



April 2020

President's Message

As I write this month's message, I cannot help but think about the shock many of us are experiencing. It feels like a big part of our everyday life is been shut down and people are fearful about how they are going to survive. For me the best antidote is to stay busy and in touch with members and friends. I have been keeping a journal, walking daily, doing tai chi, and making two phone calls a day. It truly helps. Share how you are coping with Shelter in Place: Email your experiences and ideas to info@nowsonoma.org and we will share your ideas with our members.

What I do when I am in need of strength: I look at the past and see what others have overcome. For my birthday this year, a dear friend of mine took me to a woman's play. One of the scenes written by Kathleen Haynie was a piece on Alice Paul. I was so enamored of the courage and strength Alice Paul had that I invited to turn her script into a radio interview and come on my radio show, "omen Spaces," and to my delight she agreed. As we performed the interview on March 30th and I was so inspired by the memory of the strength of those marvelous women that we are standing on the shoulders of, I wanted to share this event with you in hopes it does the same for you. The program can be heard on www.womenspaces.com.

Sadly, we had to cancel our *Rachel Carson, Silent Spring* event for April 19th and hope to reschedule. We will not be holding our monthly meeting at the regular place until all this passes. We did have our meeting this March, utilizing ConferenceCall.com, and are looking into video conferencing in the future. As you can see, our Newsletter will be issued as usual. At this time I want to thank the Executive Committee for all that they do in support of our chapter. We need more participation—and for the monthly meeting we will be sending out information on how you can participate and be a part of the meeting. Hang in there; we are all in this together.



Earth Rising



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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

Sonoma County National Organization for Women,
 P O Box 6223
 Santa Rosa, CA 95406 ,
www.nowsonoma.org,
info@nowsonoma.org
 707 545 5036

NOW meeting via phone March 18, 2020

Meeting was called to order at 1:05 PM

Minutes were approved with corrections of dates (MSC)

Agenda was approved with addition

Financial Report - no major changes - checks for flyers for April event and the phone bill

National membership dues are arriving every two months
We need to have on hand at least \$1000 for basic expenses

We are still waiting for a current membership roster; CA NOW president is working on this.

Website - need to post more current information and any updates in addition to the urgent matters affecting us.

Sebastopol Apple Blossom Parade - we need information to learn if this event has been cancelled or not; Also, will Lilith Rogers' presentation be happening? Once accurate information is discovered, a "flash" email will be distributed
Information on Lilith's Rachel Carson event will be posted in various newsletters when a definite date is established. (MSC)

Report on Rosie the Riveter celebration on March 8th - the event was successful but small and NOW was unable to be present due to misfortune.

Santa Rose Rose Parade - Elaine will check on joining and what costs will be required as well as reserving the car a friend has volunteered. Participation in the parade might depend on the type of car(gas powered) is used.

Letter for 4/19/2020 event - (Lilith Rogers) - can not be sent until we have a date so that Environmental Groups can be present, as well.

"We all will do the best we can."

Meeting adjourned at 1:35 PM (MSC)



NOW Sonoma County April 15, 2020 Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Introductions
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Approval of Agenda – Any additions
5. Financial Report
6. Website Report
7. Update on Centennial Celebrations

New Business

8. Discuss alternatives to Centennial Celebration events.
9. Develop Save The Date Card for 4/19 Event Approval
10. Review Letter for 4/19 Event to be sent to Environmental Groups
11. Announcements

THIS MEETING WILL BE TELEPHONE CONFERENCED. PLEASE SEE nowsonoma.org FOR ACCESS INFORMATION.

Something to think about: "It's a courageous act to just be with whatever is happening at the moment—all of it, the difficult as well as the wonderful." —Eileen Fisher, founder and chairwoman, Eileen Fisher, Inc. is an American clothing designer and founder of the women's clothing brand. Fisher's designs are characterized by simplicity, and her company is known for using non-traditional models in its print advertisements, including its own employees.

President: Elaine B. Holtz

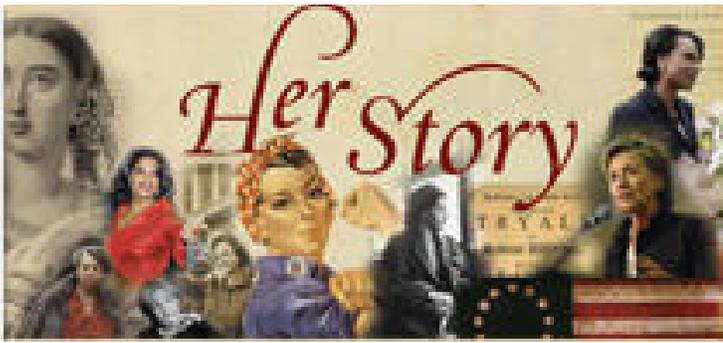
Recording Sec'y: Pro Tem-Eileen Bill

Corresponding Sec'y: Mary Chouinard

Newsletter Editor: Marion Aird

Telephone Helpline: Eileen Bill

Webmaster Ken Norton



April Highlights in U.S. Women's History

April 2, 1931 – 17-year-old **Jackie Mitchell**, the second woman to play baseball in the all-male minor leagues, pitches an exhibition game against the N.Y. Yankees and strikes out both Babe Ruth and Lou Gehrig. The next day, the Baseball Commissioner voided her contract, claiming baseball was too strenuous for women. The ban was not overturned until 1992

April 5, 1911 – 100,000 to 500,000 people march in **New York City** to attend the funeral of seven unidentified victims of the **Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire** in late March

April 7, 1805 – **Sacagawea** begins helping the Lewis and Clark Expedition as an interpreter

April 7, 1987 – Opening of the National Museum of Women in the Arts in Washington, D.C., **the first museum devoted to women artists**

April 9, 1939 – **Marian Anderson** sings an Easter Sunday concert for more than 75,000 at Lincoln Memorial

April 13, 1933 – **Ruth Bryan Owen** is the first woman to represent the U.S. as a foreign minister when she is appointed as envoy to Denmark

April 16, 1912 – **Harriet Quimby** becomes the first woman to fly an airplane across the English Channel

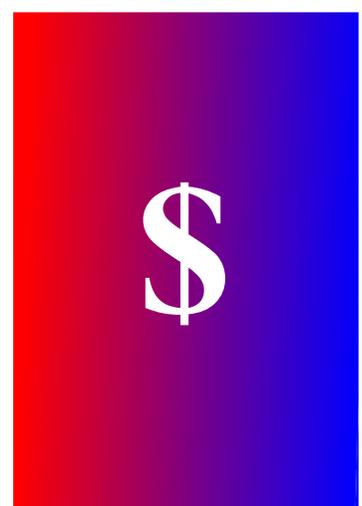
April 19, 1977 – Fifteen women in the House of Representatives form the **Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues**

April 22 – **Earth Day**, honor Rachel Carson today, a woman who changed America and greatly influenced the environmental movement with her revolutionary book, *Silent Spring*

April 26, 1777 – **American Revolution heroine Sybil Ludington, 16 years old**, rides 40 miles on horseback in the middle of the night to warn the American militia that the British were invading

April 28, 1993 – **First "Take Our Daughters to Work" Day**, sponsored by the Ms. Foundation, in 2003 it became "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work" Day

After some difficult negotiations, the bill passed the Senate 96-0 and the House by voice vote. It was a striking example of bipartisanship, and yet Trump only invited Republicans to be present for the signing ceremony that officially made it a law.



Two thoughts from an epidemiologist.

Excellent and enlightening piece of writing by a Yale Epidemiologist

Much of what this writer Jonathan Smith says aligns with what Alan Kilian has been telling us. — Hey everybody, as an infectious disease epidemiologist (although a lowly one), at this point feel morally obligated to provide some information on what we are seeing from a transmission dynamic perspective and how they apply to the social distancing measures.

Like any good scientist I have noticed two things that are either not articulated or not present in the "literature" of social media. I am also tagging my much smarter infectious disease epidemiologist friends for peer review of this post. Please correct me if I am wrong (seriously). Specifically, I want to make two aspects of these measures very clear and unambiguous. First, we are in the very infancy of this epidemic's trajectory. That means even with these measures we will see cases and deaths continue to rise globally, nationally, and in our own communities in the coming weeks. Our hospitals will be overwhelmed, and people will die that didn't have to.

This may lead some people to think that the social distancing measures are not working. They are. They may feel futile. They aren't. You will feel discouraged. You should. This is normal in chaos. But this is also normal epidemic trajectory. Stay calm. This enemy that we are facing is very good at what it does; we are not failing. We need everyone to hold the line as the epidemic inevitably gets worse.

This is not my opinion; this is the unforgiving math of epidemics for which I and my colleagues have dedicated our lives to understanding with great nuance, and this disease is no exception. We know what will happen; I want to help the community brace for this impact. Stay strong and with solidarity knowing with absolute certainty that what you are doing is saving lives, even as people begin getting sick and dying. You may feel like giving in. Don't.

Second, although social distancing measures have been (at least temporarily) well-received, there is an obvious-but-overlooked phenomenon when considering groups (i.e. families) in transmission dynamics. While social distancing decreases contact with members of society, it of course increases your contacts with group (i.e. family) members. This small and obvious fact has surprisingly profound implications on disease transmission dynamics. Study after study demonstrates that even if there is only a little bit of connection between groups (i.e. social dinners, playdates/playgrounds, etc.), the epidemic trajectory isn't much different than if there was no measure in place. The same underlying fundamentals of disease transmission apply, and the result is that the community is left with all of the social and economic disruption but very little public health benefit. You should perceive your entire family to function as a single individual unit; if one person puts themselves at risk, everyone in the unit is at risk.

Seemingly small social chains get large and complex with alarming speed. If your son visits his girlfriend, and you later sneak over for coffee with a neighbor, your neighbor is now connected to the infected office worker that your son's girlfriend's mother shook hands with. This sounds silly, it's not. This is not a joke or a hypothetical. We as epidemiologists see it borne out in the data time and time again and no one listens. Conversely, any break in that chain breaks disease transmission along that chain. In contrast to hand-washing and other personal measures, social distancing measures are not about individuals, they are about societies working in unison. These measures also take a long time to see the results.

It is hard (even for me) to conceptualize how 'one quick little get together' can undermine the entire framework of a public health intervention, but it does. I promise you it does. I promise. I promise. I promise. You can't cheat it. People are already itching to cheat on the social distancing precautions just a "little"- a playdate, a haircut, or picking up a needless item at the store, etc. From a transmission dynamics standpoint, this very quickly recreates a highly connected social network that undermines all of the work the community has done so far. Until we get a viable vaccine this unprecedented outbreak will not be overcome in grand, sweeping gesture, rather only by the collection of individual choices our community makes in the coming months.

This virus is unforgiving to unwise choices. My goal in writing this is to prevent communities from getting 'sucker-punched' by what the epidemiological community knows will happen in the coming weeks. It will be easy to be drawn to the idea that what we are doing isn't working and become paralyzed by fear, or to 'cheat' a little bit in the coming weeks. By knowing what to expect, and knowing the importance of maintaining these measures, my hope is to encourage continued community spirit, strategizing, and action to persevere in this time of uncertainty. —



GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES & HEROES

"A huge research literature shows disaster makes people *more* pro-social. They cooperate. They support each other. They're better than ever." *via kottke.org*

All over the country, homebound Americans are crafting thousands upon thousands of face masks to help shield doctors, nurses and many others from the coronavirus. *New York Times*

Someone in Maryland has been leaving bagged lunches outside a traffic circle every day with a sign on the table that reads, "For anyone who needs it...I will be leaving some healthy sack lunches on this table for you if you are hungry and need to eat. Made with love by a neighborhood mom in a clean and sanitized kitchen." *Capital Gazette*

More than 30,000 home-cooked meals were prepared and packaged by the Sikh Center of New York for Americans in self-isolation. *The Logical Indian*

An Alabama man who started a movement to mow lawns for free is now also delivering meals and groceries to those who can't get out. *It's a Southern Thing*

A group of Chinese Americans raised \$80,000 to donate gear to North Texas hospitals. *Dallas Morning News*

40,000 retired medical workers have volunteered to help New Yorkers. *CNN*

"They asked for my availability, and I said yes. When you decide to be a doctor in life, you get involved. I swore an oath." -Dr. Giampiero Giron, 85 years old. *via @AniShakari*

Truck drivers, grocery store workers and more unsung heroes of the coronavirus pandemic. *CBS News*

Meet the medical students who launched a program to offer childcare to hospital workers. *CNN*

Tattoo artists are giving away their gloves and protective gear to health care providers. *CNN*

The Wisconsin Humane Society has found a home for every single pet despite the chaos. *HuffPost*

Saints Quarterback Drew Brees and his wife have pledged \$5 million for coronavirus relief in Louisiana. *Washington Post*

Hillary and Bill Clinton sent over 400 pizzas to New York hospitals. *MSN*

A Seattle effort to help nonprofits during the coronavirus crisis has raised \$27 million. *Seattle Times*

Prisma Health announced that it's developed a device that will enable one ventilator to support up to four patients. *Axios*

This 3D-printed adapter can turn a snorkeling mask into a ventilator. *Futurism*

Gov. Gavin Newsom issued an executive order suspending the intake of new prisoners into both state and juvenile facilities, citing the health and safety of current staff and inmates in state lockups. *KQED*

California has reached a deal with several financial institutions, including four of the country's five largest banks, to provide relief to homeowners affected by the

coronavirus by suspending foreclosures and delaying mortgage payments. *NPR*

California has halted coronavirus-related evictions through May. *San Francisco Chronicle*

How San Francisco has stayed ahead of the coronavirus curve. *San Francisco Chronicle*

It took New York City just about a week to build its newest 1,000-bed hospital. *The Week*

New York just opened a mental health hotline staffed by 6,000 volunteers to help with the 'emotional trauma' of the coronavirus. *Business Insider*

Traffic and pollution have plummeted. *New York Times*

As the country swoons over Andrew Cuomo, reserve some of your praise for Melissa DeRosa, the governor's "unapologetically fierce" right hand. *WITW*

Mark Zuckerberg is teaming up with Bill Gates to try to find a drug to treat coronavirus. *Vox*

Gap Inc. will use its factory resources to make personal protective equipment for healthcare workers. *Business Insider*

The Ralph Lauren Corporate Foundation announced that it will be putting \$10 million toward global response efforts and begin the production of masks and isolation gowns. *The Hill*

Apple is donating 10 million protective face masks. *Business Insider*

Service Employees International Union United Healthcare Workers West announced that it located 39 million N95 masks and will make them available to state and local governments and health care systems. *SFGate*

Dyson is building 15,000 ventilators. *Fast Company*

The WHO announced that its COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund received a \$10 million donation from TikTok. *CNN*

Seattle's NPR station will no longer carry Trump's coronavirus briefings. *Deadline*

Trump's businesses are barred from getting loans or investments under the new coronavirus stimulus deal. *CNBC*

The NRA is laying off staff, cutting salaries and reducing hours amid the COVID-19 outbreak. *Newsweek*

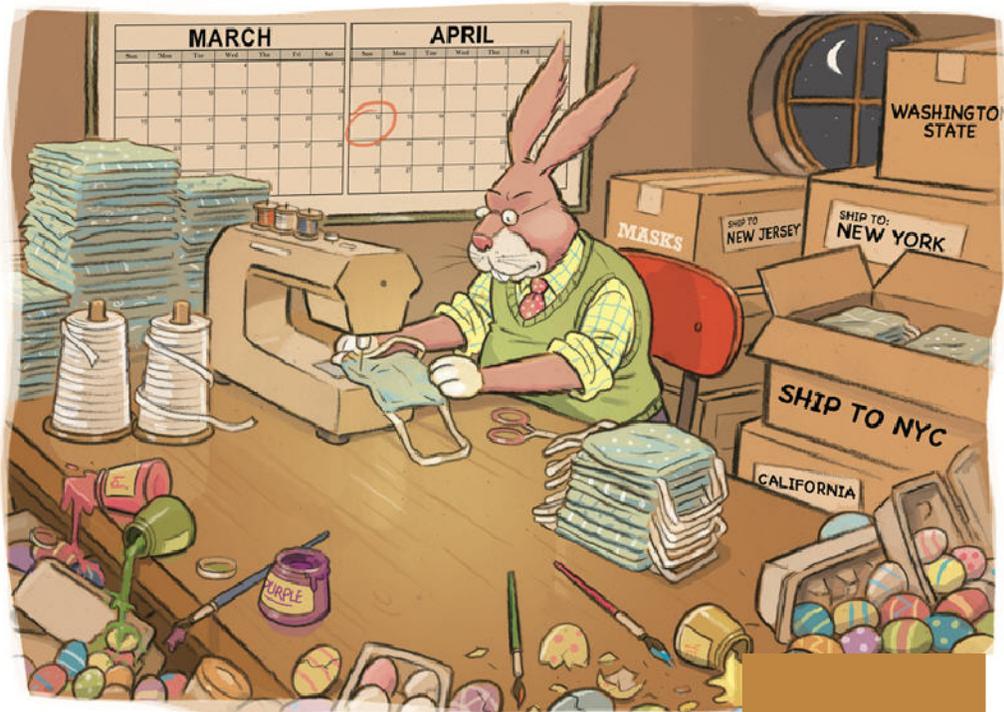
Germany has rolled out a staggering €50 billion aid package for artists and cultural businesses. *Artnet*

Everyone in Iceland can get tested for the coronavirus. Here's how the results could help all of us. *BuzzFeed News*

The first major benefit concert to provide relief and support for Americans impacted by COVID-19 is happening. *Entertainment Weekly*

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04/20

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