



Catherine Cox, President



Aug/Sep Edition 2023

### President's Message

I am excited about the prospect of cooling temperatures, migrating birds, and rain. Our branch will ring in the changing season with our Fall Reception for New and Prospective Members from 2-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, September 10. This will be our first meeting of the year, our “kick-off” for the year. We will gather in the Retama Room at Harvin Center on the Del Mar Campus. The Board is providing refreshments for the occasion, but if you wish to bring a favorite dish as well, please do. By coming to the reception, new and prospective members will get to know us and learn more about the various committees and interest groups. There is no need to RSVP.

Please invite to the reception people you believe would be great members. Members who join AAUW during the month of September will receive a half-off discount on the National portion of their dues. Thus, instead of \$97.00, incoming members will pay a total of \$61.00 (\$36.00 for National dues; \$13 for State; and \$12 for Local dues). This break on dues is a great incentive so let prospective members know.

At our May Board meeting, our branch banking account had \$33,000 in it. The Board voted to recommend moving \$12,000 of this money into our two scholarship endowments with our local institutions of higher learning. With the membership’s approval of the 2023-24 budget, Del Mar College and Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi AAUW Endowment Funds will each receive \$6,000. Thank you, Book Finders, for your many hours spent collecting, pricing, and shelving books, promoting book sales, and tending to countless issues that arise regarding book sales.

Finally, I wish to remind people that our “Peace of Mind” Workshop is coming up in October. Please see the separate announcement for this in this newsletter.

**See you in September!**



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



The Corpus Christi Branch of the  
American Association of University Women  
Invites You to Our

Welcome Reception  
For  
New and Prospective Members

Sunday, September 10, 2023  
2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Retama Room  
Harvin Student Center  
Del Mar Heritage Campus  
101 Baldwin Avenue  
Corpus Christi, Texas

# The Betty Maroney Annual Scholarship in Education

By Kris Conlan



A new scholarship has been approved and implemented by our AAUW Chapter's board of directors. The Betty Maroney Annual Scholarship in Education honors our retired Bookfinders chairperson, Betty Maroney, for her many years of dedication to education in our community, and to her outstanding leadership of our Bookfinders.

This \$500 scholarship is intended to assist a student pursuing a Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. The scholarship may be renewed for up to four additional years if the student continues to meet the Awards Selection Criteria that has been established.

We applaud Betty's devoted years of service as an educator, and appreciate her lessons of leadership, providing inspiration to all our Bookfinder volunteers. Adding an additional scholarship in her honor has been one of the motivating goals of our AAUW group, and we hold you in our highest esteem, Betty. Thank you for all you have done for us!

# THANK YOU OLIVIA

By Dottie Ewing



Over the past few years, if you have suffered a loss or been ill, you have probably received a card or personal note from our Friendship Chair, Olivia McDonald. If Olivia was notified, she responded immediately. I've been the recipient of a couple of those cards and I know how meaningful they were to me. I know others among us have been equally blessed. Olivia has now decided it is time to step down and let someone else take this position.

Olivia has been a member of our Branch since 1995 and has been in a number of interest groups. If you have been a part of any of them, then you know that Olivia, in addition to her duties as Friendship Chair, bakes the best cakes ever! Olivia, thank you for serving our membership so faithfully.

With Olivia's departure from this position, Deenie Tillman has agreed to assume the duties of Friendship Chair. We know that she will also serve the Branch well. If you know of a member who is ill, suffering a loss, or just in need of a kind word, please let Deenie know. And thank you, Deenie, for taking on this responsibility.

## 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.

Plans are well underway for this year's Peace of Mind Seminar scheduled for Saturday, October 21. (See next article in this newsletter.)

The Outreach Committee is also working on recruiting volunteers to help with the YW Teen Holiday Shopping event in December.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, September 11 at 6:00 via Zoom.



# Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>

*Thursday, Sept. 7th: 10 – 5 pm*

*Friday, Sept. 8th: 10 – 5 pm*

*Saturday, Sept. 9th: 10 – 1:30 pm*

### Featured Books:

*Texana, Americana, Cookbooks,  
and Children's*

***\$ 2 and up + Special Sales***

#### **Neyland Library**

1230 Carmel Pkwy 361-826-2370

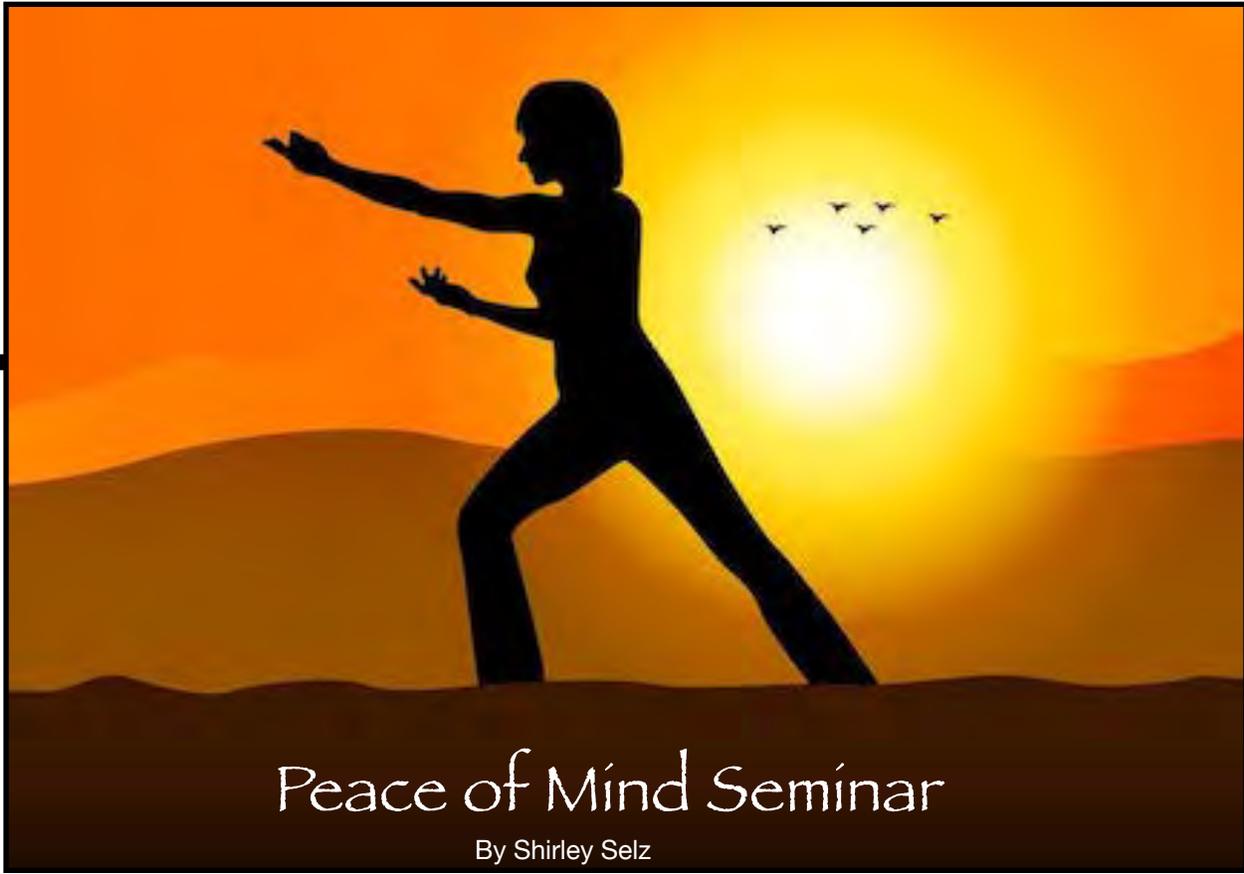
#### **For more information, contact:**

Kristin Conlan 361-548-0282  
[corpuschristi-tx.aauw.net](mailto:corpuschristi-tx.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.



## Peace of Mind Seminar

By Shirley Selz

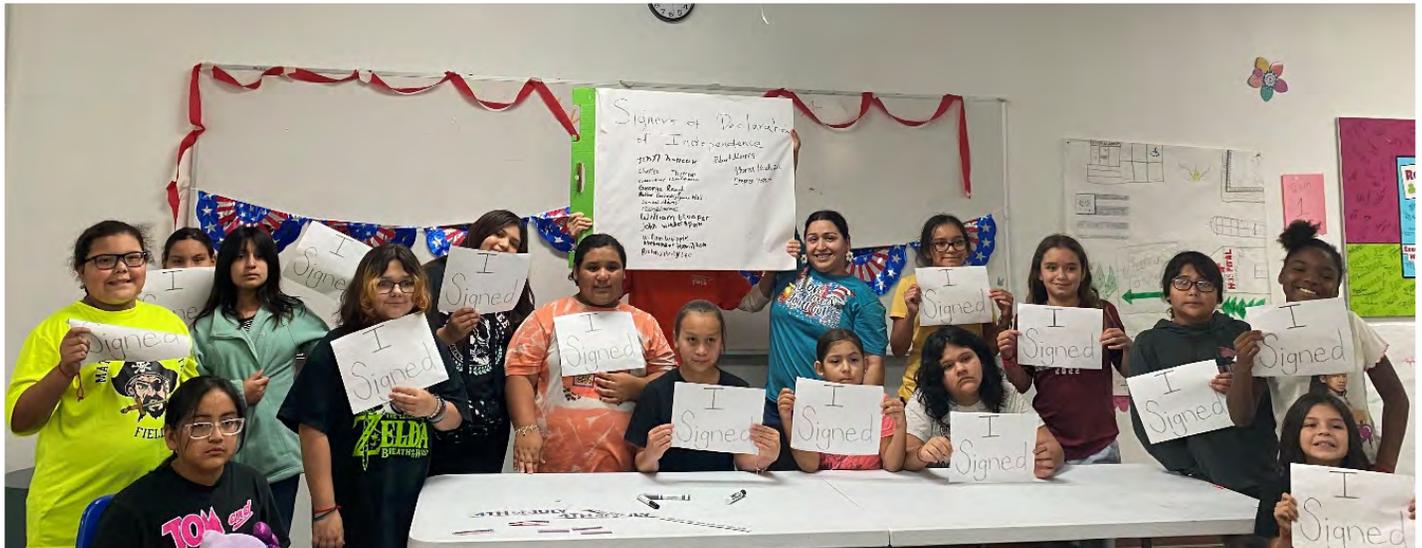
*Photo from Vecteezy.com*

“Peace of Mind” is both the title and anticipated result of the Community Outreach Committee’s third presentation for Branch members and the community at large. Mark your calendars now for Saturday, October 21 for an informative presentation that will continue the program begun in 2019 and held again in 2022 after hiatus due to COVID. Outstanding speakers at the first two sessions have addressed critical issues regarding advance planning and services for individuals, family members, and caregivers for our aging population. The presentation this year will feature two speakers to further develop the theme. Lina Supnet-Zapata, CEO of Mir Senior Care Management & Care Consultants will share some of her commitment to excellence in care and assuring individuals’ choices are honored. Eugene Lopez, DPT, will share his expertise in physical therapy to address practical issues of health and safety critical for older individuals to maximize their independence to the extent they can. As a Doctor of Physical Therapy, Dr. Lopez provides services as lead therapist and owner of FYZICAL Therapy and Balance Center in Corpus Christi.

The Peace of Mind Committee is finalizing all the details and is looking forward to a very informative presentation. Please encourage family and friends to join you on October 21 at the YWCA, 4601 Corona, for this presentation as AAUW’s important gift to the community. Meet on the second floor conference room at 9:30 for refreshments. The program begins at 10:00 and ends at noon. See you there!

## Female Signers of the Declaration of Independence

by Diana Cardenas



A week before July 4<sup>th</sup> the Declaration of Independence came alive for 15 Mathis ISD elementary school girls who participated in the YWTeens Leadership Camp. They reenacted the reading and signing of the Declaration of Independence at Philadelphia's Independence Hall. I gave them a summary of the grievances of the American colonists against King George. A tall girl acted as John Hancock, the president/leader of the congress, and the smallest girl volunteered to serve as Charles Thomson, the secretary who recorded the proceedings. Each of 13 girls chose a colony to represent. The reading of the Declaration was done by four girls. Then the secretary called each colony's representative up to her desk to sign. Afterwards I cautioned the girls: "British soldiers will hang you if they catch you." In response each girl displayed a sign of defiance: "I SIGNED." Photo shows the signatures (poster) and each girl with her sign.

Online the girls saw a map of the 13 original colonies and a photo of the "Declaration of Independence" at the National Archives Museum in Washington, D.C.



From Leslie Peart

**The Poetry Appreciation Interest Group** is excited to begin a new year with a slate of ten important American poets plus two from across the pond! We will kick it off with modern poet Brian Bilston, when we meet at 6:30 p.m. at the Omni's Glass Pavilion on Wednesday, September 13. Please join us this month for a relaxing evening of dinner and really entertaining poetry!



From Susan Birchfield



**Wine and Cheese** will be meeting at Judy Harrell's home at 5 pm, Sunday, September 17th. Please note that the date is a week later than normal. Everyone attending is asked to bring either a bottle of wine or an appetizer.



From Susan Birchfield

**The Lunch Bunch** will be meeting on Tuesday, September 19th at 12:30 pm, at Cafe Italia, located at 4117 S Staples St., #200. Please RSVP to Susan Birchfield if you plan to attend.



From Michelle Balis

**Playgoers:** Contact Michelle Balis to be put on her email list for upcoming events.



# FOR YOUR INFORMATION

A digital version of the AAUW 2023-24 Yearbook will be sent to all members in the next few weeks. For anyone who prefers a hardcopy of the yearbook, those will be available for sale for \$3 at our Fall Reception for New and Prospective Members on September 10 and at each of our Branch Meetings. You can also have a hard copy of the yearbook mailed to you by sending a check for \$5 to Vickie Natale.

Check out the monthly book club offerings at Neyland Library!

- *Taste of Murder Book Club* (2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 10:30 - share the mystery books you are reading!)
- *Neyland Library Literary & Pie Society* (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 4:00 -- share the books you are reading - that are not mysteries!),
- *Banned Book Club* (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday at 4:00 -- ask at the library for the monthly selection and join us for a lively discussion!)

From Michelle Balis



## Book Sale Schedule 2023-2024



**September 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
**November 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2023**  
**February 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> 2024**  
**June 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> 2024**  
Thursdays, 10-5 pm  
Fridays, 10-5 pm  
Saturdays, 10-1:30 pm

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