

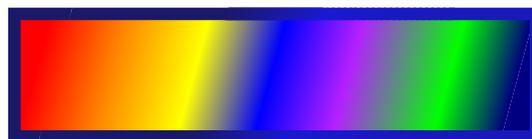


# NOW

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN  
SONOMA COUNTY, CA

## Sonoma County

July 2020  
President's Message



Hard to believe it is July, and I am wishing everyone a happy Fourth of July. This last month once again brought to the forefront Black Lives Matter, a reminder to stay active, and the importance of Shelter in Place and wearing a mask.

This will be my last message as President, and I want to thank the members and our executive team, Eileen, Rebecca, and Marion, for helping to make my three years as President a success. During my presidency we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of NOW, received a proclamation from the Board of Supervisors honoring NOW, developed a great website (shout out to our Webmaster Ken Norton), had two showings of Iron Jawed Angels, produced a memorable 2020 calendar with national and local California heroes celebrating the 19th Amendment's Centennial of Woman Suffrage, and supported the Juneteenth Festival for the past three years, among many other actions. We have a lot to be proud of.

We need members, and some to become part of the Executive Committee to provide input and help with events in order to keep our Sonoma County chapter alive. Encourage your friends, daughters, granddaughters, and nieces to become members.

On my Women's Spaces radio show I had the honor of interviewing Dr. Jean Shinoda Bolen, who reminded me of the importance of having circles of women. I would like the chapter to try something new for the July 15 meeting by setting up a Zoom meeting in two parts: Part 1 the regular monthly membership meeting and Part 2 the beginning of a circle where we can get to know one another and support each other in projects or events. Email us at [info@nowsonoma.org](mailto:info@nowsonoma.org) for Zoom instructions and time.

**Good news!** The Petaluma Museum will be open on August 26 honoring the 100th Anniversary of the passing of the 19th Amendment, and the Sonoma County Museum is opening for members only on Wednesday, July 1 through Friday, July 3 from 11:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. and the general public reopening will begin on Thursday, July 9. Don't miss the Sonoma County NOW section there!

It has been an honor to serve as your President. NOW is needed more than ever, and I hope we all get our thinking caps on to help build the organization.

We will be having our regular monthly meeting on July 15,, at 1:00 pm via conference call. If you are interested in attending please email us for the details, at [info@nowsonoma.org](mailto:info@nowsonoma.org)

### IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message	Page 1
Minutes & Agenda	Page 2
Her Story	Page 3
Sonoma County Museum	Page 3
Think about	Page 3
Letter re: FPPC # 1422712	Page 4
Time to Speak Up	Page 5
In Case You Missed it	Page 5
# Not Normal	Page 5
Good News	Page 5

**Sonoma County National Organization for Women,**  
P O Box 6223  
Santa Rosa, CA 95406 ,  
[www.nowsonoma.org](http://www.nowsonoma.org),  
[info@nowsonoma.org](mailto:info@nowsonoma.org)  
707 545 5036

## Minutes of June 17, 2020 MEETING

Meeting was called to order at 1:02 PM

**Introductions** were not needed as everyone knew each other

**Minutes** were approved as SUBMITTED (MSC)

**Agenda** was approved as submitted (MSC)

**Financial Report** - Only expense was the phone bill.

**Website** - appears to be going well; Notice of Juneteenth needs to be added; note to be added that Calendars can still be ordered; the picture of the Women's March, January 2020, needs to be described as having taken place.

Ribbon Project - Still need to make contact with League of Women Voters. It was decided to wait until matters related to the Black Lives Matter movement subsides before publicity efforts are made. The notice on the Ribbon Project will be sent to Marion's list and a PDF to other NOW members.

**Discussion** - "Where do we go from here?" July issue of the Newsletter will include Elaine's last "Letter from the President." Elaine spoke with California NOW president, Kolieka, about having interim officers for now. Elaine may speak with the Young Dems organization as well as SSU for participation.

Since so many are already involved with the 2020 Celebrations, it may be best to wait until that energy is spent before we inspire additional energy.

### New Business

Sonoma County museum - There may be a continuing demand for more 2020 Centennial calendars. Can we prepare sections of the calendar for posting in the Museum in line with their display? Several options will be presented to the museum (calendar and pictures of the Santa Rosa March and Sonoma County Board of Supervisors' presentation).

Information about adding items to the Petaluma Museum display will be researched.

**MSC:** To order 10 more calendars.

**The Zoom meeting** scheduled for June 18th was canceled. More information is needed (cost; host; time allowed) - Rebecca will check into these matters.

**Juneteenth** is June 19th - people can sign up for participation. Question arose as to whether this could become a class, maybe at SSU.

President Elaine wrote a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Evelyn Cheatham IOLERO Proposition - **suggested it be put into the next newsletter.**

Meeting adjourned 1:53 PM

## AGENDA JULY 15, 2020 MEETING

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Approval of Agenda – Add any additions
5. Financial Report
6. Website Report
7. Update Centennial Celebrations, and Ribbon Project
8. Announcements
9. Adjourn

**THIS MEETING WILL BE  
TELEPHONE CONFERENCED  
PLEASE EMAIL US AT  
info@nowsonoma.org  
OR CALL 707 545 5036  
FOR ACCESS INFORMATION..**



**President: Elaine B. Holtz**  
**Recording Sec'y: Pro Tem-Eileen Bill**  
**Corresponding Sec'y: Mary Chouinard**  
**Newsletter Editor: Marion Aird**  
**Telephone Helpline: Eileen Bill**  
**Webmaster Ken Norton**

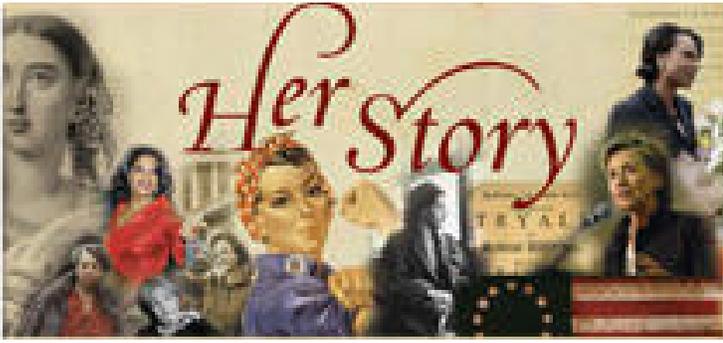
### WOMEN'S SPACES

Elaine B. Holtz Producer/Host "Women's Spaces"

[www.womensspaces.com](http://www.womensspaces.com)

Show airs: **Mondays** on KBBF 89.1FM  
Calistoga Santa Rosa

**Time: 11am Live and replays at 11pm**



**Something to think about:** “I had reasoned this out in my mind; there was one of two things I had a right to, liberty, or death; if I could not have one, I would have the other; for no man should take me alive; I should fight for my liberty as long as my strength lasted, and when the time came for me to go, the Lord would let them take me.” – Harriet Tubman was an American abolitionist and political activist. Born into slavery, Tubman escaped and subsequently made some 13 missions to rescue approximately 70 enslaved people, including family and friends, using the network of antislavery activists and safe houses known as the Underground Railroad.

## Sonoma County Museum in Santa Rosa Scheduled to Open

The museum has announced that they are officially permitted to reopen their doors. The staff wants to thank their members and the community for their continuing support of the Museum of Sonoma County. There will be a soft opening for Members only on Wednesday July 1 thru Friday July 3 from 11:00am-5:00pm. The public reopening will begin on Thursday, July 9 with new hours\*. The following exhibits have been extended: From Suffrage to #MeToo: Groundbreaking Women in Sonoma County, Extended through September 20, 2020 and Landscape: Awe to Activism, Extended through November 29, 2020

The museum is located at 426 7th St., Santa Rosa, Ca 95401, Phone #707-579-1500 and website, <https://museumsoc.org/> Open, Thursday-Sunday from 11:00am-4:00pm to public effective July 9.



In July we celebrate essential democratic anniversaries — the birth of the United States on July 4, 1776 and the birth of the Women’s Rights Movement on July 19-20, 1848. Anniversary of the First Women’s Rights Conference (July 19 and 20)

On July 19-20, 1848, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Lucretia Mott spearheaded the first women’s rights convention in American History. Over 300 women and men came to Seneca Falls, New York to protest the mistreatment of women in social, economic, political, and religious life. This marked the first public meeting calling for women’s right to vote.

### July Women’s History Events

**July 2, 1979** – The Susan B. Anthony dollar is released  
**July 2, 1937** – Amelia Earhart’s plane is lost in the Pacific Ocean near Howland Island

**July 2, 1964** – President Lyndon Johnson signs the Civil Rights Act; Title VII prohibits sex discrimination in employment

**July 4, 1876** – Suffragists crash the Centennial Celebration in Independence Hall to present the Vice President with the “Declaration of the Rights of Women” written by Matilda Joselyn Gage

**July 6, 1957** – Althea Gibson is the first African American woman player to win a Wimbledon title in women’s tennis singles

**July 7, 1981** – President Reagan nominates Sandra Day O’Connor as the first woman Supreme Court Justice?

**July 12, 1984** – Representative Geraldine Ferraro (D-New York) is chosen as the first female to run for Vice President of the United States on the Democratic Party ticket with Walter Mondale (D-Minnesota)

**July 14, 1917** – 16 women from the National Women’s Party were arrested while picketing the White House demanding universal women’s suffrage; they were charged with obstructing traffic

**July 19-20, 1848** – The Seneca Falls Convention, the country’s first women’s rights convention, is held in Seneca Falls, New York Women’s Rights Movement

**July 20, 1942** – The first class of Women’s Auxiliary Army Corps (WAAC) begins at Fort Des Moines, IA

**July 29, 1974.** “Philadelphia Eleven” deacons (Merrill Bittner, Alla Bozarth-Campbell, Alison Cheek, Emily Hewitt, Carter Heyward, Suzanne Hiatt, Marie Moorefield, Jeanette Piccard, Betty Schiess, Katrina Swanson, and Nancy Wittig) ordained as the first women Episcopal priests

June 6, 2020

Sonoma County Board of Supervisors Chair

Supervisor Susan Gorin

575 Administration Drive' Room 100 A

Santa Rosa, CA 95403

RE: Ordinance (FPPC#1422712)



Dear Supervisor Gorin,

How many more deaths by law enforcement do we have to have in our community before we can move forward with real accountability? How many more millions of dollars will be spent in attorneys' fees and payoffs to victims of these horrendous events, monies that could go into infrastructure, increasing the minimum wage, and providing adequate support to committees like the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on the Status of Women, both organizations that are there to listen to your constituents? Beyond the serious bodily harm and loss of life, there have been ever increasing legal costs, with more on the way.

At this time when public support of government is at an all-time low, it becomes even more important for our Board of Supervisors (BOS) to demonstrate to the people that they have the community's interests at heart through protection of their First Amendment rights and their lives.

In 2000 the California Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Human Rights did an evaluation of Sonoma County and found that the cities of Rohnert Park and Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma needed community oversight of law enforcement. The report did not look favorably on our county, and to this day, even with a new sheriff, the problem continues. In 2018 we elected Mark Essick and on his watch, to date, there have been seven deaths of people interacting with law enforcement, including several in-custody deaths at the jail, plus the horrific incident of the dog-mauling of Jason Anglero-Wyrick. Increased powers of independent investigation are clearly warranted.

Watch the video of the dog attacking a citizen with the trainer unable to remove the dog from the victim. The question we have is "what kind of training was provided that the officer could not call his dog off?" There is a real problem here and, without some provision for oversight with subpoena power in place, no one will know what type of training took place. It appears not to have been adequate.

In December of 2018, as a part of his Annual Report to the BOS, IOLERO Director Jerry Threet proposed an ordinance to strengthen IOLERO to more effectively fulfill its mission and its core principles of effective oversight: independence, clear authority, adequate resources, and unfettered access with subpoena power to information and staff of the law enforcement agency. The BOS chose to ignore it, and we ask, "Might some people be alive today if the BOS had acted?" Full information on this ordinance can be found at [socoeffectiveoversight.org](http://socoeffectiveoversight.org).

As the result of lack of action by the BOS, a group of concerned community members came together and formed the Committee To Support an Effective IOLERO. In November of 2019, the group applied to place the ordinance, now called the Evelyn Cheatham Effective IOLERO Ordinance (FPPC#1422712), on the November 2020 ballot. The group then hit the streets with the goal of gathering 22,000 in-person signatures by early May 2020. The process of collecting signatures was collectively started; however the COVID-19 pandemic caused sheltering-in-place and social distancing orders that aborted this means to get the signatures needed to place the ordinance on the ballot. No other means of direct democracy exist for citizens. Numerous requests made to the BOS by citizens to adopt the Ordinance or put it on the ballot and let the citizens decide were refused. Excuses such as monetary costs (increased printing and mailing costs for the Voters' Guide) have been given as a reason, which in our minds is a poor excuse for not placing this initiative on the ballot, and is contrary to the concept of democracy. Of course, that money could be saved if you simply voted to adopt the ordinance. Recently, Supervisor Hopkins agreed that the ordinance should be on the ballot. We question the logic of the remaining supervisors refusing to address this important issue.

At this point in time the BOS is left with the following options: Simply pass the ordinance, elect to place it on the November ballot without the need to gather signatures, or do nothing and continue to experience the consequences of lack of effective accountability of the Sheriff's office in a time when law enforcement accountability is being discussed across the globe.

The time is NOW to do the right thing. The time is NOW to bring effective accountability to Sonoma County.

We are living in a time when people feel vulnerable and do not trust the leadership in our cities, states, and nation. We hope that you do the right thing for our community, and that is either pass the ordinance as leaders of our county or place it on the ballot to let the citizens decide.

Best regards,

Elaine B. Holtz, **President**

**The National Organization for Women, Sonoma County Chapter**

[www.nowsonoma.org](http://www.nowsonoma.org)

CC: Supervisor James Gorin  
Supervisor Lynda Hopkins,  
Supervisor David Rabbit  
Supervisor Shirlee Zane

## TIME TO SPEAK UP

by Jessie Haver Butler □ RELEASE DATE: Oct. 23, 1946

An excellent handbook for the women who some time or other will have to accept the challenge of speaking on their feet. The author gives full credit to the number of excellent books on the subject of public speaking, but hers is the first that focuses attention primarily on the specific problems of the woman speaker (presence, voice, manner, clothes, type of material, approach, etc.) and on the woman audience. Every point made is pertinent. No speaker, experienced or amateur, will fail to find suggestion and stimulation in the content of the book. There is some inspirational quality, but on the whole it is down to earth, practical advice, based on the assumption that the reader has something to learn. It is varied enough to have value not only for speakers, but for program chairmen, introducers, those who make or accept presentations, after dinner speakers, etc. Not a step by step, self-teaching course in public speaking, but sound advice on how to be a better public speaker. Some sample material and some practical exercises add to its classroom value.

## IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

As many other countries hit hard by the coronavirus return safely to the routines of pre-pandemic life, the United States on Wednesday recorded its highest single-day total of over 38,000 new COVID-19 cases. *Intelligencer*

The European Union will bar most travelers from the United States, Russia, and dozens of other countries considered too risky because they have not controlled the coronavirus outbreak. *New York Times*

In the midst of a global pandemic, the Justice Department asked the Supreme Court to invalidate the Affordable Care Act. *CNN*

A new study connecting the climate crisis to pregnancy risk has harrowing implications for Black mothers in the United States, who already suffer much greater risk overall during their pregnancies. *The Cut*

COVID-19 has led to a pandemic of plastic pollution. *The Economist*

The Supreme Court ruled that asylum seekers who are quickly turned down by U.S. immigration officials do not have a right to make their case in federal court, a win for the Trump administration and its desire to rapidly deport people who enter the United States illegally. *Washington Post*

## #NotNormal

Trump tweeted out an FBI wanted poster picturing 15 unidentified suspects wanted in connection with the attempted toppling of a statue of Andrew Jackson in the capital — along with the threat of a 10 year prison sentence. *NY Post*

Trump suggested without evidence that his predecessor, President Obama, committed treason. *The Hill*

Trump held a rally in one of the country's worst COVID-19 hot spots. *Vox*

And once again referred to the coronavirus as the "kung flu." *The Hill*

## GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES, & HEROES

### Black Lives Matter

The House passed a sweeping police overhaul bill on Thursday. *Politico*

A recently fired Miami police officer who was shown in a graphic video holding his knee to a pregnant Black woman's neck while tazing her multiple times in the stomach has been arrested and charged with battery and official misconduct. *Forbes*

New York City prosecutors filed criminal charges against a police officer caught on video putting a Black man in a banned choke hold. *AP News*

Three white men have been indicted on murder charges in the killing of Ahmaud Arbery, a Black man fatally shot while running in a neighborhood near Georgia's coast. *AP News*

On Thursday, nearly a year after the death of Elijah McClain who died in police custody, Colorado Gov. Jared Polis appointed a special prosecutor to "determine whether the facts justify criminal charges against members of law enforcement" involved in the arrest. *NPR*

The Louisville Police Department fired an officer over his role in the fatal shooting of Breonna Taylor. But it's not enough, click here to take action. *The Hill*

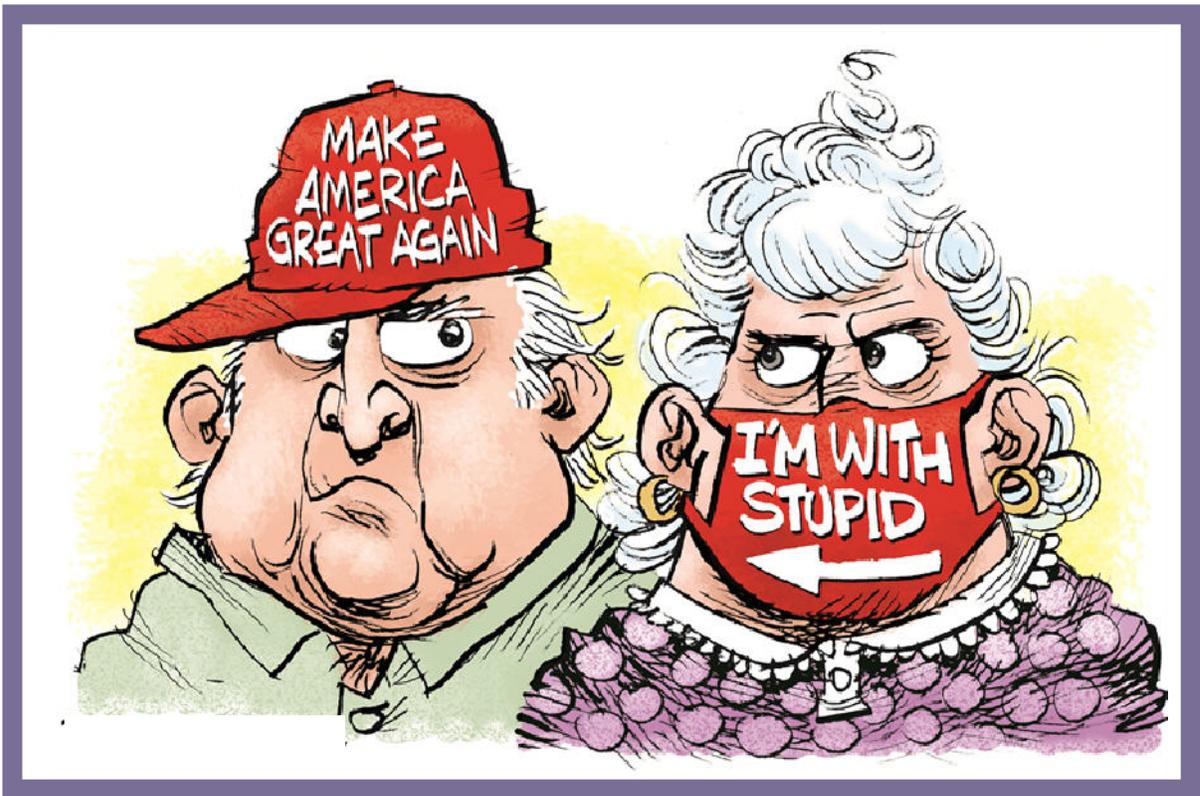
Three veteran North Carolina police officers have been fired after a video recording caught them making racist, violent remarks about Black people. *BuzzFeed News*

Boston banned municipal use of facial recognition technology, becoming the largest East Coast city to do so. *Fast Company*

Oakland schools will no longer have their own police force after the board voted to eliminate the department. The annual \$2.5 million spent on the 10 total sworn officers and police administrators is instead expected to be redirected toward other student support services and restorative justice efforts. *Mercury News*

The protests are already changing elections. *The Atlantic*

'Black Lives Matter' will be painted on the street outside trump tower. *New York Times*



**RENEWAL AND MEMBERSHIP FORM**  
Regular Membership \$40/year. \$75./two years. \$115./3 years.  
Reduced dues \$15. - \$30.

ADVERTISEMENT

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

• \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE #** \_\_\_\_\_

• **EMAIL** \_\_\_\_\_



07/20

**MAIL TO:**  
**N.O.W. Sonoma County National Organization for Women**  
P O Box 6223 Santa Rosa, CA 95406  
707 -545-5036