



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI)

June 2019 CWI Newsletter

<https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Invitation to Tuesday, June 18, 2019 CWI Meeting, Noon-1:30 PM
The Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Ave., NW
(Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, north or south exit)
RSVP is now required. See <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Fostering Collaboration Among Feminist Organizations to Attain Women's Equality

Our June 18 Annual Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) lunch meeting will focus on how CWI member organizations can better help each other become well informed powerful activists for women's equality in multiple areas of concern and from diverse perspectives. CWI is a 45-year old DC non-profit organization of individual and organizational members who learn from and support each other's feminist goals. In these critical times we need to do this even more effectively and efficiently. With the resurgence of support for ERA we are close to victory! In the Virginia legislature we were only one vote short on an administrative move that would have made Virginia the 38th state to ratify the ERA. We also need to be continually informed about how we can most effectively fight the constant, vigorous assaults on women's health culminating in the restrictive abortion legislation now passed in OH, LA, MO and AL. In our May 28 meeting, we learned about involving women in international security.

While we miss the former National Council of Women's Organizations, CWI has been assuming some of its important collaboration and dissemination functions and adding new ones such as video-taping many meetings and showing them on YouTube and public TV. At this meeting we are inviting our CWI member organizations to give:

- A 3-minute description of the feminist aspects of their organization and bring handouts.
- Suggestions on how they would like CWI to help their organization and vice-versa.

So far, we are counting on presentations from Alexa DeJesus from the National Women's Political Caucus; Elyse Shaw, Institute for Women's Policy Research; Peg Barratt, Solar Cookers International; Elise Bryant, Coalition of Labor Union Women; NOW, the Feminist Majority Foundation. Please let us know if you will present for your CWI member organization so we can add you and your organization to the agenda. New organizational members may join anytime, but are encouraged to join now and present on June 18.

We hope this meeting will:

- Bring groups together to propel women's equality forward through networking, partnering and collaborative education and action
- Strengthen ties and facilitate collaboration between the women's movement and social justice allies; and
- Reaching out to include communities who have never been involved in the multiple aspects of the feminist movement.

This is a long-term agenda and one that we will have to work on continuously. But it certainly tops waiting for the next threat to women's rights nationally and globally. CWI wants to hear from its members and others about their plans to stand up and resist/fight back.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. A Light Lunch will be provided by CWI for all so please RSVP by June 16 so we can be ready for all of you. An RSVP to attend is required. Go to <https://womensclearinghouse.org>. Next CWI Meeting, noon Tuesday September 24, 2019.

Dear Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Members,

At this June 2019 CWI meeting we welcome the newly-elected Board Members, and welcome new CWI individual and organizational members as CWI celebrates its 45th anniversary and continued commitment to continue its mission to provide information and discussion on issues that impact the lives of women and girls Nationally and Internationally.

It has been said, "May you live in interesting times." Indeed, we are living in interesting and challenging times. As an organization, we have worked hard and strong for positive legislation to be introduced and passed on many national, state, and local levels. Now we are faced with addressing more difficult challenges to keep these hard-won benefits. CWI will continue to do so.

CWI looks forward to fostering women's leadership. Melinda Gates, in a recent interview stated "I think sometimes we make the mistake of thinking leaders are born. No. Leaders are created. They're created by the action that they take based on what they have seen or experienced in the world ... to find the strength and the bravery to carry on the work." We at CWI encourage strong feminist focused leadership. We invite speakers to share their knowledge and information with our membership which we all share with many others.

It is our responsibility to continue as effective members of CWI with increased strength and hope. Let us recall a few lines from the song "If Not Now, Tell Me When" by Carrie Newcomer.

"If not now, tell me when?
If not now, tell me when?
We may never see this moment
Or place again
If not now, If not now, tell me when? ...
We'll make the change we can ...
And we'll walk hand in hand
If not now, If not now, tell me when"

On a personal note, I have now completed my 6th year as CoPresident of CWI and leave that position. I thank the Board and members for trusting me to fulfill that role with your support and participation. It has been a rewarding experience and I thank Sue Klein for her competent and sincere co-presidency. My best wishes to the new officers.

Harriett Stonehill, CoPresident, CWI

Sue Klein's summer 2018 photo of long-time best friends, **Bernice Sandler and Harriett Stonehill**. See announcement section of this newsletter for details on invitation to the June 26, DC *Celebration of the Life and Legacy of Bernice "Bunny" Sandler, the Godmother of Title IX* where Harriett will be a speaker.



CWI Meeting Summary, May 28, 2019 A Feminist Approach to Foreign Policy

The May meeting of the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues May, entitled "A Feminist Approach to Foreign Policy," examined the ways in which gender informs foreign policy and international development. The event featured Ursala Knudsen-Latta, the Policy and Advocacy Coordinator with Saferworld and outgoing Chair of the Executive Committee of the U.S. Working Group on Women, Peace, and Security; Kayla McGill, a researcher for the WomenStats Project the Gender and Global Security Program Assistant at Women in International Security; and Arielle Hernandez Lavadenz, the Development Manager of the U.S. National Committee for UN Women. CWI's Vice President of Global issues and Director of Advocacy for Women for Afghan Women, Megan Corrado, organized and moderated the event. More information on these wonderful presenters is in the meeting invitation in CWI's May 2019 newsletter on our website <https://womensclearinghouse.org>. A video of the meeting will also be available on the CWI website and will be shown on public TV.



Ursala Knudsen-Latta



Kayla McGill



Arielle Hernandez Lavadenz

The presentations and follow-up group discussion were particularly timely in light of the upcoming momentous occasions relating to women and international relations—from the 20th anniversary of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325; the release of the U.S. National Strategy on Women, Peace, and Security; implementation of the Women, Peace, and Security Act; and opportunities for women's participation in peace processes, such as in Afghanistan. Despite progress in women's involvement in the peace and security sector and the rise of feminist foreign policies around the world, funding, programming, and opportunity for growth still hinder women's involvement and empowerment. Feminist foreign policies aim to promote women's rights, ensure their fulsome participation at all levels of decision-making, and allocate equitable resources for aid and the support of all genders—but far too few states have committed to implementing these core tenets.

The presenters discussed the implications of feminist foreign policies, as well as existing challenges to, and strategies of, international women's organizations and programs that aim to create a more just, stable, inclusive world with gender equality. These diverse speakers illuminated the interconnected ways in which data informs advocacy, laws, and policies, as well as funding streams available to programming for women's issues. They spoke of the retrenchment of women's rights in the U.S. and around the world, and stressed the important roles grassroots entities and civil society must play in this moment in order to fill leadership gaps and continue the work of the global women's movement. Such strategies include performing further research and data analysis to inform law and policy; advocating Congress to push the women, peace, and security agenda forward; fully implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017; demand oversight of foreign assistance programming to ensure parity in the allocation of resources for programming for women and girls; create strong social media and other campaigns to raise awareness about women's issues, fundraising opportunities, and disparity between law and practice.

The speakers' extensive experience in grassroots organizations, communication, advocacy, research, analysis, programming, and fundraising brought a broad range of perspectives to the ways in which feminist and non-feminist foreign policies can affect programming and women's rights around the world.

Here is a post-meeting photo of presenters and some attendees. Left to right: Kayla McGill, Justine Ehiabor, **Megan Corrado**, Arielle Hernandez Lavadenz, Karen Mulhauser, Kim Otis, & Sahana Dharmapuri.



Coming DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in CWI newsletters to president@womensclearinghouse.org. LIKE and FOLLOW us on CWI's Facebook www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse and Twitter www.twitter.com/CWInews pages! Also SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our video sponsor & provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. Times are EST. Paid-up CWI members will receive additional forwarded email messages on feminist meetings and activities.

Exhibits:

Shall Not Be Denied: Women Fight for the Vote" Library of Congress Southwest Gallery, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm
Handwritten letters, speeches, photographs and scrapbooks, created by American suffragists who persisted for more than 70 years to win voting rights for women, will be featured in a new exhibition at the Library of Congress.
Women's Suffrage, National Portrait Gallery

Programs:

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 2-3:30 PM, Women Automation, and the Future of Work. Institute for Women's Policy Research, Cannon House Office Building Room 121. [Register](#)

Thursday, June 13, 2019 6 PM, Changemaker Conversation with the Librarian: Women in Leadership. Library of Congress, Featuring Carla Hayden and Drew Gilpin Faust at the Thomas Jefferson Building LJ-119, 10 First St SE, Washington, DC 20540. This event will be livestreamed from both the Library's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/libraryofcongress> and the Library's YouTube site (with captions) at <https://www.youtube.com/user/LibraryOfCongress>.

Friday, June 14, 2019, 10 AM to 12:30 PM. Reset Retirement Solutions for the 21st Century, AFT, Economic Policy Institute. Kennedy Caucus Room (SR-325) Russell Senate Office Building, 2 Constitution Ave. NE Washington, DC 20002. [Registration](#)

Friday, June 14, 2019, 1-2 PM. Achieving Equity in Higher Education: The Civil Rights Community's Perspective. Leadership Conference Education Fund. DC Location tbd. [RSVP](#)

Tuesday, June 18, 2019, Noon. CWI meeting on Fostering Collaboration Among Feminist Organizations to Attain Women's Equality, See Page 1 of this newsletter.

Wednesday, June 26, 2019, 6:-8:30 PM. "Celebration of the Life of Dr. Bernice Sandler, Godmother of Title IX". Woman's National Democratic Club, 1526 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20036. RSVP: democraticwoman.org/Bernice or call (202) 232-7363. Everyone is invited to stay after the program to watch the first Democratic Presidential Debate.

Tuesday, July 9, 2019 6:30 PM. AFJ Salon with Debra Katz. 5th Floor 11 Dupont Circle, [Details and RSVP.](#)

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

Meeting summary by Helen Mulkeen and Megan Corrado. Photos supplied by Sue Klein and Ursula Knudsen-Latta

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2018 – JUNE 2020

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary, Helen Mulkeen, VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis; VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook; VP Technology, Sherry Klein; VP Global Issues, Megan Corrado; VP Strategic Planning, Connie Cordovilla; and VP Organizational Management, Anne Martin. **DIRECTOR EMERITA:** Elaine Newman, **EX OFFICIO:** Barbara J. Ratner

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Clearinghouse on Women's Issues Membership Form

<https://womensclearinghouse.org>

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 or joseph.holly@gmail.com
Tel. 301-530-9594, cell 301-325-4740

You may also join online using PayPal by going to the membership section of womensclearinghouse.org

For membership questions: Contact VP Membership, Linda Fihelly, lfihelly@hotmail.com or 301-599-1942

NAME and Title of Individual **Member** or **Organization*** _____

(Organization Member Please Provide Names, emails and tel. numbers of two individuals to be CWI members)

NAME & Title of Primary Organizational Member _____

NAME & Title of 2nd Organizational Member _____

ADDRESS of Individual or Organization _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL (Org. member 1) _____

EMAIL (Org. member 2) _____

WEBSITE ADDRESS: (URL)* _____

Enclosed is a check for CWI membership. Membership year is: **July 1-June 30** (Please fill in beginning and end date). If you pay after April 1 your membership year(s) will start early and not end until June 30 of the next year. _____

____ **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-Includes emails to 2 members-see above)

____ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____ **Date of Payment** _____

*If organizational member, indicate if you would like a link to your organization to be listed on CWI's website. (Listing subject to CWI approval) Check: ____YES ____NO

Membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. (Form Rev. 5-6-19)