



The Grapevine

Healdsburg Branch

Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, philanthropy, research

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A Charmed 2018 AAUW Homes Tour!

The 2018 Healdsburg Homes Tour was blessed with six beautiful homes and perfect strolling weather. Despite a decreased attendance this year, we broke our financial record of last year grossing **\$57,666 and netting \$54,536**--an increase from last year of \$3,536. More money to go to our AAUW scholarships and educational programs!

The magic started with **Debbie Potmesil and Yvonne Schell** conjuring up six generous home owners: Thank you to **Laura and Kirk Bowman, Linda Barber and Jack Cunningham, Pat and Bill Jordan, Liz and Ty Schuiling, Bonnie and Jim Headley, and Geri Hadley and Ron Cote**. The six homes were in pristine condition and the homeowners were graciously hospitable. It was particularly enjoyable that all the homes were in close downtown proximity to our check in station at the Healdsburg Museum-- a walking pleasure.

A big thank you to all of you who volunteered this year. This event requires many helping hands. In addition to a year of work by our close-knit team of 18, our Tour requires over 100 docents, greeters, and check-in folks. **Laura Tredinick** recruited through 'Sign-Up', and then provided speedy check-in on the day of the Tour, complete with nametags. This year Laura spent extra time doing outreach to non-members, family, and friends. Also, we gratefully acknowledge the cookie-bakers and the organizers of refreshments, **Pat Swaney and Diane Burnley**.

Marian Van Alyea, who is so organized and hardworking that she could run our country, met with home owners to determine staffing needs and traffic flow. Marian was a role model for the hospitality and communication

that is at the heart of “docenting” by hosting a get-together for all the Head Docents and ensuring that everyone knew about their homes. Our Docents provide a vital service, by welcoming the public and assuring the homeowners that their homes are in good hands.

Gail Wright hosted a check-in training session in her home. Thus, visitors had an extremely smooth and gracious experience with expert organization and card-swiping speed. Thank you to all the check-in staff. Fantastic job with speedy check-in with a smile!

You might wonder how we pulled a financial rabbit out of the hat with decreased attendance? Well, thank **Kate Van Ness** and her team including **Pat Novak Nelson, Marcia Fosberg, and Kim Alexander**. Also helping were **Heidi Blumenthal, Sue Campbell, Ronnie Devitt, Joy Fremont, Patty McHugh, Yvonne Schell** and **Marian Van Alyea**. They secured a record-breaking number of Program Ads and Supporters. Special thanks to **Home Sponsors: Big John’s Market, Eddinger Enterprises, Inc., Hudson Street Design, Healdsburg Sotheby’s (Cynthia Jarvis, Martin Humphrey, Bob Pennypacker), and Vanguard Properties. Bob Pennypacker** went the extra mile and created a video of the history of our AAUW Homes Tour, <https://youtu.be/JTOyZSKCd4I4I> . Of course, the community’s generosity is heartwarming, particularly in the aftermath of the fires.

Did we mention our Team is 18 Strong? The other Stars*** of our “Dream Team” include:

Joy Fremont – Graphic, Photography, and Printing Chair

Julie Hanamura – Treasurer

Maureen Keefe - Signage

Shally Schultz and her team of 12 – Marketing Distribution of Posters and Rack Cards

Janice Sexton – Admin

Laura Tyler – Spreadsheet Queen and Co-Chair heir apparent

Gail Wright – Ticket Distribution and Check In

Phil Wright – Photography

The Homes Tour Team had angels from above as well. The advice and oversight of AAUW Healdsburg officers and board members is greatly appreciated. Thanks to **Mary Fitzgerald, Diane Burnley, Nancy Haiston, Terry Leach, Liz Loebel, Carol Noack, Scarlet Wood, Barbara Zarakov**. And a big thanks to **Neita Comings and Carol Hazlett** for organizing the fabulous after-party.

And here is the secret ingredient to this year’s “**Magic**”. **We had fun!** If you want to make some close friends and enjoy the process, think about working on the Homes Tour. Next year will be led by **Johanna Lieblein and Laura Tyler**. We are already recruiting new team members. While this fundraising event takes a lot of people and planning, the process is conducive to bonding and some genuine fun. Don’t be afraid of it. Thank you for the opportunity to lead this endeavor.

Thank you everyone for making this year’s Homes Tour a new “Best Ever,” a charmed day for all. Congratulations!

—**Johanna Lieblein and Carlene Reininga, 2018 Homes Tour Co-Chairs**

It’s All About Cookies

Many thanks to all the generous bakers who once again provided delicious treats for our very successful **Homes Tour**. Your time, baking talent, and tasty recipes are so very much appreciated by our guests and by **AAUW** members as well. Many guests commented about how beautiful and delicious the cookies were this year. The Refreshment House is always a fun place to be on **Homes Tour** day, and adds a festive, social, and relaxing element to the **Tour**, which simply would not be possible without all those yummy homemade cookies.

—With appreciation, **Pat Swaney**



Our President's Message

It's been very busy this past month. We've had a very successful **Homes Tour**; **Linda Clark** and I attended the **CA AAUW Convention** (Irvine) in April and **Kate Van Ness** and I attended the **NorCal AAUW Leadership Team meeting** (Novato) in mid-May.

First off, a great shout-out to **Carlene and her terrific team** for making the **Homes Tour** such a success. Please see her article for more details about the event.

The conventions. Why do we attend? To learn and to become inspired. Convention weekends are divided between talks for the entire group and then workshops on specific topics. At State we attended a **Public Policy Plenary – Grassroots Advocacy**. Public Policy is a vital part of our **AAUW** membership. The members who are engaged in Public Policy are passionate in advocating for women and girls so they can break through social and economic barriers. We saw a film and participated in a discussion called "50/50 Day". We heard from the Women Peacebuilders who are involved in two programs sponsored by the Joan Kroc Institute of Peace and Justice at the University of San Diego. These two programs consist of 1000 women peacemakers from conflict areas around the world such as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Africa. It was so encouraging to learn about these women and their work.

For the workshops, **Linda and I** split up. She attended the inspiring workshop on **Teck Trek Girls** and has brought back lots of ideas. I attended the nuts and bolts workshop on how to find information on the **CA AAUW** website. Nothing inspiring to share there, but necessary for me to be effective in my position. In other open sessions we heard the **Speech Trek** candidates (who were amazing), a talk on Advocacy in the Age of Trump by Lisa Maatz – who talked about a very bipartisan approach to dealing with serious issues, and we heard from our National CEO, Kimberly Churches – a fascinating speaker and from what I've seen so far, quite an effective leader. Changes are happening.

The **Leadership Team Meeting** that **Kate and I** attended was, as expected, focused on topics that would support us in being more effective leaders in our Branch, covering such topics as 'do we have the most effective Board design for our Branch', how to deal with conflict resolution, and a review of the proposed national bylaws. The afternoon was left open to small group topics. The two sessions I attended covered 1. How to solicit input from the membership and 2. How to coordinate with the Petaluma, Novato, Napa and Santa Rosa Branches in working with SSU Sonoma. **Kate** attended the sessions on 1. NCCWSL (National Conference of College Women Student Leaders) and 2. Ideas for mission-based activities.

Attendance at these two events has given Linda, Kate and me lots of new ideas to share with the Board as we kick off the new year in September.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Equal Rights Amendment is not dead. There is still a strong effort to get 3 more states to ratify the amendment. They are very close to getting it down to 2 states. When enough states have ratified, there will be a court challenge on the artificial time limit set for passage of this Amendment. This is the first time ever that a time limit was put in place for passage of an amendment. There is much optimism that a court challenge would be successful.

— Nancy Haiston

CHANGES TO THE NATIONAL BYLAWS

HAVE YOU VOTED?

At the **California AAUW Convention**, we were called “dangerously educated women”. I have to admit that I felt a little ‘puffed up’ by the title. Now I’ve since discovered that we **AAUW** “dangerously educated women” are not voting. We are all part of the larger national organization, yet when National holds an election, about 5% our 77,000 members vote. That’s more than a little underwhelming. I’m sure this statistic surprises all of you as well.

The National Bylaws impact our branch. It’s easy to vote. If you don’t know your PIN number, go to the National website (www.aauw.org) and click on the “Vote Now” link. It will take you to the page with all the information about the proposed Bylaw changes. After you understand the issues, click on the next “Vote Now” link and it will take you to the voting page. Call 800.326.2289 for your PIN number. That’s exactly what I did.

The issues and some things to think about:

Proposal #1: Staggered terms of office for the AAUW Board of Directors on a 3-year rotation.

This is a pretty noncontroversial proposal because it makes sense for the smooth running of the National Board.

Proposal #2: Currently only **AAUW** members can serve on the Board, this proposal states that the 15-member Board will be composed of a minimum of ten AAUW members and no more than five nonmembers.

This proposal has gotten more discussion, but the rationale is that all corporate boards are made up of members and nonmembers as it makes for a better exchange of ideas.

Proposal #3: Eliminate the degree requirement for membership in AAUW

This proposal is highly controversial with the main argument that the degree requirement sets us apart from other service type organizations. True, but here are the arguments for passage:

1. **It is that our mission sets us apart.** Most other organizations focus on one thing. i.e. League of Women Voters: policy; PEO: education. Our mission is to **empower all women** through advocacy, education, philanthropy and research.
2. The average age of our membership is 72! The young people who do join **AAUW** are interested in the mission, but there are young women who support our mission who don’t join. Why? Because of the degree requirement, they don’t see us as inclusive. Something to think about.

Deadline to vote is June 9th.

— Nancy Haiston

PUBLIC POLICY

STAND WITH AAUW TO KEEP TITLE IX STRONG!

AAUW has long supported the vigorous enforcement of Title IX to ensure that our schools are free from discrimination and violence.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 was the first comprehensive federal law to prohibit sex discrimination in education. It covers women and men, girls and boys, and staff and students in any educational institution or program that receives federal funds. While there has been a lot of buzz around the Department of Education's decision to rescind specific guidance documents, Title IX is still the law of the land. Schools have a responsibility to protect all students from discrimination, including instances of sexual assault and harassment.

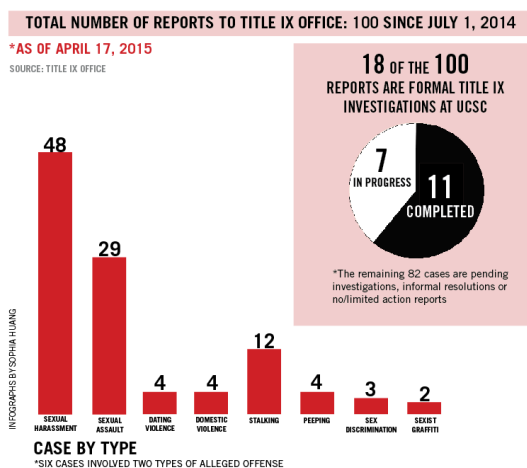
Now more than ever, it's essential that we protect the mechanisms that keep Title IX strong. The U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights (OCR) plays a critical role in the enforcement of Title IX and addressing violations of students' civil rights, including:

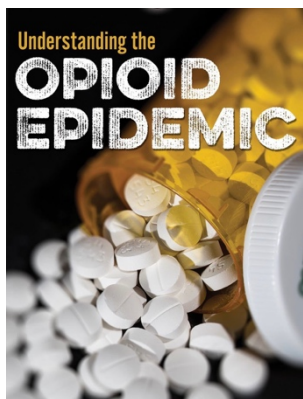
- Conducting the Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) to gather information on key civil rights indicators related to access and barrier to educational opportunities.
- Issuing guidance documents and technical assistance to schools to help address gender discrimination in education. These efforts have led to better outcomes and safer climates for students at every level nationwide.
- Investigating potential civil rights violations in K-12 schools and postsecondary institutions, such as incidents of bullying, harassment, and sexual violence.

Congress has the ability to provide adequate funding to the Office for Civil Rights to ensure that the agency will maintain these critical services. We must protect civil rights and equal opportunity so our students can reach their full potential in a climate free of discrimination and violence.

Tell your members of Congress to stand up for gender equity in education by adequately funding OCR and fighting against any attempts to roll back Title IX.

— Sue Campbell





SAVE THE DATE!

UNDERSTANDING THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

Wednesday, October 3, 2018, 7 p.m.

Raven Performing Arts Theater

Our **AAUW** branch is organizing a community program about the opioid epidemic. Did you know that:

- in 2016, an estimated 5.7% of people over age 12 misused opioids in Sonoma County?
- Our county had 22 opioid deaths in 2016?
- For the first time, life expectancy in the U.S. is declining, due to the opioid epidemic?

Please join us and learn more about this growing problem. We will show a 2018 PBS documentary followed by a panel discussion. Panelists will include a local couple, including a retired Healdsburg Hospital physician who recently lost their son to overdose; our county epidemiologist who will explain the breadth of the problem; and a local physician who will give information to families concerned about this issue. This program is free and open to the public.

Co-sponsors include: Healdsburg Soroptimists, Healdsburg Hospital, Alliance Medical Center & Healthcare Foundation of Northern California. We will be seeking additional co-sponsors.

— Submitted by **Terry Leach, Sue Campbell** and **Winky Merrill**, Organizing Committee

CA AAUW Convention Highlights

I was fortunate to attend the **CA AAUW Convention** in Irvine, and only wish that all of you had been able to participate in the event as well! The outstanding women and programs were truly inspiring, and a great representation of the work we do and why we do it.

Listening to the top three winners of **Speech Trek** showcased our leaders of the future, and it was encouraging to hear them speak! Their ideas on addressing sexism focused around believing that change is possible and it all begins in our homes. There were classes that detailed the unconscious bias we all carry, and our need to acknowledge that societal stereotypes and cultural context impact our actions without us even realizing. Panels of those who have been affected and how they persevered were genuinely eye opening.

Most inspiring to me were the classes and events about **Tech Trek**, as the accomplishments of those graduates are really incredible. There are so many ways we can strengthen our continued relations with **Tech Trek** recipients; perhaps the area of greatest interest to me for our branch included developing them as mentors and teaching the mentoring process to all of us.

—**Linda Clark**

AAUW HEALDSBURG'S FUNDRAISING PAYS IT FORWARD.....

\$22,000 in High Scholarships Awarded!

It's 9:30 a.m. as three of us sit at my kitchen table; our coffee mugs steaming amongst neatly piled stacks of applications – 47 in all - from girls soon to graduate from Healdsburg, Windsor, Cloverdale and Geyserville High Schools. We are stunned that we have nearly twice as many applicants as last year. Each young lady has diligently submitted her transcripts, activity list, an essay, a letter of recommendation and a financial aid form. With \$22,000 of scholarship money hanging in the balance, we committee members have spent hours reviewing and, in many cases, re-reviewing each applicant.

What a privilege! At this moment, one feels so proud of **AAUW** – all of the fundraising we do comes down to this: we have the honor of helping girls achieve their dreams to attend a four-year college. These girls have poignant and moving life stories, they are full of potential, they dream big, and they need our financial help.

Andi Michelsen, Jean Norelli and I begin by sharing our top candidates. Merging our lists, we come up with 20. This “first cut” is difficult enough. To get there, we have been moved by stories of loss, of determination, of challenges overcome. We've read about parents who have sacrificed everything to come to our country to give their children education and opportunity. We've been impressed with personal goals to become doctors, immigration lawyers, marine biologists, business owners and social workers. There are stellar students with long lists of activities and recommendations that soar. The essays reveal girls with grit, humor, leadership and creativity. Some will be first generation college students. Many have financial needs and cannot afford the cost of attending their chosen college.

Next, we take turns “pitching” girls to one another. We make each girl's case, seeking consensus. By 1pm we are finished. We have unanimously agreed on **10 scholarship recipients**. Nine will receive \$2,000 and one Windsor student will receive \$4,000. Amberlyn Heskett's circumstances were compelling – over the course of three years she lost her mother to cancer, her father was laid off and her home was destroyed in the fires. Through it all, she has worked, volunteered at a senior center and maintained a 3.84 average. School has been her anchor, “My education has always been my main priority and it has always been my happy place,” she writes. She intends to go to Dominican University and become a nurse. When her scholarship was announced, Amberlyn was stunned and very grateful.

We **AAUW** members should feel very proud that our branch is able to assist girls with their college tuition. Thank you for your continuing support.

—Winky Merrill

COMMUNITY SERVICE

GEMS

(Girls in Engineering, Math & Sciences)

I'm happy to report that the April 20 fieldtrip to Medtronic was a success. The program was co-sponsored by **GEMS** and two Medtronic business units located in Santa Rosa, the Aortic and Peripheral Vascular business and the Coronary and Structural Heart business. Eight 8th grade students, who were nominated for Tech Trek in 2017, attended. The GEMS students represented Cloverdale, Geyserville and Windsor schools and were joined by a group of HS students from Petaluma.

Dee McGuffey, Linda Clark and Kristine Duran, a Cloverdale Mom, served as drivers, chaperones and field-trip observers.

The program was 4 hours, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and included a light lunch provided by Medtronic.

The program kicked off with a history and company overview. This was followed by hands-on rotations to learn about the Santa Rosa-developed medical devices and therapies, including:

- Aortic stent grafts and delivery systems for treating abdominal and thoracic aortic aneurysms
- Peripheral stents and drug-coated balloons for treating Peripheral Artery Disease
- Venous stents and balloons for treating venous disease
- Coronary stents and balloons for treating coronary artery disease
- Heart valves for surgical heart valve repair and transcatheter valves for aortic and pulmonary valve replacement
- Renal denervation, an investigational treatment currently being researched for uncontrolled hypertension

Following the product demonstrations, the students rotated through four different labs interacting directly with Medtronic engineers.

Areas of interest included:

- Complex computer imaging of aorta, heart and other vital organs (this seemed to be the highlight for the students)
- Fatigue lab where devices are tested for 400,000,000 cardiac cycles to simulate 10 years *in vivo*
- Cardiac anatomy review using a cadaver pig heart
- Plastic extrusion lab for designing and manufacturing catheters and delivery systems

The fieldtrip ended with lunch, during which a panel of young Medtronic engineers shared their personal professional journeys, through high school, undergraduate and graduate school, internships and early careers. There was plenty of time for the students to ask questions of the panel members.

I think the day was time well spent for the students as they begin to think about their education and career choices. **GEMS** is looking forward to offering more fieldtrips in the 2018/2019 school year.

— Vicki Pearson



Installation Luncheon

Saturday, May 19, **Healdsburg AAUW** members gathered together at the beautiful home of **Sue Campbell**. President, **Nancy Haiston**, acknowledged and thanked 2017-2018 **Board Members**, and introduced 2018-2019 **Board Members**.

A delicious salads and desserts luncheon followed. It was an enjoyable time for all.



MEMBERSHIP

New Member contact information:

Julie Jaquiss-Collins	jaqcol15@gmail.com
Pati Joy	plh3232@gmail.com
Nancy Lytle	nglytle@gmail.com

NEW MEMBER

Jan Morgan

Don't let **Jan Morgan's** quick smile and sweet demeanor fool you; she was at the cutting edge of cancer and AIDS research. Jan is a pharmacist who spent 23 years in the U.S. Public Health Service in the Washington D.C. area. Jan worked at the National Cancer Institute, National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases, and the Food and Drug Administration during science's rush to find effective treatments for HIV and cancer. While doing this work, Jan traveled to San Francisco to manage NIH-sponsored clinical trials. "San Francisco General was on the cutting edge of clinical research at that time."



After September 11, 2001, **Jan** had risen through the ranks and found herself having to report directly to the President, George W. Bush. In the aftermath of the disaster, Jan found herself unable to hold this position and reconcile it with her political views. In addition, she felt overwhelmed with the newly intense security in the D.C. area, with barricades, fences and inspections. "I came out to California to interview at Genentech and was able to park right next to the building. Amazing!" That's when she realized she needed to get out of the Beltway.

She spent several years in Silicon Valley and finally found her home in Healdsburg 11years ago. After a stint at Medtronic, she went back to being a pharmacist, something she hadn't done in almost 25 years. Jan needed to start from scratch and take California state pharmacist boards, so she took a job as a pharmacy technician at Long's Drug Store simply to reacquaint herself with "the color of the tablets". She passed her Boards with flying colors and worked at hospitals in this area for nearly 10 years. She retired from Healdsburg District Hospital in March of 2018.

In retirement, **Jan** is looking forward to staying politically active (she worked for Leah Gold's campaign and is on a citizen's advisory review committee), reading, hiking, and working to improve health care for seniors. She says that her life goal is "to lead a worthy life while having as much fun as possible".

—Hillary Kambour

If you are interested in being a 'Buddy' for a new member please contact **Pat Bertapelle**, pat@vbbn.comNew members are the life blood of our organization, and the experience of a new friend is invaluable!

If you are aware of any member who is ill, has had an operation, an accident, or has passed away, please notify **Maria Lucidi** so that a card can be sent to the person or family from **AAUW**.
mlucidi5@gmail.com
or (707) 838-1483

NEW GRAPEVINE PUBLISHER

I would like to thank each one of you who has contributed articles that keep our members informed about all that **Healdsburg AAUW** offers. These contributions record the history of our chapter. The *Grapevine* is a historical document of our accomplishments each month of each year.

Katherine Lacy will be our new *Grapevine* publisher for 2018-2019. It has been an honor for me to be your publisher for the past three years.

— Diane Burnley

PLEASE NOTE:

Occasionally the email and/or website links do not work for some of our **AAUW** members. If this occurs

- For emails, go to your own email site and type in the email address
- For websites, go to Google and type in the website address

We apologize for this inconvenience; however, we have been unsuccessful in correcting this occasional glitch.

The *Grapevine* is published online each month, except in July and August. Please submit articles, announcements in WORD and photographs in Jpeg by the 15th of the month to the *Grapevine* publisher.