

## January Speaker Series

### Ending Homelessness in Sonoma County

**Tuesday, January 7, 2014**

**Healdsburg High School Library, 1024 Prince Street at Powell**

**5:00 Social Gathering, 5:30 AAUW Business**

**5:45 Speaker: Georgia Berland**

**Executive Officer, Sonoma County Task Force for the Homeless**

**Owner, Human Service Designs**



The Sonoma County Task Force for the Homeless is a nonprofit countywide coalition offering advocacy, collaborative program development, community education, and funding to end local homelessness and assist people who have lost their homes.

Georgia Berland, a Task Force for the Homeless founder, consults as the part-time executive officer of the task force in organizing, facilitating, collaborative planning, program and resource development, and administration. She was formerly Executive Director of the Sonoma County Human Services Commission (13 years) and the Association for Humanistic Psychology (7 years), and taught community psychology at Sonoma State University (8 years). She teaches her own “cooperative action” approach to help individuals clarify and strengthen their role in social change.

Georgia will address the unique circumstances that push a disproportionate number of Sonoma County residents into homelessness, and illustrate the financial, legal, physical, and emotional challenges someone faces once they lose their home. We’ll share real solutions and how we can all be involved in ending homelessness in our county, where one third of the homeless are youth under 25.

—Karen Danielson and Rita Minkin

### **Eight for Tech Trek!**

We’ll be able to send one more girl to Tech Trek next summer, bringing the total to eight. This program is funded by grants from the following sponsors: E & M Electronics, The Neel Foundation (via **Amy Neel**), Sonic.net, Soroptomists, Kiwanis, and Rotary. Costeaux Bakery and Topel winery also donated to our September wine tasting event. Thanks to **Barbara Epstein, Judith Olney, Ann Allan, Amy Neel, Judy Edmonds, and Debbi Crapeau** for working on Tech Trek fundraising.

— Charlene Luks

## President's Message



So wasn't that a fabulous holiday party at the Garwins'? Many thanks go to **Jan** and **Bill Garwin** for hosting such a lovely event. Thanks too to **Violet Nelson**, who served as Jan's co-chair and right-hand helper, **Ronnie** and **Tom Devitt**, who supplied shuttle services, **Cherie** and **Rob Ford**, and **Carla** and **Henry Rosen**, who helped with food and people logistics, greeting folks, and directing traffic. I'd also like to thank all of you who brought school supplies for Healdsburg Elementary to the event. **Shally Schultz**, **Pat Bertapelle**, and I delivered them, along with books for our Reading Rocks kids, on Wednesday, December 18. There were a lot of happy faces! (See pictures on page 5.)

I'd like to use this month's column to thank our hard-working Social Activities Committee, which has been bringing us some really fun events this year. **Cher Frechette** acts as chair, but a lot of hard work is also done by her dozen or so committee members. **Lida Simmons** and **Lynda Guthrie** have been bringing us some very interesting cultural events, like the kayaking trip, and the tour of the geysers. **Winky Merrill** and **Judy Widlow** did a great job putting together the kick-off meeting at Jan Stanley's. Happy hours have been organized by **Carol Hazlett** and **Holly Schatz**, Wine-N-Dine by **Helle Siegert**, and the Lunch Bunch by **Barbara Gruber**. And to think that only a few years ago, **Joyce Scramaglia** was handling almost all of this practically by herself: hats off to you, Joyce, as well as all our current committee members.

Our Social Activities Committee is actually only a few years old. We made the Social Activities Chair a Board position in 2011 when we realized that just coordinating the calendar for all our social events and interest group meetings was becoming a real

challenge. And our membership has grown quite a bit in those few years, so finding appropriate venues for our get-togethers has also presented challenges. Hence the Wine-N-Dine is for smaller groups and some happy hours are at wineries instead of members' homes. Hopefully we can continue our tradition of having our holiday party in a member's home, but it does present challenges, as I'm sure Jan and Bill can attest to.

So as we start our new year, keep your eye on the calendar for more fun social events, and when you do attend them, please be sure and thank your organizer and hostess.  
—**Sue Campbell**

## Help needed with Social Media

Are you a whiz with social media or, just good at it with a strong interest? If so, then we are looking for you. We've come a long way in the last few years with the upgrade of our website and the use of Constant Contact for communicating with members and there is still more work to do – all of which takes a particular skillset, time and interest. Ultimately we'd like someone who would be interested in working with our Facebook page with a longer-range goal of blogging. For now, the critical need is having someone work with our Publicity Chair in getting the message out about the Homes Tour. What does this mean exactly? It means getting information posted on local electronic bulletin boards and working with the e-versions of newspapers, etc. Can you help? Or do you know someone with these skills and interests who may want to join AAUW? If you want more information about what is needed and the time commitment required, please contact **Nancy Haiston** at [nhaiston@earthlink.net](mailto:nhaiston@earthlink.net).

—**Nancy Haiston**

## Plan Ahead for the Big February Push



February 1 is opening day for buying Homes Tour tickets online. Please, please buy tickets online in February. If you buy your tickets and/or make an equivalent donation online by the end of February, we will not have to send you the big mailing packet in March. This saves us money for printing and postage and reduces the number of volunteers needed for the mailing party. You will receive an email postcard reminder as soon as the website is live for accepting payment.

Unfortunately, selling raffle tickets online violates California gaming laws. Therefore, we plan to have raffle tickets for sale, starting in February, by cash and check wherever our members gather including Speaker Series, interest groups, cultural events, happy hours, luncheons, and dinners. We will let you know in advance who will have tickets available where. Rest assured that we are not planning the hard sell at every event – unless we get desperate as we get closer to the tour. Of course tickets will be available on the day of the tour. Proceeds from the raffle have been 20 to 25% of HHT revenue in the last few years and the prizes have gotten more and more valuable thanks to our generous donors.

Remember to thank and patronize those donors. Restaurants deserving our business in the tourist barren winter include: Agave, Alioto's Healdsburg, Baci, Café Lucia, Catelli's, Center Street Café, Costeaux, Healdsburg Bar and Grill, Charcuterie, Taverna Sofia, Thai Orchid, and The Wurst. Pamper yourself at Akoia Day Spa, Hair Artistry by Gabrielle, Healdsburg Hotel Spa, Salon Melrose, Skin Lounge, Touch of Heart Massage, and Vine Street Cuts and Tans. Then hit the sales at Bella, Gina's Boutique, and Zizi. Thank you for your on-going support.

—Janet Hoehn and Ronnie Devitt, Co-chairs of the HHT Team

### Glove Found

I found one small-sized black fabric woman's glove on the sidewalk after the holiday party at Jan Garwin's. Please call or email **Sonja Erickson** 433-3687, [dseerickson@yahoo.com](mailto:dseerickson@yahoo.com)

—Sonja Erickson

### New Member Email Address

Rosemary Rasori

[prpma@aol.com](mailto:prpma@aol.com)

— Gail Wright

## Reading Rocks and AAUW School Supply Donations

On Wednesday, December 18, president **Sue Campbell** and coordinator **Shally Schultz**, along with the Reading Rocks tutors, presented principal Stephanie Feith with the cartons and cartons and bags and bags of much needed school supplies donated by our members. The bounty was amazing! It was on display in the hall inside the main entrance to Healdsburg Elementary School and as the children walked by in lines en route to their classrooms, we heard lots of “ooohs” and “ahhhhs”.



In addition, the Reading Rocks tutors presented each and every first grader (110 in all!) a book to take home and cherish. Each first grade teacher also received a holiday book, and the classroom libraries received some always welcome additions. There were lots of happy faces and thank yous from the children as well as the tutors as they celebrated this important AAUW program and tradition.

—Pat Bertapelle





## Holiday Party at the Garwins'



## Supporting Good Legislation

The California Public Policy Committee, chaired by Sue Miller, had a good year in 2013. Out of the 2500 issues Californian legislators addressed, the committee took a position on 40 relating to AAUW-CA priorities. Of those 40, two they opposed were defeated, two bold endeavors they supported were vetoed, and half were passed. Half is good: it often takes several attempts to get a bill approved.

One of the most hopeful bills that passed adds financial literacy to the secondary education curriculum. Once schools update their curriculum and/or textbooks are revised, teaching financial literacy will include, but not be limited to, budgeting and managing credit, student loans, consumer debt, and identity theft security. Check in Section 1 to read the interesting facts, some rather appalling, which supported the enactment of this bill. [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201320140AB166](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201320140AB166)

—Ann Allan

## Member News

**Audrey Darby** has been working on the legacy of the artist Frank Koci for more than nine years. The Santa Rosa Golf and Country Club will be hosting an art show featuring the work of Frank Koci and Hal Weber from January 13 to April 11, 2014. A video featuring the work of Frank Koci will be shown. There will be a reception at the Club on January 24 from 5-7 p.m. and all AAUW members and friends are invited to attend.

—Audrey Darby

## Cultural group February Event

*Georgia O'Keefe and Lake George Exhibit*  
**De Young Museum, San Francisco**



**Wednesday, February 26**

The Cultural Group will head to San Francisco's De Young Museum on Wednesday, February 26 to enjoy the special Georgia O'Keefe Exhibit. To learn more about this exhibit, please go to <http://deyoung.famsf.org/deyoung/exhibitions/modern-nature-georgia-okeeffe-and-lake-george>.

We'll depart from the Foss Creek Community Center soccer field parking lot on Healdsburg Avenue at 8:30 a.m. and car pool to San Francisco with the intent of visiting the O'Keefe Exhibit at 10:30 a.m. We'll depart the museum around 12:30 p.m. allowing plenty of time to visit other exhibits as well. We'll head to Sausalito and have lunch at the Spinnaker Restaurant.

De Young ticket costs will vary depending upon the number in our group and the number of members who may obtain free tickets. Therefore, if you are planning to join us, please contact **Lynda Guthrie** at [guthrie.lynda@gmail.com](mailto:guthrie.lynda@gmail.com) by February 5, 2014. Please provide 1.) your name and the name(s) of any guests who will be joining you and 2.) the number of free tickets you can contribute. If we have a group of ten or more, non-member tickets will be in the \$7 - \$8 range. Arrangements will be made based on the information received as of February 5.

—Lynda Guthrie

## Great Decisions Discussion Group

The good news is that we had a fantastic response to our November *Grapevine* article and the Great Decisions discussion group now numbers 16. Books are on order and our first meeting for 2014 will happen in February. The not so good news is that the group is now “full.” If you are still interested in joining, your name will go on a waiting list to backfill if any of our current members drop out. Or, if we get as few as four who are interested in joining, we’ll have the option of breaking the group up into two groups of 10. So, if you are interested in being a part of this interesting group, please contact **Nancy Haiston** at [nhaiston@earthlink.net](mailto:nhaiston@earthlink.net). **Nancy**

—Nancy Haiston

## Lunch Bunch

Here are the delicious details you’ve been waiting for!

**Thursday, February 13, 2014, 11:45 a.m.**

**Chinois Asian Bistro**

**186 Windsor River Road, Windsor.**

**Cost of \$25 includes your three-course lunch, tax, and tip. Beverages are extra.**

**Reservation check by Friday, February 7.**



**Get set for a taste of contemporary Pacific Rim dining. Our menu:**

Chinois Organic Salad: signature soy vinaigrette dressing, seasonal fruit, and taro root chips

Main dishes served family style:

Malaysian chicken satay (grilled

chicken skewers served with cucumber salad and peanut sauce), and vegetarian mildly-spicy curry, simmered with tofu, sweet yam, zucchini, carrots, and Japanese eggplant.

Dessert: coconut ice cream

**How to make your reservation:**

Join the fun: mail your \$25 check payable to B. Gruber to 670 Bailhache Avenue, Healdsburg, 95448.

Reservation deadline: I need to receive your reservation check **by Friday February 7th.**

**Looking forward to another wonderful lunch together!**

—Barbara Gruber

## New Members

**Patricia A. McHugh** moved to Healdsburg from Alameda where she worked 16 years as project manager for the city of San Mateo, and in other projects concerning improvement issues. “I also worked in Albuquerque for the city council as a policy analyst, and in a not-for-profit organization in southern California.



“When we decided to retire, after considering several options, we chose Healdsburg as our retirement home.” She says she likes the small town atmosphere of Healdsburg. “My husband and I lived on a sailboat in Alameda for 10 years. He retired after 37 years in the fire service, and now specializes in public safety issues.”

Patty’s interests include swimming, outdoor activities, reading, and she enjoys volunteering at the elementary school. “I’d like to become more involved in the community, and that’s one reason I joined AAUW.” She adds that she loves to travel and especially liked visiting in La Paz, Mexico, and hopes to take a big trip this year, including a visit to England where her mother formerly resided.

She obtained a BS from the University of New Mexico in speech communication, and an MA in business administration in human resources.





**Sue Finan** retired from her teaching career after 39 years, which encompassed educational facilities in Chicago, IL; Pittsburg, PA; locally in Forestville, CA; and Healdsburg Junior High. “After

I received a pink slip, I didn’t want to search for another teaching job.” However, she also is a writer who focuses on historical fiction. She worked for Macmillan Publishers where she wrote short stories, “all children’s stuff. I wrote and taught at the same time, specializing in vocabulary development based on historical events, such as the Salem witches’ trial, the Battle of Orleans, and a history of Forestville.” Currently Sue is working on the second draft of her book based on historical fiction.

She has a BS in elementary education from the University of Illinois, Urbana, and an MA in education from Loyola, Chicago. In addition to her recently joining AAUW Healdsburg, she also is a member of AAUW in Santa Rosa, and has been a member of the Chicago chapter since 1972.

Her travels include a stint in Tokyo as an ambassador in education. Other travels include Italy, Turkey, Israel, and she plans to visit the Baltic capitals this summer.

Her AAUW interests include the Chefs’ Squad, Wine–N–Dine, and book groups. She also is a member of the World Affairs Association and takes OLLI classes. She and her husband, Jim, reside in Windsor.

**Winky Merrill** joined AAUW in June 2012 after arriving from Boston. She was invited to attend that year’s installation luncheon where “I instantly met 35 people.” Her husband was from Davis where he had a farm, so the couple was



familiar with the area. When they were ready to leave the East, they chose Healdsburg. She met her husband through both of them being employed by the Sierra Club; he is an environmental engineer, so is able to pursue his profession on both coasts, and to maintain family ties and friendships in both areas. “Most of our travel is back and forth, and also to Florida where we also have family.”

She is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania with a BA in architecture and art history, and obtained her MBA from Cornell in Ithaca. “I worked as an art consultant in Boston, mainly in health care art for hospital environments including hallways, atria, children’s and other general areas. We had budgets that allowed us to purchase for permanent collections from local artists.”

Winky is interested in becoming more involved with Healdsburg’s art community, and would like to coordinate art workshops. She also likes to hike, and says the AAUW hiking group has been a main connection with the organization. She also enjoys gardening, fishing, kayaking, and is experimenting in making their own wine. “We really like living here; people are so welcoming and easy to know.”

—Gloria Norton

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