



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

March 2018 Newsletter

www.womensclearinghouse.org

Invitation to the March 27, 2018 Meeting of the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Noon-1:30 PM at the Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Ave., NW. (Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, south exit)

Networking Women's History Organizations and Sites

To celebrate Women's History Month 2018, we are delighted that **Molly MacGregor**, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the National Women's History Project (NWHP) headquartered in California will give us an overview of her organization which has provided leadership in sharing multicultural women's history materials and training since 1980. NWHP was responsible for Congress establishing women's history week during March 8 (International Women's Day) and in 1987 led the successful campaign to establish March as Women's History Month.

Part of their valuable work in broadcasting women's historical achievements includes annual March Celebrations to honor women who have made major contributions. Awardees include CWI Board members, Dr. Bernice Sandler and Carmen Delgado Votaw. The March 24, 2018 award ceremony in DC will honor recent CWI presenter Marty Langelan and Jill Moss Greenberg, founding executive director of the Maryland Women's Heritage Center, a CWI organizational member. For information and to purchase Sat. March 24 luncheon tickets go to <http://www.nwhp.org/2018-theme-honorees/> and then to the [store](#). One of CWI's purposes is to encourage collaboration among groups working toward similar feminist goals. Thus, we are also inviting **Molly MacGregor** to discuss plans to establish a long-term National Women's History Alliance with a major web and social media presence.

We are delighted that **Becky Schergens**, long-time National Advisor to the [National Women's History Museum](#) (NWHM) will update us on the progress of the NWHM in establishing a physical site as well as its success in providing online resources and conducting research that can be used by all. Becky will describe the new report "Where are the Women? A Report on the Status of Women in the United States Social Studies Curriculum." Download this [report](#) to learn how your state's K-12 curriculum standards compare to other states.

Representatives from other women's history organizations such as **Melani N. Douglass** from the National Museum of Women in the Arts will share what they do and suggestions for the new Alliance.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch. Next CWI meeting Tue. **April 24, 2018** is on helping women in low-income parts of the world gain access to modern technology such as solar cookstoves and electricity.

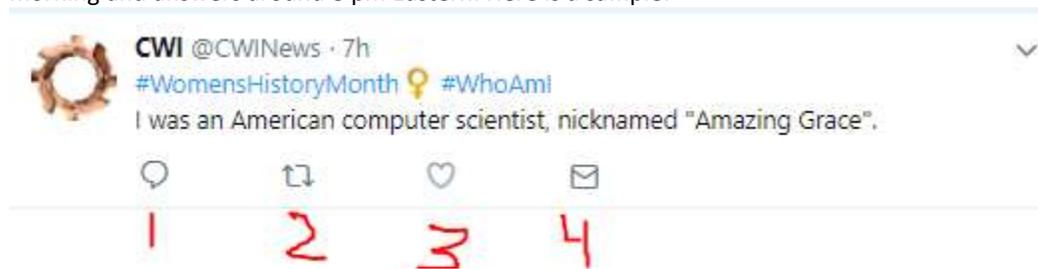
Taking Advantage of CWI Media Resources by Sherry Klein, CWI VP for Technology

VIDEOS: Did you know that we have been videotaping most of our CWI meetings for the past few years? Professional videographer Loretto Gubernatis, CWI's VP for Media has provided video recordings. They are available on our website programs page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/programs/> with details under "Information from Past Programs". YouTube also lists these CWI videos and many are shown on Channel 75 Baltimore City Public Access Television and Channel 99 Anne Arundel Public Access Television. They are also permanently on the HANBURYCROSS YouTube channel and [play listed](#) on Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Programs YouTube channel. Thanks to Loretto for producing and editing videotapes on YouTube of our CWI meetings. To receive alerts when new videos are posted, subscribe to: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=hanburycross+channel. You may be interested in several shows posted there, including, but not limited to "A Place At The Table": which covers Gun Control, Dreamers, Women running for Office, and "Her Voice", a platform for women running for Office in Maryland.

SOCIAL MEDIA: Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) on Social Media

Thanks to past CWI Program VP, Carolyn Cook's initiative and foresight, we have a Facebook page and a Twitter handle, which we are starting to use more. Like us, share, engage, and retweet from them. If you are interested in volunteering to tweet, make lists in Twitter, maintain the FB page, or anywhere in between, please let us know!

On Twitter and Facebook, for the month of March, we have a "Guess Who The Woman is" game on- posting clues in the morning and answers around 8 pm Eastern. Here is a sample:



Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/CWINews>

Pinterest: <https://www.pinterest.com/clearinghouseonwomensissues/>

HOW DO I USE THESE VIDEO AND SOCIAL MEDIA TOOLS?

There are entire courses and many youtube how-to's to answer those questions but below is a basic get started.

Youtube Quick How To:

Visit <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLnfiFIIPQZAg2ZAITWPfPDE6Z4AxMTNC6> to see our program list

Our website Programs page has them listed also. (<https://womensclearinghouse.org/programs/>).

To show support for our gracious videographer's contributions and receive updates when new material is available, go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com). Type Hanburycross and press Enter. The first thing that appears will be the channel. On the right of it is a red SUBSCRIBE button. Click on it. It may ask you to sign in or select which user to subscribe with. You will receive email notifications, depending on your Google/Youtube account settings of newly uploaded programs.

Twitter Quick How To: See our feed at: <https://twitter.com/CWINews>.

Once you have created a Twitter account, login.

Mention us by typing @CWINews to appear in our feed. Click the bubble (1) to add a comment, arrows (2) to retweet, heart (3) to like, and envelope (4) to send a message directly and privately to another Twitter user.

Facebook Quick How To: See our feed at: <https://www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse/>

Once you have created a Facebook account, login. Navigate to our page and below our CWI logo in the middle, Like or Follow Us. Post to the page with information you wish to share of related events and information.

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Meeting Summary

“Learning from our Sisters of Color and Each Other on How to Bring It to the Polls November 2018”

February 27, 2018, 12 noon to 1:30 PM at Alliance for Justice
11 Dupont Circle, Washington, DC

Following the introduction of the meeting's attendees, co-president Sue Klein opened the discussion on how we can learn from the strategies and successes of women of color to ensure victory at the ballot box in November. We heard from representatives of four organizations that advocate for women of color and a progressive policy agenda: National Council of Negro Women (NCNW), The National Conference of Puerto Rican Women (NCPRW), MANA, and National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF). Before the organizational representatives began their presentations, Sue Klein posed three questions to each:

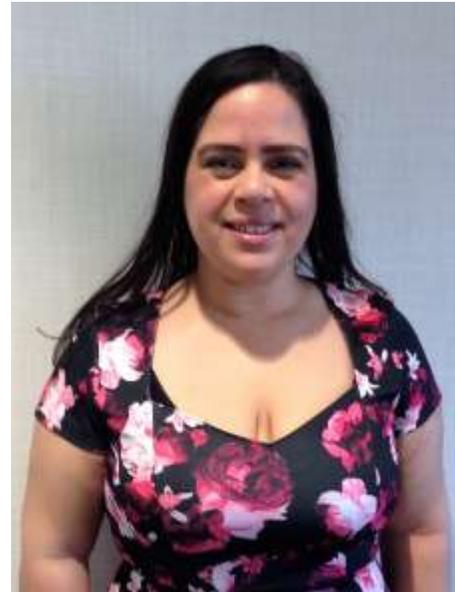
1. What was the participation of your constituency group in recent elections?
2. What are the issues of particular concern to your constituency?
3. What strategy worked or didn't work and what do you plan to do to elect candidates who support your issues?



Janice Mathis is the executive director of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). Janice noted that women of African descent vote both consistently and progressively because their lives depend on it. With regard to issues of concern, women of African descent are not limited to what are considered to be traditional women's issues. Every issue, from healthcare to taxation, has a unique feminist point of view. Just like any other voter, women care about issues like education, healthcare, jobs and employment, and security. Janice discussed a disconnect between women of color and white women, who have not been a cohesive voting bloc in previous elections. To deal with this, NCNW has been working to reach out beyond their core constituency, which is women of African descent. Other strategies that NCNW has employed include monitoring local elections to make up for changes to the Voting Rights Act and a lack of federal monitoring, encouraging constituents of congressional leadership to contact their representatives, and

pushing best-practices from certain states that are not yet universal, such as pre-registering to vote in states like Florida and North Carolina. Before concluding, Janice raised a final concern: is the Democratic experience safe? With partisan gerrymandering and voter suppression rampant, NCNW is fighting to protect the central premise of America, which is one person, one vote.

Melina Olmo is the President of the DC Chapter of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women (NACOPRW). Melina discussed the difficult times facing Puerto Rico and the leadership that women have demonstrated in the rebuilding of the island. While the burden has fallen on the shoulders of Puerto Rican women, there is an emergence of energy among women of all generations to bring back courage to Puerto Rico. Chapters of NACOPRW across the country have worked on a volunteer basis to collaborate with elected officials, private citizens, and organizations to fundraise for Puerto Rico. The main issue of concern for NACOPRW in the upcoming election is the slow and ongoing recovery process for Puerto Rico. NACOPRW has formed coalitions with different private and public organizations to provide people in Puerto Rico with resources and education, because Puerto Ricans residing in the United States have witnessed the slow and lack of response from the government. Private citizens have been helping the recovery process by organizing donation drives, sending funds to local non-profits, and organizing discussion on how to address the long term recovery of education, energy and infrastructure. Melina explained the challenges faced in mobilizing Puerto Ricans in the United States, which is a largely women-led effort. People in Puerto Rico are typically politically active, but the trend shows the Puerto Ricans who move to the United States become less involved in the political process and vote in much lower percentages than those in Puerto Rico. In an upcoming national conference on April 6-8, 2018 in New York, NACOPRW will give Puerto Ricans – men and women – the encouragement and training that they need to vote, run for office, and participate in United States mainland politics. NACOPRW is open to anyone in the community who is interested in our mission to advocate for women. Please visit www.nacoprwdc.org to become a member or learn more about our organization and upcoming events.



Amy Hinojosa is the President and CEO of MANA, A National Latina Organization. Amy began by reinforcing the importance of intersectionality, because every issue goes through the path of women. MANA focuses on leadership development, community service, and advocacy. Because women are typically already the functional head of the household and leaders in their communities, MANA tries to help them take the next step to run for office through the Latinas Run Initiative. Whether it is running for a local board or running for Congress, it is important to encourage women to use the tools that they already have as community leaders to step up and become decision makers at every level of government. This initiative has already demonstrated great success in places like Topeka, Kansas, where MANA members were elected to the school board, to the city council, and as mayor. However, a significant challenge that MANA is facing is low voter turnout in the Hispanic community.

Amy explained various strategies that they have employed to combat this, such as ensuring that voters

have proper identification, helping with registration, and helping people understand that they are voting over life or death issues at the ballot box. Through these measures and the Latinas Run Initiative, MANA helps Latinas take ownership of the political process and move to action.



Vimala Phongsavan is the Public Policy Director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF). Vimala discussed how NAPAWF is the only national organization that serves Asian Americans and Pacific Islander (AAPI) women and girls at the intersection of reproductive health, immigration reform, and economic justice. She also emphasized the diverse nature of this community composed of recent immigrants and long-time citizens representing over 50 ethnicities. NAPAWF is working to protect progressive policies and build power so AAPI women and girls can directly affect policies at the local, state, and federal level. Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders are the fastest growing immigrant population in the country and are expected to be 10% of the US population by 2060. This population is a diverse community with different experiences and needs, which must be considered in the different strategies used in the civic engagement process. One strategy that NAPAWF employs is helping AAPI women understand the issues and encourage them to vote. Vimala discussed her own experience running for office, and how she had to learn the campaigning process and increase the registration of Lao voters in her Rhode Island community in order to be elected. Vimala with the help of her father registered many first time Lao voters and enjoyed getting to know the community. She realized these are necessary aspects of running a successful campaign, especially in a local election. Vimala believes it is important to provide resources and teach campaign strategies and encourage our sisters to run for office and to directly affect policy in their communities. For the upcoming elections, NAPAWF is focusing on voter education and creating a narrative about the importance of the vote in the Asian American community.

Janice Mathis looked forward to 2020 in her final thoughts, saying that we have a wonderful opportunity ahead of us in the next couple of years. In 2020, we will be celebrating the 100th year of women having the right to vote. This is an opportunity to come together across the spectrum to celebrate women being able to vote for a century.

The discussion then moved to the importance of young people voting and challenges that we face with voter suppression on college campuses. Some states require a student's driver license to match their dormitory address, which makes it harder for out-of-state students, in particular, to vote. These states, such as Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi, are working to limit the energy around student activism.

Each presenter was asked to give advice to young women today, who are likely very frustrated. **Amy Hinojosa** said she would tell young women "If you are angry, do something about it," because young women have the opportunity to speak with their vote. **Vimala Phongsavan** reiterated the importance of getting involved and being engaged, whether it be running for office or showing up to the polls.

Melina Olmo said her advice to young women is to not be intimidated by the process or the issues and to reach out to an organization that interests you to learn more. **Janice Mathis** concluded by adding that it is important for young women to inform themselves and learn about the history of women activists. Janice said this inspires confidence, because “If they could do it under much worse circumstances, then why can’t you be a contributor?”

Dr. E. Faye Williams, President and CEO of the National Congress of Black Women, Inc. (NCBW), was unable to attend the meeting, but contributed additional thoughts by email. Dr. Williams explained that every NCBW chapter is doing “all that is humanly possible” on women’s issues, with a focus on issues such as voter registration.

During the discussion there was great interest in our organizations working together. Several organizations including the National Organization for Women (NOW) said they were already working with Emerge America to train more women candidates.

Coming 2018 DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

In 2018 we will send selected events to CWI members on our e-mailing list. Please share your upcoming feminist events to post in 2018 CWI newsletters to president@womensclearinghouse.org. Check out CWI's Facebook www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse and Twitter www.twitter.com/CWInews pages! LIKE and FOLLOW us.

Here is link to DC Area Women’s Voices Theater Festival with many plays.

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

Saturday-Monday, March 17-19 2018. National Young Feminist Leadership Conference 2018. Sponsored by the Feminist Majority Foundation, The Double Tree Crystal City. Contact feministcampus.org/conference/ for more information and Registration.

Sunday, March 18 at 3:30 PM. Amelia Earhart with History Alive Tenley-Friendship Library at [4450 Wisconsin Avenue, NW](http://www.wisconsin.gov). Watch award-winning actress Mary Ann Jung bring history to life. Mary Ann will tell the tale of pioneering pilot Amelia Earhart to help us celebrate Women's History Month. Suitable for all ages.

Tuesday, March 20, 12:30- 1:30 PM ET. Webinar: Sexual Assault on Campus: Students’ Civil rights Under Title IX. Speakers from The Leadership Conference Education Fund, National Women’s Law Center and American Association of University Women. [RSVP Here](#)

Thursday, March 22, 12:30-2:00 PM In the Age of Inequality, Does Public Schooling Make a Difference? 385 Russell Senate Office Building, Washington, DC 20002, This event is a collaboration between the [American Academy of Political and Social Science](#) and the [American Educational Research Association](#). [RSVP](#) is required, as lunch will be provided.

Saturday March 24, 2018, 11-2:30 PM. Nevertheless She Persisted, National Women’s History Project Honoree Luncheon, Hamilton, 600 14th St. NW Washington DC. For information and to purchase tickets at \$125 go to <http://www.nwhp.org/2018-theme-honorees/> and then to the [store](#).

Saturday, March 24 at 2:00 PM. The Female Re-Enactors of Distinction, Anacostia Library at [1800 Good Hope Road, SE](#). Learn about the past to commemorate Women's History Month. The Female Re-Enactors of Distinction will tell the story of women from another time. All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult guardian.

Tuesday, March 27, 2018. Noon-1:30 PM. Networking Women’s History Organizations and Sites, Clearinghouse on Women’s Issues, Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, Washington, DC.

Saturday, March 31 at 2:00 PM. The Battle of Fort Stevens and Elizabeth Thomas
Takoma Park Library at [416 Cedar Street, NW](#). Come learn from rangers from the National Park Service Civil War Defenses of Washington. Rangers will tell the story of Elizabeth Thomas and the Battle of Fort Stevens.

Sunday April 15 to Thursday April 19, National Summit for Educational Equity, National Alliance for Partnerships in Equity, Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, VA. Details at nape@napeequity.org.

Tuesday April 24, Noon-1:30 PM Helping women in low-income parts of the world gain access to modern technology such as solar cookstoves and electricity. Clearinghouse on Women’s Issues, Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, Washington, DC.

Wednesday, April 25, 10 AM-5 PM Enough is Enough Summit, NOW, Feminist Majority and other Partners, Congressional Visitor Center, First St NE, Washington, DC 20515. See enough@now.org.

Extras

Third Hemispheric Report on the Implementation of the Belém do Pará Convention. Prevention of Violence against Women in the Americas: Paths to Follow. [Download](#)

“accountABILITYtoolkit” A Guide to Using U.N. Human Rights Mechanisms to Advance the Rights of Women and Girls with Disabilities. Download in English or Spanish from info@WomenEnabled.org.

CWI's newsletter is endowed by friends in loving memory of our longtime editor Roslyn Kaiser.

Photos: Sue Klein, 2-27-2018 meeting summary, Carly Allen, FMF Intern,

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019

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Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Membership Form

www.womensclearinghouse.org

1. Bring a check, payable to CWI, along with this form to a CWI Meeting or mail to:
Holly Taggart Joseph, CWI Treasurer
8504 Rosewood Drive
Bethesda MD 20814-1434
2. Or you may also join online using PayPal by going to the membership section of www.womensclearinghouse.org

NAME of Individual or Organization _____

For Organizations also Provide Name and email of PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVE

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE ____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL _____

WEBSITE _____

Enclosed is a check for CWI membership **July 1-June 30** (Please fill in year/s.) _____

___ **Individual** ___ \$25 for one year ___ \$45 for two years ___ \$65 for three years

___ Individual under 30 years old (\$15/one year)

___ Virtual (\$20/one year) (Email newsletter only for members outside Washington, DC area)

___ **Organization** (\$40/one year or \$100/three years)

___ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*If organizational member, indicate if you would like a link to your organization to be listed as a supporting member on CWI's website. (Listing subject to CWI approval) Circle One: ___YES ___NO (If Yes, provide url)

Membership dues and contributions are tax- deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.