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Corresponding Secretary,

Kimberly Weston

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President's Message

Happy May! Did you ever have the fun of weaving ribbons around a May Pole? I did as a child growing up in San Francisco, California. I didn't know what "real" seasons were until I came to New York City in 1961 to study singing at Juilliard School of Music. Now, after living elsewhere for over fifty years, I am still not sure what "Spring" is, except a number of months on the calendar. Our 2022 Spring has been mostly cold, and I have the feeling that Summer and its heat will be coming much too soon.

Nevertheless, the Rockland Branch of AAUW has been very busy this Spring. In March and April, the Legislative Lobby Committee contacted and virtually lobbied the Rockland Legislators to work on and support some of our major concerns. Our top priorities were to increase the State Budget to provide much needed subsidy and enhancement of Child Care for the many families hit hardest by Covid 19, pass a state law that clarifies and requires postings of Salary Range Transparency and Pay Equity, and update new language in the ERA. At present many of our marginalized populations need to be recognized in the New York State form of this amendment.

We continue to work on the National Five Star Program, and it looks like we have achieved it for 2021-2022. We start all over again for the new term 2022-2023, beginning July 1. As a reminder, your **membership dues** for the new term are due **by June 30th** ... why not renew NOW? In April we held our Annual Business Meeting, which involved Elections and a new Budget. Treasurer, Sandra Blasy reminded us that we need to come up with some fund raisers to cover the events important to our missions, like the Engineering Conference for High School Girls, held in November.

We welcome new Recording Secretary, Ann Kinney, and returning Membership VP, Elda Graff, but unfortunately, we have yet to elect a new Branch President. The Triad Presidents have enjoyed our experimental term this year, but it ends on June 30. **We MUST come up with Presidential leadership in two months!** Please consider the importance of our wonderful organization and what it means to you.

Please plan to attend our last major event of the year, the virtual Woman of Achievement presentation on Wednesday, May 25. We are honoring a very special community "Shero", Deborah Thomas. Hopefully next year we will be able to have our Annual Banquet in person once again.

Working Together,

Frances



Would you like to join AAUW Rockland?

Check out our [website](#) or

Contact Elda Graff at eldagraff@gmail.com

N.B. Unless otherwise indicated, all events will be held virtually via Zoom.

Tuesday, May 10, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Wednesday, May 25, 2022

WOA Award Dinner

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m.*

Tuesday, June 28, 2022

Scholarship Presentations – 7:00 p.m.



Spring is a new beginning and with AAUW it is the time we renew our commitment and membership in an organization that continues to lobby for gender equity.

Membership with AAUW means you are part of a community dedicated to changing the climate for women and girls. Along with renewing our membership we also need to renew our commitment to our local branch.

We are not only in need of your financial support but also your leadership skills to help our Branch remain strong. We cannot continue to rely on the few that have served continuously. When renewing your membership, please think of ways you can serve our Branch.

The membership renewal period runs until **June 30th** and we ask that you submit your dues by that time. The renewal dues for the FY 2022/23 year are **\$90***. Please mail your check payable to **AAUW Rockland County Branch** to:

*AAUW Membership
AAUW Rockland County Branch
PO Box 19, West Nyack, NY 10994*

Renewals by debit/credit card are not available at this time due to a website software update at AAUW National. We expect it to be available shortly and will let you know as soon as it is.

* Of the \$67 paid to AAUW National, only \$64 is tax deductible, because \$3.00 of AAUW National's dues is given to a 501(C)4 and therefore cannot be acknowledged as a donation

(Errata) – Last month's FACETS omitted Karen Martin's name from the list of Albany Lobbyists. Karen was an integral member of the team and we apologize to Karen for the omission. Also, please note - the date for the Women of Achievement Award Ceremony was listed incorrectly as May 24th, the event is on May 25th.



The AAUW – Rockland Book Club will meet virtually via ZOOM for the month of May from 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Contact Betty Handelman for more info.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Contact Fran Carlson for more information

*April 11, 2022 “The Absolutist”, by John Boyne
May 9, 2022 “Have You Seen Luis Velez?” by Catherine Ryatt Hyde*

AAUW empowers all women and girls to reach their highest potential.

In principle and in practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in the organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, sexual orientation, age, national origin, disability or class.

By joining AAUW, you belong to a community that breaks through economic barriers, so that all women and girls have a fair chance.

AAUW Rockland County Branch
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CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWLY ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS!!!

Elda Graff, Vice-President of Membership (2nd term)

Ann Kinney, Recording Secretary



Elda and Ann will be sworn in on Wednesday, May 25th at the Woman of Achievement Award Ceremony by AAUW NY State President, Janice Brown!

WHAT'S HAPPENING.

FROM CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, KIMBERLY WESTON: Please forward any information regarding special events, such as weddings, illnesses, graduations, surgeries etc. She will be happy to send a greeting card. Please forward your birthday month and date (year is NOT necessary) so that your name can be placed on her special birthday roster. kimberlyweston@msn.com

COMMUNICATIONS: As our membership grows, so does the opportunity to add more members to our PHONE CHAIN COMMITTEE. The purpose of the Phone Chain committee is to keep in contact with all branch members and remind them of upcoming meetings and special events. It is a great opportunity to get to know more members through phone calls to them. If you are interested in joining the phone chain committee, please contact Sylvia Miller at aausam@optonline.net or 845 358-1680.

TREASURER, SANDY BLASY: If you would like to make a donation to National, individual donations can be made directly online <https://www.aauw.org/> or by sending your check directly marking your donation with their new fund name of 'Education and Training' fund. Mail to: AAUW Development, P.O. Box 98045 Washington, D.C. 20090-8045

MIMI KORB SCHOLARSHIP: Contributions to the Mimi Korb Scholarship (tax- deductible) can be made to honor any one, any occasion or to generously support this most worthwhile endeavor as you have in the past. Please make your tax-deductible check payable to AAUW Rockland County Branch and write “Mimi Korb Scholarship” on the detail line. Mail your check to: AAUW Rockland | P.O. Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994-0019

LEGAL ADVOCACY FUND: Check out the latest court cases that AAUW publicly and financially supports <https://www.aauw.org/resources/legal/laf/> or contact LAF Chair, Charlotte Sorger

PUBLIC POLICY: Title IX is 50 years old! Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 is the federal law that prohibits sex discrimination in education. We think of this law in regards to girls having equal opportunities in the sports fields. However the law affects all areas of education, including...

- *recruitment, admissions, and housing
- *career and technical education
- *pregnant, parenting and/or married students
- *science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)
- *sexual harrassment and assault
- *comparable facilities and access to course offerings
- *financial assistance
- *student health services and insurance benefits
- *harassment based on gender identity
- *athletics

Each school district must have a Title IX coordinator whose responsibilities include authority, resources and compliance to all areas of this law. ~ Ann Mulligan



This month's Member Spotlight is on...

Karen Martin



Karen Who?

Such a cutie! But what laid behind that cute smile and bright eyes? I was the first girl but the 2nd child in a family of 5 rambunctious children. Dad worked 3 jobs: locker fixer in the high school, church sexton, and the first Afro-American policeman in Monticello. Mom “worked” in the high school library, as the saint in the building. I think that says a lot about my how my character was forged!

I believe from my beginning I was given special gifts. I laughed easily and often. I smiled a lot (and others smiled back at me – still do!). I was kind- I hated to be made fun of and hated when others were too. I was innately curious. All conventional “boxes” had moveable sides – they were approximate, not absolute. I love Nature, God, and finally, Jesus Christ. Those are the threads woven thru my life from the time I can remember until now, almost 3 quarters of a century!

God gave me the best gift of my life: I was a middle school counselor for over 32 years. Every day, I believed I had the opportunity to change someone's life –because that's what I prayed every day on the way to work, in the car, walking into the building and greeting whatever parent, teacher, administrator and/or child –at my door. And so this life was given back to me...I built wonderful relationships with all. Parents and ex-students have continuously recognized me on the street with warm affection. Every week now, I get to spend time with an awesome friend and co-worker, continuing our education in jewelry making. In the Prime of My Life, (Smile), now, I get to do what I choose every morning. I am in the most amazing part of my life. I am in Peace at the loss of my dear husband- and keep his many gifts open in my heart. I travel to see and be curious of what God has wrought and brought about – flowers, insects, and people are just the best to examine and explore! The theme of “God in the Microscopic!” has helped me develop my gifts in photography. I've been able to display exhibits in libraries and even sell some art work!

My back yard is a desert oasis and Garden of Eden at the same time. I have gifted eyes to see color and leaf combinations that create harmonious patterns. You just want to lie in the hammock and listen to the birds! I am open to where and what God will have me do next. Whether it is a bend in the road or a mountain to climb, He has given me the wonderful sense of curiosity, adventure, challenge, grace and mercy to *Go for It!*

Karen is pictured above in the Mt. Olive Garden overlooking Jerusalem

Won't you share a brief article about yourself for our new “Spotlight” byline so that we can get to know you better? Please include something that you'd like everyone to know... It can be as long or as short as you like. Please include a photo as well... Send your article to Anita Nessin at triad.aauw@gmail.com



**AAUW ROCKLAND'S 41ST
WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 at 7:00 pm
This is a VIRTUAL Event – PRE REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

HONORING

DEBORAH THOMAS

FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR OF *IN MOTION* YOUTH TRACK LEAGUE



[Click HERE to REGISTER](#)

Many thanks to April Biggs for her three (3) terms of service as Branch Recording Secretary!





AAUW is excited to announce over \$6 million in funding to more than 320 fellows and grantees in the 2022-23 award year. These exceptional recipients will pursue academic work and lead innovative community projects to empower women and girls. Awards were announced on April 15, 2022. See [AAUW.org](https://www.aauw.org) for details

	AMERICAN FELLOWSHIPS	CAREER DEVELOPMENT GRANTS	COMMUNITY ACTION GRANTS	INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIPS	INTERNATIONAL PROJECT GRANTS	RESEARCH PUBLICATION GRANT IN ENGINEERING, MEDICINE AND SCIENCE	SELECTED PROFESSIONS FELLOWSHIPS
OVERVIEW	For women pursuing full-time study to complete dissertations or conduct postdoctoral research, or to those preparing research for publication for eight consecutive weeks. READ MORE	For women pursuing a certificate or degree to advance their careers, change careers, or reenter the workforce in education, health and medical sciences, or social sciences and whose bachelor's degree was received at least eight years before the award period. READ MORE	For individuals, AAUW branches and states, and nonprofit organizations that fund innovative programs or that promote education and equity through projects focused on encouraging girls to select, before entering college, the physical sciences or engineering as a career. READ MORE	For women pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral study in the United States who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. READ MORE	For alumnae of AAUW's International Fellowships program who are living in their home countries and pursuing community-based projects to improve the social advancement and economic empowerment of women and girls. READ MORE	For women conducting basic research in engineering, medicine or the physical or biological sciences and who have a doctorate degree in one of those fields. Grantees are required to publish their research in a scholarly scientific publication and be listed as a primary author. READ MORE	For women pursuing full-time study in a master's or professional degree program in which women are underrepresented, including STEM, law, business and medicine. READ MORE
APPLICANT STATUS							
Academic Work	✓ Dissertation completion, postdoctoral research, eight consecutive weeks of preparing research for publication	✓ Bachelor's degree received on or before June 30, 2014 Must be pursuing: • Bachelor's or associate degree different from field of previously earned bachelor's degree. • Master's degree program. • Certification program. • Technical school. Available for education, health and medical sciences, and social sciences fields.		✓ Master's degree, doctoral degree, postdoctoral research		✓ Basic research in engineering, medicine, science	✓ Master's degree in, architecture, computer/information sciences, engineering, mathematics/statistics Restricted to women of color: business administration (MBA), law (JD), medicine (MD, OC)
Community Project			✓ In US		✓ In home country		
Previous AAUW National Awardee			✓ Can be previous AAUW National awardee		✓ Must be previous AAUW National International Fellow		
Citizenship & Residency	✓ US citizen/permanent resident	✓ US citizen/permanent resident	✓ US citizen/permanent resident	✓ Not US citizen/permanent resident	✓ Not US citizen/permanent resident	✓ US citizen/permanent resident	✓ US citizen/permanent resident
Application Deadline	November 1	November 15	December 1	November 15	November 1	December 1	December 1