

The Grapevine

October 2019

Volume 35, Number 2



BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Fall 2019 Courses – Registration begins September 1

AAUW Members are So Lucky!

In addition to all the other benefits of being an AAUW member, you also have the opportunity to keep up with the latest in world events.

In the second week of October Forum returns with two outstanding speakers. The first, Bruce Elliott—a longtime crowd favorite—will guide us through the many British revolutions from the Reformation to modern-day Brexit. And a newcomer with impeccable credentials, Anastasia Edel, will teach a deep understanding of Russia, a country much on our minds lately.



Taking either one of these classes—or both!—will help keep you up to date on current events.

Professor Elliott will explain what Brexit is all about, and the many things that led up to it over the past 450 years of British history.

And with Russia (and Putin) so much in the news today, Anastasia Edel will teach us about that country's past that influences culture and politics today.



British Revolutions begins on Tuesday, October 8, while Understanding Russia begins on Thursday, October 10.

These separate classes run for six weeks at the Raven Theater on North Street. Times: from 10 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Tickets are \$95 per 6-week session (nonrefundable).

Go to the AAUW website—healdsburg-ca.aauw.net—to sign up. We're looking forward to seeing you there.

President's Message



What does inclusion mean to you?

AAUW CEO, Kim Churches, held focus groups around the US this year with people representing a wide range of genders, age groups and cultural backgrounds. One consistent message from these focus groups was that people—especially those under 40—expect organizations and corporations to include all of these groups in their membership and decision making. To this end, in 2019 Coca-Cola made a \$500,000 grant to AAUW to support the WorkSmart initiative. This initiative is a free, web-based resource that is available for members or nonmembers to use. It provides information to assist in pay equity and promotions, and our hope is that the same wide range of people who took part in the focus groups will learn and benefit from this resource. Are we being as inclusive as possible?

The focus groups also concluded that younger people are no longer interested in joining clubs that their mothers and grandmothers had joined. They preferred to advocate for areas of interest and direct funds accordingly. This led to the development of an Equity Arm of AAUW that is being tested this fall in select areas, in locations that are still being identified. Discovering how to bridge that gap and engage the passion and energy of younger people within the AAUW is an important challenge for us to resolve. Are there new ways we can be more inclusive of these groups in our advocacy efforts?

—Linda Clark

AAUW Membership Meeting October 14, 7-8:30pm High School Library



Come meet the girls AAUW Healdsburg sent to Tech Trek. These Tech Trekkers spent the week of July 9 at Camp Curie at Stanford University. This fantastic STEM program offered classes on robotics, cyber security, animation, forensics and money management. The parents often say that their child went to camp a “little girl” and returned a confident, self-assured girl.

There will be a membership meeting at the Healdsburg High School Library to meet the Trekkers and their parents and to hear how Tech Trek expanded their knowledge of STEM, opened doors to STEM educational and career opportunities, and created long-lasting friendships with like-minded girls. There will be a social time from 7-7:30 and a Trekker panel discussion from 7:30-8:30. Hope to see you there.

—Karla Rosen and Liz Loebel

GEMS (Girls Engaged in Math & Sciences)

GEMS is an outgrowth of AAUW's focus on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). It is a follow-on program for girls who were nominated for Tech Trek. The objective of GEMS is to keep Tech Trek nominees, and their like-minded friends, engaged in math and science throughout their middle and high school years through participation in special programs and field-trips.

GEMS has two exciting events planned for October. The first is an October 22 field trip to the UC Davis - Bodega Marine Laboratory (BML) in Bodega. This is a great opportunity for the girls to learn about career opportunities in Marine Science. There will be a guided tour and the girls will meet with a female scientist to learn about her ongoing research.

The following evening, on October 23, we will have our second annual Professional Women's Career Panel at the Healdsburg Library. We currently have eight confirmed panelists whose backgrounds include astrophysics, bio-mechanical engineering, science/law and healthcare management. Each panelist will share her personal journey including an industry/career overview, academic preparation, and professional skills that supported her success. Following the individual remarks, there will be an open Q&A for the girls and their parents.

Flyers will go out to the schools and Tech Trek nominees next week. If sign-up for the BML event is high, we may need additional volunteer drivers. Please let Vicki know if you are interested in being a driver/chaperone. (Vicki Pearson, GEMS Chair, 707-217-8762, vicki8507@gmail.com)

—Vicki Pearson



Member Spotlight -Mickey Sarquis

Mickey Sarquis's resume reflects a love of science combined with a talent for teaching—whether it is at the elementary, high school, or college levels. She holds a Master's degree in Chemistry from Texas A&M. She had a distinguished career at University of Miami (Ohio), was the founder of its Center for Chemistry Education, authored more than 60 books including co-authorship of the high school textbook *Modern Chemistry*, and in 2010 was named Professor Emerita.



Lucky for us, she and her husband Jerry moved to Healdsburg in retirement. Maybe retirement isn't the right word, as Mickey still is a sought-after teacher trainer traveling throughout the world for her company Terrific Science. She explains that she engages teachers of all levels in an inquiry-based approach to chemistry with “everything from atoms and molecules to chemical reactions.”

Mickey's background in education makes her just the right person to lead the Grants and Scholarships team and represent it on the Board. She led the Santa Rosa Junior College scholarship process for the past three years having now handed that duty on to Jane Martin. Her team also includes Winky Merrill who continues to skillfully leads the high school scholarship duties, and Kay Kohler who takes on responsible for our new Al Garren Renewal Scholarships.

As the director of our Grants and Scholarship team, Mickey's goal is to continue to support the well-organized work of the various scholarship initiatives and be thoughtful in grant making. Additionally, she would like to help our branch members understand how important these programs are to our community and to encourage more of us to donate and support our Healdsburg AAUW Grants and Scholarships efforts.

—Andi Michelsen

MISSION-BASED PROGRAMS

Reading Rocks

Greetings from West Side School! We will be having an orientation for our AAUW volunteer reading tutors on September 27 at 9:00 at the Old Felta Schoolhouse. Our classroom visits begin in October. The little first grade kiddos are anxiously awaiting our return for this important program. Join us if you can give an hour a week to a fun and worthwhile adventure!

Pat Bertapelle, coordinator for West Side Reading Rocks

We are currently looking for volunteers for the Reading Rocks program at Healdsburg Elementary School. You will spend one hour per week, in the morning, either reading “one-on-one” with a first grade student. Please let Shally Schultz know if you would like to volunteer. (shally.schultz@gmail.com)

–Beth Wolk

AAUW Al Garren Renewal Scholarship Awards

Five Sonoma County women, soon to enter the professional world upon completion of their college degrees, are the recipients of the first Healdsburg AAUW Al Garren Renewal Scholarships. Brenda Cross, a 2018 graduate of Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC), is a Business Administration major at U.C. Berkeley looking forward to a career in accounting. Claudia Martinez, also a 2018 graduate of SRJC, is an English major at Sonoma State University, preparing for a career as an ESL teacher. (Debra and Claudia are pictured below.) The career goals of the other three accomplished women are to become, respectively, a labor and delivery nurse, an ecologist, and a multicultural pedagogy instructor.

Since 1995, our Healdsburg AAUW branch has awarded more than \$255,000 in scholarships to re-entry women who graduate from SRJC and continue their education at four-year colleges and universities. These re-entry scholarships are funded by our branch’s annual fund-raising activities, such as the Homes Tour and Forum, and generous donations from our members and friends.

Our new Al Garren Renewal Scholarships are intended to help those previous recipients of our SRJC re-entry awards complete their degrees. These scholarships were made possible from the 2018 receipt of a \$250,000 donor-directed grant from the San Francisco Foundation’s Al Garren Fund. The late Alper A. Garren was a brilliant, compassionate, and widely-loved Northern California particle physicist who gave generously of his time and resources to provide educational opportunities to promising students.

This year’s five Al Garren Scholarship recipients have each successfully completed their full-time academic year at their respective college or university. Recipients had to apply for a renewal grant, maintain a 3.0 GPA or better, carry a minimum of 12 credits per term, show a continuing financial need, verify full-time enrollment at their four-year institution, and submit a personal statement about their educational goals and the challenges they have faced.

Our awards, in the amount of \$4,000 for each recipient, will help them complete their degrees. The recipients have overcome many challenges, often being the first in their families to achieve a college degree. We are sure they will enrich the lives of all they will encounter as they move forward in their careers.

–Kay Kohler



SOCIAL ACTIVITIES AND INTEREST GROUPS

Save the Date for This AAUW Cultural Event! Hidden Genius: A Celebration of Clara Schumann



Clara Wieck Schumann was one of the most extraordinary women who has ever lived. Clara is most known for being a muse to two men of genius- her husband Robert Schumann and her lifelong beloved friend Johannes Brahms.

In this **lecture-performance** that marks the 200th anniversary of Clara's birth, Santa Rosa Symphony Cultural Historian, Kayleen Asbo, shares the heart-warming story of Clara Wieck Schumann, with musical guests joining in a **live performance**. To read more about Clara Schumann, see the recent NY Times article here: <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/08/28/arts/music/clara-schumann.html>

Sunday January 26th, 3pm, home of Hallie Beacham
383 Bridle Path, Healdsburg \$25 per person

Husbands and friends welcome as space allows
RSVP to hbeacham@gmail.com

Lunch Bunch Parties at the Parish Café!

Our Lunch Bunch got an early start and held their first lunch gathering Wednesday, September 11th at the Healdsburg Parish Café. Many members must still have been on vacation in September because we had a light attendance of just 11 people. Our original number was 14 but—last minute—three members had to cancel. Too bad: they missed a delicious lunch of Gumbo, Salad, Turkey Po'boys, and fried Seafood Platter of oysters, catfish and hush puppies. Warm, sugar-covered beignets were dessert. Yum!

How do we arrange these great lunches? We have been spending time looking for a few new experiences—trying restaurants we haven't been to before. Once we select a restaurant we think our group would like, we work with the restaurant to arrange for a separate seating area for our group—which could be up to 25—and a special family style menu which includes signature items of the restaurant. We aim for a menu and a price of \$30 per person that includes tax and gratuity. Beverages are usually extra. To get this arrangement, we commit to a certain number of participants the week before, hence, we ask for checks a week early. Unfortunately, once we commit to a number, we are unable to issue refunds if there are cancellations last minutes. We hope you understand.

The next Lunch Bunch is November 13th - Mark the date!!

—Connie Cservenyak & Cecile Peters



MEMBERSHIP

The Membership Directories have been updated.

Check out our new members and other changes marked in **RED**. If your own information needs any updating, please send an email to blsreid@gmail.com. The change will be included in the next update. Note: This update is the most current information.

To access the lists go to the Membership page on our website and then scroll down to the “Members Only” section. You will need the password.

Membership Directory: Save this directory to your computer as it contains Member ID, name, address, phone numbers and email, or print it out, now at 5 pages long!

Personal Information Directory: Includes partner, occupation, degree, school and some photos. I am in the process of uploading as many new photos as I can! This directory is not for printing as it is over 30 pages in length. Please go to the website and use it for reference only.

The next update will be January 2020

—Barbara Reid, Membership Director

The Bulletin Board

Mary Fitzgerald (mmilfeit@yahoo.com) is the contact point for additions or changes to the Bulletin Board.

The Grapevine is published online each month, except in July and August. Please submit articles and announcements in WORD or PAGES and photographs in jpeg by the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which you want them included.

Send both feedback and newsletter content to me at kk.lacy@gmail.com. Many thanks!

—Katherine Lacy