graduate School of Education.

From Pam...(Continued)

Sixty people attended on Zoom, and comments on the polling clearly indicated that it was so interesting that more time would have been great! Visit our Branch website to view the “Implicit Bias” recorded program.

Pam Buchanan, President

**Membership****Membership Matters**

I have contacted all of the members who have overlooked renewing their membership and there are still a few who have promised, but just have not taken the step to finalize their renewal. If you are one of those and would like to renew, either send a check for \$99 to AAUW, PO Box 2323, Lompoc, CA 93438 or go online to aauw.org, go under the membership area on the right, then enter the membership services database, log in and click on “Renew my membership”. We value all of our members and hope that everyone will continue to support the great work that is done by AAUW.

I thought I’d like to share some names of AAUW members who are a little more famous than I am. I looked at the category of “First Ladies” and found that Eleanor Roosevelt [First Lady of the United States (1933-45). First Chair of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (1947-52). First Chair of the Presidential Commission on the Status of Women (1961). Started World Center for Women’s Archives project with AAUW member Mary Ritter Beard to “write women back into history.”]; Lou Henry Hoover [First Lady of the United States (1929-33). First woman to receive a geology degree from Stanford University. Co-founder and President of the Girl Scouts of America.]; and Claudia Alta “Lady Bird” Johnson [First Lady of the United States (1963-69)] were all members of AAUW. (Who forgot to recruit Michelle Obama?) I hope that our next first lady will join and support the causes of AAUW.

Membership not only supports causes that are important to women, but also exposes us to other members whom we may not have met, were it not for AAUW. I find that this enriches our lives and encourages us to do more and do better. Please invite someone you know to join!

Pat, Membership VP



Programs

August Recap: Phenomenal Response to Implicit Bias Program

100 people! 100 people registered to attend our first program of the 20-21 year: ***Implicit Bias*** with Mr. Eric Abrams, Chief Inclusion Officer, Stanford University School of Graduate Education. Along with local AAUW members and state leadership, a wide cross-section of the community of all genders and colors attended this impactful virtual program via Zoom. Community members included foundation CEOs, business leaders, LUSD executive team members, President of AHC and team, airmen from VAFB, faith leaders, service organization leaders, activists, educators, and high school and college students. Feedback from this program was overwhelmingly positive. Many thanks to our new member, Hope, for securing Mr. Abrams as our dynamic speaker on this important topic.

Missed it? Don't worry! Thanks to the editing work of our newest member, Amy, the program was recorded and is available on our Branch website for your viewing: <https://lompocvandenbergaauw.net/>

AAUW recognizes we have work to do in expanding the diversity of our membership. One step in the journey is offering programs which stretch and grow our organization and the larger community.



October: It's the Season - VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!

We have two programs planned for October which put AAUW's words and values into action:

"AAUW is committed to open and fair elections, nonpartisan voter education efforts that will promote equitable political participation and representation in appointed and elected office, and the expansion of voting rights." <https://www.aauw.org/resources/policy/position-voting-rights/>

We originally planned to offer three Dual-Language Virtual Candidate Forums on the most impactful races to our community: the 35th State Assembly District Candidate Forum, the City of Lompoc City Council and Mayor Candidate Forum, and the Lompoc Unified School Board Candidate Forum, which were generously sponsored by The Fund for Santa Barbara.

35th State Assembly District Forum Update: Last week, Dawn Addis, the challenger for the 35th State Assembly seat immediately accepted the invitation to participate in the AAUW Forum, while Jordan Cunningham's office (35th district incumbent) informed AAUW that he declines to participate in the AAUW Forum.

Our Forum team convened yesterday, August 31, 2020, to discuss the plan forward. We reluctantly decided that, since only one candidate would be able to participate and to protect the non partisan position of AAUW, we would not be able to go forward with this particular forum. Instead, AAUW will focus all efforts on the two non-partisan races in Lompoc: the Lompoc City Council and Lompoc Mayor Candidate Forum, which is planned for Thursday, October 1, 2020, from 7 to 9pm and the Lompoc Unified School District Candidate Forum, which is planned for Thursday, October 8, 2020, from 7 to 9pm. Ballots will be mailed on October 3, so our forums are perfectly timed to inform and encourage early voting.

There is no charge to attend the forum(s) but registration is required. Check our website in [mid-September](#) to register for the forums. To motivate early registration, awesome AAUW face masks will be given to the first several people to register for each forum. Masks are made by a local seamstress through The Bookstore

Thanks to a generous grant from The Fund for Santa Barbara, [for the first time](#) AAUW will be hosting all forums virtually via Zoom, in **Spanish and English**. The forums will be simulcasted live by TAP TV on radio and TV. The dual-language Zoom webinar format will allow greater access to the forums from our entire diverse community. Registration will be required and participants will be able to pose their questions in advance at the time of registration. Topic areas for each forum have been selected. Candidates will be advised of the topic areas in advance, but not the specific questions which relate to the topic area. A Question Team will select the specific questions based on those received from the community and input from the team.



To further expand access, the forums will be recorded and posted on our website, so that the community unable to attend live will be able to view the forums at a time convenient with their schedules.

Many, many thanks to our hard-working City Forum team, which includes: Marell, Alice, Mike, Elena, Janet, Pam and Barbara B. A separate team is convened for the LUSD School Board Forum. Want to be part of these cool teams? We are looking for [experienced Zoom users/hosts](#) to join us and work behind the scenes to make the magic happen, timekeepers and Question Team members. Please drop me a note.



Here is how to have your vote count this year: rolled into one neat package from SB County Elections webpage (<https://countyofsb.org/care/elections/voting/vote-safely.sbc>). Tell your folks to tell their folks to tell their friends to tell their neighbors to tell the whole of all of us :-). Included on this link:

Ballot Tracker - Tracks your ballot as soon as its mailed to you. All ballots will be mailed this year due to COVID-19 (regardless of whether you signed up for vote by mail or not). If you don't receive it by October 19, ask for a replacement by calling the Registrar of Voters at (800) 722-8683 or (800) SBC-VOTE.

My Voter Status - Tracks your ballot from mail to receipt. Use this if you send in your ballot by mail (mail early so your vote is received on time).

Ballot Drop Off - Drop off your completed ballot day or night up to 11/3/20 @ 8:00 pm at the official County Ballot Drop-Off Box located at Lompoc City Hall as you pull straight in the lot.

Poll Workers Needed - Earn extra cash and be a great citizen. Paid poll workers are needed. High school aged + above. Apply on the page.

Polling Hours - For the first time, all polling places will be open **3 days before election day**. Sat 10/31 & Mon 11/2, from 8am to 5pm; Tues 11/3 - Election Day, from 7am to 8pm.

Polling Places - You can drop off your completed ballot at any of these places in **Lompoc**. If you want to drop off your ballot at the polling place in real time, you'll need to go to the polling place assigned by your residence (on your ballot):

- **Dick DeWees Community and Senior Center**
1120 W. Ocean Ave.
Lompoc, CA 93436
- **Events Mission Valley**
138 North B Street
Lompoc, CA 93436
- **Lompoc Hilton Garden Inn**
1201 North H Street
Lompoc, CA 93436
- **The Mission Club**
4300 Club House Rd.
Lompoc, CA 93436

Lucy, Program VP



Public Policy

Covid-19 has affected every aspect of our lives and the effects will certainly be evident the first week of October, when voters will start receiving their mail-in ballots for November's Presidential Election. As you are likely aware, Governor Newsom has ordered that every registered voter be mailed an absentee ballot for the upcoming election. So voters won't have to choose between exercising their right to vote and staying safe and healthy in the midst of this pandemic.

While many of us in Santa Barbara County routinely vote by mail, there are tens of thousands of voters in our county for whom the process will be entirely new and strange. So the groups who "GOTV" (Get Out The Vote) have their work cut out for them. If you or anyone you know has concerns or questions about the process, please visit the following website: <https://www.sos.ca.gov/elections/voter-registration/vote-mail/>.

Registration deadlines, in case you have moved or want to change party designation, are as follows: (Did you know the American Independent Party was formed by George Wallace when he ran against President Kennedy in 1960? If you want to register outside of any party, choose 'No Party' in Section 8 of the registration form.)

- Election day is Tuesday, November 3, 2020.
- The deadline to register online to vote is Monday, October 19, 2020.
- The deadline to register by mail to vote is (postmarked by) Monday, October 19, 2020.
- The deadline to register in person to vote is Tuesday, November 3, 2020. Conditional voter registration is a safety net for Californians who miss the deadline to register to vote or update their voter registration information. Voters can use the conditional voter registration process from the day after the deadline all the way through Election Day. Eligible citizens can go to their county election office, polling place or vote center to register and vote conditionally. These ballots will be processed once the county elections office has completed the voter registration verification process.
- All registered voters will automatically be mailed a vote-by-mail ballot for the November 3, 2020, General Election.
- The early voting period runs from Monday, October 5, 2020 to Monday, November 2, 2020, but dates and hours may vary based on where you live. While AAUW does not endorse candidates, we view voter education as an important responsibility, so watch for our upcoming candidate forums!

Stay safe and healthy! Wear a mask! Wash your hands! Stay 6 feet apart!

Janet, 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.

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 Wednesday 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.

Roaming Readers usually 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 Johnson (733-3994) and Cathy Rudolph (735-6566).

Carol Ann and Cathy, Co-Chairs



Calendar of Events

September 2	Branch Board Meeting via Zoom
September 2	Roaming Readers: TBD
September 16	PM Book Explorers: TBD
September 20	Scholarship Fundraiser at Longoria Winery <i>Cancelled</i>
Early October	Candidate Forums
October 14	Roaming Readers: TBD
October 16	PM Book Explorers: TBD



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