

SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY

NOW

National Organization for Women
10015 W Royal Oak Rd #321, Sun City AZ 85351

<http://aznow-scwv.org>
www.now.org

NOW's Purpose is to take action through intersectional grassroots activism to promote feminist ideals, lead societal change, eliminate discrimination, and achieve and protect the equal rights of all women and girls in all aspects of social, political, and economic life.

Membership Mtg

NOW will meet on **Wed April 4, 2018**, at 1:00 PM at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) in Surprise. The program is The One Million Bones Project. Doreen Romney, a founding member of Darfur and Beyond, will speak about this organization and their mission: Bringing people and organizations together to promote advocacy and build political will to end genocide and mass atrocities throughout the world. The public is welcome.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Apr 11 Wed 1:00 PM

Next NOW Board Mtg
Host: Carolyn Modeen

Mar 27, 2018 Tues 12 to 1:30 PM

Stand with Planned Parenthood Luncheon
AZ Biltmore Resort Phx

July 6 – 8, 2018 Fri – Sun

National NOW Conference
San Jose CA
Some scholarships – see aznow.org

The state conference of Arizona NOW, held March 17 in Tucson, was exhilarating and inspiring. It was co-sponsored by the Tucson chapter of NOW and the Pima Area Labor Federation. Attendees included 55 who pre-registered and some last-minute walk-ins.

The keynote speaker, Dr. Sanjam Ahluwalia, is a professor in the Department of History and Women's and Gender Studies Program at Northern Arizona University.

A lively four-member panel of elected officials was composed of Rep. Charlene Fernandez of Yuma, who represents Legislative District 4 in the state House of Representatives; Channel Powe, a member of the Balsz

school board and the Maricopa County Transportation Advisory Board; Rep. Pamela Powers-Hannley, who represents District 9 in the state House of Representatives and who introduced the Equal Rights Amendment in 2017 and 2018; and Karin Uhlich, who was elected to three terms on the Tucson City Council from 2005-2017.

At lunch, the audience was entertained by the Esperanza Dance Project. It is comprised of young people who believe in eradicating the stigma, secrecy and shame associated with childhood sexual violence. They deliver a message of hope, strength and empowerment to audiences through high school multimedia performance tours in Arizona.

In the afternoon, "Women in the Workforce" was a discussion of labor unions in Arizona from a woman's perspective, and then the crowd dispersed into three breakout sessions: "Emerge! Center for Domestic Violence;" a reproductive rights action forum led by Planned Parenthood Arizona; and a YMCA program, "Standing Up for Racial Justice with #MeToo."

Professor Ahluwalia, in her wide-ranging speech, noted that Frederick Douglass was the only black man at the women's rights convention at Seneca Falls, N.Y., in 1848. She said Anna J. Cooper is known as the mother of black feminism. A replica of the moving speech "Ain't I A Woman" delivered by Sojourner Truth in 1851 can be heard online. Ahluwalia said that the word feminism was the most searched word in Webster's English dictionary in 2017.

Discussing misogyny, she told the group that there are 200 million missing women in the world. She said that intersectional feminism is vital.

In the question-and-answer session, audience member Shelley McEwan of Oracle recommended the revealing book "Nomadland" about an underclass of women who live in vans and recreational vehicles.

Panelist Fernandez said that to reach pay equity, "Women have to be at the table. Decisions are made over our heads, and no one asks what we think." She

said that until the House speaker and the Senate president are women, "we will not see change."

She drew audience laughs when she said that a male colleague in the Legislature stood up and said that women were grandstanding because the women want to make the men look bad.

"I have news for him. It doesn't take us to make them look bad."

Channel Powe urged the crowd to think of women who need mentors and then to tell them, "You don't have to be your circumstance. Yes, you can. You can make this world a better place. ... We need to uplift each other."

She added, "A lot of times, men are empowered to stand up and speak out. They've got the bro code, the bromance thing going on. Think about being your sisters' keeper."

Powers-Hannley said Republicans in the Legislature don't want to hear the ERA bill because they don't want to be embarrassed.

"We have been embarrassing them every week."

She said that since Don Shooter was expelled from the AZ Legislature after accusations of sexual misconduct, "some have gone to charm school. But still, you see racism and sexism every day in the Arizona House. They treat Latinas worse. They interrupt them in committee meetings."

Uhlich said that intersectionality is critically important, and she added, "We need to recognize how much we need each other as oppressed people."

Powe urged the conference attendees to become leaders and not to wait until they have official titles.

"We don't have to wait for a placard with our name on it to be a leader. We don't have to wait until we're elected to be a leader. We don't have to wait until someone gives us permission to speak up. ... We have to shake the ground."

Fernandez reminded the group of the importance of voting, but that only voting is not enough.

"Vote, and take five people with you."

(Contributor name withheld upon request. Thank you for the article)

Equal Rights Amendment

The AZ Ways and Means committee did not allow a striker to hear the ERA bill. Planned action now: If a lot of us are at the AZ capitol (we will be alerted as to when) maybe a move on the Senate or House floor can force it to be heard. **Carolyn Modeen**, reporting for the ERA committee.

New York, NY, February 28, 2018—Carol Robles-Román will become Co-President and CEO of the ERA Coalition and the Fund for Women's Equality

(nationally). She will take up the position in March. 2018. Carol has led Legal Momentum as its President and CEO. During Carol's tenure, Legal Momentum has worked as a Lead Organization with the ERA Coalition on advocacy for an equal rights amendment to the United States Constitution, and she co-chaired its Legal Task Force.

"To be equal in the U.S. Constitution may be the oldest #MeToo Movement, and the ERA Coalition aims to get us there. Carol Robles-Román is a national leader with the vision and experience to explode the myth of equality, and make it a Constitutional reality at last," said ERA Coalition Board member Gloria Steinem.

Monthly Email and Link

Here is the link to our website (<http://aznow-scwv.org/>) & our monthly newsletter which will provide you with information regarding our Monthly Mtg which takes place the first Wednesday of each month, beginning at 1 PM. Please see the newsletter for details.

NOW Board Mtg Mar 14, 2018

Women's History Month with Sherri Koopot from the Phx Art Museum gave an excellent presentation on Women Throughout History who have changed the world. Gross profit, \$547 to go to the AZ ERA committee. (Net profit) Suggestions for next year: gluten free should be available. Discuss ahead of time amount of money to be given out to the church, the speaker, etc.

Nomination Committee needs activation. At next general meeting, ask for volunteers from the floor. In follow-up from the DVESV speaker, Kathleen will ask Tom if he would tell the chapter president what the need for calls to legislators is for that week and she will relay it to Teresa to send out to our members. Carolyn will call Doreen Nicholas for clarification of shelters for rape victims.

We need a new liaison for our chapter to AZ State NOW. Kathleen will see if Ginny-Lee would keep us informed, as she is the state NOW Treasurer. It is with regret that we will no longer have Luci Scot, who is joining the Phoenix NOW chapter. A source from State NOW to help extend our publicity.

Rally supporting the students (and all of us) with the gun rally March 24 at the state capitol.

During the board meeting, we addressed 50 post cards in support of Dr Hiral running for Congressional District 8 --and paid for the postage. **CModeen**

NOW Member Mtg Mar 7, 2018

Women's Watch Column, Daily News Sun: Jane King and Natalie will work together to represent NOW and write the column with the other writers from AAUW and LWV

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

Program: From the Attorney General's office, Betty Delano spoke about Adult Protective Abuse: if financial or neglect of the elderly, call the Attorney General's office for legal help.

To check on the charity to donate to: [www.Charity Navigator](http://www.CharityNavigator.com). Don't sign anything you don't understand. Copy your Medicare card and black out your SS number except for the last 4 numbers.

AZ Coalition to End Sexual and Domestic Violence (AZESDV), Dorene Nicholas. Many helpful handouts given as to legislation passed and legislation still needed, such as a shelter for rape victims.

The profile of these mass shooters is that first they cause domestic violence in their home and from there they go on to mass shooting. Needed: giving up guns when a domestic violent episode.

See the documentary on TV soon I Am Evidence. From the LWV from Jane, handouts about the targeting of public schools--"AZ schools are great". Plan: Set up with Tom, Anita and (?) about the weekly call to ACTION with legislation for Domestic and Sexual Violence. **CModeen**

NOW SC/WV Board

Chapter Coordinator: Carolyn Modeen 972-6273
Action Coordinator: Open
AZ State NOW Rep: Connie Hupperts
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