

NEWSLETTER FOR

March 2013 Volume 32 Number 3

SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY NOW

National Organization for Women
10015 W Royal Oak Rd #256, Sun City AZ 85351

<http://aznow-scwv.org>
www.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 Mar 6, 2013, at 1:00 PM** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) in Surprise. Connie Hupperts, Marilyn Schulze, & Carolyn Modeen will facilitate a discussion of issues affecting women's lives. Topics include Violence Against Women Act (up for renewal in Congress), Planned Parenthood's success (in spite of opposition), and the needs of women prisoners. All are welcome.

March 13 - 2nd Wed @ 1:30 PM

NOW Board Mtg
Vivian Wood's Apt # 133

March 28 Thurs Noon

Planned Parenthood Roe v Wade Lunch
Biltmore, Phoenix
\$75 See Carolyn Modeen

April 3-4, 2013

Pride Weekend
Kick-off event is Parade

April

NOW State Conference
Sojourner Center, Phx

July 5 - 7

National NOW Conference
Chicago IL

Calendar of Upcoming Events

March 2 Sat

Phoenix Reception for Sandra Fluke
Sponsor: AZ List
Contact Connie Hupperts

Mar 4 Monday 1:30 PM

Compassion & Choices
SCW Foundation Bldg, Quail Rm
14465 RHJohnson in SCW

March 6 Wed 7:00 PM

Planned Parenthood event
2nd Ave & Van Buren
Crescent Ballroom
Silent Film - Music
\$20 advance; \$25 @ door

March 9, 2013 Sat 2:00 PM

NOW's Women's History Month Presentation
What's My Line?
UU Church, Surprise
Tickets \$15 Carolyn Modeen

Come celebrate Women's History Month

Although interest in women's history began as early as 1911 in Europe, the economic depression in the 1930s and World War II removed it from fashion until the 1950s and 1960s. With the "Women's Liberation" movement of the '60s, interest in women's issues and women's history once more came to the forefront.

By the 1970s, the women's movement became concerned that "history" as taught in grade school and high school was incomplete inasmuch as it ignored the role women played in it. Calls for inclusion of "herstory" along with black American and Native American history led many universities to include women's history and the wider field of women's studies in their curricula.

About.com says this about Women's History Month: "The purpose of Women's History Month is to increase

consciousness and knowledge of women's history: to take one month of the year to remember the contributions of notable and ordinary women, in hopes that the day will soon come when it's impossible to learn history without remembering these contributions."

In celebration of Women's History Month, the Sun Cities/West Valley Chapter of the National Organization for Women will present its version of "What's My Line" with women of history as the mystery guests. The celebration will be at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 9, at Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N. Avenue of the Arts, Surprise. Reservations are \$15; Call 623-972-6273. Refreshments will be served.

Proceeds from the event will fund a scholarship for a female high school student and provide funding for Eve's Place, a shelter for battered and abused women.

Claudia Sherrill, Publicity Chair

Formation of Prison Reform Sub-committee

After reviewing the many areas the Board covered at the last meeting and in an effort to make more efficient use of our time, yet include all the issues that our chapter wishes to support, I would like us to form a sub-committee focused on prison reform. In order to do this, I am asking those interested to meet in the UU church after the March 6 member meeting. Be prepared to discuss the areas you want to focus on, how to get accurate information, the appropriateness of making contacts as representatives of NOW and any other issues related to this topic. It would be expected this committee would appoint a leader who would present any plans or actions for approval to the Board. As with other committees (like WHM, Actions, Social Activities, Luncheons etc.) planning can be handled through Prison Reform committee e-mails or special meetings.

Mary Smiley

Aimee Schwartz

Long time member Aimee Schwartz died 2\10\13 at the age of 94. She had a life filled with musical talent, a wonderful husband & children, & remained a staunch feminist to the end! Those of us who knew her loved her sense of style and zest for life. **CModeen**

Compassion & Choices Mtg

Ronald Halpern, community relations coordinator, Compassion & Choices in Denver, will provide an overview of the organization's activities at the national level as well as aid-in-dying legislation throughout the country. Northwest Valley Chapter meets Monday March 4, 1:30-3pm in the Coyote Quail Room, Foundation Center 14465 R H Johnson Blvd, Sun City West. Light refreshments. Parking & admission free. Contact person: freda@choicesarizona.org, 480-585-0824 or ireneweitz@aol.com

NOW Board Mtg Feb 13 2013

Meeting at co-chair, Mary Smiley's home
Treasurer Report: \$1,491 checking\available; scholarship \$1638.50. Total: \$3129.96

Adopted: Opening our general meetings with a reflection. Anita will open the March general meeting, Betty the April meeting. The General Federation of Women's Club\Wittman Chapter reflection prompted our inspiration.

Women's History Month: Turning in reservation money and final organizing for the event, followed by discussion of the VAWA (Violence Against Women Act - federal) and the AZ court decision of the health care money for Planned Parenthood.

Action: Billion Women Rising at Civic Center 2\14\23. Connie went for the dance instructions; she, Anita, Betty and Carolyn plan to go.

Scholarship: Anita Erwin in contact with Lillian Hentel, making plans for this year's scholarship.

Membership: Discussion to prepare to pass the duties from Ruth Herman to Jacki Wolfin, which includes sign in lists from 2002. Thank you, Ruth --you have been a long time and good steward of this.

Women in Prison: Connie is looking into visiting the prison. Pen Pals (4) signed up at our last meeting. Contact to be maintained with Peggy and Sue Ellen Alan. Nancy Noel is the west valley volunteer liaison but no one has her contact information.

Letters read from Rep. Kirsten Sinema and Bryon Howard. **CModeen Scribe**

NOW Member Mtg Feb 6, 2013

Meeting called to order by Mary Smiley, co-coordinator.

Action: Betty Roberts- Billion Women Rising February 14 at Civic Plaza, Phx. Marching begins at 4:30, going to the plaza. We will carpool down. Gay Pride parade in April--our participation?

Legislation: Marilyn Schulze drew our attention to the gun hearings in the capitol, with Gabbie Giffords speaking before the committee. Notable: an addition of 50 CPS workers approved. Suggestion: NOW write a letter to VP Joe Biden re passage of VAWA with copies to Congress women.

Herberger Play "Respect" We have 9 for the carpool. Meet at Royal Oaks at 12:45

Women's History Month: 1) Carlson: flyers for reservations handed out for us to disperse 2) Refreshments: Jackie Lindfors gave out recipes to use as we make tea sandwiches. For those making cookies, make them small, not large.

State NOW Conference: Smiley- to be held at Sojourner's Center in April.

Membership: Smith handed out updated roster.

Welcome to our two new members, Pat Lazar and Miriam Handler.

Program: Gina's Team (dedicated to educational programming for women in prison and help with reentry into communities) speaker Sue Ellen Allan.

Accompanying her, the west valley volunteer coordinator and an intern, going to law school. This group is named for a young prisoner who, while imprisoned, died of leukemia--for lack of medical care. AZ has the highest percent of prisoners of countries, including Russia and China. State Law: prisoners must go to school until pass 8th grade. To earn GEDs they are charged \$30, while they are making ten cents an hour for prison jobs. Sue Ellen started a prison cancer walk and made \$10,000. Ongoing--all three yards (including the men) now making the yearly walk. She started a CA support group, a toastmasters club, a red hat society. All prisons now charge a \$25.00 fee to visit their loved one. Woe to you if you work for minimum wage. The reentry volunteers help with clothes, food, hygiene, and take them to halfway houses and also mentor them. Wish list: left over money from gift cards; colored yarn and plastic crochet needles; popcorn voucher from movie theatre; bus passes. Pen pals for women in prison. Sue Ellen's book, *Slumber Party from Hell* sold afterwards. \$75.00 donated from NOW chapter. Bd Meeting: Wed 13th at Mary Smiley's.

Carolyn Modeen Scribe

NOW SC/WV Board

Chapter Co-Coordinators: Mary Smiley 214-9450;
Connie Hupperts 979-9339

Action Coordinator: Betty Roberts

Cultural Diversity Coordinator: Phyllis Stone

Herstorian: Vivian Wood

Legislative Coordinator: Marilyn Schulze

Membership Coordinator: Jacki Wolfen; Teresa Smith

Newsletter Coordinator: Teresa Smith

Networking: Marge Mead

Program Co-Coordinators: Ann Timmer, Lee Ormsbee

Publicity Coordinator: Claudia Sherrill

Secretary: Carolyn Modeen

Social Activities Coordinator: Mary Knudson

Treasurer: Anita Erwin

Web Page: Jodie Lawrosky

To contact the board, send an email to
info@aznow-scwv.org