



President's Report

We recently enjoyed a quick road trip to see the super bloom at Carrizo Plains National Monument (photos below). If you've never visited, it's worth the long day trip to do it. <https://www.blm.gov/programs/national-conservation-lands/california/carrizo-plain-national-monument>. After a long season of rain, it was incredible to see magnificent colors of diverse wildflowers blooming and growing in the sun. It made me think about the about how the diversity made for such an incredible tapestry.

Like Carrizo Plains, our branch is blooming. New members have joined us with diverse interests and talents, united in the mission of Equity for All through research, education, and advocacy: equal rights and opportunities for females, reproduction rights, pregnant



worker rights, parental leave, strong public education, and defense of Title IX.

Programs such as the Earth Day program and the Human Trafficking Prevention Forum are making a difference to the community.

President's Report (continued)...

New collaborations are on the horizon and the impact to the community continues to grow through our local programs: Tech Trek, Speech Trek and 2023 college scholarships. We even welcomed our newest and sweetest bloom, Penelope Ivy (photo right), who was welcomed to the world last month by proud momma, and AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg Diversity Chair, Bridgette Candace. along with her husband Nick and over-the-moon proud grandmother, member, Dulcie (Sinn).



I hope you'll be able to join in on the fun on Sunday 5/7 (see details under Programs) as we celebrate the end of a terrific year for our branch, and vote on and install the 2023-2024 board. We are incredibly fortunate to be blessed with a strong board of so many talented people, many of whom have graciously agreed to serve again. We have also invited our scholarship awardees for this year to attend to meet the members and share their impressive accomplishments and their plans on entering college in the fall. It was an impressive cohort of applicants and it's exciting to be a part of their journey.

Perhaps you had a chance to attend the CA Annual Meeting (Academy Awards!) via Zoom last Saturday with several hundred members? It was impressive and impactful to see the winning speeches for Speech Trek 2023, a new Tech Trek video and the winning campaigns for the new Govt Trek 2023. Branch projects of the year were highlighted. In case you missed and wanted to watch here is the link to the recording <https://www.aauw-ca.org/academy-aauwards-event-celebrates-aauw-stars/>

Lastly as I close with this year, I just wanted to let each of you know how much your membership and friendship is appreciated. Thank you for being part of AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg branch and thank you for all that you do.

Lucy Thoms-Harrington, President



Programs

Installation and General Meeting

On Sunday, 5/7 from 12:30 to 3:00 pm join the fun, fellowship and voting as we celebrate the conclusion of a great year of AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg in the community. The new board officers will be installed, and the scholarship award winners have been invited to attend so that they can share their accomplishments and future exciting plans as they enter college. We will be voting on the recommendation by the board to increase local dues by \$3/member and to waive the local branch dues for honorary lifetime members and college students. If approved, this would bring dues to \$115/year (\$72 national, \$20 state, and \$23 branch), a bargain given the importance and impact of the work. The effective date of the change would be for renewals or newly joining members on 1 July 2023. Everyone should have received an invitation via email to attend from Kari Rosson, our gracious hostess of the event. Please RSVP and bring a dessert, appetizer, or beverage to share.



Human Trafficking Prevention Program

On 5/9/23, AAUW will join other organizations in the community such as Lompoc Unified School District, the City of Lompoc, the North County Rape Crisis and Child Protective Services and others in a Human Trafficking Prevention program hosted by Rotary at the Hilton Garden Inn at 7:00pm. AAUW will presenting two of its top priority bills currently in the CA legislature, both of which focus on accountability of social media platforms to prevent the use of code words and imagery which have facilitated a rise in human trafficking recruitment via these platforms and have promoted self-harm and negative body images directed at girls. There is no charge to attend but advance registration is required through this link <https://lompocrotary.com/Event/Register/d1c20da0-993b-4362-a334-60dd0313fef3>.



Save the Date - Interbranches at PCPA

Saturday August 12 is when the AAUW branches of Lompoc-Vandenberg, Santa Maria and Goleta/Santa Barbara will go out for a night of fun, food, and theater at PCPA in Solvang. Look for details next month on ticket prices and how to join in the fun.

Programs

(Continued)

OVER ONE MILLION KIDS
WILL BE **EXPLOITED** THIS YEAR.

HOW SAFE IS YOURS?

Trafficking,
Sextortion,
Gaming & Social Media
Exploitation Forum

TUESDAY
MAY 9th
7:00PM

Hilton Garden Inn
1201 North H Street | Lompoc

Due to the graphic nature of this forum, children under 13 will not be admitted. Minors should be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Our partners: Million Kids, Kingdom Causes, Inc., Santa Barbara County Human Trafficking Task Force, City of Lompoc, Lompoc Unified School District, Lompoc Adult School, North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection Center, Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office, Santa Barbara County Department of Social Services, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office, Lompoc Hilton Garden Inn, and Lompoc-Vandenberg Chapter American Association of University Women.

FREE EVENT

Registration required
Scan to register

SEATING IS LIMITED
FIRST COME FIRST SERVED

For more information contact
Heather Bedford at 805.315.6672



Santa Maria Valley Chamber of Commerce • Toyota of Santa Maria • The Law Office of Philip F. Sinco

Programs (Continued)

PCPA
PACIFIC CONSERVATORY THEATRE

AAUW Date:
August 12
Solvang Theater Fest

american MARIACHI

by
José Cruz González

July 13 - July 29, 2023
Marian Theatre, Santa Maria

August 4 - 27, 2023
Solvang Festival Theater



Public Policy

It's also time to vote for the public policy priorities of AAUW CA for 2023-2026. You should have received a personalized link via email from member@surveymonkeyuser.com. Voting closes on 5/15 so make sure your voice is heard. AAUW National needs to hear your voice on its board, by laws and public policy priorities; you should have received your personalized link to vote from vote@simplyvoting.com.

Janet Blevins, Public Policy



AAUW Funds

Most of us contribute to AAUW Funds via online promotions. Many choose to give to "Greatest Need" fund. There are other options, such as becoming a Legacy Circle donor. You don't need to be well off to become a Legacy Circle member. There is no minimum requirement. It's a planned donation from your estate payable to AAUW. An example might be a full or partial beneficiary from a life insurance policy or annuity.

The joy of knowing your gift will sustain AAUW programs is your legacy. For more information, contact: Judy Horan at queenjah@pacbell.net or Charmin Goehring at charminme@yahoo.com.

Marell Brooks, VP AAUWFunds



Membership

Great news! We have climbed to 73 branch members and welcome our newest additions to the branch: Kate, Dinah, Robin, and Rachell!

For many of us, it's time to renew our membership. It's easy to do. If your renewal is up, you should have received an email from **Katrina Breese, AAUW (email address of memberinfo@aauw.org) with the subject line "it's time to renew your AAUW Branch Membership."** Click your personalized link and renew online. Renew before June and receive a 1-year subscription to Ms. Magazine.

If you are an *Honorary* Lifetime Member *please wait*. We are voting this month at our annual meeting on 5/7 on waiving the branch dues for your membership in recognition of your service to AAUW.

Mischa Dalcerci, Membership VP

The Leaves of Our Branch

Welcome back to AAUW, Kate Griffin! As many of you know, Kate is the iconic Chief Philosopher/Proprietor of the renown Flying Goat Cellars in Lompoc. Kate graduated from UC San Diego with her BA in Anthropology and her MA in communications. In addition, Kate holds a MIA in International Communications from Columbia. Thank you for being a lifetime member!



Kate's Contact Information to write in your directories:
 Kate Griffin
 Email: Kate@flyinggoatcellars.com



Welcome Dinah Lockhart! Dinah is a long-time resident of Lompoc and recently retired after a very successful career of public service for the county of Santa Barbara and the city of Lompoc and the city of Oxnard. Dinah graduated from Northwestern University with a BS in Education, and from University of Illinois with a master's in urban planning and policy and did graduate work in Sociology from the University of Chicago. Here is Dinah's contact information: http://dinahlockhart@icloud.com

Welcome Robin Ghormley! Robin is also a long-time resident of Lompoc and recently retired after very successful career as Chief Public Affairs for Vandenberg Space Force Base. Robin graduated with a master's in organizational management from the University of Phoenix. Robin's contact information is: http://rghormley27@icloud.com

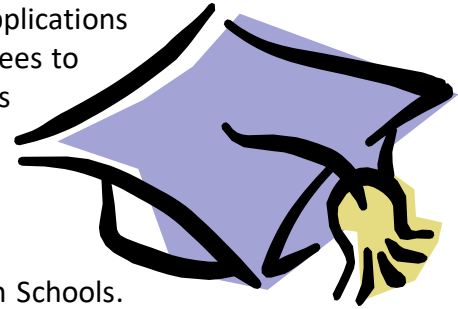


Hello Rachell and Welcome!!! You know doubt know Rachell from her many travels around Lompoc. She is a Librarian of Youth Services for the city of Lompoc and runs (among other things!) the Mobile Library, Charlotte's Web. Rachell is also an artist. Rachell's contact information is: rachellfrazian@gmail.com



Scholarship News

The Scholarship Committee has completed a review of applications submitted, interviewed eight students and selected our awardees to receive our scholarships for 2023. The committee was presented with truly impressive candidates to whom we wish success in the pursuit of their goals. It was a difficult decision, but using all our criteria, the decision became clear.



We received applications from both Cabrillo and Lompoc High Schools. No applications were received this year from Maple High School since their students pursuing further education are using the Hancock Promise, but we will keep inviting them to apply in the future. We have invited our winners to the Installation and General Meeting on May 7.

Plans for fundraisers are in work to build our scholarship fund for next year. We'll keep you posted.

Julie Schneringer, Scholarship Committee Chair



La Honda STEAM Academy 6th grade girls and AAUW?

The Dean of La Honda STEAM Academy, Rebecca Ingram reached out to AAUW. La Honda has formed a group of twenty five 6th grade girls who are interested in STEAM fields, experiments, mentorships etc. The group meets every Friday for lunch. Are you interested in being part of a group from the branch to brainstorm how to engage with /support this cohort of young female future tech trekkers/scientists/engineers? Please let Lucy (Thoms-Harrington) know! Email lth.terralink@gmail.com or phone (805) 729-7951.



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.

Roaming Readers (1st Monday of the month)

May 1: *The Four Winds* (Kristen Hannah) Judy Rarick

June 5: *The Nurse's Secret* (Amanda Skanadore) Carol Ann Johnson

July 3: *Blood Lands* (Timothy Snyder) Janet Shiers

August 7: *When the Apricots Bloom* (Gina Wilkinson) Eileen James

September 11: *Unsheltered*: (Barbara Kingsolver) Kathryn Johnson

October 2: *The Lincoln Highway* (Amor Towles) Betty Staight

November 6: *Lessons in Chemistry* (Bonnie Garmus) Cathy Rudolph

December 4: *The Beekeeper of Aleppo* (Christy Lefteri) Diane Lawrence

January 8: Reader's Choice

February 5: *Wish You Were Here* (Jodi Picoult) Myra Wapner

March 4: *Abraham Lincoln: And Then There Was Light* (Jon Meacham) Gail Meehan

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 Cathy Rudolph.

Carol Ann Johnson and Cathy Rudolph, Co-Chairs

Dine-out, Food, Fun and Friends Group (3rd Thursday of the month)

The Dine-out Group meets the third Thursday or every month. The restaurant for the next month is decided at that time and will be announced in the newsletter.

May 18 the group will be going to La Botte on H Street in Lompoc at 5:00 pm. Please contact Leslie Sevier or Billye Iverson for reservations or more information.

Leslie Sevier & Billye Iverson, Co-Chairs



Calendar of Events

May 1	Roaming Readers: <i>The Four Winds</i> (Kristen Hannah)
May 3	Branch Board Meeting
May 7	Installation and General Meeting
May 9	Human Trafficking Prevention Program
May 18	Dine Out Group: La Botte
June 5	Roaming Readers: <i>The Nurse's Secret</i> (Amanda Skanadore)
June 7	Branch Board Meeting
June 20	Dine Out Group: TBD
August 12	AAUW Interbranch at PCPA



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](https://www.facebook.com/Lompoc-Vandenberg-AAUW)

Instagram: [@aauw_lompocvandenberg](https://www.instagram.com/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

