



March Speaker Series

INNOVATIONS AT THE UNITED NATIONS

ELIZABETH GORE, United Nations Foundation

Tuesday, March 3

5:00 Social Gathering; 5:30 AAUW Business; 5:45 Speaker

Healdsburg High School Library, 1024 Prince Street

Elizabeth Gore works with the United Nations to support innovation and entrepreneurial thinking. As the first-ever Entrepreneur-in-Residence at the UN Foundation, she chairs the Global Entrepreneurs Council and works to promote global partnerships that positively affect the UN's most pressing humanitarian issues.

Gore's first UN appointment was VP of Global Partnerships where she founded strategic grassroots efforts such as *Nothing But Nets*, *Girl Up*, and *Shot at Life*. She also manages partnerships with Fortune 100 companies and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. Her consulting experience includes launching The Great American Bake Sale, an anti-hunger initiative for Share Our Strength, ABC, and *Parade* magazine.

A former Peace Corps volunteer in Bolivia, she was responsible for a USAID grant to improve food availability and economics for the Chaco people. Her credentials include a BS in animal science and a masters in finance from Texas A & M University. *People* magazine named her, "One of the Top 100 Extraordinary Women;" *Fast Company* named her one of the "Most Creative People in Business."

Among numerous other accomplishments, Gore is a world champion equestrian and climbed Mount Kilimanjaro to raise awareness for the global clean water crisis on behalf of the UN. Ms. Gore serves on numerous boards, including Dell's Global Entrepreneur-in-Residence Advisory Board, the UN's Refugee Agency, and SOMA, an innovative all-natural water filter company.

She is also a political wife and mother of two, including a three-month old infant. Mind-boggling!

Don't miss the opportunity to meet the remarkable Elizabeth Gore!

— **Diane Bartleson** and **Winky Merrill**, Co-Chairs

President's Message

At our last Board meeting, we developed strategic goals for our Branch. These are tailored from AAUW National's strategic goals and support our National mission: AAUW advances equity for women and girls through advocacy, education,



philanthropy, and research.

The goals we developed for Healdsburg AAUW are:

1. Our expanding collaborative network uses mission-based programs to empower women with the tools, training, and support they need to become strong leaders and effective advocates for women and girls.
2. Our strategic philanthropic efforts support local education as well as AAUW programs that provide women and girls with opportunities for a lifetime of success.
3. Our focus on local education involves scholarships and grants to support women and girls along with community services and educational programs for all public school students.
4. Our member programs provide a wide variety of volunteer and social activities to serve all our members, new and old alike.
5. Our quality member services, community engagement, and multichannel communications foster a growing, diverse community of members, supporters, and others who advance the AAUW mission.
6. Our advocacy voice helps achieve educational and economic equity and civil rights for all women and girls.

Your Board welcomes any comments or suggestions you have about these goals.

At that Board meeting, we also discussed the role of advocacy and public policy in our Branch. AAUW National has developed a set of public policy statements (available at www.aauw.org) that represent our national organization's positions on a number of civil rights issues related to women and girls. Advocacy is the lobbying conducted in support of those policies. At the Board meeting, we agreed that it is important to educate our members about AAUW's public policy positions. We also agreed that when it came to advocacy, we would consider choosing one issue each year on which to focus our efforts. We also felt strongly that though our members need to be aware of AAUW's policies, no member needs to support, or advocate for, all of them. Again, feel free to let any Board member know how you feel about these positions. We do welcome your input.

Last but not least, I wanted to thank **Dee McGuffey** for her "Early Days" contribution to this month's *Grapevine*, which are the photos and comments found on page five.
—Sue Campbell

Save the Date! APRIL SPEAKER SERIES **LYNDA SALTER CHENOWETH** Quilt Historian



Tuesday, April 7, 5 p.m.

Healdsburg High School Library

Quilter and quilt historian Lynda Salter Chenoweth will share her fascination with quilts as a reflection of history and lifestyle. Come meet the author of *Philena's Friendship Quilt* at this special illustrated talk. Details to follow in the April *Grapevine*.

—Diane Bartleson and Winky Merrill



25th Healdsburg Homes Tour

May 3, 2015
10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

A lot is happening this month!

Online sales of Homes Tour tickets begin March 1. They are already available for purchase by cash or check at the Healdsburg Museum, Copperfield's, and Levin and Company. Starting March 12, Tour and raffle tickets may be purchased by cash, credit card, or check at the Raven before and after the AAUW Forum. **Ronnie Devitt** will be happy to sell you Tour or raffle tickets for cash or check wherever you see her—except at funerals and memorials. At least she has some sense of decorum.

Remember there will be no mailed packages with an order form and raffle tickets. There will be an online option for printing the form to mail a check for Tour and raffle tickets for those who do not like to purchase online.

In an effort to reduce the work of ticket sellers and the lines at the will-call desk at the Museum on Tour day, advance ticket purchasers will receive physical tickets to exchange for wristbands at the start of the Tour. In the past, forms had to be filled out for creating a will-call list. Now the will-call list can be automatically created for online purchases.

By mid-March **Charlene Luks**, the volunteer coordinator, will be sending out **Volunteer Spot invitations** to sign up for the jobs that need to be done on the day of the Tour and for providing homemade cookies. If you are able, please help with both tasks. We need almost 100 volunteers and cookie bakers.

Our homemade cookies have become famous as evidenced by the little old ladies who arrive early at the refreshment house armed with Baggies. We may need to consider hiring a security guard to stop those innocent-looking pilferers. Seriously, we can never get enough cookies. Not so many years ago, we had leftover cookies, but with the reputation of the cookies and over 600 people attending the Tour, that is no longer the case.

This year Holly Hunt, the owner of Russian River Tea Company, formerly Dragon Fly Tea Company, has agreed to provide us with iced tea to go with the cookies. If you are looking for specialty teas stop in her shop across from the Raven Theater and be sure to thank her for the generous contribution.

Thank you all for your ongoing help and support in making this 25th Healdsburg Homes Tour the best!

—**Ronnie Devitt** and **Cecile Peters**, co-chairs

Please Plan to Help at Healdsburg Homes Tour May 3

We need about 100 volunteers to fill shifts at our Homes Tour! It is a very rewarding and enjoyable activity, so please mark your calendars now. Watch for an email in a few weeks with a link to sign up. I'll be using **VolunteerSpot**, an on-line scheduler that lets you choose your a.m. and p.m. shifts for:

- ticket sellers
- docents at the houses
- refreshment servers (We will also be asking for cookie bakers to bake the day before.)

— **Charlene Luks**, HHT Volunteer Coordinator

Community Service: Expanding Your Horizons

Every year our Healdsburg chapter helps to sponsor the annual Expanding Your Horizons (EYH) conference.

This worthwhile project puts together a Saturday workshop format for 7th and 8th grade students to explore a wide range of career options, in particular for girls interested in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math). In the workshops the students meet and talk with successful women in these fields, and increase their awareness of the importance of early educational planning and career exploration.

Past workshops have included chemistry, architecture/construction/urban design, astronomy and physics, engineering/computer science, veterinary science, environmental science, and many more disciplines. This year the program will be held on Saturday, April 18 at the Santa Rosa Junior College campus.

In addition to our financial support, we will need a few volunteers to join me for the registration process the morning of the program. If you would like to help, contact me at pat@vbbs.com.

—**Pat Bertapelle**

A letter was sent to **Diane Pasterick**, wishing her a speedy recovery from heart bypass surgery.

—**Sheila Kneass**



The 2015 AAUW Annual Bridge Luncheon

Saturday, March 21, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The Bridge Gallery

3401 Cleveland Avenue, Santa Rosa

Suite 8 (new) Cost: \$30 per player

Please respond by March 6. Include the form below with a check made out to AAUW Santa Rosa.

Send to: JUDY HUDSON, 2204 Springwood Court, Santa Rosa, CA 95403. Questions: Judy Hudson at 568-5010 or Phyllis Miller at pmiller@sonic.net

Please consider car-pooling as parking is limited.

Cut here and send with your check to Judy Hudson by March 6.

RESERVATION FORM

Name _____

Phone number _____

Email _____

I will partner with

_____ **or**

I will foursome with

**Amount enclosed: \$30 per person x number
_____ attending = \$_____**



Back row left to right: Robin Wood, Sonja Erickson, Dee McGuffey, Lee Davis, Heidi Blumenthal
Front row: Cathy Anderson, Claire Romero, Barbara Rosen, Julie Neumiller, Candy Rodgers Danhausen

AAUW Healdsburg

“Early Days,” May 1981



Left to right: Dee McGuffey, Claire Romero, Kathy Windsor, Joyce Trowbridge.

“I think this was the occasion of my becoming president of AAUW. I remember we had a good time always, especially at the board meetings with all the kids in attendance running around.”

— **Dee McGuffey**

AAUW Forum: California History, Part II

The first half of the Healdsburg AAUW’s inaugural Forum ended on Thursday morning, February 12, with Dr. Chris O’Sullivan’s spirited recounting of the Gold Rush. The second half takes off on Thursday, March 5, at the Raven Theater at 10 a.m. Expect Chris to continue suggesting historical spots to visit and supplemental readings, as well as offering his distinctive interpretative account of key events and fascinating portraits of some of the players. Dates and topic titles are as follows:

March 5 To Statehood

March 12 Railroad Tycoons and Robber Barons

March 19 Earthquake and the Progressive Era

March 26 The Origins of a Mega-State

April 2 Depression and War

April 9 Ascendancy of a Mega-State

We hope AAUW members who attended the first session will sign up again, and encourage their friends to do so as well. Those who missed out on the first session will nonetheless find much to enjoy in the second session, so please join us. Online registration at a fee of \$90* is now open at www.healdsburgaauw.com.

*Unfortunately, course fees are nonrefundable and nontransferable.

—**Katherine Lacy**

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 707/433-5646.

TITLE IX COMPLIANCE

Last January, AAUW in conjunction with the California Center for Research on Women and Families, the California Women's Law Center, Equal Rights Advocates, and the Legal Aid Society—Employment Law Center formed a coalition to research the status of Title IX in California high schools.



They created a Title IX checklist, focusing on the Title IX Coordinator, athletics, sexual harassment and pregnant teens (all key parts of Title IX), and invited California AAUW branches to evaluate their local high schools on their compliance with Title IX. The results of these evaluations were to be consolidated and presented in a senate hearing, hosted by Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, on *Attaining Equal Opportunity for Girls in California's Secondary Schools: How our Schools are Complying with Title IX*. That hearing was held January 20, 2015 in Sacramento.

Leading up to that hearing, five school districts and nine high schools were evaluated. Healdsburg was one of them. **Janice Sceales** and I volunteered to meet with administrators at Healdsburg High School (HHS) to complete the Title IX checklist and evaluate HHS's progress towards implementing Title IX in the over 40 years it has been in place. I believe Janice and I were fairly pleased with HHS's results. Not only was the girls' participation in athletics almost proportional to their enrollment (41% vs. 42%), but also their athletic facilities and game schedules were very similar to those of boys. Where we felt HHS had room for improvement was in communicating the existence of a Title IX Coordinator as well as the school's sexual harassment and pregnant teen policies. We also felt that sexual harassment training should be extended beyond just the administrative staff to teachers as well as students.

Our local results were then consolidated with the results from the other eight high schools. There

was agreement on the need for broader communication about the role of the Title IX Coordinator and the school's policies on sexual harassment and bullying, as well as the need for more extensive training. Engaging the local school board in annual Title IX compliance reviews was also

recommended. At the state level, creating templates and training programs for use by California high schools was also encouraged. These results were presented at the hearing on January 20 along with presentations by the Chief Regional Attorney, U.S. Department of Education—Office of Civil Rights in San Francisco, the Executive Director of the California Interscholastic Federation among others, as well as several high school principals and students. By far the most powerful speaker was a Berkeley High School student describing her experience with cyber-bullying, which she reported, but which was largely ignored by school administration.

Participating in the local compliance review was enlightening for Janice and me, but attending the Senate hearing was eye opening. Though it was hard to hear the Berkeley High School student's story, it was encouraging to hear the comments from the participating senators, particularly Hannah-Beth Jackson, who is clearly an advocate for equal opportunity for girls in more than just sports. Hopefully, AAUW CA will continue to sponsor Title IX compliance reviews in California high schools, and Hannah-Beth Jackson will follow up on her commitment to act on the recommendations presented at the hearing. At this point, Janice and I are considering conducting another Title IX compliance review at Windsor High School but are waiting to see what AAUW CA decides to do.

—Sue Campbell

Wine -N- Dine Was Great Fun!

We had another fun Wine-N-Dine on January 30. Fifty-two people attended and were dispersed among six host houses. Feedback that we have received from attendees and hosts has been extremely positive with everyone saying they had a great group and great food. There were six host houses this time thanks to **Ronnie** and Tom **Devitt**, **Liz** and Al **Loebel**, **Judy Edmonds** and EJ Neil, **Carol Ann Hathaway**, **Laura** and Dell **Tredinnick**, and **Ann Mahoney** and Steve Cotler. If you haven't attended these dinners yet, you should try one as they are a wonderful way to meet and socialize with members (and spouses) in a small setting. For hosts, it is a minimal amount of work as all guests bring a course of food, and you are in charge!

The next Wine-N-Dine will take place on April 18. As the momentum and enthusiasm keeps growing for these dinner events, we will probably need six, and maybe seven, host houses. If you would like to host on April 18, please contact **Liz Loebel** at lizloebel@gmail.com by March 21. If you would like to attend one of the dinners, please RSVP to Cher Frechette at cherylfrechette@yahoo.com by April 4. — **Liz Loebel and Cher Frechette**



New Email Addresses

Jo Gros-Balthazard jogrosbal@gmail.com

Maggie Carter mcarter484@aol.com

Dolores Conklin DoloresConklin@gmail.com

Carol McKnight carol.mcknight@me.com

Hiking Group Treks to Fox Pond



The Hiking Group during the hike

Treasurer Transition

For personal reasons, **Cynthia Adam** has had to step down as our Branch treasurer. Through the rest of this fiscal year (until July 1), Cynthia will be replaced by **Cecile Peters** for all Homes Tour-related treasurer functions, and by **Winky Merrill** for the rest of the treasurer role. Branch members in need of expense reimbursement should direct their requests to Cecile for Homes Tour-related items and to Winky for the rest.

New Members

Joanna Gros-Balthazard



Editor's note: Do read this with a British accent... "So there we were, on holiday, sitting along the steep walls of the gorge, having our afternoon tea and nibbling our cookies. Very pleasant, really, taking a bit of a break, after exerting such effort paddling down the Zambezi River. And suddenly, I saw the most enormous crocodile! In the river; waiting for us!"

Editor's note: Google says those crocodiles "are not a serious threat"... hah!

"And another time, as we were gently rowing ourselves along the River, all of a sudden, our guide began madly back-paddling! Not a good sign. There was a hippopotamus walking across the river, and we were in its way. We all scrambled to back-paddle too!

"And would you like to hear about the elephant that came up to our camp? No harm done; just sniffed us and left!"

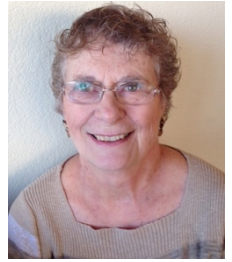
Editor's note: I could listen to Jo all day; she has a deliciously rich laughter as well as so many experiences, having traveled all over the world.

Born and raised in Rhodesia (now Zimbabwe), Jo met her husband at the University of London, and they moved to the States in '68. She is a semi-retired property manager, and is in the process of moving here from Muir Beach. She calls it "ping-ponging." Describing her new home as "cozy English", Jo shares it with husband Andre, and her two Havanese dogs: Charlie and Bertie (named after British kings, of course!) Jo loves to play bridge, cook, entertain, fund-raise, play the piano, and do needlepoint.

Editor's note: Add these interests to her wonderful commentaries on history and politics, and you, too, will toast Jo, saying "Cheers"!

As we have all just celebrated Valentine's Day, **Phyllis Welter** has a fantastic story to share.

Several years ago, while on a plane to D.C. from her home in Minnesota, she fell asleep. Awakened she began talking to Dan Gustafson, an attractive man sitting next to her. He was interested in her upcoming trip that included Easter Island, and gave her his address. She sent him a card. Upon her return she shared photos from her trip with him, and had dinner with him three times that week.



Then disaster struck: she found herself exhausted and sporting a ghastly red color. Her doctor diagnosed sepsis, requiring immediate surgery to drain blood that had accumulated around her kidneys. Dan not only was there for her at the hospital, but also took care of her at home.

"How can you not love a man like that?" she smiled, while telling the story. Nine months later, they married.

The couple now travels back and forth to Minneapolis; besides his winery here, he has a business in that area. She is a retired attorney, having enjoyed a fulfilling career as a corporate lawyer and later combining her law background with her consumer survey experience to form Survey Counsel Inc., an evidentiary survey business.

Phyllis is now delighting in Chris O'Sullivan's course, and looks forward to AAUW "short" hikes and wine dinners. And she loves to travel as well as take pictures. With her experience five years ago, who wouldn't?

—Sue Finan

The Grapevine is published online each month, except in July and August. Please submit articles, announcements, and photographs by the 15th of the month for the following month to **The Grapevine** Editor, Deana Fusco, deana.fusco@sbcglobal.net. Assistant Editor is Diane Burnley.