



NOVEMBER 1, 2016: SPEAKER SERIES

**HEALDSBURG HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY
 1024 Prince Avenue, Healdsburg**

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

**NSCS Transitional Housing Program
 Colleen Carmichael, Executive Director, NSCS**

The NSCS Transitional Housing Program partners with people in North Sonoma County who are struggling with or at risk of losing housing. The purpose of this program is to provide opportunities and support for participants in working towards self-sufficiency, independence, and permanent housing. Participants work with a program manager to help in accessing resources and services that will help them make necessary changes in their lives. Further, this program offers participants the opportunity to develop a good credit history and positive rental history, to gain self-confidence, and to become self-sufficient.

—Sandy Beddow

SPEAKER SERIES: OCTOBER 11, 2016 MEETING

Questions Were Answered

Living in Healdsburg we are always aware of changes about town. How many times have you wanted to know how the City decided on the installation of a round-about, or why the sewer lines were torn up and replaced on Grove Street north of Dry Creek Road? Then there’s the latest information on Fitch Mountain’s use as a park, or the housing action plan which resulted in Measure R.

David Mickaelian, Healdsburg City Manager and Karen Massey, Healdsburg Community Housing and Development Director were up front and center answering all those questions and more for our AAUW members attending the October 11th Speakers Series Meeting.

We missed those of you who were unable to come.

—Sandy Beddow

SPEAKER SERIES QUESTIONNAIRE

Early in 2017 you will be emailed a questionnaire regarding our Speaker Series. Many of you know that this monthly meeting has inspired many speakers over the years, as well as has been our monthly business meeting. We ask you to think about what you would like to see in our future (2017-18) regarding the continuance of this program.

—Sandy Beddow and Violet Nelson



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Make Your Membership Work for You

I keep hearing members say, "I wish we had a _____ group." Fill in the blank with Mahjongg, movies, walking (as opposed to hiking), cooking, knitting, a poetry club, a history or mystery book club, and various community service and fund raising activities. These are all great ideas, but the board is generally reluctant to initiate them since we feel that we are already tapping out our membership to fill leadership positions. However, it is easy for you to start a new interest group.

New interest groups need board approval, that is given freely to groups which do not conflict with our mission or with the timing of other **AAUW** activities. Submit a written request for approval of the group to the current past president, **Sue Campbell**, who will submit it to the board. You can then announce the formation in the *Grapevine*. Before setting a date for the activity check the calendar on the website to avoid conflicts. Once the activity is established it will be listed on the website under "Activities" and on the monthly calendar and in the materials given to new members.

One caveat about making your **Healdsburg AAUW** membership work for you is that it must also work for other **AAUW** members. I am now referring to the protection of our email list. We keep access to our directory confidential. The list is to be used only for **AAUW** business and educational opportunity announcements for members. Our membership is not working for everyone if it results in being bombarded by emails promoting members' businesses. If you are getting such emails, please tell Communications Chair **Linda Clark**.

Yes, I heard from some of you who were shocked to see a solicitation from a national financial institution which used **AAUW** trademarks and was clearly directed to an **AAUW** mailing list. "It wasn't us!" Over the last couple of years **AAUW National** has permitted the use of its mailing list once or twice a year in exchange for a very large contribution. I will say no more.

See you at the **AAUW Forum**, the **Speakers Series on November 1** and at **Lunch Bunch on November 9th**. And have a Happy Thanksgiving.

—Ronnie Devitt

Healdsburg Homes Tour 2017

Sunday May 7, 2017

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



The **2017 Healdsburg Homes Tour** committee members are already hard at work, hoping to make the **May 7, 2017** tour as successful as last year's record-breaking tour. Wouldn't it be great if we could be more successful, raising additional funds for all the women and girls we support? We will once again feature six homes and the home selection committee has several charming homes in the pipeline. If you have a home that you think would be interesting for the tour, please contact **Yvonne Schell**.

Last year we also had a record increase in the revenue from sponsorships and advertising. Sponsorship and Advertising Chair, **Andrea Wolcott**, can always use recommendations for more advertisers. Do you have a connection to local contractors, landscapers, accountants, realtors, financial advisors, and medical services providers? These service providers are frequently willing to support our programs. If you have access to a potential new advertiser, please coordinate with **Andrea**. We want to make sure we are not soliciting the same businesses.

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

27th Annual Healdsburg Homes Tour

Put May 7, 2017 on your calendar!

PUBLIC POLICY

AAUW Takes Positions on the November Ballot Initiatives

November 2016 Ballot Measures

The November ballot in California will contain 17 ballot measures. The Public Policy Committee reviewed and evaluated those related to **AAUW's** priorities and mission and took positions on five. The relationship to the **AAUW CA Public Policy Priorities** is noted.

Proposition 51 – School Bonds. Funding for K-12 and Community College Facilities(Statute): Authorizes \$9 billion in general obligation bonds for K-12 school construction and modernization, funds for community college buildings, funds for facilities for charter schools and technical education programs. **SUPPORT:** adequate and equitable funding for high quality public education for all students.

Proposition 52 – The Medi-Cal Funding and Accountability Act (Statute and Constitutional Amendment): Requires two-thirds vote of Legislature to amend a current law that imposes fees on hospitals; fees are used to obtain federal matching funds for Medi-Cal. It directs fees and matching funds to uncompensated care provided by hospitals and to children's health coverage. It eliminates the law's ending date. **SUPPORT:** guarantee equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society; increased access to quality, affordable health care.

Proposition 53 – Voter Approval to Issue State Bonds (Constitutional Amendment): Requires statewide voter approval before state may issue bonds of over \$2 billion to finance a single project. Prohibits dividing projects into segments to avoid public vote. Includes clause that if other bond measures on the ballot that conflict with this measure, and both that measure and this measure pass, but this measure gets more votes, then the other measure is null and void ("poison pill clause"). **OPPOSE:** the "poison pill" clause could nullify Proposition 51, which **AAUW** is supporting.

Proposition 55 – Extends Income Tax on high earners (Constitutional Amendment): Extends Proposition 30 (passed by voters in 2012) through 2030 – currently set to expire in 2019. This will generate \$8–11 billion per year to be used for public schools and community colleges, health care for low-income families, and local public safety. The public can track expenditures at www.trackprop30.ca.gov. This does not add new taxes, but continues taxes already in place. **SUPPORT:** Support for a strong system of public education; access to quality, affordable health care; guarantee of equality, individual rights and social justice for a diverse society. AAUW supported Prop 30 in 2012.

Proposition 58 - The California Multilingual Education Act. (Statute): Amends 1998's Prop. 227 (which requires children in public schools to be taught in English) to allow public school students who speak limited English to be taught for a defined period of time in languages other than English. Districts using this option must develop an accountability plan and involve a parent advisory committee. Parents may opt out of the program. **SUPPORT:** support for a strong system of public education that promotes gender fairness, equity, and diversity.

To learn more about all 17 propositions, a good resource is the CA Secretary of State website. Go to www.sos.ca.gov/elections for more details. Your state and county Voter Guides, arriving in your October mail, will also contain helpful information.

Historical Basis for the Initiative Process

The 1911 election that granted women the right to vote in California also gave initiative and referendum power to the electorate through Proposition 7 (now California Constitution, Article II, § 8(a).) "The initiative is the power of the electors to propose statutes and amendments to the constitution and to adopt or reject them."

Political corruption in the early 1900s set the stage for reform, and for the newly elected Governor Hiram Johnson to state in his inaugural speech: "The first duty that is mine to perform is to eliminate every private interest from the government and to make the state solely responsible to the people." Governor Johnson and a progressive Legislature put a package of constitutional amendments on the ballot that placed more control of California politics directly into the hands of the people. The process, with modifications, continues today.

There are two types of Ballot Measures: Initiatives that amend the state constitution, or Initiatives that create a new law in statutes. There are two ways a measure can be placed on the ballot:

- The Legislature has the ability to place constitutional amendments, bond measures, and proposed changes in law on the ballot.
- Any California voter can put an initiative or a referendum on the ballot by following the "**How to Qualify an Initiative Process**," on the Secretary of State's website. Signature gatherers are usually employed to enable meeting the required number of signatures.

An initiative measure may be proposed by presenting to the Secretary of State a petition that sets forth the text of the proposed statute or amendment to the Constitution and is certified to have been signed by electors equal in number to 5 percent in the case of a statute, and 8 percent in the case of an amendment to the constitution, of the votes for all candidates for governor at the last gubernatorial election.

A statewide ballot measure can be approved by a majority vote of the people. Certain local ballot measures require approval by a 55% or a two-thirds vote of the electorate.

—Submitted by **Michele St. Clair**

BE SURE TO VOTE ON
NOVEMBER 8TH

Healdsburg's Public Policy Committee meets on the second Thursday of the month at 1 pm at the Bean Affair – join us if you like the idea of helping to influence laws, mandates, and regulations! Or call Michele St.Clair at 433-8090 for more information.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Healdsburg AAUW's Burgeoning High School Scholarship Program

Healdsburg resident, Guadalupe Ibanez, just started her freshman year at Sacramento State with a little help from the **Healdsburg AAUW Fund**. As an immigrant and the first woman in her family to pursue higher education, she says, "I appreciate the opportunities that this country offers me. I hope one day I can help other girls to achieve their dreams just like **AAUW** is helping me now."

Two years ago, **Healdsburg AAUW Fund** began giving scholarships to young women high school graduates who will be attending four-year colleges. In 2014, \$2,000 in scholarships were given - in 2015, \$6,000. Thanks, largely, to funds raised by the **AAUW Forum**, along with a donation from the Al Garren Fund of the San Francisco Foundation, the budget for these scholarships grew to \$23,000 in 2016. Last May, our Fund awarded six \$3,000 scholarships and one \$5,000 scholarship to girls graduating from Healdsburg, Windsor and Cloverdale High Schools.

Thanks to you – our members! – and your ongoing contributions to our Fund, these scholarships have already made a big difference in the lives of the recipients.

In recent letters and phone conversations, each young woman has expressed enormous gratitude for our financial assistance. You might enjoy these reports from some of our 2016 scholarship recipients who just began their freshman year.

Guadalupe Ibanez (Healdsburg) is attending Sacramento State and is struck by the huge difference between high school and college. "You have to make your own decisions because your parents are not going to tell you what's right and what's wrong." Her favorite class is Human Development because she enjoys learning about genetic and environmental factors that influence child development. She writes, "Thank you for supporting me in my future education. I am very honored to be the recipient of this award. I am going to give my best every single day at Sacramento State to become a teacher. Thank you for believing in me, and also for the financial support. Have no doubt that I will give my heart and more to make you proud of me, and make me worthy of this scholarship."

Karsyn Stewart's (Cloverdale) two favorite classes at UC San Diego are "Comparative Politics" and a writing class based on articulating one's personal political beliefs - particularly relevant during this election year. She is amazed by the diversity of the student body and reports she is "absolutely loving it!" She writes, "Your organization does so much to open doors for young women like myself. I cannot thank you enough for awarding me this scholarship. It is allowing me to accomplish my dream of completing college."

Maria Herrera (Healdsburg) is enjoying her "Criminal Justice" class at Sacramento State where she intends to major in Social Services. She says it is a very active campus and is already taking advantage of the many

opportunities to join clubs and get involved. She writes, “thank you so much for investing in my dreams to further my education.”

Maria Espinoza Nieto (Healdsburg) is studying art and interior design at Sacramento State so that she can become an entrepreneur, earn a Master’s degree in Fine Arts and become a professor. She writes that, without assistance, “I would never have had the opportunity to go to a university. I give you my word that I will make you feel very proud. I’m still so impressed that I was awarded this tremendous scholarship and this makes me feel so special and lucky. It is very beautiful to see how there are still so many wonderful people who care and help students with dreams similar to mine.”

Kenia Alba (Windsor) is a theater major at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. She is taking several theater classes as well as costume construction. She lives in a triple and says she “got really lucky” with her roommates. She is “over” the campus dining hall already and has found a café that serves salads – but “you can only eat salad so many days in a row”– so she and her roommates just stocked up on groceries. She writes, “I am not completely sure that there is anything I could say which would actually thank you as much as I wish I could. Over the summer, the process of figuring out my budget for the school year and deciding which loans were actually necessary to take, was made so much easier because I knew that I would have the extra \$3,000 for the year. And that made it less stressful – well as not stressful as a situation where you are purposely putting yourself in debt can be – nevertheless, it eased my worries.”



Healdsburg AAUW leaders with the four Healdsburg High School grads who received college scholarships from our Fund in 2016. L to R: **Kay Kohler of AAUW**, Guadalupe Lopez, Guadalupe Ibanez, Maria Herrera, Maria Espinoza Nieto and **Andi Michelsen, Scholarship Chair for Healdsburg AAUW**.

— Submitted by **Winky Merrill and Andi Michelsen**

FUNDRAISING FOR AAUW: SMILING DONATIONS TO HEALDSBURG AAUW

Did you know that you can support **AAUW** scholarships and programs with donations from Amazon's charity program called **Amazon Smile**? It's as easy as choosing **Healdsburg AAUW Fund** as your charity for **Amazon Smile** contributions.

Sounds like a lot of trouble. Why bother? Because it's free money for our programs.

How much is donated? .5% of your purchase cost

I don't shop on Amazon. OK, but your kids, nieces, nephews, etc. probably do. You can ask them to designate **Healdsburg AAUW Fund** on **Amazon Smile** on your behalf. (Tell them it's a birthday present for you that won't cost them anything.)

OK, so what do I have to do? Look for **Amazon Smile** on the Amazon website. You'll be able to choose Healdsburg AAUW Fund from a drop down menu.

And then? When you're on the Amazon site, you'll be reminded to make your purchase through **Smile**. That's it. *I think I have more questions.* Amazon has lots of info and an FAQ [here](#).

Isn't there a bricks-and-mortar store that will make donations? I'd rather shop there. Well, yes, as a matter of fact, there is. Stay tuned for information on how to use *escrip* at Oliver's Market in the next *Grapevine*. —**Claire O'Neill**

Interested in joining a new "Great Decisions" discussion group?

Our two **AAUW** Chapter Great Decisions discussion groups have had another great year reading and discussing articles on global affairs and major foreign policy issues facing the United States. These two groups are currently full and there is enough interest in starting a third group!

The Great Decisions Association provides the reading material – eight relevant topics of the day. Here are the upcoming topics for 2017: The Future of Europe, Trade and Politics, Conflict in the South China Sea, Saudi Arabia in Transition, U.S. Foreign Policy and Petroleum, Latin America's Political Pendulum, Prospects for Afghanistan & Pakistan, and Nuclear Security.

Each topic includes articles by different experts looking at the issue from varying perspectives. One of the things particularly enjoyable about the discussion groups is that the topic of the day often becomes a launching pad to broader discussion because members bring insights and differing opinions. There are 8 meetings a year with the new group choosing the day and time that works for them.

The new topics don't start until January. Cost for the booklet, a share of the DVD, plus tax and shipping, comes to approximately \$25. To launch a new discussion group, we need a minimum of 10 people. If you are interested in being a member of this new discussion group, or just for more information, please contact me (**Nancy Haiston**) at nhaiston@earthlink.net by November 30th. I currently coordinate the Tuesday group and am looking forward to helping to launch a third group. — **Nancy Haiston**

SOCIAL EVENTS

SAVE THE DATE!

Healdsburg AAUW November *Lunch Bunch* Luncheon

Wednesday, November 9, 2016

12:00 Noon

Siduri Wine Bar and Tasting Lounge

241 Healdsburg Ave.

Healdsburg

Price and menu details to come in a future e-mail blast.

For information please contact **Karen Thomas** at

808kst@gmail.com or (808) 344-1592

—Karen Thomas

Our September Lunch Bunch at Catelli's in Geyserville

Delicious lunch, delightful surroundings, and very enjoyable company.....



— Laura Kimbro and Barbara Reid

SOCIAL EVENTS, continued....

SAVE THE DATE!

Holiday Party

Sunday, December 4, 2016

Oriental Grange Hall, Geyserville

4:00 – 7:00 PM

It's hard to believe that we are approaching the holiday season! The Social Committee is working for you so that you don't have to. The Healdsburg High School Culinary team will be catering our event this year. No need to figure out the recipe to make, go shopping, and prepare a dish. No need to remember to bring it to the party, then to take home your platter, and clean it up as well! Relax and enjoy the party, and know that you are supporting our local high school's culinary department.

\$15 per person

Bubbles and/or wine of your choice

Non Alcoholic beverages will be supplied

We are looking forward to a wonderful holiday party.

—Barbara Reid and Kathryn Henderson

NEW MEMBERS

Celeste Plaister

celeste@ckplaister.com

Margie Koetzner

miskoetzner@aol.com

Laura Bowman

lmbartist@earthlink.net

—Patty McHugh

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

If you are aware of any member who is ill, has had an operation, an accident, or has passed away, please notify **Sheila Kneass** so that a card can be sent to the person or family from **AAUW**.
skneass@att.net or 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 of the person you are trying to contact
- For websites, go to Google and type in the website address

We apologize for this inconvenience however we have been unable to correct 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**