



# FACETS



ROCKLAND COUNTY (NY) BRANCH

JUNE 2023

*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,*  
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*Membership Vice-*  
*President,*  
Elda Graff

*Treasurer,*  
Sandra Blasy

*Recording Secretary,*  
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*Communications Chair,*  
Sylvia Miller

*EOF Chair,*  
Ellie Grossman

*LAF/ Scholarship Chair,*  
Charlotte Sorger

*Public Policy Chair,*  
Ann Mulligan



## AAUW NEW YORK'S 2023 ANNUAL MEETING!!! PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND.

**The AAUW NYS Annual Meeting will be held via Zoom  
on  
June 24, 2023 – 9:00 -11:30 am.** The Zoom Link will be sent out to all Members and Delegates June 23, 2023.

On the agenda will be the election and installation of officers plus proposed changes to the AAUW-NYS Bylaws (starting with Article VIII). Information the [candidates for office](#) and the [proposed bylaws changes](#) are available on this website.

**Just click on the links!**

The evening before the business meeting will feature an interactive presentation on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion presented by the Missouri President-Elect Sue Shineman. You can read about the Missouri project, “Inclusion Infusion”, (which Sue helped develop) [HERE](#).

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



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

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<b>Tuesday, June 13</b>	Executive Board Meeting*
<b>Tuesday, June 27</b>	June Branch Meeting
<b>Saturday, July 15</b>	Elmwood Playhouse Fundraiser <i>Mark your calendar and contact Sylvia Miller for ticket information</i>

**Information on Summer BBQ Fundraiser to follow...**

\*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>

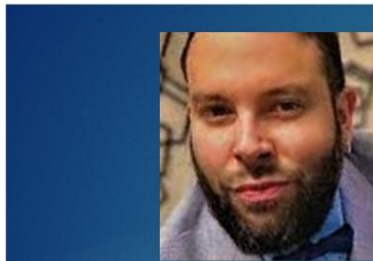
[aauw.kmartin@gmail.com](mailto:aauw.kmartin@gmail.com)



**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... SAVE THE DATE... SAVE THE DATE... SAVE THE DATE...**



Keynote presentation by

**Carlos Roman,**

Health Educator,

Jacobs Family Pride Wellness Center of  
Montefiore Nyack Hospital



**ROCKLAND AAUW  
JUNE BRANCH MEETING  
TUESDAY, JUNE 27, 2023  
7:00 PM**

Via ZOOM

**Meeting ID: 847 8495 4489  
Passcode: 062789**

**[CLICK HERE TO JOIN MEETING](#)**

# 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: SAVE THE DATE FOR AN EXCITING EVENING AT ELMWOOD PLAYHOUSE IN NYACK ON SATURDAY, JULY 15.** We are joining with Spring Valley Rotary in a fundraiser evening. The show is "A Sherlock Holmes Showcase." Put it on your calendar now so you won't forget. Tickets are \$30 each. Make check payable to AAUW Rockland with Elmwood Fundraiser in the memo line. Mail to AAUW Rockland Branch, P. O. Box 19, West Nyack, NY 10994. Please mail your checks before June 24 so we have plenty of time to distribute the tickets to members. Ask you friends and relatives to join us. It is always a fun night. Thank you to all our Phone Chain committee members: April Biggs, Sandra Countee, Ann Kinney, Karen Martin, Sandy Masiello, Anita Nessin, Bach Tuyet Pham, Myrna Silberman, and Denise Valentine for keeping all our members informed of all our special meetings. Your efforts are greatly appreciated. ~ Sylvia

**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 . Please consider "stepping up to the plate", to keep the Branch active and vibrant. We need YOU! – Maureen Brown

**PUBLIC POLICY:** The following link is to PowHer NY's website highlighting their list of local legislative concerns.

<https://www.powherny.org/2023/05/18/2023-powherny-legislative-priorities/>

**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:** The Woman of Achievement Dinner was held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at LaTerrazza Restaurant in New City, New York. We honored Linda Berns, the President of the Rockland County League of Women Voters for her outstanding service to the Rockland County Community. Forty-five people were in attendance including her family members, friends, and members of the AAUW and League of Women Voters. Five people who knew Linda well spoke of her many contributions to humanity. Among them were the Rockland County Commissioner of Human Rights Spencer Chiimbwe, JCC Adult Services Director, Barbara Leche, Volunteer Counseling Services Chief Executive Officer Ruth Colon Wagner, NY Civil Liberties Union Arlene Popkin, League of Women Voters GailWanger, and Linda’s daughter Penni Berns. Certificates of Commendation were presented from Congressman Mike Lawler, State Senator Bill Weber, Assemblyman Kenneth Zebrowski, County Executive Ed Day, Ramapo Town Supervisor Robert Specht and the Rockland Branch of AAUW. We also presented Linda with a gift card. We wish to thank Our Committee for this event: Doria Hillsman, our Mistress of Ceremonies, Charlotte Sorger and Elda Graff for assembling the beautiful basket for the Mimi Korb Scholarship Raffle, our Entrance Workers Kimberly Weston and BachTuyet Pham, our photographer April Biggs, program coordinator Sylvia Miller, check depositor Sandy Blasy, Anita Nessin for installing our Treasurer and thanking our outgoing officers and presenting them with a hanging basket, and chair Sandy Masiello.



### Two One-Act Plays Adapted from Classic Sherlock Holmes

#### Stories

The iconic Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick Dr. Watson are back in these two intriguing one-act adaptations of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s mysteries. They crack codes, survive a rare disease, and decipher perplexing clues to keep you guessing throughout “The Adventures of the Dancing Men” and “The Dying Detective.”

**AAUW FUNDRAISER- SATURDAY, JULY 15, 2023**

**Ticket Price is \$30. Deadline for payment is June 24. Contact Sylvia Miller for more information [aauwsam@optonline.net](mailto:aauwsam@optonline.net)**

Welcome new member Lisa Kaess. Lisa lives in Nyack and is a graduate of Reed College in Portland, Oregon with a BA in International Studies. Remember Lisa? She was the guest speaker at our Women’s History Month meeting this year. WELCOME, LISA!



# Member Spotlight

## GAIL WANGER



Becoming a member of AAUW was a something that melded all of my interests...education, voter rights, advancement of women, etc. It was the first time that I felt my combined interests and passions were all served in one place. I felt at home with women who in their own right were equally as passionate in what I wanted to advocate.

I studied Political Science/History at SUNY Albany and then received a Masters of Public Administration from Pennsylvania State University. But alas as all well-made plans go, my life took a diversion. I ended up in the computer/IT field for 50 years along with a part-time business of doing resumes (which I am still engaged in). Along the way, I found myself not only creating and monitoring computer systems, but teaching people how to use them. Then because I have a deep love for history, I tutored high school history for 20 of those years.

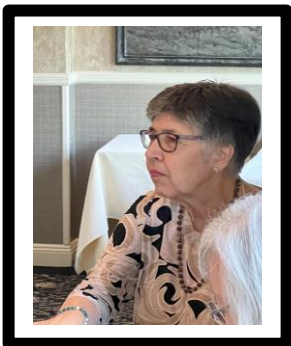
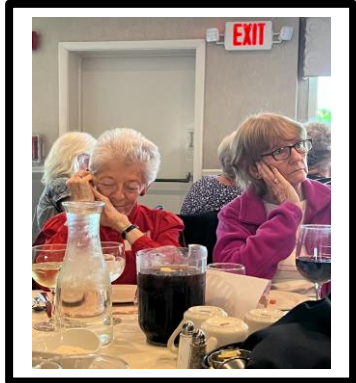
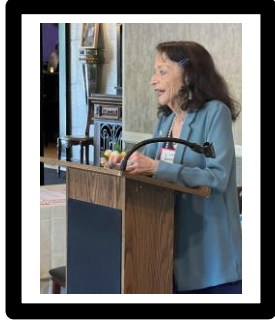
I later became an ESL teacher and a literacy volunteer. For many years (12), I was a girl scout troop leader and assisted with planning for local events. I was also youth group coordinator for 20 years. But all of those educational leanings and activities were not enough, so I became active in environmental protection groups, political groups, women's rights, and voting, holding a strong belief that democracy is only maintained in being an informed and active voter and by being active and using one's voice (both through voting and group activities) to make a difference in the community at large.

Margaret Meade once said, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful committed individuals can change the world. In fact, it's the only thing that ever has." I intend to continue to make each day count and being a part of AAUW helps me to know that I belong to an organization that is committed to this belief as well.



**The Woman of Achievement Dinner** was held on Wednesday, May 10, 2023 at LaTerrazza Restaurant in New City, New York. We honored Linda Berns, the President of the Rockland County League of Women Voters for her outstanding service to the Rockland County Community. It was a lovely evening and a well-attended event. (See WOA Report page 5 for details)

Dear AAUW Chapter,  
Words cannot express my appreciation for the honor of the Woman of Achievement award. The corsage, the dinner, the gift card & of course the kind wishes from everyone! Thank you so much.  
With Gratitude, Linda Berns





SPRING is a new beginning and with AAUW it is the time we renew our commitment and membership in organization that continues to lobby for the rights of 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 renewal dues for the FY 2023/24 year are \$92 and may be paid either by check payable to AAUW Rockland County Branch or by debit/credit card on the AAUW National website.\***

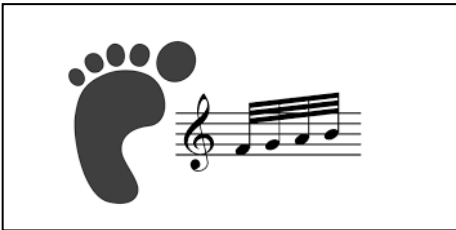
To pay by debit/credit card: Login to your account at: <https://WWW.aauw.org>

To pay by check: make check payable to :AAUW Membership

Mail to: AAUW Rockland County Branch | PO Box 19 | West Nyack, NY 10994

**We thank you for your continued support of AAUW's mission. Your Membership Committee**

*\*Of the \$92 paid to AAUW National, only \$89 is tax deductible; \$3.00 of AAUW National's dues is given to a 501(C)4 and therefore cannot be acknowledged as a donation. There is a three month renewal window. During this time you will receive renewal email reminders and your account will stay active on the Rockland County Branch roster.*



It's hard to believe but another year has come and gone... AAUW Rockland has had a MONUMENTAL year!!!! I don't know how many of you remember, but a few years ago, we were asking ourselves if the community we serve would care *or even realize* if AAUW suddenly ceased to be.

Remarkably, - after 61 years - we may suddenly cease to be... but if this chapter does fold, we can definitely feel proud of the work that we have done and the impact and influence that the Rockland Association of University Women has had in Rockland County.

As always, at the end of the year, I'd like to thank all of you who have expressed the many kind and supporting words I've received for doing FACETS – it's been a lot of fun. Many MANY thanks to Sylvia Miller for her editorial expertise...couldn't and *wouldn't* do this without your invaluable aid. I'd like to thank our outgoing president, Karen Martin for her service. She has been the face and the spirit of Rockland AAUW through some interesting times. Her grace and dedication have been an inspiration to me personally, and I think I can speak for all of us, when I say how much her leadership has been appreciated and will be missed. PLEASE join us for the June Branch Meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>- and sign up today for Elmwood... Have a wonderful summer! ~ *Doria*