



Sonoma County NOW January 2021 News

Dear NOW members,

We are the only chapter of NOW from here in Sonoma County up to the Oregon border. As this new year brings hope and possibilities, we can begin to do the actions we have been dreaming about for so many years to support each other. If you can, come to our **Zoom meeting January 21, 6:30 p.m.** (details below) and help make our chapter strong. Contact your friends around the north bay, up in Arcata, and all points north! With Zoom we can all now pool our strengths, talents, ideas for change, and long-stored energy. Don't forget college students and folks in rural areas.

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Happy new year 2021 everybody!

Important announcement

Dear Members,

It is our hope that you are enjoying good health and coping with all that is taking place. What a year it has been. What a week it has been

watching the events unfolding at the Capitol in Washington, DC.

As I have informed you before, we are shorthanded, making it difficult to operate the way we would like to operate. To help the membership catch up on all that is happening, along with providing information on how to proceed, we are having a special membership meeting via Zoom on **January 21 from 6:30–8:00 p.m.**

This meeting is extremely important as our executive committee has shrunk, and we need more members to participate. This is not a difficult task; we meet once a month to talk about things pertaining to the chapter in general. At present we need a treasurer and a newsletter person. If we can get these two people on board the chapter can survive; if not, the question is, **do we want to close it down.** That would truly be a shame since we are the only NOW chapter north of San Francisco in California.

During my term as president, we have had a lot to be proud of. In addition to supporting women's rights issues locally and nationally, and organizing march and rally contingents, we had an inspiring 50th anniversary party, which was extraordinarily successful, and an outdoor ice cream social with some wonderful music. We had several showings of the movie *Iron Jawed Angels*, and produced a wonderful 19th Amendment Centennial calendar celebrating local and national heroes, which is now a collector's item.

During these times of intense changes, political debates, and climate change, it is very important that we women maintain the Sonoma County Chapter that has served us so well over the years. I have been trying to step down as President for months, and what has stopped me is the thought of losing this chapter in our community. It is my hope, considering what we all have been experiencing over the year, that the citizens of our county will stay involved. Being part of NOW is a way to do that.

As a reminder of the mission and values of NOW, I am sending with this letter the History of the National Organization for Women (NOW) to remind us all of what we represent. Looking forward to seeing all of you on the Zoom. We can do it! **Please note we are changing our meeting time to the third Thursday of the month from 6:30–8:00**

p.m. via zoom.

Something to think about: “I think the importance of doing activist work is precisely because it allows you to give back and to consider yourself not as a single individual who may have achieved whatever, but to be a part of an ongoing historical movement.” — **Angela Yvonne Davis** is an American political activist, philosopher, academic, and author. She is a professor at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

—*Elaine Holtz, President*



Join us on January 21!

Date: Thursday, January 21, 2021

Time: 6:30–8:00 p.m.

Place: Zoom!

Zoom Information: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87588753750?pwd=SW9nd1B3Y1dHbUphcGw4YW5LTUYyUT09>

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)

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

January birthdays to celebrate

- **January 3, 1793 (1880) – Lucretia Mott**, women’s rights pioneer, Quaker minister, pacifist (*NWHP co-founder Molly Murphy MacGregor is honored to share her birthday*).
- **January 3, 19— Molly Murphy MacGregor**, Her work in the field of multicultural women’s history has been widely recognized, including awards from the National Education Association, the US Department of Education, and the National Association for Multicultural Education, and the Association for Gender Equity Leadership in Education Leadership.

In 1980, the National Women’s History Project (NWHP) now the National Women’s History Alliance. was founded in Santa Rosa, California by Molly Murphy MacGregor, along with Mary Ruthsdotter, Maria Cuevas, Paula Hammett, and Bette Morgan to broadcast women’s historical achievements.

The NWHP started by leading a coalition that successfully lobbied Congress to designate March as National Women’s History Month, now celebrated across the land. Since, the beginning, the project has established the theme for women’s history each year and provided resources and materials for education.

- **January 3, 1926 – GracEva Gott Terrell Howard**, Santa Rosa feminist, activist, longtime NOW leader
- **January 11, 1885 (1977) – Alice Paul**, suffrage leader and attorney, founded the National Woman’s Party (1916), her innovative nonviolent strategies and political sophistication helped win passage of the 19th Amendment (1920), initiated the campaign for the Equal Rights Amendment (1923)
- **January 29, 1822(?)—Harriet Tubman**, abolitionist, activist

Visit our Sonoma County NOW site for news and lots of links and information:

<http://www.nowsonoma.org/>

Contact us: info@nowsonoma.org

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Santa Rosa, CA 95406

About NOW

As the grassroots arm of the women’s movement, the National Organization for Women is dedicated to its multi-issue and multi-

strategy approach to women's rights, and is the largest organization of feminist grassroots activists in the United States. NOW has hundreds of chapters and hundreds of thousands of members and activists in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. Since our founding in 1966, 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.

Core Issues

NOW is a multi-issue, multi-strategy organization that takes a holistic approach to women's rights. Our priorities are winning economic equality and securing it with an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that will guarantee equal rights for women; championing abortion rights, reproductive freedom and other women's health issues; opposing racism; fighting bigotry against the LGBTQIA community; and ending violence against women.

Reproductive Rights and Justice

NOW fully supports safe and legal abortion, affordable and effective birth control and other contraception, and reproductive health education for all.

Economic Justice

NOW advocates for a wide range of economic justice issues, women's freedom and success and intertwined with racial justice, reproductive freedom, and other systems of oppression.

Ending Violence Against Women

NOW recognizes violence against women as the broad and interconnected issue that it is, addressing oppressive structures and attitudes in our nation.

Racial Justice

A leader in civil rights since 1966, NOW continues to fight for equal opportunities for women of color in all areas including employment, education, and health care.

LGBTQIA+ Rights

NOW is committed to fighting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity in all areas.

Constitutional Equality

NOW is a proud supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment and prioritizes giving women explicit protections in the United States Constitution.

For additional information go to: <https://now.org/about/>



MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL FORM

Regular membership \$40/year \$75 2 yrs \$115 3 yrs
 Reduced dues: \$10–30/year

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Sonoma County Chapter #CA0660

Mail with check to: National Organization for Women,
1100 H Street NW, Suite 300, Washington, DC 20005



1/2021

