

# NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

## AAUW ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement: AAUW advances equity for women through advocacy, education, philanthropy, and research.

Value Promise: By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through educational and economic barriers so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

## CALIFORNIA AAUW

AAUW California is the state's most active and diverse organization for women with nearly 13,000 members in 140 branches, plus over 5,000 members-at-large.

## HEALDSBURG AAUW

Chartered in 1975 with 44 members, the Healdsburg Branch has been a community asset for almost four decades. Throughout the years, our strong connection to local schools for scholarships and volunteer initiatives, to National and California Public Policy issues that women care about — education, civil rights, equity in the workplace, reproductive rights, and gender discrimination, as well as membership activities and social events, have accounted for our increasing membership of around 190. For more information, please visit our website at [www.healdsburg-ca.aauw.net](http://www.healdsburg-ca.aauw.net). A password protected Directory is available on the website to all members.

## New Member Orientation

**Membership Director:** Janice Sexton

**Buddy Program:** New members are matched with a Buddy to help orient them to our Branch. Contact Yvonne Schell.

**New Member Coffee/Happy Hour:** Hosted as a way to meet with board members and other new members, to have your photo taken, and learn more about the workings of AAUW. Contact Yvonne Schell.

**New Member Profiles:** Profile new members for publication in The Grapevine. Contact Carol Beattie.

## Mission-based Programs

**Mission-based Programs Director:** Cathy Mock

**Future Prep: Career Choices & Life Skills:** Help students at Healdsburg High School learn about potential careers, and the skills and experiences needed to obtain jobs and careers of their choice. Contact Dena Lash.

**Reading Rocks:** Help first graders improve their reading skills by listening to them read stories and encouraging them on a weekly basis. Contact Diane Burnley (HES); Pat Bertapelle (Westside); Cathy Mock (Windsor).

**School Readiness:** Help to ensure that all children in our community have the tools, resources and parent help that they will need to be ready for kindergarten. The focus is on birth to age 5, a critical time for a child's development. This committee helps with the preschool fair in Healdsburg as well as attending community meetings around this topic. Contact Cathy Mock.

**School Supplies Holiday Drive:** Every year our members give school supplies to the elementary teachers of Healdsburg, which is very much appreciated by the staff at the schools. Contact Beth Wolk.

## **STEM Program**

**STEM Director:** Patty McHugh

**Tech Trek:** Help select students for a one-week math and science camp for seventh-grade girls, on the campuses of Stanford or Sonoma State Universities. Contact Nancy Haiston.

**Tech Trek Alumni Group (TTAG):** TTAG focuses on encouraging Tech Trek Alumni to stay connected to STEM talented, like-minded girls from middle school through high school. AAUW mentors guide and set up TTAG participants for success by helping them plan and host their own fun programs and community events related to STEM. Contact Karla Rosen.

**Expanding Your Horizons:** For the past three decades the EYH chapter in Sonoma County has hosted an annual event: a one-day, hands-on workshop conference exposing 7th and 8th grade girls to careers requiring a math and science background. Santa Rosa, Petaluma and Healdsburg AAUW chapters all support the conference with donations and volunteers. Contact Nancy Haiston.

## **Public Policy**

**Public Policy Director:** Ty Benoit. Advocate for AAUW public policy priorities. Lead AAUW voter education and turnout campaigns for our branch. Contact Ty.

## **Scholarships**

**Scholarships Director:** Kerry Weiner Elkind

**AAUW Fund Coordinator:** Healdsburg AAUW supports the work of the national AAUW from the funds raised by Healdsburg AAUW Fund. Contact Julie Hanamura.

**Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC) Scholarships:** Select and provide scholarships to re-entry women graduating from SRJC and continuing their education. Contact Jane Martin.

**High School Scholarships:** Select and provide scholarships for girls graduating from local high schools to attend a four-year college or university. Contact Beth Wolk.

**Renewal Scholarships:** Renewable scholarships for reentry women who have been awarded an AAUW Re-entry Scholarship, complete a 3rd year of study at a time 4-year institution, and meet our criteria for the renewal award. Contact Kay Kohler.

## **Communications**

**Communications Director:** Kim Alexander

**Website:** Explore the website: [www.healdsburg-ca.aauw.net](http://www.healdsburg-ca.aauw.net). Contact Laura Tyler.

**Constant Contact:** Keep in touch with current activities and events by reading email messages sent out by Liz Loebel.

**The Grapevine:** Read and contribute to the AAUW-Healdsburg newsletter to gain and disseminate information about our Branch. Contact Kim Brown.

**Social Media:** Our social media manager welcomes all new members on our Facebook and Instagram pages and by email. Support our FB Page by clicking on “like” and reading its content.

**Publicity:** Publicize fundraising events and mission-based programs. Contact Carol Clurman.

## **Fundraising**

**Fundraising Director:** Dena Cochran

**Spring Event:** For many years, Healdsburg AAUW has conducted an annual Homes Tour, which was one of our major fundraisers. The COVID pandemic curtailed that event, and we are now planning a 2024 Homes Tour. It will require over 100 volunteers working in the months leading up to and on the day of the Event. The Branch will need the help of everyone who is able. Contact Julia Graves (chair) or Alma O’Brien (cochair).

**Tech Trek Funding:** Help solicit funds for seventh-grade girls to participate at a one-week math and science camp on the campuses of California colleges (Stanford or Sonoma State Universities). Contact Mary Barsony.

**Grants:** Research and write grants for funding. Contact Nancy Jane Andrews, Julie Hanamura, Rebecca LaLonde or Charlene Luks.

**Healdsburg AAUW Fund:** Tax-deductible gifts to our 501(c)(3) corporation are greatly appreciated: Healdsburg AAUW Fund, P.O. Box 1064, Healdsburg, CA 95448.

## **Social Activities & Events**

**Social Activities Director:** Linda Clark

**Wine & Dine:** Hosted by members to enjoy food and wine in a social surrounding. Check Events on the website or contact Diane Burnley or Cindy Powers.

**Lunch Bunch:** Meet at a local restaurant to enjoy a fixed price lunch. Check Events on the website or contact Maria Lucidi, Sue Finan or Linda Clark.

**Happy Hours & Spring Event After Party:** Hosted three times a year by members as a fun way to meet new friends and keep in touch with other AAUW members. Check Events on the website or contact Neita Comings or Carol Hazlett.

**Cultural Events:** On occasion, visit galleries, wineries, museums, and other places of interest with fellow AAUW members. Contact Dena Lash or Liz Loebel.

**Holiday Party:** An early December event to celebrate the Holidays with members and their spouses/guests. Contact Pat Bertapelle and Holly Schatz.

**Annual Meeting/Garden Party:** Held in early June at a member’s home or a local picnic site to welcome the Board of Directors taking office in July. Check Events on the website.

**Summer Picnic:** Held at Lake Sonoma in mid-August, the picnic provides an opportunity for members and their spouses/guests to connect during the summer. Contact Dena Lash.

**Kick-Off Meeting:** A mid-September social event for members only, providing an opportunity to catch up after the summer and to learn about AAUW's plans for the coming year.

## **Interest Groups**

**Book Groups:** Read and discuss books selected by the group. Evening and daytime groups meet monthly and are hosted by members. There are two Monday evening book groups: 2nd Monday contact Julia Graves, 3rd Monday contact Laura Tyler, and 3rd Monday Mystery Book Club contact Hilary Hasco. Monthly afternoon book groups: contact Maria Lucidi (1st Wednesday), Janet Hoehn (1st Thursday), or Marian Van Alyea (last Thursday).

**Bridge:** There are several bridge groups for different levels of players. Contact Linda Clark.

**Hiking:** Meet weekly. Various levels of ability. Longer Friday hikes contact Beth Wolk, Kerry Weiner Elkind, Michelle Regan or Hillary Kambour. Shorter Monday hikes contact Cathy Mock.

**Great Decisions:** Discuss various issues facing our nation and the world, using the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program. Contact Nancy Haiston (3rd Tuesday group), Laura Tyler (1st Wednesday group) or Renée Simi (3rd Monday group).

**Travel:** Look for future travel partners and share information about previous memorable trips, including itineraries, travel groups, travel insurance options and future "bucket list" travel. Contact Dena Lash.