



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter **November 2015**

AAUW Pendleton Branch **November Membership Meeting**

Program: Tour of Pendleton Early Learning Center

Entrance is on the 13th Street side

Parking is on the street or Frazer Ave. parking lot



November 5 (Thursday)

7:00 p.m.

Pendleton Early Learning Center
(Formerly Hawthorne Elementary School)

Hostesses: Mary davis, Elizabeth Scheeler

December Membership Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 7:00 p.m., Great Pacific

Wine Tasting at GP and visit to Alexander's Chocolate Classics

Hostesses: Karen Allen, Susan Doyle

**2015–2016 Pendleton Branch
AAUW Leadership Team:**

541-
Co-Presidents
Melissa Woodbury 276-0268
Marlene Krout 276-7596
Communications Vice President
Renée Struthers 377-0504
Membership Vice-President
Jan Bruning 276-1929
Finance Vice-President
Dianne Barnes 276-5547
Co-Program Vice-Presidents
Susan Doyle 966-8854
Karen Allen 276-2943
Recording Secretary
Judy Witte 276-6289

Appointed Leaders:

BMCC Liaison – Diane Drebin
EF/LAF
Kathleen Mace 276-1006
Newsletter & Directory Editor
Susan Doyle 966-8854
Bylaws
Kathy Ward 276-0308
Public Policy
Jill Heffner 278-4791

AAUW Association website
aauw.org

AAUW of Oregon website
aauw-or.aauw.net

AAUW Pendleton website
pendleton-or.aauw.net

NOTES & ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Membership Meeting: The Pendleton Early Learning Center tour is a **replacement** for the previously announced program, which will be the April program. Meet at the center (old Hawthorne School). Park on the street or in the parking lot on the south side, or Frazer side of the center. Enter on 13th Street.

November Dinner Divas: Dinner Divas will meet to eat before the membership meeting at Joe's Fiesta on Main at 5:30. November 5.

November Lunch Bunch: The November Lunch Bunch will be Thursday, November 19. A trip to Boardman, followed by a visit to the Sage Center, is planned. Meet at the museum at 11:00 to carpool. If the weather is bad, we will have lunch at Buckin' Bean. at 11:45 a.m..

November Board Meeting: The November board meeting will be Thursday, November 19, at Judy Witte's home at 7:00 p.m. All members are invited.

Welcome New Member

Miriam Munck
541-969-8724
miriam814@gmail.com

It's Grapefruit Time!



President's Corner for November 2015

By Marlene Krout

November, already!! Likely your lament as well. It seems the days, weeks, months, and years fly by in spite of our chorus of frustration with the speed of our lives. And as this is my first opportunity to write the president's message since being elected to be co-president with Melissa, I thank you for the honor of serving our branch.

Second, allow me to express my gratitude to the hard working board now serving our branch. To single out a few, which is always dangerous as just the extra time commitment for any board member is a generous contribution, however; at this juncture a few are carrying more responsibility partly by the nature of their position and partly due to their willingness to take on a bit more to accomplish our goals, Karen King, Kathy Ward, and Mary Davis deserve a resounding shout out and thank you. Karen is working on four of our projects: STEM, grapefruit project, college student affiliate program, and Pioneer Park, all of which you will hear more about either in this newsletter or at the next meeting. Kathy Ward's time is being taken up by organizing and assisting all of us to do a good job with our grapefruit sales in order to fund all of the many ways we contribute to the community and our own organizational functioning. Mary Davis, with the assistance of currently a non-board member, Kate Ely, are working on reviving a new version of Mother/Daughter Choices. This project benefited many mothers and daughters in our community in years past, and with their enthusiasm and commitment will support many more in the future. They are even thinking of starting a Father/Son version in the not too distant future, maybe a year or two.

So as you can see we have ideas, projects, and programs to appeal to each one of us and our particular interests, plus a great group of leaders to guide us, and I know each board member would welcome assistance with whichever of these areas peak your interest. Please think of offering your time to assist them as there is plenty of work yet to be done; enough for each of us to share in the joy of working together, getting better acquainted, and becoming a stronger branch. I know we are coming into the holiday season which is busy for everyone, but as the saying goes "many hands make light work," so take the leap and pitch in.

As you know from my comments at the last meeting, my passion and particular area of effort will focus on increasing our membership. To that end, you are encouraged to bring any friend, acquaintance, or new member to the community to any of our meetings or activities. Remember that now membership criteria also includes those with two year Associate degrees as well as Bachelor degrees.

See you at the November 5th meeting and HAPPY THANKSGIVING.



**AAUW PENDLETON BRANCH
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 1. 2015**

We met at the Vert and enjoyed Halloween treats. Twelve members and five guests were present.

Bob Patterson gave a Basic City Budget presentation which was very informative. An overview of how the \$5.00 utility fee and a .05¢ gasoline tax would affect the budget was given. Then City Councilmen Chuck Wood and Al Plute talked about and urged passage of the gas tax. The information was given in a clear, understandable manner and questions were answered.

The meeting was opened at 8:23 p.m. by Co-President Marlene Krout, and 11 members were in attendance.

The minutes of September were approved as received.

Dianne Barnes reported there is \$556.00 in the checking and \$7,441.00 in the savings accounts.

Membership: Jan Bruning reported there are still two members who have not paid their dues.

Marlene stated that her emphasis for her two year term will be to increase membership. She plans to go to the Chamber meetings, the Kick It Up after 5 events, and morning buzz in order to make AAUW more visible in the community. She would welcome anyone else to join her.

BUSINESS:

1. Grapefruit: Kathy Ward urged use of the deposit slip to be included with each order given to her. Through this she can more easily reconcile the orders and moneys received. The charge to us has increased by .25¢, so our profit on each box will be \$5.00. Renee has sent notices to many surrounding Chambers of Commerce in an attempt to sell more boxes.
2. STEM: Karen King presented seven STEM project options she has reviewed. Her choice would be to give the \$500.00 toward a PHS Girls' Robotics Team. There are three teams now with only four girls participating. Matthew Campbell has four more girls interested without even announcing the possibility of the new team. Since Karen has spoken to him, he is very excited and already looking for other sponsors toward the \$3,000.00 needed for the program. Individual donations could be given toward the team and they would be tax deductible. Judy Witte moved and Kathy Ward seconded the motion to earmark the available STEM funds for this project. No money will be given until all the funding has been attained. Thank you Karen for all your work on this endeavor.
3. BMCC Scholarship winner: Karen introduced Julie Stratton who is a first year nursing student at BMCC. She grew up on a Century Farm in Pendleton, has two children, and plans to continue to live and work in this community. She even volunteered to sell grapefruit---yah Julie.
4. Amy Bedford Funds: Karen King and Dianne are still working on meeting with Margaret Gianotti to see how much of the original \$500.00 is left in the fund at BMCC. This fund has been used to pay for taking the GED test for qualified students hoping to enter BMCC. There is \$1,400.00 left in the fund in our treasury. Marlene is asking for members to think of how this could be best used as a memorial to Amy.
5. Renee Struthers discussed One Member/One Vote. Now each branch has a certain number of convention votes based on the number of members in said branch. It is being suggested that it be changed to every member having one vote. Renee will find out more details on how this would work

and report back to us. Her term as NE District Director will expire 6/16. Anyone interested in filling that position should talk to Renee about the steps needed to be taken to apply.

6. Mother-Daughter choices: Mary Davis and Kate Ely are working on this and request members to come forward if they'd like to be a presenter. It will be in January and February.

7. Please give information for our website to Marty King.

8. AAUW National is encouraging more members to participate in the Action Alert system. There is only 15–20 percent participation now. Marlene shared that it is very easy to do.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lunch Bunch: Thurs. 10/22, 11:45 a.m., location TBA by Jill through email.

Dinner Divas: Thurs. 11/5, 5 p.m., location TBA.

Education Foundation fundraiser: 10/17, dinner and auction at the Early Learning Center.

Friends of the Library Book Sale: 10/9-10 at the Convention Center

Next Board meeting: 10/22, 7 p.m., at Melissa's.

Next General meeting: Nov. 5, 7p.m., at ~~the Vert~~ the Early Learning Center.

Respectfully submitted:

Judy Witte, recording secretary

AAUW OREGON CONVENTION 2016

April 22–24, 2016

Inn at the Commons

200 N. Riverside Ave., Medford

The LACs for Convention 2016 in Medford (Gayle Clason, Kit Nilles) would like:

1. Branches to now begin thinking and planning for their “Showcase of Success” poster. Now is a good time to start getting it together, rather than on April 15th.
2. To inform the Branches that Silent Auction items will be limited to two items/Branch
3. Branches to mark their calendars with the convention dates.

Julie Stratton, Our BMCC Scholarship Recipient

Excerpt from the *East Oregonian*, October 17, 2015

Julie Stratton of Pendleton received a \$1,000 scholarship from the Pendleton branch of the American Association of University Women. Stratton grew up on a Pendleton area family farm along with three older brothers. Her parents, Dave and Sandy Umbarger, are a third-generation farming family.

Starting her education at McKay Creek Elementary, she graduated from Pendleton High School in 1993. Continuing her education, she graduated in May 1997 from BMCC with an associate degree in accounting. Stratton was married in June 1997, and the new couple started their own business in July 1997. It was busy few months.

Working at a bank for several years, Stratton then became an ophthalmologist assistant. In this position, she fell in love with the medical field and helping patients. Stratton determined she would eventually return to school and become a registered nurse.

She became a stay-at-home mom when her daughter was born in 2006, followed by her son in 2010. After a divorce in 2013, Stratton decided to go back to school and fulfill her ambition and dream of becoming a nurse.



AAUW Pendleton co-president Marlene Krout, left, with Julie Stratton. Photo by Karen King

I can't thank you all
enough for awarding
me the \$1000 scholarship.
It helps out tremendously
with the cost for a first
year nursing student.
Looking forward to meeting
you all!



Warmly,
Julie Stratton



PHS Girls Robotics Team

By Karen King

At the October 1, 2015, meeting, AAUW Pendleton Branch voted to support a PHS Girls' Robotics team as our STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) project for 2015–16. I had contacted several organizations in search of a STEM project, and this project stood out as something that will benefit a number of local girls, not only for this year but also in the future.

The robotics teacher/coach is Matthew Campbell, who is extremely enthusiastic about his robotics' students and the potential for a girls' team. Prior to Matthew's and my first conversation, there were 4 robotics teams, each with 8–14 students. There were only 4 girls on these veteran teams. After our first conversation, via emails, Matthew got excited about forming a girls' team and began writing grants. He currently has \$1,200 in grants committed in addition to Pendleton branch's \$500.

The cost of starting a new team is approximately \$3,000, which includes national registration (\$275), tech hardware (\$450; reusable), a base robotics kit (\$577; reusable), spare parts and tools (\$600; some consumed, some reused), a team laptop (\$850), and spirit gear, such as T-shirts (\$250). Matthew pointed out that the initial cost is the easy part because there are additional costs, such as some parts that are consumed and costs to travel to competitions.

It has been less than a month since Matthew and I first discussed the possibility, and with his characteristic enthusiasm, Matthew has already started the girls' robotics team, with 9 girls currently on the team. He has been using spare parts to get them started but requested our grant money to buy supplies while he waits for the other grants. The check from our branch has been delivered to PHS, so Matthew was able to order the main competition kit.

It would be great if our branch members could add their support to this project and match or exceed the \$500 branch donation. (much like we did with the EO Strings project) Donations can be made to PHS Robotics, which is a 501(c)(3), so donations are tax deductible. If you wish to donate, you can mail/deliver checks to PHS or the school district office OR give them to me, and I will take them to the office and request a donation slip for each. If you mail/deliver yourself, please put AAUW on the "FOR" line and let me know the amount as I would like to keep track of our branch donations for the record.

I am very excited about this project and look forward to receiving more updates from Matthew so I can keep our branch updated on the progress.



**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN
PENDLETON BRANCH**

Membership Form — July 2015–June 2016

Please check category below:

Renewing Members

Association Dues \$49

State Dues \$16

Branch Dues \$ 9

Full Year = \$74 _____

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Phone (H) _____ (W) _____

Cell _____

New Members

Shape the Future

Association Dues \$24.50

State Dues \$16.00

Branch Dues \$ 9.00

Full Year = \$49.50 _____

Email _____

Signature _____ Date _____

New Members only

need to fill this in:

(Add additional degrees below)

College/University _____ Date _____

Degree & Date earned _____

Major _____

Mail form and check made to AAUW to:
Dianne Barnes, 731 NW 5th St., Pendleton, OR 97801