



Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.



## President's Message - Shirley Selz

Oct 2021 Edition

The Branch's new year of membership meetings zoomed to a good start in September. Although we hoped to return to traditional in-person meetings with a traditional New Member Reception in September, the COVID virus and caution intervened. Thanks to zoom, however, we continue uninterrupted with excellent programs and contact with members. The Board looks forward to the time it appears safe to meet in person – we will let you know whenever the decision is made.

AAUW's mission took a giant step forward when the two new endowed scholarships were officially created with the execution of documents and transfer of funds. The Branch's certificate of deposit matured in August and the funds were put right to work. Read again Vickie's article on our website about the presentations at Texas A&M Corpus Christi on August 30 and at Del Mar College on September 2. And be sure to reflect on and appreciate the source of the \$12,000 to the A&M Foundation and \$10,000 to the Del Mar Foundation. Those funds are the result of the dedicated volunteers with Book Finders who have categorized thousands of donated books over the years, selected untold numbers of those books for sale at Neyland Library and online, conducted the quarterly (or at least quarterly when COVID does not interfere) sales at the library, and have become experts at online sales. To Betty Maroney and all the committee members, please know that you are very much appreciated. Students who receive scholarships may not know who to thank, but they are surely thankful. Upon the two new endowed scholarships' generation of investment income sufficient to support awards and assuming book sales continue to meet the Branch's budgeted goals, the Branch will support five scholarships per year – two direct scholarships of \$500 each to Del Mar College Students, the direct \$1,500 Sue Stanford scholarship to a Texas &&M Corpus Christi student, and scholarships of at least \$500 each from the newly endowed funds. We could say "Education R Us" but we are better grammarians than that.

Thanks to Annie Huckabee and Ann Hamilton for their dedication and skills in creating the 2021-22 yearbook. I hope everyone has printed a copy. Members who do not receive Branch email receive theirs by mail. Updates to locations for meeting of the Branch and interest groups will occur as the year progresses and decisions are made about the wisdom of in-person meetings. Stay tuned to the newsletter, website, and notices from committee and interest group chairmen. Don't miss out!

For a combination of bad news and good news, please see the article about Brenda Harris' imminent move from Corpus Christi (bad news) and the Board's filling the vacancy of Membership Vice President created by Brenda's departure (the good news).

We have an exciting year ahead. Contact your friends as potential members. Let them know about our mission, our projects, our good works, and our good times.



## MEMBERSHIP VICE PRESIDENT – A FAREWELL AND WELCOME

**Brenda Harris**, our VP of Membership, is making a big move -all the way to Portland, Maine! She and her husband are joining their son and daughter-in-law there. Then, they are becoming snowbirds. They will be spending summers in Maine and winters in Florida. Brenda is very busy working on this endeavour as you can imagine and needs someone to take over her role in AAUW. Things moved more quickly for her than she could have imagined, when her house sold in just ten minutes! She expressed her gratitude for being a part of AAUW and wishes the best of luck to our chapter

Brenda enthusiastically began her term as newly-elected Membership Vice President and shared many good ideas. Then life changes occurred and Brenda's departure from Corpus Christi creates a vacancy. The Board is pleased to announce that **Sylvia Rendon** has been appointed to fill Brenda's unexpired term. Welcome Sylvia!



**From Board of Directors: Due to the virus variant, the board decided to meet on zoom for both the October and November meetings, although we are hopeful to have the traditional December lunch in-person. Too soon to decide, but we can hope.**

### AAUW Corpus Christi Zoom Branch Meeting

October 2, 2021 - 10:30 a.m. from Mary Sherwood



**Speaker: Samantha Koepp-Stempler**  
**CASA Marketing and Recruitment Manager**

**Topic: CASA of the Coastal Bend:**  
**Court-Appointed Advocates for Foster Children**

Samantha Koepp-Stempler has been involved with CASA of the Coastal Bend since 2008, serving in various roles as a Community Partner, Board Member, Event Volunteer, a Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA), Trainer and currently is their Marketing and Recruitment Manager. After becoming a registered yoga teacher in 2019 she created a yoga program within CASA, offering yoga classes to youth, volunteers and staff.

In 2020 the yoga program evolved into distributing yoga care packages and hosting virtual yoga classes that in 2021 expanded to a

community program, Youth Yoga Union, which serves youth facing adversity, youth in foster care, youth previously in foster care as well as adults serving these youth. Earning both Bachelor and Master degrees in Business Administration from Texas A&M University –Corpus Christi, she has resided the past 18 years in Corpus Christi. Samantha and her husband have 4 dogs and 2 cats and enjoy spending time at the beach. Having partnered with many agencies and individuals within the foster care community, Samantha is proud to be an ambassador for creating awareness and promoting unity to provide access to resources for youth and their families' involved in the child welfare system.





## To Join a Meeting:

- If you do not have a Zoom account, access [zoom.us](https://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! Vickie Natale, Branch Meeting Zoom Host

## Update from CC Branch

### STEM Committee

From Janet Blanke

The AAUW STEM committee was hoping to be able to hold a fall event for the West Oso Jr High girls at the National Seashore in mid-November. After speaking with the National Seashore, it looks as if it may be Spring 2022 before they can do a program for us. They are trying to figure out how to best hold their educational programs in a safe environment for everyone. It looks like we will not be doing anything until Spring 2022. If you want to be on the STEM Committee, please send an email to Janet Blanke.

STEM is a curriculum based on the idea of educating students in four specific disciplines — **science, technology, engineering and mathematics.**

## BOOK FINDERS: An Update from Betty



The work on the ac at the library has begun. Our first sale will probably be in November. Details as we get them. Stand by, ready to work .

--Betty Maroney

## AAUW Community Outreach Committee

from Kelly Gonzalez

The community outreach committee will meet on Monday, October 11 at 7:00 via zoom. We will be focusing on the YW Teen Holiday Shopping event in December.

All branch members are invited to attend the meeting and participate in the event.



### Meeting Schedule (Second Monday of the month at 6:00pm)

November 8	March 14
December-no meeting	April 11
January 10	May 16
February 14	June 13



from Diana Cardenas

On Saturday, October 16 the YWCA will hold the 10th Annual Glo & Go Night Fun 5 Mile Run and 2 Mile Walk at TAMUCC Hike and Bike Trail.

Cost: \$25.00

Check in time: 7:30 pm. Race begins at 8:00pm , rain or shine.

Online registration: [ywcacc.org](http://ywcacc.org).

from Dottie Ewing

## READERS' ROUND TABLE 2021-22

Co Chairs: Dottie Ewing and Betty Maroney

Time: First Monday of the Month 7 p.m.

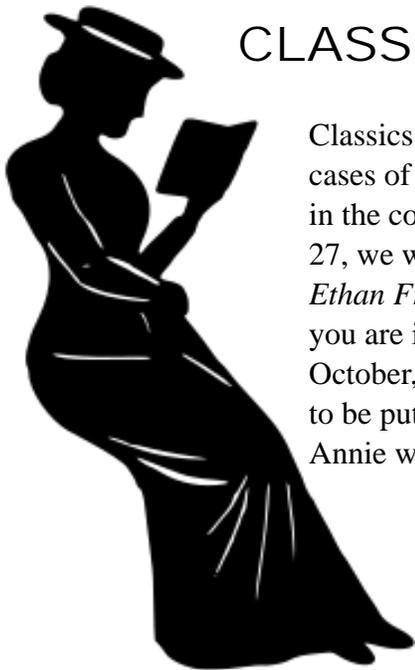


When Betty and I planned this year's schedule, we assumed things would be back to nearly normal by October. Alas, 'twas not to be. The upswing in numbers caused by the Delta variant has shown that we are not out of the woods yet. The consensus is that we wait at least another month for in-person meetings. Therefore, our October meeting will once again be on Zoom.

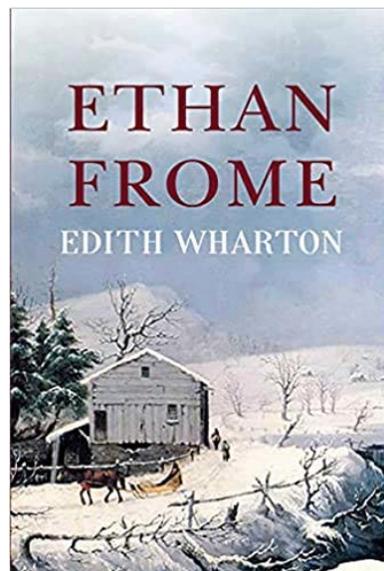
Since Kristin, our reviewer for October, has difficulty with Zoom, Michelle has graciously agreed to present in October and we will re-schedule Kris for another date. Michelle will review *Daisy Jones and the Six* by Taylor Jenkins Reid. I will send out the Zoom information shortly before our meeting date of October 4. Hopefully by November we will be able to meet again in person, but I'll keep you posted.

## CLASSICS 2021-2022

from Catherine Cox



Classics will be meeting via Zoom until cases of Covid appreciably go down in the community. Wednesday, October 27, we will be discussing Edith Wharton's *Ethan Frome*. All members are invited. If you are interested in joining Classics in October, please contact Annie Huckabee to be put on the Zoom invitation list. Annie will be hosting October's Classics.



## THE GARDENING DIVAS

from Agnes Hamilton



The Gardening Divas will be hosting Gaynell Torgerson on October 20th at 3 pm at Joanie Whitmire's house. Gaynell will be telling us about Roses, addressing the various types and their care. We hope all interested members will plan to attend this outdoor event and RSVP to Joanie. The RSVP is needed for seating arrangement.

## AAUW Evening Contemporary Literature Fall Meetings Cancelled

from Michelle Balis

Due to the increase in local COVID numbers, Jan Hilton and I have chosen to delay our meetings until February.

Alan Bareka and Ester Bonilla Read have generously accepted the delay so we hope they will be able to present in February and March. Deenie Tillman and Dottie Ewing will be our gracious hostesses.

We will send out a revised schedule later this month.



from Janet Blanke



## AAUW Wine and Cheese

will hold our next get together via Zoom  
on Sunday, Oct 10 at 5pm.

## BRANCH MONTHLY CALENDAR

*Calendar courtesy of Annie Huckabee*

Birders, ECL, Playgoers, & STEM members check email	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<b>Wk. 1</b> 	Readers' Round Table 7 p.m.	Book Finders 1:30 p.m.				<b>Branch                      Meeting</b>	
<b>Wk. 2</b>	Community Outreach 6 p.m.	Book Finders 1:30 p.m.	Poetry Appreciation 6:30 p.m.		Bridge 1:00 p.m.		Wine & Cheese 5-7 p.m.
<b>Wk. 3</b>		Book Finders 1:30 p.m.	The Gardening Divas 3 p.m.		Out to Lunch Bunch 11:30 a.m.		
<b>Wk. 4</b>		Book Finders 1:30 pm	Classics 6:15 p.m.		Bridge 1:00 p.m.		



from Diana Cardenas

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