

August/September Edition 2020

President's Message - Shirley Selz

Although it is still summer, our focus is on fall programs to start another busy year with AAUW. The need to meet virtually for most meetings does not dampen the opportunity to learn, enjoy programs, and stay on track with projects. Book Finders' successful online site has created an expanded customer base that continues to make selected books from the Book Nook available during the suspension of the Branch's quarterly sales at Neyland Library. Projects by the Community Outreach and STEM committees are being planned, as are Interest Groups activities. Check out information in the newsletter for updates.

At the Board meeting on August 15, the importance of holding safe meetings during the COVID-19 pandemic was emphasized. Thanks to AAUW Texas support, the Branch has its own Zoom account for virtual meetings. Vickie Natale and Annie Huckabee are our experts on using the site and willing to help as needed. The Board recognized that some in-person meetings may be held safely as circumstances permit. Please note Debby Wilkins article in this newsletter about such meetings.

Remember the Virtual Celebration of Women's Right to Vote to be held August 26. Information was sent to members by email on August 12. The Branch is one of the sponsors – Amy Aldridge Sanford and Susan Birchfield serve on the committee, and Janet Blanke is one of the speakers. Don't miss it!

Coming soon – updates to the Branch bylaws and policies have been prepared by a Bylaws Committee and approved by the Board for submission to the members for adoption. Please review them upon receipt.

Stay safe and stay in touch. Make time to call, email, and/or drop a note to AAUW friends and others. Don't underestimate the importance of social contacts; let others know you are thinking about them and care about them.



President 2020-2021

Virtual Branch Meeting
September 5
10:30 am

See Page 2
for more
information.

Check email
for invitation
arriving soon.



**Wear a face mask.
Practice social distancing.
Wash hands frequently.**

AAUW Corpus Christi Branch

Meeting September 5, 2020

Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford



Please join us for our first virtual branch meeting on September 5 at 10:30 a.m. In addition to our business meeting, we will hear from fellow member Dr. Amy Aldridge Sanford, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. Amy is a tenured professor of Communication Studies and recently authored a book, *Developing a Social Justice Orientation: Moving from Thought to Action*. Amy will explain the history and objectives of Black Lives Matter and how we can be good allies to the movement.

To Join the Meeting:

If you do not have a Zoom account, access zoom.us and click *Sign Up for Free*.

You will need to enter your email address when prompted to do so.

Before the meeting day, you will receive an emailed Invitation. The hyperlink will allow you to join the meeting.

On the day of the meeting click the hyperlink.

If for some reason the link does not work, you can access Zoom and click *Join a Meeting*. You can then enter the unique Meeting ID and the Passcode provided on the Invitation.

If you are joining via telephone, you will need the teleconferencing number provided in the Invitation.

Don't forget to click *permit audio and video* when prompted.

The host will let you in the meeting.

During the presentation your audio will be muted, but the Chat feature will allow you to send AAUW CC Host a message if you have a question, concern and/or epiphany.

I would be happy to conduct a practice meeting with anyone who wishes to try it out before the meeting.

See you soon!

Annie Huckabee, Branch Meeting Zoom Host



Join the 100 year celebration of the 19th amendment giving women the right to VOTE!

**August 26, 2020
6:00 – 7:00 p.m.**

Wednesday, August 26, is Women's Equality Day in the United States. It is a time to celebrate the activists who secured *all* women's rights to vote in the United States. This year is special because it marks the 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, which was the first federal legislation granting women the right to vote.

Here, in the Coastal Bend, a coalition of organizations dedicated to the advancement of women and girls have put together a virtual celebration, and we hope that you will join us!

There are two ways to join us on August 26:

Facebook Live <https://www.facebook.com/pg/YWCACorpusChristi/videos/>

YouTube <https://my.lwv.org/texas/corpus-christi> _

There will be door prizes, trivia, fun facts, 5-minute speeches, 100th anniversary merchandise, and an opportunity to ask questions. Confirmed speakers include:

- Janet Blanke, community volunteer, IBM retiree, and AAUW member serving as chair of the STEM Committee
- Coretta Graham, local activist and attorney
- Secretary of State Ruth Hughs

Local sponsors include AAUW; Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta, Inc.; Girl Scouts of Greater South Texas, League of Women Voters, and YWCA.

For the most up-to-date information, including additional speakers, join the Facebook Event "[Virtual Celebration of Women's Right to Vote.](#)"

In the past, at our September Branch meetings new members have introduced themselves to our group. In these unusual times, Catherine Cox, Membership VP, thought of a way to continue this tradition.

WELCOME New Members

“I retired in 2019 as the executive director of the Corpus Christi Literacy Council. I received my doctorate from TAMUCC, and my masters and bachelors degrees from Trinity University in San Antonio. Recent awards include Lifetime Achievement award from the Instituto de Cultura Hispanica, Y Women in Careers, Field Instructor of the Year from TAMUK School of Social Work, and Annual Literacy Award from the Student Reading Association at TAMUCC. I volunteer in many capacities in the community, such as the dolphin rescue team of the Texas Marine Mammal Stranding Network, and serve on several boards, including the Literary Reading Series, Instituto de Cultura Hispanica, and Workforce Solutions of the Coastal Bend. I am a graduate of Leadership Corpus Christi. Born and reared in Guadalajara, Mexico, I am a native speaker of both English and Spanish and have two married daughters who live *up East*.”



Mary Gleason



Brenda Harris

“I retired from Federal service three years ago and moved back to my native state from Charleston, SC. My husband and I bought a RV and enjoy traveling. I play in clay at the Barry Brown Clay Studio and have met a lot of wonderful people there. I have a long-haired Chihuahua named Ginger. She is excellent at training her humans.”

*Look for more new member introductions in future newsletters.

Please welcome the following new members:

Lillian Pluta
Mary Gleason
Brenda Harris
Kim Moore
Elizabeth Sefcik

KayLynn Lyon, transferred member
Callie Walker (joined in December)
Betsy Calabro, dual member
Audrey Barnes, former student member; now a regular member



We Miss . . .

Jane Bachman and AAUW's mission fit like a glove. She was a student, teacher, and finally an advisor having earned her M.B.A. and CPA license. No one had to guess where Jane stood on an issue because she was smart, analytical, and willing to share her opinion. And Jane loved fun. As a Branch member for 34 years prior to her passing on July 5, she enjoyed AAUW and several interest groups, but for traveling, she preferred solo trips along European rivers. Bon voyage!



CLASSICS 2020

Aug-Nov Meetings via Zoom
Contact: Annie Huckabee



Wednesday, August 26 at 4:30 pm ***A Farewell to Arms* by Ernest Hemingway**
Discussion led by Sylvia Rendon

Although we all enjoy a summer rain, we have to be leery of the wet stuff in Hemingway's world. Amazon readers call Hemingway's *A Farewell to Arms* "the best American novel to emerge from World War I. It is the unforgettable story of an American ambulance driver on the Italian front and his passion for a beautiful English nurse."

Wednesday, September 30 at 6:30 pm ***On the Road* by Jack Kerouac**
Discussion led by Susan Birchfield

Mix up a batch of Kerouac's or the Safe Traveler's version of the margarita and join us for a memorable journey out of the house. *The New York Times* deems Kerouac's *On the Road* "an authentic work of art . . . the most beautifully executed, the clearest and the most important utterance yet made by the generation Kerouac himself named years ago as 'beat,' and whose principal avatar he is."

Jack Kerouac's Margarita:

1 1/2 oz. silver tequila

1 oz. Cointreau

1/2 oz. lime juice

Coarse salt

Lime wedge

The Safe Traveler Margarita:

1/2 cup lemon juice and 1/2 lime juice

1/4 cup superfine sugar, or more to taste

Crushed ice

Splash of Club Soda

Lime wedge optional

INTEREST GROUPS

Since we cannot hold our New Member Reception in September, we have included the list of current interest groups and the names of chairs with contact information below. Please send an email **by September 6** to the chairs of interest groups that you wish to join. Chairs will gather their lists of interested members and send out a welcoming email with information about their first meeting and future plans for the year.

Interest Group Coordinator: Deborah Wilkins

*Interest group chairs will notify members about scheduled in-person and/or virtual meetings.



Birding

The group meets once a month throughout the year. Organized field trips provide opportunity for members to observe and identify birds in their natural habitat. RSVP is appreciated.

Co-Chairs: Deborah Wilkins & Kristin Conlan

Bridge



The group meets throughout the year at 1:00 p.m. on the second and the last Friday of the month, January through November, and the second Friday in December. The group plays social contract bridge and welcomes bridge players of all skill levels. Members must RSVP.

Chair: Sandra Heatherley

Classics



The group meets throughout the year at 6:30 p.m. on the last Wednesday of the month at local restaurants. From the ancient to the modern, members read a variety of classic works and participate in open discussion. Titles for the upcoming year are presented at the June meeting. Members must RSVP.

Chair: Irene O'Connor

Evening Contemporary Literature



The group meets at 7 p.m. on the last Monday of each month, September through October; January through April, at the homes of assigned hostesses. Current and award-winning fiction and non-fiction is reviewed by guest speakers and experienced reviewers. Book titles and names of the invited reviewers are published in the Branch AAUW Newsletter prior to the monthly meeting. Members must RSVP.

Co-Chairs: Michelle Balis & Jan Hilton

The Gardening Divas



The group meets at 3 p.m. on the third Wednesday of the month, October through May, at the homes of assigned hostesses and at designated locations. Members expand their knowledge of gardening and plants with informed guest speakers and participate in creative and fun activities. RSVP is appreciated.

Co-Chairs: Agnes Hamilton & Joanie Whitmire

MORE INTEREST GROUPS

Out to Lunch Bunch



The group meets throughout the year at 11:30 a.m. on the third Friday of the month for lunch at local restaurants. The group experiences the many different types of cuisine the city has to offer. The meetings are an enjoyable way to connect with Branch members in a spirited social gathering.

Members are encouraged to RSVP.

Chair: Margaret Deville

The Playgoers



The group meets throughout the year on various dates to enjoy the variety of live plays offered in Corpus Christi. Members attend college and community theater productions as often as members are interested. Members often meet at a local restaurant before the show to discuss our knowledge of the play about to be presented. After all, the show's the thing! Members must RSVP.

Chair: Michelle Balis

Poetry Appreciation



The group meets throughout the year at 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of the month at the Glass Pavilion, Omni Bayfront. Members read the works of selected poets or works concentrating on a specific theme and participate in open discussion. Poets and themes for the upcoming year are presented at the July meeting. RSVP is appreciated.

Chair:

The Readers' Round Table



The group meets at 7 p.m. on the first Monday of the month, October through December; February through May.

Betty Maroney and Dottie Ewing alternate hosting the group in their homes. This is a book review group with reviewers volunteering from the AAUW membership. Members are encouraged to read the selection to facilitate discussion. The presenter from one month furnishes dessert or light refreshments for the next month's meeting. RSVP is appreciated.

Co-Chairs: Dottie Ewing & Betty Maroney

Wine and Cheese



The group meets from 5-7 p.m. throughout the year on the second Sunday of the month at the homes of assigned hostesses. The group offers its members the opportunity to enjoy and learn about various domestic and foreign wines and complimentary food pairings. It is the responsibility of the assigned co-hostesses to provide the food and wines for the get-together. Members must RSVP.

Chair: Janet Blanke

Writers



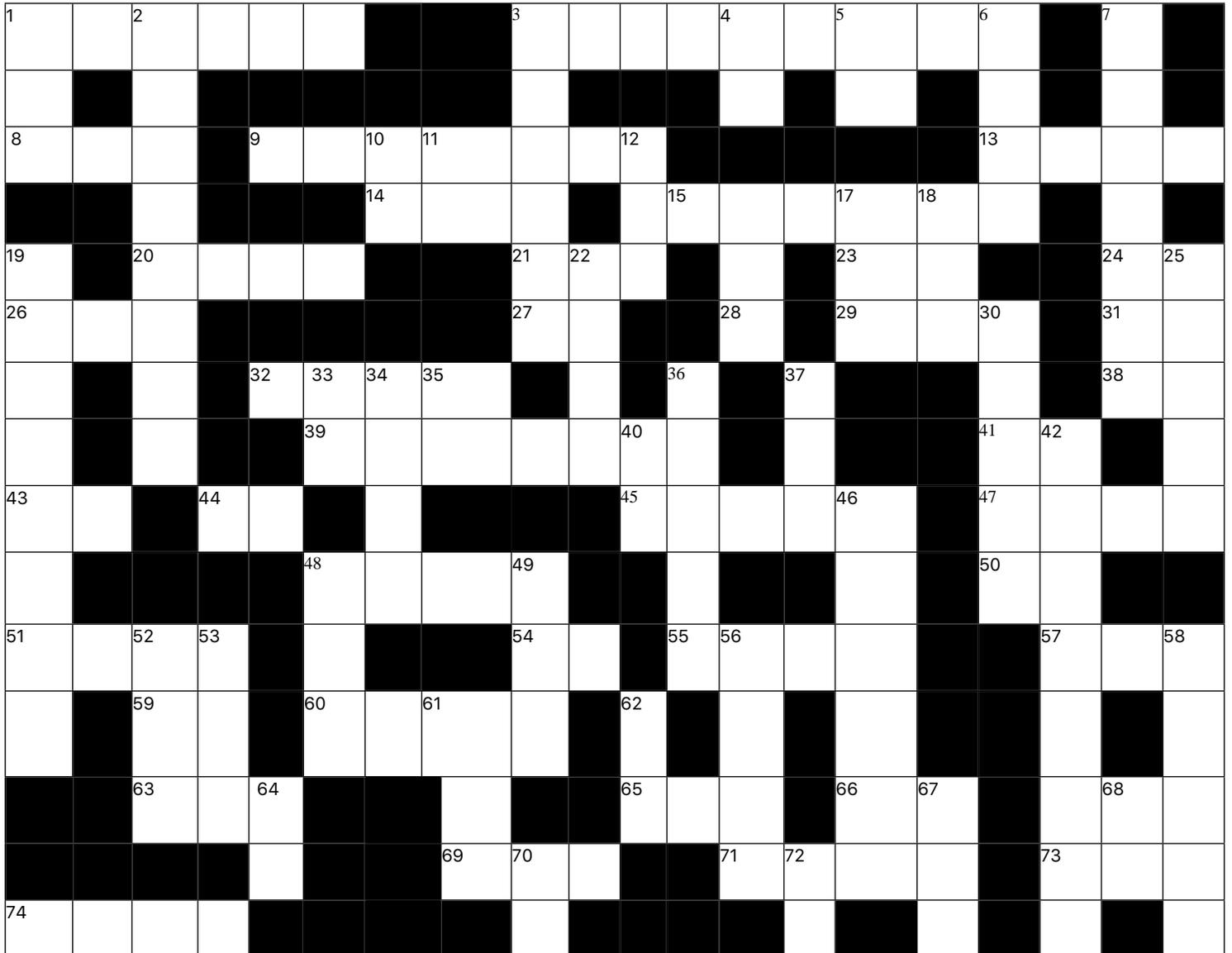
The group meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of most months, September through November; February through May. Members will write in a variety of modes and will be given a brief writing exercise at the beginning of each meeting. The group will share their writing with each other and will provide feedback in a supportive and creative environment. The group's mission is to use writing to explore, understand, and respond to ourselves, our community, and our world. Members must RSVP.

Co-Chairs: Alice Berecka & Maggie Gibson



AAUW Puzzle

For recognition and chance at a prize, please complete the puzzle and mail it by Sept 1, 2020 to Catherine Cox. The puzzle will also be sent in an email attachment, and email responses will be considered. Enjoy!



Across

1. lurching under a tree
3. "_____ Divas" (interest group)
7. an awful grade
8. The _____ cock has a gorgeous tail.
9. "Book _____," (AAUW committee)
13. Opposite of "some"
14. Internet provider
15. Janet Blanke's university, preceded by "O"
20. Corpus Christi AAUW branch president
21. electrically charged atom
23. preposition
24. First 2 letters of a famous Jane Austen novel
26. French for "king"
27. ___N, news broadcasting company (abbrev.)
28. an excellent grade
29. businesses (abbrev.)
31. Spanish for "yes"
32. dishonest scheme
36. Y2000, abbreviated Y2____
38. my former husband is my"____"
39. dancing lion/Lyon (transferred member)
41. put the book _____ the table
43. _____, "a drop of golden sun," musically
44. Lone Star State (postal abbrev.)
45. elbow and knee, for example
47. Immanuel _____, philosopher
48. Sponsors summer camps for teens
50. Its parliament meets in Brussels (abbrev.)
51. central act of worship in Roman Catholic church
54. conjunction meaning "therefore"
55. Helps girls explore fields in tech, science, math, and engineering
57. _____ water, from a faucet
59. Columbia is this state's capital (abbrev.)
60. Don't forget to wear your _____
63. nothing
65. donkey
66. singing a scale, say for the sixth note, _____
68. keeps one's eyes shaded
69. say " _____, to the dress"
71. first aid _____
73. snake
74. Celebrating Women's Right to _____

HERE ARE THE CLUES**Down**

1. soda
2. reading group that meets all year round
3. language belonging to Scotland and Ireland
4. train above ground level as in Chicago
5. "give _____ a rest"
6. past perfect of "go"
7. clever bridge play
10. letters to indicate no response
11. "Did you _____ what I asked?"
12. my boy
16. Country in North America (abbrev.)
17. physician (slang)
18. flying saucer
19. Sylvia Rendon is VP for these
22. without siblings, say "I am an _____ child"
25. « _____ up » (idiomatic for argue or fight)
28. an excellent grade
30. " _____ gets in your eyes"
33. Famous designer's initials
34. Organization supporting women and girls through "education, research, and advocacy"
35. possessive of "I"
36. tie square ones when making stretchy bracelets
37. related
40. state whose capital is Trenton (abbrev.)
42. about the sea
46. confusion
48. eating ice cream, say " _____"
49. to call on for an answer
52. many people memorize this for I.D. purposes (abbrev.)
53. _____ fi (genre that captures the future)
56. job
- 58 daddy
- 61 clouds float in it
62. postal initials for Monticello's home state
64. California's largest city (abbrev.)
67. cigarette residue
70. Latin for "and," as in " _____ tu, Brute?"
72. psychologically, one's wild side
- 73 used in similes (or comparisons)