

# AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter April 2022

## **AAUW Pendleton Branch**

Zoom Membership Meeting, Thursday, April 14 (new date) 7:00 p.m.



Steve Lawn Jr., "Pendleton Unmanned Aircraft Systems Range"

You will receive an email from Dianne and Bruce Barnes with the link to join the Zoom meeting.

The email will come from Bruce's new email: flora.id79@gmail.com

May 7, In-Person Membership Meeting, 1–3 p.m.

Harriet Isom's "Collection of Jewelry and Textiles" at Harriet's ranch

#### **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 April**

We will have another meeting using Zoom in April and then transition to in-person in May. Even if COVID surprises us with a surge, we know that we can always return to Zoom.

We will be talking about our vote on a slate of officers soon. Meanwhile, please consider taking a leadership role. You may be thinking that you aren't ready, but I assure you that our many long-time members will provide support for you. We are delighted to welcome several new members and hope that as you participate in our activities you will feel comfortable getting involved in leadership.

Let's enjoy spring as we move toward another exciting year with Pendleton AAUW.

Kathryn Chaney, Co-President

### **Directory Corrections**

#### Members with new emails:

Dianne Barnes, d.45.barnes@gmail.com Roberta Jones, bertafossjones@gmail.com Michelle Sitz, michellersitz@gmail.com June Whitten, whiitenjune@gmail.com

#### **Announcements**

Normally our branch would begin a dues renewal campaign by April 1. But this year the renewal campaign is delayed because of problems with national AAUW membership database. We will send renewal forms by email as soon as the problems are resolved.

The May 7 membership business meeting will include election of officers and approval of bylaw changes. The bylaws changes will be sent to you by email ahead of the meeting. The officers to be elected at the meeting are:

Communications VP, Joan Deroko (two years) Program VP, Barbara Lund-Jones (one year)

## AAUW PENDLETON MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES via ZOOM, March 3, 2022

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

Guests: State Co-Presidents Pat Lehman and Sue Klumph.

**Minutes:** February general membership minutes approved as presented.

**Reports:** 

Finance: Krout

Savings acct funds: 10,336.85 Checking acct funds: 2,064.27 One check written to Mary Davis for reimbursement for flowers for Alerita Burns \$35.

**Program:** Lund-Jones/Isom

Program for April is Pendleton's UAV range

Membership: Davis/ Peterson/Ely

Sue Petersen introduced Kris Mulvihill as a new member.

**Communications:** Sitz

No report.

#### **Appointed positions**:

Public policy no report. AAUW funds no report.

#### **Unfinished business:**

The Waldman fund is being finalized. We are waiting for a final review by the family.

Library book for Sue Waldman: Kate Mace hasn't heard back from the library on how they want to proceed in purchasing the book we selected.

Branch notebook committee: Karen King has emailed all board members and asked them to update their position descriptions so the committee can start revising the notebook.

#### **New business:**

The branch has been allotted 3 delegaes for the state convention. One will be filled by one of the copresidents which leaves two from membership. Jill Heffner volunteered to fill one of the positions which leaves one open. Jill stressed that only delegates have to attend the business meetings. Registration forms are due by March 15.

Sue Petersen suggested we have a call list to remind members of the meetings. We have had a call list system set up before but have not continued to do this. This was referred for discussion at the next board meeting on March 17.

The symphony needs door greeters for their performances. Sue Petersen asked for volunteers for March 12. Karen King volunteered.

Selecting a nominating committee was moved to the board meeting on March 17.

#### **Announcements:**

March 8, 2022, at 11:00: program for International Women's Day

March 17, 2022, next board meeting

May 24-26, 2022: Pat Lehman reminded everyone of NCCWSL National conference. Reduced registration rates through March 11.

Marie Hall announced that Ann Marie Harden will be emailing a "did you know" notice for students and faculty at BMCC. This will highlight AAUW and give anyone interested an opportunity to learn about our group.

Susan Doyle reminded everyone that Wtechlink will no longer be supporting emails. Those affected will need to update their email addresses.

Meeting adjourned: @ 8:28 pm

Kathy Ward, Co-Secretary

## **AAUW Pendleton Branch 2021-22 Scholarship Recipient**

### **Katie Sowa**

My name is Katelynn Sowa, and I'm originally from the Oregon Coast, although I now call Eastern Oregon my home. I'm a mother of three beautiful kids ranging from 8 to 4 years old. I'm a volunteer first responder, part-time barista, caregiver, and full-time college student. I'm working on finishing up my Associates of Science degree right now at Blue Mountain Community College and will be applying to nursing school next year. My plan is to pursue my bachelor's in nursing while working after nursing school. I have a golden retriever named Princess Sweet Peach, three cats named Pumpkin, Strawberry, and Papaya, and yes, my children did name them. I serve my local community in many facets, including coaching youth sports, leading children's groups at our church, and serving as secretary for Columbia Youth Soccer Club. These past three years of college have included a lot of sacrifice on the part of myself and my family, but we are all very excited for what the future holds for all of us as I continue forward as a first-generation college graduate.



Thank you so much for all your support and assistance towards my education. I'm forever grateful and thankful.

Katelynn Sowa

#### **AAUW Funds Named Gift Honoree**

Jill Heffner

#### Congratulations, SUE PETERSEN, you are the Pendleton 2021 AAUW FUNDS Gift Honoree!

You will have your name in lights, babies will be named for you. Oh wait, no, that won't happen. But you will receive a very nice certificate from AAUW Funds, and your name will be listed in the AAUW Pendleton Directory in perpetuity. You will be honored at the next in-person branch meeting and receive a small token of our esteem. And you will receive the gratitude of the branch.

Thank you, Sue, for all the things you have done for the Branch this past year. As Co-Membership Vice President, you introduced many women to AAUW and, because of your enthusiasm, friendliness, and encouragement, Pendleton Branch now has several new members. You are planning to implement a phone tree to encourage more attendance at our meetings. As a member of the Branch Board of Directors and a member of the Eastern Oregon Symphony BOD, you brought the organizations to a symbiotic arrangement: AAUW members serve the symphony as ushers and in return, AAUW receives public recognition at the symphonies as well as a promise to help promote grapefruit sales.

You have truly been an asset to AAUW Pendleton and deserve this honor. Sue, you made a difference.

### **AAUW of Oregon Special Projects Fund**

Jill Heffner

Because AAUW Pendleton Branch is now using the AAUW of Oregon Special Project Fund to facilitate the Sue Waldman Memorial Fund, this is a good time to share with the Branch the annual SPF report made to AAUW of Oregon Board of Directors.

SPF "continues to work with eight AAUW of Oregon branches to facilitate eleven AAUW mission-based projects for women and girls.

In June 2021 SPF launched it new website https://oregonspecialprojectsfund.org.

SPF meets quarterly via ZOOM. Current Board members are:

Penney Hoodenpyle, Chair, Online Branch; Susan Gilstrap, Finance Officer, Wallowa County; Jill Heffner, Secretary, Pendleton; Jae Allen, NC District, Hillsboro-Forest Grove; Mickey Edwards, NE District, Baker City, Pat Mumford, NW District, Tillamook; Cindy Parker, Central District, Eugene-Lane; Debbie Watts, South District, Lakeview.

Each branch with a SPF project assigns a branch member to be the Branch Contact to work directly with the SPF Finance Officer and Board. Annually the Board meets with the Branch contacts to share information and answer questions.

Annually the financial management of the SPF is reviewed by a CPA. Every year the reviewer is very pleased with and complimentary of our Finance Officer."

## **Program Notes**

## May 7 Zoom Presentation by Steve Lawn "Pendleton Unmanned Aircraft Systems Range"

## Steve Lawn Jr. Unmanned Aircraft Systems Test Range Chief Engineer

Growing up an Air Force brat, I was around airplanes most of my life. When I wasyounger, the easiest (and most cost-effective) way for me to be involved in flying was radio-controlled aircraft. This hobby led to my involvement in unmanned aircraft as a test pilot for a helicopter UAS company. That job, in turn, led to me finding a unique niche in the aerospace industry: UAS Operations.

Deciding on a degree path and sticking to it was tough for me when I started college. Istarted with music, changed majors to biology, then dropped out altogether. A few years later, I returned to school at Middle Tennessee State University where I found a program I could really latch on to: Aerospace. While at MTSU, I earned a B.S. in aerospace and all of my manned aircraft ratings. I now hold a FAA Commercial, Instrument, Single/Multi-engine (manned) pilot's certificate and FAA Remote Pilot (unmanned) rating.

At the Pendleton UAS Range, I am responsible for overseeing our mission control rooms, both fixed-base and mobile. I also help lead the UAS/Technology incubator housed in the mission control building. In my day-to-day work, I use knowledge that ranges from computer networking, electronics, robotics, virtual reality, and aviation. I also have a passion for passing this knowledge along by involvement in hosting STEM field trips and internships, robotics team mentoring, and community workshops.



AAUW of Oregon Convention on Zoom, April 7-9