

January Cultural Event



Rosie the Riveter Museum

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MUSEUM IN

RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA

JANUARY 23, 2016

\$35 INCLUDES MUSEUM DONATION AND

TWO-COURSE BRUNCH WITH BEVERAGE

Drop the winter doldrums and come hear wonderful Betty Reid Suskin, a 93 year-old original Rosie, regale us with her stories of this most exciting time in women's history when the world of work outside the home was sanctioned for the first time for women due to the needs of the war effort. This was a huge turning point in the independence of women that is often overlooked. Betty will show us a film of the changes that took place in Richmond California as the shipyards geared up to supply battleships for the war effort and will answer our questions about her experience at the shipyard during that time.

Following her presentation we will adjourn next door to Assemble Restaurant, with its large windows overlooking the San Francisco skyline across the Bay, for a delicious two-course brunch. After brunch we can return to spend time in the excellent museum full of information and exhibits about this pivotal time in history for women and for our country. We can also, for those who wish, visit one of the nearby Victory ships built in the shipyard, which served again during the Korean War and as a mail ship in the Vietnam War, just five miles away in Suisun Bay.

Please sign up by emailing **Jean Norelli**, norelli@sonic.net, to save your space and send your check, made out to AAUW Fund, to her at 729 Wright Street, Santa Rosa, 95404 to hold your space. We are limited on the tour to 24, so members first; if space is available later, spouses and friends may join after January 5. Once your check is received, you will receive a choice among two starters and three entrees for the brunch menu at Assemble. We will gather in Healdsburg to carpool down and back for this most interesting day.

—**Jean Norelli**



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You will never guess the most frequently asked question I receive as your president.

Question: "Does AAUW allow male members?"

Response: "Yes, AAUW has allowed men to join for many years. It would be ludicrous for an organization devoted to gender equality to exclude half the population."

Ah but... a recent follow-up question was "Do you actively recruit *them*?" That knocked me off my righteous pedestal. I gave the embarrassingly wimpy reply, "Not really..." Had I thought about this longer I would have/should have said, "No, our branch is not actively recruiting male or female members, but we are a very welcoming group for anyone who wishes to join."

We currently have a minority membership of two. **Phil Wright** is a long term active member, having joined an AAUW branch about twenty years ago in pursuit of a book group. He continues to be in a book group. He was an officer and board member serving as our treasurer for two years. He is also a professional photographer who has graciously donated his time for several years providing the beautiful photographs for the Homes Tour programs. Our branch has benefitted from his membership.

The other man who recently joined is **Stan Salomon**. He and **Ceci** co-chaired last summer's picnic at Lake Sonoma, and he has gotten involved in the GEMS program. If you haven't met **Phil** and **Stan**, please make an effort to do so and make them feel welcome. It is lonely being in the 2%. I've been there, done that.

Other branches experiencing dwindling membership have actively recruited male members. I heard a talk at an AAUW-CA leadership meeting on how to encourage gender diversity. Generally, men who join AAUW are the husbands of members. They may have driven spouses to AAUW events where they were not invited. At AAUW events where they were invited, they've made many friends among both the couples and singles. The husbands/partners who have quietly toiled hours in support of our branch's activities should be welcomed, not excluded, if they wish to join.

And for those of us who joined AAUW to get to know other women, we need not fear ...

Hope to see you all at the party on December 6th and Happy Holidays! —Ronnie Devitt

Healdsburg Homes Tour 2016

Sunday May 1, 2016

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM



The Homes Tour this year promises to be better than ever. The home selection team has found six amazing homes. There are three great historic homes and two modern homes to showcase. The sixth home is more traditional but has been totally professionally redecorated and was featured in *House Beautiful* magazine as the cover of the October Issue. Thanks to Yvonne Schell and her committee for doing such a great job finding the homes.

Fundraising is well on its way as we finalize the home sponsors. The Healdsburg AAUW board is assisting **Andrea Wolcott** in gathering advertisers. If you have an advertiser you would like to approach, please contact **Andrea** at andreawolcott14@gmail.com. We are also starting to work on signs, posters, and the program since all of the homes have been identified.

Last summer we circulated a survey on the Homes Tour to our membership and all of the previous attendees on our email list. We received 135 responses which were very helpful in developing this year's tour. Thanks to all of you who responded. Some of the things we learned were that attendees liked a mix of modern and historic houses, most attendees both walked and drove the tour, the write-ups of the houses are appreciated by almost all who take the tour, most attendees did not care about the raffle, and finally they loved the refreshments! Thank you cookie bakers!

Please mark the Homes Tour date on your calendar, we couldn't make the tour such a success year after year without your volunteer help.

Thanks to all!

—Cecile Peters and Kim Alexander, co-chairs

26th Annual Healdsburg Homes Tour

Put May 1, 2016 on your calendar!



AAUW Forum enters its second year with the launch of its Winter 2016 season at the Raven Performing Arts Theater in January. Classes are on Tuesday and Thursday mornings, beginning January 12th.

On Tuesday mornings, Chris O'Sullivan will be presenting Part Two of ***The Roosevelts: The Saga of a Family Who Changed America***, covering Franklin and Eleanor's lives following the death of Teddy in 1919. Unlike earlier courses on which Dr. O'Sullivan addressed dominant events of FDR's presidency, this course focuses on the human dimensions of the Roosevelt story; their influences on one another, and the triumphs and turmoil that characterized their personal lives.

Arab Islam and Its Cities will be the subject of Douglas Kenning's course on Thursday mornings, beginning January 14th. One class will focus on the basic tenets of Islam and a full class will be devoted to each of the following cities: Mecca, Damascus, Baghdad, Cairo and Jerusalem.

Registration is already underway. Please plan to attend one or both courses, and spread the word to friends, reminding them that proceeds support local educational programs and student scholarships. For more information and to register, go to the Forum home page at <http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net>.

—Katherine Lacy

SAVE THE DATE – JANUARY SPEAKER SERIES!

Tuesday, January 5, 2016

Mark your calendars to meet Jane Eckels, founder and co-chair for the Sonoma County Elder Protection Work Group, and chair of the steering committee for the My Care, My Plan: Speak Up Sonoma County advance care planning community initiative. We will be learning about advance care planning, a thoughtful process you carry out before a health crisis occurs or you become unable to speak for yourself. This involves exploring, communicating, and documenting your wishes for the type of future medical care and treatment you would want. It may be the most compassionate gift you can give to the important people in your life as your decision makers won't have to guess what your wishes are. Consider bringing along a loved one to this important event.

—Heidi Blumenthal

FUNDRAISING UPDATE

This has been a very good year for our **AAUW** branch!

The Fall **AAUW** Forum series will have concluded by the time you read this month's *Grapevine*. What fabulous classes we're having! "Brava" and "Thank You" to the Forum committee: **Kay Kohler**, chair, **Katherine Lacy**, and **Cathy Chiminello** with the support of branch members **Linda Clark**, **Carol Noack** and **Neita Comings**, and the guidance of **Bob Santos**, **Judy Edmonds** and **Liz Loebel**. Since its inception last winter, Forum has netted more than \$35,000 to support **AAUW** grants and scholarships.

Thank you to the chairs of our Homes Tour, Tech Trek and eScrip committees. They are now actively working to ensure that these fundraising efforts are successful. **Cecile Peters** and **Kim Alexander** co-chair the May 1 Homes Tour, and **Barbara Epstein** is raising money to send nine girls to Tech Trek camp at Stanford next summer. **Kay Mattei** is chairing the eScrip committee. If you haven't already done so, please go online to the escrip.com website and sign up. It's a painless way to contribute to the **Healdsburg AAUW Fund**.

Winky Merrill's initiative enabled us to reap the benefits of the Oliver Ranch Foundation's generosity. The October 25 fundraiser was a huge success, grossing more than \$4,000. Thank you **Winky**.

Finally, **Healdsburg AAUW Fund** has initiated a direct donation campaign. You should have received a letter asking you to include Healdsburg AAUW Fund in the charities that benefit from your giving. Your donations to **Healdsburg AAUW Fund** are tax deductible, and we hope you will continue to support **Healdsburg AAUW** grants and scholarships by making a donation to the **Healdsburg AAUW Fund**.

Yes, this has been a very good year, and we hope to be able to do even more for our community moving forward. Thank you to all of you for everything you do to make our branch successful. — **Janet Hoehn**, Fundraising Chair

OLIVER RANCH fundraising tour was very successful and enjoyed by everyone!



— **Winky Merrill**

AAUW PUBLIC POLICY

As your public policy director, I'd like to share with you two nuggets from a talk given by our California lobbyist at a recent Napa AAUW meeting.

First, there were four pay equity bills this year that made it all the way through the legislature to the governor's desk – where he vetoed two of them. One of the bills that he signed was a resolution recognizing Equal Pay Day, the other made various changes to the California Equal Pay Act related to gender wage inequality.

Those two bills are good news. But unfortunately Governor Brown vetoed two other pay equity bills: one that would have affected state contractors with more than 100 employees, and another that would have helped prevent discriminatory pay by prohibiting prior salary history from being sought for a new job applicant. This is very disappointing, I'm sure you'll agree.

The other thing I very much wanted to share with all of you was what Shannon Smith-Crowley, our lobbyist, said in her talk about support from AAUW members:

When we ask you to help us get a bill passed by the legislature or signed by the governor, we really, REALLY need your help!

So please, the next time you get a request from AAUW to make your voice heard, make it good and loud! Thank you.

— Michele St.Clair

The Healdsburg AAUW Public Policy Team is looking for a few new members who enjoy being informed, and who want to make a difference in public policies that affect women. Please contact Michele St. Clair at 433-8090 if you think you might be interested.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

GEMS

GEMS co-chairs **Julie Conklin** and **Nancy Renkiewicz**, along with member **Stan Salomon**, are planning an evening for junior high and senior high school girls interested in careers that require math and science. The event will take place in the Forum Room of the **Healdsburg Public Library on Wednesday December 9th from 6:00-7:30 PM**. The format is still in the planning stages but will allow for two-way dialogue between the students and the mentors who are professional women in science and technology.

The mentors at this time are:

Amy Munselle, DDS

Stephanie Bedolla, Nurse Practitioner

Mia Shirley, Attorney (undergrad math major)

Kaleigh Bulloch, MS in Public Health (works at Trivascular)

Hala Alshahwany, Chemical Engineer

Elisa Sandland, NPI Chain Engineer, Keysight Technologies

Our girls really appreciate the opportunity to speak to women in the field, and this "Professional Women's Evening" is usually the most popular GEMS event of the year. If you would like to participate, please contact **Julie Conklin, Nancy Renkiewicz or Stan Saloman**.

—Julie Conklin

The Healdsburg AAUW Website

Have you visited <http://Healdsburg-ca.aauw.net> recently? Our chapter website contains everything you might want to know about **Healdsburg AAUW**.

What social events are available?

Click on 2015-2016 Calendar at the bottom right of the Home Page. It contains all the events that are planned for the year.

Who are on the Leadership Team?

Click on the About/Leadership/Leadership Team

What are our Community Service programs?

Click on the Activities/Programs/Community Service

How do I find Book Clubs, when they meet, and what they are reading?

Click on the Activities/Interests/Book Clubs

What is the hiking schedule?

Click on the Activities/Interests/Hiking

How do I find a member's address and phone number?

Click on the Membership tab, Members only, and enter password then select Membership. Members can obtain the password from Joanne Johnston jojo7678@aol.com. The password will remain active for 3 days, so you can log out, then return and not have to re-enter the password.

How do I find copies of the Grapevine Newsletter?

Click on the Newsletter tab. Select Current for the most recent Grapevine or Archives for previous months.

Where can I find dates/times for interest groups?

Click on the Calendar tab and use the arrows to find the month. Activities are color coded and for each day.

When is the Speaker Series?

The upcoming speaker is listed on the Home Page. Future speakers can be found on the 2015-2016 Calendar.

What/when is the next AAUW Forum?

The Forum is found on the Home Page and on the 2015-2016 Calendar.

How can I donate to the Healdsburg AAUW Fund?

Click on the Donate tab on the Home Page and fill in the information.

What are the public policy issues?

Click on the Public Policy link on the right hand side of the Home Page.

Send your questions or comments to Joanne Johnston, jojo7678@aol.com

—Linda Clark

SOCIAL EVENTS

Wine-N-Dine Kicks off for the Season!

Our first **Healdsburg AAUW** Wine-N-Dine of the season took place on November 14th. A good time was had by all! Four hosts, Bob and **Sharyn Sarquis**, Bob and **Marcia Fosberg**, **Judy Edmonds** and EJ Neil, and **Violet Nelson** and **Sandy Beddow**, entertained 37 diners. Check out the photos, below, of some of the guests and their hosts. Stay tuned for the **next Wine-N-Dine scheduled on January 29.** — **Cher Frechette**



HEALDSBURG AAUW HOLIDAY PARTY REMINDER

Sunday, December 6, 2015

4:30-7:30 PM

Geyserville's Oriental Community Hall

1000 HWY 128

Couples whose last names begin with A-O please bring an appetizer to serve 12, and a bottle of wine

Couples whose last names begin with P-Z please bring a dessert to serve 12, and a bottle of wine

Singles please bring an appetizer if your last name begins with A-O

Singles please bring a bottle of wine if your last name begins with P-Z

RSVP by November 27 to Barbara Reid at 503-560-4371 or blsreid@gmail.com

ACTIVITIES and INTEREST GROUPS

ATTENTION LUNCH BUNCH LOVERS!

This is a reminder to save the date for the next Lunch Bunch – **Wednesday, February 24, 2016**. We will be lunching at **Partake** in downtown Healdsburg. Mark your calendars now, and look for the details in the January Grapevine.

—Sharyn Sarquis

COUPLES BRIDGE, LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS



Couples Bridge meets **monthly on the second Friday, 7-10 pm**, in a member's home for dessert and bridge. The level of play is intermediate, Chicago scoring, changing partners after four hands. There are two to three tables depending upon the size of the host's home. A schedule is sent out at the beginning of the year for hosts to sign up. An email reminder is sent out to the regular members on the first of each month to sign up for play that month. First come, first served in getting to play.

Regular members must be able to host at least two tables. Substitutes need not host. Couples interested in joining this group as a **regular or a substitute**, please contact **Ronnie Devitt**, vdevitt@comcast.net

—Ronnie Devitt

HIKING CLUB

The **Healdsburg AAUW** had a very enjoyable Fall hike at Bishop Ranch in West Dry Creek.



Any interested members are invited to join the hikers most Friday mornings. For more information, <http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net>

See the AAUW website for
—Yvonne Schell

MEMBERSHIP

REMINDER

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 433-5646

CONTACT INFORMATION

New phone:

Patty McHugh (707)894-6622

New Branch Members:

Raleigh Fohrman Rbfohrman@aol.com

Cheri Kraftka ckzin@vbbn.com

Sandi Passalacqua sandipassalacqua8@gmail.com

(Sandi is a returning charter **AAUW** member)

— **Deana Fusco**

NEW MEMBERS

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 contact **Pat Bertapelle** at pat@vbbn.com

The Fall New Member Coffee.....



— **Pat Bertapelle**

AMANDA HAAS

Amanda and her husband Ray moved from San Francisco to Santa Rosa ten years ago, changing their focus to becoming gentleman and gentlewoman farmers. They live on twenty-six acres along with two dogs and a flock of chickens. They grow seasonal food crops for their own table and share what's extra with the Santa Rosa Food Bank and friends. They also make some family wine from grapes they inherited when they bought their property. Amanda put it this way, “We love working this land.”



Amanda graduated from Connecticut College in Modern European History and then went on to the San Francisco Art Institute for her Master of Fine Art. Her major was multi-discipline with an emphasis on drawing and painting. She's had lots of experience in the art world the past twenty years. Her art work is conceptual multimedia and has been exhibited widely.

In addition to digging into farming, she is on the Board of the Santa Rosa Symphony and is enthused about belonging to the newly founded Impact 100 Women Redwood Circle that annually awards grants to Sonoma County non profits. She also volunteers with Sonoma County Community and Family Services Agency where she has trained to become a Senior Peer Counselor. She is part of a group of thirty-four counselors who went through a lengthy training program in order to help seniors who are dealing with difficult issues such as depression, health problems, financial issues and challenges of meeting basic needs such as food and shelter.

Amanda has an amazing assortment of interests and talents, and looks forward to exploring all the facets of the **Healdsburg Branch of AAUW**.

— **Barbara Gruber**



CINDY BRENTON

A deep voice from a familiar TV series intones: "In the criminal justice system, domestic violence and child abuse offenses are considered especially heinous. In our AAUW, the dedicated policewoman who investigated these

crimes was a member of an elite squad in St. Helena. This is her story."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZifzoDW5q0>

Music fades, camera focuses on...Cindy Brenton!

Our new member actually began her career in Human Resource Management, and entered Law Enforcement in '96 at the age of 45. When hired, she was told "You'll still be managing people, but you'll have a gun this time!"

A mere 5 years later she was recognized by the State of California Senate as the St. Helena Police Department Officer of the Year. Cindy credits her success in working with young victims to their often seeing her in the schools doing the *Project DARE* and *Stranger, Danger* programs. "The teachers and children knew me, and knew I would help young victims in bad situations. In dealing with young victims I made a point of talking to them in a place they felt safe to talk. In one case that place was the family's outside doghouse. I was just happy they had a big dog!"

Upon retirement ("I was happily married, and didn't want to put my life at risk any more!"), she started the Healdsburg PD Volunteer Program, and also volunteered for CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates).

Cindy is now writing a memoir not only for her family members but others as well. "I have that goal of writing a book about my life for my daughter and grandkids. But also want to communicate the importance of not turning a blind eye. I've seen so many cases when people should have called the cops, but instead they ignore what's going on and walk away. My message: Don't turn your back."

Stay tuned! (da dun da da dun da dun!) —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, Diane Burnley, dburnley@aol.com

