

# TheGrapevine

Healdsburg Branch

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, research October, 2016 http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net Vol. 32 No. 2

## **OCTOBER SPEAKER SERIES**

**OCTOBER 11, 2016** 

Healdsburg High School Library
1024 Prince Avenue
Healdsburg

5:00 PM Social Gathering 5:30 PM Business Meeting

5:45 PM Speaker:

## **Healdsburg City Manager - David Mickaelian**



Our city is currently engaged in a number of projects with huge implications in the coming years. David Mickaelian will be discussing the 5-way intersection, the creation of additional workforce housing, and the acquisition of Fitch Mountain.

— Sandra Beddow

SAVE THE DATE — NOVEMBER 1, 2016 — Next Speaker Series



## **OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

#### WHAT'S UP?

As the **Forum** series is about to start, a point of clarification needs to be made. People keep saying, "I'd really like to sign up for the **Forum**, but I'm going to be traveling during those six weeks." Unless you are traveling for the entire six weeks, a trip should not be a deterrent to signing up and attending some lectures. The Forum series does not require learning in sequence - unless we have a course entitled "Organic Chemistry in Six Easy Lessons." Unlikely! If you miss a lecture, the handouts will be available later at the check-in-desk. In response to the fear of not getting what one pays for, may I gently remind the reader that the **Forum** is an **AAUW** fundraiser. Come and enjoy.

Our branch **Speakers Series** also starts in October. **Sandy Beddow** and **Violet Nelson** are putting together really interesting programs for the year. The **Speakers Series** meetings are the closest thing our branch has to monthly member meetings. It gives our members time to socialize and hear the Speaker. Of course, I can't resist making an announcement or two. If you don't often come to the **Speakers Series**, let us know why.

Don't forget October 13, starting with the **Happy Hour at Mill Creek Winery** and continuing with the premiere of "**Heirloom**" at the Raven Theater. Does anyone have an old piece of red carpet that we could roll out for our stars, **Judy Edmonds, Winky Merrill** and **Katherine Lacy**, as they arrive at the Raven? Look for my column next month where I will be sure to report on what they wore entering the Theater. This is going to be a fun evening.

On a more serious note, I know that very few people go to our website at <a href="http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net/files/2015/08/Branch-Policies-Guidelines-Aug.-19-2015.pdf">http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net/files/2015/08/Branch-Policies-Guidelines-Aug.-19-2015.pdf</a> to review the **Branch Policies** and **Guidelines**, but a few guidelines merit review:

- **AAUW** will not formally support any political campaigns, endorse any candidates, or support any local measures/propositions.
- The AAUW Directory is for AAUW use only.
- All Member activities will be funded from dues and/or attendee fees and contributions for the event. (No dollars from fund-raising are spent on our social activities.)
- The **AAUW** email list may be used only for **AAUW** business and educational opportunity announcements for members.

Policy Wonks are invited to review all 38 Policies and Guidelines.

I look forward to seeing many of you at all of our October events.

— Ronnie Devitt

#### **REMINDER:**

Our Fall 2016 season of **Forum** gets underway the first week in October with two timely classes focusing on a **hot topic—Presidential elections**. Chris O'Sullivan returns to **Forum** along with two outstanding political scientists—David McCuan and David Peritz—to provide a wealth of information that will help us better understand and analyze elections as we prepare to vote in November.

You can find more information on the Forum Web page,

A HISTORY OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS: FROM THE ASCENT OF WASHINGTON TO THE RISE OF TRUMP Tuesdays 10-11:30 am, Oct. 4 – Nov. 8 – Chris O'Sullivan, PhD

2016: THE MOTHER OF ALL ELECTIONS—HOW DID WE GET HERE AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN? Thursdays 10 – 11:30 am, Oct. 6 – Nov. 10 – David McCuan, PhD, and David Peritz, DPhil (Presenting on alternate Thursdays)

— Katherine Lacy

## **AAUW PUBLIC POLICY**

Your **AAUW CA Public Policy Committee** has developed an ambitious work plan for 2016-17. Our agenda includes supporting key legislation affecting women economically, encouraging branches to Get Out the Vote, updating **AAUW CA**'s Public Policy Priorities, and increasing communication about public policy issues

The November ballot in California will contain 17 ballot measures, of which the Public Policy Committee reviewed and evaluated those related to **AAUW**'s priorities and mission and took a position on five:

- Proposition 51, support School Bonds. Funding for K-12 and Community College Facilities
- Proposition 52, support The Medi-Cal Funding and Accountability Act, hospital fees that help fund Medi-Cal;
- Proposition 53, oppose voter approval on specified bonds;
- Proposition 55, support extend taxes for schools voted in Proposition 30;
- **Proposition 58,** support— The California Multilingual Education Act. Allows structured bilingual education programs for English learners.

A full report was in the September edition of Perspective.

Sue Miller, Co-Chair, AAUW CA Public Policy Committee, suellen-aauw@wavecable.com

## **AAUW PUBLIC POLICY**

(continued)

## Political vs. Partisan: A Guide to Your AAUW Advocacy Actions

As a nonpartisan organization **AAUW** has a long history of promoting equity for women and girls through public policy efforts. Because this work is often done within the political world, there is sometimes confusion about **AAUW**'s political work versus our nonpartisan stance.

What is the line between being political and being partisan? Political work can be characterized by shared values, working toward a common goal, and an end result that is best for the community as a whole. Being political is a way to influence legislation and regulation through government or public affairs, while partisan activities have a firm adherence to a party, faction, or person.

For example, **AAUW** believes there is a gender pay gap and that we should do something to address it. **AAUW** believes sexual assault is a big problem on campuses that undermines women's access to equal educational opportunities. These are political positions, but we work to solve them in a nonpartisan way. We'll work with any policy makers who share our goals — even if they differ with us on another facet of the **AAUW Public Policy Program**.

When members take advocacy actions in the name of **AAUW**, those actions must be political rather than partisan. Here are some things to keep in mind when determining if your actions are political or partisan:

#### DO

- Remain nonpartisan. Do not endorse candidates in partisan races.
- Work on issues guided by our values and mission, including taking positions on ballot initiatives that are in line with **AAUW's Public Policy Program**.
- Engage with candidates and elected officials from all major parties equally, making sure questions are phrased in a neutral manner.
- Encourage voter registration for everyone, regardless of their political persuasion.

## DO NOT

- Expressly advocate for or endorse any particular partisan candidate.
- Encourage voter registration for a particular party.
- Share **AAUW** membership lists with campaigns or political parties.
- Fundraise for partisan candidates or coordinate any election activity with a campaign or political party.

Do you know what <u>Public Policy</u> is? It is generally not a tangible thing, but rather a term used to describe a collection of laws, mandates, or regulations established through a political process.

Healdsburg AAUW's <u>Public Policy Committee</u> is actively seeking members to help bring about equity for women and girls through influencing legislation and engaging the membership in activities that further **AAUW** goals. Please contact **Michele St. Clair** at 433-8090 or msaintc@comcast.net.

— Michele St. Clair

## **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

#### **FUTURE PREP: CAREER CHOICES & LIFE SKILLS**

A lot has happened since we started Future Prep (then called "Career Choices") eight years ago.

The first planning meeting for the 2016-17 season of Future Prep has taken place, and now in addition to the afternoon Rotary group, both the Sunrise Rotary and the Healdsburg Kiwanis want to help us! Word about the success of this program has certainly gotten out.

This year **Katherine Lacy** is the point person for **AAUW**.

The key component of Future Prep is a series of Career "Roundtables." The title "Future Prep" was adopted to encompass other volunteer efforts in other projects at the high school designed to provide students with important life skills.

In addition to four career roundtables, there will be several opportunities to help the students in individual classrooms this year. Stay tuned.

#### **GEMS**

**Julie Conklin** and **Wendy Bertalon** are heading up this program for *Girls Engaged in Math & Science*. With so many girls from all four of the local high schools expressing interest, they have asked if there are any volunteers who will help communicate with the students. Please contact Julie or Wendy if you would like to learn more.

## **SPEECH TREK**

In this first year of the state-wide program, chair **Hillary Kambour** needs help in working with Cloverdale, Geyserville, Healdsburg and Windsor High Schools. Speech Trek will help students attain poise and self confidence in public speaking. There are many ways to help, so please contact **Hillary** if you think you might enjoy being a part of this program.

— Judy Edmonds

## HOLLYWOOD IN HEALDSBURG

## An AAUW Fundraiser

It may be 500 miles away physically, but Hollywood is also a state of mind.

And if you show up at the Raven Theater on Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>, you can experience "Hollywood in Healdsburg!"

"Heirloom" a film that was shot in Healdsburg last summer, will be shown at the Raven Theater on North Street. It's the entertaining story of a New York actress who inherits an old house and acreage in the 'burg. When coming to see about selling her inheritance she falls in love with the land and the people, and decides to grow heirloom tomatoes. And there's drama about which hunky boyfriend to choose.



Interestingly, this is loosely the story of Paten Hughes, the actress and producer of "Heirloom." (From personal experience I can say her heirloom tomatoes are to die for.)

Paten will be on hand to introduce the film and to answer questions from the audience afterwards.

Doors to the Raven open at 7:00, and the film begins at 8:00. Because the premiere and the October Happy Hour are scheduled for the same date, we suggest you attend the Happy Hour at Mill Creek Winery, enjoy a glass of wine and nibbles, and head over to the Raven at 7:00

Tickets are only \$15. ALLOW A LITTLE TIME TO PURCHASE TICKETS AS THEY WILL ONLY BE SOLD AT THE DOOR. CASH OR CHECKS ONLY, PLEASE. We are not able to take credit cards.

Since this is a fundraiser for **AAUW**, we need several volunteers to sell tickets and to assist audience members. As always, all proceeds go to our educational programs or scholarships. If you are interested in helping, please contact me jedmonds@sonic.net

Hope to see you all there!

— Judy Edmonds

## A DAY ON THE BAY

## Cultural Tour of Angel Island and Immigration Station

We really had fun on our day-long trip to Angel Island September 9. The ambiance of this beautiful spot made the simple things we did feel really special.

After taking the first ferry over from Tiburon, we hopped the

shuttle up to the Immigration Station where we had a guided tour given by Lynn, a docent with California State Parks, who has made it her retirement hobby to learn all she can about the



Chinese immigration to California in the early 1900s. She was a fount of interesting facts about the site and the buildings we toured, where we could see the sad poems etched into the walls by those who were interned there.

By the time we made our way down the hill to the cafe for our lunch, the fog had burned off and we had perfect California sunny, cool breezes while we ate on the patio overlooking the charming small harbor that faces Tiburon and Sausalito across Raccoon Straits. After lunch some went on

hikes, others took the tram that circles the Island with an interesting recorded tour, and others simply kicked back and enjoyed the sun, the scenery and the good conversation until time to take the last ferry back to the mainland. A grand day and a trip worthy of another visit.

— Jean Norelli

## **Photos of the Chinese Immigration poems:**





## **UPCOMING SOCIAL ACTIVITY....**

## **AAUW Happy Hour**

## Thursday, October 13, 2016

We hope you will join us at our first Happy Hour of our calendar year at award-winning Mill Creek Vineyards and Winery in Dry Creek Valley. We will purchase wines by the glass and enjoy them with our own appetizers outside in the beautiful garden. This winery features a working waterwheel and millpond, gorgeous surroundings, and we're hoping for a perfect fall evening to make it a special event

## **Details:**

Time: 5-7

Location: Mill Creek Winery, 1401 Westside Road

Bring: Appetizer

Wines available to Purchase: Whites \$5, Reds, \$7
Parking: Available and ample

Please RSVP by Sunday, October 9th, to Neita Comings at <a href="mailto:neitacomings@hotmail.com">neitacomings@hotmail.com</a> Cell (707-670-4320)

We hope to have a wonderful turnout and look forward to seeing you!

— Carol Hazlett and Neita Comings

#### **NEW MEMBER EMAIL ADDRESSES**

Janet Donaldson

Mary Fitzgerald

Pat Lenz

Tricia Partridge

Katherine Riley

Leah Rosenkrantz Bluestone

jdonalds78@gmail.com

MMILFEIT@yahoo.com

pat@patlenz.com

tricialp@gmail.com

riley1355@gmail.com

leahrosenk@gmail.com

— Deana Fusco

## **New Member, Debi Shippey**

Although a newcomer to **AAUW**, **Debi** has lived in Healdsburg for thirty-five years, and during that time, has been "touching the future" in Rincon Valley.

After graduating in education from SSU, **Debi**, began her career as a classroom teacher, and then, as a reading specialist, became a literacy coach, and with administration credentials, served as the vice-principal and then principal of Rincon's intervention summer school. She also worked as the student support coordinator, and set up interventions with students who qualified for special education programs. "I liked working with at-risk kids and their families."



Now Debi serves as a consultant for the *Center for Collaborative Classroom* which has partnered with *Consortium on Reaching Excellence*. "It's a think tank which designs curriculum aimed at teaching fundamental reading skills that need to be mastered for comprehension. I help teachers implement the program. It's incredibly successful, and designed by highly regarded experts. Not only do the kids gain a better understanding using these strategies, but their classrooms are created so that they learn from, care for, and respect one another!" The program has been given five stars from every one of their Yelp reviewers!

Since her present occupation is part-time, Debi's looking into **AAUW**'s activities and programs. She's already involved in a book group called "Five Fingers" (favorite genre: realistic fiction), and is a runner (has done several 5K competitions). She also likes theater (Ashland's presentations are a favorite), traveling (planning a trip to Sayulita, Mexico), and cooking ("especially aesthetically planning the presentations!").

Looking ahead, Debi gave me her favorite quote: "A path emerges when we walk on it." So although she doesn't have a specific map to follow, her involvement in **AAUW** will be her own unique gradual progression towards her future!

— Sue Finan

## **NEW MEMBER BUDDIES**

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 Bertapellle, pat@vbbn.com.

— Pat Bertapelle

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.netn or 433-5646.

## **EMAIL and/or WEBSITE LINKS:**

Occasionally the email and/or website links included in a *Grapevine* article 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 Goggle 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 15<sup>th</sup> month to the *Grapevine* editor, **Diane Burnley**, **dburnley@aol.com**