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It is officially summer! Nothing like 4th of July fireworks (safe and sane ones!), anything grilled, and seasonal fruit! I know many of us are also traveling, either visiting family or discovering exciting cities or restful beaches. Thanks to AAUW members for their hard work in achieving nationally recognized '5 Star' status in 2025 for the Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch. Lucy has completed the 5-Star on-line survey, and goals for the 2025-26 year will be strengthening 'Governance & Sustainability' and 'Communications & External Relations'. This is a good time to mention the Lompoc-Vandenberg branch is still in need of volunteers to help with Communications and Programs subcommittees.

Meanwhile, exciting events are coming up for everyone to take part in. AAUW and our colleagues with North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center (NCRCCPC) will welcome nine (9) Pedal the Pacific (PTP) cyclists. It's not too late to buy tickets for the event, including an opportunity to speak with these amazing young women. Kay, Lucy, and Ann have left no stone unturned in hunting down beautiful and thoughtful tokens of our appreciation for goody bags for the cyclists. Thank you to Lazy F, Blossoms, and the City of Lompoc for donations, including a case of Camino 2 Dreams wine! Planning is also on-going for the August 21 Lompoc Education Town Hall Meeting. More details in the Town Hall Meeting newsletter article.

In a recent LA Times article, it was noted that more than half of Americans said their parents never discussed money with them, and women in general were less likely to receive instruction in wealth building strategies than their male counterparts. To help address these low financial literacy rates among women, AAUW produced a Women's Economic Empowerment Initiative (WEEI) online seminar series. The series highlights information and strategies to combat wage inequity faced by women. Classes are grouped as either "Money Smart" or "Work Smart". They provide a good introduction

or refresher to investment, personal finance, knowing your value in the labor market, and how to get paid what you're worth, among other topics. I just finished watching 'Money Smart: Smart Future', and I've included the Money Smart Tip Sheet to this month's newsletter. A whole new series of WEEI webinars begins in September 2025 and will be available shortly on the AAUW national website: <https://www.aauw.org/resources/programs/womens-economic-empowerment-initiative/> And a hyperlink to the Money Smart tip sheet is here: <https://share.google/gSNFmBRfYmyktLaGp> Check it out! Thank you AAUW members for your continuing support. **Now let's go and have some fun!**



Welcome 2025 Pedal the Pacific Team!

There is still time to purchase your \$25 ticket to the Wednesday **July 16, 2025** evening reception beginning at 6 p.m. at the Lompoc Hilton Garden Inn, 1201 N. H Street. **Reservations are required by July 10** so that the correct headcount for dinner can be confirmed. To purchase a ticket, please scan the QRC on the flyer or send a check to the North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center (NCRCCPC) at 511 East Ocean Ave, Lompoc 93436 attention Ann. This is an outstanding opportunity to invite a friend or neighbor who may have an interest in joining AAUW.

We will have our first general meeting of the year proceeding the Pedal the Program. **The meeting will start promptly at 5:30.**

We are expecting nine (9) Pedal The Pacific (PTP) cyclists from Seattle to arrive in Lompoc on July 15th, as part of their 1,700 mile ride to San Diego. Cyclists from across the country participate in PTP to raise money and awareness about domestic sex trafficking. The reception is being co-hosted by the North County Rape Crisis Child Protection Center (NCRCCPC) and the AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg branch. Your ticket will include a pizza, salad, and dessert meal, a presentation on local efforts to address human trafficking, and an opportunity to meet and encourage riders on their journey. While the cyclists are in Lompoc, they will be treated to a tour of the La Purisima Mission by docent Rob Glasgow, an experienced Mission guide, followed by a picnic lunch provided by Southside Coffee Shop. In this month's newsletter, is a flyer with details on how you can purchase items from Amazon for 'Survivor Bags' which will directly benefit human trafficking survivors here locally. If enough items are ordered and received by NCRCCPC by July 16th, we may be assembling the Survivor Bags on Wednesday evening at the reception. If you wish to write a personal encouraging note to put into a Survivor Bag, please bring your note to the July 16th reception, or call me and I can pick up from you. Another way for AAUW members to recognize these amazing young cyclists is by donating refreshments (seltzer water, juice, etc.), or make a sweet treat like cookies, brownies, etc. to include in little 'goody bags' we are preparing for the young women. Please call me for more information or if I can pick up items! Dinah Lockhart (805-588-0775).

Dinah Lockhart: President

Programs

Help us Welcome Pedal the Pacific back to Lompoc!

AAUW & North County Rape Crisis Center
Hosted Community Reception

Join us in welcoming the inspiring
Pedal the Pacific Team!

These incredible young women are
cycling 1,700 miles from Seattle to
San Diego to raise awareness for
and fight human trafficking.

The evening includes:

- Presentations by the Pedal the Pacific Team
- Update on new local efforts to fight human trafficking
- Pizza, salad, and dessert

Wednesday, July 16th, 5:45 P.M.
Hilton Garden Inn, Lompoc

Price: \$25 per ticket
(Purchase by July 10)
Reservations Required

SCAN BELOW FOR TICKETS:



Learn more: pedalthepacific.org



Help Us Provide Comfort Kits for Women in Need

The Lompoc-Vandenberg Branch of AAUW and the North County Rape Crisis and Child Protection Center are teaming up to support women in our community by assembling Comfort Kits—and we need your help!

It's easy to make a difference.

Simply scan the QR code to access our Amazon Shopping List. With just a few clicks, your generous donation will be shipped directly to the Center for assembly and distribution.



Shop. Ship. Support.

Every item brings comfort, dignity, and hope.

Thank you for standing with survivors.



Deadline for donations is July 12, 2025

Any questions call Ann @ 805-736-8535 or email ann@ncrccpc.org. All purchases are tax-deductible and the

Center will provide a thank you upon completion. If you would like to make a cash donation, please make checks payable to NCRCCPC and mail to PO Box 148, Lompoc, CA 93438 or visit

<https://www.classy.org/give/236888/#!/donation/checkout>



PCPA Theater Event

On **August 16, 2025** AAUW's Interbranch Council is sponsoring a Social Gathering and Show event for Something Rotten! The musical comedy is set in 1595 and follows brothers Nick and Nigel who struggle to find success in the theatrical world as they compete with the popularity of William Shakespeare! Ticket for social and show is \$45. Social only is \$15 if you choose to buy your own ticket. **Please mail your check to AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg PO Box 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438 no later than July 25, 2025 or hand deliver to Janice Keller or Terry Forss.** Food will include appetizers, desserts, and non-alcoholic beverages. All welcome! Social begins at 6:30pm, with show starting at 8pm. Attending members are asked to bring a dessert to share.

PCPA
PACIFIC
CONSERVATORY
THEATRE

**Santa Barbara County
AAUW Interbranch Council**

AAUW
empowering women since 1881

**SOMETHING
ROTTEN!**

**SOCIAL GATHERING &
SHOW TICKET: \$45
SOCIAL ONLY: \$15
(TICKET PURCHASED ON YOUR OWN)
FRIENDS & RELATIVES WELCOME!**

**OUTDOOR PRESENTATION AT
SOLVING FESTIVAL THEATER
420 2ND ST, SOLVING**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16, 2025

**Social Gathering - 6:30 pm
Show Starts - 8 pm**

Please join us for this musical comedy under the stars,
preceded by a social gathering with hearty appetizers, desserts,
and non-alcoholic beverages served in the Patron's Garden.

Celebration of Life for Alison Wales

She worked for over 35 years with the North County Rape Crisis & Child Protection Center. Alison was the 5th District Commissioner for the SB Commission of Women. She served in leadership position for the North County the League of Women Voters and a key leader and partner of AAUW in many programs including the 2023 and 2024 Non-Partisan Dual Language Candidate forums. Among other achievements, Alison was selected as one of 5 Women of the Year awardees by US Congress member, Salud Carbahal.

If you are able, AAUW members are welcome to bring fruit to the event.

Celebration of Life
for
Alison Wales



Saturday, August 2, 2025
11:00am

St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Fitch Hall

2800 Harris Grade Road

AAUW Members are invited to bring fruit to the celebration

Come and help us celebrate
our daughter, sister, cousin,
colleague,
and dear friend



Questions? Contact Ann at 805-588-1117

Education Town Hall

An Education Town hall will be held on Thursday **August 21, 2025** from 6:00pm to 8:00pm at the Dick DeWees community center. AAUW will be sponsoring the event, with participation by the Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD), Alan Hancock College, student representatives, Future for Lompoc Youth. The Lompoc Chamber of Commerce is also supporting the event. Potential panelists may include LUSD superintendent, school board member(s), Allan Hancock president, and Future for Lompoc Youth. The event will begin with a community reception from 6-6:30pm with literature tables set up for organizations that support students and their families, with the panel discussion from 6:30-8pm. The event will be dual language. More details on the event will be available soon, with a follow up planning meeting in late June. Many thanks to the hard-working committee: Terry, Pam, Barbara, Janet, Mary and Lucy. We could use a few other folks to join the committee or volunteer at the event. Please contact either Kay, or Dinah for more details.



Dinah Lockhart: President
Kay Duffy Taylor: Co-Membership

Membership**Membership Renewal & Annual Dues**

Thank you for being a member of AAUW and making a positive impact on the lives of girls and women in our community, state and nation.

Many of us have our annual dues coming up.

AAUW National dues are \$74 and are 100% deductible. The dues increase by AAUW CA passed, so effective 7/1/25, the dues will be \$30 (was \$20).

local branch dues remain at \$23. In summary, if you pay before 7/1, the total will be \$117. The total dues on or after 7/1 will be \$127.

If dues become a hardship please reach out! We value and appreciate your membership!!

Honorary Lifetime members pay 0; lifetime members only pay state and branch dues **by check** (see below)

How to Pay:

Payment online is through the AAUW National Site at <https://www.aauw.org/> where you will see a Renew Tab after logging in. For payment by check, please make it out to AAUW Lompoc-Vandenberg, note "dues branch CA 130" in the memo line and please mail it to PO 2523, Lompoc, CA 93438.



Kay Duffy Taylor: Co-Membership VP
Leslie Sevier: Co-Membership VP

AAUW Funds**The Simple Truth About Gender Pay Gap:**

Read more about it at this link:

<https://share.google/gSNFmBRfYmyktLaGp>



Alice Down: AAUW Funds VP

College/University Liaison**Hancock Happenings**

We are pleased to be partnering with Allan Hancock College and participating in two of their upcoming events. **"Hancock Hello"** will be welcoming new students and their families to the AHC Lompoc Valley Center, One Hancock Drive, **Tuesday, August 5th** from 4:30-6:00 pm. Next, the Associated Student Body Government will be hosting **"Bow-WOW"** (week of welcome) for fall semester mid-September. No date has been announced.

These events offer students opportunities to meet instructors, connect with AHC clubs and services, and learn about local community organizations. Allan Hancock students are eligible to receive free AAUW student membership and have access to a range of benefits to help them succeed on campus.

We will be having a table at both events, please contact me if you would like to participate in either activity.



Barbara Bolton: College Relations



TECH TREK

CAMP BEGINS JULY 13TH!

Wynn Clevenger: Tech Trek Chair

**Diversity, Equity and Inclusion**

June 14th was a giant day to stand with our communities and AAUW was there.

Thanks to Dinah and Janet, AAUW had a terrific table at the Lompoc Juneteenth festival featuring the popular “Name her Fame Game” where participants guessed the name of a featured famous Black woman and her claim to fame. Two winners were drawn and received a prize. Many community members stopped by the table to learn more about AAUW.



Leslie, Terry, Barbara and Lucy (missing Pam) rolled up in style in a decorated Moke for the Santa Ynez Valley Pride Festival in Solvang. The crowd went crazy for the pride bracelets and key chains (thanks to Leslie!) and for the church fans decorated with supportive pride quotes/pictures decorated by AAUW members and kids from the Lompoc Family YMCA. We got a hand from our partners, the Ambassadors from AHC, with their loaned canopy, table and chairs used to table for AAUW after the parade. Among the many who stopped to find out more about AAUW, we had a twenty-something UCSB Tech Trek alumni from Oxnard tell us how fantastic the program was and the impact it made on her. We even made the front page on the Noozhawk:

[https://www.noozhawk.com/santa-ynez-valley-pride-parade-brightens-downtown-solvang/!](https://www.noozhawk.com/santa-ynez-valley-pride-parade-brightens-downtown-solvang/)



In Times Like These, Community Is Our Resistance

Lately, it feels like just being brown in this country puts a target on your back. Families are living in fear again. The news is filled with stories of aggressive immigration raids, people being followed or detained just because of the color of their skin, and laws being passed that make it harder for folks like us to live with dignity.

Even U.S. citizens, born and raised here, are getting caught up in this mess. The fear is real, and it's not just fear of deportation. It's fear of being seen as less than, of being made invisible or disposable.

This isn't new. But that doesn't mean we stay quiet. What's happening across the country is heartbreaking and infuriating. But here in Santa Barbara County, we can respond differently. We can show up for one another. We can support the organizations already doing the work, quietly and powerfully, to protect and uplift our immigrant and brown communities.

Groups like 805UndocuFund are providing rapid response and direct financial assistance to undocumented individuals affected by ICE activity, job loss, or emergencies. Immigrant Hope Santa Barbara is helping families navigate the legal system with dignity, offering low-cost legal support, English classes, and citizenship preparation. The Santa Barbara County Immigrant Legal Defense Center is out there fighting in court to keep families together.

These organizations are doing all they can, but they need us too. In Lompoc, I've organized a group of 40+ local volunteers who are helping in whatever way possible, whether it's translating, driving someone to an appointment, or sharing resources with families who don't know where to turn. If you want to volunteer, please reach out to me. There's always a way to get involved.

If you've been watching the news and feeling helpless, this is one way you can take action.

You can volunteer. You don't need a fancy title or background to make a difference.

You can donate. Even a small amount can help cover a DACA renewal fee or fund a ride to court.

You can share resources and remind people they are not alone. Santa Barbara County (Lompoc) is home to so many beautiful, resilient immigrant families. Let's keep it that way.

Learn more or support the following organizations:

[805UndocuFund](#)

[Immigrant Hope Santa Barbara](#)

[Santa Barbara County Immigrant Legal Defense](#)

Brenda Villa: DEI Chair



Public Policy

A Big Broken Promise to America's Students and Women

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Congress has passed a bill that will go down in history not as a beautiful promise fulfilled — but as a **big broken promise** to America's students, working families, and especially to women.

From early learning through graduate school, this bill deals a devastating blow to educational opportunities in America. It **slashes financial aid, eliminates vital student loan programs, and channels public dollars into private voucher schemes** — all while doing nothing to ensure that participating schools uphold civil rights protections. Instead of expanding access, it erects new barriers that will shut out millions of students, especially women, low-income families, and communities of color. This bill makes drastic cuts to Medicaid, it threatens reproductive freedom and the health and economic security of the very people who rely on education as a path to a better future.

For AAUW, this is personal. We are the nation's largest non-institutional funder of women's graduate education. For more than 140 years, we've fought to open the doors of higher education to all women — not just those who can afford it. And we know the truth: **when women lose access to education, they lose access to opportunity, economic security, and equity.**

This bill:

- **Undermines educational equity** by using tax breaks to fund private school voucher programs without requiring participating schools to follow Title IX, Title VI, or disability laws — creating a loophole that permits legal discrimination against students.
- **Shuts women out of higher education** by eliminating Graduate PLUS loans and creating borrowing caps that disproportionately harm women of color, single mothers, and first-generation students.
- **Attacks reproductive health and health care access** by essentially defunding Planned Parenthood and making sweeping changes to Medicaid that will strip coverage from millions of women — leaving them without access to birth control, cancer screenings, and maternal care.

This bill does not reflect the values of fairness, inclusion, or opportunity. It is a deliberate rollback of hard-won rights, passed at the expense of women's futures and our nation's progress.

As the bill heads to the president's desk, AAUW calls on the administration to reckon with what this legislation truly means — and to recognize the irreversible harm it will cause to students, families, and our economy now and in years to come.

AAUW and our nationwide network of members and advocates will not stop fighting until every student — regardless of gender, race, income, or zip code — has full and equal access to education, civil rights, and opportunity.

Mary Schaefer: Public Policy Chair

Interest Groups

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.



Dine-out, Food, Fun and Friends Group

We have selected restaurants for the next 6 months. A couple of the choices are out of town and in that case, we will car-pool from St. Mary's Church.

We meet at 12:30 the third Thursday of every month. Reservations are not necessary unless noted.

July 17, 2025: Solvang Brew. We will have to go at **4:00 p.m.**, since they are not open for lunch except on the weekends.

August 21: Sushi Sake

Sept. 18: Dave's Restaurant at the Village Inn. **Reservations will be required.** Contact Leslie or Billye by **Tuesday September 16.**

Oct. 16: Vega Vineyard. We will carpool for this one meeting at St. Mary's at 11:45 a.m.

Nov. 20: Old Town Bar and Grill



Billye Iverson and Leslie Sevier: Co-Chairs

Roaming Readers (1st Monday of the month)

| | | |
|-------------|------------------------------------|-------|
| July 7 | On Freedom (Timothy Snyder) | Gail |
| August 4 | Camino Ghosts (John Grisham) | Judy |
| September 8 | All the Queen's Men (S.J. Bennett) | Myra |
| October 6 | The Late Show (Michael Connelly) | Cathy |

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



| | |
|-----------|---------------------|
| July 16 | Pedal the Pacific |
| August 16 | Theaterfest |
| August 21 | Education Town Hall |
| August 5 | Hancock Hello |

***Keep Up to Date on the latest AAUW news!*****Members Not Receiving Messages from AAUW**

Share this resubscribe link with members who are **NOT** receiving AAUW emails:

https://secure.everyaction.com/p/8fvkDOF_gkmwgUN5RDy1tw2



A graphic of a spotlight shining from the top left towards the text.

Spotlight!

Remembering Julie

Late last month, Julie Davies, who had just rejoined as a member of our branch, passed away. Julie was a well-known long-time educator from Los Berros Elementary School. She will be deeply missed by us and by the community. We were fortunate to have Julie rejoin the branch after a sabbatical and attend the Dine Out Group in June, so many of us who attended were able to reconnect with her on a bright and sunny summer day.



Julie S 4th

Dulce 15th

Kari 31st



Recipe Corner

Red White and Blueberry Fruit Salad

Equipment

small star cookie cutter

Ingredients

2 pints blueberries, or about 4 cups

1/2 small seedless watermelon

1/2 cup feta cheese, crumbled. You can also use Mexican cotija cheese.

1 lime

Garnish

small mint leaves, optional

Instructions

1. Rinse your berries and put them in a serving bowl.
2. Slice the watermelon into thin slices. Use the cookie cutter to cut out stars. If the stars are too thick, carefully slice them in half. Add them to the bowl.
3. Top the salad with crumbled cheese and squeeze the lime juice over all.
4. The salad can be served immediately, garnished with the mint leaves, or chilled for later.



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: Kari Rosson



HAPPY
4TH OF
JULY!

