



*Advancing equity for women and girls through advocacy, education, and research*

*President,*  
Karen Martin  
[aauw.kmartin@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.kmartin@gmail.com)

*FACETS Editor*  
*Programming Vice-President,*  
Doria E. Hillsman

*Membership Vice-*  
*President,*  
Elda Graff

*Treasurer,*  
Sandra Blasy

*Recording Secretary,*  
Ann Kinney

*Corresponding Secretary,*  
Kimberly Weston

*Communications Chair,*  
Sylvia Miller

*EOF Chair,*  
Ellie Grossman

*LAF/ Scholarship Chair,*  
Charlotte Sorger

*Public Policy Chair,*  
Ann Mulligan



## **Barbara Walters Trailblazing Journalist (1929-2022)**

Barbara Walters, who died on December 30, 2022 at age 93, had spent more than five decades in front of the camera and become a titan of the medium: lauded

for the subjects she scored, criticized for her coziness with them, even memed for how she presented herself.

But when she started out, the industry was against her. Men did the hiring. Men decided what went on the air. Men delivered the news. She wrote in her 2008 memoir, "Audition," that it was her legs, not her skills, that persuaded the head of a small Manhattan advertising agency to give her a job soon after she graduated from Sarah Lawrence College in 1951. She quit when her boss "became overly amorous," as she described it. [While] working, unofficially, as the "Today" show's first female co-host. The network did not allow her to direct questions at on-set guests until her male co-host had asked three of his own, a restriction she bypassed by seeking out interviews away from the show's studio at 30 Rockefeller Plaza.

Her career became a guidepost to several generations of journalists, many of them women, including Jane Pauley, Judy Woodruff and Gwen Ifill. Norah O'Donnell, the "CBS Evening News" and "60 Minutes" journalist, said she used to playact as Ms. Walters.

While teaching an interviewing master class in 2015 at her alma mater, she instructed the group that female reporters "should do their job," adding: "Don't be pleasant. Don't be fun. Be a journalist."

*Excerpted from NY TIMES article*

*"How Barbara Walters Went From 'Today Girl' to Pioneering Media Star"*

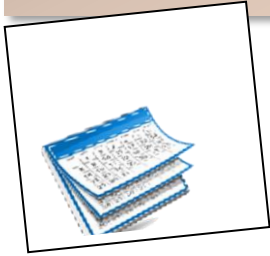
<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/12/31/business/media/barbara-walters-appraisal.html>

# JOIN AAUW TODAY

Check out our [website](#) or  
contact Membership Vice- President,  
Elda Graff at [eldagraff@gmail.com](mailto:eldagraff@gmail.com)



*N.B. Unless otherwise indicated, meetings will take place via ZOOM.*



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**Monday, January 9**

Book Club Meeting

*"The Personal Librarian", by Marie Benedict*

**Tuesday, January 10**

Executive Board Meeting\*

**Thursday, January 24**

Branch Meeting

**Tuesday, February 7**

Executive Board Meeting\*

**Monday, February 13**

Book Club Meeting

*"Bomber Mafia", by Malcolm Gladwell*

**Saturday, February 25**

**22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Diversity Brunch**

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Tuesday, March 13**

Executive Board Meeting\*

**Saturday, March 25**

Women's History Month Celebration

\*All are welcome.

*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  
PO Box 19| West Nyack, NY 10994-0019

[aauwrockland62@gmail.com](mailto:aauwrockland62@gmail.com)

<http://rocklandcounty-ny.aauw.net>

[aauw.kmartin@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.kmartin@gmail.com)

# WHAT'S HAPPENING.

**FROM CORRESPONDING SECRETARY, KIMBERLY WESTON:** Please forward any information regarding special events, such as weddings, illnesses, graduations, surgeries, etc. We 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 our special birthday roster.

[kimberlyweston@msn.com](mailto:kimberlyweston@msn.com)

**COMMUNICATIONS:** For your New Year's resolution list, please include reaching out to friends, neighbors, relatives to tell them about AAUW Rockland and invite them to join us. Communication is key!

**ENGINEERING COMMITTEE:** The 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Engineering Conference was held (virtually) on THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM. There were close to 150 students in attendance representing nine of Rockland's middle and high schools. Our guest speaker and activities were engaging and informative. Many thanks to all of the members who took time to join us for this wonderful event.

**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.

**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

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** In order for the Branch to move forward, as of July 2023, the following executive board positions must be filled: 1) President 2) Vice-President of Programming 3) Treasurer. Please consider "stepping up to the plate", to keep the Branch active and vibrant. We need YOU! – Maureen Brown

**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

**WOMAN OF ACHIEVEMENT:** Every year our committee seeks nominees from our branch membership for our Rockland Woman of Achievement award. The nominee should be a Rockland resident who has affected a positive change in our community. A one- page summary on why nominee is deserving of this award should be mailed to: AAUW Rockland Branch Woman of Achievement Committee | PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994 – 0019. Please submit your nominee by **January 14, 2023** to Sandy Masiello at - [sandymasi22@yahoo.com](mailto:sandymasi22@yahoo.com)



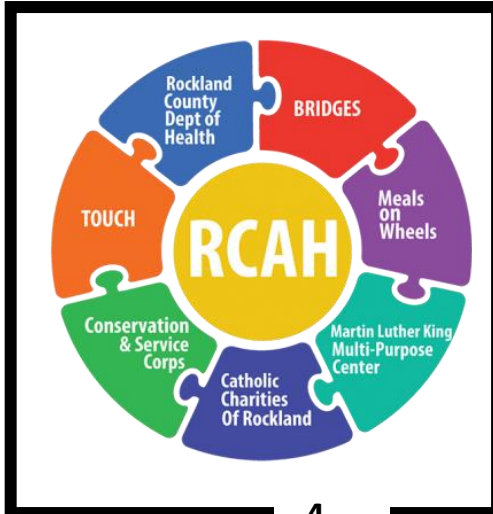
The AAUW Book Club meets every 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday from 3:00 – 5:00 PM.  
For details on the location of the January meeting call (845) 634-8211.  
January 9<sup>th</sup> – “The Personal Librarian”, by Marie Benedict  
February 13<sup>th</sup> - Bomber Mafia”, by Malcolm Gladwell

Belated Congratulations to our former president, **EDWINA MARTIN** for recently receiving the Woman of Achievement Award from the World of Women of Staten Island in the fall.  
Read more about the organization at:  
[https://www.worldofwomensi.org/about\\_us](https://www.worldofwomensi.org/about_us)  
Learn more about Edwina in this month’s Member Spotlight.

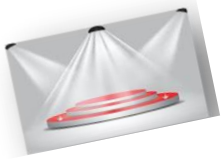


You provide **the voice.**  
We'll provide **the megaphone.**  
Become a Two-Minute Activist for women and girls today.  
AAUW

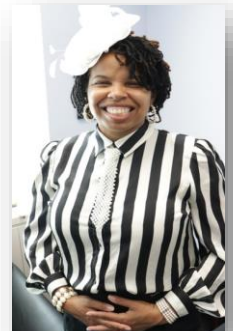
**All AAUW Members should be receiving ACTION ALERTS.**  
Action alerts are notifications sent to members when there is an urgent need to communicate with legislators regarding issues which are aligned with our mission to advance equity for women and girls. If you have not signed up to receive **ACTION ALERTS**, please do so today!!!! [Click HERE to SIGN UP TODAY](#) - or text **AAUW** to **21333** to receive text notifications!!



**SAVE THE DATE –**  
**AAUW ROCKLAND**  
**JANUARY BRANCH MEETING on**  
**TUESDAY, JANUARY 24, 2023 7:00 PM**  
*via ZOOM*  
A representative from **Rockland County Against Hunger** will present on the topic of **Food Insecurity in Rockland County**



**This Month's Member Spotlight is on ...**  
*Edwina Frances Martín, Esq.*



**Edwina Frances Martin, Esq.**, is a public interest lawyer experienced in Litigation, Public Policy, Government Relations, Non-Profit Management, and Strategic Communications. She is the Commissioner, Public Administrator of Richmond County, responsible for the administration of estates of persons that have left no will, and where there are no qualified person(s) to administer the decedent's estate. Duties of the position include providing for burial arrangements when no close relative is available to do so; protecting the decedent's property from waste, loss, or theft; and locating persons entitled to inherit from the estate and ensuring that legal distributes receive their inheritance.

Prior to her current appointment Ms. Martin served as Counsel and Deputy Chief of Staff for NYC Councilwoman Debi Rose (49<sup>th</sup> District); Director of Government Relations, Communications and *Pro Bono* for Legal Services NYC; and litigation associate with the law firms of Shearman & Sterling LLP, Herrick Feinstein LLP, and Van Lierop, Burns & Bassett LLP. She began her legal career serving as law clerk to the Hon. Lawrence W. Pierce in the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit.

Ms. Martin volunteers extensively within her home community and the New York legal community. Her volunteer work includes the American Association of University Women (past New York State president; past Branch President; national board of directors (member)); the Staten Island Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. (Chair, May Week Committee); the New York State Bar Association (Delegate, House of Delegates (13<sup>th</sup> JD); the Staten Island Women's Bar Association (past president; co-chair, Education/Title IX Committee); National Council of Negro Women/SI (Legislative Committee co-chair); Soroptimist International-Staten Island (Chair, Live Your Dream Award); Staten Island Meals on Wheels (board member); and the Alice Austen House & Museum (member, Advisory Board).

Ms. Martin graduated from New York University School of Law (Vanderbilt Medal, Arthur Garfield Hayes Civil Liberties Fellow, Convocation Speaker, and NAACP LDF Earl Warren Scholarship Fellow) and holds her B.A. in Art History from Williams College (Dean's List, Art History Merit Award Winner). She lives in the West Brighton community of Staten Island with her partner Mickey Burns, where, in her spare time, she walks and bird watches in the nearby Clove Lakes Park.



Anita Nessin sent this to share with everyone for the new year, I call it....

**"Anita's on Reflections on LOOKING AHEAD"**



Happy New Year

Well, here we are, January 2023. A new beginning. If you're like me, you're still sort of in shock about the year. Can it be 23 years since the whole Y2K scare that all the computers in the world would go down as the new century began the advertising device: "NEW YEAR, NEW YOU. New Year. Sure, that happens every 12 months. NEW YOU??? Wait.... What? Do you change every 12 months like the calendar? I don't. My question is, what's wrong with the "old" you? After all, you made it through the year. Maybe you had some extra challenges last year. But you made it. Think of all the things you accomplished in 2022...

- ...
- The gifts you gave, material, virtual, emotional, all of them,
  - the meals you cooked and shared,
  - the shoulder to cry on and the ear to listen that you gave to friends,
  - the times you went out of your way for someone,
  - the people you helped in some way,
  - the people you made happy,
  - the kisses, hugs, smiles and love you shared with others.

The "old" you was pretty great. Let's start the new year, not with a new you, but with a new attitude, a recognition that you are a wonderful, loving, giving person just the way you are. Now, on to those New Year's Resolutions... How about if you don't make a New Year's Resolution this year? Think about setting an intention (also called an affirmation) instead. An intention is not a goal to be achieved like a resolution is, rather it is a guiding principle for how you want to live, how you want to show up in the world. Some sample intentions:

- To be better at following through with things.
- To be more present in the moment.
- To be more mindful.
- To be more positive.
- To be kinder (to yourself and to others).
- To be more open to possibilities.
- To embrace imperfection.
- Courage
- Openness
- Authenticity
- Balance
- Creativity
- Joy
- Laughter
- Love
- Health

Do you see where I'm going with these? These are not pass/fail kind of goals. They are ideas to strive for. You can't fail at them. So here are my suggestions for the New Year, don't impose unrealistic rules on yourself. Set an intention for the new year. Embrace the wonderful person you are. Live purposefully, with intention. Be positive.

*Anita*



**Charlotte Sorger, April Biggs,  
Sylvia Miller**



**Bach Tuyet Pham, Ann Mulligan,  
Frances Blauvelt**



**Ann Kinney, Linette Allmond**

A special thank you to the **Holiday Fundraiser Committee** and all those who attended and those who contributed tricky tray items. The event at the Golden Mushroom restaurant on December 17 was delightful and delicious. It was our first *in person* event in several years and everyone had a wonderful time!!! ~ Sylvia Miller



**Suzanne Young Mercer, April Biggs,  
Charlotte Sorger, Elda Graff**



**Maureen Brown, Kimberly Weston,  
Sylvia, Miller**



**Linette Allmond, Anita Nessin, Charlotte Sorger,  
Ann Mulligan, April Biggs; (seated) Ellie  
Grossman, Karen Martin**

