



**AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter**  
**February 2025**

**AAUW Pendleton Branch**  
**February Membership Meeting**

Program: “A Drought Early Warning System  
for the First Foods”

Speaker: Lyndsi Lewis, CTUIR  
Water Resources Technician III



**Saturday, February 1**  
**11:00 a.m. – no-host lunch**  
**Prodigal Son**

**March Membership Meeting**  
**Saturday, March 1, 11:00 a.m., Prodigal Son**  
**Dr. Nick Nash, “Civil Discourse”**

## 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 377-0752

#### 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)

**February Membership Meeting:** Note the change in the program at our membership meeting on February 1. Lyndsi Lewis will replace our scheduled speaker. See the program notes on page 4.

**February Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 5: p.m. on Zoom.** Board members will receive the link a day ahead from Bruce Barnes.

**February Lunch Bunch: Thursday, February 20, at BackFire Station at 11:45 a.m.** BackFire Station is in the old fire station at 911 SW Court Ave. (northeast corner of SW Court and 10th). A parking lot is on the east side or park on the street.

## 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 always needs donations of feminine period products, personal hygiene products, paper towels, toilet paper, and cleaning and laundry supplies.

Please bring donations to the membership meeting on Saturday, February 1 at Prodigal Son. Sue Petersen will collect them and take them to BMCC.

### Welcome New Members

Margaet Floy "Meg" Read  
Adams, OR  
(c) 225-329-8899  
[megread9@gmail.com](mailto:megread9@gmail.com)

Mary Benson  
(h) 541-276-6694  
(c) 541-577-2859

**AAUW PENDLETON  
MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES  
January 4, 2025. Prodigal Son**

**Call to Order:** Co-President, Susan Doyle called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. after the program by Katel Ely. 21 members were present.

**Minutes** from November's meeting were approved as distributed.

**Officer Reports:**

**Finance VP Accounts & Budget:** Marlene Krout

Checking Account Balance: \$4,619.21

Savings Account Balance: \$4,816.75

Paid \$10,600.70 (Grapefruit); \$425.20 - \$160 (from guest attendees at GP Wine Tasting in December). \$265.20 was paid from general funds for the remainder of the bill.

**Finance VP Dues:** Kate Mace

We have 39 paid members, and one student member.

**Program VP:** Blanche Hill

Blanche called Pendleton Parks & Rec. to reserve the shelter at Community Park for our June Potluck meeting.

Kate Ely announced the next membership meeting topic: Pollinators.

**Membership VP:** Sue Petersen

Guests present for the program were invited to join AAUW.

**Communication VP:** Delanne Ferguson to publish thank you to organizations supporting grapefruit sale and other agencies supporting AAUW events.

**Appointed Positions:**

**Grapefruit Fundraiser:** Karen King

Profit this year: \$4,175. Karen thanked Marty King for her work on the pivot table, listing sellers' customers; Pendleton on Wheels for equipment; Sign Men for ads.

Anyone with photos from the distribution day, please send them to Karen.

**Continuing Business:**

**Sue Waldman Fund:** Marlene Krout

Registration for the Investigators of Science event was paid from this fund. First Student Bus Company provided transportation to La Grande. They gave us a deep discount for this service.

**Public Policy:** Regina Braker

Representatives from local branches are on the state committee.

**New Business:**

Sue Doyle announced that a longtime member of AAUW Pendleton, Paula Turner, has passed away. Her memorial will be on April 5, 2025, at the Presbyterian Church. Contributions to AAUW in her name can be made, and for amounts of \$25 or more, an acknowledgement will be sent to the family. Contact Jill Heffner to make a donation.

**Announcements:**

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, January 15, 5:00 p.m., on Zoom. Bruce Barnes will send an email invitation.

Lunch Bunch: Thursday, January 16, Thai Crystal, 11:45 a.m.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 12:24 p.m.

Co-Secretary, Beth Condon

## **Program Notes**

### **February 1 Membership Meeting**

Presenter: Lyndsi Lewis, Member of the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Water Resources Technician III, and lead in the development of CTUIR's DEWS dashboard.

Title: A Drought Early Warning System for the First Foods

To protect, enhance, and restore the First Foods (water, big game, fish, roots, berries), the CTUIR is developing a culturally relevant web-based Drought Early Warning System (DEWS) that includes First Foods monitoring, forecasting, reporting, and sharing information on environmental conditions. In this way, CTUIR can build drought resilience through traditional ecological knowledge, cultural practices, and science to inform management strategies. The audience for the DEWS is the Tribal community and policy makers, the public, and the broader scientific and environmental communities.

For in-depth information search Google for "drought early warning system ctuir."

## **January Lunch Bunch Adventure**

*By Jill Heffner*

The Thai Crystal. In Pendleton. In January. How can you go wrong? The food is always excellent, and the service is always commendable, especially with a full house on a cold day at noon. There were ten of us this day, including Meg and Shannon who have recently joined the branch, and Mary who joined that very day. Welcome! We enjoyed our lunches and each other's company as much as we could, that is, as we were seated at a long table in a noisy environment. Can't wait till we go back there again!

February Lunch Bunch will be at BackFire Station, 911 SW Court, on the 3rd Thursday of the month (as always). Mark your calendars for February 20, 11:45 a.m.. See you there!

## **Eastern Oregon Forum**

### **EO Forums Coming in March and April**

March 11 / Noon: Panel on Unmanned Air Systems (UAS)

April 8 / 5:30 p.m.: 'IS North Korea Still a Threat to the US?'

**BMCC Library in Pioneer Hall**

# AAUW of Oregon SPF and its Relationship with AAUW Pendleton

*By Jill Heffner*

What is AAUW of Oregon Special Projects Fund, known simply as SPF? The following abridged explanation is taken from its website, [oregonspecialprojectsfund.org](http://oregonspecialprojectsfund.org).

The Special Projects Fund (SPF) was created in 2015 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit to provide a mechanism for AAUW of Oregon 501(c)(4) branches to fund and facilitate AAUW mission-based community projects for women and girls.

As a separate entity from the AAUW of Oregon, the SPF complements its efforts by providing a way for branches to receive contributions from entities who are interested in making donations to 501(c)(3) nonprofits.

An eight-member Board of Directors governs the AAUW of Oregon Special Projects Fund. All Board members are AAUW members representing the entire state of Oregon. The Board meets quarterly via electronic means.

The following AAUW of Oregon members make up the Board of Directors: Penney Hoodenpyle (Oregon Online Branch)–Chair; Susan Gilstrap (Wallowa County)–Finance Officer; Jill Heffner (Pendleton)–Secretary. Besides the three officers, there are branch members representing each of the five AAUW districts. Mickey Edwards (Baker City) represents our NE District.

AAUW’s mission-based community projects provided by AAUW of Oregon branches include, but are not limited to, scholarships to college and university students, tuition and travel to AAUW’s annual National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL), and branch sponsored week-long STEM camps for junior high/middle school girls.

There are nine branches currently offering fourteen projects for women and girls across Oregon.

Pendleton, with its Sue Waldman Scholarship Fund, is one of the nine branches. Marlene Krout serves as the SPF Branch Contact on behalf of the Waldman Fund.

Today is focused on what SPF is. The more we know, the more we understand.



## Cherokee Women

Posted on Facebook page *We Are Native Americans*

In Cherokee culture, women held significant positions and enjoyed certain privileges and responsibilities. Women in Cherokee society were considered equals to men and could earn the title of War Women. They had the right to participate in councils and make decisions alongside men. This equality sometimes led outsiders to make derogatory remarks, such as the accusation of a "petticoat government" by the 18th-century Irish trader James Adair.

Kinship was matrilineal among the Cherokee, meaning that family lineage and inheritance were traced through the mother's side. Children grew up in their mother's house, and maternal uncles held the role of teaching boys essential skills related to hunting, fishing, and tribal duties.

Women owned houses and their furnishings, and marriages were often negotiated. In the event of a divorce, a woman would simply place her spouse's belongings outside the house. Cherokee women had diverse responsibilities, including caring for children, cooking, tanning skins, weaving baskets, and cultivating fields. Men contributed to some household chores but primarily focused on hunting. Cherokee girls learned various skills by observing and participating in their community. They learned story, dancing, and acquired knowledge about their heritage.

Women were integral to the Cherokee society, and their roles played a central part in the community's functioning and adaptation to changing circumstances.

Elvis Presley with his great-great-grandmother Morning Dove, who was a Cherokee woman.

**Elvis with his great great grandmother who was full blooded Cherokee. Her name was "Morning Dove".**

