



AAUW Pendleton Branch Newsletter
December 2025

AAUW Pendleton Branch
December Membership Meeting

Annual Holiday Wine Tasting

Addison Schulberg and Destiny Post,
“Chilian Wines: From Old World to New World,”



Wednesday, December 3
5:30 p.m. – no-host dinner
6:30 p.m. – wine tasting event
Great Pacific

Please contribute \$10 toward the cost of the event

January Membership Meeting

Saturday, January 3, 11:00 am
Prodigal Son
Sarah Woodbury “Journey to Medieval Wales”

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

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

Susan Fisher-Alexander
276-4856

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 December

Susan Doyle, Co-President

The upcoming week is event-filled for Pendleton Branch, with the annual wine tasting on Wednesday and grapefruit delivery on Saturday. The meeting at Great Pacific will have non-alcoholic beverages as well, so that all members can enjoy getting together for this festive holiday occasion.

All our branch events need help from our members. Please let Karen King know if you can work on grapefruit delivery on Saturday, December 6 if you haven't already signed up. Also, Sue Petersen needs more ushers for the EO Symphony on Sunday, December 14. Please let Sue know if you can help. Their contact information is below.

The EO Forum in November on "Food Insecurity" was outstanding and drew a large audience. Mary Davis made the arrangements and moderated the panel as well as other invited food distributors. Congratulations, Mary, well done. Two more EO Forum programs are scheduled for this spring. We hope you will attend this relevant series that AAUW Pendleton Branch helps organize.

The branch directory booklets for 2025-26 will be distributed at the December 3 meeting. The rest will be mailed to those who are not there.

Happy Holidays to you all.

Notes & Announcements

December 3 Membership Meeting: The December meeting at Great Pacific is our annual holiday gathering with wine lessons and tasting, non-alcoholic beverages, and snacks. **Dinner Divas** will meet at GP at 5:30 p.m. before the program. Please arrive by 5:30 if you plan to eat, to be through in time for the program.

December Lunch Bunch: Thursday, December 18, Mac's, 1400 SW Dorion Ave, 11:45 a.m.

Grapefruit: Karen King asks you to contact your customers to remind them that grapefruit delivery is Saturday, December 6 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Hodgen Distributing.

Also, if you haven't already signed up to work on December 6 and are able to, please let Karen know at kaking71@charter.net

EO Symphony: Sue Petersen needs two more ushers for the symphony on December 14. Please contact Sue if you can usher at text 541-377-0752 or email suepetersen60@gmail.com.

AAUW PENDLETON

Membership Meeting Minutes

Date: 11/5/2025

Time: 7:00 pm

Place: Foundation Room

Call to Order: Mary Davis called the business meeting to order at 8:20 pm

Number of people present: 40+ (including presenters and guests).

Welcome: Mary introduced Claudia Gray, AAUW of Oregon, who spoke about AAUW Legacy Circle. Claudia recognized Legacy Circle members, Kate Mace and Marlene Krout, who have included AAUW in their wills. The AAUW Legacy Circle Board consists of 40 members, whose goal is to promote equality for women.

Business Meeting Minutes: Minutes from previous meeting approved as distributed.

Officer Reports:

Finance VP Accounts & Budget: Marlene Krout

Checking, \$3,585.99 Savings, \$4,817.47 CD: made \$108.59, redeposited \$5,346.63

CD matures 5/12/26.

Program VP: Kate Ely announced our December 3 meeting at GP. Dinner Divas at 5:30, and Wine Tasting program at 6:30 pm.

Membership VP: Sue Petersen announced that 50 people were at the November 2 peaceful protest. 1,500 lbs. of food and personal hygiene products were collected at the food drive.

Communications VP: Delanne Ferguson: Ellen Wardell's poster was posted, and the meeting was announced in *Go Eastern Oregon*.

Appointed Positions:

AAUW Funds: Jill Heffner: Funds promote public policy and education. Money can be donated online with credit cards **or** checks to Jill. One recent Fellowship recipient helped 926 women.

Special Project Funds/ Sue Waldman Fund: Marlene: Fund has \$26,089.44.

Purchased: Four finger drives of the film, *Space, Hope and Charity*, at \$100 each to provide to each branch in this district. Film is documentary about Charity Woodrum from Canyonville, OR who is now an astrophysicist with NASA. This will be shown to our branch, in the future, and we will provide one for the ESD to share with all middle and high school students in Umatilla County.

\$200 to provide tuition for 40 students to attend Innovation in Science program at EOU.

Grapefruit: Karen King reminded that grapefruit money is due on or before November 17.

Public Policy: Regina Braker: NE District meeting was a success. Another district meeting will be in LaGrande in the spring. The program will be on volunteering and activism. Other topics will be on the state legislature.

STEM: Susan Fisher-Alexander has accepted this position.

Website: Marty King

Announcements:

A. EO Forum, BMCC Library, Tuesday, November 18, 5:30 pm. Panel Discussion on Food Insecurity. Remember to bring food and personal hygiene items for the Food Pantry at BMCC.

B. The cost of the presentation this evening exceeded our program budget. If you would like to make a donation to help cover the expenses, you may send a check to Marlene Krout to support this excellent and informative program.

C. November Board Meeting: Wednesday, November 19, 5:00 pm, at Marlene Krout's home, 1214 NW Johns Ave.

D. November Lunch Bunch: Thursday, November 20, Nic's Corner Bistro, Echo.
Carpool, 11:00 am at Heritage Station Museum

Next Meeting: December 3, GP at 6:30 pm. **Dinner Divas** at 5:30 pm.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm

Beth Condon, Co-Secretary

Pendleton Branch STEM Project Report

Miriam Munck reported that Pendleton Branch provided \$200 for registration and also transportation costs for 40 Pendleton middle-school students to attend the Investigators of Science institute in La Grande on October 25. The institute is an annual program by the Northeast Oregon Area Health Education Center (NEOAHEC) that Pendleton Branch has supported in past years. The teachers with the students said the experience was excellent, as usual.

Sue Waldman Scholarship Recipients, 2025-26

Marlene Krout

Emma CALVERT graduated from Weston-McEwen High School in 2024. She is currently a junior at Oregon State University, majoring in biology: marine biology and ecology.

Julianne JONES graduated from Pendleton High School in 2024. She is currently a sophomore at Utah State University, majoring in aviation technology

Keri KUNZ graduated from Pendleton High School in 2022. She is currently a senior at Central Washington University, majoring in secondary mathematics and STEM teaching.

Ashley SIEDERS graduated from Pendleton High School in 2024. She is currently a sophomore at the University of Idaho, majoring in chemical engineering.

Amara THEOS graduated from Hermiston High School in 2023. She is currently a junior at Oregon Health and Science University, majoring in nursing and psychology.

Helen WILLIAMS graduated from Weston-McEwen High School in 2024. She is currently a junior at Oregon State University, majoring in biohealth sciences.

A seventh scholarship recipient needed to take a break for a semester and has not yet claimed her scholarship. She has until fall semester of 2026 to use her scholarship.

Lunch Bunch Review

Jill Heffner

Once again, Lunch Bunch hit the road, and once again, the weather was perfect for a drive. We had lots of sunshine as Kathy, Kate M., Shannon, Susan D., and I headed down I-84 to Nic's Corner Bistro in Echo. Once again, we were not disappointed with Harriet's recommendation... and I would second that recommendation.

It's a small place (hence the bistro?) but nice, clean, and cozy. The waitress was busy but was very good at fulfilling our requests. The food was really, really good: breakfast bowl with poached egg; veggie wrap; chicken wrap; chicken and greens salad, and grilled cheese sandwich with potatoes. Hopefully, next time Nic won't be out of the apple pull apart with caramel topping. So, let's do it again...in the spring.

See you at Mac's for December Lunch Bunch, Thursday the 18th.

AAUW Funds

Jill Heffner

What is AAUW Funds? AAUW Funds are financial resources used by AAUW to support its mission of advancing equity for women and girls through various programs. These funds are used for scholarships for post-graduate women and for grants to begin and continue community projects such as STEM and Start Smart.

How can you help create a future where women continue to have access to bias-free education and pay equity? You can help women and young girls by contributing to AAUW Funds. Together is Stronger.

How do you contribute to AAUW Funds? You can go online at aauw.org to contribute, or contribute through your branch AAUW Funds Chair (that would be me) by filling out the form (on the next page in this newsletter) and sending it to me at 3303 SW La Dow Ave along with your check made payable to AAUW.

Why? Because these are exceptionally challenging times, and our work for women's equality and respect is not over. Together is Stronger.



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 Ladow Ave., Pendleton