

SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY

NOW

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

<http://aznow-scwv.org>
<http://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 May 7, 2014, at 1:00 PM** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) in Surprise. The program is a bit different from the usual. Members are being asked to write down "Why you became a feminist." Marilyn Rampley, a feminist, a certified Life-Cycle Celebrant & Director of Phoenix West Threshold Choir, will honor the members and what we do. The public, family & friends are welcome.

Final member mtg **Wed June 4** at 12:00 will be at Carolyn Modeen's Royal Oaks Apt#321 to discuss next year's WHM event. Members need to bring a dish to share.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

May 3 Sat 9:00 am – 5:30 pm

NOW South West Regional Conference
AZ Latino Arts & Cultural Center
147 E Adams St, Phx
Registration info – see pg 3

May 14 Wed 1:00 PM

Next NOW Board Mtg
Host: Teresa Smith SCW

June 4 Wed 12:00 noon

Final member mtg of the season
Discussion of Mar 2015 WHM
At Carolyn Modeen's RO Apt# 321

June 27 – 29

National NOW Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Installment #4: SC NOW History

Women's History Week was first celebrated nationally in 1981 and changed to Women's History Month in 1987. The idea for the celebration of women's history was initiated by the Sonoma County (CA) Commission on the Status of Women. The Sonoma Commission celebrated Women's History Week in March and proclaimed March 8 International Women's Day. The idea quickly spread.

Senators Barbara Mikulski and Orin Hatch co-sponsored the bill establishing Women's History Week (later expanded to the whole month of March). Informing the public about women's history and accomplishments has been a focus of the Sun Cities NOW Chapter since its beginning.

An early effort in this regard was the Susan B. Anthony luncheon in November 1981 at which the actress, Barbara Rowe, portrayed Susan B. An ardent feminist, Mrs. Rowe hoped her portrayal of the icon from the early days of the women's movement in Seneca Falls, N.Y., would show women that their actions matter. In a return performance in November 1983, Rowe portrayed Jeannette Rankin, the first woman elected to the U.S. Congress in 1916.

On August 26, 1982, the NOW Chapter brought together representatives of eighteen organizations in an Equality Day celebration of the 62nd anniversary of the ratification of the 19th Amendment. Over 100 attendees heard the speaker, Dr. Joyce Foster, Academic Vice-President of Arizona State University, remind them that the effective

use of the right to vote can eventually achieve all the other rights that women seek.

By 1991, the Sun Cities NOW Chapter was celebrating Women's History Month in the designated month of March. In fact, the Chapter has celebrated Women's History Month every March since that time.

The Storytelling Project of 1990-91 was designed to train selected NOW members in the art of storytelling. Each of the storytellers then arranged to go to a class in one of the four elementary schools selected for the Project to tell a story. Each storyteller had chosen a famous woman of history and developed a story about her. This was a popular project but the logistics proved difficult to manage.

The 1991 Women History Month performance was "Women in Concert," featuring women composers and women performers. Women writers were featured in 1992, with Carol Secord of Rio Salado Community College moderating a program of local women writers.

Running out of steam and ideas, the Chapter asked a local acting group, the Mayfair Players, to present two plays to celebrate Women's History Month in 1993.

Madeline Hansen of the St. Paul (MN) League of Women Voters came to the Chapter in 1994 with a proposition: that NOW members perform the play, "The Cabinet Meeting," which Hansen had written and performed in. The play's premise is that Susan B. Anthony is elected President of the U.S. and appoints a diverse group of notable women to her Cabinet. The NOW Chapter accepted the challenge and performed the play for Women's History Month 1994. It was a success.

NOW members immodestly decided they could write their own plays and did so for many of the ensuing years. In 1995, "Teacups and Triumphs: Women's Search for Peace" honored women peacemakers of history.

The next big production was "How the West Was Two" for Women's History Month in 1997. It depicted women's roles in settling the West.

Women's History Month programs over the years include:

1998: "Living the Legacy" (150th anniversary of the Women's Rights Movement)

1999: "Celebrating Women of the Twentieth Century: Focusing Our Energy for the New Millennium"

2000: "Voila La Femme" (This cabaret-style show was more fun than education)

2001: "The Women's Radio Hour: Station K-NOW"

2002: "R-O-A-R "Remembering Our Arizona Relatives" (Pioneer Arizona women)

2003: Steve Benson and Dan Barker, "Toons and Tunes" (Benson and Barker came to the rescue when NOW ideas were scarce)

2004: "Women in Politics" Speaker: Janet Napolitano, Governor of Arizona

2005: "Leave It to the Women" (Skits of inspirational women)

2006: "Women's Performance and Art"

2007: Women's History Month picnic

2008: "Laughter and Life" by Carol Secord

2009: "Women Who Changed America"

2010: "Men, Their Rights and Nothing More; Women, Their Rights and Nothing Less"

2011: "Women to the Rescue"

2012: "Sisterhood of Spies" (famous women spies)

2013: "What's My Line?" (a take-off on the TV show with famous women as guests Vivian Wood Herstorian)

Planned Parenthood luncheon

The Planned Parenthood luncheon was once again a full house of perhaps 900 supporters gathered together to hear the keynote speaker, Jodi Jacobson, who is editor-in-chief of RH Reality Check, a daily online publication providing news of sexual and reproductive health and justice issues. Check into that on the web--just type RH Reality Check and it will open up. CModeen

Sexual Harrassment Law Weakened

The National Women's Law Center reports that the Supreme Court in a 5-4 decision made it more difficult for many women who experience sexual harassment on the job: the Court held that workers only have strong protections from harassment by a supervisor if the supervisor also has the power to hire and fire. In actuality, most supervisors do not have the power to hire and fire. Hopefully, we will get some clarification as to what this means--just what is left for protection of the person in light of this ruling....? Carolyn Modeen

NOW Board Mtg Apr 9, 2014

Scholarship: 3 NOW members will interview students at Dysart H.S.

NOW South West Regional Conference (May 3): We have received invitations in the mail; for more info go to state NOW

web site. We will car pool.

Treasurer: Bottom line is \$2124.99; WHM \$1030 gross, \$916.78 net. 68 tickets sold.

Web site: no change. Next project is to incorporate NOW history.

Nominating Committee: Marilyn Schulze, Helen Perkins, Ann Timmer. Possible candidates: Program: Kathleen would work with someone but not chair; The following will continue if asked: Herstory: Wood; Legislative: Hupperts; Secretary: Roberts; Treasurer: Erwin; Membership: Ormsbee; Action: Schulze; Newsletter: Smith; Co leaders: Sharon Pitts??, Modeen.

Program: next meeting "A Celebration of your Story--Your Voice."

Conversation ensued regarding cooperation with other women's groups on a common issue; AND should WHM money go to one person (scholarship) or to benefit many women (shelter).

Vivian Wood will find out if Eve's Place is still located in the West Valley. This year: \$1000 for scholarship, \$200 to a shelter and \$50 to Malala Fund.

Action: We are going to talk with our representative, Debbie Lesko (Schulze, Modeen, Roberts).

NOW National Conference (June in Albuquerque): If Anita and Connie go, it is possible for them to stay with our former members, Shirley Patterson and Susan Cho.

Betty Roberts Recorder

NOW Member Mtg Apr 2, 2014

Modeen presiding

Program: Dr. Michelle Tellez, School of Humanities, ASU New College, "Gender implications of International Development."

Next Board meeting May14 at Teresa Smith's home in SCW.

Scholarship Committee: 3 members will conduct interviews at Dysart High School.

Legislation: The Supreme Ct eliminated the restriction on the number of candidates someone can donate to but the dollar amount limit remains the same per candidate.

Action: On Thursday, 10 April at 10 am we have an appointment to talk with our representative, Debbie Lesko. (Meet at Roy Oaks 9:15 to carpool).

NOW South West Regional Conference is May 3 at the Hispanic Arts Center, 147 E Adams, Phx.

Registration info: catalinahall_9@msn.com or 2300 N Camino del Gato, Tucson AZ 85743

Program 7 May: "A Celebration of Your Story." Facilitator is Marilyn Rampley, Director of Phoenix West Threshold Choir.

WHM Report: We sold 64 tickets.

Betty Roberts, Recorder

NOW SC/WV Board

Chapter Coordinator: Carolyn Modeen 972-6273

Action Coordinator: Marilyn Schulze

Cultural Diversity Coordinator: Joan Carlson

Herstorian: Vivian Wood

Legislative Coordinator: Connie Hupperts

Liaison to State NOW: Connie Hupperts

Membership Coordinator: Lee Ormsbee

Newsletter Coordinator: Teresa Smith

Networking: Marge Mead

Program Coordinators: Kathleen Abernathy & Joan Carlson

Publicity Coordinator: Claudia Sherrill, Jodie Lawrosky

Scholarship: Anita Erwin

Secretary: Ann Timmer & Betty Roberts

Social Activities Coordinator: Mary Knudson

Treasurer: Anita Erwin

Web Page: Jodie Lawrosky

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