



# The Grapevine

Healdsburg Branch  
Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, research  
January, 2017 <http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net> Vol. 32 No. 5



## BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Winter 2017 Courses – Registration begins November 11

After a highly successful Fall 2016 season, our **AAUW Forum** is leaving politics behind to offer two new courses on quite different but fascinating topics. Spend Tuesday mornings learning about jazz through lectures and performances by Len Lyons. On Thursday mornings, with Tyra Benoit, explore two ancient civilizations and how they have withstood periods of transition.

**Exploring Jazz Through Its Greatest Artists: Satchmo, Duke, Miles and More**  
Tuesday Mornings, Winter 2017: January 10–February 14

Professor Len Lyons informs, entertains and engages his audience in purposeful listening to increase their appreciation of jazz. The focus is on discovering the meaning in the music while understanding the role of improvisation, syncopation and dissonance.



**The Ebb and Flow of Civilizations**  
Thursday Mornings, Winter 2017: January 12–February 16



Professor Tyra Benoit takes us on an amazing journey spanning two hemispheres and exploring the longevity of the ancient civilizations of the Egyptians and the Maya. Both civilizations experienced periods of transition and decline. Recent events in both geographical areas have caused social uprisings and change, placing these civilizations back on the world stage.

**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 and we encourage other members to make this the season that you sign up for one or both of these new Winter offerings. And recruit your friends! More details and registrations are on the **Forum** home page.

—Kay Kohler and Katherine Lacy



## OUR PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### Happy New Year!

While this is the beginning of the year for most of us, it is the middle of the **AAUW** fiscal year. Since I neglected to post the wrap-up of the 2015-16 **AAUW** year on the website, I am taking this opportunity to brag about Healdsburg **AAUW's** 2016 achievements.

Our membership continues to grow, hovering around 200.

In 2015-2016 Healdsburg **AAUW Fund** allocated almost \$65,000 for scholarships and grants. Our treasurer **Winky Merrill** created two beautiful pie charts showing the sources of our funds and the allocations. You can view them on the web site at <http://Healdsburg-ca.aauw.net/fundraising> and <http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net/scholarships-and-grants>.

In addition to raising money, awarding scholarships to women and girls, and giving grants to local educational programs, our members gave hundreds of hours in time to our community service programs, such as **Reading Rocks** for first graders, **GEMS** (Girls Engaged in Math and Science), **Future Prep** for high school students, and many other tutoring programs. **Public Policy** committee activities have been robust.

Thanks to our generous donors, we were able to provide school supplies to Healdsburg Elementary School and the Fitch Mountain Campus as well as West Side School. Thank you also for the generous response to our year end appeal for donations.

We are beginning the third year of **AAUW Forum** lecture series at the Raven Theater with two six week courses in January and February. In the Spring session the ever popular Professor Chris O'Sullivan will return to give a course on Sonoma County history. The **Forum** is both a community service and an increasingly important source of fund-raising.

Preparations for our major fund raiser the **AAUW Healdsburg Homes Tour** will be in full gear. Remember to mark May 7<sup>th</sup> on your calendar not only to attend the Tour, but also to help out. Over 100 members are needed for the day of the tour.

Our first **Speech Trek** regional contest for high school students will be held on January 23, 5-7 pm. Support the contestants and join the audience. We hope to see the winner go on to the **AAUW-CA** state contest.

**Speakers Series** resumes in February. Then there will be more **Wine N Dine** dinners, lunches, happy hours, and many interest group activities to keep you busy in the dark days of winter.

As I write this, PSST (Public School Success Team) an independent group which we support is desperately in need of tutors and coach volunteers for junior and senior high school students. Watch for the email blast. If you can spare an hour a week, it may make a difference in the life of a child.

Looking forward to a fantastic 2017!

—Ronnie Devitt

## Healdsburg Homes Tour 2017

Sunday May 7, 2017

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



It's a new year and the 2017 Homes Tour team is moving into high gear. The **Healdsburg Homes Tour** is the largest fundraiser for the **Healdsburg AAUW**, and the 2017 tour hopes to build on the success of last year's tour with minimal changes. We'll have an extensive report in the February Grapevine, but want to remind our members to plan ahead for the tour.

- Tickets go on sale March 1
- Prices remain the same
- There will be a raffle
- Tour tickets may be purchased by
  - Credit card online
  - Check or cash at the local bookstores and Museum
  - Check mailed in with form printed from website or by using the form on the postcard
  - Credit card, check, or cash at the Forum
  - Credit card, check, or cash at the Tour
- All branch members are expected to support this major fundraiser *to the extent they are able* by working on aspects of the tour in the coming months, and on the day of the event
- The newly formed **Healdsburg AAUW Fund**, a 501(c)(3) corporation is one vehicle for your contributions. Please consider a contribution as a substitution for raffle ticket purchases.
- Your contribution of volunteer time on the day of the tour is a wonderful, fun way to support the tour.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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

## SPEAKER SERIES

February 7, 2017

Healdsburg High School Library  
1024 Prince Avenue, Healdsburg

**5:00 PM Social Gathering**

**5:30 PM Business Meeting**

**5:45 PM Speaker**

### Dr. Rachel Mayorga, MD, PC



Healdsburg physician Dr. Rachel Mayorga is a primary care doctor who specializes in internal medicine and geriatric medicine. Her practice focuses on individualized preventive and long-term wellness based on the principles of concierge medicine. The concierge concept is particularly suited for people seeking a Healdsburg doctor who will spend time with them to design a personalized plan for health.

—**Sandy Bedlow**



## UPCOMING CULTURAL EVENT

### SFMOMA GUIDED TOUR OF THE NEW ARCHITECTURE

**JANUARY 27, 2017**  
**8AM – 3PM or thereabouts**

Did you know that we now have the largest modern art museum in the country just south of us in beautiful San Francisco? The three-year expansion project was complete in early May of 2016, and it would be a great start to the new year to take in the new site/sight in the company of **AAUW** friends on a **guided tour throughout the new building**.

We will **carpool from Healdsburg** on Friday morning, **January 27, leaving at 8 AM** to arrive comfortably by 10 AM, park and gather for our **architectural tour at 10:30 AM**. The tour will take approximately one hour and will be a great way to get an overview of the building and its contents led by a knowledgeable museum guide. There will be an **optional second hour tour of the main art and sculptural exhibits** of the museum where some of its iconic holdings will be available to view. Or you may just want to wander on your own to areas you got a glimpse of during the first hour.

We will **gather again at 12:45 PM to walk around the block to our lunch restaurant, Trou Normand**, with northern-french style food for lunch (check their website). Each person will order and pay individually there. After lunch, each car group can decide whether to head home, or to take a little more time wandering the museum before turning north to Healdsburg again.

**Admission and tour \$33 pp seniors (for SFMOMA members, \$14 as admission is free)**  
**Second hour-long tour \$200 total split among participants.**

I must make the arrangements for admission and tour for our group (those with SFMOMA membership can make arrangements for tickets online through their membership page, but please let me know so we have a total of participants for each tour), and the museum has asked for a **firm number by January 13**. Others can join the tour at a later date but not at the reduced fee.

**The group is limited to 25**. We will open it to partners/friends if there is room remaining after January 13.

Please **email Jean Norelli** [norelli@sonic.net](mailto:norelli@sonic.net) and **follow with your check** (made out to Healdsburg AAUW) 729 Wright Street, Santa Rosa, 95404.

— Jean Norelli

## PUBLIC POLICY

### AAUW End of the Year Accomplishments

**AAUW** has accomplished many important milestones since January 2016 thanks to the support of **AAUW** members and supporters like yourself. [AAUW Action Network](#) supporters in all 50 states sent over 200,000 messages to state and federal legislators in advocating for **AAUW** issues. We played a key role in achieving [six new equal pay laws](#) in California, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, Nebraska, and Utah. We celebrated [44 years of Title IX with Sen. Harry Reid](#) and [714 resource guides were delivered to Title IX coordinators in 29 states](#). In addition, members organized more than [900 get-out-the-vote events in 46 states](#) and hosted more than [200 Equal Pay Day events](#) nationwide. We also launched the [AAUW In the Statehouse newsletter](#), which to date has 1,767 subscribers. We thank all our members and supporters who helped make these accomplishments possible. We can't wait to surpass them in 2017!

— [AAUW Washington Update](#)

### Advise and Consent

The Senate has few constitutional duties more significant than that of advising on and consenting to cabinet-level positions and Supreme Court nominations. **AAUW believes a full vetting of each nominee must include close examination of threshold questions concerning qualifications, temperament, and conflicts of interest.**

One of the nominations that **AAUW** will be watching closely will be the secretary of labor position. **The U.S. Department of Labor sets the agenda for a range of issues that directly affect women, particularly how women earn money to support their families.** This includes enforcing the federal minimum wage, protecting retirement plans, enforcing laws that prohibit discrimination, and advancing family and medical leave policies.

[Stand with AAUW by taking action today. Together, our voices can help ensure that senators in the 115th Congress are primed with our expectations as they take office.](#)

—Adapted from [AAUW Washington Update](#) by Michele St. Clair

**Correction:** Last month's article from the Public Policy Committee entitled "Post-Election Frustration and Energy?" was written by **Hillary Kambour**, with help from **Terry Bloom**.

## **PUBLIC POLICY, continued**

### **2016 – A Great Year for AAUW - Supported Legislation!**

This was an active and exciting year for **AAUW of California** in the State Legislature. Three of our key priority measures were signed into law by Governor Brown. From aggressively fighting for equal pay protections to ensuring that all students are protected under Title IX, **AAUW-CA** worked diligently to make California a better place for women and girls.

**AAUW-CA** played a lead role in addressing the gender pay gap in 2016. It was exciting to see our top priority bill, AB 1676 (Campos) – Prior Salary History, signed into law. This bill will provide women one more tool needed to achieve pay equity and helps employers better understand current case law and best practices for hiring. This measure breaks the cycle of low, discriminatory wages by codifying case law and clarifies that employers cannot use prior salary, by itself, to justify a pay disparity. AB 1676 will help address the gender pay gap by preventing employers from using prior salary as the only measurement to determine an employee’s prospective value.

Another key measure addressing California’s pay gap was SB 1063 (Hall) – Wage Differential: Race and Ethnicity. In 2015, SB 358, the California Equal Pay Act, went a long way in addressing the substantive pay inequities that exist for women but the language did not include one of the largest factors for wage inequity – race and ethnicity. SB 1063 will address this inequity by expanding current law and prohibiting employers from paying employees at a wage rate that is less than the rates paid to employees of a different race or ethnicity for substantially similar work. This measure was also signed by Governor Brown and will become effective on January 1, 2017.

**AAUW-CA** strongly supports vigorous enforcement of Title IX and all other civil rights laws pertaining to education. We were proud to help support the passage of SB 1375 (Jackson) – Educational Equity. This measure takes an important step in upholding Title IX protections by requiring federally-funded schools in California to post specific information about Title IX on the school website, including posting the name and contact information for the designated Title IX coordinator, information on student rights and the responsibilities of the school under Title IX, and an outline of the complaint process for Title IX violations. This measure was signed into law and will become effective July 1, 2017.

**AAUW-CA** gained recognition of Equal Pay Day through the enactment of ACR 155 (Campos). More than 50 years after the passage of the Equal Pay Act, women, especially minority women, continue to suffer the consequences of unequal pay. ACR 155 recognized April 12, 2016 as Equal Pay Day in California. This date symbolizes the time in 2016 when the wages paid to American women catch up to the wages paid to men from the previous year.

While the 2016 Legislative Session resulted in significant benefits for women and girls, there is still a tremendous amount of work to be done. We look forward to another year when we can move towards even greater equality for women and girls in California.

—**Shannon Smith-Crowley, AAUW-CA Lobbyist**  
—**Sue Miller, Co-Chair AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE

### The Holidays Rock with READING ROCKS

It might have been a frosty December morning, but **Denny Martin, Pat Bertapelle, Claire O'Neill, Ronnie Devitt, and Judy Edmonds** felt warm and happy as they handed out books to the first grade class at Westside School.



Thanks to Founding Mother **Shally Schultz**, every year **Reading Rocks** volunteers deliver dozens of fun books for the first graders of Mrs. Kettmann's class at Westside and several classes at Healdsburg Elementary. Each child is given time to look at all the books and decide on one that s/he will take home. They are particularly delighted to print their name in the book they select. For some children this may be the first book they have ever owned!

The same great feelings were apparent at Healdsburg Elementary School when **Shally** was joined by **Cathy Chiminello, Patty McHugh, Pat Novak Nelson, Dee McGuffey, Diane Burnley, Georgia Helthall, and Claire O'Neill** to bring books and holiday cheer to 5 first grade classes. The young boy showing his frog book announced, "I love these 'teachers' (**AAUW** volunteers), and I always give them 100%!"

Newest **AAUW** volunteer **Pat Novak Nelson** was thrilled with her role. "My husband tells me that when I come back from helping the kids read I'm glowing. I started helping once a week but that wasn't enough to reach all of the children, so now I come in twice a week!"

As a teacher Abigail LaMothe had many accolades for the volunteers and the program. Here's just one: "As a teacher it is so amazing to see the students excited about the books and about reading. Thank you **AAUW.**"

### SPEECH TREK

You can support **Speech Trek**.

Our inaugural **Speech Trek** competition will be held January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017 from 5-7 p.m. at Cloverdale High School. Five high school students from Cloverdale, Geyserville and Windsor will present their speeches on whether and how to pass the Equal Rights Amendment in today's political environment. We'd love to have you join us to root on these young folks! For further information, contact **Hillary Kambour**.

—**Judy Edmonds**, Community Service coordinator

## COMMUNITY SERVICE, continued

### Reading Rocks: *Book Gifting*

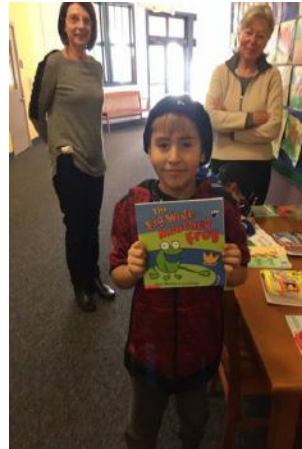


Westside School



Healdsburg Elementary School

### Delighted "Reading Rocks" Readers!





## SOCIAL HAPPENINGS

### The Wine-N-Dine Season Kicks Off!

Our popular **Wine-N-Dine** events will be starting up again in January. These dinners, held simultaneously at various member homes, are a great way to meet new people in **AAUW**. All are welcome either as a couple or a single. Because there are anywhere from 6 to 10 people at each dinner party, it is easy to talk with everyone and get to know them better, while enjoying great food and wine!

The dates we have planned for our 2017 **Wine-N-Dine** events are:

**Saturday, January 28th** and **Friday, April 21st**

An email blast will go out on January 2 asking for volunteers to host the January 28<sup>th</sup> event. Once we line up hosts, we will send out an email on January 10<sup>th</sup> asking if you would like to attend as a participant. Please be on the lookout for these two emails if you would like to take part as either a host or a guest.

Many of you know the “rules” for hosting a **Wine-N-Dine** event, however for our new members and for those who need a reminder, here are the guidelines.

#### The host is responsible for:

- Choosing the arrival time, setting the menu (may be a theme if you like), setting the table, and asking the attendees to bring a course for the meal.
- Usually the host supplies the main course, however may choose any course. The host then asks the members of the group to each bring one of the additional dinner courses. (The courses usually included are an appetizer, a salad, a main dish, a side dish, and a dessert.) This may be modified depending on the number of attendees.
- Two singles may be asked to share a course, or each could supply one, depending on what is needed.
- Each “couple” should bring a bottle of wine or a beverage of their choice.

During the evening, some hosts choose to let the conversation flow. Others ask attendees to share a little about themselves. The hosts are free to organize the evening as they choose.

We hope you will attend one or both of these fun, intimate dinner parties!

Please email Debbie Potmesil at [Potmesil@comcast.net](mailto:Potmesil@comcast.net) if you would like to host.

—Liz Loebel and Debbie Potmesil

And a Santa Rosa AAUW Social Event:

# Santa Rosa AAUW Authors Luncheon

**Saturday February 4 11:30-2:30**

**Legends Restaurant  
3328 Yulupa Road, Santa Rosa**

**Featuring Authors:**

**Amy Peele:** *Cut*

**Betsy Graziani Fasbinder:**

*Fire and Water: A Suspense-filled Story of Art, Love, Passion, and Madness*

**Judith Newton:** *Oink: A Food for Thought Mystery*

**\$45 Per Person- Full sit-down luncheon**

**Reservations before January 23!**

Tickets sold by reservation only!

Book Sales (cash or check only)

Please bring your Friends & Family!

For questions please contact Chair **Linda Heiser** 578-0808 or [karalindah@gmail.com](mailto:karalindah@gmail.com)

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**Reservations for Santa Rosa**

## **AAUW Authors' Luncheon**

**Saturday, February 4, 11:30-2:30**

Names of Attendees: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

If you want to be seated with specific women, please check box to hostess a table of 8

Meal choice: Panko Rock Cod      Chicken Piccata      Roasted Vegetable Polenta

Amount enclosed @\$45 per person. x number \_\_\_\_\_ attending = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Please mail check and form to: Joan Shinkle, 1415 Quail Ct., SR 95404**

**—Linda Heiser**

## NEW MEMBERS

### Laura Bowman



Not many folks can claim that they started a “cathouse”! But before you refer to **Laura** as the Madame---read on!

At her home in Lanai, Hawaii, **Laura** was dismayed by the many starving feral cats on her Pineapple Island. Plus, the native bird population was being decimated.

So, in 2004, **Laura** and other concerned volunteers started a cat shelter. They set up over twenty-five cage traps in one night. Veterinarians ferried over from Maui the following day, performed the sterilizing surgeries, and then the cats were released within a fenced in shelter of three acres.

Volunteers continue to feed and care for these cats, and there are now more than 500 happy felines---in trees, bushes, or waiting for you at the gate. **Laura** and Trip Advisor recommend seeing these “Hawaiian Lions” at the Lanai Cat Shelter.

Besides cats, **Laura** is interested in painting. She just finished a lovely whimsical acrylic that is over 6’ tall. “I got started one day long ago when going into the basement to “practice for a tornado” (a Chicago necessity). I found a blah-looking gigantic wheat colored painting there, and decided to paint over it! Sometimes I’ll work on a painting for five or six years, but my latest only took twelve hours!”

As a member of the University of Pacific Reunion Committee, **Laura** also was instrumental in raising money for scholarships to her alma mater. And continuing her scholarly endeavors, she began taking French at age forty. “My husband, Kirk, travels frequently overseas. I find this language helpful in getting around!”

And she does get around! Having gone to four different high schools, she enjoys attending all of their reunions---including one in Iran (although the gathering is held in the U.S. or Canada)! But when it comes to Healdsburg, “I’ve never moved to a place where I’ve felt so welcome; our town is the friendliest ever!” for **Laura**, it’s definitely a purr-fect match!

—Sue Finan

### Jean Reynolds



“People who love to eat are always the best people”  
—Julia Childs

**Jean Reynolds** is, therefore, one of the best people!

She wrote to Ms Child requesting advice on becoming a chef. Julia suggested that she go to France and take lessons from Simone Beck, Julia’s colleague and also a famous cookbook author.

**Jean** followed that recommendation, practicing Simone and Julia’s guidelines, such as “If you’re afraid of butter, use cream!” She worked her way up to several three Michelin-starred restaurants, and was hired to cook for England’s luxurious Gidleigh Park Hotel. Afterwards she moved to London to be a food stylist for Time Life’s *Good Cook* series as an assistant to Richard Olney. Grant Achatz said, “Food can be expressive, and therefore food can be art.”

Returning to the States, **Jean** became the sous chef for Jordan Winery. Her thoughts at that time might have included Clifton Fadiman’s quote: “If food is the body of good living, wine is its soul.”

Now wanting to leave the food industry, she wondered what was next. Levi Strauss entered her life (“An expert knows all the answers---if you ask the right questions”) when she became the personal assistant for the Haas family. “They’re wonderful people,” she reports. “I spent thirteen great years with them, living during the week in Sausalito, and spending weekends back in Healdsburg renovating houses with my partner George.”

Now retired, **Jean’s** favorite dish is “food cooked by somebody else!” When pressed, though, she admits that foie gras tops her list. Otherwise, she likes making comfort food, such as stews, braised short ribs, and roast chicken.

Anticipating a return to France, **Jean** hosts a weekly French class at her home. She also enjoys hiking and looks forward to meeting more women through **AAUW**. Lucky us, for **Jean Reynolds** is one of the “best people!”

—Sue Finan

## A HEALDSBURG VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY:

**PSST needs tutors!** How about you? Just one hour of your time each week could have lifelong benefits for a 5<sup>th</sup> grade, Junior High, or High School student. No experience is necessary. **Public School Success Team (PSST)**, providing training and on-going support, is a non-profit corporation created to increase graduation rates in the Healdsburg public school system. Contact **PSST Administrator** at 707-494-4968. Although supported by a number of **AAUW** members, this is not an **AAUW** program.



*Make a difference in  
a child's life...  
Make a bigger difference in  
your own!*

- Join us as tutor or coach
- Volunteer 1 hour per week
- Opportunities abound in many areas
- Healdsburg Public Schools Gr. 7-10

For more info visit website: [www.hbgpsst.com](http://www.hbgpsst.com)  
Email: [hbgpsst@gmail.com](mailto:hbgpsst@gmail.com) Phone: 707-494-4968

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

*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](mailto:pat@vbbn.com)

### New Member Contact:

Jean Reynolds

[jeanasst@aol.com](mailto:jeanasst@aol.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](mailto:skneass@att.net) or 707-433-5646.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Occasionally the email and /or website links in the *Grapevine* 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 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> of the month to the *Grapevine* editor, **Diane Burnley**, [dburnley@aol.com](mailto:dburnley@aol.com)