

# NOW in the News! September 2023

## Contents:

- 1. NOW Award to Rosita Stevens-Holsey
- 2. Link to Zakiya Thomas' August Presentation
- 3. Susan Chunko Honored by Sebastopol
- 4. Our Next Meeting
- 5. Shout Out to Molly Murphy MacGregor
- 6. Special Dates in September

Greetings NOW friends,

Last October, our chapter's guest speaker was Rosita Stevens-Holsey, niece of the Rev. Dr. Pauli Murray, one of the pioneers in founding the National Organization for Women. Rosita was recently presented with the **2023 Woman of Vision Award** by NOW for her contributions in keeping her aunt Pauli's legacy in the forefront, and in

doing so, also had an impact on Pauli being chosen to appear on the 2024 quarter! Congratulations, Rosita! We are very proud to be a part of this organization and its history.

We still have the <u>video</u> from the October 2022 meeting on our YouTube channel and you can watch it anytime. Rosita's book (image above), written for youth, was published earlier this year on the life of Pauli Murray and is sold everywhere these days: *Pauli Murray: The Life of a Pioneering Feminist & Civil Rights Activist*". Her website, Preserving Pauli Murray, is linked <u>here</u>.

To support keeping her aunt Pauli's legacy, Rosita is a member of the Pauli Murray Center for History and Social Justice located in Durham, NC. Their mission is to realize a world in which wholeness is a human right for all and not the privilege of a few, the Pauli Murray Center actively works toward fairness and justice across race, class, sexuality, gender, and spiritual practice. The Center embraces the transformative power of collecting and telling our stories to heal and promote human rights. To find out more about the Pauli Murray Center go to <a href="https://www.paulimurraycenter.com/">https://www.paulimurraycenter.com/</a>.

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If you missed August's meeting with Zakiya Thomas, President & CEO of the ERA Coalition and Fund for Women's Equality, you can watch the <u>video</u>. Thank you to all who attended and for your questions, which enhanced the evening. We learned so much about the Equal Rights Amendment, what it will do when finally inscribed into the U.S. Constitution, and what actions we can take now to ensure this is done! The best way is to sign the <u>ERA petition</u>.

There are three other top actions Zakiya urged us to take:

- 1. Contact our local and state representatives to demand they support the ERA!
- 2. Have discussions with others who may not agree with us to find common ground. The ERA will help everyone in society, not just women.
- 3. Most important: VOTE for those who will represent us in government!

On the radio show, *Women's Spaces*, on KBBF 89.1 FM, host/co-producer Elaine B. Holtz recently had the honor of interviewing Zakiya Thomas, and you can listen to this informative and inspiring recording <u>here</u>.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to **Susan Chunco** whose name has been placed on the Living Peace Wall in Sebastopol, <u>California</u>. The Peace Wall, a monument of granite panels topped by a bronze hippie peace symbol, honors and quotes prominent nonviolence activists and social justice figures. Created by Michael Gillotti, unveiled Oct. 2015 in downtown Sebastopol, no-nukes, self-proclaimed "Peace Town USA." Four names are added each year. Susan first became an activist protesting the war in Vietnam, and in recent years has served on the board and as treasurer of the Peace and Justice Center of Sonoma County, collating the *Sonoma County Peace Press* and tabling at activists' events for multiple organizations. One of the original advocates for Camp Michela (Remembrance Village), she continues to act as community liaison for the local homeless encampment.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

September will be a general meeting for all members. Please join us at our next meeting to learn more about our chapter's doings. We are planning in upcoming months to have a movie night (in person) and will have other events as well. YOU can help us by expressing your views on what interests you and keeps you active in NOW.

## September 18, 2023 Zoom Details

7:00-8:30 p.m. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82846374496?pwd=WIA0cE5CaFczUUtqa1Nkc2tYQXkyd <u>z09</u> Meeting ID: 828 4637 4496 Passcode: 035853

It is our hope that you will be inspired to join our local NOW chapter, if you are not yet a member, or even to join the board. See below for more details on becoming an active participant in this powerful organization.

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**If you are not yet a NOW member** or need to renew your membership, please join our growing organization! Our chapter's ID is CA0660 and you can select it when you sign up <u>here</u>. If you prefer to write a check, here is a form you can clip and mail.

--Amy Nykamp, President

	MEMBERSHIP AND RENEWAL FORM	
	Sonoma County Chapter #CA0660	
	Regular membership: \$40/γear	
ORGANIZATION POR WOMEN	3-year membership: \$110	
	Reduced Dues: \$10-30/year	
Name		
Address		
Address		
Address  Phone Email		

## Thank You for Your Service!

A shout out to the National Women's History Alliance celebrating forty-three years of bringing Women's History to the world. A special thank you and congratulations to Co-Founder and Executive Director **Molly Murphy MacGregor**. An amazing accomplishment. Rumor has it that Molly will be stepping down as Executive Director at the end of the year. (Just between us, that is yet to be seen.) For more on the organization and its history, click <u>here</u>.



Caroline Bañuelos

## **Special dates in September**

3 Caroline Bañuelos (1959–), President, Sonoma Co. Latino Democratic Club (Creative Commons photo)

- 4 Labor Day
- 6 Jane Addams (1860–1935), suffragist, Nobel laureate, cofounder ACLU
- 13 Grandparents' Day
- 14 Margaret Sanger (1879–1966), activist, educator
- 22 Elsie Allen (1899–1990), Pomo leader
- 23 Fall Equinox

Victoria Woodhull (1838–1927), activist Mary Church Terrell (1863–1954), activist, suffragist Elsie Hill (1899–1970), suffragist

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

http://www.nowsonoma.org/

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Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/groups/sonomacountynow</u> YouTube: <u>https://studio.youtube.com/channel/UCIgTr7\_29T8COX2MNul\_Q8g</u>

## **About NOW**

As the grassroots arm of the women's movement, the National Organization for Women is dedicated to its multi-issue and multistrategy 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: <u>https://now.org/about/</u>



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