

# The Grapevine

April 2022

Volume 37, Number 8



## BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

Spring 2022 Online Courses – Registration begins March 1

Our Spring Forum is proceeding with an in-depth look at the ocean off our coasts and a fascinating study of American Folk music (1950-1975). Since our courses are recorded, you can still sign up for both. The recordings will be available until April 30<sup>th</sup>.



**Robert (Bob) Rubin, PhD**

**The Ocean Off Our Coast:**

**Sea Life in the California Current**

**Tuesdays 10-11:45 AM, Mar. 15 to Apr. 19**



**Pete Elman**

**American Folk Music**

**The Golden Age: 1950-1975**

**Thursdays 10-11:45 AM, Mar. 17 to Apr. 21**



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE & ENRICHING THOUGHT

## *Looking forward to our Fall 2022 Forum courses*

We hope to be back live at the Raven Theater this October when we invite back two of our favorite instructors: **Alex Saragoza** and **Terry Ebinger**.



Starting October 11<sup>th</sup>, Professor Alex Saragoza's course will take us on a historic, political and cultural tour of some of South America's most fascinating cities, including a stop off in Buenos Aires to learn more about the tango. Other cities to be discussed include Lima, Havana, Mexico City, Rio de Janeiro and San Paulo.

Then beginning October 13<sup>th</sup>, Terry Ebinger's film course, entitled Hollywood Comedies of Remarriage, will give us a fun and insightful class on this genre of films from the thirties and forties.

For a further description of this course, click [here](#).

We will be sending more information about both courses as the dates grow closer.

### **News from Anastasia Edel**

Many of you will remember our wonderful instructor, Anastasia Edel, who gave a riveting class on Russian Culture in 2019. She had to cancel her class with us this spring due to her workload; however we hope to have her back in the future.

Anastasia recently wrote a moving piece for the New York Times about her memories of growing up near Ukraine. To read her article, click [here](#).



**Celeste Plaister, Forum Chair**

## *President's Message*



I'm pleased to report that our two-day fundraiser at The Madrona (formerly Madrona Manor) was a great success. **Julia Graves**, chair of the event, along with her committee - **Lee Siegler, Julie Hanamura, Dena Cochran, Laura Tyler, and Laura Tredinnick** - provided the leadership to make it a reality.

On March 18, under a lovely Spring sky, one hundred guests enjoyed wine and appetizers on the lawn with a stunning view over the Dry Creek Valley, enhanced by glorious blooming trees.

On March 19, under chilly—almost rainy skies, fifty guests were seated in the beautiful Palm Court Terrace and enjoyed a delicious lunch created by The Madrona's Michelin-starred chef Jesse Malgren, who was outside barbecuing in the rain...almost rain...

Enormous thanks to The Madrona's owners and managers Jay Jeffers, Cory Schisler, Arielle Larson, and Ashley Luna who cheerfully and efficiently worked with us to make this happen in the middle of their last minute sprint to the completion of this huge project.

Proceeds from these two days will benefit our local AAUW scholarship programs. Seventh grade girls will attend Tech Trek resident camp at a nearby college campus. Graduating college bound girls will receive needed scholarships. Re-entry women, who have graduated from Santa Rosa Junior College and have been accepted to a four-year university, will receive support for their next two years. When The Madrona opens and you are there for lunch, dinner, or an event, please thank whomever you are in contact with for their generous support.

Your Nominating Committee is busy putting together an outstanding Board of Directors for you to vote into office for 2022-23. Our Annual Branch Meeting is planned for Friday, May 27th. Details will be coming to you via eblast. I look forward to seeing you then.

**-Kate Van Ness**



THE  
*MADRONA*  
*Est. 1881*  
HEALDSBURG  
*California*









# THE MADRONA





## Social Programs

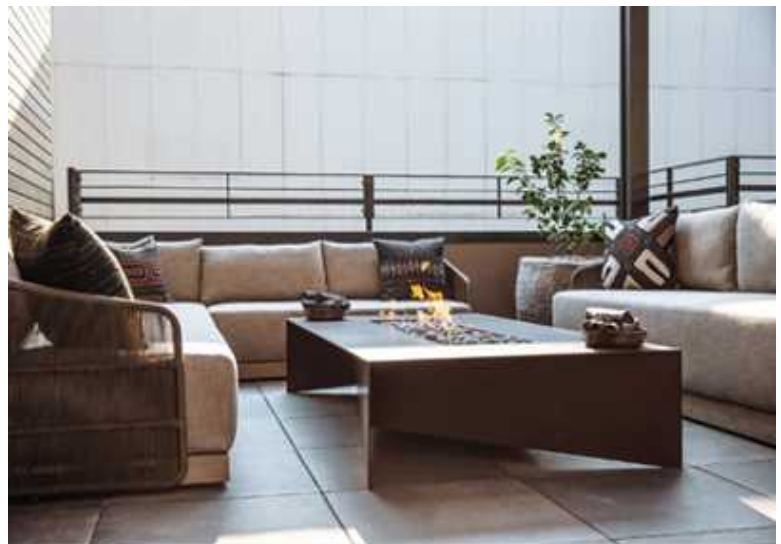
### Lunch Bunch



It was a beautiful day for our first Lunch Bunch of the year. Simi Winery hosted 32 of our members on Wednesday, March 23, 2022 on their outside patio, surrounded by magnificent Redwoods. Everyone agreed it was wonderful to see old friends and greet many new members. Lunch, created by Chef Jeff Mosher and Sous Chef Sean Geske, consisted of a seasonal salad of orange, ricotta, radish, and orange vinaigrette, followed by housemade gemelli pasta with green garlic, leek, parmesan, and lemon, ending with brownies and cookies. An excellent start for the reboot of Lunch Bunch.

April's lunch will be at Roof 106 @ The Matheson. ([thematheson.com/roof-106](http://thematheson.com/roof-106))

Dustin Valette is excited to host our local group on Friday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, at his new rooftop venue providing a unique 3-course lunch. Space is limited to 24 so be sure and send in your checks early to secure a spot if you're interested. Lunch is \$40 which includes lunch, tax and tip. Make your checks payable to Connie Cservenyak and mail to 1083 Vine St, #238, Healdsburg, 95448.




After three years, Connie and Cecile are ready to turn Lunch Bunch over to other members to arrange these adventures. If you are interested in organizing our Lunch Bunch events, please send an email to Kerry Elkind at [kerry@elkindgroup.com](mailto:kerry@elkindgroup.com).

**-Connie Cservenyak and Cecile Peters, Lunch Bunch Co-Chairs**

## Public Policy

### WE WANT TO HEAR YOUR STORY



This summer we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the passage of Title IX which prohibits discrimination based on sex, pregnancy, sexual orientation or gender identity by any academic, extracurricular, research, occupational training, or other education program or activity operated by a recipient which receives Federal financial assistance. This legislation changed the lives of women in the U.S. in profound ways.

Although the Civil Rights Act of 1964 prohibited discrimination based on race, color, religion and national origin, sex and gender were glaringly absent. Women continued to be discriminated against in education and local, state and federal governments. You may recall in school, a girl was required to take home economics, while the boys were allowed to take industrial arts. Athletics were a male-only club and when girls were permitted to play, they were subjected to six-on-six half-court basketball or scheduled off-season.

This discrimination continued at the college level where many schools barred women from law or medical school or set quotas limiting female admittance. Some continued to be male only. Female professors were denied tenure or not hired, and women school teachers were prohibited from teaching at the middle or high school levels. The Equal Protection Clause didn't protect women, because "sex" had yet to be designated a "suspect class" such as race or ethnicity.

Title IX changed all that. Its coverage extends beyond athletics, requiring equality in admissions, academic majors, classes, and vocational education. It survived numerous challenges from a plethora of educational and sports institutions and has changed the lives of millions of women and girls. In 1972, less than 300,000 girls participated in college sports — by 1999, almost 3 million girls were involved. By the early 2000s, women represented 55% of college undergraduates, and 42% of college athletic scholarships. Thirty-six percent of athletic budgets became designated to women's sports.

So, you **MUST** have stories to tell about the success of this legislation. Perhaps you were denied an opportunity that was available to your daughter or your granddaughter. Perhaps they have received access to higher education in the form of a scholarship or college admission based on their athletic history. Let's hear how this landmark law changed the lives of women for the better. Please take a moment to send an email to me, **Hillary Kambour**, at [hillarykambour@gmail.com](mailto:hillarykambour@gmail.com). I want to tell your story and together we can remind our community how important this act of Congress was to the real lives of the women we love!!

**-Hillary Kambour**





## Mission Based Programs

### Reading Rocks

It appears that, in light of Covid restrictions being lifted, vaccinated volunteers will be allowed to help in classrooms at Healdsburg Elementary School. Reading Rocks is the program in which AAUW members read one-on-one with struggling first grade readers to help them improve their reading skills. **Diane Burnley** and **Gail Wright** are beginning to volunteer with the teachers with whom they have worked for many years. As soon as we know which teachers might be ready for our services, more volunteers will be needed. Please reach out to **Diane Burnley** if you are interested.

We received this lovely thank you note from the first-grade teacher at West Side School.



“Dear Members of AAUW,  
I want to thank you for the wonderful gift of books for my first graders. I held on to the books until March 2, Read Across America Day”, and handed them out as a special treat after a very fun filled “Reading Day”. The children were so excited and loved the books. Thanks for all you do.”  
Mrs. Ketteman, West Side School

We also received handwritten thank you note from the HES Club, the after-school day care at Healdsburg Elementary School.

“Dear AAUW Group,  
Thank you so much for the school supplies. They are very much appreciated.”  
From a first grader at HES Club

Local and national news feeds have picked up West Side School as they are presenting PEPTOK, a free hotline the school’s art teacher and students have created to help morale with positive affirmations and just plain good vibes. It is heartwarming, you can listen to it on NPR.org. It is called Press 3 for pep talk from kindergarteners. This hotline has gone national and was featured on the CBS evening news. I highly recommend listening to brighten your day.

**Beth Wolk, Mission Based Programs**



# Membership

## UPDATES FROM MEMBERSHIP

### 2022-2023 Membership Renewal

Renewal invoices will be sent out in late March or early April. The National dues are increasing by \$5, so your total membership dues for July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023 will be \$112. The easiest way for you to renew is to click on the link that will be contained in the invoice.

### Photos for the Personal Information List

If you log into the Personal Information file located in the Members Only section of our Healdsburg AAUW [website](#) and look for your own information, you can tell if we have a photo of you or not. If you have a headshot photo you would like us to use, you can send it to me at [janicesexton46@gmail.com](mailto:janicesexton46@gmail.com). If not, don't be surprised when one of our board members gets you to pose for a picture at one of our upcoming events. It's helpful if you can send a photo in .jpg format but not absolutely necessary.

### Nametags

If you have joined in the past couple of years and still don't have a nametag, I probably have it. I will be bringing them to some of the upcoming events, so be sure and check when you come in. If you have misplaced your nametag, you can order a replacement from me. The branch buys the first nametag, and the second one is on you. The current price for a replacement nametag is \$10.38, including tax. That is the price when we purchase 5 or more at a time, which means we wait until we can order at least that many, so there might be a slight delay before your new nametag arrives.

I hope to see many of you at our upcoming in-person events. It will be so wonderful to finally get together again!

**Janice Sexton**, Membership Director





## New Members

### Renee Simi



Renee moved up to Healdsburg in April of 2021 after years of hating the gloomy summers in the Bay Area. She rented a home in Geyserville to get out of the fog and found herself loving Healdsburg. “I’ve always wanted to live in a town with a square.”

After receiving her degree in marketing, Renee began her fundraising career working for arts and environmental organizations, raising money through direct mail and phone campaigns. She worked for the S.F. Ballet, The Berkeley Rep, The Sierra Club and Greenpeace. But after six years working for a big agency, Renee decided it was time to explore the world. She speaks French and Italian and began freelancing in Europe before finally opening her own consulting business in 1992. Mostly retired, she now works part time for one client: The Yosemite Conservancy.

Happily ensconced in Riverview where she has made more friends in one month than she met in 30 years in Berkeley, Renee joined AAUW. She has joined a book group, a Great Decisions group and is interested in hiking as well. But as she attended all-girl Catholic schools growing up, Renee is especially interested in our mission: to support the education of women and girls.

### Donna Campoverde



Donna and her family have been all around the world over the last 35 years. Originally from Kansas City, Missouri, Donna met her husband in Spain on a study abroad program. Together they have lived in Ohio, Arizona, Southern California, Mexico City, Buenos Aires, Portland, Oregon and again in Spain before landing in the San Mateo area where she, her husband and three children stayed for 14 years. Donna and her husband moved permanently up to Healdsburg in April of 2020 to a home they purchased on Westside Road, close to the Wohler Bridge.

Donna earned her B.S., B.A. and an M.B.A. before taking a job in Newport Beach with the U.S. Department of Commerce, Bureau of Export Administration. With the emerging tech industry booming, her office was charged with making sure that the export of this valuable technology occurred legally. As the family began to travel internationally with her husband’s business, Donna chose to work exclusively at raising their three children.

Now that she is settled, Donna looks forward to meeting new friends. She has joined the hiking group and is excited to participate in AAUW programs which give back to our local community.

## New Members (cont'd)

### Anna-Laura Jansma



Upon her retirement from teaching at UC Santa Barbara and as a Communication consultant, Anna-Laura moved to Sebastopol in 2018 and to Healdsburg in July 2021. She wanted to return to the beauty of Sonoma County after living here briefly over 30 years ago. When her son and daughter-in-law moved to San Francisco in 2017, she knew that she would return. Now she celebrates their proximity with her 2-year-old granddaughter.

With her B.A. in Business Operations Research from the University of Maryland and her M.A. and Ph.D. in Communication Theory from UCSB, Anna-Laura specialized in Conflict Management, Gender Communication and Peace Relations. During her tenure she helped establish an Alumni Relations Committee, spearheaded an annual Communication Career Day, and helped found the Santa Barbara branch of the Association for Women in Communication. Her consulting clients ranged from Fortune 500 companies to local volunteer organizations.

One carry-over from Anna-Laura's Midwestern upbringing in the suburbs of Chicago and in northern Indiana is her passion for community and connection. She's joined AAUW in hopes of developing a new community of friends and colleagues for herself and her partner, Rob. Thus far she has enjoyed AAUW Monday hikes, a book club and anticipates attending our cultural events and meeting more members.





## Scholarship

### **Scholarship Success Stories**

#### **Se Yang's Story**

2016 recipient of the AAUW Healdsburg Branch SRJC Scholarship



I had been a housewife for 20 years at the time I started nursing school. My sons were growing up and becoming more self-reliant, so I decided to it was time to pursue my other dreams including a career I would excel in while also helping others. As with most children, my sons had gotten sick or injured when young and I found the experiences of taking care of them during these times especially rewarding and meaningful. This realization led me to nursing.

I'm actually a transplant to Santa Rosa, moving here with my husband in 2001 as he took on a new job. At that time, I had a 6-year-old son and was pregnant with our second. English is my second language; largely self-taught through books and TV during those years with my sons when they were very young. Later, as part of a prerequisite for nursing school, I studied English more at Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) and later my nursing courses.

Fast forward to 2016 when, as a student in the Nursing Bridge Program, I was finishing up my coursework at SRJC and preparing to transfer to Sonoma State University to complete my BSN. This was when I applied for and was so graciously awarded your AAUW scholarship. Unlike SRJC tuition, the cost of attending SSU was a burden but doable with the financial support you provided. Additionally, receiving this award impacted me mentally and physiologically knowing that AAUW trusted and supported me as I've navigated this next chapter of my life. It is difficult to put into words how immensely grateful I am.

After graduating from SSU, I worked at a skilled nursing facility for a couple of years. I then got a job at Sutter Santa Rosa Regional Hospital where I still work today. I'm in the cardiac telemetry unit working the night shift because it pays more, and I need the funds to pay for my son's college tuition and save money for my future school. Currently I am preparing PCCN (Progressive Care Certified Nurse), a specialty certification for telemetry unit nurse or step-down unit nurse. In the future, I'd hope to go back to school to become a Family Nurse Practitioner, a dream I've had for some time.

Once you become a mother and housewife, it is not easy to pursue anything else. I felt guilty using time and resources for myself instead for my kids/family. The support from the Healdsburg AAUW gave me a message that I am not alone, that it's okay to pursue my educational goal, and that there are people who support the educational challenge of women. Thank you all for the faith and support you provided at this crossroads of my life.

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If you are aware of any member who is ill, has had an operation or an accident, has passed away or had a close family member pass away, please notify Heidi Blumenthal so that a card can be sent to the person or family from AAUW. Email - [heidiblu@aol.com](mailto:heidiblu@aol.com). Phone - 707 433 7445

The Grapevine is published online each month, except in July and August. Please submit articles and announcements in WORD or PAGES in Calibri font 12 pt, justified, and photographs in Jpeg by the 15th of the month prior to the issue in which you want them included. Remember that the Grapevine is available to the general public, so be cautious about including your personal information. Send to Donna Riley at [dldrldh@gmail.com](mailto:dldrldh@gmail.com)