



March 7, 2017 — SPEAKER SERIES

HEALDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
1024 Prince Avenue, Healdsburg

5:00 Social Gathering — 5:30 Business Meeting — 5:45 Speaker



Shannon Smith-Crowley

Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould, & Birney
Representing **AAUW California**

SHANNON SMITH-CROWLEY has been a registered lobbyist in California for almost 20 years. After a four year tenure advocating with the California Medical Association, where she focused on managed health care, legal issues and reproductive health, she founded *Partners In Advocacy* to specialize in reproductive health advocacy. *PIA* expanded to include expertise in fighting human trafficking and promoting women’s equity legislation. On behalf of her clients, **Shannon** attained a series of legislative successes. She helped develop California law that requires maternity coverage in all health insurance policies and prohibits gender rating in health insurance,

well before the enactment of similar provisions in the *Affordable Care Act*. She worked on bills creating California’s public umbilical cord blood banking program, which provides unique material for lifesaving stem cell transplants and groundbreaking biomedical research. More recently she played a pivotal role in developing the *Modern Family Act*, protecting the rights of intended parents, donors and surrogates. In 2015, Shannon joined Wilke, Fleury, Hoffelt, Gould, & Birney, one of Sacramento’s most venerable law firms. She and the firm’s latest addition Alicia Lewis, continue to represent **AAUW** at our State Capitol to press on with **AAUW California’s public polity priorities**.

—Sandy Beddow

Mark your calendars:

April 4, 2017 Speaker Series — Cathryn Couch, Executive Director, Ceres Community Project



OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Should AAUW maintain the degree requirement?

As you all know, the only requirement for membership in **AAUW** is that the applicant be “anyone holding an associate’s (or equivalent, e.g. RN), bachelor’s or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.” Read those words carefully.

This year you will again be able to vote between April 14 and June 15th in the **AAUW** national election which will contain a proposed bylaw amendment to eliminate the degree requirement. This is an issue that I feel such passion about that it has caused me to consider whether I want to continue to be a member of **AAUW**. **AAUW** members at the national, state, and branch level are divided on this. I will tell you why I am in favor of deleting the degree requirement. Any member of our branch who wishes to present an argument on the amendment, should email a statement in Word to our editor **Diane Burnley** by March 15th for publication in the next Grapevine.

I am opposed to the degree requirement because it is organized discrimination without a rational basis.

The mission of **AAUW** is advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research. A degree is not required to support this mission.

Our branch has had inquiries or applications from women who were highly educated without a degree, who had extremely successful careers, and who give 100s of volunteer hours a year to the organizations who have accepted them.

I am opposed to the degree requirement because I am embarrassed every time an outstanding woman in our community would like to join and we must say, “Sorry, you do not qualify.”

The main reason I have heard for those supporting the degree requirement is that they want to be with intelligent, like-minded women. They fear that eliminating the degree requirement will open the doors to... Whom? We have had male members for decades and that has not diminished our ability to be with women who share our interests and values.

I want **AAUW** to be inclusive not exclusive. In an era when women’s rights are under attack, we cannot afford to exclude those women who support our mission based upon an unnecessary membership requirement.

Please vote in the national election – even if you don’t vote for a single candidate, vote for the bylaw change. Thank you.

— **Ronnie Devitt**

Healdsburg Homes Tour 2017

Sunday May 7, 2017

10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.



Activity on the Homes Tour has accelerated during February and all the committee chairs are hard at work on the multiple moving parts that go into this event. While we name a few chairs below, we want to acknowledge the hard work of the entire committee.

We are getting tickets designed and printed, web pages prepared for the ticket sales on our **AAUW** home page, advertising and publicity lined up. On March 1 tickets will be available to **AAUW** members and the general public through the web page. **Gail Wright** has arranged for Levin's bookstore, Copperfield's bookstore and the Healdsburg Museum to continue selling tickets. Are you planning on attending the Spring Forum? We'll be there to sell tickets also.

Raffle tickets will also be available beginning March 1. This year we'll return to selling them for \$5 each or 5 for \$20 if you buy a "book". The prize will be a dinner, overnight stay and spa visit for two at the Farmhouse Inn. Did you know that this local resort was named #1 Best Resort in California by *Travel and Leisure* in 2016? We'd like to sell 250 books of tickets or 1250 individual tickets to match our goal from 2016. This should be easy if every member buys one "book" and committee members will have them available for sale at upcoming **AAUW** functions. Raffle tickets make good gifts so consider buying several. If you are interested in receiving multiple "books" you can contact Mailing Chair **Shally Schultz** (shally.schultz@gmail.com) and she will send them to you.

We are pleased to welcome two new members to our team. **Kate Van Ness** has taken over the position of Advertising and Sponsorships Chair and she has been hard at work following up on ad sales and sponsorship commitments. **Marian Van Alyea** is our new Docents Chair and she has already lined up Head Docents for the tour.

We'll be preparing another exciting postcard thanks to beautiful interior photos by **Phil Wright**, and **Carol Noack's** design skills. We hope that we can entice more visitors to the tour with a "sneak peek" of some of the exciting interiors while keeping the actual home selections hush-hush until the week of the tour. We hope you will be as excited by this year's selections as we are!

—**Kim Alexander** and **Carlene Reininga**, co-chairs



Spring is coming! And along with it, a return to Forum by our most popular presenter. Professor Chris O'Sullivan has developed a new course describing the history of our own Sonoma County, and it promises to be every bit as entertaining and enlightening as his California history class was in 2015.

Contested Eden: A History of Sonoma County

Thursday Mornings, Spring 2017: March 16 through April 20, 10:00-11:30AM

Sonoma County occupies a stunning ecological, historical and cultural crossroads. Its natural diversity includes rugged coastline, bay wetlands, river ecosystems, redwoods, mountains and vast pasture-lands. This is matched by an equally diverse human ecology featuring the intersection of Pomo, Miwok and Wappo peoples, and the borderland between the sprawling global empires of Spain and Russia. Special attention will be given to Native Americans, Spanish and Russian exploration and colonization, the Mexican era, the "Bear Flag Revolt", the emergence of wine in the 19th century, and the transformations of the 20th century. Profiles of the most compelling historical figures and events will be featured, including:

- The Russians at Fort Ross
- Mariano Vallejo and the Sonoma Frontier
- Wine
- Agoston Haraszthy and Buena Vista
- Jasper O'Farrell
- Jack London and the Valley of the Moon
- Luther Burbank
- Grace Hudson
- M.F.K. Fisher and the Food Revolution
- The Craft Beer Revolution

Chris O'Sullivan, PhD

Professor O'Sullivan received his BA from UC Berkeley and his MA and PhD from the London School of Economics, University of London. He is the recipient of the 2013 Innovations in Teaching Award as well as the 2011 Distinguished Teaching Award, and has been a Fulbright visiting professor at the University of Jordan. He is the author of several books including *Harry Hopkins: FDR's Envoy to Churchill and Stalin* (2014); *FDR and the End of Empire* (2012); *Colin Powell* (2010); *Sumner Welles* (2008), and *The United Nations* (2005).

Forum is an important means for our **AAUW** branch to generate the funds that support many community educational efforts and scholarships for women and girls. We hope members who have attended past **Forum** seasons will continue to be enthusiastic participants. We encourage other members to make this the season that you sign up for the Spring offering, and recruit your friends. More details and registrations are on the **Forum** home page.

— **Sharyn Sarquis**

PUBLIC POLICY

Equal Pay Day - April 4, 2017

EQUAL PAY DAY HIGHLIGHTS THE PAY GAP

AAUW is committed to supporting “fairness in compensation, equitable access and advancement in employment, and vigorous enforcement of employment anti-discrimination statutes.”

Equal Pay Day will be observed this year on April 4, 2017. The date symbolizes how far into 2017 women must work to earn what men earned in 2016. According to national Census statistics released in 2013, women working full-time, year round, make, on average, 78 cents for every dollar a male earns doing the same job. In California, women do slightly better: 85 cents on the dollar. Another year, another wage gap for women and their families. The pay gap is even worse for women of color: for African American women the gap is 64% compared to white men, and Hispanic women 54%. And with our inactive Congress and still-troubling economy, women continue to feel the pinch of the wage gap. **AAUW** members and our partners can work to help close the gap.

Other equal pay dates have been established for specific groups of women:

- March 7, Asian American women
- July 31, African American women
- September 25, Native American women
- November 2, Latina women

Action on **Equal Pay Day** has the objective of raising the awareness of the issue in our communities, with our members, and especially with young women who are under the false impression that pay inequity has been “taken care of.” While SB358 was enacted by the California Legislature in 2015, there is still much work to be done before it becomes a reality for all women.

—Submitted by **Michèle St.Clair, Healdsburg AAUW Public Policy Director**

PUBLIC POLICY: News from California and National AAUW

LOOKING FOR COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND MEMBERS

The state is looking for a few good people to join the California state leadership team. We are offering an opportunity and an adventure for those willing to step up to the next level of leadership in **AAUW**. Check out [“Call for Appointments”](#) on the website. If you decide to take that step, then fill out the [vita form](#) and send it to **Donna Mertens** at statepresident@aauw-ca.org.

PRIORITIES FOR RESOURCE ALLOCATION

Over the past few years **National** has introduced many new programs, as well as expanding the Tech Trek program by including California camps. There have been concerns that **National** was spreading its resources very thin, and **the National Board of Directors realized that they needed to reevaluate resource allocations**. In February, 2015 the **National Board** established the **Resource and Sustainability Task Force** to study the situation.

National has now shared the results of that task force report. The task force identified the **four main areas to which National will devote its resources**:

1. **Pay Equity** - including Start Smart, Work Smart and other **Public Policy issues** (pay equity, reproductive health care, Affordable Care Act and freedom from violence and assault)
2. **Campus Leadership Programs** – includes NCCWSL, College and University Partnerships and the National Student Advisory Council
3. **Research** – producing at least one report each year, usually centered around pay equity or STEM
4. **STEM** – includes Tech Trek and Tech Savvy

Rest assured that **National** will continue to address women’s issues through our public policy efforts in this trying time. As members of **AAUW**, the largest women’s organization in the nation, we will remain vigilant and keep moving the organization forward.

Note from the Healdsburg Branch Public Policy Committee: To help **AAUW** advance women’s issues through public policy efforts (item #1 above), consider joining **Healdsburg’s Public Policy Committee**. We meet on the second Thursday of the month at The Bean Affair at 1 pm.

—Submitted by Michèle St. Clair

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Launching Speech Trek!

On January 23rd **Healdsburg AAUW** hosted its first annual Speech Trek Competition at Cloverdale High School. In front of their **AAUW** coaches as well as several board members, family members and teachers, four high school juniors competed with speeches on the question of passing the **Equal Rights Amendment**. The students (all boys!) argued passionately for women's rights with well-researched arguments presented with intelligence and poise.



The judges, County Supervisor, James Gore, former Healdsburg mayor and chief of police, Susan Jones, and civil rights attorney, Toni Lisoni offered praise and sage advice to the contestants.



Although the decision was a difficult one, Sterling Nicholson of Cloverdale HS won the first prize of \$400 and a chance to compete at the State level. Everett Conway, also of Cloverdale High School was second with a prize of \$200, and Cloverdale High School's Tyler Wanke came in third with a prize of \$100.00. Joseph Spencer from Windsor High School was fourth with a prize of a \$50.00 Amazon gift card.

We were so pleased with the insight and generosity of our judges, and they returned the compliment. **Toni Lisoni** said, "These guys were great! They give us hope for the future."

And **Sonoma County Supervisor James Gore** posted on his web site: "Thanks to Tyler, Everett, Joey, and Sterling for giving me more hope for the future of my daughter Opal. So exciting to see young men championing women's issues."

This first competition was a great success and the coaches, AAUW members **Annie Himmelstein, Diane Bartleson, Diane Burney, Jean Norelli, and Hillary Kambour** truly enjoyed working with the students and all look forward to next year's competition.

We will be expanding this program next year, so if you are interested in joining us, contact Hillary Kambour at hillsmike@att.net.

— **Hillary Kambour**

Photos:

- **Speech Trek** coordinator, **Hillary Kambour**
- Judges: Susan Jones, and Supervisor James Gore with contestants Sterling, Tyler, Joseph, and Everett
- **AAUW** mentors: **Annie Himmelstein, Diane Bartleson, Hillary Kambour, and Diane Burnley**



COMMUNITY SERVICE (continued)



Facebook Field Trip!

Forget all you knew about employers and the workplace.

Our **GEMS** girls were astounded at our recent visit to Facebook in Menlo Park; the chaperones, **Margie Koetzner, Wendy Bertalon, and Judy Edmonds**, were equally bowled over.

We were told that FB strives to make work as pleasant as possible for their employees, with few distractions. To that end workers can count on multiple restaurants, dry cleaners, barbershops, a health clinic, shops for electronic peripherals & sundries, a sweet shop, travel agents, a fitness center and more. Almost all of these goods and services are free, set up with the goal of employees being able to concentrate fully on work.



While the girls saw employees working at their desks or in meetings (lots of glass there), they were also surprised to note the number of employees talking about work issues while they walked around the campus, or stretched out on lounge chairs doing problem solving. The girls were impressed with the FB mission to connect everyone on the planet. And were blown away with the new virtual reality hardware.

The 11 girls were thrilled to discover that there were far more job opportunities other than straight computer engineering. In fact, one girl is now planning to apply with the hope the company can combine her love of acting with her experience in chemical engineering. (Note: we were told it's possible.)



Here are a couple of comments. Grace: *My favorite thing was seeing all of the different job opportunities I could go into. Facebook definitely made me more interested in technology.* Aida: *My favorite thing at Facebook was **everything!***

We're glad you enjoyed it girls, but sorry to have to tell you that not all employees will offer a video arcade to enjoy while you take a break from work. Still, it would be nice to think we were looking at the workplace of tomorrow.

Keep up the good work, **GEMS!**

—Judy Edmonds

JANUARY'S CULTURAL EXCURSION

A SUCCESSFUL CULTURAL TOUR AT SFMOMA



Friday, January 27, our merry band of twenty-eight **Healdsburg AAUW** members braved the early morning traffic to visit the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, recently reopened after a three-year remodeling project, making it the largest museum of modern art in our country. What an interesting building! In the company of our expert guides we toured each of the floors, learning about the unique qualities of the new design and materials. Not only is it beautiful, but many engineering aspects are unique. For instance, the new and old buildings, married in the basement, on a large base pad, are made to slowly separate as they rise until they are structurally four feet apart at the top, allowing for adequate swaying movement of up to twelve feet by brushing past each other to prevent damage in case of earthquake. And there is even a special window through which you can view the separated structure! There is a stunning tall and long outdoor living green wall in the sculpture garden, the only one like it in the world, which the designer has said was the culmination of his life's work and his masterpiece. Many other tidbits of interest made the tour a fascinating hour.



Following the architectural section of the tour part of our group continued with the guide for a second hour with an intensive viewing of the recently hung exhibit of Diane Arbus' early work, some never before seen in public. The remainder of our group wandered about the museum individually looking at various aspects which had drawn their interest during the early tour.

A quick walk around the block brought us to Trou Normand where tables set in the inner glassed courtyard kept us together sharing charcuterie for which the restaurant is justly renowned. It was easy to tell from the sounds of happy chatter that everyone was feeling well informed, well fed and thoroughly enjoying the company of their interesting companions. Even the weather cooperated giving us a gorgeous San Francisco clear sunny winter day with high clouds and cobalt blue sky. It is certainly a trip worth doing and we encourage everyone to make your way into the City sometime soon to see this new masterpiece.



— Jean Norelli and Ann Mahoney

OUR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES.....

Wine-N-Dine January 2017



A good time was had by all. A BIG thanks to the five hosts, **Katherine Lacy, Tricia Coxhead, Laura Kramer, Pat Bertapelle and Mickey Sarquis**. Forty members and spouses enjoyed camaraderie, lively discussions, great food and wine, and just getting to know each other a bit better. One home had a Mardi Gras theme; another had an Italian theme where guests shared their travel experiences; another home had a lively political discussion-thankfully we were all on the same page.

The next Wine-N- Dine will be April 21. Be thinking about hosting so we can accommodate more members. An email will go out March 24 asking for hosts. —**Liz Loebel**

Some of the diners.....



OUR FEBRUARY HAPPY HOUR....

February 9, 2017
Longboard Winery in Healdsburg

Many of our members ventured out in the rain to spend an enjoyable evening with friends. The winery was festively decorated for an early Valentine's Day celebration. The many and varied appetizers were delicious, and the wine quite refreshing. Thank you **Carol Hazlett** and **Neita Comings** for hosting this fun-filled event!



AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM SANTA ROSA AAUW....



AAUW Santa Rosa invites you to join:

Title IX Representatives: Joyce Suzuki, Sonoma State University
and
Stephanie Jarrett, Santa Rosa Junior College
with
Title IX Beneficiary Lesley Pfeifer

As they discuss

**“Preventing *The Hunting Ground*: Keeping Girls Safe on
Campus and Providing Gender Equity in Athletics with Title IX”**

Thursday, March 9th 4:15 to 6:00

The Villa Restaurant
3901 Montgomery Drive, Santa Rosa 95405

Non-alcoholic beverages and finger food provided
\$15

Please make your check payable to AAUW **Santa Rosa** for a reservation, **with your email address on the memo**, and mail to:

Kate Olivier: 3921 Pressley Rd. Santa Rosa, CA 95404

[No later than Feb 26th](#)

Questions? Please call Kathleen at 657-7090
Plan to stay for dinner! Call The Villa for reservations at 528-7755

SAVE THE DATE

NEXT HEALDSBURG AAUW CULTURAL EVENT

The last **Healdsburg AAUW** cultural event of the year will be **Friday, April 14** at Cornerstone Sonoma, 23570 Arnold Drive, Sonoma (www.cornerstonesonoma.com).

The tour will start at 10:00 AM, so we'll meet in Healdsburg to carpool at 8:45 AM. The tour will include all the gardens, including those of *Sunset Magazine*, a history of the site, planting ideas, and more. In addition to the gardens, there is wine tasting, spirits tasting, and several interesting stores, as well as a reasonably priced and delicious restaurant for lunch, *Park 121*. You won't want to miss this one. The price for the tour is only \$10.00. Mark your calendars! Please contact Ann Mahoney at annmahoney@comcast.net. —Ann Mahoney

MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Working on your income taxes?

Did you know that...you are able to deduct \$46 for the national portion of your AAUW dues?

Membership Dues, 2017-2018

If you like to pay your bills early to get them out of the way, March 15 is the opening date you can pay your **AAUW** annual membership dues online for 2017-2018. Payment can be made at www.aauw.org or by sending a check written to **AAUW** for **\$94** to Deana Fusco, P.O.Box 1064, Healdsburg, CA 95448. An invoice with all the details of how to pay will be sent to you sometime in the middle of March. Watch for an email from EOnline@aauw.org to appear in your IN box.

The \$94 we pay for dues is divided into three areas: national, state, and local.

- **\$49 goes to our national organization**-\$46 of this amount is tax deductible. Your national dues pay for work at the national level in public policy, legal defense, and administrative expenses, including the national publication, **AAUW Outlook**.
- **\$20 goes to our state organization** and funds Tech Trek, **AAUW** Funds, branch support, communications, leadership development, public policy, and the **California Perspective** newsletter.
- **\$25 goes to our Healdsburg Branch**, funding our administrative expenses, social activities, and newsletter, **The Grapevine**.

—Deana Fusco, membership

MEMBERSHIP NEWS (continued)

New Member:

Judith Coppedge

jscoppedge@att.net

Membership Roster Corrections:

Kim Alexander

(607)342-7658

Judy Widlow

P.O. Box 944, Healdsburg, CA 95448

Jan Garwin has moved to Southern California

Beverly Liberman has moved to Del Mar, California

—Deana Fusco, membership

If you are interested in being a 'Buddy' for a new member please contact **Pat Bertapelle**, pat@vbbn.comNew members are the life blood of our organization, and the experience of a new friend is invaluable! —Pat Bertapelle

With great sadness we share the passing of **Heidi Blumenthal's** husband, Don. Don was caring and supportive, and a very important help for numerous **AAUW** functions. He will be dearly missed by all of us in the **Healdsburg AAUW**. —Sheila Kneass

If you are aware of any member who is ill, has had an operation, an accident, or has passed away, please notify **Sheila Kneass** that a card can be sent to the person or family from **AAUW**. skneass@aat.net or (707)433-5646.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Occasionally the email and/or website links do not work for some of our **AAUW** members. If this occurs

- For emails, go to your own email site and type in the email address
- For websites, go to Google and type in the website address

We apologize for this inconvenience; however, we have been unsuccessful in correcting this occasional glitch.

The **Grapevine** is published online each month, except in July and August. Please submit articles, announcements, and photographs by the 15th of the month to the **Grapevine** editor, **Diane Burnley**, dburnley@aol.com