

NEW MEMBER ORIENTATION

AAUW ASSOCIATION

Mission Statement: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.

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 approximately 9,500 members in 116 branches, plus over 2,000 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. Password-protected Directories are available on the website to all Branch members.

Speakers Series

Members and their guests are welcome to attend monthly presentations on a variety of topics, usually held on the 2nd Monday of each month. Contact Michelle Regan.

Membership

Membership Directors: Janice Sexton/Donna Campoverde

Buddy Program: New members are matched with “Buddies” to help orient them to our Branch. Contact Yvonne Schell.

New Member Coffee/Happy Hour: New member events are hosted to meet board members and other new members, to have your photo taken, and to learn more about the workings of AAUW. Contact Yvonne Schell.

New Member Profiles: Profiles of new members are written for publication in The Grapevine. Position is currently open. Contact Janice Sexton.

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 Pam Jones or Betsy Hafner.

Reading Rocks: On a weekly basis, help first graders improve their reading skills by listening to them read stories and encouraging them. Contact Diane Burnley (Healdsburg Elementary School); Pat Bertapelle (Westside School); Cathy Mock (Mattie Washburn Elementary School).

School Readiness: Help to ensure that all children in our community have the tools, resources and parental help that they will need to be ready for kindergarten. The focus is on birth to age five, 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 Barbara Epstein.

School Supplies Holiday Drive: Every year our members give donations for 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 University. Contact Debbi Crapeau or Anna-Laura Jansma.

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 seventh- and eighth-grade girls to careers requiring a math and science background. Santa Rosa, Petaluma and Healdsburg AAUW branches all support the conference with donations and volunteers. Contact Patty McHugh.

Public Policy

Public Policy Director: TBD. Advocate for AAUW public policy priorities. Lead AAUW voter education and turnout, climate action, and equal pay campaigns for our branch. Contact Nancy Jane Andrews.

Scholarships

Scholarships Director: Kerry Weiner Elkind

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

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

High School Scholarships: Select and provide scholarships to girls graduating from local high schools to attend four-year colleges or universities. Contact Beth Wolk.

Renewal Scholarships: Renewable scholarships are provided to women who have been awarded an AAUW Scholarship, have completed a third year of study at a four-year institution, and meet our criteria for the renewal award. Contact Kay Kohler.

Communications

Communications Director: Kim Alexander

Branch Website: Explore the website: 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: The Grapevine is our Branch newsletter. Read and contribute to the newsletter to gain and disseminate information about our Branch. Contact Kim Brown.

Social Media: Our social media manager publishes news and information about our Branch on our Facebook and Instagram pages. Support our FB Page by clicking on “like” and reading its content. Position is currently open. Contact Kim Alexander.

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

Development

Development Directors: Dena Cochran/Renée Simi

Spring Event: For many years, Healdsburg AAUW conducted an annual Homes Tour, which was one of our major fundraisers. The COVID pandemic curtailed that event, and we are now evaluating other fundraising event opportunities. We are not currently planning a 2025 Homes Tour. Contact Julia Graves.

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

Grants: Research and write grants for funding. Contact Julie Hanamura 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; **Co-Director:** Mary Newman

Wine & Dine: Events hosted by members to enjoy food and wine in a social surrounding. Check Events on the website. Contact Cindy Powers or Judy Edmonds.

Lunch Bunch: Meet at a local restaurant to enjoy a fixed price lunch, usually quarterly. Check Events on the website. Contact Pam Handley or Scarlet Wood.

Happy Hours: Hosted three times a year as a fun way to meet new friends and keep in touch with other AAUW members. Check Events on the website. Contact Neita Comings or Carol Hazlett.

Cultural Events: Occasional visits to galleries, wineries, museums, and other places of interest with fellow AAUW members. Contact Liz Loebel or Judith Olney.

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

Annual Meeting/Garden Party: This event is held in late May or early June at a member’s home or other local venue to welcome the Board of Directors taking office in July. Check Events on the website. Contact Kathryn Henderson.

Kick-Off Meeting: A late-summer 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. Contact Yvonne Schell or Judith Olney.

Interest Groups

Book Groups: Read and discuss books selected by the group. Evening and daytime groups meet monthly and are hosted by members. Currently, 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); and three afternoon book groups: 1st Wednesday (contact Barbara Oddone), 1st Thursday (contact Ginna Zoellner), and last Thursday (contact Marian Van Alyea). Check the Book Groups under the Interest Groups section on the Branch website for more information, including books planned for the current year.

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

Hiking: Meets weekly, for various levels of ability. Longer Friday hikes contact Beth Wolk, Kerry Weiner Elkind, Michelle Regan or Hillary Kambour; Shorter Monday hikes contact Nancy Casey-Jones.

Great Decisions: Discussions of various issues facing our nation and the world, using the Foreign Policy Association's Great Decisions program. Contact Nancy Haiston (3rd Tuesday 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.