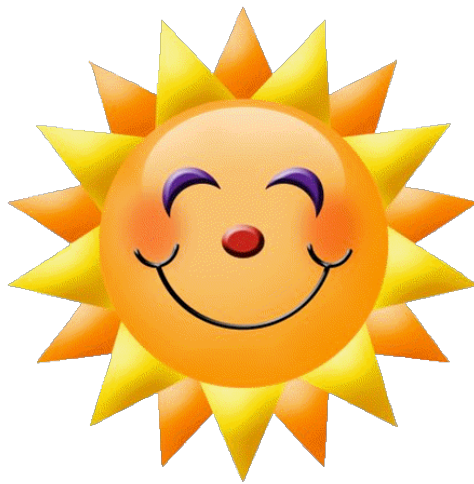




Catherine Cox, President



June/July Edition 2023

President's Message

Dear Members,

TIME TO RENEW! If you are scheduled to renew your membership by June 30th and have not done so, please take a few minutes to put your check for \$97.00 (payable to AAUW) in the mail. Address the envelope to our Finance Officer, Vickie Natale (see Yearbook for address). Another option is to renew online by going to the National AAUW website and pay by credit card. We would like to be able to list everyone's name and contact information in the branch yearbook.

Our branch has had another wonderful year, filled with activities and good works for women and girls. Most recently, we enjoyed dining together at Mirador Retirement Community. We inducted two new officers: Diana Cardenas, VP for Programs and Leslie Peart, VP for Membership. I am very grateful that Vickie agreed to serve a second term as Finance Officer. We had close to 50 attendees at our luncheon. I wish to thank Mary Sherwood for her wonderful programs throughout the year and Sylvia Rendon for shepherding in new members. Both will be leaving the board.

At the luncheon, we announced that one of our members Kim Moore had accepted a position as Superintendent of West Oso ISD. I again congratulate Kim for this wonderful honor. We wish Kim all the best as she navigates the many challenges of this post.

At our summer branch board meeting, held on May 27, the directors voted to move \$12,000 from our checking account into our two AAUW scholarship endowments at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi and at Del Mar College. The money will be divided equally to support scholarships at these two local institutions of higher learning. This leaves us with \$23,650 in our branch account, a very healthy sum.

Thank you, Book Finders, for your hard work and for making it possible for us to help students in this way. We had another very successful book sale at Neyland Library on June 8-10. If you are interested in helping Book Finders, reach out to Kris Conlan, Co-chair. Also, we look forward to Community Outreach's Peace of Mind seminar, which is scheduled for October and to STEM's next fieldtrip for high school girls..

Enjoy your summer, get plenty of rest, and I will see you in September at our Reception for New and Prospective Members. Please be thinking of the people that you wish to invite. We will have more details on the fall reception later in the summer.

My very best wishes, Catherine

May 2023 Luncheon and Installation of Officers

by Vickie Natale

The AAUW Corpus Christi Branch held a luncheon on Saturday, May 20, 2023, at the Mirador starting at 12:30 p.m. There were 44 members and six students from the Del Mar College AAUW student organization who made reservations. Members enjoyed a lunch buffet with smoked salmon or lemon chicken, paired with salad, rice, mixed vegetables, and a caramel cobbler for dessert. Everyone had an opportunity to catch up with old and new friends over a good meal served in the comfort of a private room. It was a delightful occasion after the past several years of social distancing and mask-wearing.

President Catherine Cox called the business portion of the meeting to order with a welcome and introduction of new members and guests. Catherine gave a heartfelt thank you to the outgoing officers. Then, Shirley Selz, parliamentarian and immediate past Branch president, officiated the installation of new officers. The new Program Vice President is Diana Cardenas, and the new Membership Vice President is Leslie Peart. Vickie Natale will be continuing with a third term as our Finance Officer. Catherine presented red roses to the incoming officers.

Each of our current officers gave their respective reports for the year. At the conclusion, Cheryl Sanders, one of the advisors to the AAUW student organization at Del Mar College, introduced the student members in attendance. A special acknowledgment was given to Kaila Cavazos-Guerra who served as president of the student group this year and who was the guest speaker at our recent event held at Miller High School, honoring 25 graduating, college-bound senior girls. We are especially thrilled to have the Del Mar College AAUW student organization involved in the community outreach events for our Branch.



Officers for 2023-24: (l to r) Catherine Cox, President; Janet Blanke, STEM Chair; Cheryl Sanders, Funds Vice President; Diana Cardenas, Program Vice President; Vickie Natale, Finance Officer; Leslie Peart, Membership Vice President; Kris Conlan, Book Finders Co-Chair; Deborah Wilkins, Book Finders Co-Chair; Shirley Selz, Parliamentarian. Not pictured: Kelly Gonzalez, Community Outreach Chair; and Deanne Purcell, Secretary

May 2023 Luncheon

Cheryl Sanders, AAUW member and advisor to the Del MarCollege AAUW student organization, introduces Kaila Cavazos Guerra, president of the student organization and Miranda Rodriguez, vice president of the student organization.



New Membership VP Leslie Peart with Catherine Cox



New Program VP Diana Cardenas with Catherine Cox and Shirley Selez



Our Branch has been very successful in establishing multiple scholarships for women in the Coastal Bend region. We sincerely thank everyone who works with Book Finders to raise the monies for these scholarships. A special recognition goes to Kris Conlan and Deb Wilkins who chair the Book Finders committee. Deb and Kris have been successful in establishing and working on eBay sales in addition to the in person sales, which was especially critical during the times we had to cancel in-person sales due to the pandemic. The eBay sales have now become a vital segment of our overall fundraising efforts.

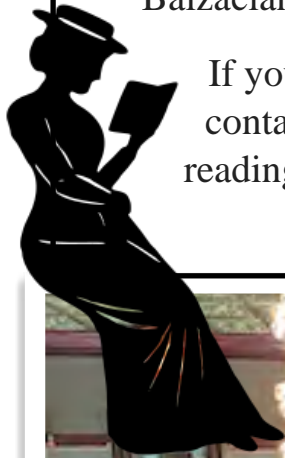
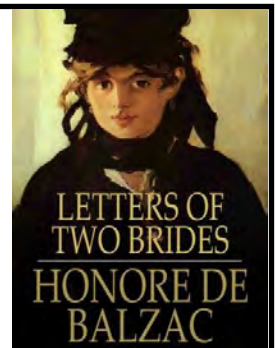
Here is an update on all the scholarships we have established.

- (1) **Del Mar College Direct Scholarships:** We fund two \$500 scholarships each year. The current criteria include a preference for students who are members of the AAUW student organization on campus. You can see a reference to this scholarship on the Del Mar College website [here](#) (the 15th line).
- (2) **Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Sue Stanford Scholarship:** We fund \$1,500 each year to a graduate or undergraduate female student majoring in history, which was Sue’s area of interest. The scholarship was established in honor of Sue’s many years as chair of the Book Finders committee.
- (3) **Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Betty Maroney Scholarship:** This is a newly created scholarship that we will fund starting this year in appreciation of Betty’s years of chairing Book Finders for our Branch. In recognition of Betty’s many years as an educator and principal, the scholarship will go to a female student pursuing an undergraduate degree in education.
- (4) **Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi Endowed Scholarship:** In 2021, we created an endowment with \$12,000, and we added \$1,000 to the endowment last year. We propose to add \$6,000 this coming year. From the proceeds of the endowment, one student was awarded a scholarship last year. As we add to the corpus of this endowment, we will have multiple awards each year. This scholarship goes to a female undergraduate student in any major. You can see reference to our endowed scholarship in this [Annual Report](#) (top of page 20).
- (5) **Del Mar College Endowed Scholarship:** In 2021, we created an endowment with \$10,000, and we added \$1,000 to the endowment last year. We propose to add \$6,000 this coming year. We expect to see our first recipient(s) of this endowment next fall. The criteria for this scholarship include a preference for students who are members of the AAUW student organization on campus.
- (6) **Corpus Christi Research and Projects Endowment, known as AAUW Fund 1431 – Corpus Christi Branch:** Funds that were donated prior to 1994 by the Corpus Christi Branch to AAUW, Inc., continue to provide for scholarships and other grants awarded by AAUW, Inc. You can view the latest report about recipients [here](#).

Renewal of dues should be paid by the end of this month for members whose term date is June 30 (which includes everyone who joined the organization prior to 2022). You can send your check for \$97, payable to AAUW-CC, to Vickie Natale, or you can go to the AAUW national website to renew online and pay by credit card.

You've got mail from Honoré de Balzac!

Classics closed out May with a spirited *Letters of Two Brides* discussion at Katz 21. Members were gifted with custom designed mugs and bookmarks to celebrate the Balzacian occasion.

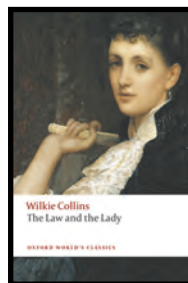


If you are interested in joining Classics, please contact Annie Huckabee. We would love to have you join us in our reading journey!

From Annie Huckabee



Left to right: Annie Huckabee, Michelle Balis, Barbara Jue, Catherine Cox, Deenie Roper



Next In July:

The Law and the Lady (1875)

By Wilkie Collins.



INTEREST GROUP NEWS



From Susan Birchfield



The Wine and Cheese interest group met at Agnes Hamilton's house on Sunday, May 21. Here are a few photos of the occasion.





From Susan Birchfield

The Lunch Bunch will be meeting on Tuesday, July 18th at 12:30 pm, at Nico's Steakhouse, located at 5409 Saratoga Blvd. Please RSVP to Susan Birchfield if you plan to attend.



From Agnes Hamilton

The Gardening Divas had three very successful meetings this year including *Gardening in Extreme Weather* with Kevin Gibbs, *Propagation* with Renee Brown, and *Herb Gardening* with Mary Sherwood for springtime adventures in gardening.

We will meet in February, March, and April again this coming spring.

Join The Gardening Divas



From Susan Birchfield



Wine and Cheese will be meeting at Dottie Ewing's home at 5 pm, Sunday, July 23. Dottie and her daughter Becky will be hosting.

On August 12, Wine and Cheese will be meeting at Total Wine at 3:00pm for a Chardonnay tasting. The cost is \$20 and you must go online and register if you want to attend.

FYI



Corpus Christi (TX) Branch

Research



Education



Advocacy

2022—2023

From Janet Blanke
Work is underway on the yearbook for 2023-2024. I encourage members to review their information in the current yearbook and to let me know if there are any additions or corrections. Please email me with any changes **by July 20, 2023.**



Watch for the next edition of the newsletter at the end of August.



Have a great Summer!



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