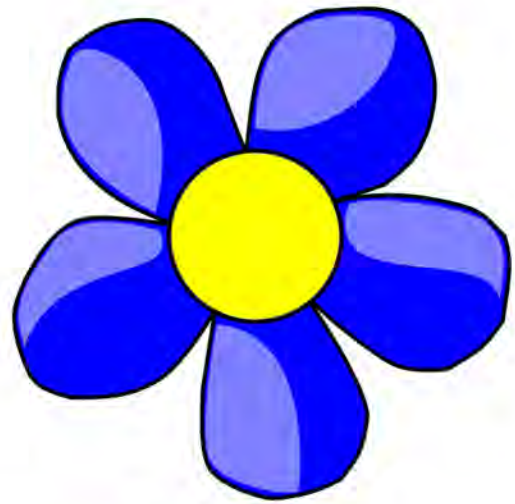




Mission: To advance gender equity for women and girls through research, education, and advocacy.



President's Message - Shirley Selz

April 2022 Edition

On March 5, our second in-person meeting in two years featured a new expanded format in which members and guests could participate by gathering either at the YWCA or virtually on zoom. Thanks to Vickie for providing zoom access for those who could not meet at the Y, resulting in five members joining with their computers or phones. When we updated the bylaws in 2020, we envisioned the possibility of such a hybrid meeting, and now we know that it actually works. Will this become the new norm? It remains to be seen. Thanks to Vickie as our technology expert.

April is designated as our annual membership meeting when we elect officers and review highlights of the year. The Nominating Committee's corrected slate of nominees was announced at the March 5 meeting and also by email to those who receive email, and by regular mail to those who do not receive email. As a reminder, a copy is also printed in this newsletter. Under Bylaws Art. XII, additional nominations may be made from the floor with prior approval of such nominees. Now with our capability of meeting in a hybrid format, the "floor" includes members in attendance in-person or virtually.

It is a special pleasure each year to award the Sue Stanford scholarship to a Texas A&M Corpus Christi student. The recipient of the \$1,500 scholarship this year is Laura Lamb. We look forward to meeting her at the April meeting, to learning more about her, and to hearing about her future goals.

As the academic year comes to a close, we look forward to learning about the Del Mar College students who the college's scholarship committee has selected to receive the two \$500 scholarships to be awarded this year. Both the Sue Stanford Scholarship and the two Del Mar College scholarships are funded from revenue generated from Book Finders book sales during the current fiscal year. The two new endowed scholarships established last August with money generated by Book Finders in past years will be awarded later when the initial endowment funds (\$12,000 for the Texas A&M fund and \$10,000 for the Del Mar College fund) have been invested by the respective educational foundations and generated profits sufficient to make the awards. It is very satisfying to know the hard work of the present and past Book Finders committee members is being used proactively to assist students at our local higher education institutions.

Traditionally, the May membership meeting features installation of officers for the next term, a lunch, and socializing with members and guests. Assuming we will be able to meet in-person and, perhaps, also on zoom on May 7, be thinking now of guests you would like to invite. During these nearly two years of mostly zoom meeting and altered formats for interest groups, reaching out to potential members and involving new members has been a challenge. Many thanks to Catherine Cox for her creativity as Membership Vice President during the first year of the pandemic and to Brenda Harris and Sylvia Rendon during the second year. Please forward the names and contact information to Sylvia for potential members who share our mission.



**AAUW Corpus Christi Branch
Annual Meeting and Election of Officers
10:30am, Saturday, April 2**



**YWCA
4601 Corona Drive
Corpus Christi, TX 78411**

**Speaker: Fr Bruce Wilson
Topic: The Coastal Bend
Neighborhood Empowerment Project**

Fr Bruce Wilson is a retired Episcopal priest who serves as the Executive Director of Coastal Bend Neighborhood Empowerment (CBNE).

Bruce graduated from Abilene Christian University in 1975 and taught secondary science and math before getting a Masters in Educational Psychology at the University of Texas in San Antonio and working with conduct disordered and depressed adolescent students.

Bruce was ordained to the priesthood in 1986. His ministry led him to parish work in MacAllen, Cuero, San Marcos, and Corpus Christi before his retirement in 2018. His work in Corpus Christi led to his ministry as Coordinator of Episcopal Ministries in Corpus Christi (EMC²), an outreach ministry that was supported by the local Episcopal congregations and his diocese until the coalition evolved into the non-profit corporation CBNE.



May 7, 2022

Branch Luncheon & Installation of Officers

Details to come.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

AAUW Community Outreach Committee From Kelly Gonzalez

The Community Outreach Committee strives to put the AAUW mission into action in the community through various community projects.

We are currently working on the Miller High School Senior Celebration. It will be held on Wednesday, May 11 at 2:00 on campus at Miller High School. The Community Outreach committee will be working with the Del Mar College AAUW Student Chapter.

Other projects we are working on include:

Equal Pay Luncheon scheduled for April. Will provide additional information as it is received. This is in partnership with the YWCA.

Providing speakers for the YW Teen Summer Camps.

Peace of Mind Seminar to be held in the Fall.

The next meeting will be held April 11. The meeting will be in person, but we will also provide a Zoom link for those who cannot attend in person.

STEM Committee From Janet Blanke

On April 1, the West Oso Jr High STEM girls will be taking a field trip to visit two science labs at Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi. In the morning, they will meet Dr Ivy Jones at her lab and will spend time touring the lab and learning about what the scientists that work there do. Dr Ivy is a marine biologist that specializes in feed formulation, aquaculture, animal nutrition and ecology.

After a pizza lunch on campus with some of the female scientists and a few AAUW STEM Committee members, the girls will tour the Bahr Marine Ecology Lab in the afternoon.

AAUW STEM Committee has partnered with the West Oso Jr High STEM teachers for the past three years helping to facilitate field trips for Jr High School girls who have an aptitude and interest in pursuing STEM careers. These trips allow the girls to speak with women in STEM careers to understand what they do, how they got to where they are today, and what challenges they faced along the way.



Book Sale

April 7-9

Thursday: 10 – 6 pm

Friday: 10 – 5 pm

Saturday: 10 – 1:30 pm

Featured Books:

***Children's, Texana,
Rare/Collectible, and Military***

Neyland Library

1230 Carmel Pkwy 361-826-2370

For more information, contact:

Betty Maroney 361-991-4612
corpuschristi-texas.aauw.net



All proceeds benefit the Corpus Christi Public Libraries, local women's scholarship funds, and AAUW Community Outreach projects for women and girls.

Persons requiring an accommodation should contact the library 48 hours in advance: 361-826-2370.

INTEREST GROUP NEWS



Wine and Cheese

On March 13, the Wine & Cheese group met for a fun evening of margaritas and chips at On the Border! This was our first in-person gathering in a long time and we had a great time catching up with each other!

Our next gathering will be on Sunday, April 10 at 5pm at BJ's Restaurant & Brew House. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please let Janet Blanke know if you plan to attend.



The Lunch Bunch will be meeting at the Cafe Italia, 4117 S Staples Street, on Tuesday, April 19th, at 12:30 pm. Please RSVP to Susan Birchfield.

Readers' Round Table

will not meet in April or May. Hopefully we will resume in the fall.

From Dottie Ewing



Evening Contemporary Literature

From Michelle Balis and Jan Hilton

Alan Bereka and **Esther Bonilla Read** are scheduled to present their Evening Contemporary Literature programs at the Neyland Library (1230 Carmel Pkwy) for AAUW members (the general public will be invited - so bring all your friends).

Alan Bereka, 2017 Corpus Christi Poet Laureate, will present his poetry on Thursday, **April 21** at 6:30 pm.

Esther Bonilla Read, local author of From the Porch Steps, will present on Thursday, **April 28** at 6:30 pm.

We hope it will be a safe, enjoyable evening to catch up with our local authors and members. (Please note that the Library closes at 7:00. Those in the program will be allowed to stay after hours and will be escorted out when the program ends.)



The annual "Classics Round-up," an overnight outing, was held March 26th at Deenie Roper Tillman's ranch near Pleasanton, south of San Antonio. The group enjoyed beef brisket, potato salad, cornbread, chips, dip, and sangria, finished with strawberry shortcake, as they discussed Louis L'Amour's western novel *Hondo* (1972). The weather was perfect, the birds glorious in beauty and song, and the front porch rocking chairs and fire pit seating soothing to the soul. Many thanks to Deenie, her daughter Jane, and her grandchildren for their preparations and gracious welcome. And thanks also to her husband Joe who spared Deenie, so that she could treat us to our yearly round-up.





Teen Bookfest by the Bay 2022

By Diana Cardenas

Dozens of enthusiastic youngsters were eager to meet a favorite author and view a favorite book at the **Teen Bookfest** held at the American Bank Center on a cold Saturday, February 19.

Giggling, talking, and laughter reflected their excitement as they gathered in groups with their school friends and moved happily from one meeting room to another.

I walked alongside active, committed readers!

Also, I was impressed by the male and female authors I met during two panel presentations. They engaged the audiences with descriptions of their works, creative processes, and personal literary/literacy journeys.

Each author was unique. Some authors were English teachers. Some had film/movie backgrounds.

One author was a former attorney, musician, and employee of a state agency in Nashville, Tennessee, who is pursuing a master's degree in Library Science.

A lady author talked about her teen children as motivation to write.

The authors explained their processes-developing characters or focusing on themes or plot.

One author talked about using her childhood in South America to craft a book about mythology.

Like the youngsters, I was attracted to the large exhibition area with its many publishing company booths where authors' books were displayed. Surrounded by so many lively, joyful teens, I felt encouraged by and proud of their passion and accomplishments.

I left the Teen Bookfest with admiration for all the youngsters and also the leaders and members of the Corpus Christi Public Library for organizing and providing community enrichment for its youngsters.

CORRECTED REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Please note that the Nominating Committee presented a corrected report at the membership meeting March 5. In the report published in the newsletter, the nominees for Vice President Funds and Secretary were reversed. The correct slate of officers for the 2022-24 term as presented by the Nominations Committee are:

President:	Catherine Cox
Vice President Funds:	Cheryl Sanders
Secretary:	Deanne Purcell

Election will be held at the annual meeting on April 2. Please see the Bylaws Art. XII regarding nomination and elections.

Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
Presents :

AUTHORS' DAY 2022



Featuring: **Gloria Amescua**

Thursday, April 21
6:00-8:00 PM
Island Hall 160

Gloria Amescua (Ah MES qua) has been a writer since she was a child, writing poems and stories throughout her life. Gloria has received the American Library Association (ALA) Pura Belpré Author Honor Award, ALA Notable Book, and several other best of 2021/2022 nonfiction book lists. She is also one of five finalists for the SCBWI nonfiction picture book award, the winners of which will be announced March 15th! She loves books that reach a young person's heart, head or funny bone and strives to do just that in her writing. Gloria is proud of her Mexican American heritage. She is an educator, poet and children's book writer. *Child of the Flower-Song People: Luz Jiménez, Daughter of the Nahua* has just been published by Abrams Books for Young Readers.



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