

SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY

NOW

National Organization for Women

10015 W Royal Oak Rd #256, Sun City AZ 85351

Membership Mtg

NOW meets at 1:00 PM on Wed Feb 3, 2010, at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Avenue of the Arts (off Bell) behind the Art Museum, in Surprise. Our program in February is The Immigrant Experience as told by women writers. Phyllis Stone, Cultural Diversity Chair, is in charge.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Feb 5 Fri

Roe v Wade Luncheon (\$75)
Sponsored by Planned Parenthood
Biltmore Resort, Phx
Send check to Leona Gilman

Feb 25 Thurs 10:30 to 1:00

Luncheon to honor Lilly Ledbetter
Sponsored by AAUW Scottsdale &
Scottsdale Community College
Location & price yet TBA

Feb 25 Thurs Time TBA

Rally for Equal Pay at the AZ Legislature
Featuring Lilly Ledbetter
1700 W Washington, Phx

Feb 25 Thurs 9:30 AM

League of Women Voters Genl Mtg
UU Church
17540 N Avenue of the Arts, Surprise

Mar 2 Tues 1:30 PM

Compassion & Choices Mtg
SCW Foundation Cntr RHJ&Strdst

Mar 20 Sat 3:00 PM

NOW Women's History Month
UU Church, Surprise
Tickets are \$15 send to Leona Gilman

April 17 Sat 9 AM to 4 PM

NOW State Conference
UU Church, Surprise

League of Women Voters of Maricopa County extends an invitation to NOW members to attend the League's General Meeting on February 25 at 9:30 AM. AZ Representative Chad Campbell, Minority Whip, and Holly Ward, Public Information Officer for the Maricopa County Air Quality Department will be guest speakers. The meeting is at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Avenue of the Arts in Surprise.

Kim Gandy new position at FMF

The National Organization for Women congratulates former NOW President Kim Gandy on her new position as vice president and general counsel at the Feminist Majority Foundation. FMF was founded in 1987 by Eleanor Smeal; it is dedicated to women's equality, reproductive health, & non violence. It is working for Afghan women, campus leadership, & RU-486. Gandy served in national NOW office for 22 years, including two terms as the organization's president, ending in July 2009. She recently completed a resident fellowship at the Harvard Institute of Politics.

Abortion Care is a Human Right

NOW Natl celebrates (on Jan 22, 2010) the 37th anniversary of Roe v Wade. We also mourn the loss of Dr. Tiller, who provided safe abortion care for 33 yrs until he was murdered. NOW pledges to resist the efforts to give up abortion rights to get other health care reforms. We will fight the bullying of Catholic bishops; we will not succumb to the threat of domestic terrorism.

Women's History Month Program

On Saturday, March 20 at 3 o'clock the Sun Cities/West Valley NOW will present a reenactment of the long struggle for women to attain the right to vote. The program is a production in 5 episodes, using the actual words and songs of the suffragists, and the actual newspaper accounts of the 72-year struggle . The Women's History Celebration is co-sponsored by the Northwest Maricopa County League of Women

Voters and the NW & Sun City American Associations of University Women. It will be at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Avenue of the Arts in Surprise. Refreshments will be served.

Proceeds from the Women's History event will fund a scholarship for a graduating female Dysart student and also provide funding for Eve's Place, a shelter for women. Tickets are \$15. For info or to send check (SCWV NOW), contact Leona Gilman, 20402 Broken Arrow Dr, SCW 85375, 584-0144.

Fair Pay Matters

Save the date of Thursday, Feb 25, 10:30 to 1:00 for a luncheon to honor Lilly Ledbetter. She will tell her compelling story of pay discrimination. Remember how she worked for a large firm at a management level & earned a nice salary, tho unknown to her, much less than her comparable male counterparts. When she finally discovered the pay discrepancy (after many yrs), she filed suit for pay discrimination based on her gender. The case reached the US Supreme Ct who denied her claim because she did not bring the suit within the first 12 months of the noted harm – even tho she did **not know** about the harm until yrs later. In May 2009, NOW, AAUW, & other organizations sent letters to each member of Congress to support the Paycheck Fairness Act. President Obama signed the Ledbetter Fair Pay Act early in 2009. The purpose of the luncheon is to raise awareness of these issues, particularly in AZ. For info, contact Jean Johnson (AAUW) jjteach403@cox.net, 602-826-3551 or Jane at jadrian@cox.net or 480-710-0353.

Compassion & Choices

Compassion & Choices of the Northwest Valley will hold its spring chapter meeting March 2 at the Sun City West Foundation Center (RHJohnson & Stardust) at 1:30 p m. The invited speaker will be Robert F. Jeckel, Attorney at Law, who will speak about "The Laws of Dying". Contact Irene Weitzman at: ireneweitz@aol.com or 214-6552.

Irene wants us to know that, in Dec 2009, the Montana State Supreme Court concluded that patients control their own bodies at the end of life. The decision to self-administer life-ending medication receives the same treatment as a decision to discontinue life sustaining therapies such as mechanical ventilation. This is a landmark victory!

Book Club

At 11:30 AM at the UU Church (prior to the April 7 membership mtg), we will discuss *Half the Sky* by Nicholas Kristof. Everyone welcome; bring your lunch.

NOW Board Mtg Jan 13, 2010

Present: Wood, Perkins, Ormsbee, Timmer, Lindfors, Hupperts, Mead, Modeen, Stone, Carlson, Roberts. Lindfors presided. Location: Carolyn Modeen's.

February Board Meeting at Betty Robert's, RO #327

Treasurer: Same as Membership Minutes (SAMM)

Legislative: Some in the Senate are trying to block the Clean Air Act. In AZ, the Legislature plans tax cuts to help businesses and reduce monies for health care for the poor.

Networking: We have in writing, confirmation that LWV and SC/Peoria AAUW will co-sponsor WHM. West Valley AAUW has verbally agreed, but we must still get it in writing.

Publicity: If you have an email address of an organization, give it to Carlson. We want to put WHM publicity in their newsletters. Posters for WHM were displayed.

WHM: Refreshment Committee needs another member and will contact a newer NOW member.

Social Action: Nine have signed up for the Planned Parenthood luncheon on 5 February. Fourteen will go to the Herberger on 28 January. We will meet at old TJs at 10:15. Bring lunch. Afterwards we might go to the Art museum for dessert.

NOW State Conference: On hold

FaceBook: Could SC WV NOW benefit from doing a program on FaceBook?

Booklet: There was no enthusiasm to help out a NOW booklet and sell ads.

Program Feb Mtg: The immigrant experience as told by women writers.

In Jan Victoria Lopez spoke of the DVD "The Least of Us." We will refer this to the Program Committee.

Betty Roberts, Recorder

NOW Membership Meeting Jan 6, 2010

25 people present, Jackie Lindfors presided.

Victoria Lopez of ACLU was the speaker. Topic:

Immigrant Rights. She is an immigrant attorney.

Announcements: 1) The "Aid in Dying" rally, scheduled for 28 January has been cancelled. This issue will be pursued through the courts rather than the state legislature.

2) Lilly Ledbetter will be at AZ Women's Day at the state capitol on 25 Feb. Time TBA.

Social Activity: "Trailblazing Sadie," play at noon at the Herberger, Thursday, 28 Jan. Meet to carpool at the old Trader Joe's, 10:30 am. Bring your brown bag lunch and tell Leona Gilman (584-0144) if you plan to attend.

Book Club: We will read *Half the Sky* by Nicholas Kristof for April 7; review @ 11:30am.

WHM: Practice for everyone is Monday, 18 Jan,

2pm. We will have everyone/thing there, including the chorus and the signs.

Treasurer (Timmer): Checkbook balance is \$949.23. Emma Patterson fund--\$26.

Legislative (Hupperts): The Fed Health Care bill is in the process of being merged by the US House and Senate.

Newsletter (Smith): If you didn't get a newsletter, let Teresa know. She is changing computers.

Social Action (Gilman): So far 7 people have given her checks for the Planned Parenthood event, 5 Feb.

Networking (Ormsbee): Still haven't got in writing information from the AAUWs if they will be co-sponsors of WHM.

NOW State Conference, April 17: They are hoping to get Terry O'Neal, new national NOW president, as a keynote speaker. Theme is, "New Beginnings."

Program: In February program will be, "Immigrant Experience, as told by women writers." Phyllis Stone is in charge. **Betty Roberts, Secretary**

NOW SC/WV Board

Co-Coordinator:

Marge Mead 815-8522 margemead@cox.net

Jacklin Lindfors 975-9092 jacklin1@cox.net

Action Chair: Betty Roberts

Cultural Diversity: Phyllis Stone

Historian: Vivian Wood

Legislative Chair: Connie Hupperts

Membership: Ruth Herman & Carolyn Modeen

Newsletter: Teresa Smith

Networking: Lee Ormsbee & Helen Perkins

Program: Marilyn Schulze & Mary Knudson

Publicity: Joan Carlson

Recording Sec: Betty Roberts & Vivian Wood

Social Activities Chair: Leona Gilman

Treasurer: George & Ann Timmer