



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter
October 2025

AAUW Pendleton Branch
October Membership Meeting

Dale Hom, “Reimagining the Chinese
Pioneers of the Western Frontier.”



Wednesday, October 1
7:00 p.m.
Vert Club Room

November Membership Meeting

Wednesday, November 5, 7:00 pm

Vert Club Room

Alina Blankenship, “Masters of the Hunt: Falconry for
Sport and Conservation”

AAUW Pendleton Branch Leadership Team 2025–2026

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

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

Co-Presidents Corner for October

By Mary Davis, Co-President

October and beyond AAUW calendar highlights:

A. Wednesday, October 1, please join us for our monthly meeting. Claudia Gray will join us from AAUW Oregon.

B. Regina and Kate have set the date for the District Meeting for Saturday, November 1, from Noon–3:00 p.m. at the La Grande Public Library. In addition to “getting to know each other across the region,” other local and statewide AAUW business will be addressed. The inspiring documentary *Space, Hope, and Charity*, sharing the life of Charity Woodrum.

C. Please move your calendars ahead to Saturday, February 21, and mark the date and time from 1:00–4:00 p.m. Our Pendleton Branch is inviting all members to attend an opportunity to create a roadmap to the future of the AAUW Pendleton Branch. We will define a vision of where we want to go as a Branch and set specific targets about how to get there. We will also address a step-by step guide to achieving our goals by focusing on our priorities and present resources.

We will be “looking back” at what we have accomplished as a Branch in the past. We will be asking ourselves why we joined AAUW, what we are getting out of the organization now, and what we want from the organization in order to “stay active as a member” as we move forward.

This whole process is meant to help us ensure that our actions align with our long-term success as an organization. We hope to better track our progress as individuals and as an AAUW team and to make adjustments as needed.

D. In the November meeting we will be featuring new Sanitation Operating Guidelines for recycling at PSSI. In addition, there may be other options available.

Notes & Announcements

October Membership Meeting: Artist, graphic novelist, and author Dale Hom will speak on Chinese pioneers of the western frontier. **Dinner Divas** will meet at Prodigal Son at 5:30 p.m.

October Board Meeting: Wednesday, October 15, 5:00 p.m., Kate Mace’s home, 1040-C NW 12th Street.

October Lunch Bunch: Thursday, October 16, Broken Barrel, Stanfield. Carpool, 11:00 a.m. at Heritage Station Museum.

**AAUW PENDLETON
BRANCH MEETING—POTLUCK
WEDNESDAY, SEPT 3, 2023 HOME OF KATHY WARD**

Welcome and CTO: Co-President Mary Davis called the meeting to order at 6:12 p.m. and asked those present to introduce themselves. There were thirteen members present.

Minutes of the August branch meeting were accepted as presented in the newsletter.

FINANCE: Co-VP Finance Marlene Krout: \$4817.23 in savings; \$2601.19 in checking.

CD earnings will be presented in a timely manner as received from the bank.

2025-2026 Budget Presentation: Projected income, \$18,551.00; projected expenses, \$18,551.00.

Adopt-a-Magazine was eliminated as an expense because Pendleton Public Library no longer has a magazine program.

The AAUW Summer Leadership expense was also eliminated as it is usually presented by ZOOM.

Kate Ely moved to adopt the budget as presented from the committee; motion carried.

Mary thanked Marlene for all her work on preparing the proposed budget. Marlene thanked Karen King for all her help. Co-presidents Mary and Susan Doyle also served on the committee.

Co-VP Finance Kate Mace reported that with this first year of open membership, all members but one are paid.

PROGRAMS: VP Kate Ely presented the list of 2025-2026 programs and reported there is a program scheduled for each month.

NE DISTRICT: Co-Director Kate Mace reported NE District is hoping to buy a DVD “Faith, Hope and Charity” for use by branches and schools in the NE District, to be presented at a NE District meeting.

AAUW FUNDS: Jill Heffner thanked everyone who contributed to AAUW Funds in 2024-2025. It is not too early to think about 2025-2026 contributions. AAUW Pendleton is noted by AAUW of OR and National for their generous contributions.

GRAPEFRUIT: Karen King announced, “It’s time!”

NEWSLETTER AND DIRECTORY: Susan Doyle announced she will do a Branch Directory this year in addition to a membership roster.

WEBSITE: Marty King will continue to be webmaster. Mary thanked her for her continued work on the website.

Mary will continue to send out a meeting reminder via text about two days before a meeting.

PHONE TREE: There was a consensus to begin the Phone Tree again. Shannon Van Kirk volunteered to be one of the callers. A survey of the members will include whether they wish to be called or not.

Kate Mace announced she is putting together a tour to Egypt in 2027 for the solar eclipse. Please contact her if you are interested in joining her tour.

Kathy Ward has a quilt top that needs to be quilted and could then be used as a fund raiser.

EO FORUM: Mary announced the committee (which includes AAUW members Mary Davis, Harriet Isom, Kate Mace, and Susan Doyle) will be meeting soon. Admission to the Forum at BMCC is free.

NEW BUSINESS: Co-presidents Mary Davis and Susan Doyle presented the idea of a branch planning session. Much discussion followed. Where? When? Food and Drinks? Consensus was a Saturday in October. Mary, Susan, Kate Mace, and Michelle Bradford volunteered to bring snacks.

Meeting Adjourned 7:37 p.m.
Jill Heffner, Acting Secretary

AAUW Funds

By Jill Heffner

Hello and Welcome to the beginning of the 2025-2026 AAUW year. It's time for Karen and The Great Grapefruit Campaign and for Jill with The Awesome AAUW Fund Promotion.

AAUW Funds is all about financial resources supporting and promoting AAUW's mission. Since 1881, AAUW has been advancing equity for women and girls, first in education and now also in the workplace. AAUW Funds go toward programs, grants, public policy advocacy for gender equality in education and the workplace, support of women in STEM, scholarships, and funding for research and community programs.

As you can imagine, all of this takes financial support. And all of this is needed more than ever! I urge you to please support AAUW Funds. You can **write a check to AAUW Funds, fill out the attached form, and mail both form and check to me at 3303 SW LaDow Ave, Pendleton.** I will work my magic: sending check and form to National, a copy of your check to State, and keeping a copy of check and form for branch records. I see that you are covered! You can also donate online at the AAUW website...also easy peasy.

Thank you for supporting AAUW and its Mission.

The AAUW Funds Donation Form is attached to this email

Oregon SB 1098 Freedom to Read sponsored by AAUW of Oregon was passed and signed into law.

EO Forum BMCC Library

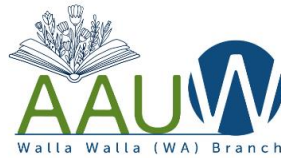
The programs for this year's Eastern Oregon Forum series are still being worked on, but here are the schedule and topics for 2025-26. AAUW Pendleton Branch and Harriet Isom are sponsors of the EO Forum. The branch committee members are Mary Davis, Kate Mace, and Susan Doyle.

October 14th @ 5:30 – Emergency Response - Fire Chief Pierotti and a panel.

November 18th @ 5:30 – Food Resources.

March 10th @ 5:30 – Affordable Housing.

April 14th @ 5:30 – Job Availability.



Walla Walla Kitchen Tour AAUW Walla Walla Branch

Saturday, October 4, 11:00 – 4:00 pm

Tickets are \$35 at aauwwallawalla.org

Start at the Marcus Whitman Hotel on October 4!

Pendleton Friends of the Library Book Sale

The 2025 Book Sale is quickly approaching, and we are in need of volunteers!

This year's dates are **Thursday October 23 - Saturday October 25**, but we are in need of **volunteers that entire week, beginning Monday October 20.**

Please see our website pfolpendleton.org for more information on volunteer opportunities.

The last day to donate books for the sale is passed. Please consider volunteering to help at the *and plan to attend!*

October 1 Program Notes

Our first featured speaker this year is Dale Hom with a program called *Reimaging the Chinese Pioneers of the Western Frontier*. Dale hails from Seattle, WA, and now resides in Walla Walla. As a self-taught visual artist, Mr. Hom has received numerous awards for his art including 2022 Best of Show and 2025 Director's Award at the Pendleton Center for the Arts (PCA) Open Regional. Mr. Hom's work is described as "The vivid palette and confident brush strokes combine in the piece to illuminate the story of Chinese pioneers in a powerful way."+

Dale Hom is a noted artist, graphic novelist, and author whose work ranges from a presentation at the First Draft Writers' Series at the Pendleton Center for the Arts to an illustrated article in the prestigious *Oregon Historical Quarterly*.



Chinese Pioneers of the Western Frontier: As American as Apple Pie.
PCA, 2025. Photo by Kate Ely.



Magpie and the Blue Mountains.

Save the Date

NE District Meeting

Saturday, November 1

Community Room, Cook Library, La Grande

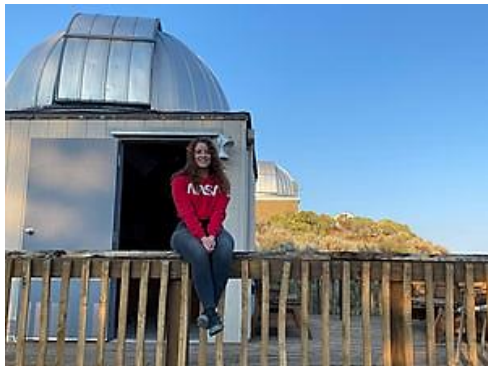
Noon–3:00 pm

To allow us to begin traveling home before dark, we encourage attendees to support La Grande local businesses for an early lunch prior to the meeting.

The meeting of NE District Branches will feature showing the film *Space, Hope and Charity*, an independent documentary film about Charity Woodrum, a young woman from rural Oregon. She was a non-traditional university student, raised in poverty, the first in her family to graduate from high school. In her mid-20s, she was married and nine months pregnant when she decided to return to school to study physics. Then, her dream of becoming an astrophysicist was nearly derailed when she suffered a devastating tragedy. With help from friends old and new, she found her way back to the distant galaxies where she feels most at peace.



Charity Woodrum



Charity has come a long way from her childhood in Canyonville, Oregon, where she found peace many nights looking up at the night sky. Her dream from early on was to work for NASA one day, but it felt like a crazy goal for a kid from rural Oregon who had never met a scientist.

Through devastating tragedy, she kept her eyes on the sky. She is a Ph.D. candidate and NSF Graduate Research Fellow at Steward Observatory, University of Arizona. She is working with Professor Marcia Rieke and Dr. Christina Williams as part of NASA's James Webb Space Telescope Near-IR Camera (NIRCam) science team. Her research uses the Universe as a time machine to tell the story of how galaxies evolve over cosmic time.