



NOW

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
SONOMA COUNTY, CA
www.nowsonoma.org

Sonoma County

November 2019 President's Message

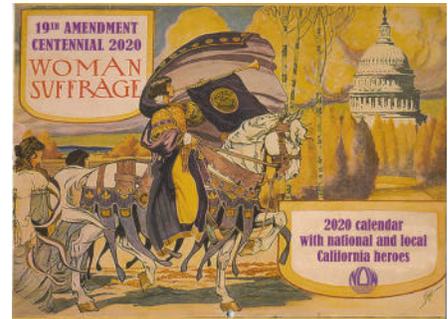
Wow! What a month October was, and it is hard to believe that just one week ago thousands of people in Sonoma County were being evacuated, and we hear reports about the Kincadee fire, the largest fire in the county's history. There are a lot of unanswered questions surrounding these fires that PG&E needs to answer. One question for me was how come PG&E could not secure their poles. Rumor has it they put salaries and investor payouts above people and safety. We need to start thinking "publicly owned utility."

I am happy to report we achieved our goal: At our showing of the film *Iron Jawed Angels* we launched the 19th Amendment Centennial 2020 Calendar, a commemorative wall calendar including "national and local California heroes." A special shout out to all those who attended and donated towards a calendar, and to KBBF 89.1 for providing the space to show the movie. Thank you to the Santa Rosa Democratic Club for allowing us to bring the calendars to their October meeting for their members to see and obtain. I loved feeling the excitement as people donated for one. **We will also have calendars available at the December 8th Sonoma County Women's Suffrage Kickoff at the Santa Rosa Saturday Afternoon Club see information this page, and at our November 20 and December 18 NOW meetings.**

Last month I attended a panel discussion sponsored by the Sonoma County chapter of the League of Women Voters. The panel included Santa Rosa historian Gaye LeBaron, Molly Murphy MacGregor, Executive Director and cofounder of the National Women's History Alliance, Ann Galantine of the Historical Society of Santa Rosa, Mary Dodgion of the Western Sonoma County Historical Society, and Peg Rogers, newly appointed to the Sonoma County Commission on the Status of Women. Their topic was "Sonoma County Women Helped Win the Vote." What made this event so timely was that on November 1, 1919, one hundred years ago, California ratified the 19th Amendment, ensuring that the right to vote could not be denied based on sex. (<https://www.nps.gov/articles/california-and-the-19th-amendment.htm>)

Something to think about: "Give thanks not just on Thanksgiving Day, but every day of your life. Appreciate and never take for granted all that you have." —Catherine Pulsifer, author. She wrote her first book in 1998, *Wings of Wisdom*. Since then she has gone on to write other books and develop her website, www.wow4u.com.

NOW MEETING
November 20, 2019 1:00 pm
Round Table Pizza
Marlowe & Guerneville



AVAILABLE AT NOW MTGS. NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Our Kick-Off Event

Sonoma County 2020 Women's Suffrage Project is breaking ground on our year long centennial celebrations throughout Sonoma County. Celebrate with us right where women over a hundred years ago broke ground on a place to call their own - The Saturday Afternoon Club - 430 10th St., Santa Rosa, CA.

Sunday, December 8 from 2-4PM our program will highlight how women in Sonoma County got out the vote to lead to the ratification of the 19th Amendment and how our project is honoring their achievements while creating more inclusive and inter-sectional engagement and voting access for all in our community.

Celebrate with guest speakers, community groups dedicated to getting out the vote and empowering women, tea time and photo opportunities to make lasting memories.

***This event is free and space is limited:
RSVP to socowomen2020@gmail.com***

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**AGENDA NOW SONOMA
COUNTY CHAPTER
November 20, 2019 MEETING**

NOW Sonoma County Minutes of October 16th, 2019

Meeting was called to order at 1 PM

Introductions were made

Minutes were approved as submitted

Agenda was approved with the addition of moving the "Announcements" to after the Minutes

Announcements - Having heard from former president, Anne-Therese, we will send her a calendar and good wishes card.

The names on the checking account will be updated for accuracy.

Homeless conditions on the Joe Rodota Trail were noted.

Financial Report - Money has been deposited from the calendar donations; Hosting Matters quarterly fee has been paid.

There are still problems with past remittances from National NOW related to dues. Follow up measures will be made and from now on, any membership payments we receive will go directly to National NOW.

Website is coming along very well; Wording was clarified to state "donations" instead of "cost" for the calendar transactions.

2020 Report - Information is needed for a second printing of the calendar and any future printings after that.

Discussion of October 16 event - refreshments and serving-ware will be obtained; Membership forms will be handy as well as a sign-in sheet.

New Business:

Calendar Report - Beautiful creation and many thanks to Rebecca!

MSC to order a second printing.

December 8th 2020 Kickoff - Sonoma County NOW will have a table for the event at the Saturday Afternoon Club (430 - 10th Street) from 2 - 4 PM

Plans are discussed for an event in March for Lilith Rogers to do her representation of Rachel Carson.

Meeting adjourned at 2:20 PM.



- Call to Order
- Introductions
- Announcements
- Approval of Agenda
- Minutes October 2019 meeting
- Finance Report
- 2020 Calendar Update
- Website Report
- NOW Coming Events
- Old Business
- New Business
- Adjourn

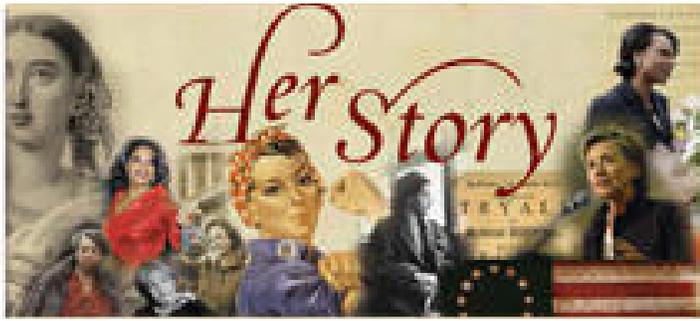
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Webmaster Ken Norton

WOMEN'S SPACES

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



November Highlights in US Women's History

November 1, 1848 – First medical school for women, the New England Female Medical School, opens, in 1874 it merges with Boston University to become one of the world's first co-ed medical schools

November 8, 1910 – The state of Washington passes a constitutional amendment to guarantee woman suffrage

November 8, 1984 – Dr. Anna L. Fisher, a physician on the shuttle Discovery, becomes the first American mother and third American woman to fly into space

November 11, 1979 – Bethune Museum and Archives opens in Washington D.C. as a center for African-American women's history, honoring Mary McLeod Bethune

November 11, 1993 – The Vietnam Women's Memorial is dedicated in Washington, D.C. after being conceived by former army combat nurse Diane Carlson Evans and sculpted by Glenna Goodacre to honor the 265,000 women who voluntarily served during the Vietnam era

November 13, 1938 – Mother Francis Xavier Cabrini is beatified, the first American woman citizen to become a saint

November 14, 1889 – Journalist Elizabeth Cochran, aka Nellie Bly, sails around the world in 72 days, 6 hours, 11 minutes, and 14 seconds, beating the fictional record set by Phineas Fogg in Jules Verne's *Around the World in Eighty Days*

November 14, 1903 – The U.S. Women's Trade Union League is established

November 14, 1946 – Emily Greene Balch, co-founder of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, is awarded the Nobel Peace Prize

November 28, 1881 – The first organizational meeting is held for the predecessor group to the American Association of University Women (AAUW)

BE INFORMED.

BE INVOLVED.

BE JOYFUL.

It is #NotNormal...

...for the President of the United States to tell his lawyers to sue the Democrats.

GOOD NEWS, VICTORIES & HEROES

A federal judge blocked a near-total ban on abortions from taking effect next month in Alabama. *New York Times*

Representative Katie Hill addressed Congress in a powerful speech explaining that her decision to step down is a direct result of a double standard. *Refinery29*

Christine Blasey Ford made a rare public appearance to accept the YWCA Silicon Valley Empowerment Award, which celebrates and honors women in the community who are advocates and ambassadors for change. *The Hill*

Jane Fonda was arrested for the fourth week in a row for protesting climate change. *CBS News*

A fearless 19-year-old abortion advocate just became the youngest lawmaker in Latin America. *Mother Jones*

A commission of the New York City council approved the plans to erect a bronze statue of New Yorkers Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, and Sojourner Truth in August 2020. *Quartz*

15 young people from Canada filed a lawsuit against their federal government for failing to take action to stop climate change. *Grist*

The Ocean Cleanup project is now cleaning plastic out of rivers to stop it from getting to the ocean. *Fast Company*

According to a new report, offshore wind turbines could generate enough electricity to power every home and business on Earth. *CNN*

Murray Energy is filing for bankruptcy, becoming the eighth coal mining company to do so in the past year. *Grist*

In a dramatic moment caught on video, a horse was seen running into danger to help guide other horses to safety as a rapid moving brush fire closed in. *People*

Fire crews, air drops and a herd of goats helped save the Reagan Presidential Library from wildfire. *CNN*

This disaster relief group, made up of many undocumented immigrants, helps devastated communities often left behind. *NowThis*

The city of Chicago hired a support dog to help children who have experienced sexual assault -- she will be with them during court proceedings to help ease anxiety. *AJ+*

Hundreds of thousands of people marched in the streets of Taipei to mark the first Pride parade since Taiwan legalized same-sex marriage. *CBS News*

LET'S RECOGNIZE AND HONOR WOMEN POWER...

Surely I'm not alone in noticing that most of the people fueling Donald Trump's impending impeachment are women. This strikes me as significant.

We have **Nancy Pelosi**, the highest-ranking female lawmaker in history, who kick-started the burgeoning probe that will put impeachment into the first paragraph of Trump's obituary.

We have the five moderate House Democratic women, all with national security pedigrees (ex-CIA, ex-Air Force, ex-Navy), who shattered the House's inertia on Sept. 23, by assailing Trump's impeachable bid to squeeze Ukraine for domestic campaign dirt. Joined by two token men, the women wrote that Trump's collusion efforts "are a threat to all we have sworn to protect... This flagrant disregard for the law cannot stand."

We have **Marie Yovanovitch**, the career diplomat who served as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine until she was recently ousted by Trump and henchman Rudy Giuliani for failing to play ball on the plot to get (fake) campaign dirt. Last Friday, she ignored a presidential directive not to testify on Capitol Hill and warned that Trump and Giuliani are shredding the American-led alliances that had kept the peace for generations.

"The harm will come when bad actors in countries beyond Ukraine see how easy it is to use fiction and innuendo to manipulate our system," Yovanovitch said. "In such circumstances, the only interests that will be served are those of our strategic adversaries, like Russia, that spread chaos and attack the institutions and norms that the U.S. helped create and which we have benefited from for the last 75 years."

Now we have **Fiona Hill**, a former intelligence officer who served on the National Security Council as senior director of Russian and Eurasian affairs until she quit in July. On Monday, ignoring the Trump regime's refusal to cooperate, she became the first White House official to testify in the impeachment probe.

Some of the closed-door details have inevitably leaked, and bravo to Hill for what she has revealed. She said that Giuliani, Mick Mulvaney (Trump's acting chief of staff), and Gordon Sondland (rich Trump donor who bought himself an ambassadorship to the European Union) ran a rogue operation to squeeze Ukraine for dirt on Joe Biden. And she said that her NSC boss at the time, John Bolton, was horrified. She quotes Bolton as saying, "I am not part of whatever drug deal Sondland and Mulvaney are cooking up... Giuliani's a hand grenade who's going to blow everybody up."

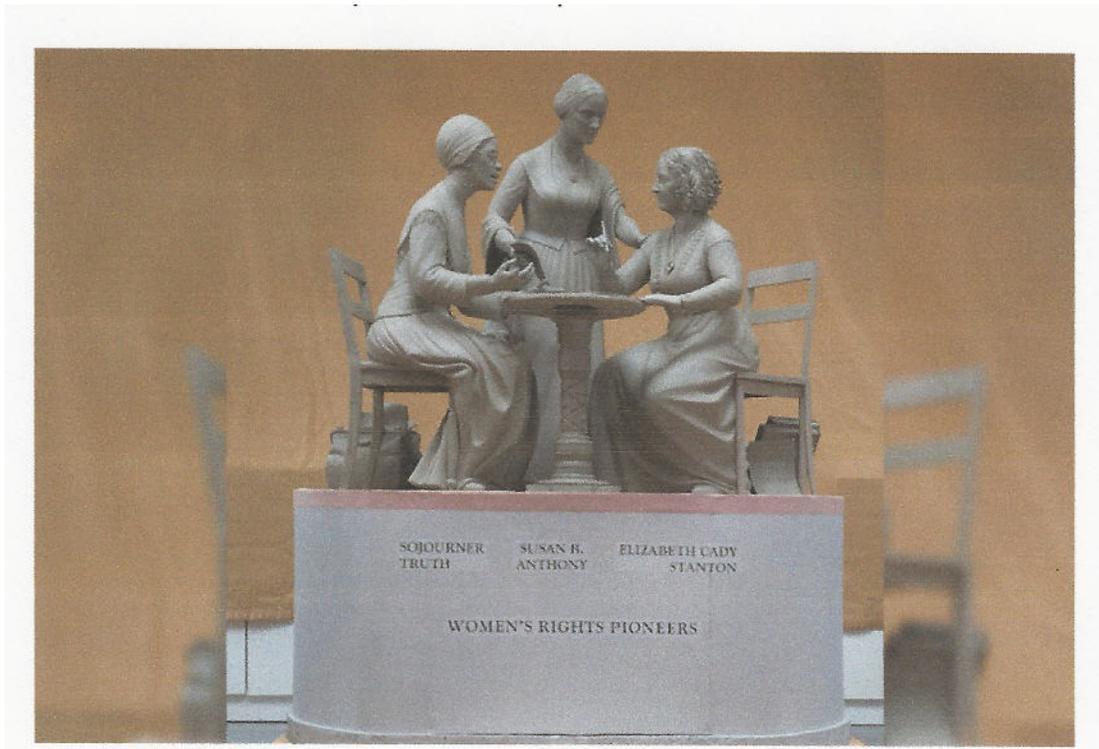
Hill also reportedly testified that Sondland had no right to meddle in Ukraine affairs; as ambassador to the EU, he was ranging far beyond his duties. But he told her that he was in charge of Ukraine, and when she asked him who told her that, he said it was Trump. In her presence, he also said that Ukraine president Zelensky would get a White House invitation if Zelensky agreed to open an investigation of the Bidens.

Why have the five moderate first-term lawmakers from traditionally red districts, **Nancy Pelosi, Fiona Hill, and Marie Yovanovitch** (Trump's assessment: "the woman was bad news") been so willing to storm the barricades while so many men close to power have stayed silent or cowered behind the lines?

Perhaps it's merely what one of the five lawmakers, **ex-CIA officer Elissa Slotkin** of Michigan, recently said: "having a sitting president of the United States use leverage over a foreign leader to get dirt on an opponent that very basic idea, I think, cut for us, as national security people, just close to the bone."

But I suspect that the real reason is broader and simpler. Women in power, and those who seek a share of it, are less likely than ever to take any crap. Pelosi said it best last November, after an historic blue wave drowned the male-dominated House Republican majority: "I want women to see that you do not get pushed around. You don't run away from the fight."

Trump was back on Twitter Monday, fuming about "total Impeachment Scam!" **But if there's any justice, historians will one day record that women like Yovanovitch and Hill were the heroes who helped take him down.**



New York's Central Park To Erect First Sculpture Honoring Women

Source: *The Guardian*

Monument will depict three pioneers in fight for women's rights: Susan B Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Sojourner Truth. New York's Central Park has 23 statues of men, who left their mark in history, but not a single one honoring the accomplishments of a woman.

That will change after a city commission voted on Monday to erect a monument depicting three pioneers in the fight for women's rights: Susan B Anthony, Elizabeth Cady Stanton and Sojourner Truth.

The likeness of Truth, an escaped slave and abolitionist, was belatedly added to the sculpture in response to criticism that African American suffragists were initially excluded.

"This statue conveys the power of women working together to bring about revolutionary change in our society," said Pam Elam, president of the monumental women nonprofit of volunteer advocates, historians and community leaders, which has gained key support from **Manhattan borough president Gale Brewer...**

The sculpture will be dedicated in Aug. 2020 on the Mall, an elegant park promenade lined with American elm trees. 2020 marks 100 years since American women won the right to vote.

The bronze work by artist Meredith Bergmann will join statues of men including Christopher Columbus, Alexander Hamilton, William Shakespeare and Sir Walter Scott.

On Monday approval was granted by the Public Design Commission for Bergmann's design which was chosen from 91 competing submissions. Bergman said "My hope is that all people, but especially young people, will be inspired by this image of women of different races, different religious backgrounds and different economic status working together to change the world."

- **Susan B Anthony:** American social reformer and women's rights activist, born in 1820, who played a pivotal role in the women's suffrage movement.
- **Elizabeth Cady Stanton,** born in 1815, known as a social activist, abolitionist and suffragist.
- **Sojourner Truth** escaped from slavery in 1827. At the 1851 Women's Rights Convention in Akron, Ohio, she delivered her now-iconic speech titled, 'Ain't I a Woman?'



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