



From Pam...

As our fiscal year comes to an end, I'd like to express what an honor it has been to represent our Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch as President. In glancing back at Pat Grijalva's comments from our June 2020 newsletter, who would think that it really would be possible that her hope would come true: "Let's hope that our scientists and researchers can come up with a vaccine sometime this year and we will all be able to have immunity from the virus that has affected the lives of people all over the world." Indeed, the scientists and researchers came up with vaccines and, for those of us privileged to live in the United States, the vaccines are free and abundantly available now.

On June 3, our Branch will collaborate with Lompoc Valley Community Healthcare Organization on presenting an informational and non-judgmental webinar on COVID-19 vaccine facts and concerns. Those who attend will have the opportunity to submit questions for the panelists when registering. Please invite friends and family to attend the virtual event and check out the Programs section for the details. On June 10 at 6:00 pm, we will hold our next General Meeting and Installation of Officers. Kari Rosson will host us at her lovely home with the amazing outdoor seating area - lots of room for social distancing and all State and local guidelines for COVID-19 precautions will be followed. If you aren't able to come, Zoom on in with us! A reminder Zoom invite will be emailed to all members. As announced in our May edition, Pat Grijalva was nominated as our President, Lucy Thoms-Harrington and Dulcie Sinn as Co-Vice Presidents of Programs, Kari Rosson as Membership VP, Alice Down as Secretary, Leslie Sevier as Treasurer and Marell Brooks as AAUW Fund VP. Wynn Clevenger will continue as Tech Trek Chair. With this dynamic Board, Committee Chairs and members, the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW will remain a force to be reckoned with!

Pam Buchanan, President



Membership Matters

It's been quite an unusual year for everyone. Who would have thought that our group would be meeting on Zoom and not having some of the activities that we had all come to enjoy. I'd like to congratulate President Pam for all her hard work and keeping us together over the past year. We have done fairly well in maintaining our membership over the past year. At the end of June 2020, we had 92 members and, as of the end of May, we have 82 - a little over a 10% drop in a year where many of us were isolated and remained at home. I hope that this next year will bring opportunities for us to gather in person and introduce new members to our organization: it's so much easier when we can have face-to-face contact.

As a reminder, it is time to renew your dues. So far, only 15 members have renewed. If you are not one of those, please either mail a check to PO Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438 or go online to the membership database at AAUW.org (you will need your member number). National membership was increased by \$3 this year to \$62, whereas state and branch dues are still \$20 each, for a total of \$102. Thank you for your continued support!

Pat Grijalva, Membership VP



Programs

Vaccinate Lompoc - Family is Essential, Thursday, June 3, 6:30-7:30pm via Zoom

In collaboration with Lompoc Valley Community Healthcare Organization, our June program is a vital one for our entire community: "Vaccinate Lompoc - Family is Essential", which will feature medical experts sharing the latest information on the COVID-19 vaccine. The program will be by Zoom webinar and will answer community questions concerning the vaccine. It will be conducted live in English and Spanish, and will include American Sign Language Interpretation, as well as Closed Caption for broad access to the information. There is no charge to attend but registration is required at https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_rJ_h8NSWQCS0hI8IwkMSeg. Please share with your friends, families and neighbors.



Programs (Continued)

It's a Wrap! Installation of Officers– Thursday, June 10 in person or Zoom, 6:00 - 7:30pm

Many thanks to Kari for hosting the Installation of Officers at her beautiful home at 304 Burnham Court. The meeting will be held both in person and on Zoom for those who prefer that medium: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81046700332?pwd=aGVodis4V1FFZTdKbWZvV3N0a2pgUT09>.

Come celebrate the end of an unforgettable year and the start of summer. Give your input on next year's programs and join the programs' team in creating the magic in 2021-2022!

Lucy Thoms-Harrington, Program VP



AAUW Fund

Last year, our branch increased the amount of our contributions to AAUW Fund more than 10%. We also increased the percentage of members in the Legacy Level. Last year, our branch had two members who contributed at this level. Please visit the National website to find out more about these giving levels.

In the meantime, if you donate via the national promotions, don't forget to include your membership number. I will collect checks later in the fall for those members who prefer to give closer to the end of the year. Don't forget to designate your donation to the AAUW Greatest Needs Fund (9110). This fund allows AAUW to respond rapidly, in our communications and advocacy, to critical issues affecting women as they emerge — whether it's a new threat to Title IX, an opportunity to partner with employers, or the dawn of a social justice movement like #MeToo. When donations are not restricted to fellowships or specific projects, we have the dollars we need to pivot as the national dialogue shifts and get our work covered by major media outlets, such as the New York Times, CNN and Fortune.

Greatest Needs is also what fuels our groundbreaking research and effective advocacy work to pass fair-pay laws and other key equity legislation.

Giving to Greatest Needs is a great way to ensure AAUW's continued visibility, relevance and sustainability. On the donation form, please select "Use my gift where it's needed most" to contribute to this important fund. For more information from the State office, visit <https://www.aauw-ca.org/category/aauw-fund/>

Mary Ellen Brooks, AAUW Fund VP



Public Policy

“AAUW ELECTION RESULTS: MEMBERS HAVE SPOKEN

Many thanks to everyone who voted in [AAUW’s 2021 National Election](#). It took a mere three days to reach the required quorum—a testament to our members’ passion and engagement.

Julia Brown and Malinda Gaul were re-elected as board chair and vice chair respectively, and Elizabeth Haynes and Joseph Bertolino will retain their board seats.

AAUW’s public policy priorities were approved by 92% of voters. The board-recommended ballot initiative to remove the college-degree membership requirement did not receive the two-thirds vote required to enact a bylaws change. However, a remarkable 63% of you voted in favor of this change, indicating a momentum shift toward a more inclusive membership.

While we have many voices, all AAUW members share a commitment to advancing gender equity for women and girls through research, education and advocacy. More than ever, we must embrace our values and continue to strive towards [diversity, equity and inclusion](#); **it’s a journey that will never end.**"

I'm sure everyone received the above newsletter from national. Having missed the opportunity to expand and diversify our membership by only 3% was extremely disappointing. **I believe our organization could benefit massively from the stories that potential, but presently excluded, women could share with us about how to expand gender equity.**

Of course, as I have stated many times, until women have the absolute right to control their own bodies, even in Mississippi, we will always be unequal.

Janet Blevins, 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 Brooks. If you are interested in walking on the weekends, please let the group know.

Interest Groups (Continued)**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

**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



Interest Groups (Continued)**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**

June 3	Vaccinate Lompoc - Family is Essential virtual forum
June 7	Roaming Readers: Contact organizers
June 10	General Meeting and Installation of Officers
June 16	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers
July 5	Roaming Readers: Contact organizers
July 12	Branch Board Meeting via Zoom, 5:30 pm (Tentative)
July 21	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