



President's Report

Here we are getting ready to say goodbye to 2022, a time for reflection and hope. It hard to imagine all the profound changes that 2022 has brought to the lives of women, girls, and society.

In 2022 in the nation and state:

- We saw Ketanji Brown Jackson sworn in as the Supreme Court Justice, the first Black woman to sit on the highest court of the land.
- We celebrated the 50th anniversary of Title IX with people everywhere as U.S. Women's National Team won its landmark case against the U.S. Soccer Federation requiring equal pay for both male and female soccer players.
- We saw the Supreme Court end the 50-year constitutional right to an abortion. People stood together in protest, including here in Lompoc. We brought Planned Parenthood to speak to us on what branch members could do to support and protect those seeking reproductive care in our community.
- We saw California, with the strong advocacy from AAUW, codify the right to abortion and contraception in its constitution; we saw 13 states enact abortion bans despite most Americans standing in support of reproductive choice.

In the community AAUW continued to move the needle in 2022:

- We were recognized by AAUW National as a **5 Star branch** based on our impactful work in support of the AAUW mission.
- We brought together a panel of local ChangeMakers: 4 incredibly diverse leaders, 3 of whom are women of color, from different fields to the speak on women and leadership.

President's Report (continued)...

- We sent a record number of 8th grade girls, (7!) along with 2 alumni junior counselors to UCSB for Tech Trek 2022, exposing them to the exciting fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) where females are underrepresented.
- We awarded 2 college scholarships to female high school seniors (Cabrillo and Lompoc High School) who are pursuing their education in STEM fields.
- We collaborated with the North County Rape Crisis Center and Child Protective Services in celebrating the work of college females who rode 1700 miles on their bikes to bring awareness to the fight against human trafficking.
- Following an honored branch tradition as a service to the community, we hosted a nonpartisan candidate forum. We collaborated with the city for the venue and with TAP TV for the simulcast of the forum. We brought dual language with live interpretation via Zoom to the forum providing access for the entire community, thanks to the sponsorship we secured from the Fund for Santa Barbara. As a result, the forum reached more than 280 people, a record high.
- Importantly, we were finally able to start to get together again in person thanks to the accessibility of COVID vaccines and boosters! The interest groups are back: we are Dining Out, we are Mission Walking, we are Reading and so much more! We even supported a local brewery with a fun informal get together at Cold Coast Brewing to celebrate the International Day of Kindness.
- We celebrated the lives of long-time members, Teney Leary and Mary Vossler and are grateful for the positive impacts they made on our lives and in our community.
- In December, we were invited by the League of Women Voters and the Santa Barbara County Commission for Women to collaborate on the first “Women in Government” program, featuring the newly elected city council members from Solvang, Santa Maria, Guadalupe and Buellton along the newly elected Mayor of Lompoc (see picture to the right).



President's Report (continued)...

- We celebrated in style at Kari's (Rossen) beautiful home for our holiday potluck get together and even got a surprise visit from the big man himself.



Looking forward to 2023 and all the opportunities it offers for our branch. Maybe 2023 is a perfect time to join an interest group? Maybe join the Speech Trek planning team? Maybe join the Scholarship team? Maybe join the Tech Trek team?

Please also take a few minutes so we can have an accurate directory (see details under Membership). I can't wait to have an old school hard copy in my hands!

Thank you for being part of AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg and here's to a healthy and wonderful 2023!

Lucy Thoms-Harrington, President





AAUW Program Committee

Save the date 1/21/23 - "Where in the World" program & brunch from 11am – 1pm at the Events Mission Valley (138 North B Street, Lompoc) . Back by popular demand, we'll be bring a souvenir and a story to share from out travels while we enjoy a potluck brunch! Let's be as green as possible and bring our own place settings and utensils, if possible. We'll have some on hand in case you forget.

Dulcie Sinn, VP Programs



AAUW Funds

The Lompoc Vandenberg branch has always been very generous with its donations. I recently received the quarterly report. Thank you to those members who have already contributed. Some members have multiple donations! We are at about 50% of our yearly goal. When you donate to AAUW online, remember to add our branch number and your own membership number.

The AAUW Fund Events are where branch members can see the benefits of supporting the AAUW mission. It's the time to see and hear our California fellows and grantees synopsise their projects.

Legacy Circle

You plan your day, your week, your vacation. Consider planning your AAUW legacy with an estate gift. There is no minimum requirement. Help ensure the AAUW mission and its impact on the future.

Contact Judy Horan (queenjah@pacbell.net) or Charmin Goehring (charminme@yahoo.com) for more information.

I will collect checks for the next few days for those would like to donate that way.

Marell Brooks, VP AAUWFunds



Membership

We are getting ready to publish a new directory!! Since its been a couple of years since we've updated the directory, we want to make sure its correct before printing in mid January. We need your help, so if you could take a few minutes and check/update your information **by January 6** ,it would be appreciated:

One way to do this is to:

1. Log In at https://my.aauw.org/NC_Login
2. Use your email address that you use for AAUW
3. Type in your password. Can't remember....click forgot password. You can reset it, then continue.
4. You will get this screen ⇒
5. Click "**My Contact Information**" and update/verify fields
6. Click "**My Education**" and update/verify information

Personal Snapshot

View your latest notifications and snapshots of your profile.

Personal Snapshot

- My Profile
- My Contact Information
- My Username & Password
- My Preferences
- My Education
- My Memberships
- My Affiliations
- My Ballots
- My Committees
- My Review Panel Application
- Orders & Donations
- My Open Balances
- My Payment Methods
- My Scheduled Payments
- My Registrations
- My Group Registrations

Lucy Thoms-Harrington

Personal
Summary of your personal contact information.

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Mailing Street	3168 Manley Drive
Mailing City	Lompoc
Mailing State/Province	CA
Mailing Zip/Postal Code	93436
Mailing Country	United States

Another way is to

simply email Mischa at mischadalcerri@gmail.com, cc Lucy at <http://lth.terralink@gmail.com>, and Dianne at <http://dianneowens9@gmail.com> with:

1. Your preferred email for AAUW
2. Your preferred telephone number for use in the local directory
3. Your mailing address, if changed; if not just tell us no change
4. Your education information, if changed; if not just tell us no change

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI)

In any case, the proprietors of the store learned to never underestimate the power of a woman.



Photo Courtesy of BC/N Photos

History has a wonderful way of tying together the past, the present and the future. Lompoc, California has a long history of strong women working towards creating real change in the community. For instance the women behind the People's Union League worked tirelessly to reinforce the notion and practice of Lompoc's early years and founding as a temperance colony.

The notion that Lompoc's citizens would refrain from bringing alcohol and the habits of imbibing into the town was an incredibly powerful one for these early pioneers of the central coast. Female leadership within the townsfolk helped strengthen the resolve needed to remain a temperance colony for a number of years by forming the aforementioned People's Union League. Led by a Mrs. J.B. Pierce the P.U.L did just that when they pulled down from its very foundation a saloon as it served patrons. Mrs. Pierce would go on to lead more than one charge against the selling of liquor within the town limits of Lompoc. Set firmly in her belief that the temperance colony remain just that she marched upon a drugstore and set upon all its bottle of aromatics, spirits and more. This group of women, led by Mrs. Pierce, fiercely defended the town's attempt to raise their families under the umbrella of sobriety.

Though Lompoc is no longer even remotely close to a temperance colony the leadership and communal fortitude demonstrated by these early inhabitants is worth appreciating simply for its fearlessness. It's worth appreciating for its brash female driven coalition as well as its remarkable results in achieving, even if for a small time, the desired outcome of fighting for what was righteous at that moment.

I like to think that fearless brand of female leadership and comradery still exists today so many years later, in fact I know it does. One needn't look further to see the same passion for reinforcing

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) (Continued)

the need for access to great education, more human rights, accessible healthcare and the building of strong community involvement than right here right now in Lompoc, CA. Groups for women continue to grow in size, number and influence throughout the region. As more and more women continue to play larger roles in politics and community building this wonderfully historically significant trend will reach new heights. And now just like the saloon owners of the past found out, “to never under estimate the power of a woman”, so too will more and more people of today.

Bridgette Candice Angulo, Branch Diversity and Inclusion Representative



Tech Trek

2023 will be the 25th anniversary for Tech Trek! Our branch has sponsored campers from the beginning. We sent one camper in 1998 and seven in 2022—what an accomplishment. Your generosity has kept our branch involved in this fantastic program all these years. Since we lost SpaceX as a business sponsor, we will be looking for other businesses to step up and help us continue sending campers.

Identifying and selecting campers from the two middle schools to attend UCSB in 2023, will take place from December through February. Hopefully we will be able to send five girls, which has been our usual number.

Wynn Clevenger, Tech Trek



Interest Groups

Mission Walkers Group (Weekdays) – *note the new time!*

Join the AAUW women who walk the La Purisima Mission every Monday through Friday at **8:15** 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 (1st Monday of the month)**

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 (3rd Thursday of the month)**

Unfortunately due to illnesses and COVID at the holiday party, the Christmas dine-out scheduled for December 8th at 5:30 p.m. at The Far Western in old Orcutt has been cancelled in order to be safe. Look for the next dine out location in the January newsletter.

Leslie Sevier & Billye Iverson, Co-Chairs

**Calendar of Events**

December 4	Holiday Get Together
December 5	Roaming Readers: <i>While Justice Sleeps</i> (Stacy Abrams)
December 7	Branch Board Meeting
January 2	Roaming Readers: Reader's Choice
January 4	Branch Board Meeting
January 19	Dine Out Group: TBD
January 21	"Where in the World" Program & Brunch

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