

Holiday Party



Come Join Us to Celebrate the Season!

Sunday, December 4, 4-7 p.m.

Mary Ann and Joe Mayo's Home

5949 Dry Creek Road, Healdsburg

If your last name begins with A-L, please bring an appetizer for 15; M-Z please bring a dessert. Couples also please bring a bottle of wine. RSVP to **Joyce Scramaglia** richscram@sbcglobal.net.

Carpooling at capacity is a must! If you do not have a full car, please stop at the parking lot behind the Bean Affair on the corner of March and Healdsburg Avenue between 3:45 and 4:00 p.m. If you have special requests, such as needing pick up, or pairing with late arrivals or early departures, contact **Ronnie Devitt** vdevitt@comcast.net.

November Happy Hour



Pat Swaney, Judi Patterson, and Kim Kopp share the fun!



Joe Mayo (with Mary Ann Mayo) was overheard saying, "You women are wonderful, but I come to talk to the men; they're great!"



Lynda Guthrie and Jan Stanley smile for the camera.

President's Message

THANK YOU to **Sue Campbell** for hosting, and to **Carol Novak** for planning, our first Happy Hour of the year. It was a great evening! Spouses, partners, and potential members are welcome at Happy Hours, but our main goal is to provide opportunities for all our members to get together. The board hopes to see you at the next event.

We raised our glasses to AAUW's 130th birthday. AAUW has been involved in many important efforts for women's equity and education at the national level. The latest is AAUW's new research report on sexual harassment in middle and high schools, *Crossing the Line: Sexual Harassment at*



School, that was released online in November. The report has received significant media attention including from the Associated Press and the *New York Times*, and we can expect more activity in the future. Based on findings from a national survey, the report reveals some sobering statistics about the prevalence of sexual harassment in grades 7-12, and the negative effects it has on students' education.

On a happier note, our December 4 Holiday Party is always a popular occasion. (See details on page 1.) Please bring your donation of school items to the party. (See the Teachers' Wish List on page 3.) My best wishes to all for a safe and joyful holiday season.

– Charlene Luks

January Speaker Series

Everything you ever wanted to know about the Russian River, but were afraid to ask! Please join Russian River Keeper **Don McEnhill** at the January Speaker Series, **Tuesday, January 10, 5 p.m.** (Please note that there is no December Speaker Series because of the holidays, and that January's Speaker Series is being



Candace Danhausen poses a question about alternative medicine to Dr. Shiroko Sokitch.

held on the second Tuesday of the month, instead of the first.)



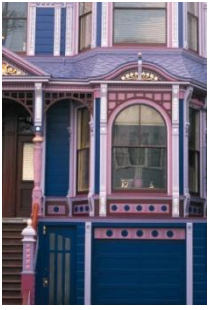
Arlene Gardaya and Doris Golden enjoy chatting after the presentation.

—Kim Kopp and Carol McKnight

Holiday Gifts!

Need to drop a book hint to Santa? Check out the reading lists of our book groups by going to www.healdsburgaauw.com. First click on *About Us*, then click on *Interest Groups 2*, and finally click on each book group for its reading list.

—Charlene Luks



Please mark your calendars!

Sunday, May 6, 2012 is the Historic Healdsburg Homes Tour

This is our branch's big fundraiser, and those monies are in turn used to fund scholarships and educational activities in our community.

Because this is our only fundraising event every year, we hope to have **every** member involved in some way. So how can you help? In two simple ways:

1) **Be sure to attend** as Homes Tour day is always such great fun. Be thinking about how you can get the word out to all your friends, and bring along as many as you can that day.

2) We have a Homes Tour team comprised of 13 different committees. We are always looking for more help, so please contact me if you would possibly be interested in **joining one of those committees**. We plan to have as much fun as work, I assure you! **I look forward to working with all of you for yet another successful tour next year.** Jan@stanleyvineyards.com , 707-433-7729.

—Jan Stanley

Teachers' Wish List

- 1) Gallon Ziploc storage bags (students use these as weekly book bags)
- 2) Ticonderoga brand #2 pencils
- 3) Glue sticks
- 4) Low odor blue chisel tip whiteboard markers (students use these on their whiteboards)
- 5) Variety packs of multi-colored low odor whiteboard markers (for classroom use)
- 6) Erasers (pencil top and regular)
- 7) Stickers (variety: stars, seasonal, holiday etc.)
- 8) Post-its (variety of sizes: 3 inch x 3 inch are used the most)
- 9) Hi-liter pens (students use these to highlight words and key sentences)

IS YOUR PICTURE IN THE ON-LINE DIRECTORY?



We continue to work on getting all our members' pictures in the on-line directory. So far we have about half of our members' pictures. We will be taking pictures at the January Speaker Series meeting, Tuesday, January 10. If you have not had your picture taken, come to the meeting and have your picture taken. If you are not sure if you are in the directory, go to our website at www.healdsburgaauw.com, click on Membership, and then Personal Information.

—Liz Loebel

January Cultural Event

Due to the demands on everyone's time during the holidays we won't be having a



cultural excursion in December. But we'll ring in the New Year with a trip to the Big City to see the paintings of the Impressionist painter Camille Pissarro. The exhibit, titled *Pissarro's People*, is showing at the Legion of Honor. We will have lunch afterward at a location yet to be decided; suggestions are welcome, but parking availability will be a major consideration.

WHAT: Pissarro's People at the San Francisco Legion of Honor followed by lunch
DATE: Thursday, January 12, 2012
COST: \$15/\$12 for those 65 and over
TIME: Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Park 'n Ride near Giorgio's
ETC: Guests and partners welcome
RSVP: To **Shannon Barton-Wren** at shannon@wreninternational.com. Feel free to call if you have any questions: 473-9796.

Friday Lunch Group

Our Friday Lunch group was very successful. We all had a fun time visiting with our AAUW friends at Shimo's. Leal, who is the owner of the restaurant, was welcoming and made us feel very comfortable. She spoke for a few minutes about the restaurant and her award-winning chef and husband, Collin. The food was delicious, and we all took home huge "doggy bags." Collin graciously selected two winning numbers for the hour-long massage prizes.

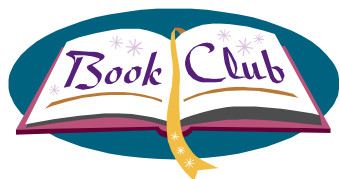
Our next luncheon will be at Mateo's new restaurant; information will be announced in January's *Grapevine*.

Thanks again to everyone for your support and kind words. —Helaine Scholze.



Charlene Luks, Ronnie Devitt, and Kay Kohler discuss the menu at Shimo's.

Book Club #4



I am interested in working with a nucleus of readers who would like to start a fourth book club to welcome new members and any migrating readers who might like to begin another group when the New Year begins. We would need to decide a day and time that would fit into the busy AAUW calendar of events, as well as a first book selection. Third Monday afternoons seem open, just as a starting point. If you are available for a planning meeting on Monday, December 5, at 2 p.m., please contact **Victoria Toboni** at 431-0132, or email machlachlan123@sbcglobal.net.

—Victoria Toboni

AAUW Fellowship and Grant Speakers' Luncheon



The Northern California AAUW Funds Luncheon, Sunday, October 23, introduced recipients of the American and International Fellowships. AAUW Funds will provide over \$3.7 million for more than 240 fellowships and grants to outstanding women and nonprofit organizations for the 2011-12 academic years. **Suzanne Pfau** and I attended this year's luncheon in Danville, California. Eight women honorees gave brief personal histories and updates of their areas of advanced research.

American Fellows Grants were awarded in American history, physiology, anthropology and interdisciplinary programs/human rights. Examples of two presentations were: 1) Yalda Asmatey's investigation of the man-made toxic disasters in the San Joaquin Valley, specifically Kettlemen City, California, and 2) Alex Koenig's project studying the use of torture and physical cruelty to prisoners.

In the Selected Professions area, bioengineering and biotechnologies are working to advance regenerative medicine and improve asthma monitoring devices using telecommunications.

The Community Action Grants focused on present day issues at grades 6-12. The AAUW Napa Branch created a website and instructional material to combat bullying/cyber-bullying. A non-profit program, "Basic Necessities," in Livermore, California successfully developed self-esteem workshops for Latino girls and their families. At the conclusion of the

workshops, girls attend week-long seminars at local colleges learning the skills needed for college.

In addition to the Fellowship Speakers, the class counsel and plaintiff for the Wal-Mart Stores discrimination lawsuit gave an overview of the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling. The 5-4 decision by the court prevents the class suit from moving forward. Now each woman will have to file her claim individually or in smaller, reformulated class-action groups. AAUW continues to "believe in protecting the rights of Americans to bring appropriate class action suits against discriminatory employers." (AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund Website)

Thanks to the continued success of the Historic Healdsburg Homes Tour, our AAUW Healdsburg (CA) Branch designated \$2000 to AAUW Funds in support of the Fellowship and Grants Program.

—Jan Garwin, Scholarship Committee

Tech Trek/ GEMS Program:



Tech Trek is a hands-on learning experience at Stanford University that makes engineering, math and science exciting and relevant for young women. To keep the commitment strong, our AAUW branch and its business partners continue supporting the students through our GEMS program (Girls in Engineering, Math, and Science) – providing field-trips so that students have an opportunity to see how technical skills are applied in the real world.

—Judith Olney

Relationships First – Results will Follow



The Tech Trek fundraising team needs your help in cultivating relationships with science or technology-based companies. We are asking AAUW members to identify people in their networks who have a contact in a company likely to sponsor a student in our Tech Trek/ GEMS program. We all know someone – who knows someone – who will benefit from preparing our future workforce for technical jobs.

Many businesses are facing worker shortages, especially in the fields requiring math and science skills. To address this issue, AAUW has created a fully integrated education program for local girls in our community, from Windsor to Cloverdale. Tech Trek, supported by GEMS, develops and maintains a young woman's self-confidence in her ability to pursue a technical field.

Measurable Results: The Tech Trek program is yielding the expected results: research has found that connecting young people with like-minded students, supported by mentors, has a powerful effect on career choices. Of our college-age Tech Trek graduates, an overwhelming 96% are enrolled in college, with over half majoring in science or math.

Community Partnership: Our valuable Tech Trek scholarship program is made possible through tax-deductible 501(c)(3) donations

from the business community. Help us meet the challenge. **E&M Electric** and the **Neel Foundation** have sponsored several Tech Trek students. We need a few more \$900 donations to achieve our goal!

Please Provide a Referral: Success in obtaining a donation goes up significantly when an employee or trusted colleague introduces the opportunity. Most companies have goals in support of science-technology-engineering-math (STEM-related) programs, so it is to their benefit to learn about our Tech Trek program. Just three easy steps:

- 1) Talk with people in your network. Will your contact help identify who manages contributions in their company?
- 2) Once identified, provide a referral: Our team merely needs an introduction and a warm hand-off to the designated people;
- 3) Then, the fundraising team will discuss how the opportunity to sponsor a student and/or host a field-trip fits with the company's charitable-giving goals. Consider making your own year-end tax deductible donation. Make checks out to AAUW-CA-SPF and put "Tech Trek – Healdsburg Branch" in the memo line.

To learn more: **Contact Judith Olney at TechTrekHburg@gmail.com**, 415/860-4104.

New Member Email Address:

Evelyn Neuburger eneuburger@comcast.net

THANK YOU EVERYONE for your cards, calls, and visits wishing me well. There is nothing that heals like friends, and our AAUW is an awesome group of sharing and caring women. We are so fortunate to have each other.



—Barbara Epstein

Two Thank You Letters from HEF Board of Directors

Dear Charlene,

We were so pleased to receive AAUW's gift of \$6300 to support Healdsburg High School's Naviance Program and after-school hours for the junior high and high school libraries. We deeply appreciate your generosity and thoughtfulness. The library



is an invaluable resource for our students; after-school hours, in particular, make all the difference to students without computers or other adequate resources at home.

The Naviance program offers every one of our high school students the tools they need to research higher education and vocational opportunities, and track their interests and progress as they make their decisions about life after high school. This investment on the part of the AAUW members will have a great impact on the lives of our students, both present and future, opening up a broad range of opportunities they need in order to succeed and thrive in a rapidly-changing world. Public education has become a true community undertaking. Thank you for recognizing how important each one of us is to the future of our children and our community.

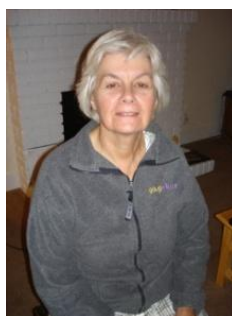
Sincerely,
Paula Wurlitzer, Secretary

Dear AAUW Members,

Thank you again for your continued support of the children of Healdsburg. I can't begin to tell you the impact that the Naviance program and the after-school library program have had on the kids. It's people like you who make Healdsburg such a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

Sincerely,
Gina Fontana, President

New member, Evelyn Neuburger put her home in Massachusetts up for sale and to her surprise found that it sold



immediately. Faced with having to make a quick decision as to where to live, she was encouraged to try Healdsburg by her son, who had himself recently moved here and loved it. The decision was complicated by the fact that her daughter lives in New York. At the moment, however, Evelyn is enjoying living close to the plaza and is able to walk to so many places. Having been a professional librarian, it is no surprise that she was reading to a neighbor child when we first spoke. She has also joined "Joe Mesick's Literary Canon Classics" book club, and is finding a book club of mostly men who are reading the classics an interesting departure from those she has attended in the past. Evelyn, like several of our recent new members, found us on the Internet.

—Mary Ann Mayo

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