



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

Vision: Equity for all.

February Edition 2025

Don't Miss the First AAUW Meeting of the Year

- What:** AAUW Monthly Meeting
When: Saturday, Feb. 1, at 10:30 am
Where: YWCA , [3026 S. Staples](#)

Dorothy Barringer will speak at our February 1, 2025, branch meeting. She is the 2024 recipient of the AAUW Sue Stanford Award at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. She majors in History with a pursuit of a teaching certification in 8-12 grades history. She will speak about her research into the Wappinger Indigenous Tribe, early native Americans who thrived in the now southern New York and western Connecticut areas.

A transfer from Del Mar College, she earned an associates in teaching 8-12 history, graduating Summa Cum Laude. While at Del Mar College she participated in its chapter of American Association of University Women. Also, she was one of three students to be inducted into the Del Mar College Hall of Fame 2022-2023.

Ms. Barringer expresses her gratitude for our Sue Stanford Scholarship.



President's Message



Kelly Gonzalez, President

As I was sitting down to write this article there were a lot of thoughts swirling through my mind. Which of the many important topics should be addressed? The thought that was most recent on my mind was a comment I had heard recently twice by people I care about. One was my younger sister and the other was an AAUW sister. They both let me know that they had changed their news and television habits to, well, basically avoid the news. My sister now has a joke or funny story in her morning newsfeed to start her day on a more positive note, my AAUW sister is watching other television, vs the news as it's nice to focus on something more positive. I myself watch less news than I used to.

We are fortunate that we have members who keep us informed with what is going on in our community and are willing to share it with us. But, along with the information is a call to action. An ask for us to do something. To send an email, provide our comments or feedback, or attend a meeting when we can. If we truly want change, we have to be involved. We can't wait for someone else to take action, we also must act. And we have a great group of women to work with.

While I was working the book sale Saturday, I picked up a book *The Friendships of Women: Harnessing the Power in our Heartwarming, Heartrending Relationships*. The offers a comparison of the differences in friendships between women and friendships between men. I don't really agree with all of the information presented but it did make me think about how lucky we are vs men! We make lasting friendships with women who will support us and be there for us when we need someone.

The topic also reminded me of something I tell my husband often. If women would stop seeing each other as competition or the enemy and if we united, we could do anything. It also reminds me of why I love being part of AAUW. As I am around all of you at book sales, special events or meetings I feel the friendship between all of us. It's good to know that we share that mutual respect for each other and really like each other.

So, as we face what is ahead, whether it's school vouchers, the erosion of Church and State and the loss of DEI in our government and businesses, we must hold true to our common belief and the ideals that shape AAUW and our branch.

I look forward to seeing you at the February meeting.

Kelly

Welcome New Members

By Diane Cardenas

DOROTHY BARRINGER

Dorothy Barringer joined AAUW Corpus Christi in the fall 2024. A senior at TAMUCC, she majors in History. Ms. Barringer earned an Associate's degree at Del Mar College, where she was inducted into its Hall of Fame. In addition, she was an active member of AAUW. During 2025, Ms. Barringer will experience a full year of clinical teaching in the Corpus Christi Independent School and graduate from TAMUCC at the end of the 2024-2025 academic year. Her goal is to become a teacher who motivates students to reach beyond the limits placed before them and become daring enough to pursue their dreams.

BEA BLOOMQUIST



Bea Bloomquist joined AAUW in the fall of 2025. Now retired, she was a business administrator at TAMUCC, where she worked for decades. Ms. Bloomquist received her undergraduate and graduate degrees in Business Administration in Accounting and Public Administration in Management at TAMUCC. She grew up in Woodsboro, Texas. Ms. Bloomquist has one son, Gus Bloomquist, Jr. Her husband is deceased. She actively supports TAMUCC Islander Sports games, attends plays and concerts in the community, and enjoys playing games with friends, such as Bunco. Ms. Bloomquist owns a calico cat named Coco Chanel.

PATTI FLOOD

Patti Flood joined AAUW in the fall 2024. A retired elementary school teacher and most recently an elementary school librarian, Ms. Flood received a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from the University of Texas at Austin. Also, she completed Texas Elementary Teacher Certification at Corpus Christi State University. Ms. Flood was born and raised in Corpus Christi. She and her husband have five children. She enjoys cooking, practicing yoga, and spending time with family and friends.

Committee News

Book Finders



Book Finders held another successful book sale in January. Thank you to all our members who assisted with the three-day sale. We are also very appreciative of the work from members who come in weekly to help clean, organize, price, and shelve books in preparation for book sales. All members are welcomed to joined us on Tuesday afternoons at Neyland Library. Remember, proceeds from book sales are used to support the Corpus Christi public libraries, the Branch's local scholarships, and the Branch's community outreach efforts.

Our next book sales in 2025 are schedule for:

- March 27-29
- June 12-14

For more information, contact Kristin Conlan.

Committee News

Community Outreach

The next project for the Community Outreach Committee is the Miller High School girls' scholarship event. We will begin working on this project at our next meeting on Thursday, January 30th at 12:15 at the YWCA. All members are welcomed to attend.

For more information, contact Diana Reyes.

