



JANUARY SPEAKER SERIES

PERSPECTIVES ON IMMIGRATION: A COMMUNITY FORUM

Thursday, January 15, 6:30 p.m.

Glaser Center, 547 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa

Please meet at 5:45 p.m. between *Carl's Junior* and the *Dollar Tree* to carpool

Come hear a panel of experts offer their diverse perspectives on immigration. Organized and sponsored by the AAUW branches from Santa Rosa, Petaluma, and Healdsburg, and the League of Women Voters of Sonoma County, this timely immigration panel will explore issues faced by immigrants, both documented and undocumented.

Topics of discussion at this informative event will allow you to:

- *Learn how those brought to this country as children, but without legal status, strive to claim the U.S. as their country.
- *Hear how an experienced counselor assists immigrants in acquiring legal status.
- *Listen to the perspective of a non-Latino immigrant.
- *Become informed about immigration law and how it affects us all— immigrants, refugees, and citizens.
- *Learn about the organizations in Sonoma County that are addressing immigration issues.
- *Learn how President Obama's recent executive order may impact our society overall.

Included on the panel will be a "dreamer," an immigration counselor, an immigration lawyer, a professor emerita, a K-12 educator, and a community leader working to advance educational equity at the college level. Lisa Carreño, of 10,000 Degrees, will moderate the program. This is a wonderful opportunity for each of us to educate ourselves about this very important topic. Refreshments will follow. (Optional preparation: watch *Documented, a film by an Undocumented American* by Jose Antonio Vargas, available on Amazon instant video.) —**Diane Bartleson and Winky Merrill**, co-chairs

To read AAUW's analysis of President Obama's recent executive actions on immigration, see the following link to an article entitled "Presidential Action on Immigration a Good First Step," <http://www.aauw.org/2014/11/21/immigration-accountability-executive-actions/>

—**Michèle St.Clair**

President's Message



I was so glad to see so many of our members at our annual holiday party held at the RiverView clubhouse. The event was so festive and well organized! I have to compliment **Barbara Reid,**

Violet Nelson, and **Lynda Guthrie** for doing such a good job of decorating the facility as well as coordinating the food and drink. The whole event was very enjoyable.

And I do hope a number of you were able to meet Chris O'Sullivan there. He will be the initial instructor at our AAUW Forum to begin January 8. If you haven't signed up yet, there's still time!

I also enjoyed helping deliver books to the first graders at Healdsburg Elementary School. What dolls! And thanks to the many members who also helped with the effort — **Shally Schultz** (and her husband Wally), **Judy Edmonds,** **Marcia Fosberg,** **Jan Garwin,** **Patty McHugh,** **Victoria Toboni,** **Cathy Chiminello,** **Georgia Helthal,** **Kate Olivier,** **Yvonne Hyatt,** and **Janet Hoehn.** I'm sure the teachers as well as the students were very appreciative of the books they received, as well as the school supplies you all donated.

I also wanted to mention our Board strategic planning meeting on December 12. The three-hour meeting was very productive and inspiring with new ideas discussed around recruiting new members, broadening our scholarships and community services, and improving our community presence and impact. I will provide more detail on the results of our planning efforts in a future *Grapevine* issue but suffice it to say, your Board was very excited about the results. And we're all very grateful to **Terry Leach,** who volunteered to facilitate the session for us. It was terrific!

And last but not least, another quote from one of our original Branch members and our second Branch president (1978-80), **Kathy Birdsong:** "I do recall most of us had young kids in those first years of AAUW. I had a big toy bin in my family room and owned the *Toy Boat* store on the Plaza, so we frequently held Board meetings at my house. The kids could play with all the toys in the family room as we met in the living room until refereeing was needed! A nice memory I have was a meeting at **Joyce Trowbridge's** home. We went around the circle saying what we would each do if neither time nor money were an issue. I said I wanted to sail up the Nile. Joyce looked across the circle at me and said, 'That's what I want to do, too!' I wonder if we'd ever have known that about each other without being in AAUW." —**Sue Campbell**

February Speaker Series!

(Note: location, date, and time are different from usual)

Wednesday, February 4, 7 p.m.
Healdsburg Public Library
139 Piper Street

We will host a special screening of *The Invisible War*, an award winning investigative documentary about sexual harassment in the military. Katie Weber, U.S. Army veteran and survivor of military rape, will give a short talk afterward about current legislation to address this important issue.



Save the Date!

—**Diane Bartleson and Winky Merrill,** co-chairs



What's new for Homes Tour 2015?

- We won't harass you to buy tickets in February.
- There will be NO mailed packets of tickets.
- Tickets go on sale March 1.
- Prices will remain the same.
- You will be able to make tax-deductible donations to our newly formed Healdsburg AAUW Fund, a 501(c)(3) corporation.
- See new homes and gardens not on the Tour before.
- It is the 25th Healdsburg Homes Tour.

What's the same for Homes Tour 2015?

- All branch members are expected to support this major fund raiser *to the extent they are able* by **working** on aspects of the Tour in the coming months and on the day of the event and by **contributing** at least \$100 to the bottom line by buying or selling tour and raffle tickets and/or making monetary donations.
- Tour tickets may be purchased by
 - Credit card online
 - Check or cash at the local bookstores and Healdsburg Museum
 - Check mailed in with form printed from website
 - Credit card, checks, or cash at the Tour.
- There will again be six Wine Country Experience Baskets, each valued at approximately \$1000 filled with certificates for lodging, dining, other goods and services, and bottles of local wines.
- Raffle tickets will be sold at all AAUW events and interest group meetings, at the Tour, and possibly other locations. This "sales plan" sold more tickets last year than ever before, thanks to so many of you buying and selling. **This isn't a huge raffle so the odds of winning are good!**

Thank you for your support and remember to support and thank the local businesses that have supported the Homes Tour.

—Ronnie Devitt and Cecile Peters, co-chairs

Community Service: *Reading Rocks* Spreads Joy to Local First Graders



The holidays came early for first graders in Healdsburg. Thanks to the generosity of our branch, all the first graders who are part of our **Reading Rocks** program were able to choose a book for their very own. After making the selection the student would write his/her name inside the front cover, in

the bookplate that indicated the book was a gift from AAUW.

For some of these children it was the first book they have ever owned, and their joy in receiving this gift was moving. "Your program is so cool,"

said Arlie Haun. "You have no idea how proud the children are to receive these books." Arlie is a second grade teacher at Healdsburg Elementary and happens to be mother of Helen Ann Haun, a Tech Trek graduate,

now a second year science major in Oregon. Children at both HES and West Side School (both *Reading Rocks* participants) seemed to heartily agree.

The children were asked to step out of their classroom, two or three at a time, to make their

selection of the books displayed on a table. Most of the youngsters took this task seriously, browsing through all the books until they made their final choice. Those waiting were having a hard time keeping still, and one group pretended to be chipmunks so they could at least jump around.

When asked what they thought about the gifts one boy said, "I think about it good." His friend had to add, "I think about it excellent." Not to be outdone, a girl said, "Well, I think about it awesome!" We do



too. Many thanks to **Shally Schultz** for coordinating the effort and ordering so many excellent books, to **Wally Schultz** for the photos taken, and to the helpers who had the time of their lives playing Santa:

Sue Campbell, Cathy Chiminello, Ronnie Devitt, Judy Edmonds, Marcia Fosberg, Jan Garwin, Barbara

Gruber, Georgia Helthall, Janet Hoehn, Denny Martin, Patty McHugh, Kate Olivier, Victoria Toboni, and Yvonne Hyatt. **Sue Campbell** summed it up when she said, "Not only did I have fun giving out the books, but then I even got a hug from one of the kids!"
—**Judy Edmonds**



The Second Wine-N-Dine is Coming Up!

The second Wine-N-Dine of the season is coming up on January 30. The last Wine-N-Dine, which took place on November 1, was a great success! We had five host houses with 44 participants at the dinners, with reports that all had great fun and great food. Thanks to all hosts for organizing their dinner parties! Every host had at least one or two new members, so



new members and old members got to know each other better, while enjoying great food and wine! Please see the pictures included here so you can see a few of the dinner parties!

If you would like to participate in one of the January 30 dinners as a host please call **Cher Frechette** at 707/395-0654 or email her at cherylfrechette@yahoo.com by January 5. We would like to have five or six host houses this time. If you would like to participate in one of these dinners as an attendee, (couple or a single) please contact **Liz Loebel** at 707/473-0373 or email her at lizloebel@gmail.com by January 15. We will let all hosts know who their diners will be by January 17.

Thanks and let's have another good time!

—Cher Frechette and Liz Loebel

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.



Santa Rosa Authors' Lunch

Mark your calendars for Thursday, February 19, 2015 for Santa Rosa AAUW's Authors' Lunch fundraiser and invite your friends and family. This event will feature authors Cara Black, Lisa Michaels, and Marcy Smothers. Funds raised will be used for the Educational Opportunities Fund (EOF) to support both American and International fellowships as well as Community Action Grants.

Donations for paperback books in excellent condition and gift cards valued between \$15 and \$25 are requested. They will be used for the "Everyone Wins" raffle. A prize is guaranteed for each \$20 ticket! If you cannot attend you can still support this fundraiser by purchasing raffle tickets in order to be a surefire winner. More information will be in the February newsletter. If you have questions, please contact Carole Keiner: 546-7745 or ckeiner@att.net.

Happy Hour

**Mercury/Ramazotti Tasting Room,
Geyserville
February 12, 2015**

Please join us for our first Happy Hour of 2015! We will enjoy our pre-Valentine's day get-together at Mercury/Ramazotti tasting room in Geyserville, and have the opportunity to purchase wines by the glass as well as indulge in our own, always delicious, appetizers.

Time: 5 to 7 p.m.

Bring: An appetizer for 10-12

Wines available to purchase: Whites \$5;
Reds \$7

Location: 21015 Geyserville Avenue,
Geyserville

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

—Carol Hazlett and Neita Comings

March Cultural Event

In the Mood

Wells Fargo Center for the Arts

Sunday March 15, 3 p.m.

Front Balcony: \$55

Much more than a concert, IN THE MOOD presents a retro 1940s musical revue featuring the IN THE MOOD Singers and Dancers with the sensational String of Pearls Big Band Orchestra. The music and the arrangements are as authentic as it gets. This was a time that all America was listening and dancing to the same kind of music! AAUW members (and their friends and families) save \$10. Please let us know how many tickets you need by sending an email to **Terry Rosenstock** terryrosenstock@gmail.com. Follow up with a check made payable to **Terry Rosenstock**, 674 3rd Avenue, San Francisco, CA 94118

—Violet Nelson



Cultural Outing to di Rosa Art Museum

Your Contributions to the Homes Tours Counts

Last month, I delivered two checks to HEF from the proceeds of our May Homes Tour. These donations will support programs for students at the elementary school and junior high school levels.

The Healdsburg Elementary School received a donation of \$6,450 to purchase iPads for the Transitional Kindergarten program. The Transitional Kindergarten, also known as KinderPrep, is the first year of a two-year kindergarten program designed for the youngest kindergarten students to give them time to grow socially, emotionally, and academically. The Transitional Kindergarten program will be using the iPads as one of the tools to help the children “build strong bodies and sharp minds in an age-appropriate and playfully serious way.”

In addition, we donated \$8,250 to fund the second Mike Hauser Algebra Academy (MHAA), a summer, work-based algebra learning experience for 30 eighth grade students. This program serves students who speak a language other than english at home. As you know, many Healdsburg Junior High students are english learners. These students have a unique challenge: to become proficient in english while achieving grade level academic skills. The MHAA places participating students in the workplace during the summer to give them insight and hands-on experience into manufacturing, engineering, business, and civic services. What they learn “on the job” is reinforced with algebra lessons with a goal of preparing them to succeed in algebra as they enter high school. Preparation for next summer’s program will begin in spring 2015.

Your time and efforts on the Homes Tour really does make a difference for the children of Healdsburg. Thank you.

—**Janet Hoehn**, Co-chair Homes Tour 2013-14, Scholarship Chair 2014-15

Your Every Advocacy Question Answered

Ever wondered how to write a letter to the editor? Or how to get the media to cover your event? Looking for tips on building coalitions or setting up a meeting with an elected official? AAUW has compiled these advocacy guides so you can familiarize yourself with tried-and-true techniques, explore new ways to make your events a success, or train new members and leaders who want to stand up for women and girls in Congress, statehouses, and your backyard. If you’re reading this in hard copy, the link is: <http://www.aauw.org/resource/advocacy-how-to-guides/>
—**Michèle St.Clair**

Learn about California history from the gifted speaker, Dr. Chris O’Sullivan. It begins Thursday, January 8. Go to www.healdsburgaauw.org. Registration is on the home page.

Become a Two-Minute Activist

Receive urgent email notices to contact your members of Congress right in your inbox. Join the AAUW Action Network today! Click here: <http://www.aauw.org/what-we-do/public-policy/two-minute-activist/>
—**Michèle St.Clair**

New/Changed Phone/Emails

Dee McGuffey 707/ 694-4428.

Elisa Musson 707/ 230-9997

Jean Norelli norelli@sonic.net

Denny Martin gypsylife@suddenlink.net

—**Gail Wright**

New Members



Kathy Mullen

really likes roots. No, she's not a gardener. But she is into genealogy – her own and others'. Just recently moved from Bronxville, a suburb of New York City,

where she and her husband Robert raised their four children, she's now back among other family members – many who are located in local cemeteries!

Kathy's great-great grandfather was the first to put down his roots here. Actually, he was more into trees and logging. His name: George Guerne. He and Harmon Heald went into lumber milling together. George's daughter Evelyn married

Ignatius Loyola Donovan (nicknamed "Ney"), a founder of Sonoma County Fairgrounds. Their daughter Thelma (Kathy's grandmother) married Eugene Slusser (the Windsor road is his namesake).

Kathy enjoys rooting around history, finding not only her own origins interesting, but also reading biographies of others. Her favorite is about Henry Luce, the publisher of *Time*, *Life*, and *Fortune*; she's now enjoying *The Mellon Family* by Burton Hersh.

And she cultivates rooted grape cuttings: Kathy and Bob make their own chards and cabs sporting the label *Bobcat Vines*. Other activities include swimming, golf, hiking, biking, yoga, and bridge. Kathy's delighted to be living here, and eager to become involved in our activities. Let's root for Kathy!

Angela Coons. There are various levels, or degrees, of music appreciation; for instance, so many in Healdsburg treasure Jazz and support the festival, while others sing

along with Beyonce in the car or croon country western classics in the shower.

Angela Coons, though, has two veritable music degrees: a Bachelor's from Baylor University, and a Master's from University of Colorado in Boulder, and both are in piano

performance.

One of the keys to her success was beginning lessons at the age of four. She has always found "tickling the ivories" harmoniously relaxing, and sometimes plays the classics such as Bach and Beethoven for a couple of hours a day.



After participating in chamber music ensembles and teaching piano for 30 years in Palo Alto, Angela moved here in 2005 with her husband James and Baby Grand to be closer to her two daughters and their families. She is an avid patron of Santa Rosa's Symphony, and reads a lot of biographies and other nonfiction. Theater, too, is an instrumental part of her life; she has enjoyed a number of Raven Theater shows as well as subscribing to San Francisco productions. Plus she and James are serious duplicate bridge players.

Angela also belongs to the *Twenty Fingers*, a Santa Rosa organization in which other pianists get together and play – two pianos at a time! In September, they performed a special program of popular and patriotic songs for veterans at the Sebastopol Art Center. Just a note, but I suspect our military heroes were grateful for this generous tribute, and it was marvelous music to their ears!



When you talk to **Jean Norelli**, you might want to ask a few questions of your own. I certainly did, but our time was limited.

For instance, one of Jean's first jobs in her hometown of Washington D.C. was as a typist at the Pentagon. *So about those papers, Jean, did you ever think of leaking secrets about President Johnson and the Vietnam War ...?*

Jean has lived in the Bay Area for the past 40 years, and was a licensed psychotherapist/marriage family counselor. *Jean, do you have a couple of hours? I'm having a few problems with life, so how might I be able to cope better...? And oy! Let me tell you about my husband...!*

Now semi-retired, her focus in her consulting practice for the past decade with clients is in long-term self-exploration and discovering what's important to them. Furthermore, she does dream interpretation work. *So, here I was being carried in the arms of Superman, when all of a sudden, he*

let go! Oh, and by the way, does being naked mean anything...?

She also meets a group in Sebastopol three or four times a year for an evening of spontaneous poetry. And after practicing tai chi for five years, she'll be going to San Francisco this January for classes in chi gong. *Hey Jean, how about composing a quick impromptu poem about the circulating life force whose existence and properties are the basis of much Chinese philosophy and medicine? Or maybe a few verses about the Book Group or Great Decisions that you've already joined...?*

And Jean is writing a book that encompasses a series of seminars she's taught in the past. The theme focuses on one's emotional life, and how, like the seasons, it has a cyclical nature! *Looking forward to its publication, and will you sign my copy?*

Yes, being with Jean might have you, too, thinking about life's possibilities and reaching your full potential!

—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.