



FALL 2012

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# SHOP•TALK

AMERICAN NEWS WOMEN'S CLUB

*Celebrating 80 years of Women and Progress*



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



*Claire Sanders Swift, President*

It is with honor and excitement that I share news of progress at the ANWC. I took office in the heat of summer joined by a gifted and talented Board of Governors, many of them Past Presidents and longtime members. We gathered for our first Board meeting in July with new ideas, generous resources, good spirits and traditions to uphold and share. Our membership renewals and surveys have come in at a good pace, and many of you included extra donations for our new Elegant House Initiative and scholarships! Thank you to all of you who have renewed and who have been so generous in so many ways. We also have notable new members joining our ranks. Please consider sponsoring a member or two this year. Our new members bring us new life!

Not only have we been "listening" to you via your surveys and comments, we have spent the last few months getting our historic **Cranford House** "in order," so we can continue getting back in the swing with more programs, events, and attract like-minded institutions to occupy our rentals on the upper floors. *(continued on page 2)*



## MEMBER NEWS



*Theresa Werner*

In 1932, our Club was founded as an alternative to the National Press Club where women were not admitted. Today, ANWC Past President (2004-2006) Theresa Werner is President of the National Press Club. Here she is pictured at a Press Club dinner featuring Secretary of Education Arne Duncan. Now that's progress! Congratulations Theresa! See page 3 for more about our planned ANWC/National Press Club Happy Hour on December 4th! (More member news on page 3.)



## History's Mysteries at Cranford House?

Surprising New Information Discovered in the Halls of Our Historic Club House!

See page 5 for details.





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To sponsor a member or for information on membership, contact Donna St. John at [VPMembership@anwc.org](mailto:VPMembership@anwc.org).

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT *continued*

The third floor space has been completely restored. The fourth floor is also ready to go. If you have friends or colleagues who are looking for space, please share the photos of our gorgeous upstairs offices!

In your surveys, the number one request was - **MORE PROGRAMS**. And we've got them for you in our glorious Clubhouse. I've had the privilege of spending extra time at this elegant townhouse which is full of "treasures," some of which I stumbled upon in restoring the floors and organizing pictures. You'll read about some of those findings coming up.

We proudly coined our new tagline, *Celebrating 80 Years of Women and Progress*, and we've got only a few more months until we are 81. So let's keep celebrating how far we've come while building for our future. I encourage each and every one of you to get involved where you are able, and to keep the generous support coming. Our new regular office hours at the Clubhouse are from 11:00AM-4:00PM on Tuesdays and Thursdays, if you need to reach me or a live person. I look forward to bringing you a fulfilling year.

*Claire Sanders Swift*

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

The American News Women's Club extends a warm welcome to the following four new members who were recently approved for membership by the Board:

New member **Gale Curcio** has extensive experience as a communications, event management, and development professional. She also spent 10 years as an editor and reporter for Connection Newspapers. In 2009, she organized Curcio Communications, a marketing and communications firm that has an extensive client list. Gale currently continues to enhance "Curcio Communications" depth of community knowledge through her concurrent role as a journalist for regional publications including the Connection Newspapers and [www.localkicks.com](http://www.localkicks.com). Based on the concept that "everybody has a story," Gale Curcio determines what makes each client unique and how to most effectively disseminate that information to the marketplace via newsletters, local publications, events, social media, and networking. Gale's preferred connections to the business, government, and social communities are critical to the success of her clients' marketing efforts, by placing her at the confluence of local thought leaders. Gale continues to expand those connections through her active participation in the Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce (past board member), The Alexandria Chamber of Commerce, Washington Women In PR, and various business organizations.



*Gale Curcio*  
NEW MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

### MORE NEW MEMBERS:

**Constance (Connie) Carter, Associate Member.** Connie is currently a managing broker for Washington Fine Properties. She is a native Washingtonian, and spent the first years of her career in broadcast journalism. Sponsor: Claire Sanders Swift

**Janice Law, Out of Area Member.** Janice is a lawyer and judge. She is the author of several fiction and nonfiction books, including *Sex Appealed: Was the U.S. Supreme Court Fooled?* She is the founder of the American Women Writer's National Museum and a member of the National Press Club. Sponsor: Governing Board

**Mary P. Sundeen, Associate Member.** Mary joins us as the President of the HealthWell Foundation, one of our nation's leading copay organizations. She has spent her career as a dedicated pioneer in the biotech and health care industries. Sponsor: Claire Sanders Swift

*ANWC members make our best ambassadors. Prospective members visit: [www.anwc.org](http://www.anwc.org) for an application.*



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## MEMBER NEWS - SPANNING THE GLOBE

Many of our members are winning awards, spanning the globe, or moderating a Presidential Debate! Lifetime Honorary Member and 2012 recipient of ANWC's Excellence in Journalism Award, CNN's **Candy Crowley** was tapped as the moderator for the October 16th Presidential debate. Other past recipients Jim Lehrer (1994) and Bob Schieffer (2004) also moderated our historic Presidential debates this year.

Our world traveler, Board Member and Past President **Ginny Daly**, has plans for exploring Machu Picchu in December. She has visited her ski house in Park City, Utah, to hike the upper elevations to prepare for the December trip. Ginny will be Co-chairing our Holiday Party on December 18th!

This summer, beloved **Ann Ganz** returned to Italy with her husband, a decorated WWII vet. She is also spending more time in Martha's Vineyard, where she sees member Olga Hirshhorn on occasion.

VP of Communications **Eileen Higgins** spent nearly a month traveling through Canada over the summer and will be traveling to Australia, New Zealand, and Fiji in November.

**Sallie Foreman** was awarded the Governor's Outstanding Volunteer Award for Leadership for her alliance to save lakes in Rehoboth Beach. She'll receive the award at the end of October.

Longtime member **June Bowers** was featured in the *Herald Tribune* from her home in Sarasota when her Aunt Phyllis Diller passed away in August. They were longtime friends as well as relatives. June's book "You Can't Fry Water and Other Revelations from the Lazy Gourmet" still makes a great read.

**Karen Webster**, former Club General Manager from the 1990s, reports she is doing well these days with her own thriving business assisting women in fixing up their homes. If you would like to be in touch, she can be reached at 703-517-2615. She sends her best to all.

*Please send us your member news, email [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@comcast.net), call the office or send via regular mail.*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>November 29, 2012</b> | "Meet the Headliners" Maurine Beasley, acclaimed historian and longtime member<br><b>Topic:</b> Maurine's new book, "Women of the Washington Press: Politics, Prejudice and Persistence" |
| <b>December 4, 2012</b>  | ANWC & National Press Club Joint Happy Hour, 6:30-8:00 PM, National Press Club-McClendon Room  |
| <b>December 18, 2012</b> | Holiday Party and Open House<br>Chair, Ginny Daly  |
| <b>January 31, 2013</b>  | "Meet the Headliners" Jan Neuharth, niche publisher and author of the ground-breaking Hunt Country Suspense novels<br><b>Topic:</b> Publishing in the 21st Century                       |
| <b>February 2013</b>     | "Professional Pursuits" <b>Topic:</b> Life After Journalism - <i>Details to come</i>   |
| <b>March 26, 2013</b>    | "Special Programs" Amy Mitchell, Project for Excellence in Journalism, The Pew Research Center<br><b>Topic:</b> State of the Media, 2012-2013  |
| <b>May 2013</b>          | Annual Benefit Luncheon: Excellence in Journalism Award and Scholarship Presentations<br>- <i>Details to come</i>  |
| <b>May 2013</b>          | "Meet the Headliners" - <i>Details to come</i>   |
| <b>June 25, 2013</b>     | Annual Meeting and Election of Officers - <i>Details to come</i>   |

*To suggest programs contact our Chair of Programs, Joyce Beattie: [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@comcast.net).*



## ANWC RECENT EVENTS



### June 13, 2012: GALA ROAST AND TOAST OF CNN'S CANDY CROWLEY



*Candy Crowley and Helen Thomas  
Photo courtesy of Cynthia Bennett.*

In June Candy Crowley, CNN anchor and veteran reporter, was the Club's Excellence in Journalism Award honoree. After cocktails and dinner at the National Press Club, Candy was roasted and toasted by colleagues and admirers. Read the *Washington Post* write-up by "Reliable Source" mavens Roxanne Roberts and Amy Argetsinger. Candy's professional distinctions continue to accumulate: on October 16, she moderated the second debate between President Barak Obama and Governor Mitt Romney. We are so proud of you, Candy!



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To volunteer to  
report on or  
photograph future  
programs  
please contact  
Eileen Higgins at  
shoptalk@anwc.org.

### June 27, 2012: ANWC ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING / EVENING WITH BULGARIAN AMBASSADOR



*Ambassador Elena B.  
Poptodorova of Bulgaria*

The ANWC Annual Business Meeting and election of officers was followed by cocktails, dinner, and remarks by special guest Ambassador Elena B. Poptodorova of Bulgaria.

Ambassador Elena Poptodorova presented her Letters of Credence to President Barack Obama in August 2010, accrediting her as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Bulgaria to the United States. Prior to her appointment in Washington, Ambassador Poptodorova was Director of the Security Policy Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in her country, a position she held for a year. From 2008 to 2009 she served as Ambassador-at-Large for the Black Sea Region at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2002 to 2008 she served her first term as Bulgaria's Ambassador to the United States, during the period when Bulgaria joined NATO and the EU. Ambassador Poptodorova is our close neighbor, residing in the Bulgarian Embassy next door to the ANWC Clubhouse.

### September 20, 2012: A ROYAL EVENING WITH AUTHOR SALLY BEDELL SMITH



*Lite fare buffet table for the  
Sally Bedell Smith program.*

On September 20, 2012, American historian and bestselling author Sally Bedell Smith graced our Club with fascinating stories about her experiences while writing her latest book: *Elizabeth the Queen: The Life of a Modern Monarch*.

The evening began with cocktails and a buffet and ended with Smith signing copies of her book. In between, she shared her admiration of Queen Elizabeth's tenacity and

total dedication throughout 60 years of rule. Smith joked that Queen Elizabeth must have an affinity for rain since she was born on a rainy day, her coronation was on a rainy day, and on her Diamond Jubilee it also rained. Smith's biography explores why the Queen is still relevant in the 21st century. She determined that Elizabeth is a staunch and tenacious wife, mother, friend, and a highly respected world leader, but admits that she walks a fine line so as not to lose her royal mystique. It was a full and lively evening.



*Sally autographs her books  
for members and guests.  
Photo courtesy of Jing-yi Hong Liu.*



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## HISTORY'S MYSTERIES AT CRANFORD HOUSE:

While working on restoring and refreshing our historic house this summer, we discovered beneath the black and white vinyl tiles on the first floor, white round tiles that appear to be the original tile from 1906 when Cranford house was built. More on this as we learn it.

We also discovered through archival research at the Library of Congress, (our new President Claire Swift is a documentarian) that Joseph Cranford owned and operated the Cranford Paving Company, which was responsible for paving many of the streets in Washington. More mysteries of our history uncovered in future issues. A field trip to our archives at the University of Maryland is in the works.

*Please contact us if you have any leads or history to share, [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@comcast.net).*

## CRANFORD HOUSE NEWS



*Historic tile found near staircase at entrance, possibly from 1906.*



*Black and white tiles undergoing restoration this summer.*

## RENT THE HISTORIC CRANFORD CLUBHOUSE!

FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT! HOLIDAY PARTIES, INAUGURAL EVENT  
WEDDINGS AND REHEARSAL DINNER!

**Special Member Rates Available!**



FOR DETAILS AND PRICING CONTACT:

Kimberly Soules, ANWC's Marketing / Events Coordinator, 202-332-6770 or [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@comcast.net)





## ROOMS WITH A VIEW: CURRENT SPACE AVAILABLE

### GORGEOUS CLUB SPACE AVAILABLE: ANWC Office Suites for Rent



**Third Floor Office Suite**—This boutique suite, 980 sq. ft. and recently remodeled, includes a balcony, fireplace, high ceilings, crown moldings, new wall-to-wall carpet, 3 large rooms/offices, conference room, 1.5 baths, and a full kitchen with new appliances. \$3,650/month (member rate).

**Fourth Floor Office Suite**—This unfurnished 960 sq. ft., top floor, airy, elegant office suite includes 3 large rooms/offices, a conference room, 1.5 baths, and a full kitchen. \$2,900/month (member rate).

*These suites are available to Club members and like-minded institutions.*

*Contact: [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@comcast.net) or 202-332-6770.*

#### FALL 2012

#### ANWC Board of Governors 2012-2013

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VP for Communications  
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Margot Raphael  
Claire Sanders Swift

Webmasters  
Eileen Higgins  
Margot Raphael



*ANWC Board of Governors, standing left to right: Jing-yi Hong Liu, M. Eileen Higgins, Claire Sanders Swift, Margaret Ryan, and Virginia Daly. Seated left to right: Donna St. John, Margot Raphael and Karen James Cody.*

*Missing from photo: Immediate Past President, Lynn Gorton.*

*(See our web page at [www.anwc.org](http://www.anwc.org) for more information about each board member.)*

### VOLUNTEER / JOIN A CLUB COMMITTEE

#### WE WANT YOUR GIFTS AND TALENTS!

**Open Positions:** Membership Committee, Legacy Committee, Benefit Committee, Programs Committee, Elegant House Committee and Communications Committee, also Board positions and two internships available.

*Contact Staff Liaison Janina Roncevic at [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@comcast.net)*

*Now that we've finished our first edition of Shop Talk,  
if you'd like to contribute to our next issue,  
contact Eileen Higgins at [awclub@comcast.net](mailto:awclub@comcast.net).*



Eileen Higgins  
Editor

**New Clubhouse  
office hours  
Tuesday & Thursday  
11:00 AM-4:00 PM**

#### AMERICAN NEWS WOMEN'S CLUB

1607 22nd Street, Washington DC 20008 | 202-332-6770 | [www.anwc.org](http://www.anwc.org)