



**AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter**  
**January 2025**

**AAUW Pendleton Branch**  
**January Membership Meeting**

Kate Ely, “Canadian Adventures”



**Saturday, January 4**  
**11:00 a.m. – no-host lunch**  
**Prodigal Son**

**February Membership Meeting**  
**Saturday, February 1, 11:00 a.m., Prodigal Son**  
**Sarah Gardner, “Pollinators”**

**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](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)

## Notes & Announcements

**January Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 5: p.m. on Zoom.** Board members will receive the link a day ahead from Dianne and Bruce Barnes.

**January Lunch Bunch: Thursday, January 16, at Thai Crystal 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 Saturday, January 4 at Prodigal Son. Sue Petersen will collect them and take them to BMCC.

**Wishing you a  
Happy and Healthy New Year**





## GRAPEFRUIT SALES 2024

*By Karen King*

The Grapefruit 2024 Sale is nearly done. I am still awaiting money for a couple of extra boxes that were sold, and I haven't made the final bank deposit yet, but I can report that we made about \$4,000 this year. This is less than last year, but considering we ordered 35 fewer boxes than last year, it's still a substantial return on our hard work.

If you were at the distribution day, you know that we tried something different this year. We kept track of boxes going to customers on a laptop instead of sheets of paper. (Actually, we did both this year just to be sure the new system would work.) The program not only kept track of total boxes going out but also sent the data to individual seller sheets, enabling us to print a list to each seller upon request. This would not have been possible without a special "pivot table" program created by Marty King, so a BIG thanks to her. Welcome to the 21st century, AAUW members!!

### Thank You to Sellers

A big thanks to all you grapefruit sellers!! You did an awesome job!

If you have any changes to your grapefruit list--new customers, contact number changes, address changes, etc.—please share that information with me ASAP. I'd really like to declare the 2024 Grapefruit Sale ended and get on with my real life.

If anyone took photos of the 2024 Grapefruit Distribution Day, please send them to Marty King for the website and Susan Doyle for a future newsletter.

If you were unable to help with the grapefruit sale, which is our only branch fundraiser, a donation to Pendleton Branch would be greatly appreciated. Recommended donation is \$50, but any amount would help us fund our activities and programs. Please send these donations to Marlene Krout, our Finance VP.

Thanks again, and Happy New Year!!

# December Lunch Bunch Review

*by Jill Heffner*

Oh my, I wish you all could've joined us for Lunch Bunch at Momiji. Good company and yummy food...you can't beat that!

Susan, Kathy, Kate, Blanche, Shannon, Barbara and I were all so happy with our choices of lunch. Each meal was thoroughly enjoyed, you can bet on that. I know three of us were very pleased with our Shrimp Tempura Bento Boxes, two others enjoyed their Bento Box of choice; I lost track of what the others had...but they were happy diners also. Service was excellent. Hot tea on a cold day was nice. And when we left, we were all presented with a digital camera\* for ages 3+. It was a fun outing.

Next month, January 16 (3rd Thursday), we will meet at Thai Crystal, 210 SE 5th (next to the donut shop).

*\*Editor's Note: Momiji gave boxes of the cameras to the Community thrift Shop where they are for sale for \$1.00 each. They are in a variety of colors, take photos and videos, and have games on them. I am sending some to my daughter who is a second-grade teacher in California for her students. Right now, they only have a box of pink opened but they have more boxes to open.*

## AAUW Funds

*by Jill Heffner  
Branch Chair, AAUW Funds*

Thank you, Friends of AAUW Funds, for your contributions in 2024. Once again, you have shown your belief in AAUW through your donations to national funds which support long-established programs, new ones that arise with new needs, as well as scholarships and fellowships for women making a difference. You have shown your commitment to equal education, higher education for women, pay equity, Title IX, STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math), NCCWSL (National Conference for College Women Student Leaders), and much more. You rock!





## **AAUW Star Award for Pendleton Branch** *Congratulations Program Planners!*

Dear Branch President,

It is with great pleasure that I share some exciting news—AAUW Pendleton (OR) Branch has achieved a star in AAUW’s FY24 Five Star Program! Your branch attained the Programming star. This recognition is a testament to the dedication, hard work, and commitment of your branch members to advancing AAUW’s mission of gender equity for women and girls.

The Five Star Program is designed to honor branches that align their work with AAUW’s strategic priorities in areas such as Advancement, Public Policy & Advocacy, Governance & Sustainability, Programming, and Communications & External Relations. Earning a star is an incredible accomplishment, and we are thrilled to celebrate this success with you.

While we will be updating the AAUW website soon to reflect all the branches that have earned stars this year, we wanted to ensure your branch received this good news first. Your achievement will be highlighted alongside other winning branches, showcasing your vital role in supporting AAUW’s mission both locally and nationally. State leadership will be informed in the coming days.

Congratulations again on this well-deserved recognition. Thank you for your continued leadership and dedication to creating a more equitable world. If you have any questions or would like additional resources to help your branch continue its progress in the Five Star Program, please don’t hesitate to reach out.

Regards and Happy Holidays,  
Tremayne A. Parquet (he/him/his)  
Deputy Director of Advancement  
AAUW, 1310 L St. NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005  
p. 202.728.7611 | f. 202.463.7169

# Valley Giving Guide

*By Mary Davis*

If you are considering making an end-of-the-year donation to local causes, please consider The Valley Giving Guide. <https://www.valleygivingguide.org/>

The Valley Giving Guide provides support for nonprofit organizations within Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, and Umatilla Counties. The Blue Mountain Community Foundation and the United Way of the Blue Mountains collaborated to bring about this endeavor.

The Valley Giving Guide is a unique opportunity to create a collective impact on the causes that matter in our local community. Each gift is boosted with funds from the Bonus Pool, with the greatest boost for gifts made online. Your full donation will flow through to the causes you choose. Sponsorship dollars cover all fees or you can opt to pay them; therefore, increasing the Bonus Pool to create more funds for the organizations you most care about.

Donations are accepted until December 31, 2024.

On the main page you may search for a specific organization and the community and cause automatically come up. You may also leave the search blank but add the community you are interested in and organizations for that community then come up. The search is refined if you add a cause.

Examples of organizations participating from Umatilla County include, for example, Blue Mountain Wildlife, Eastern Oregon Climate Change Coalition, and Pendleton Center for the Arts.

<https://www.valleygivingguide.org/>

Thank you for taking your time to check these out!

