

October Speaker Series

Agatha Hoff

Tuesday, October 2, 2012

5:00 Social, 5:30 AAUW Business, 5:45 Presentation



A child of World War II, Agatha Hoff came to America in 1949 as a refugee. She became a scholarship student at the Convent of the Sacred Heart in Menlo Park, CA and attended college at Seattle University. When her youngest child started kindergarten, Agatha went to San Francisco Law School and earned her J.D. degree at night. She was admitted to the California Bar in 1975. In 1981 she was hired by the San Francisco Municipal Court as a Traffic Referee and presided in Traffic Court for 13 years. Agatha became a **Superior Court Commissioner** in 1994 and was assigned to Family Court, where the litigants' problems were thornier but equally varied. Agatha is an avid **long distance bicyclist**, riding 5000 miles a year. When she is not bicycling, she is writing. She is the **author** of the novel, *Burning Horses, a Hungarian Life Turned Upside Down*, published in 2010. Agatha resides in San Francisco with husband Irwin Hoff.

November Speaker Series

Pamela Swan

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

(please note: this is the **SECOND Tuesday of the month**, due to the November 6 election)

5:00 Social, 5:30 AAUW Business, 5:45 Presentation

On Tuesday, November 13, Pamela Swan will be our Speakers Series guest representing the **Healdsburg Education Foundation**. HEF raises funds to support K-12 education for ALL students in the Healdsburg area public schools. It brings our schools and generous community together to direct resources to educational programs that will have the greatest impact on student learning. Particular importance is placed on narrowing the achievement gap and increasing the graduation rate. Please join us to learn more about this support for our community of learners and future citizens. (See article page 7.)



For the 2012-2013 School Year HEF's Funding Priorities include:

- The Healdsburg Elementary School Enrichment Program
- K-12 Library and Technology Programs
- K-12 Music and Art Programs
- K-8 "Toolbox" Social/Emotional Learning Curriculum
- PIQE — Parent Education Program
- Healdsburg High School Internship Program
- Vocational Education, including Healdsburg High School Construction and Sustainability Program
- Endowment — to build a long-term source of stable and consistent source of education fund. —**Kim Burmester and Carol McKnight**

President's Message



I would like to send a sincere thank you to hostess **Joyce Scramaglia** and the Social Activities Team for our

successful Kick-Off. Our next social event will be the potluck dinner at the Krug Center on October 18. All our social events will be planned to have room for all, but you still may need to RSVP. You can always check our website for a reminder of date and time; look under Events and also check the monthly calendar page.

Kim Burmester and **Carol McKnight** have lined up some dynamic speakers for our monthly meetings on the *first Tuesday* at the high school library. We also have a social time starting at 5:00 and a 5-10 minute member meeting for the latest branch news. This is a good time to bring potential members, buddies, and members we haven't seen for a while. Please mark your calendars for the year now.

Your Homes Tour efforts and raffle ticket sales have made a significant contribution to education! With the proceeds from last year, our branch has given five scholarships for a total of \$17,500, made a \$10,000 grant to the Healdsburg Education Foundation for Science - Hands On, and raised \$5,400 to send six girls to Tech Trek. See articles in this newsletter for details.

My theme continues to be Participation for Education. I hope each and every member goes beyond social and interest group activities and will find a way to participate

in our branch's educational services and fund raising. In exchange, we enjoy the camaraderie with a terrific group of women.
—**Charlene Luks**



The Kick-off Meeting at Joyce Scramaglia's home was a huge success!

\$17,500 in Scholarships Awarded at SRJC

Five women were each recipients of a \$3,500 scholarship to continue their education at universities to which they have been accepted. The scholarships were presented at the Circle of Honor Program at Santa Rosa Junior College in August. These remarkable young women were chosen for their academic achievements, personal struggles, and their need for financial assistance. During the interview process by the SRJC Scholarship Committee—Joyce Scramaglia, Mary Ann Gervais, and Sue Phillips—it was apparent how committed these students are to achieving their long term goal of a college degree. AAUW wishes these women much success in their future academic pursuits.

—**Cathy Chiminello**, Scholarship Chair



HEALDSBURG HOMES TOUR

MAY 5, 2013

Save the date!

The tour has a new name! Should this be our new logo? We are working on improving our “brand” and AAUW’s visibility, but we really need help. Can you design logos, signs, postcards, and other publicity for the AAUW Healdsburg Homes Tour?

Committees are now being formed to work on: obtaining advertising and sponsors; publicizing the tour, especially in social media; tickets; obtaining raffle prizes, and developing new ways of selling raffle tickets. If you are willing to serve on any of these committees, let us know now as the committees begin their planning sessions next month. Later we will be begging for your participation on the day of the tour.

Even if you cannot serve on a committee, please let us hear your ideas on how the tour can be improved. We’ve already received many great suggestions which we hope to implement, such as longer hours for the tour so that there will be time for docents and other volunteers to work their shifts, have lunch, and see the homes.

Thanks in advance for your participation and support.

—Ronnie Devitt and Janet Hoehn, Co-Chairs

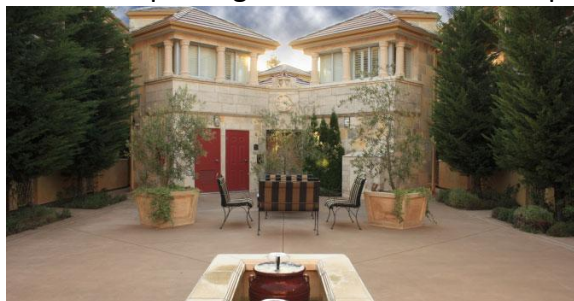
FALL - WINE - FOOD

Krug Event Center

198 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg

Thursday, October 18, 6 p.m.

Due to popular demand we are repeating the potluck dinner at the Krug Event Center. **Please call Joyce Scramaglia at 322-3257** to confirm attendance and to arrange what to bring. Couples will bring a dish and a bottle of wine; singles will bring either one or the other.



A \$5 donation per person is requested for covering the rental of the Krug Center's hall.

Carpooling is always advised. Friends and prospective members are welcome.

—Helle Siegert

Pictures from the September Cultural Event: Kayaking the Russian River



Kayaking down the river on a Thursday afternoon....



The intrepid kayakers!

November Cultural Event De Young Museum and Lunch Thursday, November 8 8:30 a.m. for carpooling



We're going to the De Young Museum on November 8 to see William S. Paley's collection, "A Taste for Modernism," art from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, including works by Matisse, Cezanne, Picasso, and Degas. "A Life in Dance," with photos and costumes of Rudolf Nureyev, is also featured.

Sounds great, plus lunch at the museum!

Meet at Park and Ride (located at the intersection of Grant and Healdsburg Avenues...near Giorgio's Restaurant) **at 8:30 a.m. for carpooling.** Please email or call **Lee Kelley**, Carolynleekelley@gmail.com 433-3821.

November Happy Hour Home of Jan and Brent Stanley Friday, November 16 5:30-8:30 p.m.

Our first Happy Hour of the season will be held at the lovely and spacious home of Jan and Brent Stanley. The suggestions for participating are the same as in the previous years: **singles please bring a bottle of wine to share; couples, please share a bottle of wine and bring an appetizer for 20.** Whether single, with a spouse, or a significant other, we expect to see you there! Let's party!



—**Carol Novak and Vivien Furlong**

DIRECTIONS TO THE STANLEY'S HOME: (Carpooling is encouraged.) Turn onto West Dry Creek Road by Madrona Manor. Go about 1/4 mile then turn left at the sign for Everett Ridge winery. Go through the gate and take an immediate left where you see the Stanley boulder. Follow the paved road (emphasis on paved) all the way to the top of the hill.

Community Services



Jan Garwin, Reading Rocks volunteer.

From time to time, you may be seeing an email blast requesting volunteers through our Community VIPs,

Volunteers in Partnership with

Community program. **Tanya Enders Beach** is organizing this important component of our community involvement. We see the "AAUW Volunteer" badge often at the Raven Theater (if you volunteer you get to see the program!), and this fall we were helping out at the Sunset Idea House. Keep your eyes and ears open for other really neat opportunities to help out the community. When you DO volunteer, don't forget to let Tanya know so she can record our volunteer hours which, when added up, are awesome!!

Shally Schultz reports that she has eight enthusiastic reading tutors for her Reading Rocks program at the elementary school. We are pleased to announce that AAUW will be gifting each first grader with a book of his/her own this holiday season. Thanks

New Email Addresses

Diane Bartleson diane@dianebrowning.com

Lance Cottrell loki@obscura.com

Hala Al-Shahwany alshahwany@gmail.com

Kim Kopp's name has been changed to Kim Burmester.

kimberlyburmester@gmail.com

to Shally's idea, we will put some big smiles on the faces of those little beginning readers. With that idea, we have also decided that this year's holiday donation to the schools will be books for the classroom libraries. Shally will get title ideas from the teachers (to be posted in the December *Grapevine*), and we can all bring our donations to the annual Christmas party.

GEMS (Girls Engaged in Math and Science) is off to a great start as **Victoria Toboni** has sent out the initial welcome letter to this past year's Tech Trek students as well as other girls who have attended before. Victoria is planning some fabulous field trips for the girls including a trip to STI (Sonoma Technology Institute) in Petaluma, the Marine Mammal Center in Marin, and possible a day trip during spring break. A professional women's pizza night is also in the works. We will introduce the girls to AAUW women (currently employed and retired) to learn how their professional careers unfolded, and give the students a chance for a little informal Q & A. Sounds like a busy year!

—Pat Bertapelle



The board welcomes two of its newest members, Cher Frechette and Phil Wright.

AAUW Public Policy: 2012 Ballot Propositions: The *position* of AAUW CA on these propositions is posted ([HERE](#)), on the AAUW CA website in the Public Policy section. **Members are urged to carefully review all propositions in detail.** (*The following have been condensed. For a full discussion, click on the above link*)

In order to determine positions and potential endorsements, the AAUW CA Public Policy Committee has reviewed the ballot measures that have qualified for the November 2012 ballot, in the context of the approved Public Policy Priorities. The committee determined that four Initiatives and one Referendum are relevant to AAUW Priorities.

Proposition 30 – Temporary Taxes to Fund Education. Guaranteed Local Public Safety Funding.

AAUW CA recommends a Yes vote, consistent with its positions supporting adequate and equitable funding for quality public education as well as safe communities. The passage of Proposition 30 will generate much-needed new revenues for schools and provide funds to counties for public safety through increased income tax on the wealthy and a ¼ % increase in the sales tax, for a period of seven years.

Proposition 31 – State Budget Process

In 2011, AAUW CA studied California's budget problems, and prepared a Position Paper on the *California Budget: "Revenues, Reductions, and Reforms"*. Budget reforms are long overdue. However, while Proposition 31 contains positive elements of reform, it also includes troubling policy changes such as giving the governor authority to reduce spending in fiscal emergencies, and places specified state and local budget processes in the state constitution, making these difficult to change in the future. AAUW CA recommends a No vote on Proposition 31.

Proposition 35 – Human Trafficking

AAUW CA opposes human trafficking and supports bringing offenders to justice. This proposition, however, has major flaws, and is contradictory in some elements. It focuses on sex trafficking rather than human trafficking for purposes of "slavery", although forced labor comprises 90% of human trafficking. It pits victims against each other with greater penalties for sex trafficking than for rape in

current law....Members should study this carefully.

Proposition 38 – Tax for Education and Early Childhood Programs

While AAUW CA favors increased revenues for improving education in the state, this ballot measure raises concerns. It would raise taxes on all but those in the lowest tax bracket, and continue the taxes for a lengthy period of 13 years. It also prohibits the legislature from making any modifications to the measure – it could only be amended by a future ballot measure. AAUW CA takes a Neutral position on Proposition 38.

Proposition 40 – Referendum on the Citizens Redistricting Commission Senate District Boundaries.

State Senate districts are revised every ten years following the federal census. This year, the California Citizens Redistricting Commission, approved by voters in 2008, revised the boundaries of the State Senate districts. This referendum petition is confusing in how it is written....AAUW CA urges a Yes vote on this referendum to keep the boundaries as drawn, believing that the Citizens Commission is the fairest, most equitable mechanism for revising district boundaries, and its results should remain in effect.

8-10 PERSON DINNERS BEING PLANNED!

Last year we started a new event: dinner for 10! Many found this a very successful event; we have therefore decided to repeat it. *This year, however, it will be a dinner for 10 or 8 depending on how many each hostess feels comfortable seating.* These dinners will take place in the months of **January, March, and May**; dates will be set between hostesses and committee.

Right now we are hoping that some of you are ready to commit to hosting one of these events. If so, please contact **Helle Siegert** at hellesiegert@aol.com.

AAUW DONATES \$10,000 to HEF for the Science - Hands On Program

The Science - Hands On Class is an exciting program offered as one of the enrichment classes at both Healdsburg Elementary



School (grades K-2) and the Fitch Mountain Campus (grades 3-5). Science - Hands On builds upon the science curriculum taught during the school day. The program was launched this year in late

August and will continue through the school year during students' enrichment class time. During the science classes, K-2 grade students study plants through different propagation techniques, engage in a study of liquids and solids, and dissect owl pellets to determine food, habitat, and behavior of owls. The 3-5 grade students are introduced to metric measurements and are taught how to use scientific tools such as metric tapes, beakers, and thermometers to investigate science through hands on experiments.

Supported by the AAUW \$10,000 grant, the classes are interactive and promote a love of science, experimentation, and critical thinking that form a solid base for the science that is taught at higher grade levels. The board feels that its \$10,000 donation, which was made through the Healdsburg Education Foundation, is money very well

spent on the future for those who participate in the Science - Hands On program.

—**Cathy Chiminello**
AAUW Scholarship Chair

Make A Difference! AAUW Funds Donation

Healdsburg is a community of generous, big-hearted people. Our Healdsburg Homes Tour continues to help fund local school scholarships and special grants at the national level. Our Healdsburg branch annually donates \$2,000 to AAUW Funds which provide educational opportunities for women pursuing careers in the sciences, technology, mathematics, and engineering.

If you would like to help someone reach her career potential, make an individual donation to the AAUW Funds before the end of 2012. Go to www.aauw-ca.org website under Forms & Documents section. Download the Branch AAUW Funds Contribution Report form and send the completed form with your contribution to Washington D.C. Our Branch ID is CA0167. Please send a copy of your completed form to **Jan Garwin** (377 Bridle Path, Healdsburg) for our branch records.

Your donation will make a difference! Thank you for your generosity.

—**Jan Garwin**

Have you moved or changed your email address this summer??

The online directories are being updated again and will be available in October. If your information in either of the directories is not correct, please note the changes and email them to **Gail Wright**, by October 5, 2012. philandgail@comcast.net

Notice to Hikers and Wanna-Be Hikers:

AAUW leads hikes every Friday. The first and third Fridays of the month are scheduled for "peak-bagger" hikes. These hikes are 6-12 miles long and fairly strenuous. The hikes on the second and fourth Fridays of the month are more moderate in nature and are between 3 and 6 miles long. All hikes start at 9 a.m., with the meeting place varying depending on the location of the hike. Our scheduled hikes for the year are outlined in the calendar on the website. If you want reminders, updates, and descriptions of the hikes, please send your email address to **Yvonne Schell** at yschell@comcast.net, or call 707-431-1518.

— **Yvonne Schell**

Member News

A Note of Thanks from Gail Wright

You have touched Phil and me by the many kind thoughts showered on us this summer — cards, phone calls, visits, and many other heartwarming gestures, wishing us a speedy recovery. Every one of them helped! What a wonderful group of caring friends. We're gradually getting back to our regular routine, and I am very grateful to have survived the accident with no permanent damage. Life is a gift. Friends are a gift. Thank you so much.

— **Gail and Phil Wright**

Marriage Announcement

Cathy Russell was married August 18 at Vintner's Inn in Santa Rosa! The lucky groom is Duane Carey. Cathy's name has changed to Cathy Carey, but her address, email, and telephone remain the same.

Sign Up for Now!

Earn money for AAUW scholarships by signing up for eScrip. For instructions go to www.eScrip.com or call/email me at 473-0354 or sallyle3232@sbcglobal.net.

— **Sally Lyle**

Greetings from Suzanne Pfau

Greetings from a balmy 85 degrees in Minnesota, Northfield to be exact, home of cows, colleges, and contentment. There are lots of cows, but not in town; although there were some horses on Main Street the other day for a reenactment of the famous Jesse James bank robbery attempt that was thwarted by the townsfolk.

There are two colleges, Carleton and Saint Olaf, one of Wellstone fame, and the other just a plain great music school.

Contentment comes when I walk along the river in front of my new condo, listen to the geese fly overhead, and watch the marvelous pink sky ever changing against the fading blue background. My condo is on the third floor of an apartment-like building with about 40 other condos. It is filled with windows and light. At the moment I am waiting for furniture. I spent the first week with only a bed and a chair, but I do have two toilets! Wednesday I got a dining room set, and soon after a sofa and TV. I spent about five hours putting together a desk today; it looks pretty good. I do hope it doesn't fall apart.

Enough! My new address is 301 7th Street West Unit 2-305; Northfield, MN 55057 Cell phone works 707-843-0196. I would love to hear from you.

— **Suzanne Pfau**

Condolences

Last month AAUW sent a sympathy letter to member **Karen Fanucchi**, expressing the sorrow of its members for the death of her father.

— **Sheila Kneass**, Corresponding Secretary

Community Service

PSST needs tutors! How about you? Just one hour of your time each week could have lifelong benefits for a 5th grade or junior high school student. No experience is necessary. PSST provides training and ongoing support. Public School Success Team (PSST) is a nonprofit corporation created to increase graduation rates in the Healdsburg public school system. Contact **Barbara Epstein**, 707/ 473-0902 or bepstein@sonic.net. Although supported by a number of AAUW members, this is not an AAUW program.

— **Barbara Epstein**

New Members



Kay Nyholm was reared in Marin, and moved to Sonoma County in 1971. She attended Sonoma State University and completed a B.S. in nursing. Over her career, she worked in various positions in hospitals throughout the county. She served as clinical compliance specialist at the Health Plan of the Redwoods HMO until its closure. After that she worked for the county public health department, and then the north county detention facility. She left Sonoma for 10 years to serve as a nursing instructor at Washington State where she also was appointed chairman of nursing. Upon her retirement, she moved back to California and has lived in Windsor for 20 years. She volunteered for AARP as an advisor in their senior tax preparation program, and trained for a year to become an ombudsman. Kay has three married sons, and eight grandchildren, who all live locally. Her hobbies previously included golf, but unfortunately Kay suffered a compression fracture that has taken a year to heal. She became interested in AAUW through her friendship with Lynne Brett. She has volunteered to serve at the Sunset House tour, and looks forward to volunteering for Raven Theater. She also plans to attend the Osher Lifelong Learning series, and is interested in book club. She has traveled through Mexico, Italy, and England, and looks forward to more frequent traveling as she finds new travel mates. "It's a lot more fun to travel with someone you're compatible with than traveling alone."

Karla Rosen and her husband moved to Santa Rosa from San Jose a year ago after he accepted a position with General Dynamics. Karla met local friends at an exercise class, all of whom were AAUW members. "It sounded great so, I decided to join right away!" She enjoys cooking so her first involvement was with the chef's squad. She is a graduate of the University of Colorado where she majored in computer science and psychology, and although her first interest was psychology, she decided computer science would be more lucrative. Her first job was as a programmer with Westinghouse in Sunnyvale. She transferred to Pittsburg, Pennsylvania where she was an electronic data processing auditor. Karla then attended Carnegie Mellon to get a master's degree in business administration. "After that, Hewlett Packard in Cupertino hired me for 17 years; then I transferred to RSA Security in Menlo Park, but was laid off during the downturn. By that time I was so burned out from hi-tech long hours I decided to try something else." She sold hand-made jewelry for about four years. After her mother passed away, Karla felt that her father, who was living in Santa Rosa, needed help. She and her husband move there to be closer. "We felt like we had moved to Paradise."



Karla is an avid bicycler, which is how she met her husband 17 years ago. "I now ride 40 to 50 miles a week and I'm training for an upcoming marathon."

—Gloria Norton

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