

SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY NOW

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

<http://aznow-scv.org>
<http://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 Dec 5, 2018, at 1:00 PM** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) in Surprise. Senator Elect Lela Alston will be presented the Golden Apple Award and will speak on the upcoming AZ Legislative session. Alston has distinguished herself serving four terms as District 24 Representative, serving on the Phoenix Union High School District Governing Board, supported education for women and girls, and has worked on restoring funding for public schools that provide career and technical training to students. The public is welcome.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dec 12 Wed 1:00 PM
Next NOW Board Mtg
Host: Carolyn Modeen

April 18, 2019 Thurs 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
Stand with Planned Parenthood Phoenix Luncheon
AZ Biltmore
2400 E Missouri Ave

Golden Apple Award

Our chapter reactivates the Golden Apple Award after having previously given this award to those who were working for women's issues: Representative Ed Pastor (funding for reproductive rights/needs); Gloria Feldt, CEO of our local Planned Parenthood, then National CEO of PP. Representative Kyrsten Sinema, now US Senator. Diane Post, lawyer and activist for women's issues. Others include Janet Napolitano (former AZ Governor), & Shirley McAllister. Today we award Representative, AZ Senator Elect, Lela Alston, for many years of accomplishments on behalf of women. She will speak about dynamics of this coming season for the AZ legislature. CModeen

The State of Virginia & the ERA

Landmark court rulings, laws and constitutional amendments have given women the right to vote, to make decisions about their reproductive health and, to some degree, to receive equal pay for equal work. But women are not guaranteed equal rights under the U.S. Constitution. That's why, for decades, women's rights advocates across the country have supported an Equal Rights Amendment.

Nearly 50 years ago, Congress passed the Equal Rights Amendment, barring sex discrimination. But 38 states had to ratify it before it could take effect. Earlier this year, Illinois became state No. 37, and a bipartisan group of lawmakers is campaigning to make Virginia the final, historic vote.

Virginia Democrats tried last year to ratify this amendment without success. Today, there seems to be some Republican support. Democrat Jennifer Carroll Foy is sponsoring a bill along with Republican Glen Sturtevant, despite some conservative resistance. Maybe the time is here & politicians will do the right thing soon. From NPR

Here's a Scandal

In the Nov 6, 2018 midterm elections, these are some of the unfair results:

Wisconsin	53% voted for Democrats 45% voted for Republicans.
Yet	36% seats won by Dems 64% seats won by R's
Pennsylvania	53% voted for Democrats 45% voted for Republicans
Yet	46% seats won by Dems 54% seats won by R's
Michigan	52% voted for Dem 47% voted for R

Yet	47% seats won by Dem
	53% seats won by R
N Carolina	50% voted for Dem
	47% voted for R
Yet	46% seats won by Dem
	54% seats won by R

Other interesting facts about the election: Across the US, Democrats outvoted the Republicans by 8 points. In order for Dems to achieve their fair representation, Dems have to win Governorships and State Houses &/or vote for non-partisan commissions to draw district boundaries. AZ has such a commission though the Republicans repeatedly try to gut our commission and give more power to the Republican Governor.

Some facts regarding the popular vote margins: In the 1974 midterm elections (after Watergate & the Nixon resignation) Dems beat the Repubs by 8.7 million votes. In the 2018 midterms, Dems won by 8.91 million votes. Put another way, so far Dems won 53.1% of all votes counted while R's earned 45.1%.

35 new Dem women are elected to the Congressional House; 1 new R woman is elected. In the Senate, 23 new Dem women & 6 new R women are elected.

The average age of Congress in 2019 drops dramatically (by 10 yrs) thanks to newly elected millennials. More than 100 women are elected to the House for the first time ever; also 2 Native American women & 2 Muslim women (first time ever).

Dems say they are committed to strengthening democracy at home, removing obstacles to voting, & reducing the influence of political money.

TSmith, editor

NOW Board Mtg Nov 14, 2018

Attendees: Carolyn M., Kathleen A., Lynne L., Betty R., Doreen R., Tom R., Marilyn S.

Absent: Emma H., Jodie L., Teresa S. Caroline W.

Treasury: Kathleen Abernathy reports \$771.11 in the banking account and no incoming checks from National from dues. She will have a budget and a policy for money to be used for speakers, etc. ready for our

scrutiny at our next board meeting. She would like to send a letter to our membership to remember to donate money to our chapter in honor of a memorial or a celebration of someone in their lives.

A/V Operations at the UU Church: **Marilyn Schulze** will ask Chuck (UU Church) to work with Tom to set up audio and video for our meetings. In the future we may use him on a case-by-case basis.

Right to Speak (ALIS) Applications: Lynne Leonard has a list of chapter members who have asked to be added to the ALIS System, so they may have input to Bills coming up through the Arizona Legislature. Since our November meeting, the offices of State Representative Lela Alston, have offered to add any additional chapter members into ALIS.

Kathleen and Lynne went to the demonstration against the firing of Jeff Sessions in the Wesley Bolin Plaza at the State Capitol the evening after his dismissal.

Upcoming Schedule:

December: Lela Alston and the Golden Apple award. – Logistics discussed.

January: ERA – Doreen R., Kathleen A., and Lynne L. will attend the ERA Task Force Meeting. Additionally, Kathleen A. will speak to Dianne Post about input she may have on this topic.

February: – Doreen R. will be looking into potential speakers on this topic.

Discussion about networking among various interest groups related to the topic of the meeting.

Women's History Month: Decided to look at doing storytelling, drawing upon story telling students at South Mountain and our own backgrounds of interest. Refreshments as we sit around the tables and donations for the event.

Additional Notes:

A discussion followed regarding the International Planned Parenthood Federation/Western Hemisphere Region (IPPF/WHR) regarding their stand against Trump's Global Gag Rule that cut U.S. funding for international organizations that provide, advocate for, or even talk about abortion services. Because they chose to NOT abide by a restrictive order that puts women's lives at risk and runs counter to their mission, they have lost millions of dollars of federal funding.

Prior to this administration, the Global Gag rule only cut off funds for contraceptive services. With the new Trump administration changes, this extends the Global

Gag rule to cut off all U.S. health assistance, including funding for HIV/AIDS, maternal health and infectious diseases.

Based on this information, Carolyn M has suggested that she ask Planned Parenthood if it is ok to stand in front of a couple of these anti-choice clinics that have sprung up in the West Valley and hand out information as to where to go for contraceptives and other women's health needs.

Meeting end: 3:15pm

Scribe: Carolyn Modeen

Edits by Kathleen Abernathy & Jodie Lawrosky

Member Mtg Nov 7, 2018

NOW SC/WV Board

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To contact the board, send an email to
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