



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter
March 2021

AAUW Pendleton Branch

March 4, Zoom Membership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Sarah Gardner,
Bee Entomologist, Beecology Consulting
**“Pollinators of First Foods Plants in the
Blue Mountains”**



You will receive an email from Dianne and Bruce Barnes
with the link to join the Zoom meeting.
Please sign in at 6:45 so the meeting can start at 7:00.

April 1, Zoom Membership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Ellen Morris Bishop
“Confluence of Tribal Culture and Geology”

AAUW Pendleton Branch Leadership Team 2020–2021

Co-Presidents

Kathryn Chaney 379-9997
Kate Mace 276-1006

Communications Vice President
Michelle Sitz 276-6838

Finance Vice President
Karen King 278-2151

Co-Membership Vice Presidents
Mary Davis 983-2481
Joan Deroko 310-9175

Co-Program Vice-Presidents
Kate Ely 278-1997
Barbara Lund-Jones 969-9123

Co-Recording Secretaries
Karen Allen 276-2943
Dianne Barnes 969-0660

Appointed Leaders:

BMCC Liaison
Marie Hall 379-5250

Bylaws
Kathy Ward 276-0308

AAUW Funds
Jill Heffner 278-4791

Grapefruit
Kathy Ward & Karen King

Newsletter & Directory Editor
Susan Doyle 969-7660

Public Policy
Marlene Krout 276-7596
Elizabeth Scheeler 276-2949

STEM
Miriam Munck 278-5805

AAUW Association website
aauw.org

AAUW of Oregon website
aauw-or.aauw.net

AAUW Pendleton website
pendleton-or.aauw.net

Co-Presidents' Corner for March

One of my absolutely favorite quotes is from Emily Dickenson. I have found her very insightful and wise for someone who almost never left the little New England village of Amherst and mainly kept to herself and her family. She penned—

There is no frigate like a book
To take us lands away

I may have been recently snowed in, isolated in my cozy living room, nestled on my couch with my cat, but I have actually been “lands away” through the books I am presently reading. I often work my way through two to three (or more) books at a time, not finishing one before I find and start another.

I just finished an Agatha Christie mystery set in Ancient Egypt. The next one in is a “Miss Marple” set in a lovely (but murderous, I’m sure) English country house. I am also making my way through *A History of God*, which enlightens the reader on the history of the three main monotheistic world religions whose prophets and early adherents centered in the Middle East. *The Book of Lost Books*, which the author calls “an incomplete history of all the great books you’ll never read,” from such as Aristophanes to William Burroughs. This one takes me all over the world. And lastly, I am slowly working on *Egyptologists’ Notebooks*. It is a compilation of words, drawings, and photos of mostly 19th and early 20th century exploration and exploitation (my words!) of Egypt.

I am comfortably here but “lands away” through books. I long for the end of the pandemic and winter so I can truly, actually BE “lands away.” As Robert Frost said, “I’ve got miles to go before I sleep”! Meanwhile, thank goodness, there are books!

Kate Mace
Co-President

AAUW Pendleton Branch Programs 2020–2021

March 4	Sarah Gardner – “Pollinators of First Foods Plants in the Blue Mountains”
April 1	Ellen Morris Bishop – “Confluence of Tribal Culture and Geology”
May 6	Mary Davis – “A Report from the UN Commission on the Status of Women”
June 3	TBD

AAUW -- Pendleton
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
Beginning at 7:00 p.m. February 4, 2021 as a Virtual Zoom Meeting

Program: Barbara Lund-Jones, Program co-chair, introduced Dr. Kimberly Jensen, Chair, Department of History at Western Oregon University. Dr. Jensen's program was titled: "Oregon Women as Non-Citizen 'Enemies of the State' During WW1." Her talk was well received and sparked numerous questions from the membership.

The meeting was called to order at 7:56 p.m. by Co-President Kathleen Mace. There were no corrections to the January branch meeting.

Finance Vice-President Report: Karen King, Finance V-P, reported the checkbook balance at \$1,265.88 and savings at \$10,160.96. She then reiterated that Velda Arnaud, who is an AAUW member and Pendleton Chamber of Commerce President, has invited our branch to learn how to utilize the Chamber of Commerce to receive more publicity for our dues. Karen suggested a committee should take on this project.

Officers/Projects: There were no new reports.

Unfinished Business: STEM project. There is nothing new to report. Another STEM project is a possibility before adjourning for our summer break and is still being explored.

New Business: Mary Davis, Marlene Krout, and Jill Heffner will work together to come up with a slate of possible offices for 2021–2022. Co-President, Co-VP Program, Finance VP, Recording Secretary (Co?), and Membership VP (Co?) are the positions needed to be filled.

Announcements:

February Board Meeting – February 18 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Next branch meeting: Sarah Gardner - "Pollinators of First Foods Plants in the Blue Mountains," March 4, 7p.m., via Zoom

The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne Barnes, Co-Recording Secretary



Program Notes for March 4 Meeting

Bee Entomologist, Sarah Gardner of Beecology Consulting, LLC, and a Master Mellitologist Mentor studies bees in Northeast Oregon that pollinate First Foods for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla. Sarah has a master's degree with an emphasis on Pollination Ecology.

A video of Sarah Gardner in the field talking about this topic is at:

<https://extension.oregonstate.edu/video/bee-entomologist>.

This video is part of the Greater Oregon STEM Hub Explore Science Club

Kwolek Polymer Project

The Kwolek Polymer Project with the kits provided by AAUW Pendleton Branch was a great success. The branch received many Thank You messages from the students, which Karen King emailed to our members. The AAUW project was funded by Wally Waldman in memory of Sue Waldman.



Members' Corner

Occasionally branch members' writings are worthwhile to share. Karen King has posted a daily column on Facebook since the beginning of the pandemic. Her posts are timely, thoughtful, and insightful. Two recent posts are particularly relevant to current affairs. For those of you who do not look at Facebook, here's your opportunity to see the best of what is on every day.

Karen King on Capitalism

Rant & Rave: Day 14. Capitalism—it's an economic system that has brought great wealth but has also wrought great destruction. The destruction is to the environment because it allows economic development without paying the full price that development has on our earth and natural resources. Further destruction is to our society, creating wealth classes of absurdly rich (like billionaires) and devastatingly poor, with the rest of us somewhere in between. There is some hope that we will rethink what is really important to us after the pandemic. One new economic theory proposed by Kate Raworth is a doughnut economy. It places humanity somewhere between the social foundation where everyone has what they need to live a good life and the environmental ceiling where our precious earth is protected. It's an interesting theory that requires careful consideration. After all, Capitalism isn't perfect, and maybe there's a better way.

Karen King on Democracy

Rant & Rave: Day 16. The last few months have reminded us all how fragile Democracy is. I was surprised to learn about the efforts put forth by a mixed group of people to make sure the 2020 election was fair and that all votes were counted. The loose alliance included labor (such as AFL-CIO), business (such as Chamber of Commerce), Democrats, Republicans, and many more diverse groups. They had a multi-part strategy.

First, they advocated for Vote by Mail, especially during the pandemic, and helped states with funding and advice to make it possible. Second, they rallied left-leaning activist groups to protest strategically but to avoid dangerous confrontations with right wing extremists which might allow Trump to rush in with the military and/or declare martial law. Third, they helped fund a broad, bipartisan public awareness campaign to let the public know that all votes would be counted and that it might take several days for a final outcome. Fourth, they were instrumental in assuring that everyone had the right to vote and fended off frivolous lawsuits by Trump. Fifth, they avoided confronting misinformation but instead pressured media companies (like Facebook, Twitter, etc) to enforce their own rules and take down posts that were false. Sixth, and lastly, they enlisted CEOs and corporations to call for patience while the votes were counted. These groups anticipated Trump's moves to overturn the election and were prepared to head them off. They fought back election interference by Trump with carefully targeted media campaigns and strategic phone campaigns by influential people. They asked that counterdemonstrators NOT attend the Jan 6 electoral count, fearing that they would be blamed if mayhem ensued—which it did.

Nonetheless, there were many places along the way where things could have gone very differently. And, we will all need to be vigilant in the future because this battle is not yet won, and our democratic elections could still be in danger. In fact, there are those in Georgia who are already trying to disenfranchise voters of color!!

I would like to highly recommend the article "How Close We Came" in the Feb 15/Feb 22 *Time* magazine, which is where I got this information.