



### **President's Report**

Happy Fall Y'all. My favorite season of all. I just got back from the Pacific Northwest where the leaves were turning but the sky was bright, and the air was crisp. Since the last newsletter was a combined August and Sept...there's a whole lot going on in this edition!

Our branch is getting ready to host an afternoon of welcome and conversation with Dr. Clara Finneran, the new Superintendent of Lompoc Unified School district. The event will be held on Sunday, October 22 from 2-4 pm at the beautiful home of Marell Brooks (thank you, Marell!!) 718 St. Andrews Way. Please plan to arrive by 1:45 and bring a beverage or appetizer or dessert to share. We'll be hearing about the state of the schools in LUSD and the districts precincts areas for the 2024 school board elections. We'll be sharing the work AAUW does locally through Tech Trek, Speech Trek, Govt Trek, and our scholarship program for graduating seniors interested in pursuing STEM fields in college. We'll also be sharing the information related to AAUW's School Board Project (read on!).

Recently, AAUW CA held a webinar on the School Board Project which has valuable information on what AAUW is doing to address initiatives which attack our schools and our students. The AAUW school board project aims to protect our schools against initiatives on book banning, LGBTQ students and policies barring critical race theory. The "Moms for Liberty" group, with 200 branches nationwide, promotes these attacks and recently opened a chapter in San Luis Obispo. Yes, you read that right.... San Luis Obispo. You can watch the Webinar or download the AAUW CA webinar presentation here:

<https://www.aauw-ca.org/webinar-book-banning-and-curricula-censorship-in-california-aauw-california-to-the-rescue/>

### **President's Report (continued)...**

**On Saturday October 28** there will be an in-person session on the AAUW School Board Project from 10-12 held at the Atascadero Library (6555 Capistrano Ave, Atascadero) for the Central Coast AAUW members. It will also be recorded in case you are unable to attend in person. See the attached flyer for details.

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



### **News and Events**

#### **Supervisor Joan Hartmann Meet and Greet**

Chapter 2 Bookstore (owned by our own Leslie Sevier) is hosting a "Meet and Greet" with Supervisor Joan Hartmann at the bookstore on Thursday, October 5th, from 5 pm to 7 pm. Joyce Howerton is setting it all up and Leslie is providing the venue. Leslie would love to see everyone there.

***Leslie Sevier***

#### **Planned Parenthood Volunteer Training**

Planned Parenthood Central Coast is looking for volunteers to be Patient Greeters at their Santa Maria Center. They have two and a half hour shifts one or two days a month. Volunteers need to complete some online training courses, an online volunteer orientation, and a Zoom Patient Greeter's session. If you are interested email [Jules.bianco@ppcentralcoast.org](mailto:Jules.bianco@ppcentralcoast.org) or contact me if you have any questions regarding the training itself. I just finished the training.

***Barbara Bolton***



### **Programs**

#### **Holiday Party**

Save the Date: Holiday Party Potluck and Extravaganza: Sunday 12/3 from 1-3pm at the wonderful home of Kari Rosson (thanks, Kari!!).

Join the fun....help plan the 60<sup>th</sup> celebration of the founding of the branch! Email [Lucy@Lth.terralink@gmail.com](mailto:Lucy@Lth.terralink@gmail.com).

**Programs (Continued)****Central Coast Discussion: AAUW School Board Project**

**AAUW Central Coast Discussion with Kathi Harper:  
AAUW School Board Project**

Across America, a movement is underfoot to allegedly “protect our children” from hearing, reading, or learning about the struggles of marginalized groups and our government’s role in creating and/or responding to those challenges. Books are being pulled off shelves and curriculum is being censored on a daily basis. These efforts include financial and other forms of support for candidates for school board positions who support these policies and who would then be in a position to see them come to fruition.

These policies are antithetical to AAUW California’s public policy priorities to ensure “equal access to quality public education for all students” including “access to diverse curriculum that represents historically accurate information.” This is why AAUW California is determined to do everything we can to stop this movement from taking hold in our beautiful state, and why we have entered into a collaboration with Equality California to identify, recruit, and support candidates to run for nonpartisan school board races up and down the state.

If you would like to learn more about how AAUW California is responding, and what you, as an AAUW California member, can do to help stop this from happening in our state and local districts, join us for a presentation hosted by the Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW and presented by Kathi Harper, past Public Policy Chair of AAUW California

**Event: Central Coast Discussion: AAUW School Board Project**

**Presented by: Kathi Harper**, past Public Policy Chair of AAUW California

**October 28, 2023, Saturday 10-12 noon**

**Atascadero Library** : Located in: Hotel Park Business Center

**Address:** 6555 Capistrano Ave, Atascadero, CA 93422

All are welcome

Jean Burns Slater [jbslater2006@gmail.com](mailto:jbslater2006@gmail.com) Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW Branch President

Program will be recorded during event. Five Cities Pismo Beach AAUW website: [fivocitiespismo-beach-ca.aauw.net](http://fivocitiespismo-beach-ca.aauw.net)

## 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!

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.

### **AAUW Membership Renewal for Fiscal Year 2024**

**Renew today!!**

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.

The total will be \$115.00 (National \$72, State\$20, Local Branch \$23).

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

**Membership (Continued)**

Our awesome treasurer, Leslie Sevier, will gladly update your member status.

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

***Mischa Dalcetri, Membership VP***

**Directory Updates**

If you wanted a single update to your directories to add all the "new" members to our branch since Jan 2023, today is a lucky day! Thanks to Dianne, here they are. We plan to print and distribute a 2023-2024 directory with the latest and the greatest early next year.

**Frazian, Rachell**

916 North L Street, Lompoc  
[rachellfrazian@gmail.com](mailto:rachellfrazian@gmail.com)

**Lockhart, Dinah**

4017 Murfield Place, Lompoc  
805-588-0775 [lockhartdinah@yahoo.com](mailto:lockhartdinah@yahoo.com)

**Frost, Judy (dual)**

2956 Stardust Court, Santa Maria 93455  
MBA, Pepperdine, Business Management  
805-937-0290 [enjifrost@aol.com](mailto:enjifrost@aol.com)

**McReynolds, Barbara**

409 South A Street, Lompoc  
BA, Holy Name University, Speech Correction  
MA, Governors State University,  
Communication Disorders  
805-736-6352  
[mcreynoldsbarbara@gmail.com](mailto:mcreynoldsbarbara@gmail.com)

**Ghormley, Robin**

4026 Sagan Circle, Lompoc  
805-743-4077 [rqhormley27@icloud.com](mailto:rqhormley27@icloud.com)

**Schaefer, Mary**

1805 West Loquat Ave., Lompoc  
805-736-2173  
[maqdaline131@gmail.com](mailto:maqdaline131@gmail.com)

**Gray, Stacey**

3929 Spica Way, Lompoc  
MS, CSUS, Chapman University, PE, Biology,  
Education  
805-733-3902 [s\\_gray25@hotmail.com](mailto:s_gray25@hotmail.com)

**Taylor-Duffy, Kay**

454 St. Andrews Way, Lompoc  
805-551-8702 [kduffy5721@aol.com](mailto:kduffy5721@aol.com)

**Griffith, Kathleen**

26 Cambridge Drive, Lompoc  
[kateygriffith@hotmail.com](mailto:kateygriffith@hotmail.com)

## Tech Trek

Our 2023 Tech Trekers shared their camp experiences with our branch and community members at our August 20th meeting. The girls were eager to share. I hope you saw the article in the September 20th Lompoc Record highlighting them. I am including their thank you notes below.

Dear Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for raising the funds to send me to Tech Trek! The whole experience has been amazing. It gave me the opportunity to learn many new facts about how to investigate crimes and solve mysteries. As well as a deeper understanding of the marine wild life off the coast of California, and how to code a program. Over all, I think that this program has broadened the horizon for many campers.

I was assigned Forensic Science for my core class, which is something that I hadn't thought much about. The class covered many different aspects of being a forensic scientist, and it was very interactive. For example, we learned how people could be tracked through their unique fingerprints, and we stamped our own. After we figured out whether they were shaped like a whorl, arch, or loop. Other than this class, we also listened to presentations after dinner including how to prepare for college.

Possibly the most fun part of the week was getting to ride a boat in the ocean. It was an amazing experience, and we got to see dolphins race along side the boat. As well as, two whales in a crowd of birds and sea lions eating little fish. Near Goleta Bay, we put two different containers to catch small amounts of two different types of plankton. The Marine Science students later analyzed the results.

Overall, I am so glad to have gotten this opportunity. Please continue to send incoming 8th graders to Tech Trek, because the experiences are truly unique. The four classes have informed all the campers about STEM, and the careers available to go into. Again, thank you so much.

Sincerely, Octavia Nicole Ritter



Dear Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch,

First, I would like to appreciate you for sponsoring me. I feel very special to have this opportunity. I would've never thought I would be able to do this. I never thought I was smart enough for this.

## Tech Trek (Continued)

Next, some things that we did were: go on a boat, go to the REEF (Research, Experience, Education, Facility) where we learned about different creatures that live in the ocean, play outdoor activities, went to different Core classes, learned about college requirements/financial aid and watch a rocket launch.

I really liked my Junior Counselor, Hazel. She is a very sweet, helping, and caring person. I feel like she is one of the best JC's. I also liked that she could keep a conversation with all the campers. My dorm mom, Frankie, was very fun to talk to, and I think her life is interesting. One more thing about her is how she thinks/cares about all the campers.

I want to thank you again for giving me this opportunity. I feel very special to have been offered this opportunity.

Sincerely, Natali Santos



Dear Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much! I am so grateful to experience this opportunity. I enjoyed seeing dolphins and whales on a boat trip. One of the whales was named Scarlet because it had a scar. The boat ride was really relaxing.

I loved the food! The ice cream was my favorite. I had 4 scoops of chocolate every day. I also enjoyed the dinner, my favorite, and lunch.

One thing that happened to me that was good were my new friends. They are really funny and goofy. I love the bond I have with them. I can't go a day without laughing. I will keep in touch with them.

In the end the Forensics class was the best. We did an experiment and escape room in a box. We had to unlock different codes to find the bad guy. We also watched crime documentaries.

Sincerely, Aylani Duenas



## Tech Trek (Continued)

Dear Lompoc-Vandenberg AAUW Branch,

Thank you so much for fundraising to send me to Tech Trek! I am so grateful to be here. I met so many wonderful people. I will have so many more friends by the time I leave.

I really enjoy my core class, Marine Science. The food is so good, and I will be a little sad leaving the food choices. I went on a whale watching boat called the Condor Express. We saw two pods of dolphins and two Humpback whales.

My favorite thing about this camp is the amazing people I've met. My dorm group is super nice and unique in all their own ways. We have had so much fun and learned so much. I had no idea what to expect, and I was a little hesitant, but I am so glad I decided to go.

Thank you again for sending me. I can't express how much I appreciate this scholarship. I will forever remember this awesome experience.

Sincerely, Rylee Thisis



*Wynn Clevenger*



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

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 (3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month)**

Dine-out will be Thursday, October 19 at 12:30 p.m. The Dine-Out group will be going to the Norman Restaurant and Bar at the Skyview Hotel in Los Alamos. We will need to carpool as parking is an issue. Meet at St. Mary's church at 11:30 that day to coordinate rides. Hope to see you up there!

Let Leslie or Billye know if you would like to join in the fun! Hope to see you there!

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

**Mission Walkers Group (Weekdays)**

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.

**Calendar of Events**

October 2	Roaming Readers: The Lincoln Highway (Amor Towles)
October 5	"Meet and Greet" with Supervisor Joan Hartmann
October 19	Dine Out Group: TBD
October 22	Welcome and Conversation with Dr. Clara Finneran
October 28	Central Coast Discussion: AAUW School Board Project
November 1	Branch Board Meeting
November 6	Roaming Readers: Lessons in Chemistry (Bonnie Garmus)
November 16	Dine Out Group: TBD
December 3	Holiday Party Potluck and Extravaganza

**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](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**