

NOTABLE HISTORIC ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE AAUW CORPUS CHRISTI BRANCH

- 1927** The AAUW Corpus Christi (TX) Branch with 10 charter members was recognized.
- 1932** The Branch's first big project cleared \$250 when the Branch made and sold hot dogs and sandwiches to the crowd who had come to tour *Old Ironsides* at the Port of Corpus Christi.
- 1937** The first loan by the Branch was given to Frances Sullivan to assist her in the study of tuberculosis at Yale University.
- 1939** The Branch sponsored a ball and raised over \$1,400 for the infantile paralysis program.
- 1940s** AAUW members presented petitions to the Corpus Christi Independent School District Board of Education asking that teachers be selected according to qualifications rather than marital status and succeeded in the CCISD Board granting their requests.
- 1940S** During World War II, the Branch was involved with the National Defense Program and sent gift packages to university women in war ravaged countries.
- 1949** The Texas Division honored Fannie Weil Alexander State President, 1937-1939, with a named gift to the Foundation.
- 1955** The Branch hosted a Texas Division Board meeting when Fannie Lee Johnson was State Treasurer.
- 1957** Violet Stone was one of the 13 women from Texas who attended the International Federation of University Women in Paris and later wrote the book *Thirteen Innocents Abroad*.
- 1960** The Branch held its first book sale in an old office building on Chaparral Street and cleared \$134.04.
- 1970** The Branch sponsored the project of cataloging phonograph records at the new Corpus Christi State School.

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- 1976-77** Jean Wyatt received an AAUW Education Foundation grant to study women's centers. Jean and other local women worked together to open Corpus Christi Women's Shelter.
- 1976-80** The Branch hosted the Texas Division Midwinter Conference.
- 1978** Branch members participated as vendors at Bayfest, selling prepackaged candy and snacks.
- 1979** Project Harbor Playhouse was a successful moneymaking project which involved sponsoring plays.
- 1986** The Branch held a large rummage sale, clearing \$1,270. The Branch published *Texas Riviera is Cooking*, the official Sesquicentennial Cookbook, which contained 600 recipes from AAUW members, local restaurants, and residents, and included the local history written by Margaret Ramage.
- 1985-87** The Branch compiled and sold artwork, adding \$7,000 to the local library fund.
- 1986-87** The Branch gave the Corpus Christi Central Library \$25,000 to pay for the furnishings in the AAUW Corpus Christi (TX) Branch Board room. The Branch made \$7,000 from the cookbook profits with the remainder generated from the Branch's book sales.
- 1987** The Branch made a profitable decision when the Book Sale, which had been held during the YWCA Arts and Crafts show at Memorial Coliseum for many years, moved to Padre Staples Mall.
- 1988** The thirty-third Texas Division Convention was held in Corpus Christi.
- 1988** The Branch initiated an annual scholarship award of \$1,000 to a student attending Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi.
- 1987-89** The Branch sponsored style shows which netted \$6,271 toward the establishment of an AAUW house at some point in the future.

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- 1990** The Branch combined its two named units in the Educational Foundation in order to establish the Corpus Christi Texas Branch Research and Projects Endowment of the AAUW Educational Foundation.
- 1991** The Branch received a Community Dialogue grant of \$2,765 from the Educational Foundation Research and Projects Fund for the Sandwich Generation Project.
- 1997** The Branch celebrated its 70th anniversary with a Seated Tea at the Corpus Christi Country Club.
- 1998-99** Proceeds totaling \$4,745, generated by the Branch's two Style Shows at the Corpus Christi Country Club, were sent to the Educational Foundation in Washington, D.C.
- 1999** Branch members volunteered to answer telephones for KEDT-TV's annual auction, members gave contributions to the Women's Shelter, and the Branch awarded an annual scholarship of \$500 to a Del Mar student.
- 2008** Proceeds totaling well over \$125,000 generated from the Branch's annual Out of Print and Used Book Sale had been awarded to the Corpus Christi Library Foundation.
- 2009** The Branch supported the Rise School by contributing volunteer time and monies and raised over \$1,000 for the AAUW Education Fund and Legal Advocacy Fund. The Branch earned State recognition and received the Pearl Award for outstanding projects and activities.
- 2010** The Branch helped to sponsor the YWCA Science & Math Day for Girls by contributing volunteer time and monies. Over \$1,000 was raised for the AAUW Education Fund and Legal Advocacy Fund. The Branch co-sponsored the Pay Equity Chamber of Commerce Breakfast, and the AAUW Book Nook at the Neyland Library became the permanent home of the Branch Book Sales.
- 2011-12** The Branch contributed nearly \$1,000 to AAUW Funds. Branch members volunteered time and monies to support the YWCA "Fantastic Futures" Math and Science Day and the Y-Teen program. The Branch contributed gift cards to the Del Mar TRIO program and supported the Proclamation read at City Hall for Pay Equity Day.

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- 2012-13** The Branch Book Finders funded two \$1,500 scholarships in memory of Sue Stanford and awarded a \$500 scholarship to Del Mar College. Scheduled book sales also funded reading programs for the Neyland Public Library. The Branch co-sponsored an Equal Pay Symposium presented by the YWCA and sponsored the Christmas Y-Teen gift selection program; and twenty Moody High School seniors were each presented \$50 gift cards in recognition of their personal achievements throughout the school year.
- 2013-14** The City Public Library System and the Branch signed a contract insuring that the Book Finders Committee will continue to occupy the Book Nook at Neyland Library. The Branch co-sponsored the Equal Pay Day Symposium and supported the Christmas Y-Teen Shopping Fair at the YWCA; twenty-five senior girls at Moody High School were each presented with \$50 as an act of encouragement and support; and a \$500 scholarship was presented to a Del Mar College student.
- 2014-15** The Branch, through the Book Finders Committee, contributed \$500 to New Life Refuge Ministries and presented a \$500 scholarship to Del Mar College. With the Corpus Christi Library, the branch co-hosted a dinner for the authors of young adult literature who presented writing workshops for secondary area students. The Branch recognized two \$1,500 recipients of the Sue Sanford Scholarships for History majors attending TAMUCC. Through the Community Outreach Committee, the Branch hosted the Y-Teen Christmas Shopping Spree with the YWCA; co-hosted the Equal Pay Day Event with the YWCA; and presented \$50 gift cards to five women students through the Del Mar College TRIO Program. The Branch sponsored the Perfect Attendance T-shirt Logo art contest at Solomon Coles High School, with winners receiving gift cards, and presented 20 Moody High School college-bound senior girls with \$50 gift cards.
- 2015-16** The Branch, through the Book Finders Committee, presented two \$500 scholarships to Del Mar College and a \$1,500 scholarship to a TAMUCC student. With the Corpus Christi Library, the Branch co-hosted a dinner for the authors of young adult literature who presented writing workshops for secondary area students. Through the Community Outreach Committee, the Branch co-hosted the Y-Teen Christmas Shopping Spree and the Equal Pay Day Event with the YWCA. The Branch presented \$50 gift cards to 20 college-bound Moody High School senior girls; provide uniforms for the Evans Elementary School Running Team; held an Ice Cream Social at the Women's Shelter; and provided Arts and Craft activities at Metro Ministries'

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Rainbow House and the Y-Teen Summer Camp at the YWCA. Branch members donated clothes to Dress for Success and attended the Yuletide Market and the Y-Women in Careers to help support the YWCA.

2016-17 Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford was nominated by the Branch and selected as a YWCA “Women in Careers” community leader; Anita Eisenhower (former Branch President and Life Member) served on the Texas State Historical Commission; and President-elect Dottie Ewing contributed to the award-winning book, *Texas Women in the Civil War*. The Branch donated \$385 to National AAUW Funds in memory of Gail Jones, Virginia Spoor, and Marian Salge. Through the Book Finders Committee, the Branch presented two \$500 scholarships to Del Mar College and the \$1,500 Sue Stanford Scholarship to a TAMUCC student. For the fifth year, \$50 gift cards were presented to college-bound Moody High School senior girls in recognition of their personal achievements. On January 20, 2017, three Branch members participated in the Women's March in Austin, joining other AAUW sisters who marched in their respective states. During the summer of 2017, several members of the Community Outreach Committee presented classes in jewelry making, manners, success strategies, skin care, and painting with bubbles to Y-Teens attending the YWCA sponsored summer camp sessions.

2017-18 The CC Branch partnered with the YWCA to sponsor the food for the Equal Payday Luncheon to keep the cost affordable for all participants. The Branch recruitment table proved successful in signing up two members. Community Outreach recognized and awarded monetary gifts to 20 young women from Moody High School. Branch member Diana Cardenas, Ed.D., was the guest speaker. Branch members donated \$500 towards the purchase of gifts and set up a “shop” at the Y for the YWTeens Holiday Shopping. Members of the Branch worked with the Y to provide speakers for YWTeens Leadership Camps. The Branch Vice President and AAUW Funds Chair Catherine Cox, Ph.D., and Branch Hospitality Chair Janet Blanke sold AAUW embroidered bags at the State convention. The money earned through convention sales will be used to support a new signature Branch program. The Branch took part in the State campaign to fund the Ann Richards Fellowship Endowment and accomplished its \$500 goal. The CC Branch Bylaws Committee, co-chaired by long time members Janis Wood (1977) and Michelle Balis (1993), revised the CC Branch Bylaws and created the CC Branch Policies, which were approved in April 2018. The Branch debuted its new public website with current and historical information.

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2018-19 With 17 new members added to the branch roster, Kris Conlan, chair of the Membership committee, verified a 22.54% increase in branch membership, the highest increase in membership of any Texas branch. The Program committee, chaired by Catherine Cox, Ph.D., secured dynamic speakers who presented on an array of issues ranging from “Women’s Health” and the “Education of Young Women in the Twenty-first Century” to “Activism, Women, and Voting” and “Writing in the Shadow of War and the Holocaust.” The Book Finders, chaired by Betty Maroney, sponsored four successful book sales, generating over \$10,000. These monies funded the Del Mar and TAMU-CC (Sue Stanford) scholarships and the Friends of the Library donation. The Community Outreach Committee, chaired by Diana Cardenas, Ph.D., and Kelly Gonzalez, sponsored five diverse projects: YW Teens Holiday Shopping, Equal Payday Luncheon, Moody High School Senior Celebration, YW Teens Summer Camps, and the Peace of Mind Seminar. In 2019, the newly budgeted STEM committee, chaired by Janet Blanke, invited 7th and 8th grade girls from West Oso Junior High to take part in two motivating events: a tour of the Texas State Aquarium in March and a viewing of the film *Hidden Figures* in June. Under Branch Webmaster Vickie Natale’s, Ed.D., skillful guidance, the branch website proved a popular, positive communication tool.