

November Speaker Series

The ABCs of Financial Planning

Speaker: Andrea Wolcott, Certified Financial Planner

Tuesday, November 10, 2015

(Note: New date due to election day on Nov. 3)

5:00 pm Social Gathering

5:30 pm Business Meeting (brief)

5:45 Speaker

Location: Healdsburg Public Library

139 Piper Street

Healdsburg

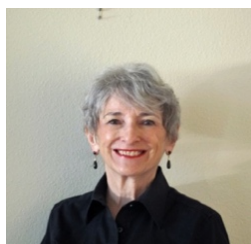
Note: Location change

Who knows what belongs in both your refrigerator and your glove compartment? Meet **Andrea Wolcott**; she can tell you, make you laugh, and then move on to help you set realistic goals for investments, taxes, retirement, or estate planning. **Andrea** is a new member of our **AAUW** chapter, and works as a Certified Financial Planner. Before moving back to Healdsburg, she spent 18 years in the financial industry, many of them on Wall Street. She will tell us it's time to wisely confront the planning challenges we have either set aside or let someone else take care of. We are at different places in our lives: some are young and need to save and plan for retirement; some of us are older and need to have open discussions about inheritance and end of life issues. **Andrea** is in the business of helping people plan financial decisions, so what she says should interest us all. Spouses and guests are welcome.

As a third generation grape grower in Dry Creek Valley where the Wolcott family has lived for 50 years, **Andrea** is glad to be back. She opened her Healdsburg office, *Wolcott Financial Solutions*, in May.

Last month there was a good turnout at our Speaker Series. At the meeting all of the attending members agreed that they no longer wanted to have food at our monthly meetings. Everyone also agreed that they would like to continue having water available.

—Ann Allan



President's Message

It is hard keeping up with **Healdsburg AAUW** members. What a vibrant group! In October, Member Meetings/Speakers Series, the Forum, and Great Decisions resumed after the summer hiatus. We had the first of the season Lunch Bunch gathering and Happy Hour at Mill Creek Vineyard, plus the sculpture tour and fund raiser at Oliver Ranch. The interest groups are meeting several times a week. **In November, remember the change of date and location for Speakers Series.** The first Wine & Dine Dinners will be held on the 14th. These intimate dinners in member homes are always fun.

Sadly, the first Forum Series is coming to an end. I would not have signed up for a course on the Roosevelts but for the fact that Chris O'Sullivan was the instructor. He is a such a great teacher that I will sign up for anything he teaches in Healdsburg. If you missed this course, you will be able to sign up for the Part 2 in the winter session. Part 1 is not a prerequisite. Take it. You won't be sorry. I am going to try to do both courses in the next session.

Nancy Haiston, Heidi Blumenthal and I attended a luncheon, sponsored by the Marin and Petaluma AAUW branches, to hear a talk by Mark Hopkins, the national AAUW director for strategic planning. He reported that nationally there are now 180,000 members and supporters (half are dues paying members). Twenty percent of all AAUW members reside in California. There are 1000 branches. Branch membership has declined slightly while national membership has increased. In the past five years donations from branches to AAUW national has gone down from \$3.1 million to \$1.25 million. This in part reflects the fact that more branches are funding their own programs rather than funneling all funds to national. However, national is still able to grant approximately \$3.7 million annually in fellowships, grants and awards. To learn more about AAUW nationally, check the website www.aauw.org. There are also direct links from the home page of our website <http://healdsburg-ca.aauw.net> to both the national and AAUW CA websites.

In the next few weeks you will receive a letter asking you to consider adding **Healdsburg AAUW Fund** to your charitable giving list. We hope your response will be positive. Your tax deductible donations will help AAUW continue to provide scholarships for girls and women and support local educational programs.

—Ronnie Devitt

AAUW Public Policy and the U.S. Supreme Court

On October 5th, the Supreme Court reconvened for its 2015-16 term with a docket full of cases important to AAUW and its public policy agenda. Read on to learn what's at stake this term.

The affirmative action case: *Fisher v. University of Texas* could further restrict the use of race in college admissions decisions. Affirmative action programs establish equal opportunity for women and minorities and improve gender, racial, and ethnic diversity in educational institutions and in workplaces.

The voting rights case: *Evenwel v. Abbott* will consider whether voting districts should be established based on total population—as is currently the case—or eligible voters. Changing the current standard could shift voting power away from communities with large numbers of children and higher immigrant populations.

The union case: *Friedrichs v. California Teachers Association* has the potential to limit the ability of unions to collectively bargain. Unions are an important tool for all workers, but especially women, in fighting for fair pay, safe working conditions, health care, and retirement benefits.

The potential abortion regulations case: There will likely be a case challenging the restrictive abortion regulations put in place in Texas. Although couched as protecting the health and safety of women, these harmful restrictions both seek to and are succeeding in limiting access to safe, legal abortions, and in so doing are also limiting access to women's reproductive healthcare generally.

The potential birth control coverage case: It is probable that the Court will hear a case from religiously affiliated organizations seeking to challenge the Affordable Care Act's preventive healthcare contraceptive coverage provision. They will claim that having to notify the federal government about their objections to birth control coverage in their insurance plans makes them complicit in facilitating access to contraceptives and therefore violates their religious freedom.

—*Michele St.Clair*, Healdsburg Board of Directors and AAUW-CA Public Policy Committee

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Healdsburg High School, Career Choices:

For five years, the local Association of American University Women (**Healdsburg AAUW**) And Rotary clubs have brought amazing Career Panels onto the Healdsburg High School campus. Each panel, made up of local professionals, speaks to a certain industry, sharing insights about career paths and preparation. Literally, thousands of students have been touched by this opportunity.

This year, the **Healdsburg AAUW** and Rotary are partnering with the Healdsburg High School staff to bring professionals into the classroom to work firsthand with students. For instance, when Seniors are working on their small business development projects in Economics classes, business professionals come into the classroom guiding the students toward profitability. When Sophomores in an English class read a novel about bullying and assault, a police officer, a child psychologist, a crisis hotline worker, and a nurse were brought in to discuss how these issues actually affect Healdsburg's youth and how they are dealt with in the workplace.

Senior English classes reading literature set in the 1960s are conducting research into that decade's massive social upheavals, and they have silver-haired firebrands of various stripes coming in to critique their projects, discuss what life was really like, and how those long ago days affected their career choices and world view. Students in AP World History are learning about the Columbian Exchange that occurred after European colonization of the "new world." They'll work with a microbiologist, a missionary, a tribal member, a culinary expert, an economist, an educator specializing in study abroad, and a Peace Corps volunteer to explore how exchanges affect people and societies today. Through this partnership, students will not only see that their learning is connected to the real world, but will make valuable connections with members of their community and with possible career choices.

It is indeed a new era at HHS as the big red doors have been opened up to the community. We are excited to be partnering with **Healdsburg AAUW** and Rotary to educate our children and welcome this involvement. There is no better place to live, work, or learn than Healdsburg, as is evidenced by the community's amazing support of its children! **—from the Blog of HHS principal, Dr. Lori Rhodes**

Reading Rocks

In addition to working 1-on-1 with first graders to assist in their reading, West Side School can use more volunteers. According to principal Rhonda Bellmer, "If any member has 30 minutes to an hour once a week, we could use the help in a variety of ways." West Side is a grade 1-6 school in Healdsburg. **AAUW** member **Pat Bertapelle** is on their school board. If you are interested in helping, please contact Denny Martin, dkmartin7@gmail.com . **—Judy**

Edmonds

Healdsburg AAUW Happy Hour



Everyone gathered at Mill Creek Winery, on Thursday evening, October 15, 2015.

Engaging conversation, delicious appetizers, and wine were enjoyed by all!

Upcoming AAUW Social Events



Wine-N-Dine

Our **AAUW** branch has grown so rapidly in the last few years that the idea for the Wine-N-Dine dinner event is to group people who would not normally get together. The group could be 6-10 depending on how many the Host can accommodate. There are several of these dinners taking place on the same evening, with a Host house for each one.

Our first Wine-N-Dine event of this year will be held on Saturday evening, **November 14th**.

If you are interested in attending, please contact **Liz Loebel** lizloebel@gmail.com by Saturday, October 31st.

—Liz Loebel

AAUW Holiday Party



Let's take a break from our hectic holiday plans to join with **AAUW** members and their spouse/guest in merriment and cheer.

Our Annual Holiday Party will be:

Sunday, December 6, 2015

4:30 – 7:30 pm

Geyserville's Oriental Community Hall

1000 Hwy 128

Couples whose last names begins 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 .

Volunteers to help with cleanup are needed; so when you RSVP please let Barbara know if you can assist.

We are looking forward to another wonderful holiday party with our **AAUW** friends!

—Barbara Reid



A New Member.....

Karen Thomas

Karen Thomas is a Glamper! (Hmmm? For those of us who have never pitched a tent: Glamping or “glamorous camping” pairs destinations with the intimacy of camping and the world of luxury travel.)

As a descendent of the Baltimore Colony pioneers in Oregon, one can see how **Karen** inherited the camping gene. Through ancestry.com, she found that after receiving land grants in the mid 1800s, her people travelled by boat and mules from their city homes on the east coast to “set up amidst the Indians” on the Coquille River in Oregon. **Karen** imagines, though, that life was hard, especially for the females, and certainly not glamorous!

So, in the spirit of her forebears, she and her husband, Dale, bought an R.V. this past summer to go glamping in Glacier National Park. And, probably like her foremothers, she ran into some problems. “Fire. The campground and the road to it were closed. It was so smoky in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana that we chose to go to the Oregon coast instead.”

She also discovered, that like herself and her husband, her ancestors were builders and business people. **Karen** and Dale have been doing residential construction for the past thirty years, and during the mid '80s to mid '90s they owned the *Plaza Street Market*, featuring gourmet food, a deli, and the first wine tasting spot on the Plaza.

They left Healdsburg in '97, then moved back three years ago, and are now busy finishing their own house and renovating a house and cottage down the street.

She's still delving into her past, and became interested in the **AAUW** because of our emphasis on educating women.

As for glamping, the Glacier National Park is still there, they still have the R.V., and she's still fired up about the trip: “We'll get there!”

—Sue Finan

New Members Contact Info

Amanda Haas ashknack@gmail.com

Cindy Brenton j.brenton@comcast.net

REMINDERS

If you are interested in being a “Buddy” for a new member, please contact **Pat Bertapelle**. pat@vbbn.com

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 care can be sent to the person or family from **AAUW**. skneass@att.net or 433-5646

26th Annual Healdsburg Homes Tour

Put May 1, 2016 on your calendar

Please see article about our 2016 AAUW Homes Tour on Page 8.

Healdsburg Homes Tour 2016

Sunday May 1, 2016

10:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.



Plans are underway for the 2016 Healdsburg Homes Tour. We appreciate all of the work that volunteers contributed last year. This year many of the same members are volunteering again and we have some new volunteers to bring us ideas and energy. The committee chairs have already met for both a brainstorming session and our first regular meeting. We still have plans to showcase six homes and the Home Selection committee is well underway in finding those gems that will make our tour special. If you have a home that you think would be interesting for the tour, please contact **Yvonne Schell**, yschell@comcast.net . Another chair that is busily working is our Sponsorship and Advertising Chair, **Andrea Wolcott**, andreawolcott@gmail.com . who can always use help in finding sponsors and advertisers. However, before you contact anyone, please coordinate with Andrea so we can make sure we are not soliciting the same businesses. Ideas for businesses that can be solicited are contractors, landscapers, accountants, realtors, financial advisors, and medical services providers like doctors and dentists.

The tour price will remain the same as will the hours. We may eliminate the raffle this year given the new fund raising efforts that AAUW has started, such as the Forum, eScript and the 501 (c)(3) fund. This will allow us to focus our volunteer resources on the tour itself.

We will still need many of you to volunteer on the day of the tour. Also, **Shally Schultz** will need help for the mailing party and Charlene Luks will be soliciting docents, cookie bakers, and other volunteers for the day of the event.

Thanks to all!

—Cecile Peters and Kim Alexander, co-chairs

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

