NEWSLETTER FOR

December 2011 Volume 30 Number 8

SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY NOW

National Organization for Women 10015 W Royal Oak Rd #256, Sun City, AZ 85351 http://aznow-scwv.org http://now.org

NOW's Purpose is to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society now, exercising all privileges and responsibilities thereof in truly equal partnership with men. This purpose includes, but is not limited to, equal rights and responsibilities in all aspects of citizenship, public service, employment, education and family life, and it includes freedom from discrimination because of age, marital status, sexual preference, parenthood, race, religion or ethnicity.

Membership Mtg

NOW will meet on **Wed Dec 7**, 2011, at **1:00 PM** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) behind the Art Museum, in Surprise. Our speaker will be Amy Kobeta, Vice President of the Phoenix based Children's Action Alliance. Her professional experience is community advocacy, media relations, & political messaging. She will speak about "A Perilous Society for Children." Donations to the CAA will be gratefully accepted. For further info call 623-584-9422.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dec 8, 2011 Thurs 6:00 to 8:30 PM 1820 E Guadalupe, Tempe Fundraiser for Kenya girls Sponsored by Phx/Scottsdale NOW For info: kondej@cox.net

March 10, 2012 Sat 11:30 to 4:00 PM Women's History Month Presentation UU Church, Surprise

Women's History Month

Calling all members! Hear Ye, Hear Ye! Refreshments for Women's History Month are: a batch of cookies, all of our members bring on that day, plus customized fortune cookies, plus coffee and tea. The Women Spies have already begun their work for the presentation!

What is ALEC?

ALEC is a political organization made up of conservative Republicans throughout the US.

They meet behind closed doors for the purpose of creating cookie cutter legislation for all 50 states. These "model" bills, handed to state legislators, are intended to benefit corporations & their bottom line. Corporations sit on all nine ALEC task forces, fund the operation, and vote with legislators to approve "model" bills. Participating legislators bring those proposals home and introduce them in state houses across the land as their own brilliant ideas and important public policy innovations—without disclosing that corporations crafted and voted on the bills.

ALEC boasts that it has over 1,000 of these bills introduced by legislative members every year, with one in every five of them enacted into law. Corporations pay between \$7000 & \$25000 annually to belong. In addition, certain giant corporations (like Exxon Mobile, the Koch Brothers, etc) donate million dollar grants to ALEC.

Past & present members include: Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, George HW Bush, Charles and David Koch, Richard de Vos, Tommy Thompson, Gov John Kasich, Gov Rick Perry, Congressman Mark Foley (intern sex scandal), Congressman Billy Tauzin, Speaker of the House John Boehner, House Majority Leader Eric Cantor, Congressman Joe Wilson, (called President Obama a "liar" during the State of the Union address), former House Speaker Dennis Hastert, former House Speaker Tom DeLay, Andrew Card, Donald Rumsfeld (1985 Chair of ALEC's Business Policy Board), Governor Scott Walker, Governor Jan Brewer, and more.

Featured speakers have included: Milton Friedman (free mkt economist), Newt Gingrich, Dick Cheney, Dan Quayle, George Allen, Jessie Helms, Pete Coors, Gov Mitch Daniels & more.

NOW Board Mtg Nov 9, 2011

Anita Erwin, **Treasurer** \$1,212.95

Program: Ann reported that Amy Kobeta, VP of Children's Action Alliance is December speaker. Discussion ensued about a stipend for her and our January speaker, Eddie Sissons, who will be coming from Phoenix. She thinks \$50 is the minimum we should give. Since our treasury has only \$200 not committed to the scholarship, we decided \$25.00 for each of them, and pass the hat at our meetings to make it up to the \$50.00.

Legislative: Connie Hupperts reported a letter she received from Senator McCain noted that entitlements of SS and Medicare take up 40% of the budget, so they will have to be cut. Discussion about the fallacy of this argument, about the military, about living and health needs. Connie will create a list in January of all enews addresses she receives for those interested. Her emails will be about pending legislation needing action.

Women's History Month: Marge will see if her son, Ken can sing the lyrics for the performance. Previous attempts to get someone have been futile. Discussion about messages for fortune cookies for WHM.

Next board meeting: At Mary Knudson's. Announcements: Jodie reported 1) on the meeting with the woman she and Anita met with who had a complaint about the Surprise captain of the police dept. 2) AZ NOW decided not to have a state conference or host a regional conference in the Spring. Carolyn Modeen Co-Secretary

NOW Member Mtg Nov 2, 2011

Program – Ann Timmer reported the following programs: December: Amy Kobeta, Children's Action Alliance, will speak; January: Eddie Sissons; February: Diversity Coordinator Lillian Hentel will present Famous Jewish Women."

Action – Betty Roberts reported on our presence at Occupy Phoenix on October 15 and said it will be

repeated on November 17: we'll be there. Cards and calls to members Lillian Hentel and Betsy Gilchrist will be appreciated.

Legislative: Connie Hupperts spoke of the great New Life program she attended last Sunday. She would like to do a similar program here in the future. She also showed how to fill out the form necessary in order to take an action. These should be sent to Action Coordinator Betty Roberts so she can keep track of them.

Membership: Ruth Herman introduced guest LuAnn Johnson (new member) of Sun City Grand.

Networking: Marge Mead said 25 have signed up for

the New Life Luncheon on November 18. **Treasurer:** Anita Erwin reported a balance of \$1,982.95

Compassion & Choices: Irene Weitzman reminded members of the meeting on Friday, November 18 at 12:30 pm. at the SCW Foundation Building, 14465 R.H.Johnson Blvd. Guest speaker, Phyllis Rowe talking on consumer protection with regard to memorial services, funerals, etc.

Program: Kathleen Abernathy introduced guest speaker State Representative Lela Alston who regaled us with her adventures as part of the AZ State Legislature. A question and answer period followed. Lela captivated her audience and was rewarded with a NOW coffee cup and requests for a return visit. **Lee Ormsbee, Co-Secretary**

NOW SC/WV Board

Chapter Co-Coordinators:

Jodie Lawrosky 238-5256, jtlawrosky@gmail.com; Mary Knudson 933-1106, marykinaz1@q.com

Action Coordinator: Betty Roberts

Cultural Diversity Coordinator: Lillian Hentel

Herstorian: Vivian Wood

Legislative Coordinator: Connie Hupperts

Membership Coordinator: Ruth Herman; Carolyn

Modeen

Newsletter Coordinator: Teresa Smith

Networking: Marge Mead

Program Co-Coordinators: Marilyn Schulze, Ann

Timmer

Publicity Coordinator: Betsy Gilchrist, Claudia

Sherrill

Secretary: Carolyn Modeen, Lee Ormsbee Social Activities Coordinator: Jacklin Lindfors

Treasurer: Anita Erwin