

# SHOP • TALK

AMERICAN NEWS WOMEN'S CLUB

*Advancing Journalistic Excellence Since 1932*



SHOP TALK Special Edition, 2023

## Dana Bash Packs the House at the ANWC

To a packed crowd of Club members, superstar CNN personalities and ANWC scholarship winners at the American News Women's Club, **Dana Bash**, EIJ 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.



**Dana Bash**, ANWC Excellence in Journalism (ANWC-EIJ) recipient 2023, stands alongside **Wolf Blitzer**, (ANWC-EIJ) recipient 2019 and anchor of the CNN's the "Situation Room".



**Dana Bash**, ANWC Excellence in Journalism (ANWC-EIJ) recipient 2023.



**Dana Bash and Sam Feist.**



**Dana Bash, Ali Zelenko and Nicolle Wallace.**



**Manu Raju and Wolf Blitzer.**



**Chris Licht and Dana Bash.**



**Claire Swift**, ANWC Exec. Chairman, ANWC President, **Helen R. White**, ANWC Excellence in Journalism (ANWC-EIJ) Award Winner 2023, and **Sheilah Kast**, ANWC Governor.

## Membership Renewals due Sept. 1, 2023

Check [anwc.org](http://anwc.org) for updates



**Claire Swift**, ANWC Exec. Chairman, and ANWC President, **Helen R. White**, at the podium.

**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 toasters and 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)



**Sheilah Kast**, ANWC Governor, **Dana Bash**, and ANWC past President, **Margaret Ryan**.

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# EIJ 2023 Gala/VIP Reception Photos



Dana Bash writes thoughtful Instagram post thanking the ANWC.



Anne Ganz, member of the ANWC, Robert Ganz, and Jenni Ganz.



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



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



Jan Du Plain, Wolf Blitzer and Elizabeth Torres.



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



Gwen Young poses with Jane Pennwell.



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



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



Ed Grosvenor and Eleanor Clift.



Guests raise their glasses to Bash.



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



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



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



Edie Frasher, Dana Bash, and Jan Du Plain.



Kelly Gans, Ali Zelenko, Dana Bash, and Debra Barrett.



Francie Schwartz and Dana Bash.



Dana Bash, takes the podium to express her gratitude to the ANWC.



Rebecca Cooper, Kelly Gans, Ali Zelenko, Dana Bash, Carolyn Gluck, Stephanie Shweiki 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 **Syedeh 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. **Syedeh**, 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.



Jane Fusco, (AU '25) (left), Eleanor Clift, EU recipient 2010, Sejal Govindarao, GWU '24, and Syedeh Asghar (AU '23).

## 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 and to 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)



### 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: [anwclub@comcast.net](mailto:anwclub@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.

### 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...pictured 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 Penewell**, **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  
and Table Sponsors  
**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](mailto:claireswift@anwc.org)  
Go to [anwc.org](http://anwc.org) for our 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.



**Elisa Lees Munoz, Jan Du Plain, Gwen Young, Edie Fraser, and Elizabeth Torres.**





## Annual Meeting - "State of the Media"



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

### Annual Meeting Remarks: Helen R. White

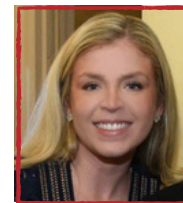
As clubs across the nation are digging themselves out of Covid, we've "saved our history" this year in many ways, including having the American News Women's Club gala here at the Club itself. We are thrilled and excited this year, and move into a new year, supporting this our new "home of trailblazers", 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.

### ANWC's New Members 2022-23

- |                           |                          |
|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| <b>Dana Bash</b>          | <b>Elisa Lees Munoz</b>  |
| <b>Leslie Cockburn</b>    | <b>Diana Parsell</b>     |
| <b>Petula Dvorak</b>      | <b>Manu Raju</b>         |
| <b>Sam Feist</b>          | <b>Galen Stocking</b>    |
| <b>Jane Fusco</b>         | <b>Jane Stringfellow</b> |
| <b>Dylan Geerlings</b>    | <b>Nicolle Wallace</b>   |
| <b>Dorothy Gilliam</b>    | <b>Natalie Wesson</b>    |
| <b>Nancy Glenn Hansen</b> | <b>Ali Zelenko</b>       |

### Questions? Comments? Reach out to our Club Coordinator



Olivia Cusick at EU 2023

**Summer Office Hours:**  
M/W/F 10:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  
(scheduled meetings avail.)

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 202-332-6770 or via email at anwclub@comcast.net.

**Follow us on social media:**  
Instagram: [newsomensclub1932](https://www.instagram.com/newsomensclub1932)  
Twitter: [NewsWomensClub](https://twitter.com/NewsWomensClub)  
Facebook: [NewsWomensClub](https://www.facebook.com/NewsWomensClub)

## Governing Board 2023-24

ANWC PRESIDENT  
Helen R. White

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT  
MC Andrews

PHOTOS BY  
Neshan Naltchayan, Patricia McDougall

VP OF STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT  
Sandy Trupp

VP OF MEMBERSHIP  
Jane Pennewell

EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN  
Claire Swift

GOVERNORS  
Eleanor Clift  
Sheilah Kast  
Hal Matson

HONORARY GOVERNORS  
Jan Du Plain  
Norah O'Donnell

*Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangements Neshan.*

Shop Talk Editor: Olivia Cusick, and Senior Editor: Claire Swift

