



NOW

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
SONOMA COUNTY, CA
NOWSONOMA.ORG

Sonoma County

SEPTEMBER 2020



**Zoom information
see page four**

We will be having our regular monthly meeting on September 16th at 1:00 pm via ZOOM and conference call. If you are interested in attending please email us for the details, at:

info@nowsonoma.org



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Sonoma County National Organization for Women,
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Santa Rosa, CA 95406 ,
www.nowsonoma.org,
info@nowsonoma.org
707 545 5036



Minutes of NOW meeting by phone on August 19, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 1:06 PM

Introductions were made with "check-ins"

Minutes were accepted as submitted (MSC)

Agenda was accepted with additions to Financial section (MSC)

Financial - No changes; phone bills will be forwarded; Cost of Mail Chimp was discussed - monthly or yearly payments? - details on payments will be researched; All other costs were examined including Hosting Matters, the phone, Webmaster's charges -all total about \$1130/year.

Website Report - site seems to be doing okay; Leslie Graves will be contacted for a list of future events to be posted; notify readers when the Newsletter will be arriving; print the Mission Statement of the National Organization for Women - here and in the Newsletter. A section of Her Story - will include what we are about and include the Mission Statement

Ribbon Century Project update - Marion continues to send emails with the flyer attached and recommends others continue to send out as well .

Discussion - Where do we go from here? Eileen announced that she is resigning from the Board but will continue monitoring the Help Line phone. Extra efforts will be made to encourage increased membership - with the emphasis on younger people.

Newsletter - Discussion on getting the Newsletter out to more people: experimenting by posting the Newsletter at different times of the month will be tried; It was suggested to send a special letter to members asking them to let us know when they would like to receive it, is it easy to access? does it go to "spam"? etc. It was noted the importance of including future events in the Newsletter in a timely fashion so that readers could take part in them. Send Marion a list of material that is mandated to be included.

Museum Reports - There is a beautiful display of each page of the Sonoma County NOW Calendar in a glass case in the Petaluma Museum; Thanks to Rebecca for the suggestion.

Pat on the Back - it was pointed out that it was the work of Marion and Elaine that helped spearhead the resultant Gold Resolution for the Suffrage Project.

Zoom Meeting evaluation - there was a good turnout but the two differing times of starting was a "blip" - lesson learned. All in all it was a successful event with great speakers.

Events Happening Celebrating 100th Anniversary of the 19th Amendment - Elaine sent a list to Rebecca who forwarded it to Mail Chimp; On Sunday, August 23rd, from 3 - 4 PM, there was a Reader's Presentation of the lead up to the passing of the amendment. This presentation will be recorded.

Newsletter Membership Form - should have the National NOW address instead of our local PO Box.

Women Candidates in the Media - a proposal was made to write a letter to publications as to how to better present women in the press with the emphasis on adjectives and other terminology.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM (MSC)

AGENDA NOW SONOMA COUNTY September 16, 2020

1. Call to Order
 2. Introductions – Check In–How are you doing?
 3. Approval of Minutes
 4. Approval of Agenda – Any additions
 5. Financial Report
 6. Website Report
 7. Ribbon cent. Ribbon project – How was it?
 8. Events that happened to Celebrate 19th Amendment 100th Anniversary
 9. Continue Discussion – Where do we go from here?
- New Business**
10. Secretary position
 11. Zoom Meeting for October Meeting
 12. Report from Marion Aird re Zoom Training
 13. Thinking about possibilities for Hall oween, Thanksgiving and Christmas
 14. Announcements
 15. 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
Newsletter Editor: Marion Aird
Telephone Helpline: Eileen Bill
Webmaster Ken Norton

WOMEN'S SPACES
Elaine B. Holtz Producer/Host "Women's Spaces"
www.womenspaces.com
Show airs: **Mondays** on KBBF 89.1FM
Calistoga Santa Rosa
Time: 11am Live and replays at 11pm

Presidents Message September 2020

Wow, it's September, and on the 7th we celebrate Labor Day, a creation of the labor movement, dedicated to the social and economic achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contribution's workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country.

It was a great success: We had our first Zoom August 13, and had great attendance. A special thank you to Dr. Kim D. Hester Williams for her insightful presentation, and to NOW's California President Kolieka Seigle for updating us on California NOW. A special thank you to everyone who showed up, and to June Brashares for facilitating the Zoom; she was amazing. Please Note: Our NOW chapter is planning on having our meetings on the same day, the third Wednesday of the month in the evenings via Zoom. We will send out a notice prior to the meeting with all the information.

The time to vote is only 61 days from when I am writing this. It is important to get educated, and the League of Women Voters Sonoma County Chapter will be hosting a series on this election's candidates. For dates and times go to their calendar at <https://my.lwv.org/california/sonoma-county/calendar-google> According to the Registrar's office, mail in ballots will be mailed Oct. 5 and can be dropped off at their office from Oct. 5 to Nov. 3. It is suggested that you mail your ballots early. This is an extremely important election and we all need to show up and vote.

Something to think about: "People say, what is the sense of our small effort? They cannot see that we must lay one brick at a time, take one step at a time. A pebble cast into a pond causes ripples that spread in all directions. Each one of our thoughts, words and deeds is like that. No one has a right to sit down and feel hopeless. There is too much work to do." Dorothy Day was an American journalist, social activist, and anarchist who, after a bohemian youth, became a Catholic Christian without in any way abandoning her social and anarchist activism. She was perhaps the best-known political radical in the American Catholic Church.

Special Acknowledgements

The month of August flew by and marked the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote. In spite of a pandemic, protests in the streets, wildfires, and uncertainty about the election, Sonoma County women celebrated this major event exquisitely.

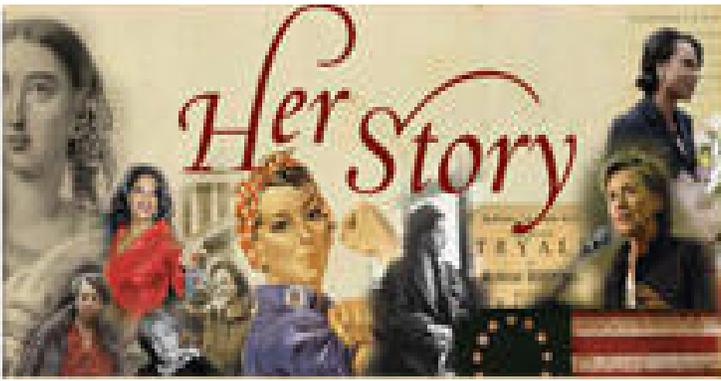
I want to do a shout-out to Leslie Graves and Bernice Espinoza, co-coordinators of the Sonoma County 2020 Women's Suffrage Project, and their team for facilitating



some great educational and diverse programs. If you go to <https://socowomen2020.org/19th-amendment-series> all the programs are available to watch and listen to. For a historical perspective, see the Reader's Theater production about women's suffrage, *A Voice of Her Own*, written and narrated by Bill Trzeciak and performed by some familiar locals including: Shirley Bennett, Nanci Hoban, Jacqueline Lawrence, Bill Montgomery, Millie Olson, and Lee Pierce, along with their technical crew Janet Reynolds and Leslie Graves. This is just one among many great presentations. For me, experiencing the program on Intersectionality was both an eye-opener and recognition that we have come a long way but still have a way to go.

Special acknowledgement to Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey and the first Mayor of Petaluma, Helen Putnam, who were recognized for their service at a Zoom meeting presented by the Petaluma Museum. Special thank you to co-curators Paula Freund and Katherine Rhinehart for doing such an excellent job. NOW's calendar has been put on display at the museum with hopes that it will open soon so folks can enjoy seeing it and all the historic presentations that are on display.

On August 26 for one day only, downtown Sebastopol had on display special suffrage banners acknowledging the 19th Amendment Centennial. A special thank you to city council member Michael Carnacchi, who coordinated the display which was installed by the Boy Scouts; included with the display was the United States Flag. What a powerful reminder it was to see those banners.



September

Celebrate Anniversary of the Signing of the Constitution – Constitution Day September 17th

September Highlights in US Women’s History

September 12, 1910 – Alice Stebbins Wells, a former social worker, becomes the first woman police officer with arrest powers in the U.S. (Los Angeles, CA)

September 14, 1964 – Helen Keller receives the Presidential Medal of Freedom along with 4 other women: Dr. Lena Edwards, Lynn Fontaine, Dr. Helen Taussig, and Leontyne Price

September 14, 1975 – Elizabeth Ann Seton is canonized and becomes the first American-born saint, founded the first U.S. Order of the Sisters of Charity of St. Joseph

September 20, 1973 – Billie Jean King defeats Bobby “No-Broad-Can-Beat-Me” Riggs in the battle of the sexes tennis match

September 25, 1981 – Sandra Day O’Connor is sworn in as the first woman U.S. Supreme Court Justice

September 26, 1971 – Rep. Shirley Chisholm (D-New York) announces she will enter the Democratic presidential primaries

September 26, 1973 – Capt. Lorraine Potter, an American Baptist minister, becomes the first woman U.S. Air Force chaplain

September 29, 1988 – Stacy Allison becomes first American woman to reach the summit of Mt. Everest



Dear Friends of Equality,

“The Vote is the emblem of your equality.” The 19th Amendment for Women’s Right to Vote was ratified on August 18, 1920 in a thrilling last-minute YES from Tennessee’s Harry Burn. It became official a week later, August 26, because of a last-ditch effort by anti-suffragists contesting its validity. The Suffragists held the legal line and, finally, on August 24, Tennessee Governor Roberts signed the Certification of Ratification and mailed it-- special delivery -- to Secretary of State, Bainbridge Colby. Early morning, August 26, the certificate was delivered to Sec. Colby who privately signed it, denying fanfare, cheering women, cameras and a deserved celebration. Today, we celebrate on August 26 for the suffragists and their 72 years of the battle for the ballot. August 26, is our day to celebrate. And especially, August 26, 2020, OUR ANNIVERSARY! Here are events, films, products to fuel your enthusiasm and joy for this awesome expansion of democracy. One hundred years and there is still work to be done so ALL Citizens have safe and free access to the vote. Let us call on the suffragists, their spirit and their energy for the passage of the 19th Amendment. They are compelling us to “...make no pause. ACT!” □



Zoom Information:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87588753750?pwd=SW9nd1B3Y1dHhUphcGw4YW5LTUYyUT09>

Meeting ID: 875 8875 3750

Passcode: 520289

PHONE IN NUMBERS:

One tap mobile

+16699009128,,87588753750# US (San Jose)

+12532158782,,87588753750# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

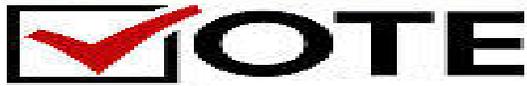
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 875 8875 3750

Other numbers for distant locations:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kffdJcW5z>



[If you don't vote, your vote does not count](#)

November 3rd will be here before we know it and I wanted by readers to have a head start by finding out what the protocol for voting is.

The voter guide will be mailed or emailed to all registered voters in Santa Rosa and throughout the county in late September. All registered voters will be mailed a ballot in accordance with an executive order signed by Governor Gavin Newsom and those will be mailed out beginning on October 5 and can be mailed in or dropped off at the voter registration office or designated drop boxes throughout the County. According the Jason Bensley, Election Specialist of the Sonoma County Registers Office there will be approximately 20 drop boxes and approximately 30 designated in person voting sites throughout the county. Bensley also advised me that you can go to the office and pickup your mail in ballot in person if you choose and ballots can be dropped off from October 5 to November 3.

We are truly blessed to have such an efficient Registrar of Voters office in our country, and all are working tirelessly to make sure that the election is both run smoothly, and folks understand the process. For additional information and to see the list of designated sites to drop the ballot off is both on their website <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CRA/Registrar-of-Voters/> and the finalized version will be in your voter guide.

When your ballot is mailed, received, and counted Sign-up at WheresMyBallot.sos.ca.gov to receive automatic email, SMS (text), or voice call notifications about your ballot. More information can be found on our [Vote by Mail](#) page. I just think this technology is amazing. We can track our ballots.

As a way to help one can sign up to be a poll worker, It is a great way to serve your community, take an active role in democracy, and become part of the dedicated team working to make the election process easy and accessible to everyone. Plus, as an added incentive you are paid for the day. I did it for several years and enjoyed it very much. For more information go to: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/CRA/Registrar-of-Voters/Poll-Worker-Information/>

For those of you who want additional information please mark on your calendars September 21, 2020. **Deva Marie Proto** County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor-Registrar of Voters will be doing a special interview on Women's Spaces on KBBF 89.1fm from 11-12pm and will be archived after on www.womensspaces.com **Since we are on the topic of voting and just in case you didn't know, the Susan B. Anthony Museum has rejected President Trump's pardon of the leading suffragist. The museum's director said the best way to honor Anthony would be to take a clear stance against voter suppression — and to advocate for human rights for all.**

Hard Won. Not Done.

One hundred years ago, this month, the 19th Amendment was codified in the U.S. Constitution and women have made tremendous strides in the century since. Yet, true equality for all women at the ballot box remains elusive. Far too many women and other eligible voters remain disenfranchised from voting.

Old discriminatory practices like cuts to early voting, closings of polling locations, and strict voter ID laws, combined with new suppression tactics that have emerged during a global pandemic, have reminded us of the frailty of our democracy if we don't defend it vigorously.

This centennial is a time to honor and acknowledge the women who came before us, and to use the lessons of their fights to shape a fairer, more just future. To further this conversation, on August 12, LWVUS CEO Virginia Kase virtually sat down with LWVUS President Deborah Turner for a powerful discussion on what lies ahead for democracy in America, and how all women can be active participants.

As we head full-steam toward November 3, stay safe, stay healthy, wear masks, and vote. Commemorate this milestone and honor the legacy of the women that came before us by making your voice heard this year.



FIGHT, DANCE, LOVE, BREATHE, VOTE

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT...

4,000 people died from COVID-19 while the RNC pretended the pandemic is over. *HuffPost*

The Kenosha shooting suspect was in the front row of a trump rally in January. *BuzzFeed News*

Trump continued to shift money from his donors to his business last month, as his reelection campaign paid his private companies for rent, food, lodging and other expenses. *Forbes*

Hundreds of thousands of nursing home residents may not be able to vote in November because of the pandemic. *ProPublica*

The federal government has executed the only Native American on federal death row, despite objections from Navajo leaders who said the killing breached tribal sovereignty. *The Appeal*

China has secretly built scores of massive new prison and internment camps in the past three years, dramatically escalating its campaign against Muslim minorities even as it publicly claimed the detainees had all been set free. *BuzzFeed News*

#NotNormal

No modern president has accepted his party's nomination for re-election from the White House. The speech was the last of several repeated violations over the course of the convention of the Hatch Act. *New York Times*

Trump cut off someone imprisoned by the Turkish government to... compliment the Turkish government. *NowThis*

Trump is calling for drug tests to be administered before his first presidential debate with Joe Biden next month. *The Hill*

In secretly recorded audio, Trump's sister says he has 'no principles' and 'you can't trust him.' *Washington Post*

GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES, & HEROES

Voting & Elections

A group of athletes led by LeBron James will roll out a multimillion-dollar program in the next few weeks to recruit poll workers in heavily Black electoral districts for November's election. *NBC News*

The NBA and its players' union announced that arenas will be used as polling locations for the November election as part of an agreement to resume the playoffs on Saturday. *New York Times*

Several hundred former aides to President George W. Bush and Sen. John McCain announced that they are endorsing Joe Biden for president. *NBC News*

More than two dozen former Republican lawmakers announced they are endorsing Joe Biden for president. *CNN*

In a brave op-ed, Billy Graham's granddaughter calls on evangelical Christians to stop supporting trump. *Upworthy*

Mother Nature

The number of Americans who feel passionately about climate change is rising sharply. *New York Times*

When a massive wildfire swept through California's oldest state park last week it was feared many trees in a grove of old-growth redwoods may finally have succumbed. But an AP reporter and photographer hiked the renowned Redwood Trail at Big Basin Redwoods State Park and confirmed most of the ancient redwoods had withstood the blaze. Among the survivors is one dubbed Mother of the Forest. *AP News*

A rare family of wolverines has made its home at Mount Rainier National Park for the first time in over a century. *Smithsonian Magazine*

A lesbian penguin couple living in Spain recently adopted an egg, which hatched earlier this month. *The Cut*

COVID - 19 UPDATE

Moderna said its experimental COVID-19 vaccine induced immune responses in older adults similar to those in younger participants, offering hope that it will be effective in people considered to be at high risk for severe complications from the coronavirus. *Reuters*

A 15-minute COVID test from Abbott Laboratories that will be priced at just \$5 has been granted emergency authorization for use in the U.S., a breakthrough that could ease the bottleneck that has crimped much of the nation's testing capacity. *SFGate*

Diagnostic testing and imaging company PerkinElmer will build a new laboratory in California that will allow the state to more than double its COVID-19 testing capacity. *SFGate*

Most of Germany will impose a minimum fine of 50 euros for breaching mask-wearing rules. *ABC News*

When Tyler and Melanie Tapajna canceled their wedding reception due to COVID-19, they didn't let the food they ordered go to waste -- the Ohio couple decided to take their wedding dinner to a shelter for women and children in need. *CBS News*

More Good News

Africa has been declared free from wild polio.

Malignant issue



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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

•
•

PHONE # _____

• EMAIL _____



09/20

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Washington, DC 20005707 -545-5036
707 545 5036