



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter **December 2021**

AAUW Pendleton Branch

**Zoom Membership Meeting,
December 2, 7:00 p.m.**

**Mark Browning, BMCC President
“Outlook for BMCC”**



**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.**

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

**Program: Blaine Harden, author of *Murder at the Mission*
“Whitman Mission Era and Columbia Basin Native Americans”**

AAUW Pendleton Branch Leadership Team 2021–2022

Co-Presidents

Kathryn Chaney 379-9997
Susan Doyle 969-7660

Communications Vice President

Michelle Sitz 276-6838

Co-Finance Vice Presidents

Marlene Krout 276-7596
Dues, Kate Mace 276-1006

Co-Membership Vice Presidents

Mary Davis 983-2481
Kate Ely 278-1997
Sue Petersen 276-4569

Co-Program Vice-Presidents

Barbara Lund-Jones 969-9123
Harriet Isom 278-8046

Co-Recording Secretaries

Kathy Ward 276-0308
Jill Heffner 278-4791

Appointed Leaders:

BMCC Liaison

Marie Hall 379-5250

AAUW Funds

Jill Heffner 278-4791

Grapefruit

Karen King 278-2151

Newsletter & Directory Editor

Susan Doyle 969-7660

Public Policy

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 December

Thanksgiving is here and I think about gratitude. There is a lot to be grateful for these days. Of course, we have challenges on many fronts, but I like to consider the positive forces in my life. Studies have been done to evaluate the role of gratitude on our mental and physical health over time. They show that people who keep gratitude journals feel better about their lives and more optimistic. Grateful people are said to report lower levels of depression and stress. A disposition towards gratitude helps us be less likely to judge success in terms of possessions and likely to share with others.

Importantly, some research suggests that daily gratitude practices might have preventative benefits in preventing coronary artery disease. I took these nuggets from resources developed by Mental Health First Aid.

I'm sure of one thing – I am grateful for each of you AAUW champions and consider it a privilege to know you.

Happy Thanksgiving

Kathryn Chaney, Co-President

Notes on Newest Members

Bonnie Day – not in directory
(c) 541-231-3979
bonnieday1@gmail.com

Diana LaSarge – email not in directory
dlasarge@gmail.com

Emily Miller Smith – this personal email
is not in directory
emilymiller_02@hotmail.com

Kris Mulvihill – New Member
(c) 541-571-5705
kris.mulvihill66@gmail.com

AAUW Pendleton
Branch Meeting via ZOOM
November 4, 2021

Call to Order: Co- President Kathryn Chaney called the meeting to order @ 7:00pm

Present: K. Chaney, J. Heffner, D. Barnes, M. Davis, M. Krout, S. Doyle, K. Ward, K. King, C. Featherston, B. Lund-Jones, K. Mace, S. Petersen, D. LaSarge

Guest: Shannon VanKirk

Minutes: October branch minutes were approved as corrected. The \$20 fee for the Sue Waldman scholarship fund was an application fee not for management.

Reports:

Finance: Krout

Savings acct funds: \$10,336.46; Checking acct funds: \$3,943.62; \$3,345.00 is from grapefruit receipts.

IRS received our 990N form and confirmed our tax year status for 2020, which maintains our 501(C4) status

Program: Lund-Jones/Isom, No updates

Membership: Davis/ Peterson/Ely

Potential new member is Kris Mulvihill

Communications: Sitz, No report

Appointed positions:

Directory/ newsletter editor Susan Doyle will be mailing out the new directories. Going forward any new member information will be in the newsletter. Kate Mace volunteered to email an updated roster to everyone.

Grapefruit chair Karen King needs all orders and money by November 20, and preferably sooner.

Unfinished business:

Jill Heffner gave an update on where our AAUW funds money goes. We support international programs such as clean water availability and scholarships both here and abroad. Closer to home there are community action grants. For more information go to the AAUW website.

Sue Waldman memorial fund is progressing as the committee continues to do more research.

New business:

Our Branch will be nominating Breanna Spencer for the Breaking Barriers Achievement Award. Applications are due January 9, 2022. Kate Mace and Mary Davis have agreed to review the application.

Sue Petersen reported that she got the Miltenberger Signmen business to advertise our grapefruit sale on their reader board. Sue also reported that she had been down to the chamber of commerce asking to use

their resources to advertise our grapefruit sale. They did not seem to know anything about AAUW even though we are a member. There were questions about how much good we are getting out of being a member of the chamber.

Announcements:

November 18 board meeting at 7:00

December 2 branch meeting featuring BMCC president Mark Browning

November 17 AAUW 140th anniversary celebration via zoom @ 1:00pm, registration is required.

Meeting adjourned: @ 8:43 pm

Kathy Ward, Co-Secretary

WHERE AAUW FUNDS DONATIONS WENT IN 2020!

- **\$3.6 million was awarded to more than 200** recipients for the 2020-21 academic year with the goal of advancing educational opportunities for women around the globe!
- **180,000 women were trained** in salary-negotiation skills through our Work Smart and Start Smart programs to date!
- **30,000 people were reached** by our 35 free webinars featuring career tips, advice on activism, interviews with thought leaders and other educational offerings!
- **4 research reports or updates** were undertaken this year, exploring the plight of Latina essential workers, women in manufacturing, how college debt disproportionately burdens women and the effect of the gender wage gap on women of color!
- **62,000 letters were sent** to elected officials urging immediate action on COVID relief, paid leave benefits, voter access and other key AAUW public policy priorities!
- **227 media outlets** have featured AAUW's work in 2020, including The New York Times, The Washington Post, Newsweek, U.S. News & World Report, NBC News and more!

Contributions to AAUW Funds are fully tax-deductible and can be sent to your branch's current AAUW Fund chair or made on-line at www.aauw.org/contribute. When sending a check to your AAUW Funds branch chair, include the fund number in the memo line and a note indicating your honoree. Currently, Pendleton's AAUW Funds chair is Jill Heffner, 3303 SW LaDow Ave., Pendleton.

**AAUW Funds operates on a calendar year, so please send donations by December 15.
A form is on the last page of this newsletter.**

Program December 2: “Outlook for BMCC”

Speaker: Mark Browning, President of Blue Mountain Community College (BMCC)

By Harriet Isom

Mark Browning took over the helm of BMCC on September 7, after his selection over three other finalists. He and his wife Kym have come to Pendleton from Nampa, Idaho. He has three adult sons scattered over Idaho and Utah, three “criminally cute” grandkids, and two dogs named Lewis and Clark. And, amazingly in this time of housing scarcity, they have already closed on a house in Pendleton.

He is a self-described “farm boy from Western Montana,” growing up in Stevensville on a small family farm in the Bitterroot Valley. But it was in neighboring Idaho where his family moved when he was in high school and where he has had his first career track in radio and television and a second career track in community college administration. The *East Oregonian* has profiled his unusual and impressive background in several articles that provided the information below.



His earliest career start was in Idaho radio and then television when he eventually became an anchor and news director for local Boise TV stations. He realized that if he wanted to advance his career outside the bounds of broadcast journalism, he would need a degree. Hence at age 39, he enrolled at Idaho State University, ultimately obtaining a bachelor’s degree in mass communications.

He then went from covering Idaho government to joining it. He became the chief communications and legislative officer for the Idaho State Board of Education. From there he was appointed as a vice president of communications at North Idaho College in Coeur d’Alene. In 2016, he took on a new role as an administrator at the College of Western Idaho, a community college established in Nampa to serve Boise’s rapidly growing suburbs and currently serving 32,000 students. He comes to Pendleton from this position.

Admirably, he has continued to advance his education, obtaining a master’s degree in public administration from the University of Idaho and enrolling in an education doctorate program at Idaho State. He will soon defend his dissertation on dual credits and the relationship between community colleges and the K-12 system.

A key aspect of his administrative talents goes back to his years in broadcasting when he honed his skills at storytelling. He considers it the ultimate extension of his job at BMCC to be its lead storyteller. One of his first goals, in fact, is to restore the college’s communications and marketing department that under the previous president was outsourced to the InterMountain Education Service District.

A November 20 article in the *East Oregonian* outlines several of the problems facing the new president, such as a student headcount drop by around 30% in 2020 and an enrollment increase this fall of only 38 students. Too few students are in full time enrollment, which affects the level of state funding. In addition, dozens of faculty positions have been eliminated in the budget cuts of the past two years.

Celebrating 140 Years of AAUW

What happens when you contribute to AAUW Funds? AAUW Funds encompasses several individual funds ranging from long-established programs such as Legal Advocacy Fund and Educational Foundation Program to new programs such as Tech Trek and Start Smart and to Community Action Grants, as well as awarding scholarships and fellowships.

We have now had the opportunity to see AAUW Funds in action! AAUW marked its 140th Anniversary with a special online award ceremony and celebration on November 17. At the 140th Anniversary webinar we were introduced to one of AAUW's fellowship recipients, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, the 2021 recipient of the AAUW Alumnae Recognition Award. This award honors a past recipient of an AAUW fellowship or grant who has attained outstanding success and distinction in their chosen profession.

Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala is Director-General of the World Trade Organization and one of *Time* magazine's 100 most influential people of 2021. Her webinar presentation was interesting and inspiring.



Dr. Okonjo-Iweala said she was very appreciative of the AAUW fellowship she received while working toward her doctorate from MIT. SHE SAID This fellowship took away the worry about food and rent and allowed her to concentrate on her studies—and she saved enough to pay for her wedding dress. She went on to serve her country of Nigeria as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Coordinating Minister for the Economy, and then Minister of Finance. Now, holding both Nigerian and United States citizenships, she is the first woman to be Director-General of the World Trade Organization.

She is a strong advocate of following your passion. Passion, she said, is what makes a leader. AAUW can be proud of having been instrumental in the life of Dr. Okonjo-Iweala. This is an affirmation of the importance of contributions from Pendleton Branch and its individual members to AAUW Funds. AAUW Funds makes a difference in the world!



AAUW Program Names and Fund Numbers

9110—The AAUW Greatest Needs Fund, formerly called the AAUW Fund, gives AAUW the mobility to rapidly respond to new and emerging challenges or opportunities facing women and girls.

4449—Economic Security Fund ensures livelihoods for women through achieving pay equity for women, providing training in salary negotiations, and deepening women's retirement security and quality of life (includes but not limited to Pay Equity).

4450—Education and Training Fund addresses the barriers and implicit biases that hinder advancement of women (includes but not limited to STEM and Title IX)

4451—Governance and Sustainability Fund ensures the strength, relevance and viability of AAUW into the future.

4452—Leadership Fund supports the effort to close the gender gap in leadership opportunities by increasing the number of girls and women in leadership roles (includes but not limited to NCCWSL, Elect Her, \$tart \$mart).

3999—The Legal Advocacy Fund supports the protection of the legal rights of those who are facing sex discrimination, including:

3072—Travel and Education Grant informs AAUW members through educational programs delivered by LF plaintiffs and lawyers.

- **3500**—Campus Outreach Projects protects college students from discrimination, harassment, and assault through on-campus programs
- **9310**—Case Support protects LAF plaintiffs by supporting workplace sex discrimination cases.

AAUW FUNDS

Name _____ Branch _____

Address _____ City _____

Gift Amount _____ Fund Number _____

Gifts of \$100.00 or more confer membership in the Oregon Century Club, AAUW of Oregon.

Gifts of \$25.00 or more may be designated to honor a friend or a loved one:

Memorial to _____

Honor/Tribute (living) to _____

AAUW Funds will send acknowledgment to (name) _____

(address) _____

Make checks payable to AAUW FUNDS. Indicate Fund Number on the memo line.

Mail or give to Jill Heffner, AAUW Funds Chair, 3302 SW La Dow, Pendleton