

***From Pat...***

Sometimes I get writer's block and just don't know where to begin. I've been trying to gather my thoughts and come up with something that would be of interest to you. I've thought back over the last month and here are some of my thoughts. I remembered the events of January 6 last year and thought how slowly justice moves. I thought by now we would be at the end of the pandemic and I am sure many of us thought the same. I was certainly disappointed at having to postpone our international brunch and had been looking forward to seeing some of you and sharing stories. While we are all tired of masking and rules for safety that need to be followed, we must continue to carry on.

I thought also of how much I enjoy family and friends. I traveled recently to visit with my sisters, one of whom I had not seen for 2 ½ years. We each knew there was some risk in traveling, but just felt that need to get together to share some laughter and to see each other in person. Both sisters will soon be celebrating another birthday and one sister became a grandmother on the last day of our visit. Life events continue even in the pandemic.

I've also thought of the lovely days we've had recently and how it is easy to see that spring is approaching. I can see daffodils poking up in my back yard and I am hopeful my now 2 ½ year old golden retriever will not sit on them this year. I have cut back some of the dead foliage on plants and see new growth starting and am beginning to see early buds developing on my fruit trees. We have passed the darkest days of the year and each day we get a few additional minutes of daylight.

I had some inspirations or revelations from a presentation at our Inter-Branch council Meeting. We had our AAUW California State Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) committee co-chairs share two presentations. One is mostly visual and can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2g88Ju6nkcg> (copy and paste into your browser).

***From Pat...(continued)***

February may bring some dreary days and hopefully some rain. We do have some celebrations this month—President’s Day, Valentine’s Day, and Fellows “Luncheon” Day. That is a reminder that we will have the opportunity to meet and hear on ZOOM two AAUW Fellows on February 26. The Santa Barbara-Goleta Valley Branch is in charge of the arrangements this year and I will forward the information to you as soon as I receive it. You will be enlightened and encouraged by the women who will present their projects to you. (AAUW is providing nearly \$5 million in funding to more than 260 fellows and grantees in the 2021-22 award year, and our speakers will be part of this cadre. Applications for the 2022-23 academic year are now open if you want to encourage someone you know to apply.)

I hope that we will be able to bring you some additional programs in the near future. I am looking forward to the time when we can gather safely and enjoy each other’s thoughts and inspirations.

***Pat Grijalva, President***

**Santa Barbara County AAUW Interbranch Council Fellows Virtual Event**

**Save the date!** Save February 26 for this AAUW Fund event. A flyer with full details will be available soon and will be sent it out as a separate email.

We will hear from two recipients of AAUW Fund grants currently studying near us as they explain their research. The links will take you to their picture and information.

- Aliannea Sherman, Selected Professions Fellowship, California State University, Los Angeles [https://ww3.aauw.org/aauw\\_check/fellowships\\_directory/#rid6162](https://ww3.aauw.org/aauw_check/fellowships_directory/#rid6162)
- Reem Al Olaby, Research Publication Grant, California NorthState University. [https://ww3.aauw.org/aauw\\_check/fellowships\\_directory/#rid6179](https://ww3.aauw.org/aauw_check/fellowships_directory/#rid6179)

**Join Zoom Meeting**

Topic: Santa Barbara County Interbranch Council Fellows Event

Date & Time: Feb 26, 2022 10:00 AM Pacific Time (US and Canada)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88448000300?pwd=Qzd5dXhqM09pWFVRb1ZkN2V3c2xCZz09>

Meeting ID: 884 4800 0300

Passcode: 839336

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kdOlgvfOgu>

***Dianne Owens***

## **AAUW Program Committee Report**

### **1. Programs**

January Recap: Omicron, yikes!

Well, our programs in January were rescheduled to a future date due to the large outbreak of the COVID-19 Omicron variant. So, in keeping with county and AAUW CA guidelines we rescheduled. Darn!

February: Saturday February 26 - Meet our Fellows!

Did you know that since 1888, AAUW continues to be one of the largest funders of women's graduate education, investing in women who go on to change the world? In fact, in 20-21 alone, the AAUW fund provided more than \$5M in fellowships to 260 women. Wow! We can all support future fellows through a donation to the AAUW fund :-).

Our February program will feature two of the new recipients of AAUW fellowships who will introduce us to their research, their fields of interest and their future plans. These future fellows will undoubtedly inspire us all (and we're bound to learn a thing or two about new fields of research along the way!).

The meeting will be on Zoom and hosted by the Inter Branch Council (Lompoc, Santa Barbara and Santa Maria). Bring your lunch, your curiosity and be prepared to be inspired by our next generation of female leaders and learn how the AAUW funds fuels progress of these leaders.

### **2. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

AAUW is committed to improving the diversity of its organization and expanding equity for all women. Last year, our branch brought first Chief Inclusion Officer at the Graduate School of Education at Stanford University, Eric Abrams, to our community via Zoom to learn about Implicit Bias. You can catch it here in case you missed it, or would like to view it again. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JhO20ghxuLs>

Interested in learning more about yourself and implicit bias? Take the test created by Harvard University to assess bias. Let's get a conversation started on improvements we can make.

<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/selectatest.html>

***Dulcie Sinn and Lucy Thoms-Harrington, Co- Program VPs***



## **Membership**

Dear Fellow Members:

Valentine's day is just around the corner, and we could spread a little love in our branch. If you could lovingly check on a past member who would like to rejoin, that would be cupid releasing an arrow! Currently our membership stands at 58 members.

We are halfway into our membership year and if you have not renewed your membership, please do so right away either online at **AAUW.org** or by check to:

AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg  
P.O. Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438

**Membership fees are: \$102.00 (\$20 branch, \$20 AAUW California, \$62 AAUW National).**

If any of your contact information has recently changed, or if you need assistance, please contact us. We are here to help!

Any new member joining the branch between now and March 15 is eligible to pay one-half of AAUW national dues, full AAUW CA dues and full branch dues (total \$71.00). Any new member joining after March 15 is eligible to pay the full number of dues (\$102.00), which will cover his/her dues for the remainder of the current and the following fiscal year.

For all NEW members who join, there is a pro-rated membership rate and will only have to pay half a year. If you recommend a new member to join, you also will be rewarded. Thank you for supporting our organization AAUW!

As for the Annual Art Contest, AAUW members will be invited to vote for up to 10 entries from February 2 to February 16, 2022. The six winning entries will be announced in the spring and be featured in a collection of note cards mailed to AAUW members. For more information, go to <https://www.aauw.org/contests/>.

***Kari Rosson,  
Membership VP***



**AAUW Fund**

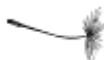
AAUW Funds ad hoc committee has made its selection for 2022 Named Gift Recipients. We shall make the awards presentation at the installation in May. Thank you to Wynn Clevenger and Alice Down for volunteering.

I spent some time this week exploring the AAUW website to read about their grants programs. I recommend members to check this out. You will be proud of belonging to such a wonderful organization that supports women and girls in so many ways.

<https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/fellowships-grants/>

***Mary Ellen Brooks, AAUW Fund Chair***

Branch # CA0130

**Tech Trek**

I just received an update concerning 2022 camps. The best news is that we have heard from UC-Santa Barbara and they responded yes for hosting on campus summer camps. Even though they are willing to host the camps at this time, the final decision on whether to provide the residential camps this summer will be based on the state of the pandemic later this spring. Let's hope that the cases continue to decrease.

I will keep you posted and thanks for your continued support.

***Wynn Clevenger***

**"Member Profile" or "Leaves of our Branch" or ? (suggestions welcome)**

**New**

We are adding this new feature to our newsletter to profile one or two members in each publication. We have historically published a write-up from new members, but we are adding profiles from our existing members who haven't been featured lately. This is a great way to learn more about each other, particularly during these times of social distancing.

You can help. Suggest a name for this feature. Email the editor with your vote or suggest a new name. Or send in a profile -

**“Member Profile” or “Leaves of our Branch” or ? (continued)**

To get started, your newsletter editor is taking the first leap.

**Name:** Julie Schneringer

**How did I get here?:** I was born in Denver, Colorado. My family moved to Brighton, 30 miles from Denver, one month before I started kindergarten. I have a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemical Engineering, with a Bio-Medical Engineering option, from the University of Colorado in Boulder. After college, I spent 10 years in Florida before moving to Lompoc, California, to work at the Vandenberg Space Force Base resident office. While in Florida, I got a Master of Science degree in Engineering Management from the University of Central Florida in Orlando.

**My Work:** Senior Launch Site Integration Manager for NASA. I work with the spacecraft team to identify, document, and subsequently provide the facilities, supplies, and support they need to process the spacecraft and integrate to the rocket at the launch site. I work for Kennedy Space Center in Florida (for 34 years now!), but I am permanently assigned to the resident office at Vandenberg Space Force Base for our launches from here.



**Julie standing in front of the Double Asteroid Redirection Test satellite in the clean room. Photo credit Ed Whitman.**

**My Play:** I enjoy wine, reading, attending live music performances, traveling, and art.

**Fun fact:** I collect necklaces during my travels and at art shows. I have a large variety of mostly one-of-a-kind art or craft pieces in my collection.



## Interest Groups

### **Dine-out, Food, Fun and Friends Group (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)**

The Dine-Out group will be eating at Solvang Brew - Hoptions Tap Room and Eatery on Thursday, February 17th at 12:30 p.m.

Please contact Billye Iverson or Leslie Sevier for reservations by Tuesday, the 15th.

***Leslie Sevier & Billye Iverson, Co-Chairs***



### **P.M. Book Explorers (3<sup>rd</sup> 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 (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month)**

Please contact Roaming Readers members for future books and locations.

We meet in person or via Zoom at 9:00 a.m. the first Monday of each month, unless that's a holiday, in which case we meet the following Monday. Contact Cathy Rudolph for details. Guests or new members from AAUW are always welcome.

Questions can be directed to the co-chairs.

***Carol Ann Johnson and Cathy Rudolph, Co-Chairs***

**Interest Groups (Continued)****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.

**Writing Group**

Carol Ann Johnson would like to form 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**

February 7	Roaming Readers: Contact organizers
February 9	Branch Board Meeting (Tentative)
February 16	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers
February 17	Dine Out Group: Solvang Brew - Hoptions
February 26	Santa Barbara County Interbranch Council Fellows Event
March 7	Roaming Readers: Contact organizers
March 9	Branch Board Meeting (Tentative)
March 16	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers
March 17	Dine Out Group: 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](mailto: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**