

***From Pam...***

April 2021 did not bring showers for our May flowers, however it did bring an amazing program “Earth Matters! Perspectives on the Impacts of Climate Change on the Lompoc Valley” held on Earth Day – thanks to the efforts of Marell Brooks, Citizens Planning Association of Santa Barbara County, Lucy Thoms-Harrington, Program VP, and crew! For those who missed this informative program, it was recorded and will be available for viewing soon. Be sure to read the Programs section in each issue, as there's more big news from Lucy regarding the wonderful surprise announced at the Annual Meeting!

Please help get the word out about the upcoming June 3 webinar in collaboration with Lompoc Valley Healthcare Organization regarding the fight against Covid–19! Some may wonder why our Branch would be involved with this – please check out the article at aauw.org: “Covid -19 Through a Gender Lens”. Kim Churches, AAUW CEO, presents “a roundup of reports and research examining the pandemic through a gender lens: The most essential workers in America are women.”

From The New York Times:

“From the cashier to the emergency room nurse to the drugstore pharmacist to the home health aide... the soldier on the front lines of the current national emergency is most likely a woman.”

“Nonwhite women are more likely to be doing essential jobs than anyone else... The work they do has often been underpaid and undervalued – an unseen labor force that keeps the country running and takes care of those most in need, whether or not there is a pandemic.”

From The Institute for Women's Policy Research:

“Women's job losses outnumbered men's in almost all sectors of the economy.”

From Pam...(Continued)

And, as we've learned from the C.D.C., pregnant women and people of color are at higher risk for serious illness and death, and there is disparity in who is being vaccinated. Misinformation about the vaccine and reluctance to receive the vaccine are two serious problems in our society. As an organization, we can do our part with promoting fact-based education and EQUITY for ALL!

Speaking of EQUITY for ALL, just a reminder from AAUW National regarding our 2021 National Election: "It's your AAUW, and your voice counts." "Voting closes at 5:00 pm ET on Monday, May 17, 2021". If you have any questions contact National: connect@aauw.org (per Shannon Wolfe, AAUW Managing Director & Staff). If you haven't had the opportunity, at the National site you can still review the Open Membership Toolkit. From AAUW National: "This spring, AAUW members will vote on a long-standing membership requirement, which creates a barrier to women who do not hold a college degree. By eliminating this requirement, AAUW can become a more diverse and inclusive organization, better aligned with the needs of women today."

Pam Buchanan, President

**News and Events****2021-2022 Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch Slate of Officers**

The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of officers for vote at the Installation.

President:	Pat Grijalva
Program VP:	Lucy Thoms-Harrington
	Dulcie Sinn
AAUW Fund VP:	Marell Brooks
Membership VP:	Kari Rosson
Secretary:	Alice Down
Treasurer:	Leslie Sevier

Thank you to these members for volunteering.

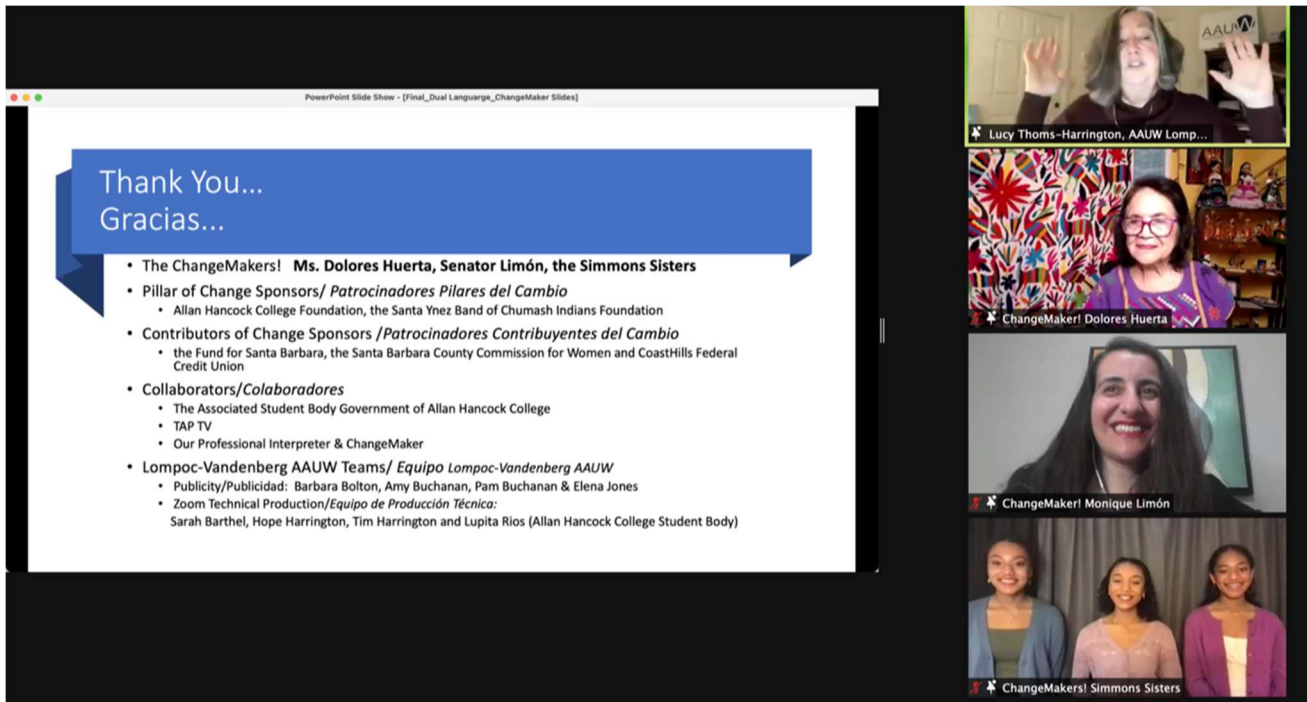
Nominating Committee

Mary Ellen Brooks, Wynn Clevenger, Alice Down

Programs

ChangeMakers! Celebration Recap

We received phenomenal feedback to our first ChangeMakers! Celebration of women leaders making positive change in our communities, state and nation. The March live dual-language simulcast event featured 5 ChangeMakers, all of whom were women of color: the icon of change Dolores Huerta, the CA Senate’s newest powerhouse and first Latina, Monique Limón, and the inspiring singers/song writers the Simmons Sisters. Missed the celebration? Don’t worry, it is now available on our YouTube channel: click [HERE](#) for the English version; click [HERE](#) for the Spanish version. Many thanks to all listed on the Thank-You slide for making this event a reality. As a result, over 90 people expressed an interest in joining/supporting our branch. Here’s a quote from the chat: “I’m in 8th grade at Vandenberg middle school, and I am so inspired by all the figures here tonight!! Thank you all so much for being such amazing figures and I am truly honored to be in your webinar, thank you all for being so inspirational, and someone for me to look up to!!”

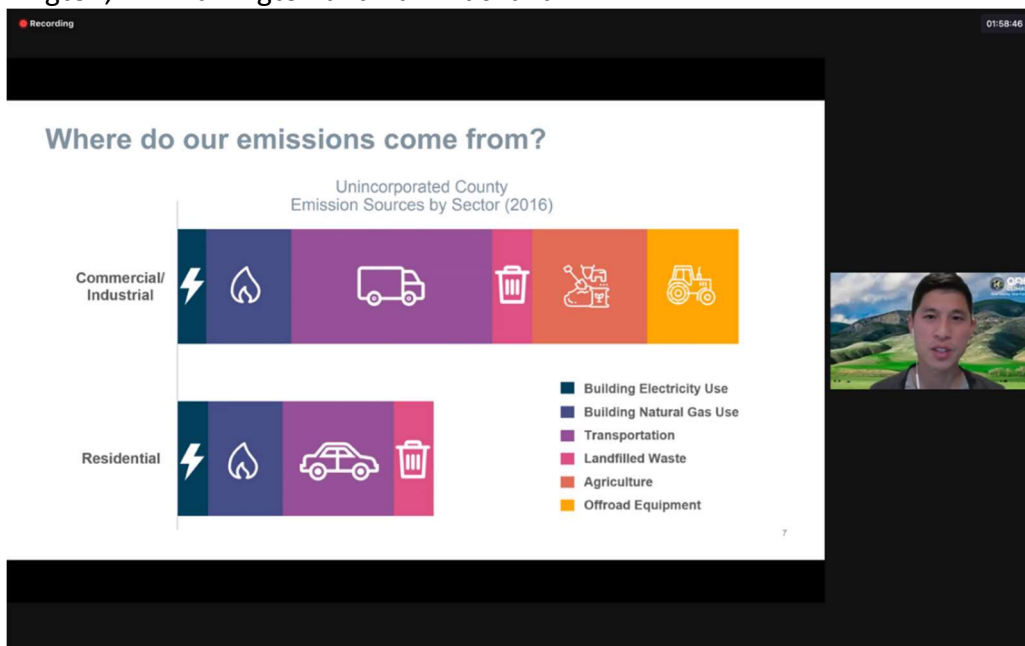


Programs (Continued)

April Recap: Earth Matters! AAUW hosts Perspectives on Climate Change in the Lompoc Valley with 5 subject matter experts

Many thanks to our AAUW Board Member and President of the SB County Citizens Planning Association, Marell Brooks, for organizing and moderating an excellent forum on Climate Change in the Lompoc Valley. A panel of 5 subject matter experts briefed the community on the topics of Agriculture, Water, Fire and County 2030 integrated climate change plan via Zoom on Earth Day, April 22. The panel included Kari Campbell-Bohard (Agriculture Perspectives), Bill Buelow (SB County Program Manager for Santa Ynez River Groundwater Basin), Rob Hazard, (SB County Fire Marshall), Mark Hartwig (SB County Fire Chief) and Garrett Wong (SB County Climate Program Manager, featured below in a screen shot from the event). There was lots of interest by the community who appreciated our AAUW branch in bringing this vital information to Lompoc and offering the program at no charge. Earth-friendly opportunity prizes from Surf Connection were donated by a generous attendee. Congratulations to the 3 winners drawn from those attending: Elena Jones, Barbara McReynolds and Terry Forss. Missed this great program? Not to worry, it was recorded. We'll upload it soon, so you can still see it!

Thanks to the publicity team for its work in promoting this event: Barbara Bolton, Pam Buchanan, Elena Jones and Sonia Sandoval, and to the Zoom technical team for making the magic happen: Hope Harrington, Tim Harrington and Pam Buchanan.



Programs (Continued)

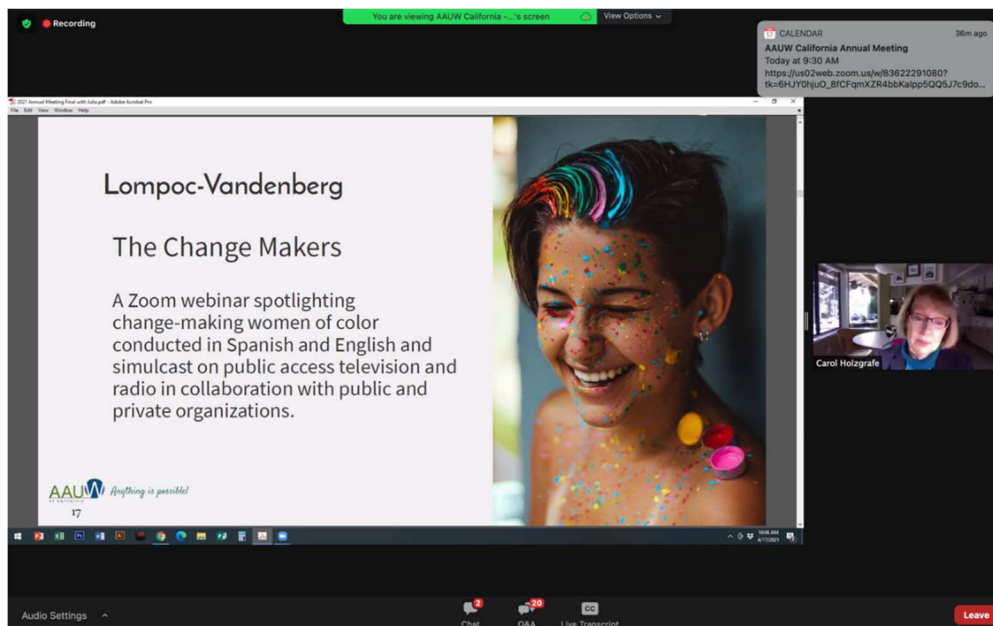
Next Up: AAUW collaborates with Lompoc Valley Community Healthcare Organization on a Lompoc Community Virtual Vaccine Clinic

Based on its outstanding work in the community, LVCHO invited our AAUW Branch to collaborate to bring a Virtual Vaccine Clinic to the Lompoc community. The clinic is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, June 3 and will be simulcast, live streamed and include live Spanish interpretation and signing, to create great access of this information to all members of the community. COVID-19 is disproportionately impacting women, predominantly women of color; it is AAUW's objective to facilitate broad access to current information, particularly our most vulnerable, to positively impact outcomes for women and others in the community.



Breaking News: Lompoc Vandenberg Branch wins AAUW California State Project Grant for ChangeMakers 2022!

Our branch was one of three winners selected by AAUW California for an innovative project grant in the amount of \$500 for the 2022 edition of ChangeMakers! A celebration of women leaders making positive change in our communities, state and nation. ChangeMakers! was selected for its broad community reach and novel programming and collaborations spotlighting and celebrating the accomplishments of women, particularly those of color, who are leading change. Below is the screen shot of the award announcement made at the AAUW CA annual meeting on April 17.



AAUW Fund

All current members should have received a dues’ notice from National in recent days. I noticed on mine that there was a space to make an extra donation to AAUW Funds. This would be the ideal time to make your annual AAUW Fund contribution. That contribution will be credited to our branch.

AAUW is still encouraging the Greatest Needs Fund, as they can use the money for a priority that comes up quickly. But they do have three other choices: Education & Training, Economic Security and Leadership Fund. If members don't designate their donation, it will go to Greatest Needs.

Please refer to the chart provided.

How to Support AAUW's Mission

Thank you for promoting equity for women and girls by supporting AAUW's critical work! When supporting the following funds, you give AAUW the ability to carry out its bold, strategic vision for the future.

AAUW

AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110)
Allows AAUW the flexibility to respond rapidly to new and emerging challenges facing women and girls and to utilize your gift where it's needed most. This fund ensures the strength, relevance, and viability of AAUW into the future.

Education and Training Fund (4450)
Addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder the advancement of women by championing equal access to education and ensuring that education at every level is free from sex discrimination.
STEM
Title IX
Pathways to Jobs
Examples of programs include:
Fellowships Alumnae Initiatives
Fellowships and Grants
Public Policy
Research

Economic Security Fund (4449)
Ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiation, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life.
Pay Equity
Title VII
Retirement Security
Examples of programs include:
Start Smart
Work Smart
Work Smart Online
Legal Advocacy Fund

Leadership Fund (4452)
Supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by bolstering the participation of and increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles, particularly in education and nonprofit organizations.
Career
Workplace
Training
Examples of programs include:
Campus Action Projects
Empower
NCCWSL

Contributions to AAUW are fully tax-deductible and can be sent to the address below or made online at www.aauw.org/contribute.

P.O. Box 98045
Washington, DC 20090-8045
800.326.2289 | connect@aauw.org
www.aauw.org

Mary Ellen Brooks, AAUW Fund Chair

Membership Matters

I hope everyone is well and helping us gain herd immunity with Covid-19 vaccinations. We have survived a year of semi-isolation and will hopefully be able to gather as a group (or small groups) sometime in the next year. I am certainly looking forward to seeing members in person again.

Right now, we are 82 members strong. We've had some amazing programs on Zoom and have added a few new members as a result. I want to remind everyone that it is time to renew your support and membership in AAUW, state and branch. Our Treasurer, Leslie Sevier, recently sent an email invoice to everyone and we've already had 12 members renew! Please use the link on the invoice or send your check to PO Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438. Remember that National dues increased by \$3 this year, so the total for National, State and Branch dues is \$102.

Thank you all for continuing to support AAUW at all levels.

Pat Grijalva, Membership 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 Brooks. 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.

Leslie Sevier & Billye Iverson, Co-Chairs



Interest Groups (Continued)**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 Meehan for further information.

Gail Meehan, 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 and Cathy Rudolph, Co-Chairs

**Writing Group**

Carol Ann Johnson wonders if there might be interest in forming a writing group. Members could meet once a month and discuss their creative writings for positive and constructive comments only. Contact Carol Ann if you are interested.



Calendar of Events

May 3	Roaming Readers: Contact organizers
May 12	Branch Board Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 pm
May 17	AAUW National Election Voting Closes
May 19	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers
June 3	Lompoc Community Virtual Vaccine Clinic
June 7	Roaming Readers: Contact organizers
June 9	Branch Board Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 pm (tentative)
June 16	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers

**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 Schneringer