



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter **May 2021**

AAUW Pendleton Branch

May 6, Zoom Membership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

**Candidate Fair for Candidates
Pendleton School District Positions 1,4,7
and BMCC Zone 3 Board
(Biographies of the candidates are on pages 6–7.)**



**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.**

June 3, Zoom Membership Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Mary Davis

**“A Report from the UN Commission
on the Status of Women”**

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 April

This month's meeting is a prime example of what I really appreciate about our branch of AAUW. In a word—it's flexibility. It all started when one of our members asked what was AAUW's stance on recommending candidates. Could she write a Letter to the Editor of the *East Oregonian* using AAUW's name? (The answer is "no." AAUW is nonpartisan, and we cannot support one candidate over another).

The next thing you know, the May meeting was changed to a Candidate's Forum for 16R School Board and BMCC Board candidates. Mary Davis was scheduled to present the program this month, but she said she'd do June's meeting, and that took care of that.

The forum has been planned and candidates have been asked to participate and submit statements. (You will find their statements later in this newsletter). A timely, informative meeting is going to happen. Thank you to all of you who helped. We especially need to thank Mary and Marlene Krout for getting it organized and so quickly. All it took was a perceived need, and they took it from there.

I wasn't able to join in the State's online Annual Meeting. (I was nursing a post-operative husband. He's doing very well and has started PT already for his Total Shoulder Replacement). I hope many of you were able to "attend" and found it useful. I will be anxious to hear about it.

Kate Mace
Co-President



IT'S ANNUAL DUES TIME

The AAUW membership year begins July 1 and All renewals are due by June 30. If you haven't already renewed, please so so as soon as you can.

A membership form is included with this newsletter
as a separate file.

AAUW Pendleton Branch
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
April 1, 2021

Co-President Kathryn Chaney called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The meeting was held on Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions.

Kate Ely, Co-Program Vice President introduced **Dr. Ellen Morris Bishop**, Paleo-Geologist, who presented a PowerPoint program titled “Confluence of Tribal Culture and Geology.” It was well received. She pointed out that Nez Pearce tribes continue to tell the ancient stories that correlate with how the land changed due to lava flows and the Missoula Floods. Their stories confirmed the changes seen by today’s geologists. This also implies the Northwest was inhabited during those times of geological changes. She said geologists should pay more attention to authentic Native American stories.

Connie Green, Interim President of BMCC, also spoke during the business meeting. Her talk was titled “Your College: Ready to listen and strengthen partnerships.” She noted that her job was to address enrollment decline, budget challenges, and student poverty (all exacerbated by Covid-19). Her goal is to work with the communities BMCC serves and college personnel to put together a stable two-year budget that allows a new BMCC president a fresh start. Connie said one way our community could help is by assisting scholarships students with employment or housing.

Finance Vice President Report: Karen King reported currently the checking account has \$654.12, and the savings account has \$10,160.96. Of note: \$350 was paid to BMCC to complete our donation for the next school year’s student scholarship. We learned earlier that not all of the money AAUW donated previously was used so only \$350 was needed to complete the scholarship. \$250.76 was paid out for supplies for the 3rd STEM project of the year, which again will serve 6th grade classes at Pendleton Middle School.

Officer/Project Reports:

Programs: Mary Davis is scheduled to speak to us on May 4th about “A Report from the UN Commission on the Status of Women”

STEM Project: Karen King said there is nothing new to report; the project is the same as reported last month.

Unfinished Business:

Vert Clubroom: No change in status to report.

New Business: Marlene Krout asked what the group thought about hosting an opportunity for all candidates to speak to our membership before the next election. It would be on Zoom due to Covid-19 restrictions. There was a positive response. Marlene, Mary Davis, and Jill Heffner will coordinate the meeting.

Announcements:

- Karen King reminded all to pay their next year dues by check or online. Total dues for national, state, and local have increased \$3 to \$87.
- April board meeting – April 15 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom
- AAUW of Oregon Annual Meetings (both on Zoom):
Sunday, April 18, at 1:00 p.m. with keynote speaker Jessica Vega Pederson, Multnomah County Commissioner, and business meeting.
Tuesday, April 20, at 7:00 p.m. Awards Celebration and speaker Alexandra Vargas Quinones, AAUW International Fellow/
- Next Pendleton Branch meeting: May 6 at 7 p.m. via Zoom: A candidate fair. The previously scheduled program will be in June.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m..

Respectfully Submitted,
Dianne Barnes, Co-Recording Secretary



Slate of Officers for 2021–22

**To be voted on at the May Membership Meeting.
All terms are two years unless noted otherwise.**

Co-President: Susan Doyle

Co-Program Vice Presidents:

Harriet Isom

Barbara Lund-Jones (one year)

Co-Membership Vice Presidents:

Kate Ely

Sue Petersen

Co-Finance Vice Presidents:

Marlene Krout (Branch)

Kate Mace (Dues)

Co-Secretaries:

Jill Heffner

Kathy Ward

A Night at the AAUW of Oregon Funds Awards, Jeopardy Style

Jill Heffner, AAUW Funds Chair, Pendleton Branch

A. Which two Pendleton Branch members were recognized as the branch's Named Gift Honoree?

Q. WHO ARE DIANNE BARNES and MIRIAM MUNK?

These two women were honored by the branch for extraordinary contributions to the branch.

Thank you, Dianne, for sharing ZOOM and hosting every single Board of Officers' and Membership meeting, TWICE a month! What a commitment! You are much appreciated!

Miriam, you are a jewel for all that you have done this past year with STEM projects for young students. AAUW members know how important STEM is; the branch is so excited that you have provided such interesting, fun STEM activities for young students. Thank you!

A. What was the total contributions of Pendleton Branch to AAUW Funds?

Q. WHAT IS \$2,760.00?

A. Where does Pendleton rank in the top ten Oregon branches total donations to AAUW Funds?

Q. WHAT IS #9?

A. Where does Pendleton rank in the top ten per capita donations to AAUW Funds?

Q. WHAT IS #5, WITH \$67.42 / 41 MEMBERS.

Thank you to you who so generously donated to AAUW Funds in the continued support for programs, scholarships, grants, and legal aid that the AAUW provides nationally.

Thank you, everyone, for your donations and commitment to AAUW Funds. We truly are an awesome branch!

AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund

AAUW National recently announced that the AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund is now fully endowed in perpetuity and no longer needs any donations. This puts LAF in the same category as the Fellowship Endowment.

AAUW of Oregon is especially proud of LAF as it was begun decades ago by Kappy Eaton, a lifetime member of the Eugene branch and a past AAUW of OR state president. While on the staff at U of O, Kappy was instrumental in establishing LAF, which continues to aid women (and men) fighting discrimination on college and university campuses.

Candidates' Biographies for May 6 Meeting

Candidates for Pendleton School District Board Position 1:

Beth Harrison grew up in Logan, Utah and earned a B.S. in Food Science from Brigham Young University and a Master's in Public Health in Nutrition from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill where she also became a Registered Dietician. Beth and her husband, Russell Harrison, moved to Pendleton 11 years ago and they have 7 children (2 PHS graduates, and 5 who are currently enrolled in our district). Beth worked briefly as a dietician before choosing to focus her energy, education, and time on raising her family and actively working and volunteering in the schools and community. Beth is a member of Altrusa of Pendleton (executive board member for 3 years), is on Oregon East Symphony Board, volunteers extensively in classrooms at all grade levels, and is the founder and chair of a local unit of Days of Girls International (an international humanitarian organization that promotes menstrual health and hygiene solutions to empower women and girls).

Rodney Thompson. I was born to a military family in Anniston, Alabama, in 1942, grew up in North Douglas County, Oregon, and did all my K-12 schooling in the Yoncalla area. I graduated from Oregon State University with a BS degree in General Science in 1964 and married Edith right after graduation. I have two children and two 16-year-old granddaughters; one is adopted from China. I served one tour in South Vietnam and four tours in South Korea, and I retired as a Lieutenant Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve. I volunteered with a high school exchange program for 20 years, recruiting students and families. I was a locksmith for 25 years, retiring when I was 70. We moved to Pendleton in 1979.

Candidates for Pendleton School District Board Position 4:

Preston Eagleheart - Managing Director for Cayuse Government Services. I'm a Pendleton native, born and raised in the area for most of my life. I'm an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), bringing over 20 years of experience in tribal government affairs, casino management, and technology ranging from business process improvement, policy, regulatory compliance, audit reporting, strategy & analysis, and project management. I have four children, two are out of school and two are currently at Washington Elementary and Sunridge. I have a loving wife Thelma of 14 years who holds it all together.

Education: I hold a BA in Business Management from Eastern Washington University with emphasis in Operations Management, and an MBA from Gonzaga University with concentration in American Indian Entrepreneurship. Current board seats are Pendleton Progress Board, Oregon Native American Chamber, State of Oregon STEM Investment Council.

Joey GrosJacques. I was born in Pendleton and raised in Pilot Rock. I hold a Master of Science in Management and Leadership from Western Governors University and work as the Director of TRIO/Student Support Services for Blue Mountain Community College. I do not

have children but am driven to help support and improve education for all children. I have served previously on the Board of Education in Pilot Rock prior to moving to Pendleton and work every day to put Students First!

Candidates for Pendleton School District Board Position 7:

Patrick Gregg lives in Pendleton with his wife Jill and their three children, Jack, 9, Kevin, 7, and Christopher, 3. He is a lawyer with Corey, Byler & Rew, LLP and his wife Jill is the ASPIRE coordinator at Pendleton High School. Patrick grew up in Wilsonville, Oregon, attending public schools. He has a B.A. in History from University of Portland, with minors in Political Science and Spanish, and a law degree from Willamette University. He is active in professional and community organizations, presently serving as a board member of the Umatilla County Historical Society and as a Cub Scout leader.

Briana Spencer. I'm an enrolled member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR), Afro-Puerto Rican, Irish, and French. I've acquired a great deal of experience in education through terms served on the CTUIR's Education & Training Committee, the Washington State Indian Education Association, and the Nixyaawii Community School Board. I believe my lived experience of spending my childhood dealing with issue like poverty, foster care, and providing care for younger family members sets me apart. I'm a Pendleton native and a Pendleton High School graduate. My tribe has inhabited and have been stewards of these lands since time immemorial. These are my homelands, cultural heritage, and future; I'm rooted here.

Candidate for BMCC Zone 3 Board:

Carrie Sampson-Samuels. Carrie grew up in Belle, Missouri, a small community of 1,500 residents. She left to attend the U of Missouri and eventually returned to live in Pendleton near her father's family. She attended BMCC and then transferred to Portland State University where she studied health and community health education and received her bachelor's degree. She is an enrolled member of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. She was an administrator at Yellowhawk Tribal Health Center and is now working as project director for the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board.

Kent Madison, a farmer from Echo, intended to run against Carrie Sampson-Samuels. The two met in a Zoom call and he has now stopped campaigning and has endorsed Carrie. He originally intended to run because the position didn't have a candidate at that time. Kent, a former graduate of BMC, is fully supporting Carrie by saying that she would be a breath of fresh air for the BMCC Board.

**Please consider "holding off" mailing or delivering your ballot
until you listen to the candidates.**

Member's Corner

Here is another of Karen King's thoughtful Facebook Posts:

Rant & Rave: Day 18. International Women's Day was March 8. I learned more about it at Baker City's AAUW meeting, and afterward I did a little research. International Women's Day started on March 19, 1911, in four countries: Austria, Germany, Denmark, and Switzerland. The women marched for the right to vote, the right to work, the right to be trained and educated, and the right to hold public office. Not long after that on March 25, 1911, was the horrific Triangle Fire in New York City. The fire occurred in a warehouse sweatshop with horrific safety conditions where women worked 12-hour days, 6 days per week. Over 140 women died in the fire, mostly Italian and Jewish immigrants. Not only did that fire instigate both labor and safety movements, but it also spurred on more women to seek equality. International Women's Day was later moved to March 8, and it is celebrated all over the world. It is currently a day to celebrate social, economic, cultural, and political achievements by women as well as a time to urge worldwide equality for women. So next time you want to go back to the "good old days," remember how working conditions really were 100 years ago.

Thank you, Karen, for enriching our understanding of the values and goals of AAUW.



Lunch Bunch is Back!

Lunch Bunch will meet May 20 at 11:45 a.m. at McKay Community Park on SW 37th St. Bring your own picnic lunch and beverage and we'll eat in one of the park pavilions. Jill Heffner will email an invitation and directions earlier that week.