



The Grapevine

November 2019

Volume 35, Number 3

AAUW Healdsburg Homes Tour



SAVE THE DATE

May 3, 2020

30th Annual Healdsburg Homes Tour

We've started planning for the 2020 homes tour—the thirtieth annual—and would welcome your involvement!

Cynthia Adam and **Karen Messick Fanucchi** are leading the Homes Selection effort again this year. If you would consider having your home featured on the tour, or if your neighbor/friend/relative has an interesting home in Healdsburg, please contact Cynthia (cdadam2014@gmail.com) or Karen (ksm426@yahoo.com). The homes need not be historic to be on the tour.

Betsy Connolly is putting together a team to solicit sponsors and advertisers for the tour. Again, if you'd like to participate, or if you have ideas for them, please contact Betsy (betsyconnolly718@gmail.com).

We'll have more information about the tour, and especially how you can contribute, after the first of the year. In the meantime, huge thanks to the 2020 tour committee!

Laura Tyler - chair
Julia Graves - co-chair

President's Message



Hello friends and compatriots!

As you know, AAUW is nationally respected as a leader in legislative initiatives focusing on women's rights. I am proud to be in the ranks of an organization that, for over a hundred years, has developed and supported issues including right to vote, Title IX and equal pay.

Right now, an effective and helpful way to have your voice heard is to sign-up to participate as a 2-Minute Activist - and our goal is to have 100% of our members take part.

To break it down: we have members involved at the national and state level to review all legislation being proposed. They will identify any bills that impact women and determine if they should be supported or opposed by AAUW, and then share these recommendations with members.

Once these bills are under discussion and up for a vote, a link will be emailed to all members who signed up for 2-Minute Activist. If it's regarding an issue you feel passionate about, we encourage you to send the link to your non-member friends as well! After you complete the 2-Minute Activist link, your support will be sent to appropriate legislators, which is where all of this work pays off. Receiving information from large numbers of constituents - like us - really does influence how your legislators vote.

You will receive about six requests per year when you sign up for 2-Minute Activist. If you disagree with AAUW's recommendation, you are not required to reply.

There is an article below with a link to sign up. We hope we've made it as easy as possible for you to take part, as well as to feel like an informed participant.
Onward!

—Linda Clark

Public Policy - First Impressions

"How can a group of highly educated women NOT want to participate in our democracy, especially given the times we're living through?"

Out of the mouths of babes, or a brand new and oh so naïve AAUW member, to be more accurate. Let me explain: At the September 17th kick-off meeting, I casually mentioned that I might be interested in public policy. Post haste, I found myself seated at **Rebecca LaLonde's** dining table, discussing our Healdsburg chapter's policy objectives for the coming year. (How did she do that?!)

Much of our time was spent brainstorming ways to galvanize the membership to participate in the "Two Minute Activist" initiative, AAUW's email advocacy platform on behalf of women and girls. I was incredulous

to learn that so few of our members take advantage of this super simple ways to let our opinions on these issues be heard - at both the state and federal level.

With the enthusiasm of a newbie, I declared, "Let me try to convince our membership to sign up." So here I am. This is important. Humor me, please.

The process is super simple and only takes a minute or two. Letters are pre-written and directed automatically to your congressmen and senators. There's no easier way to let your voice be heard. If you can respond to an email or text, you can do this. Easy breezy!

So please do it! Next year we'll be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, giving women the right to vote. Those women fought for us. Let's honor them by exercising that right. And speaking of "right," prove me right by getting us to 100% participation, too!

Just do it!: <https://www.aauw.org/resource/two-minute-activist-mobile/>

—Barbara Mills (AAUW class of 2019) & Diane Bartleson



Member Spotlight - Diane Burnley

Diane Burnley is an active Healdsburg AAUW member, and retired elementary school classroom teacher. Diane dedicated nearly 30 years to elementary education in East Bay communities, including Pittsburg and Martinez. As a credentialed teacher and reading specialist, Diane taught second through fifth grade children. In addition, she worked as a mentor, trainer, and coach for teachers and administrators in Curriculum Development. She also took on the role of peer coach for new teachers, and seasoned teachers needing guidance.



Diane and her husband David moved full-time to Healdsburg in 2015, after spending weekends in their Healdsburg home since 2008. They chose Healdsburg because it is close to their daughters and grandchildren who live in Scott's Valley and Sacramento. Within a month of arrival here full-time, Diane began working in the Healdsburg American handcraft gallery, Dovetail Collection. She has learned a lot about beautiful handcrafts created in small studios where artists' hands create each piece. This gallery is worth a visit to really appreciate the beautiful pieces on display.

In her spare time, Diane has enjoyed volunteering in several AAUW activities. These included Grapevine publisher, Reading Rocks (tutoring children in schools), Healdsburg Home Tour (she is the Cookie Lady), and Money Matters (a presentation for Expanding Your Horizons). This year Diane is starting a new volunteer position as a coordinator for Healdsburg Presents Project (a non-profit group, well worth supporting). This organization gets names of families from schools and community organization that could use support with holiday shopping and gifts. The community "adopts" a family and buys what is on the family's wish list. Then in mid-December all the collected and wrapped gifts are handed out. It is a wonderful experience to see children receive their first bicycle or scooter. The parents are always delighted to see the smiles on their children's faces and are so grateful to have the burden of shopping for the holidays off their shoulders.

When Diane has time, she enjoys creating contemporary and art quilts. These are beautiful works of art. She is also an active hiker, reader, and Mahjong player. She loves to travel with her husband both in US and abroad. Diane is also a wonderful entertainer and cook, and you feel especially gifted if you get to experience her hospitality.

Diane feels very fortunate to call Healdsburg home because of its friendly inclusive community. We are very lucky to have Diane be part of this organization and lovely city.

—Mary Fitzgerald

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 and admired Forum speaker, 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 at the Trading Post



If you missed the last Lunch Bunch at the Parish Café, your next opportunity to join us is coming up on November 13th.

We're excited to announce that we've arranged our next Lunch Bunch at the Trading Post in Cloverdale. Opened in 2017, Trading Post has been written up in the *Press Democrat*, *Sonoma Magazine* and *Healdsburg Tribune*. It has been hailed as wonderful Farm to Table restaurant; and is renowned for its bakery.

Trading Post
102 S. Cloverdale Blvd.
Cloverdale
November, 13th @ Noon

Trading Post does not usually serve lunch but they're opening for us and have arranged a special lunch which will be served at noon. Located in the heart of downtown Cloverdale, make it a day browsing and shopping in this cute community. Need a ride? Don't let this stop you from joining. Let us know, we'll find you a ride.

Lunch is \$30, served family style with several surprise items not found on the usual menu. Send your check, to be received by November 6th and payable to **Connie Cservenyak**, at 1083 Vine St., #238, Healdsburg, CA. 95448.

Save the Dates - future Lunch Bunch dates are January 15th, February 19th and April 22nd.

Look forward to seeing you in Cloverdale!

—Connie Cservenyak & Cecile Peters

SAVE THE DATE!

Healdsburg AAUW Holiday Party - 2019

***Sunday, December 8th
4:00 pm - 6:30 pm***

***Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
Healdsburg***

GREAT DECISIONS



Great Decisions has started a 4th discussion group which will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting in 2020. There are still openings for more participants. Please contact Nancy Haiston, nhaiston@earthlink.net, if you would like to learn more about it.

—Nancy Haiston

MEMBERSHIP

Meet Our New Members!

Dave Henderson

Dave moved to Healdsburg from Sonoma nine years ago to marry his wife, **Kathryn Henderson**. Although he retired from his job directing public relations and customer direct sales at Buena Vista, Charles Krug and Cakebread Wineries at that time, Dave is hardly idle.

He continues to teach Italian at Santa Rosa Junior College (since 1982!) and uses his knowledge of the wine industry to translate wine literature for many wineries in Italy. In addition, he and Kathryn regularly travel to Italy, in part so that they can continue to acquire information for their team-taught classes on the hidden gems of various Italian cities and regions. The most recent is on Rome, with a lecture on unusual aspects of the Eternal City, accompanied by the region's wines and local culinary classics in dinners prepared by Kathryn.



In his free time, Dave co-chairs the Sonoma County ACLU. The chapter had been defunct until the 2016 presidential elections, when donations and interest spiked. The chapter was reinvigorated and is now pursuing issues related to civilian oversight of the Sheriff's Office, church and state violations, and drone use policies. He is also working down his "honey do" list, currently building artist Kathryn a mosaic studio. Dave will be joining a Great Decisions Group.

Dave and Kathryn live on the slopes of Fitch Mountain, and he is a past President of the Fitch Mountain Association, serving two terms.

Barbara Mills

It took Barbara 23 years of flying for Delta Airlines before she found her way to her calling in psychotherapy. Her journey took her from Chicago to San Francisco, where she completed her BA, hosted two programs on the local Viacom station, moved to Mill Valley, married and had two daughters. Shortly thereafter, Barbara and her family moved to Bainbridge Island, WA, where she became the director of the local YWCA Domestic Violence Program. This led to an MS in Marriage and Family Therapy, after which Barbara worked in private practice on the island until moving back to California five years ago.

Barbara's practice include specialties in medical psychotherapy and collaborative law. She moved her practice into the 21st century by offering her sessions by FaceTime and Skype, and has clients as far-flung as Tel Aviv and Hong Kong.



Elevating marginalized populations is important to Barbara. To that end, she sits on the boards of Latino Service Providers and the Family Justice Center of Sonoma County. She met her current husband, Larry, while singing in the Bainbridge Chorale, and they now sing with the Healdsburg Chorus. Barbara joined AAUW because women she admires are members.

Lee Sigler

Although she started out on the technical side of the computer industry some 30 years ago, Lee quickly moved to the marketing side, mostly because she loved the travel involved in the latter. Her job permitted her to live four years in Munich and to travel to Asia, Africa and the Middle East. Now retired, Lee continues to travel –soon to both England and Japan – but for a very different reason: to attend quilt shows.

Fiber Arts are Lee's passion. She knits, quilts and makes decorative beaded items and is well versed in the history of these arts. In addition, she collected antique furniture for years, initially coming to Healdsburg for its antique stores. When it came time to retire, she knew where she wanted to be and has made her home in Parkland Farms for the last two and a half years.

Lee has become a volunteer since moving to Healdsburg and is on the city's Senior Citizens Advisory Commission and is involved in reviewing and reviving art in the city's public spaces. She joined AAUW because she is interested in supporting educational opportunities for women and girls.



Carrie Thomas

When Carrie and her husband first began looking for a weekend getaway where they could maybe do a little farming, they were intending to rent something for a few years until they retired. But shortly into their search they found a property up on Rockpile that they couldn't refuse. Twenty-eight days later they had sold their home of 25 plus years in Moraga, and Carrie moved up to Sonoma County. Leaving her job as a hospice nurse, Carrie spent a year on the property alone, with her husband coming up only on the weekends. This was harder than it sounds, as it is a large property that had been unoccupied for five years, and as Carrie put it "not much of it was working, and there were way too many wild boar and rattlesnakes for comfort!"

Five years later the house is completely remodeled, with chickens, bees, grapes and a myriad of vegetables and fruit trees living happily on their ranch. Carrie and her husband look forward to adding sheep to the menagerie and maybe horses in the future. Although the ranch is a full-time job, Carrie and her husband love to travel the world, including their native England and are avid bike riders. However Carrie wants to be involved in her community, and found AAUW to be the vehicle to satisfy this desire as well as to meet new friends.



Katie Rosson

Although she only moved to Healdsburg two and a half years ago, Healdsburg is like an old friend to Katie. She and her spouse moved here from Oakland, but spent a lot of time up here while visiting Katie's mother and brother who have lived in town a long time. In fact, Katie's mom has been a member of Healdsburg AAUW for many years. Upon moving, Katie retired from her work in human relations for GAP Inc., and then for Ariat, an equestrian apparel and footwear company. Katie continues to consult for Ariat on a part-time basis.



The welcoming and active nature of the Healdsburg community made Katie's transition from urban to rural very easy. She volunteers to help support our homeless neighbors and is interested in getting involved with our Public Policy Committee. She has been active with The National Democratic Institute (chaired by Madeline Albright), a non-profit organization that works to strengthen democratic institutions throughout the world through citizen participation, openness and accountability in government. She is a member of their Equal Voices Advisory Council, an initiative that expands LGBTI participation in political life. In fact, she was recently in Georgia and Ukraine.

Katie and her spouse generously shared their home on the last Homes Tour and declared the whole experience to be delightful and "easy."

Carlotta Vallerga

Go out of your way to say "hi" to Carlotta when you see her because she just moved to Windsor seven months ago, leaving the only home she has ever known, as well as life-long friends in Eureka. Carlotta's husband has been battling cancer for many years and the commute to health care here in Sonoma was wearing on both of them. In addition, two of three children and many of her grandchildren are in Healdsburg and Windsor.

Carlotta took 9 years to finish her college degree in Child Development and Curriculum and then in her forties, attended Seminary at the San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, commuting from Eureka. She then served as pastor at her local UCC Congregationalist Church for upwards of 25 years.

Although there were a number of women in the Seminary with her, Carlotta had to overcome her own ingrained ideas that women should stay home with the children and be homemakers after the children leave. She noted, that those interior voices can be much more difficult to silence than any criticism from the outside.



Carlotta was a member of AAUW in Eureka and so joined in Healdsburg, knowing it was a great way to get involved in a new community and meet new people. So say "hi" to Carlotta.

—Hillary Kambour

Our Membership Committee is seeking volunteers to be a part of our "Buddy Program". It's really quite easy and a great way to make new friends within our organization. You will be given the new members application and an orientation information guide to walk through with your new buddy. We encourage you to attend functions together, such as signing up for a Wine and Dine, taking them hiking with you or to a Happy Hour. Interested? Please email Barbara Reid (blsreid@gmail.com) or Yvonne Schell (yschell@comcast.net) to indicate your interest.

—Barbara Reid

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