



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter
November 2024

AAUW Pendleton Branch
November Membership Meeting

Program: “Update on State and Local Issues and the
Operations of the Local DA's Office”
Dan Primus, Umatilla County District Attorney



Wednesday, November 6
7:00 p.m.

City Hall Community Room,
501 SW Emigrant Ave.

(entrance from Emigrant Ave. parking lot)

December Membership Meeting
Wednesday, December 4, 7:00 p.m., Great Pacific
Annual Wine Tasting Party

Notes & Announcements

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:

AAUW Funds

Jill Heffner 278-4791

BMCC Liaison

Marie Hall 379-5250

Co-NE District Directors

Regina Braker 663-6148
Kathleen Mace 215-2530

Grapefruit & Membership List

Karen King 278-2151

Newsletter & Directory Editor

Susan Doyle 969-7660

Public Policy

Regina Braker 663-6148

Website

Marty King 276-8210

AAUW Association website

aauw.org

AAUW of Oregon website

aauw-or.aauw.net

AAUW Pendleton website

pendleton-or.aauw.net

November Membership Meeting, November 6, City Hall

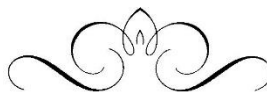
Community Room, 7:00 p.m. The Community Room is behind the public library. The entrance is from the parking lot on Emigrant Ave. A short business meeting will follow the program.

November Dinner Divas will meet before the meeting at **Los Chilaquiles**, 212 SW Dorion Ave. (across from the Presbyterian Church) at **5:00 pm**. Note the earlier than usual time, which will give us plenty of time to get to the meeting.

EO Forum: Tuesday, **November 12, BMCC library** in Pioneer Hall, at **5:30 p.m.** A panel of community leaders will present the program on homelessness, which is a complex issue with many contributing factors. The panelists will address homelessness from their organizational and professional perspectives. All EO Forum programs are now free. Refreshments will include wine and food. AAUW Pendleton is one of the forum sponsors.

November Board Meeting: Thursday, **November 21, 5:00 p.m.** at Kate Ely's home, 612 NW Carden. Branch members are welcome to attend.

November Lunch Bunch: Thursday, **November 21** at the **Distillery**, 511 SE Court, at **11:45 a.m.**



Donations to the BMCC Student Need's Pantry

In keeping with our mission of supporting education for girls and women, here is an opportunity to help students at BMCC who sometimes cannot afford basic supplies. BMCC has a supplies pantry that accepts donations for the students.

CAPECO provides food, but the pantry still needs donations of household supplies, feminine period products, personal hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, body wash, baby wipes), paper towels, toilet paper, and cleaning and laundry supplies.

Please bring donations to the membership meeting on Wednesday, November 6. Sue Petersen will collect them and take them to BMCC.

**AAUW PENDLETON
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
October 2, 2024
City Hall Community room**

Call to Order: Co- President Susan Doyle called the meeting to order @7:51 pm.

Number of members present: 9

Minutes: approved as distributed.

Officer Reports:

Finance VP Accounts and budget: Marlene Krout

Savings acct funds: \$4,816.51 Checking acct funds: \$2,153.19 CD: \$5,117.75

Finance VP: Kate Mace, no report

Program VP: Kate Ely/Blanche Hill

Next membership meeting speaker will be DA Dan Primus. It will be at the City Hall Community room.

Membership VP: Sue Petersen, no report

Communications VP: Delann Ferguson

It is difficult to publicize our meetings. The EO is not very responsive. The KUMA coffee is interested, but they only do one topic, such as grapefruit.

Appointed Positions:

Grapefruit Karen King: The boxes will still be \$30, and the location is the same at the Budweiser warehouse. Any member who would like to give up some of their customers to our new members, please let Karen know. Delivery date is tentatively December 14.

Waldman foundation scholarships Marlene Krout: The bios of the recipients will be in the newsletter. There were 4 scholarship recipients who each received \$3,000.

Stem: The Arts center received a check for \$ 608.90 to purchase magna tiles and kaleidoscope kits for the creation station.

Funding was approved for sending students to LaGrande for Eastern Ore college stem program.

Continuing Business:

EO forum: the next program will be on Civil Discourse. It will be at the college library October 8 @ 5:30 pm. The forum is free this year. Susan and Mary encouraged members to attend as we are one of the sponsors and the programs are well worth the time.

New Business:

Susan reminded everyone that the donations to AAUW funds are due by December 15.

Announcements:

Next board meeting: October 16, 5:00 pm, tentatively at Kate Ely's.

Lunch bunch: October 24 Sugar Shack in Athena, carpool at 11:30, Heritage Station.

Meeting adjourned: @ 8:13 pm

Kathy Ward, Co-Secretary

October Lunch Bunch Review

By Jill Heffner

Come a day when you feel a need to get out of town, grab a friend or two and head out to the Sugar Shack in Athena. You'll enjoy a lovely drive and be rewarded with a fine little lunch. Drive down MainStreet till you spot a small building sitting diagonally on a corner. There's a drive-thru, or you can go inside where there are three tables—one for two, one for four, and one for 6–8. Belly up to the counter to find the only menu taped to the counter.

This created a bottleneck when the ten of us—Karen, Kathy, Shannon, Barbara, Regina, Kate, Sue, two guests, and me—crowded around the counter to ponder the menu, order, and pay. But it was worth this little hiccup. Kate and Sue each had the bacon and egg breakfast and agreed the bacon was really good. Kathy, next to me, was impressed with how tasty her salad was. My tuna melt on sourdough was really good; Barbara commented there was too much mayonnaise for her but, hey, my mother believed there was no such thing as too much Miracle Whip, so I was happy. I would go back for the tuna melt. Or maybe Kathy's salad choice.



Note from AAUW of Oregon President

This is taken directly from the Lake Oswego Branch's newsletter, so thank you to Jeanne Lemieux and Diana Ricks:

Clearly, the most important thing happening in November happens on November 5th. Do you know why we vote in November? Voting on Tuesday in November isn't as arbitrary as it seems. The month marks the end of the harvest, and it offers mild weather for traveling voters. In **1845**, Congress passed a law mandating that the presidential Election Day would be held every four years on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in the month. Weather? Oregonians don't have to worry! Oregon established the vote-by-mail- as the standard mechanism for voting with **Ballot Measure 60, a citizen's initiative, in 1998**. It is stated that, as a result, this system contributes to the highest voter turnout rate in the nation.

On October 23rd we had a presidents' meeting where we got to know each other's names and faces and what was going on in our respective branches. Lots and lots of good ideas went all around, which is the power of sharing and hopefully, collaborating. Look ahead to more peer group meetings, district directors, membership, finance, and programs. We look forward to hearing about what's going on in each branch, and because so many of us face some of the same issues, we can help and support each other.

On another note, and because I believe the Greatest Needs Fund is very important, each month I will be sharing with you some of the things GNF supports.

The Greatest Needs Fund is a vital resource for AAUW, providing flexible, unrestricted funds that help bridge the gap between member dues and restricted donations. This fund enables AAUW to remain agile in addressing emerging issues affecting women—whether it's a new threat to Title IX, an opportunity to partner with employers, or the dawn of a social justice movement like #MeToo. By supporting unrestricted programmatic and operational costs, the Greatest Needs Fund ensures AAUW's financial health and resilience, empowering the organization to grow and fulfill its mission of advancing gender equity for women and girls. These funds are managed with a strategic focus on maximizing impact, ensuring that every dollar directly supports AAUW's mission to empower women and girls.

Things to think about in November:

- Voting for general election as well as local city and/or state issues;
- Your flu shot or Covid vaccine;
- World Kindness Day is on November 13th,
- November 11th-15th focuses on the anti-bullying and this year the theme is *Choose Respect*.
- The International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is November 25th.

Catherine Lutes
President, AAUW of Oregon

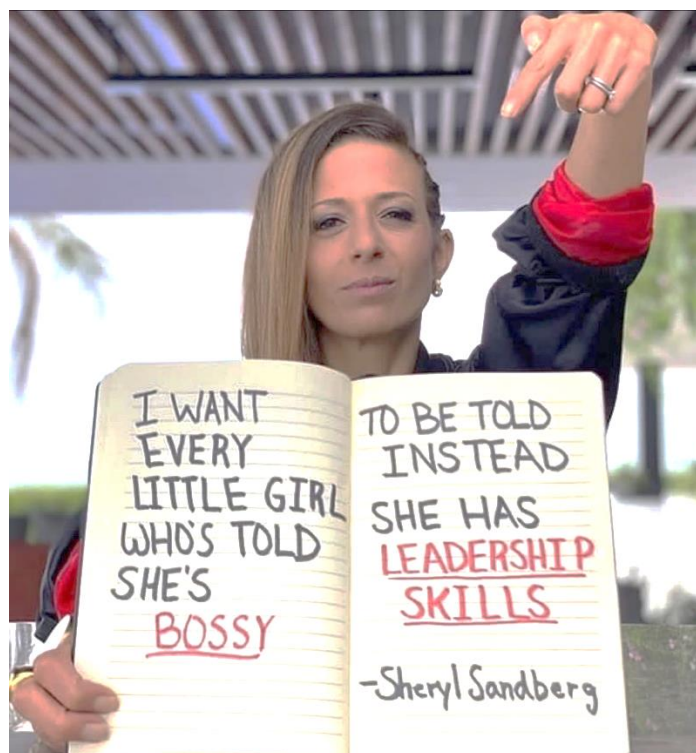
Thank You, Lilly Ledbetter

By Jill Heffner

Lilly Ledbetter, whose fight for equal pay changed the law and bettered the lives of millions of women in the U.S., died October 12 at the age of 86. It is she, with encouragement from Ruth Bader Ginsburg, who is the one responsible for the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009, signed into law by President Obama on January 29th of that year. Lilly was named to the National Women's Hall of Fame for her activism.

After her experience with Goodyear, Lilly became an outspoken advocate for pay equity and women's rights. Lilly spoke at an AAUW of OR State Conference where I met her and wound up chatting with her about her newly released book, *Grace and Grit: My Fight for Equal Pay and Fairness at Goodyear and Beyond* (2012). This book is now on Amazon's List of Best Biographies and Memoirs.

Please Google Lilly Ledbetter as well as the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act of 2009. You will learn how Lilly Ledbetter, the U.S. Supreme Court, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg all came together. Meanwhile, you can thank Lilly for her tireless activism in working to help ensure that what happened to her at Goodyear won't happen to other women.



2024 SUE WALDMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

By Marlene Krout

The first three women were also the recipients of the three scholarships we selected in 2023. Also due to additional funds from the Waldman family, we were able to select an additional recipient this year.

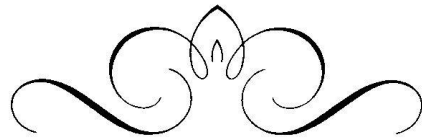
Dilraj Kaur graduated in 2022 from MacLoughlin High School in Milton-Freewater. She is a Senior at Walla Walla University, College Place, Washington. Dilraj is majoring in Computer Science with a minor in Business Administration. As well as being a full-time student, she is employed by the university up to 20 hours per week as a student worker. Dilraj and her family immigrated to the United States from India when she was eleven years old, leaving an extended family and a family farm. She credits her parents and their ability to take a risk primarily to provide educational opportunities and a better life for her and her siblings as the incentive to work hard, overcome obstacles, and to persevere when difficulties arise. Dilraj took advantage of the running start program at BMCC while in high school and consequently has senior standing in her third year at WWU. Dilraj's career goals, following securing a bachelor of science degree, includes an initial position as a web developer/computer programmer and eventually completing her master's degree to attain a position as a software developer with a large tech company.

Keri Lynn Kunz graduated from Pendleton High School in 2022. Keri also previously attended Blue Mountain Community College's running start program while in high school, consequently giving her senior status in her third year at Central Washington University. Keri is working on a double major in secondary mathematics and STEM teaching, with a chemistry endorsement. Keri also works up to 20 hours per week as a photographer for the CWU Publicity Center. She, as well, is a member of the Teach STEM Club which, as one project, ran a STEM night at a local elementary school. Keri also is a tutor in math and chemistry to middle and high school students. Keri's career goals include teaching high school math and chemistry. She states "I have loved math since middle school. I want to share my love for math and chemistry with the next generation, and hopefully they will love math as much as I do, or at least be interested in learning about it everyday when they come into my class."

Makya Theis Smith graduated from Pendleton High School in 2015. Following high school Makya traveled to Australia to be a full-time volunteer with YWAM Medical Ships, a nonprofit organization that delivers free health care to remote villages of Papua New Guinea. What she intended to be a six-month program became a "life changing three- year experience," which eventually resulted in her being the only person under the age of 30 (at 19 years old) tasked with leading and managing the dental clinics for her last year with the program. Makya obtained an A.A. degree in science and an A.A. degree in general studies in Health Professions from Mount Hood Community College. She began her Dental Hygiene major as a Junior in the Fall of 2023 at Lane Community College and is now a Senior. At her age Makya is financially independent, consequently, relies on Pell Grants, scholarship funding and loans if necessary. Due to the rigors of her academic program all extra time is spent practicing her learning in the dental clinic; hence, she is unable to work at an additional job during the school year. Makya's career goals have been

impacted by her experience with her previous volunteer work related to dentistry and she states "I want to become a dental hygienist to help those in remote villages of developing nations or for those who are in America. I believe that preventive medicine and oral health education can save many from further oral health problems which can lead to pain and disease."

Alexis Jo Leathers is a 2022 graduate of Hermiston High School and is now a Junior at Oregon State University. Alexis credits her high school Future Farmers of America(FFA) chapter with cementing her decision to major in Agricultural Science. The FFA project known as Vertical Farming demonstrated that growing indoors with assistance of computers, shelving systems, UV lights, water circulation controls expedited two week harvest cycles rather than the traditional two month cycles. As a member of Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow and Agricultural Sciences Leadership Academy, Alexis was selected last spring to attend Agriculture Future of America Technology Institute seminar in Houston, TX. As a science major, Alexis' goal "is to understand the science so I can address misconceptions about agriculture in a way that allows consumers to not only feel connected with agriculture production, but actively engage with it."



AAUW Funds

By Jill Heffner

If you were to say, "Tell me, Jill, what are some of the things that my contribution to AAUW Funds does?" I would reply, your contribution to AAUW Funds can go to many national programs that touch the lives of thousands of girls and women.

Salary Negotiation and Financial Literacy Training, I would say, is close to my heart. Here, your contribution to AAUW Funds sees that training and resources for women to develop skills to be financially empowered are offered to college and university women. Work Smart, Start Smart, and Money Smart trainings provide valuable resources and tools for women to become economically empowered.

I would add that it makes me proud to support Fellowships and Grants. AAUW Funds awards and administers over \$6,000,000.00 in Grants and Fellowships each year to hundreds of women in the United States and internationally! This program makes me feel a part of the bigger picture. There are other funds supporting other activities, but these are two that make me want to contribute to AAUW Funds. I hope you find a fund or funds that you can totally support with YOUR Contribution.

Contributions to AAUW Funds are fully tax-deductible and can be sent to me, your branch AAUW Funds Chair, or made online at www.aauw.org/contribute. When sending a check and the designated form (on the next page in this newsletter to me), please include the fund number in the memo line and indicate your honoree. Mail to: Jill Heffner, 3303 SW LaDow Ave, Pendleton.

Thank you for your contributions. You will be making a difference to someone.

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. This fund is where donation is needed most.

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).



AAUW Funds Donation Form

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, 3303 SW La Dow, Pendleton