



## Lompoc-Vandenberg Inc. (CA) Branch

### *President's message*

Wow. Where did summer go? It's already Women's Equality Day! Celebrated every August 26, it commemorates the passage of women's suffrage in the U.S. and reminds us of the hurdles overcome by the heroic women who faced, and are facing, violence and discrimination to propel the women's movement forward. There's work to do and that's where AAUW comes in!

September is packed with excitement for the branch. Bow Wow Days at Allan Hancock College in Lompoc is set for September 7th and AAUW is there with Barbara (Bolton), College Relations Chair and Bridgette (Constance), Diversity and Inclusion, representing us and extending opportunities to students to join our cause! If you'd like to join in this fun experience and connect with college students, contact Barbara.

Our second general meeting of the year will proceed the Tech Trek Campers and Jr. Counselors program who will excite and inspire us with their camp experiences from UCSB. Our branch made it happen for a record number (7!) middle school 8th graders giving them a unique opportunity to explore STEM paths with female subject matter experts. Come join in the fun on Saturday September 10 from 3:00 – 4:30 pm at the Events Mission Center (138 North B Street). Let Wynn (Clevenger) know if you'll be able to join us.

***President's message (continued)...***

As a service to the community and following a long-standing tradition of the AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg branch, September will wrap up with a candidate forum hosted by our branch. It will be held on Thursday September 29 from 6- 8pm in person at City Hall, on TAP TV and on Zoom. The School Board Candidate Forum and the Mayoral Candidate Forum have been combined into a single event focusing on the competitive at-large seats. Before the forum, the public will have an opportunity to meet candidates who choose to participate and are running unopposed. Many thanks for our hard-working forum team for making this event a reality. Want to lend a hand? Please contact Marell or Dulcie. [Check our website next week to register to attend in person or on Zoom. https://lompocvandenberg-ca.aauw.net/.](https://lompocvandenberg-ca.aauw.net/)

***Lucy Thoms-Harrington, President***

**Tech Trek**

Our AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch campers had a wonderful time at Tech Trek— just read their thank you notes below. We will have our post camp program on September 10 at the Events Mission Center from 3:00-4:30. Hope to see you there.



I'm giving you a huge thank you for sponsoring me at Tech Trek Camp. My favorite thing so far would most definitely be the boat ride. I choose that as my favorite experience because that was my first time going on a boat and seeing dolphins.

I also liked the "Math Test" where our lovely Virginia gave a comedy/math/magic show. Lastly, I liked the way we got to live in dorms and live like college students for a week.

Once again, I thank you very much for this opportunity —It was a blast!

Sincerely, Natalie Aguilar



Thank you so much for giving me the opportunity to go to tech trek. I had a great time with all of my dorm group and new friends...and the food was SO great.

My core class was Aerospace, and we learned about aerodynamics and rockets. We made our own two rockets and learned how to measure the altitude by building the

device to do so. We also went to the other core classes once which were Forensics, Marine Biology and Robotics

Thank you again. I had a lot of fun experiences and hope to return as a junior counselor when I am a junior in high school.

Stella Cioni



Thank you for choosing to sponsor Tech Trek. You have given me an amazing opportunity to explore my interests and possibly discover new ones!

There are four core classes focusing on different areas of STEM. They are Forensics, Robotics, Marine Biology, and Aerospace. Everyone got a chance to experience a few hours in all core subjects. All campers talked about global challenges and were given a project that encourages teamwork and time management. We were given talks about what to expect in college and speeches by successful women in STEM.

Another thing we all did, was to go on a fantastic boat ride. It lasted for just three hours, but during that time period we learned many facts relating to the ocean: information about mussel farms and plankton, saw sea lions, dolphins, and a natural oil seep.

There were also the memorable moments I had in the REEF, an aquarium filled with aquatic creatures that are kept for research and preservation.

Once again, thank you for your support. These learning experiences are unforgettable. None of this would have been possible without SpaceX's help.

Sincerely, Sharli Syed



I can't explain in words how grateful I am for this experience. All of the amazing people, classes, and food, made it so enjoyable. I was assigned the Forensics core class, and now may pursue a career on that path.

One of my favorite things we did this week, was the boat ride. Seeing the dolphins and pooled up oil at the top of the water was just incredible. Professional Women's

### **Tech Trek (continued)**

Night was another favorite, along with the team building exercise called “cap that gusher”, which was fun yet also challenging to complete.

Again, I would like to say thank you , and I hope to return as a JC, dorm mom, or maybe a teacher.

Sincerely, Kyrsten Byork



I had such a lovely time at Tech Trek Camp. Marine biology was fun to learn about. Going on the boat was amazing, because it was my first time on a boat. Meeting new friends was so nice, and everyone was funny. Professional Women’s Night was interesting, but my favorite thing was the dining hall—the food was amazing.

I also liked hanging out with girls my age, and the junior counselors were sweet to us.

Thank you very much for this experience. I will never forget this camp.

Sincerely, Ava Eliana Diaz



Thank you so much for sending me to Tech Trek. I had so much fun learning Forensics and going to the reef.

One of the things I loved was that everyone of the staff were so caring and fun to talk to. My dorm mom would comfort us when we were homesick. Finally, I loved that the food was AMAZING and filling, which was part of living like a college student for a week

In my core class we learned how to test powders with 3 different types of liquids: water, vinegar, and iodine. One thing we learned, was to print our finger prints on a piece of paper.

Thank you again, it was definetly a one time experience and I enjoyed it so much.

Sincerely, Evianna Rounds

***Wynn Clevenger, Tech Trek***



“The first half of 2022 was incredibly tumultuous and gave us reasons to celebrate and protest. Last month, we commemorated the 50th anniversary of Title IX and marked Pride month, even as discrimination continues to endanger LGBTQ+ individuals. And we celebrated the historic swearing in of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson as the first Black woman to serve on the U.S. Supreme Court, while taking to the streets in dissent against that same court overturning *Roe v. Wade*.

“On June 23, 2022—in celebration of the 50th anniversary of Title IX’s passage—the Biden Administration proposed new Title IX regulations. We welcome these long-awaited updates, which are urgently needed following the implementation of harmful Title IX regulations in 2020. The proposed regulations would restore protections for student survivors of sexual harassment, clarify protections for LGBTQ+ students, strengthen supports for pregnant and parenting students, and much more. The Department of Education, however, announced a separate rulemaking for Title IX regulations on athletics, which were not included in the latest proposed changes.

“This is a moment to take pride in the over 50 years of work AAUW advocates like you have poured into this critical policy. And it doesn’t end here! Stay tuned for AAUW’s analysis and updates in the coming weeks—and in the meantime, support the Gender Equity in Education Act and learn more about AAUW’s history with Title IX in our recent webinars.” *The above is from the AAUW website.*

In Lompoc, a “BANS OFF OUR BODIES” demonstration and rally was held at the corners of H and Central. It was well-attended and well received by most of the drivers passing by judging from the honking. Quite a few members of our Lompoc-Vandenberg branch of AAUW were in attendance and there were some wonderfully creative signs of protest such as: **“Hell hath no fury like 167 million scorned women heading to the polls.”** However, **neither Lompoc Hospital nor any local OB-GYN will perform an abortion under any circumstances.**

On the ballot this November is CA Proposition 1 which would put abortion safeguards in the California constitution. If approved by the voters, it would bar the state from denying or interfering with a person’s right to choose an abortion and contraceptives. AAUW supports Proposition 1 to enshrine women’s reproductive rights.

***Janet Blevins, VP Public Policy***



## **Membership**

Thank you to those members who have taken the opportunity to renew their membership, and if time has gotten away from you, it is not too late! Here are the renewal instructions:

### **AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2023**

**Renew today!!**

The total will be \$107.00. National (\$67), state (\$20), and our local branch (\$20).

Your membership has been vital in making AAUW the only organization advancing gender equity from all sides for more than a century. Because of you, we're not only working with lawmakers to reshape unfair systems; we're also partnering with employers on workplace and economic equity and investing in women who are creating change from the inside out.

Today, we're asking you to continue the legacy of moving women forward and renew your membership!

As an AAUW member whose branch participates in online payments processing, you can pay all of your dues – branch, state, and national – at once. Here's how:

Online: Go to [my.aauw.org](https://my.aauw.org) (click)

- Scroll below the **blue** login button and click **Forgot Password** at the bottom.
- Enter your email address, then click **Reset Your Password** to receive your login email.
- Note: If you do not receive the email, contact [connect@aauw.org](mailto:connect@aauw.org) for help.
- Once the email arrives, enter your email address and **Create and Confirm your Password** and access your Personal Snapshot.
- Within your Personal Snapshot, click the **blue RENEW** button at the bottom to renew your national, add your branch **CA0130** and state memberships!

By Check: As always, making a check payable to your AAUW branch and mailing it to:

- AAUW, Lompoc-Vandenberg
- P.O. Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438
- Our treasurer, Leslie Sevier will gladly update your member status.
- Due to the changes at the national website, please include the following information if you renew by check:
  - ✓ The school where you received your highest degree
  - ✓ What that degree was, including the subject (i.e., Bachelor of Science in Math)
  - ✓ The full date (day, month, and year) you received that degree (an estimate is fine).

***Mischa Dalcerra, Membership VP***

### **“Leaves” of our Branch: New Member!**

Samantha Scroggin is the public information officer and community relations manager for the City of Lompoc. In this role, she manages external communications for the city, including website content, media relations and social media. Previously, she worked in communications for Dignity Health Central Coast. Before that, she was a newspaper reporter on the Central Coast and the Central Valley on the crime and courts beat.

Samantha graduated from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo in 2004 with a bachelor of science degree in journalism and a minor in sociology.

She grew up in Simi Valley, and loves Polynesian dancing, yoga, blogging and hanging out with her two crazy kids and patient husband. Writing is her passion, and her essays have been featured in Huffington Post, Parents and Scary Mommy. In addition, her family has taken up a hobby during the pandemic of appearing on game shows, and have so far appeared on Let’s Make a Deal and her son on Kids Say the Darndest Things. The Scroggins will be on another game show this fall, but are sworn to secrecy for now!

Samantha is thrilled to be a part of the Lompoc-Vandenberg branch of AAUW, a group she deeply respects and admires.



### **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)**

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

September 12: *Cloud Cuckoo Land* (Anthony Doerr) Judy Rarick  
 October 3: *The Madness of Crowds* (Louise Penny) Kathryn Johnson  
 November 7: *The Things We Keep* (Sally Hepworth) Eileen James  
 December 5: *While Justice Sleeps* (Stacy Abrams) Diane Lawrence  
 January 2: Reader's Choice  
 February 6: *The Orphan's Tale* (Pam Jenoff) Carol Ann Johnson  
 March 6: *The Moonflower Murders* (Anthony Horowitz) Myra Wapner  
 April 3: *State of Terror* (Louise Penney and Hilary Clinton) Cathy Rudolph

Roaming Readers is open to all AAUW members; we welcome anyone interested to visit a meeting. We meet at 9:00 a.m. on the first Monday of each month (on the second Monday if the first is a holiday). We meet in rotating members' homes in person and via ZOOM. For general information or to arrange a visit to a specific meeting, please call either of our chairpersons below.

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

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

Our August dine-out to Grill and Chill was enjoyed by all. We loved the Gyro sandwiches and lunch specials such as chicken kabobs. Many of us would go back to eat another time.

This month, the dine-out group is going to do something really different. There is a small deli in the Lompoc Wine Center (across 12th Street from Home Depot), Capulín Eats & Provisions, and they serve sandwiches and pizza. Lots of folks have told us how yummy it is so we made reservations for our September luncheon. However since it is quite small, and it is harvest season, the owner recommended we come early before the lunch crowd comes. Our reservations are for 11.00 a.m. on Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, and we will be sitting outside.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, the 13th. Hope to see you there.

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





**Calendar of Events**

September 7	Branch Board Meeting
September 7	Alan Hancock College Bow-Wow Days
September 10	Tech Trek program with the campers
September 10	Interbranch Council meeting
September 12	Roaming Readers: Cloud Cuckoo Land (Anthony Doerr)
September 15	Dine Out Group: Capulín Eats & Provisions
September 29	Lompoc School Board and Mayor Candidate Forum
October 3	Roaming Readers: The Madness of Crowds (Louise Penny)
October 5	Branch Board Meeting
October 20	Dine Out Group: 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](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**

