



**AAUW Pendleton Branch**  
**June Membership Meeting**

Year End Wrap-Up  
Picnic, Program, and Discussion



Saturday, June 1  
11:00 a.m.  
Community Park Picnic Shelter

**Bring your own food and beverage, dessert will be provided!**

*Have a great Summer - See you Next September*

**AAUW Pendleton Branch  
Leadership Team 2023–2024**

Co-Presidents

Susan Doyle 969-7660  
Mary Davis 969-9669

Communications Vice President

Delanne Ferguson 278-8131

Co-Finance Vice Presidents

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

Membership Vice President

Sue Petersen 276-4569

Co-Program Vice-Presidents

Kate Ely 278-1997  
Blanche Hill 360-649-4337

Co-Recording Secretaries

Kathy Ward 276-0308  
Beth Condon 276-7187

**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

Regina Braker 663-6148

STEM

Board Committee

Website

Marty King 276-8210

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**AAUW Association website**

[aauw.org](http://aauw.org)

**AAUW of Oregon website**

[aauw-or.aauw.net](http://aauw-or.aauw.net)

**AAUW Pendleton website**

[pendleton-or.aauw.net](http://pendleton-or.aauw.net)

## Co-Presidents Message

As we plan ahead for next year, we wanted to get your input on some ideas for programs for next year. Please look over the following questions and bring your thoughts to the membership meeting on June 1.

1. What kind of program topics would you like to have for the upcoming AAUW year?
2. What would you like to learn more about as programs are selected? Are there any programs from this year which you think we need to “follow up” on?
3. Do you like our mix of Saturday and Wednesday night programs? Please explain.
4. Do you like a mix of Zoom and in-person meetings? Please explain.
5. Would you be interested in interest groups for next year with, for example, a book study or some such? Please explain.
6. Would you like us to offer workshops on some topics such as developing computer skills or dancing or sword fighting? Ha! Please do think this over.
7. How may our Branch make you feel more inclusive? We need your ideas!
8. Is there anything else you would like to talk about?
9. Do we need another fundraiser?
10. Grapefruit sales have provided at least two scholarships for women at BMCC. Do you have any comments on our present fundraiser?
11. Would you like to take more of a leadership role next year or in the years to come? If so, please reach out to Susan or Mary.

Thank you!

It was a wonderful year for our Branch. More is to come, and we look forward to getting to know each other better. Please feel free to offer your suggestions and comments.

Have a safe and happy Memorial Day weekend.

—Susan and Mary, Co-Presidents

**If you haven't renewed your dues, a dues form is attached to the email with this newsletter.**

# June Membership Meeting

Our end-of-the-year membership meeting will be Saturday, June 1, 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. at Community Park, McKay Shelter, next to a parking area on SW 37<sup>th</sup> St. Directions: South on Hwy 395 (Southgate) to SW 37<sup>th</sup> St, turn right coming from Pendleton, follow 37<sup>th</sup> to Community Park parking area at the upper end.

If the weather is inclement, we will contact you either the night before or the morning of and plan to meet at the Vert Room of the Presbyterian Church. Details will come to you directly.

Bring your own sack lunch and beverage. Water will be available as well as a dessert. Also, bring ideas for programs next year. 😊 A little geology spiel will be presented by Kate Ely that will provide an opportunity to better understand our surroundings.



*Kate Ely provided this map showing a blue line to Community Park.*



AAUW Members,

The 2024 AAUW election is now complete, and we are grateful for all those who took the time to vote. On behalf of the AAUW Board of Directors, we are disappointed that the initiative to open AAUW's membership did not pass.

We understand that this outcome may feel exclusionary to some. But AAUW's history is one of continual change and growth, even in the face of challenges. That same resilient spirit must guide us now as we seek to fulfill AAUW's purpose to advance equity for women and girls and to encourage members and non-members to engage with us to support women's economic empowerment.

**AAUW PENDLETON  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES  
Vert Club Room, May 1, 2024**

**Call to Order:** Co- President Susan Doyle called the meeting to order @7:55 pm

**Number of members present:** 16

**Minutes:** Minutes of the April branch meeting were approved as submitted.

**Reports:**

**Finance VP Accounts and budget:** Marlene Krout

As of 4-30-24 the Savings acct funds are \$4816.03 and the Checking acct funds are \$2380.14

**Finance VP:** Kate Mace

The dues campaign is in full swing. We will get reminders from national. The branch has 38 paid members. Kate asked if members are going to pay their dues online, please let her know.

**Program VP:** Kate Ely/Blanche Hill

The last program of the year will be June 1. Kate Ely will be talking about the geological formations around Pendleton. It will be a potluck either at Community Park or the Presbyterian Church depending on the weather.

**Membership VP:** Sue Petersen

Sue has ordered name tags for the new members.

**Communications VP:** Joan Deroko

No report

**Appointed positions:**

No reports

**Continuing business:**

The slate of officers for next year are Susan Doyle Co-President and Delanne Ferguson Communications VP. The vote was unanimous to accept both Susan and Delanne as our Co-president and Communications VP.

Karen King gave an update on the State district director meeting. She said it was mostly about housekeeping and records.

**New business:**

Jill Heffner gave a very nice introduction of our new Branch Named Honoree, Karen King.

**Announcements:**

Board meeting May 15, 5:00 pm at Kate Ely's home.

Lunch bunch May 16 @ the Long Branch in Weston meet at 11:30 am @ Heritage Station to carpool.

Branch meeting June 1, time and place TBD

**Meeting adjourned:** @8:23 pm

Kathy Ward, Co-Secretary

# CONGRATULATIONS, KAREN KING!

*By Jill Heffner, AAUW Funds Branch Chair*

Karen, you are the **Pendleton Branch 2023 AAUW FUNDS Named Honoree!** Each year AAUW Funds invites branches to honor members who have gone above and beyond in giving their time and service to their branch. The AAUW Funds Named Honorees are revealed at the state's annual spring meeting and honored for their contributions during the previous year. A list of Pendleton's AAUW Funds Named Honorees, beginning in 1952, is printed in its directory every year.

Karen, you are being honored for all that you do for the branch, especially as the Chairman of the Grapefruit Committee, or as you refer to yourself and we all agree, **THE GRAPEFRUIT GURU**. And, oh my, all that that involves so many hours, so much organization, so much patience. Without the grapefruit fundraiser each year, the branch would be in a world of hurt financially. Thank you for taking on this **GARGANTUAN** task!

Thank you for the four years you have **GRACIOUSLY** served as AAUW of OR NE District Director, bringing together the three AAUW branches of the Northeast District—Baker County, Pendleton, and Wallowa County. You shared news among the branches and organized annual district meetings. You represented Pendleton well and earned the respect of state leaders. Pendleton and the AAUW of OR are **GRATEFUL** for your years of leadership.

The Branch **GREATLY** appreciates that you are responsible for revising and creating an up-to-date **GIGANTIC** Position Description document and that you continue to maintain it. **GOSH**, that was a lot of work! For all these reasons, and more, we are **GENUINELY** pleased to name you this year's AAUW Funds Named Honoree.

## AAUW FUNDS PENDLETON

*By Jill Heffner, AAUW Funds Branch Chair*

Dear Pendleton Branch and Individual Members:

Thank you for your 2023 contributions to AAUW Funds. Pendleton Branch and individual members were recently honored and recognized at the AAUW of Oregon Awards Evening.

**Pendleton Branch contributed \$3,370.00 to AAUW Funds**, consisting of the annual contribution from the Branch of \$1,000.00 and the balance from individual members. Individual contributions included In Memoriam contributions for Karen Allen, Alerita Burns, Robert Ehman, and Iva Marie Phillips Mace. (For a contribution of \$25.00 or more, a member may choose to honor someone living or to remember someone who has passed. A Tribute or Memorial card is sent to the person or to the family.)

**Pendleton's Century Club members (\$100-\$249.00) were also recognized: Harriet Isom, Kate Mace, Dianne Barnes, Jill Heffner, Marlene Krout, and Karen King.**

**Pendleton Branch was honored as #7 in the Top Ten Branches for AAUW Funds Donations and #5 in per capita donations (\$109.81).**

**Karen King received the Pendleton Branch Named Honoree.** (see above article)

With your contributions to AAUW Funds, you have "helped AAUW create a future where all women have access to bias-free education, fair pay, and the careers of their dreams.... Together we are making a real difference in the lives of women and girls"

*The Pendleton Branch Awards are on the next page*

## AAUW of Oregon Branch Awards

Pendleton Branch  
#5 in the state for  
Per Capita Donations  
to the AAUW Funds  
for the year 2023



Pendleton Branch  
#7 in the state for  
Total Donations  
to the AAUW Funds  
for the year 2023



## Red Dress Day display, evening vigils bring MMIW awareness to Walla Walla.

Kate Smith, Walla Walla *Union-Bulletin*, May 1, 2024



*Left to right: MMIW advocates Kola Shippentower-Thompson, Jeanine Gordon, Brees Van Pelt, Lindsey Pasena-Littlesky, Martina Gordon, and Lucinda Richards. Photo by Ethan Swihart.*

Walla Walla advocates raised awareness for missing and murdered Indigenous women at two evening vigils and an exhibit of red dresses on display in downtown Walla Walla in early May.

The red hands printed over the mouths of MMIW advocates symbolize the silence Indigenous women have endured, while the empty dresses are a visual reminder of the high rates of violence, pain, and suffering that Indigenous women face. Organizer Lucinda Richards said, “A lot of the Indigenous women are silenced and we're not going to be silenced anymore.”

Red Dress Day originated in Canada, where Indigenous artist Jaime Black debuted her REDress art installation in 2010. It's now observed annually throughout North America on Sunday, May 5, coinciding with the National Day of Awareness for missing or murdered Indigenous people. Richards, a social worker with Trilogy Recovery Community, brought the effort to Walla Walla three years ago.

Indigenous communities, and especially Indigenous women, face disproportionately high rates of violence nationally and in Washington. This year, she's partnering with Jeanine Gordon, special assistant to the president for Native American outreach at Whitman College, to reach more community members. Gordon said the effort is meant to bring attention to the lack of justice, the lack of documentation, and the lack of follow through on prosecution of abuse and assault that leads to missing and murdered tribal people.

“More attention brings changes like those that have been seen in Washington, such as the recent appointment of Assistant U.S. Attorney Bree Black Horse to a position dedicated to prosecuting MMIP cases,” Gordon said. “Having events like this brings that cultural education into the campus setting, which is highly important for our students as we develop systematic support for our tribal students here, but also just to raise everybody's awareness and education around tribal issues,” she said.