

***From Pat...***

During the first year of COVID isolation I began playing “Question of the Day” with Alexa. It’s a brief little mind stimulator that asks questions in different categories like Geography, Art and Literature, Science, General Knowledge, etc. It then gives you multiple choice answers to choose from and awards points for the correct answer. I found that being by myself for long periods during the early days of COVID it was nice to have someone or something make me think of things that may not be in my normal realm of daily thoughts. It was just a moment of stimulation to my brain to know or guess the correct answer with an immediate reward of adding points to my total. I am pleased to tell you that I have amassed 3603 points in 1-7 point increments.

Now you ask, what has this got to do with AAUW? Well, the question of the day is who is going to step up into leadership roles for next year. I can’t give multiple choice answers nor can I give an immediate reward. By the time that you get this newsletter we will have just had our first in-person program in quite some time and it was about leadership. All of us need to think of what can we do for our organization. Our nominating committee this year is comprised of Wynn Clevenger, Alice Down, and Marell Brooks. They are reaching out to members who can take positions on the board or to help with programs. Please call one of them and volunteer to do something to help keep our organization running!

I am excited to tell all of you that Tech Trek is going to be in person again this year. I have agreed to be Director -In -Training for the UCSB camps and will be working with Susan Pease this year as a transition year. We just completed a curriculum review and I am excited about what will be able to offer. Teck Trek is only possible because of volunteers. Wynn Clevenger is a branch coordinator and has done a bang-up job working with our middle schools to identify potential campers, getting the applications completed, interviewing, and working with the families to get

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

everything in order. Member Katie Brenna will be one of our Dorm Moms this year and member Charlie McGillis one of the teachers. All of you have contributed at least a little bit financially to make this happen (remember pancake breakfasts at Applebees?) I hope that we can have returning campers as a program this year later in the summer.

As I watch the news each evening, I find myself amazed by some people in the world. The families who have had to evacuate from the Ukraine are truly suffering but also resilient—most of the evacuees are led by women. We have a very well qualified women, Ketanji Brown Jackson, who is enduring the questioning from mostly male senators about her qualifications to become our next Supreme Court Judge and she is acting with great composure. Madeleine Albright died recently and she was one who pushed the envelope her entire life. She did it on behalf of women and girls, shattering the glass ceiling of diplomacy as the first woman to serve as secretary of state and calling out atrocities against women all over the world. While we can look at all the negatives when we watch the news, we can also find inspiration. Know that this is why we have our AAUW organization—to promote the potential of women and to inspire.

I hope to see all of you at our next program, April 23.

***Pat Grijalva, President***

**AAUW Program Committee Report**

April 2022

**AAUW Program Committee**

By Dulcie Sinn and Lucy Thoms-Harrington Co-VPs of Programs

***Where in the World??: Saturday April 23, 2022 11-1 pm Brunch Potluck at Events Mission Valley, 138 N B St, Lompoc***

Bring a brunch dish to share along with your favorite souvenir **from any travel experience** (domestic or international) to share with the group. There might even be some crazy prizes: funniest, farthest, and most fantastic! Bring a buddy!

**RSVP to Dulcie Sinn by 4/20.**

## AAUW Program Committee Report (Continued)

### Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Submitted by Lucy Thoms-Harrington

#### **AAUW collaborates with community Amplify book club**

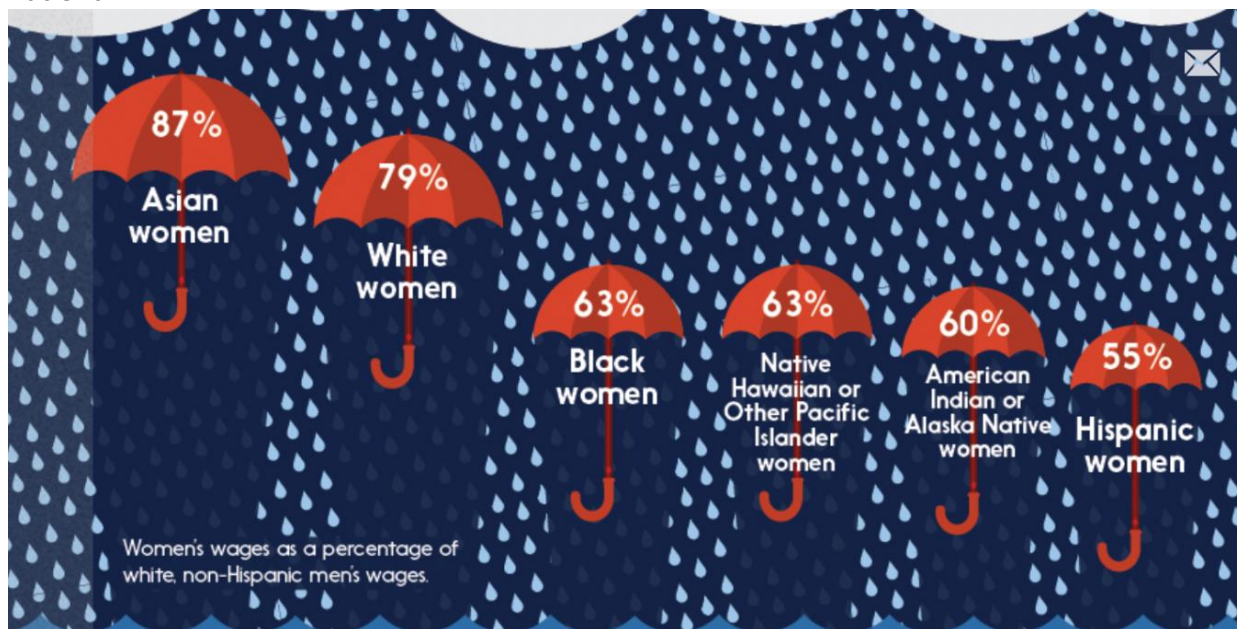
AAUW is collaborating with Peace Prize nominee, the community Amplify Book Group, in order to explore, to seek understanding and to discuss issues around systemic racism faced by Black Americans. Books, podcasts and movies will be selected by the group to further understanding. Meetings will be held after work on a weekday @ 6 via Zoom (for now!) every 2-3 weeks.

Interested in joining the group? Contact Lucy Thoms-Harrington.

#### **Equal Pay? More Work to Do!**

All females earn less than non-Hispanic male counterparts. The disparity gap grows for females of color.

“It will take concerted effort to close the gap—but we can do it. We need to expand educational opportunities and address biases and inequities within the education system; advance equal pay laws and practices, including the federal [Paycheck Fairness Act](#), laws in states and employer practices; and expand how we recruit and train for jobs and promotion pathways.” Source: AAUW national



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

## Membership

Dear Fellow Members:

This April let's shower our branch with new members!



Your AAUW membership will help close the gender pay gap by 2030, ensure schools and workplaces are free of discrimination and harassment, and create more opportunities for women to lead. It will also connect you to a powerful network of more than 170,000 women and men across the country who are as passionate as you are about building a fairer future — with a few other perks to boot.

As a member, you will **Make a Difference**. By becoming a member, you're not only joining a community committed to our cause, you're also directly funding our work to:

- Train millions of women to benefits.
- Support state and local [fair-pay legislation](#) to ban the use of salary history in hiring, a practice that puts women at a financial disadvantage.
- Develop more women leaders through workshops and conferences.
- Fund the [research](#) that is informing national conversations on the gender pay gap, women's student-debt burden, and other key equity issues.

As a member, you will get **Discounts and Services**. AAUW members get [great discounts and special services](#) on insurance, hotels and travel, office supplies, email services and more.

*It is now time to renew your membership!*

**Membership fees for 2022-23 are: \$107.00 (\$20 branch, \$20 AAUW California, \$67 AAUW National).**

Go to:  
**my.AAUW.org\***

or

Pay by check to:  
AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg  
P.O. Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438

**\*If you have not logged in recently you will be asked to use your email and change your password. There are several steps to renewing online. Branch is found at CA0130.**

Our treasurer, Leslie Sevier will gladly update your member status. The new national website is having some adjustments to what our treasurer, membership chair, and president can do and see, so please be patient if your updates are not show immediately

New members joining may pay the full number of dues (\$107.00), which will cover his/her dues for the remainder of the current and the following fiscal year. If you recommend a new member to join, you also will be rewarded. Thank you for supporting our organization AAUW! If any of your contact information has recently changed, or if you need assistance, please contact us. We are here to help!

*Kari Rosson, Membership VP*

### “Leaves” of our Branch: Member Information

#### Where are they now?

##### **Denise Robles - Tech Trek/Speech Trek Graduate and UC Berkley Regent Scholar**

Denise Robles, a sophomore and UC Regent Scholar at UC Berkley studying Bioengineering, has just be selected for the newly established Management, Entrepreneurship and Technology (MET) program offered by the College of Engineering and the HAAS school of Business. Under MET, Denise will graduate in 2024 with two degrees: a BS in Engineering and a BS in Business. Wow!

As a rising 8th grader, Denise attended AAUW’s Tech Trek program which helped formulate her interest in engineering. As a junior at Lompoc High School, Denise went on complete AAUW’s Speech Trek program which assisted in giving her tools to effectively use her voice in advocating for issues important to her. As a rising high school senior, Denise was selected to attend MIT’s MOSEC program (MIT Online Science Technology and Engineering Community) which provides 6 months of rigorous programming and support for students of under served communities with interest in majoring in engineering in college . Denise was the first student from Lompoc who applied and was selected for the MOSEC. MOSEC



culminates in a 5 day in person session on the MIT campus. The mentoring Denise received from AAUW members helped facilitate Denise's ability to attend the on campus session at MIT in Cambridge, MA. Denise received one of two AAUW college scholarships awarded in 2019 to outstanding high school senior girls with an interest in pursuing degrees in science, technology, engineering and math disciplines.

The Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW is positively impacting lives through its programs and advocacy of equity for girls and women like Denise.

Denise Robles speaking at AAUW Tech Trek graduate luncheon 2019



### **Public Policy Updates**

#### *2022-23 Legislative Agenda:*

AAUW California's Public Policy Committee met March 18 and 19 to select the 30-35 bills (out of 111) that aligned with AAUW's mission. I met with the committee for a short time both days to observe their thoughtful and informed decision-making process before they decided which bills to support. It wasn't an easy task.

#### *Lobby Week:*

Over 110 members have registered to participate in Lobby Week, April 11-15. I hope several our branch members have registered. Our Legislative Advocate is currently contacting legislative offices to schedule meeting days and times. We will be hearing shortly about the three top priority bills as well as meeting details. If you are participating in Lobby Week be sure to attend the mandatory training April 7th at 7:00 pm.

#### *Title IX 50th Anniversary Celebration, June 23, 2022:*

Lots of exciting stuff going on around this significant anniversary. First, we're thrilled to announce that AAUW California is sponsoring a joint resolution to commemorate this landmark, AJR23. More details will be available soon.

Finally, the state Public Policy Committee is working on a template proclamation that can be used with your local officials. They will be making that available to branches shortly.

***Submitted by Dianne Owens***



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

The Dine-Out Group will be having lunch at El Toro Bronco on H Street right here in Lompoc. The date is Thursday, April 21st and we will meet at 12:30.

Contact the co-Chairs, Billye Iverson & Leslie Sevier, for reservations.

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

**Roaming Readers (1<sup>st</sup> Monday of the month)**

- Apr. 4: Britt-Marie Was Here (Frederick Bachman) Cathy Rudolph
- May 2: Madam Speaker (Susan Page) Eileen James
- June 6: I Alone Can Fix It (Carol Leonnig and Philip Rucker) Judy Rarick
- July 11: A Woman of No Importance (Sonia Purnell) Diane Lawrence
- Aug. 1: The Windsor Knot (S.J. Bennet) Myra Wapner

Roaming Readers meets on the 1st Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at a destination and in a format that will be determined month by month. The meeting will be held the 2nd Monday of the month if the 1st is a holiday.

All AAUW members are welcome to visit and/or join the group. Please contact either of the co-chairs if you'd like to be a guest or would like more information.

***Carol Ann Johnson and Cathy Rudolph, 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***Interest Groups (Continued)****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.

**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.

**Calendar of Events**

April 4	Roaming Readers: Britt-Marie Was Here (Frederick Bachman)
April 11-15	Lobby Week
April 13	Branch Board Meeting (Tentative)
April 20	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers
April 21	Dine Out Group: El Toro Bronco
April 23	Where in the World??? potluck
May 2	Roaming Readers: Madam Speaker (Susan Page)
May 11	Branch Board Meeting (Tentative)
May 18	PM Book Explorers: Contact organizers
May 19	Dine Out Group: Contact organizers
June 23	Title IX 50th Anniversary Celebration

**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**