To a packed crowd of Club members, superstar CNN personalities and ANWC scholarship winners at the American News Women’s Club, Dana Bash, EU recipient 2023, was roasted, toasted and celebrated by her journalism savvy friends and news makers including, Sam Feist, CNN’s Washington Bureau Chief, NBC Sr. VP; Ali Zelenko; Manu Raju, Chief Congressional Correspondent; Nicolle Wallace, MSNBC Host; Chris Licht, then Chairman and CEO of CNN Worldwide, and Wolf Blitzer, Dana’s dear friend and anchor of the “Situation Room”, CNN.

Claire Swift Remarks: Welcome everyone to the ANWC. Home of Trailblazers. Tonight, is a big night in Journalism, a time we take the high road and celebrate this year Dana Bash, the very finest in her field. And, possibly, based on our research, the hardest working easiest to work with news woman out there. She once called Wolf Blitzer the ‘menschiest mensch’ well it’s time for dana to take the title. We’ll be raising our glasses and you’ll hear more in a minute from board member and journalist extraordinaire Sheilah Kast and our distinguished cast of roasters Sam Feist, Ali Zelenko, Manu Raju, Nicolle Wallace and when he wraps his newscast tonight, Wolf Blitzer. And we’ve got some surprises coming your way.

Dana is surrounded literally tonight by her family, her father Stu Schwarz (was a legend at ABC News, mother Francie Schwartz, CNN legend, John King, and their son, who gets to learn all the great things about what mom is doing when she’s not home. A bit about our setting. The ANWC was founded in 1932 to support newspaperwomen when we weren’t accepted to the National Press Club. We couldn’t ask questions at press conferences either, we needed a space of our own. (continue pg 3)
Dana Bash writes thoughtful Instagram post thanking the ANWC.

Shahin Mafi, generous friend of the ANWC, and Dana Bash.

Helen R. White, ANWC President, sits alongside Wolf Blitzer, ANWC-EIJ Award Winner 2019.

EIJ 2023 Gala/VIP Reception Photos

Jan Du Plain, Wolf Blitzer and Elizabeth Torres.

Anne Gans, member of the ANYC, Robert Gans, and Jenni Gans.

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Shohin Mafi, generous friend of the ANWC, and Dana Bash.

Helen R. White, ANWC President, sits alongside Wolf Blitzer, ANWC-EIJ Award Winner 2019.

Anne Gans, member of the ANYC, Robert Gans, and Jenni Gans.

Susan Merritt, beloved member of the ANWC, plays the grand piano.

Jane Fusco, Sejal Govindarao, Syedah Agha, and Jane Hall.

A niece of the ANWC.

Sejal Govindarao, Syedah Agha, Dana Bash, and Jane Fusco.

Ed Grosvenor and Eleanor Clift.

Nicolle Wallace delivers a heartfelt toast/roast to Dana Bash.

Jane Fusco, Sejal Govindarao, Syedah Agha, and Jane Hall.

Guests raise their glasses to Bash.

Stu Schwartz, Dana Bash, Joshua King, and Francie Schwartz.

Niicole Wallace.

Abbie Sharpe, Spencer Garrett, Nicolle Wallace, and Dana Bash.

Edie Frasher, Dana Bash, and Jan Du Plain.

Anne Gans, Ali Zelenko, Dana Bash, Carolyn Gluck, Stephanie Shiwaki and Debra Barrett.
2023 Scholarship Winners

Since 1993, we have awarded over 50 scholarships to talented journalism students in the Washington, DC area. This year we presented our scholarship awards to Jane Fusco, (AU ’25), Sejal Govindarao (GWU ’23), and Syedah Asghar (AU ’23). Jane, a rising junior, is interning at WESH in Orlando this summer to further explore different environments in the field. Sejal, a rising senior, is well-prepared to challenge politicians and university officials alike with her investigative reporting and is the co-founder of AAJA-GW, an Asian American Journalists Association collegiate chapter. Syedah, a recent graduate, strives to become an embedded reporter on the 2028 presidential campaign trail, preserving journalism in democratic practices and amplifying voices of underrepresented communities.

President's Message: Support Women Trailblazers

Dear Members and Friends of the ANWC,

I am thrilled to be returning as president of the ANWC to manage a new year of breaking barriers for women journalists on the heels of our recent VIP reception/Gala honoring CNN’s Dana Bash. It was our first time having the award celebration at our beautiful Clubhouse and it was a major success. We are particularly thankful to our sponsors and those who supported us large and small to and our very talented scholarship winners.

I’m honored to be working with you in every capacity this year as we focus on “women trailblazers” and I invite you to join us on this exciting journey as we celebrate and learn from these extraordinary women and their stories. Together, let us honor their contributions, share their stories, and inspire the next generation of fearless journalists.

This year promises to be one filled with inspiration, growth, and meaningful connections, and I cannot wait to embark on this adventure with all of you.

We’re looking forward to another record-breaking renewal year 2023-24 and we need your expertise and support now more than ever to support the ANWC. I look forward to hearing from you and seeing you at the Club this year. Please renew your membership, answer a few survey questions on the renewal invoice and sign up for a committee or two. The dues notice is attached. Thank you for your support.

Respectfully,
Jean White
Helen R. White (Jean)
Past President (1994-96, 2015-17)

Claire Swift Remarks cont. from pg 1

For 90 years we’ve been holding the torch. This is the first year we have celebrated here in this historic Clubhouse. We took this space in 1961 when Sarah McClendon – noted journalist of her time ruled the roost here many a noted speakers have stood at this podium. It’s our year of ‘saving-history’ and if these walls could talk...picted to my right is Helen Thomas, surrounded by 11 presidents (all that she interviewed). First ladies, news makers from every which way, here in this elegant and intimate space through the decades.

More trailblazers, our president, Jean White, what is the State Department doing without you? and board members, Sheilah Kast, Eleanor Clift, Jane Pennewell, Hal Matson, the great Jan Duplain. Please stand past presidents, Margaret Ryan, Jean White, and myself, Olivia Cusick, Dylan Rose Geerlings from CNN....thank you for the tireless work. CNN is our Media Sponsor tonight and we are truly grateful...We’ve tried something new tonight by hosting this here. Thank you for embracing change with us. Literally...

A heartfelt thank you to our 2023 Scholarship Donors
Sheilah Kast and
The Marion Mattingly Family (2)
Sponsoring Media Organization
CNN, Dana Bash and Shahin Mafi
and to the Friends of the ANWC for their generous donations. We couldn’t do it without you. Considering a gift? Contact Claire Swift at claireswift@anwc.org

COME JOIN US! Be a part of it.
The ANWC is looking for a few good individuals to support the Club by joining a committee, chairing the gala next year, interning for us (summer/fall/spring), helping raise funds/awareness, and leadership positions for our Home of Trailblazers.

Interested? Email: anwclubs@comcast.net

Keep the history of Women Trailblazers going!
Renew your membership by Sept. 1, 2023.
Visit: http://www.anwc.org/membership-renewal/ or call 202-332-6770.

A special edition of the 2023 Gala Program.

Gala Photos Continued...

Eleanor Clift, Scholarship Committee Chair, introduces the 2023 scholarship winners.

The Marion Mattingly Family supports the ANWC and Excellence in Journalism for another year by donating two scholarships.

Elena Lees Munoz, Jan Du Plain, Owen Young, Edie Fraser, and Elizabeth Torres.

As clubs across the nation are digging themselves out of Covid, we’ve “saved our history” this year in many ways, including having the American News Women’s Club gala here at the Club itself. We are thrilled and excited this year, and move into a new year, supporting this our new “home of trailblazers”, our official motto. We are indeed forging ahead. While many clubs are in debt with large mortgages, we are moving along with a balanced Treasury - but we need to keep building back. Thus far, we spent one day interviewing members for the ANWC Oral History Program. The ANWC photo galleries and videos are now available on our website. The District of Columbia real estate taxes remain at a staggering $52,000.00 per year and the taxes continue to climb. We have a full house of licensees in the building. The ANWC Board is considering some strategic moves to help the Club financially. We will announce these plans in the coming weeks. Please consider a gift to the ANWC.

Questions? Comments? Reach out to our Club Coordinator

Shop Talk editor and member of our team, focusing on membership, marketing, and Club programs, Olivia Cusick is here to assist you with anything ANWC related. For questions or inquiries, please reach out to her at 202-352-6770 or via email at anwclub@comcast.net.

Follow us on social media: Instagram: newswomensclub1932 Twitter: NewsWomensClub Facebook: NewsWomensClub

ANWC's New Members 2022-23
Dana Bash
Leslie Cockburn
Petula Dvorak
Sam Feist
Jane Fusco
Dylan Geerlings
Dorothy Gilliam
Nancy Glenn Hansen
Elisa Lees Munoz
Diana Parsell
Manu Raju
Galen Stocking
Jane Stringfellow
Nicolle Wallace
Natalie Wesson
Ali Zelenko

Annual Meeting Remarks: Helen R. White

The definition of a “small but mighty” crew that keeps things going at the ANWC.

ANWC President
Helen R. White
Immediate Past President
MC Andrews
Photos by
Neshan Naltchayan, Patricia McDougall

Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangements Neshan.

VP of Strategic Development
Sandy Trupp
VP of Membership
Jane Pennewell
Executive Chairman
Claire Swift
Shop Talk Editor: Olivia Cusick, and Senior Editor: Claire Swift

Governors
Eleanor Clift
Sheilah Kast
Hal Matson

Honorary Governors
Jan Du Plain
Norah O’Donnell