

# SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY

# NOW

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

<http://aznow-scvv.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 Jan 7, 2015, at 1:00 PM** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) in Surprise. Eve Reyes-Aguirre will be our guest speaker. She will discuss indigenous women's issues in Arizona and her work with the United Nations. The public is welcome.

### Calendar of Upcoming Events

Jan 14 Wed 1:00 PM  
Next NOW Board Mtg  
Host: Connie Hupperts

April 10, 2015 Fri 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM  
Sheraton Hotel in Phoenix  
Planned Parenthood Luncheon (tkr \$100)

### Our Jan Speaker, Eve Reyes-Aguirre

Eve Reyes-Aguirre was born and raised in East Los Angeles where she began her work in Community organizing. She moved to Phoenix, AZ in 1997 where her formal education began with observance of respect & responsibilities of Mexico/Azteca traditions and ceremonies.

Since 1997 she has been a part of Tonatierra and the Nahuacalli and its mission of serving as an embassy of indigenous Peoples. Thru her work at the Nahuacalli she has assisted, supported and advocated in many indigenous struggles including the protection of sacred sites, migration, water rights, preservation of indigenous knowledge and culture, and the advancement of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of indigenous Peoples. She has also been a representative of her com-

munity at the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues for the past 6 years where she addressed issues affecting her community. Eve currently serves as Co-Chair for the Global indigenous Women's Caucus and has served as the Special Rapportuer for the Global Indigenous Women's Caucus for the tenth and eleventh sessions of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Most recently Eve has been actively involved in organizing, participating and speaking in a series of forums, panels and conferences on the Doctrine of Discovery and its impact on Indigenous Peoples. Eve is a proud wife and mother of 4 and carries the traditional responsibilities of her community throughout her advocacy for injustices with the full support and blessings of her community and family.

**Kathleen Abernathy, Program**

### Jacklin Lindfors

It is never easy having to deal with the death of any of our NOW family, especially when it is one of our younger members. Jacklin Lindfors, a former Chair of our Chapter, died in Dec 2014. She had a heart that included the whole earth and with intelligence and willingness to act on this love, served in many ways. She, often with the accompaniment of Nils, her beloved husband, would join our rallies for whatever was our cause. We have been missing her as she dealt with the ravages of her cancer. We will continue to miss her.

We will honor Jackie on Saturday January 10 at Royal Oaks at 2:00PM. We will meet in the front lobby and then go to the outside fireplace. If the weather is bad, we will meet at Betty Roberts, Apt 327, the south wing from elevators 1 or 6, first apartment on the left. **Bring memories to share of Jackie. CModeen**

## UMOM Donations

Anita Erwin and Connie Hupperts report about the items we gave in Dec for the Domestic Violence Shelter UMOM: They were impressed with the well-organized shelter and with multiple resources available to help the families, including on site employment placements in the community. They saw no lingering results from the severe flooding from the monsoon in August. Thank you to everyone who brought linens, hygiene products, etc. CModeen

### #7 – SC NOW History - Legislative Activity

The Chapter got its start in the 1980s when momentum for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was in full swing. The U.S. Congress had passed the ERA but it had to be ratified by three-fourths of the State Legislatures before it could be enacted into law. Ratification by only three more states was needed at that time. All eyes were on Oklahoma, Illinois and Nebraska. These states were thought to be the most likely to ratify.

Miriam Cafferty, our Chapter founder, and Ann Timmer, its first president, traveled to Oklahoma to participate in a huge rally to put pressure on the State Legislature to ratify. They also fashioned a home-made banner from old tablecloths touting the ERA and marched in a Phoenix parade. They never faltered in their efforts for the ERA but by the end of the 1980s, the backlash against women, so aptly described by Susan Faludi in *Backlash* (1991), had taken effect. (Indeed, the backlash began immediately after World War II when women were expected to retreat to their pre-war position of being “only housewives” or taking low-paying jobs, usually part-time, with no benefits.)

Early on, Chapter members went to the Arizona State Legislature and sat in the gallery to watch the legislators in action. They got to know the legislators from their district and made their views known. There's a newspaper clipping in one of the Scrapbooks of “pro-choice advocates Alice Dockrell, Carolyn Modeen, Mildred Karp, and Ann Timmer in the Arizona House of Representatives gallery to keep up with bills before the legislature.”

As Chapter leaders became familiar with the process and trained interested members, they made their positions known by speaking for or against bills under consideration. Eventually the annual election of new officers included a Legislative Coordinator. Over time “those feisty ol' gals from NOW” became well known at the State Legislature. Ann Timmer was a familiar figure

there for many years. Marge Mead, who served as Legislative Coordinator from 2000 to 2007, was especially well known and considered by some legislators to be a “thorn in their side.”

For several years NOW members, in tandem with members from the League of Women Voters and AAUW, participated in Legislative Day at the State Legislature. State legislators would have lunch with members of their districts and discuss upcoming legislation. Fewer and fewer legislators showed up for these occasions. The idea for Legislative Day, as originally conceptualized, has been abandoned.

As the Arizona Legislature became more conservative and right-wing (as did Legislatures in other Red states), it tried to pass legislation that would restrict abortion and family services. The Chapter opposed these efforts and were kept up to date by the Legislative Coordinator who urged them to contact their legislators and protest.

National politicians attacked Planned Parenthood and tried to shut it down as part of its campaign to stop abortions—even the use of contraceptives. The NOW Chapter is closely allied with the Arizona Planned Parenthood and opposed restrictive efforts in Arizona. There were many Letters to the Editor protesting the treatment of Planned Parenthood. The Arizona Planned Parenthood has been able to stave off restrictions better than the organization in other conservative states.

Another major thrust of the Chapter's efforts has been legislation to help domestic violence victims. As stated elsewhere, the Chapter has helped call attention to the problem with its Silent Witness figures and helped deal with the problem by supporting Eve's Place and New Life for the victims of abuse.

A NOW member, working with the League of Women Voters, was able to get legislation in Arizona establishing Clean Elections, which enables candidates without major resources to run for public office. Despite efforts by the legislature to weaken the law regarding Clean Elections, so far they have failed to destroy it.

Vivian Wood Herstorian

### NOW Board Mtg Dec 10, 2014

Meeting was held at home of Marilyn Schulze, Carolyn Modeen presiding.

**Planned Parenthood luncheon** is at the Sheraton Hotel in downtown Phoenix. Cost is \$100.

**Two cards have been sent:** one to Betsy Gilchrist and 1 to Jackie Lindfors.

**Treasurer's Report:** We have a total of \$1617.55. Could we get a report next year of what money is left over from WHM and what money we have left for Chapter expenses?

It was MSP that **\$500** of our left-over money from previous WHM events go to **New Life shelter** in Goodyear.

**AZ State NOW convention** will be held on same day as WHM. Conference in the am and WHM in the pm.

**Secretary should send a letter to PP** to see if they would reduce the price of their luncheon so retirees in SC such as ourselves could afford to attend.

**Program:** Jan.--Kathleen Abernathy; Feb.--Joan Carlson.

**Membership:** One possible new member.

**Action:** Are we going to Debbie Lesko's office? We will address this subject later.

We are looking for **petitions** to give the Medal of Freedom to Judge Motley. Tanya of Phoenix Metro Chapter will get some to us.

We will charge \$15 for WHM/State NOW Conference.

**Betty Roberts, Recorder**

### **NOW Member Mtg Dec 3, 2014**

Modeen presided and told of the NOW Phoenix Metro Chapter event—a movie “Justice is a black woman,” the story of Constance Baker Motley, first black woman appointed to the federal bench.

**Women's History Month:** A storyteller will give a program on the first black woman millionaire.

**Discussion** ensued on the UPS case concerning their putting a pregnant woman on leave. She has sued and it is coming up before the Supreme Court.

**Speaker:** Lila Austen, Representative in the AZ Legislature. Austin was introduced by Kathleen Abernathy. Issues of the coming year in the AZ Legislature were discussed.

**Joan Carlson** announced that Feb's program is “Seven,” the story of 7 women who stood up to power and became leaders in their country.

**Betty Roberts, Recorder**

### **NOW SC/WV Board**

**Chapter Coordinator:** Carolyn Modeen 972-6273

**Action Coordinator:** Marilyn Schulze, Helen Perkin, Ann Timmer

**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:**

**Program Coordinators:** Kathleen Abernathy & Betsy Gilchrist

**Publicity Coordinator:** Jodie Lawrosky

**Scholarship:** Anita Erwin

**Secretary:** Betty Roberts

**Social Activities Coordinator:**

**Treasurer:** Anita Erwin

**Web Page:** Jodie Lawrosky

To contact the board, send an email to [info@aznow-scwv.org](mailto:info@aznow-scwv.org)