

# SHOP TALK



The American News Women's Club

November 2008

## Breaking News.

Katie Couric To Receive 2009 Helen Thomas Award

Stay tuned for details in coming weeks on plans for an exciting gala/benefit to be held next spring.



Katie Couric

## Members Meet With First Lady Laura Bush

On the morning of October 21, 86 members of ANWC enjoyed a special tour of the White House and met with First Lady Laura Bush. Watch for a special edition of *Shop Talk* in December featuring photos of the visit and other highlights.

THE WHITE HOUSE

October 28, 2008

American News Women's Club  
c/o Ms. Pam Ginsbach  
1607 22nd Street, Northwest  
Washington, D.C. 20008-1921

Dear Friends,

Thank you for making me an honorary member of the American News Women's Club. I am honored to follow in the footsteps of every first lady since Eleanor Roosevelt.

I enjoyed your visit to the White House. The certificate you presented will always remind me of that special occasion and your dedication to an important profession.

With best wishes,



First Lady Laura Bush

## What's Happening at the Club - Upcoming Programs

### Holiday Party Set for December 10

Mark your calendar and plan to join in celebrating the spirit of the holidays when members of the American News Women's Club and the Association of Women in Communications - Washington, DC Chapter come together to share friendship and feasting on **Wednesday, December 10, 2008 from 6:30 - 8:30 PM.**



### Bring A Book - Buy A Book

The holiday party will benefit **Kids Café** (a program of the Capital Area Food Bank), which supports children and families by providing after-school activities around the Metro area. Donations of books (fully tax deductible) appropriate for children ages 5 through 18 will be collected. In addition, several authors will be signing the latest editions of their books for purchase.

**Details will follow shortly.**

American News Women's Club, 1607 22nd St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

Visit the club's website at: [www.anwc.org](http://www.anwc.org)



# Happy Thanksgiving





# Letter from the President

## Greetings!

As we approach the holiday season, ANWC plans to celebrate with friends and the many new members who have recently joined the club. Since September, we have welcomed 22 new members and you can see them listed in this issue of *Shop Talk*.

Our membership drive continues, so reach out to friends and colleagues who would like to enjoy the benefits of belonging to ANWC: professional programs, networking opportunities, White House visits, and a membership directory to be distributed early next year. The ANWC application form is available on the Website ([www.anwc.org](http://www.anwc.org)) under the "About Membership" menu, where you will also find qualifications and categories of membership. It was truly exciting to meet so many new members who joined us for the White House tour and visit with the First Lady!

Speaking of the White House visit, special thanks are due to **Marion Mattingly**, our vice president for programs, who arranged this members-only event. And many thanks to **Mila Albertson**, our secretary, who arranged for the design and framing of the lovely certificate, done by a calligrapher, declaring Mrs. Bush an honorary member of ANWC. Mrs. Bush's office will send a copy of the group photo taken with the First Lady to each of our 86 members who attended the event. And we are delighted that her office will also send the club a signed portrait of Laura Bush that we will frame and add to our First Ladies' gallery at Cranford House. Watch for a special issue of *Shop Talk* in December that will include photos and the First Lady's gracious thank-you letter.

**Jingyi Liu**, our vice president for communications, has arranged the most interesting program scheduled for November 18th with three outstanding women journalists who are Humphrey Fellows. Thank you, Jingyi, for organizing this special event!

**Mila Albertson** and **Maurine Beasely**, a governor, are coordinating the December 10th Holiday Party, a joint event with the D.C. Chapter of the Association for Women in Communications. We are delighted that DC-AWC members will join us for this festive evening.

Speaking of special occasions, please join me in wishing ANWC member **Elizabeth Chittck** a very **Happy 100th Birthday!** Read more about her amazing life in this issue.

See you soon at Cranford House!

Best wishes,  
Pam Ginsbach



*Pam Ginsbach*

## Welcome, New Members!

Please join the Board of Governors in welcoming the following new members who have joined ANWC this fall:

<b>Marynoele Benson</b>	(Northrop Grumman, returning member)
<b>Elizabeth Billingsley</b>	(legal analyst; starting journalism masters program)
<b>Jennifer Bogdan</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Hillary Buckholtz</b>	(Planned TV Arts, Ruder Finn)
<b>Melissa Charbonneau</b>	(freelance broadcast journalist)
<b>Megan Conlan</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Karen Fawcett</b>	(president, BonjourParis.com)
<b>Megan Fromm</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Jessica Groover</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Megan Gustafson</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Kathy Foster Johnson</b>	(XM Satellite Radio anchor/producer)
<b>Andrew Kaplan</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Carol Ann Kell</b>	(president, Kell & Associates, returning member)
<b>Ashley Lewis</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Priyanka Matanhelia</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Xiaoyan Pan</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Elizabeth Piazza</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Aleksandra Robinson</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Wenjing Xie</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)
<b>Carey B. Yaros</b>	(president, Yaros Communications, Inc.)
<b>Ronald A. Yaros</b>	(U of Md. assistant professor-journalism)
<b>Michelle Zenarosa</b>	(U of Md. graduate student)



# Happy Birthday, Elizabeth!

By Nancy Montwieler

**At 100, Feminist Icon Elizabeth Chittick Pushes on For Equal Rights Amendment** "...work I was destined to do," says the past president of National Woman's Party and longtime ANWC member.

A day after celebrating her one hundredth birthday at her home in West Palm Beach, Fla., Nov. 11, Elizabeth Lancaster Chittick is far from ready to give up a life long fight for women's rights-and, particularly achieving her goal of enactment of the Equal Rights Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

To that end, Ms. Chittick has recently written **Laura Bush**, prevailing on her to urge the President to speak out in support of the ERA during his last two months in the White House.

"President Bush could do something outstanding for women-and he has the rest of the year to do it," she said. "But if he doesn't, I'm coming to Washington in January (to lobby the new administration and Congress)," Ms. Chittick added. "I'm not giving up."



### **Alice Paul March:**

Leading the march, from L to R: **Bella Abzug, Elizabeth Chittick, Hazel Hunkins Hallinan, Midge Costanza.**

Photo by Jo Freeman

With a career in finance, real estate and related areas, Ms. Chittick joined the National Woman's Party in the 1960s. The party was founded-and at the time, still headed by-Alice Paul, the suffragist leader who was continuing her work for an equal rights amendment and had joined other women's organizations in successfully lobbying to add "sex" as a prohibited form of discrimination under Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

Ms. Chittick, who worked closely with **Alice Paul** and knew her "very well," became president of the party in 1971, continuing her predecessor's campaign for an Equal Rights

Amendment.

A month after Alice Paul's death in July 1977, Elizabeth Chittick organized an historic march of more than 4,000 down Pennsylvania

Avenue to the White House to honor Ms. Paul and to call for a three-year ratification extension for the ERA. At the urging of Ms. Chittick, marchers wore the traditional white of the early suffrage parades, with many of them wearing the purple, white, and gold sashes chosen by the party to symbolize women's suffrage. Ms. Chittick led the parade and was joined by a coterie of other feminists who met with **President Jimmy Carter**. She continued to head the National Woman's Party until 1989, writing and speaking in support of the equal rights amendment.

While yet to be ratified, the ERA has been approved by 35 of the necessary 38 states and has been introduced in every Congress-and Elizabeth Chittick is among those who continue to push for its enactment. "Three states should be easy to get," she said earlier this month. Reflecting on the work of Susan B. Anthony, Alice Paul, and others, she also emphasized her determination to continue her own campaign for equality. "These women gave their lives for this cause," Ms. Chittick said. "I'm not giving up."

Ms. Chittick joined ANWC during the 1970s, while serving as president of the National Women's Party at the invitation of Sarah McClendon, and has maintained her membership since moving to her winter home in Florida in 1990.

The National Women's Party, which ceased to be a lobbying organization and became a 501(c) educational organization in 1997, is headquartered at the Sewall-Belmont House, <http://www.sewallbelmont.org>, Alice Paul's former home on Capitol Hill. The museum, a national historic landmark, is dedicated to preserving and showcasing the fight for American women's right to vote.



**Elizabeth Chittick** speaks to the platform SubCommittee to the 1976 Republican Convention

Photo by Jo Freeman

## Dyer Urges Attention to Violence Against Women

Weaving her experiences as a prosecutor into the mix, **Cindy Dyer**, director of the Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women, urged ANWC members and guests in an Oct. 16 speech to be more aware of the continuing need for vigilance in reducing violence against women.

October was designated as National Domestic Violence Awareness month and Dyer said her office is working with district attorneys and community organizations around the country to raise awareness of issues related to violence against women. "Violence at home begets street violence," she told ANWC, adding that the creation of the DOJ office she heads and outreach efforts have helped to provide safe havens for abused women and successful prosecutions of crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Before her appointment as director of the OVW, Dyer served as the first prosecutor to join the Dallas, Texas, District Attorney's Office Family Violence Division, and she later became its director. She brought first-hand observations to this position from her work as a volunteer for several years in a shelter for battered women, giving legal advice. There she realized that women subjected to domestic abuse and violence did not always get the attention required to help them and to prosecute offenders.

"Our pitch to the media is always to pay attention. We have a network of hotlines across the country for women and the calls are increasing," she said. For more information on the programs and grant opportunities offered by Dyer's office go to: [www.ovw.usdoj.gov](http://www.ovw.usdoj.gov)



**Cindy Dyer**

## Event Success

Wednesday, September 17, 2008

A Special Evening with Ambassador Pat Gates Lynch Ewell, our longtime member and author of *"Thanks for Listening: High Adventures in Journalism and Diplomacy"*

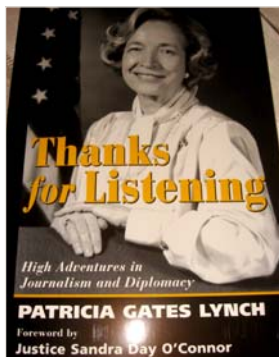
By Daphne Steinberg

As a girl growing up in Buffalo, NY, **Pat Gates Lynch Ewell** wanted to be an actress. Reflecting on two-plus decades as a broadcaster, during her recent appearance at the American News Women's Club, Lynch said, "My stage was the [whole] world."

Indeed, millions of people all over the world, tuned in to listen to Lynch as she interviewed figures of international renown from **Danny Kaye** and **Maurice Chevalier** to the **King of Nepal** during her 24 years hosting the "Breakfast Show" for the Voice of America. "We talked about politics, art, science and agriculture," Lynch said.

Lynch, wife of **Gen. Mahlon "Ink" Gates**, said the Breakfast Show was conceived upon return from one of her husband's tours of duty in Europe. She and another military wife, Lynch said, "decided to start a radio program on which we would talk about what was going on in Washington." She said they knocked on every door looking for someone to pick up their idea, "not knowing it was impossible for women to be on the air."

That ignorance, Lynch ascribed to her upbringing. "My parents believed girls could do anything if they were well disciplined," she said.



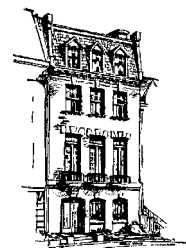
After nearly exhausting their possibilities, a small radio station in Virginia offered the ladies a chance. And a new period of excitement and learning began.

Lynch recalled, "I went to the White House to report on the beautiful Princess Elizabeth. I didn't know I'd later end up on the inside of the White House."

During the Nixon Administration, Lynch served as Pat Nixon's radio coach, traveling with the President and First Lady to Vietnam. Being in a combat zone, Lynch said she was told she might have to use a gun. "I was ready [to use it], but I didn't know how," she said.

Ever ready to serve, in 1986, **President Reagan** appointed Lynch Ambassador to Madagascar, making her the first woman to head an embassy. Lynch said that the same day she was nominated for the post, she was approached by the late, great **Sarah McClendon** to serve as president of the ANWC. "Sarah was someone you never said 'No' to, but I had just learned that I'd been nominated as an ambassador," Lynch said.

In her recently published memoir, "Thanks for Listening: High Adventures in Journalism and Diplomacy" Lynch said, she talks about the hard working people of Madagascar.



Founded in 1932

Responding to a comment from ANWC member **Sheilah Kast** about being struck by the numbers of opportunities that came her way, Lynch said, "You have to work hard, but, in the book you'll see, I was [also] in the right place at the right time. Many people worked as hard as I did, but were not as lucky as I was."

**THE AMERICAN NEWS WOMEN'S CLUB**

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Please email us with your  
announcements, new jobs,  
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