

# SUN CITIES/WEST VALLEY NOW

National Organization for Women  
10015 W Royal Oak Rd #154, Sun City, AZ 85351

<http://aznow-scvv.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 4, 2019**, at **1:00 PM** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 17540 N Ave of the Arts (off Bell) in Surprise. The speaker will be Joye Kohl, member of the Questers Project. There will also be a demonstration of ALIS (the Request to Speak software used to communicate to the AZ State Legislature). The public is welcome.

## Calendar of Upcoming Events

Dec 11 Wed 1:30 PM  
Next NOW Board Mtg  
Host: Carolyn Modeen

**Notice:** There will be no January meeting. Instead there will be a movie, RISK, (trailer to follow).  
Where? UU church on Avenue of the Arts (off Bell Rd)  
When? Saturday, January 11  
Time? 2:00PM  
Suggested donation of \$15.00 to Planned Parenthood, Glendale office, for reproductive health care (contraceptives) for low income women. The movie Risk is about women reporters who risk their lives as they report on one of the many wars being waged in "hot spot" countries. **CModeen**

## National NOW news

The Violence Against Women Act, VAWA has passed the House, but is languishing in the senate because the NRA and Mitch McConnell do not want guns withheld from abusers if they are not spouses—boyfriends, stalkers, etc. The House has passed many good proposals during the course of the year, only to see it languish in the senate. **CModeen**

## Minutes Member Meeting Nov 6, 2019

Laura, our lobbying person, gave a quick update on the Vital Visions organization. The group recruits women in leadership positions around the world to fight for women's rights and collaborates with women in leadership to "make the world a better place" through democracy, leadership, collaboration, and advocacy.

Dianne Post with the ERA Taskforce gave an update on what is going on with the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) efforts.

The State of Virginia just elected a Democratic majority so it is expected that they will vote on ratification of the ERA on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020, and it is expected to pass. This will make VA the 38<sup>th</sup> state to ratify the ERA.

The AZ ERA Taskforce has spent the summer going to events across the state to educate people on the ERA and gain support for it. They got 91 cities/towns with the League of City and Towns to formally support the ERA except for Phoenix, who refused. It was estimated only 27% of AZ knew the ERA was a thing and 80% of people think it already passed.

Things we can do to help with the ERA effort:

- Sign letters to remove/extend the deadline for ratification of the ERA and send them to Sinema, McSally, and Lesko.
- Get churches and businesses to sign letters of support for the ERA.

There will be an event "Unlock the Future": on December 8<sup>th</sup> at the Capitol in the Rose garden from noon to 2. This is a NOW sponsored event and a national NOW representative will be there. The event is focused on the current situation at the U.S. southern border and the impact on women and girls.

## NOW SC/WV Board

**Chapter CoCoordinators:** Carolyn Modeen 972-6273; Emma Haring, 693-3050

**Membership Coordinator:** Lynne Leonard

**Newsletter Coordinator:** Teresa Smith

**Publicity Coordinator:** Betty Roberts

**Refreshments:** Becky Sayler

**Secretary Coordinator:** Becky Sayler

**Treasurer:** Kathleen Abernathy

**Web Mistress:** Jodie Lawrosky

**Other Board Members:** Doreen Romney, Marilyn Schulze, Tom Reemtsma, Joan Carlson

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

Kathleen Abernathy is co-hosting an event for Lela Alston in December. Lela has been a staunch supporter of the ERA & has been very helpful promoting it at the Capitol. Contact Kathleen if you are interested in this event (jacymae@cox.net).

The speaker for our December 4<sup>th</sup> meeting will be Joye Kohl with the Qwesters on “How the West Led the Way” regarding women’s rights. **Becky Sayler**

### Minutes Member Meeting Oct 2, 2019

We had ice cream sundaes to celebrate the 40th anniversary of our chapter.

**Guest Speaker:** Sheila Ogea talked about the National NOW convention. Her favorite speakers were some women from third world countries who advocated for women’s rights. These women were in terrible situations and managed to still be alive and help others. Sheila said a lot of time was spent on resolutions. If anyone is interested in getting involved with National, watch their social media for opportunities.

AZ NOW is thinking about hosting the NOW National Convention in 2021.

**General Discussion:** The 19th Amendment Group is having their 100th anniversary for the 19th Amendment event on August 23rd, 2020. Save the Date!

**The ERA Taskforce** will be focusing on educating people vs. lobby a lot in 2020. It will still be difficult to pass the ERA in AZ unless we get new people in the legislature. The group will continue fighting until the ERA is passed in AZ.

There will be an event, “Unlock the Future,” to work for immigrant rights on December 8th in the Rose Garden at the Capitol. Attendees will be asked to bring used clothing, toiletries, and sanitary products for women. They will be asked to support the Bill of Rights for People in Immigration Detention Prisons. More information will be coming out. There will be an Unlock the Future event in San Diego, Houston, and Phoenix in 2020.

There was a lengthy discussion about increasing our chapter membership. Some suggestions were to increase our social media presence (more FB posts and more articles/pictures in the newspaper), possibly twitter, table at events, check into drawing in the at-large members). Scribe - **Becky Sayler**