



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

January 2018 Newsletter

www.womensclearinghouse.org

**Invitation to the January 23, 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)**

Update on US based International Programs to Help Girls

Thankfully a wide range of US based programs have been developed to help girls in the "Global South" (or high poverty countries) obtain an education and meet their other critical needs. Many of these programs focus on providing direct support to girls or on improving policies such as full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). Some of these programs work in multiple countries such as the UN Foundation's "Girl Up". Others focus on one country such as SchoolGirls Unite which provides scholarships to girls in Mali. **Julie Willig** [Girl Up](#) Director of Impact and Programs, UN Foundation and **Wendy Lesko**, [Schoolgirls Unite](#) Director who coordinated the youth-led campaign to mobilize US support for the UN International Day of the Girl Child, will provide an overview of these efforts and a short description of their unique girl-focused projects.

Julie Willig graduated from Vanderbilt Univ. and has been with the UN Foundation since 2009 including the 2010 inception of Girl Up which has trained 32,000 girl leaders including 2,200 student groups from 102 countries. Girl Up-Uniting Girls to Change the World focuses on preventing early marriage, promoting birth registrations and expanding education for refugee girls.

Wendy Schaetzel Lesko is also the President of the [Youth Activism Project](#) that encourages teens to advocate on policy issues such as gender equity and sexual violence. She co-authored several books including *Girls Gone Activist!* and *Youth! The 26% Solution*. Wendy worked as a community organizer for the United Farmworkers Union. She served as the only female reporter at the Congressional Monitor and started "Today on the Hill" on WTOP radio. The [May 2009 CWI newsletter](#) features presentations by Wendy Lesko and Pat Ortman, founder of Girls Gotta Run.

Additionally, representatives of related projects will provide a short overview or video of their projects:

Marzia Nawrozi, Feminist Majority Foundation's (FMF) Afghan Expert will provide information on FMF's [Girls Learn International](#) (GLI) with chapters in middle and high schools throughout the US. It is headquartered in FMF's Los Angeles Office. The GLI Program focuses on closing the gender gap in education so that all young people have the chance to go to school. Girls are disproportionately excluded from education, but it is crucial that girls, boys, transgender and non-binary youth, and adults all work together in order to come up with creative and realistic solutions to solve the crisis in girls' education. Afghanistan is one of 10 partner countries.

Gaby Grebski, school counselor, health educator, runner, coach and Board member, [Girls Gotta Run](#), which focuses on helping and empowering girl runners in Ethiopia, will share updates and a [video](#). As a long time volunteer, Gaby visited Ethiopia several times and served as the chief site visitor/monitor for their early programs.

Please let us know if you, or others you recommend, can attend this meeting and inform us of other related girls focused global projects.

**CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring lunch. Weather permitting, next CWI meeting is Tue.
Feb 27, 2018. Check www.womensclearinghouse.org for meeting cancellations.**

Dear Current and Future CWI Members,

January 2018 is a good time for important New Years Resolutions to create a more feminist country and world!

One of the ways CWI provides this leadership is to share visions of what we want to make happen. We also see our role as a Clearinghouse to increase collaboration of like-minded feminists.

Here is an outline of our vision for creating deliberately feminist progressive US and global strategies. This is a scenario that many of us want to make real!

1. Elect progressive pro feminist majorities in both houses of Congress in 2018 so Nancy Pelosi will be Speaker of the House.

2. Disqualify current President and Vice President from serving in Office so that they leave these positions before 2019.

3. Nancy Pelosi becomes President by 2019. Our new progressive Congress quickly ends all backward legislation such as the current tax law and other harmful actions from the now current Administration and establishes more effective and comprehensive permanent Health, Education and Welfare Systems to serve all in need equally well! The US also regains its positive feminist global leadership to continue and expand advances to improve the management of our environment and create world peace.

Do you have other feminist scenarios you want to share?

CWI as an organization has recognized the need to increase collaboration with other organizations that specifically target issues of concern for women and girls, nationally and globally. These organizations work in specific areas such as women's health and reproductive rights, civil rights, Women's history, STEM, gender equity in education, women in the Global South, refugees, civil rights and attending to the needs of specific populations such as individuals with disabilities, LBGTO, individuals with low incomes.



Drawing By 5yr. old feminist

There are many strategies that we can use to implement our feminist visions and scenarios for needed change.

CWI provides necessary information presented by our monthly speakers to serve as a catalyst for action. We are now increasing our efforts to link likeminded organizations to provide coordinated action. For example, our January 2018 meeting on *US Based International Programs to Help Girls* will encourage projects working in this arena to learn about and support each other, whether they are working with multiple countries or just one. Similarly, CWI's March 27, 2018 meeting with Molly MacGregor, Director of the National Women's History Project, will focus on the development of a new *National Women's History Alliance* to help the many individual museums and historical sites work together and support each other.

We have learned the benefits of collaboration in the recent successful marches that have taken place across the US and the world. Those marches showed us the direction, but unless followed up by harnessing that energy into an action, and unless they work on common scenarios and effective strategies, this energy will not have the positive impact we need. CWI will do what we can to encourage strong models of "collaboration" among groups and like-minded individuals. This effort will gain us a more powerful voice on elections, on legislation both on the Hill and in local governments. We must make this effort to not only introduce new legislation, but to keep the gains that have been made.

To bring institutional change we need the power obtained by organizing for the long haul. Attend CWI 2018 meetings, bring guests, and let our united voices be heard and our goals be accomplished. The future generations of women and girls and feminist men depend on our efforts today.

We need to connect the dots to create a more feminist world and to end the current presidency and establish a progressive political power base.

Cordially, Harriett Stonehill, CoPresident CWI and Sue Klein, CoPresident CWI

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Meeting Summary

#METOO on the Job and in School: Then and Now

November 28, 2017, 12:00 PM – 1:30 PM

At The Residences at Thomas Circle, 1330 Massachusetts Ave, NW, Washington, DC

Special thanks to Harriet Fulbright and Tina Hobson for hosting the CWI luncheon and to Connie Cordovilla for organizing the engaging program and for the participation of their neighbors at The Residences at Thomas Circle.

After introductions of attendees, Dr. Sue Klein, Co-President, CWI and Education Equity Director of the Feminist Majority Foundation, opened the meeting up by passing around the 45th Anniversary "Ms." magazine issue and inviting folks to attend the upcoming Feminist Majority event, the *Women Money Power* Summit on Wednesday, December 6th at the National Press Club. This Summit will honor Senators Mazie Hirono and Diane Feinstein, and Congresswomen Niki Tsongas and Maxine Waters.

As always, membership to the CWI is always encouraged for those interested. For \$25/year, membership includes access to CWI lunchtime programs and guest speakers, newsletters and news of interest to women, and the opportunity to share and hear more about relevant events in the area.

CWI Director, Connie Cordovilla introduced the program. As discussed during the last CWI meeting, the #MeToo movement has taken root and appears to be growing stronger and stronger as women share their stories of sexual harassment and assault. Featured guest speakers **Pat Ruess**, **Karma Cottman**, and **Ruth Glenn** interacted with each other as they spoke about and applauded the #MeToo movement. They were pleased that more women were willing to tell their stories now and that the attacks were having more negative impact on the perpetrators. They also emphasized that it is now critically important to transition this momentum to tangible actions.



Photo Left to Right: **Ruth Glenn**, **Connie Cordovilla** **Pat Reuss**, **Karma Cottman**, Pat Reuss, the "godmother" of the 1994 Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), began the conversation by asking how the #MeToo hashtag can now become a #WhatsNext campaign. It is important to take this 'emotional momentum' behind women coming out with sexual harassment stories and turn this determination into achievable actions to ensure these stories stop.

Karma Cottman, Executive Director of the DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence, noted that there has been a large response to the #MeToo movement in her work as well. The DC Coalition Against Domestic Violence services 15 domestic violence (DV) agencies to respond effectively to domestic violence survivors and their children, 4 of these agencies assist with housing. The services offered by the Coalition center around stories similar to those coming out of the #MeToo movement. As Karma put it, the response she has seen from #MeToo has illustrated how difficult it is for women to move around in this world safely- and even more difficult for women that have experienced Domestic Violence or DV-- "this hashtag shows that sexual violence impacts us all". It's important for all to acknowledge that sexual assault is a tool of control in domestic violence, and because of that, DV victims are even less likely to speak out and seek help for sexual assaults.

Ruth Glenn, Executive Director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, was a welcomed new guest presenter who was in DC from their headquarters in Denver, Colorado. She spoke about how the conversation that began with the #MeToo hashtag must now begin in our home, educating younger girls and boys with specific attention paid to this discussion with young men.

Pat Reuss emphasized that former solutions are obviously not working at this point (EEOC, lawsuits, going to the boss or higher-ups) and instead, local and state laws must change to further protect women in the workplace and in everyday life. In DC, sexual assault training is not legally mandatory for employees—this must be changed, but be ready to fight pushback at all stages. We must get our mayors, school boards, corporations, small businesses, etc. to insist upon sexual discrimination training—that includes, but is broader than sexual harassment and violence.

Ruth Glenn pointed out the power control that allow men to get away with sexual discrimination, harassment, and assault- they maintain power in this ‘toxic environment’ because there are insufficient accountability measures in place. “It takes several women to be believed, but one man is automatically believed.” This power dynamic must cease, charged Ruth. In her experience at the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, inundating political leaders with letters that include a personal narrative can make a legitimate and powerful impact. It is essential to include not only a personal story, but suggestions for change when writing these letters.

“This current movement empowers those on the sideline to challenge the social status quo” **Karma Cottman** emphasized. It’s essential to reach out to communities of color to empower women experiencing sexual discrimination and to allow them to help take back power. It is also more important now than ever to focus on voter mobilization in the next year. **Pat Reuss’s** advice to CWI for the 2018 election is to get your phone and start making calls- “be cheery and talk fast”! Even if you live in Dc, you can still canvass and phone-bank for any candidate of your choice, whether that’s a local VA candidate or someone running in a tight race in Ohio, Illinois, etc. The important piece in speaking to constituents during calls is to make it as personal as possible.

Ruth Glenn offered her organization the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence <https://ncadv.org/> as a resource in creating phone lists of who to contact and why during the 2018 election. Another important recommendation from our speakers was that sexual discrimination training must become serious, instead of something employees can attend and promptly forget about. We’ve seen prominent leaders lose their position of power because of victims speaking out. If this is mentioned during the training, more men should realize there are legitimate consequences.

An idea that came up near the end of the meeting is an opportunity for women of varying ages and from varying communities to come and share their stories, if they so choose. The #MeToo online movement has been predominantly focused on younger women’s experiences with sexual harassment, but it is well known that generations and generations of women have experienced this and more in their professional life, personal life, and every area in between. A recorded panel was suggested to help share these stories. (Note CWI will share a video and public TV show based on this meeting.)

Participants and presenters then discussed how necessary it is to study sexual harassment training for accuracy and results; “we need to see what is working and what is not”. The passage of the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA) was also brought up as a partial solution to help stop sexual harassment and assault and frequently related retaliation. If the Equal Rights Amendment was in the Constitution, these accounts of sexual assault would be clearly identified as sex or gender-based illegal discrimination and (like race and religion) would be subject to ‘strict’ rather than ‘intermediate scrutiny’ standards under the US Constitution.

On March 22, 2017, Nevada became the 36th state to ratify the ERA. If two of the following states also ratify there is a good chance we can finally get ERA in the US Constitution. Electing pro women's rights legislators in these still unratified states of: Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Utah, and Virginia is a good way to advance support for ERA and many other laws that will help prevent sexual harassment and violence as well as many other types of sex discrimination. **Pat Reuss** said "If we start the conversation with sexual harassment and #MeToo, it is possible to lead the conversation to ERA and larger movements."

The three guest speakers ended with the ERA discussion and a thought from **Pat Reuss**- "we've come a long way but have a long way to go". All are urged to continue their activism using Tweet storms, contacting legislators, and informing your communities about legislation and candidates to advance gender equality.

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.

Wednesday, Jan. 10, 2018 Noon to 2PM "Teaching Democratic Citizenship When Democracy Is at Risk"
[555 New Jersey Ave. N.W., Washington, DC 20001](https://www.aft.org/555-New-Jersey-Ave-N-W-Washington-DC-20001) AFT Albert Shanker Institute, Lunch provided. [Register:](#)

Thursday, Jan. 11, 2018. 11:30-1PM Anti-Trafficking Briefing and Rally "Disrupting Online Exploitation: Why Survivors Are Standing Up for #SESTA—A National Briefing," It will take place at the Russell Senate Office Building. To register to attend the briefing, email lauren@worldwithoutexploitation.org.

Monday, Jan. 22, 2018. 11 AM to 6 PM. Women's Equality Coalition Lobby Day in Capitol Square, Richmond, Planned Parenthood Virginia PAC [RSVP](#)

Sunday, Jan. 28, 2018. 12:30-6PM. Montgomery County Commission for Women's 2018 Legislative Briefing, [Information and Tickets](#)

Sat.-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 Early Bird Registration.

Free Podcast from Montgomery County NOW. Episode 29 for Jan. 2018 is on the "World of Entertainment and Ida B. Wells-Barnett".

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

Photos: Sue Klein, Draft of 11-18-17 meeting summary, Maggie Lohmann, AFT Intern, Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary & VP Legislation, Roberta Stanley; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis, VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook,
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700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655



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.



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

February 2018 Newsletter

www.womensclearinghouse.org

**Invitation to the February 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)**

Learning from Sisters of Color and Each Other On How to Bring It to the Polls Nov '18

Let us build on our power and expertise to ensure we will have many victories in electing and appointing feminists for all governmental offices. We invite organizations' representatives with feminist members to share ideas how they have been and will encourage constituency groups to actively pursue progressive electoral victories and safeguard voting justice. How do we collaborate as individuals and groups to identify and train candidates, conduct advocacy events, support women's issues and increase media coverage for progressive change in areas such as education, worker's rights, environmental, and reproductive justice? Each organizational representative will be asked:

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

To start our meeting and celebrate Black History Month, **Janice Mathis, Esq., Executive Director of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW)**, and former long-time leader of Operation Push with Rev. Jesse Jackson will address the above questions and emphasize successful strategies used by African American Women and their male allies. These strategies may include working to end gerrymandering, voter registration, implementing policies to make it easier for people to vote, and other activities such as forming 501 C-4 organizations and Political Action Committees (PACs) to support progressive candidates as well as social media strategies. She will also describe the leadership role of NCNW to activate their membership and other allies.

Melina Olmo, President of the DC Chapter of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women will address our key questions and discuss how their members are not only raising funds and support for rebuilding Puerto Rico, but also energizing chapters across the US to elect progressives.

Amy Hinojosa, President and CEO, MANA, A National Latina Organization will share information on their Latinas Run initiative and success in getting their members elected to school boards, city councils and as mayor in addition to answering our questions.

Vimala Phongsavanh, a Lao American, is the Public Policy Director of the National Asian Pacific American Women's Forum (NAPAWF). She will address our three questions and discuss how NAPAWF plans to help bring out votes for candidates who support their priority issues related to economic and reproductive justice and immigrant rights.

We also hope to have a representative from an advocacy organization representing Seniors such as the Alliance for Retired Americans. (Note the Older Women's League (OWL) no longer exists as a national organization.)

Members from other organizations willing to provide education and advocacy leadership on women's issues will also be invited to play an active role in this "Bring it to the Polls" discussion.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring lunch. Next CWI meeting Tue. March 27, 2018 is on networking women's history organizations and sites. Check www.womensclearinghouse.org for meeting cancellations.

Dear Current and Future CWI Members,

As American citizens and CWI members, we need to examine what we mean by the American ethos and culture, and how our view of individual injustices fit into a framework of our American belief in a democratic society. Seeking social justice is essential to our country's moral identity.

We, as CWI members, honor this identity by providing educational information on a broad variety of issues that we examine during our meetings. It is then our individual responsibility to find resources and act on these issues. A key response to this need is to ensure that people vote. A general Congressional election will take place in 2018 and all eligible people must vote in this election and other federal state and local elections. We also need to monitor appointees at all levels to ensure they are qualified, do not have conflicting interests, and share our values on issues of concern to women, families and many other progressive goals. CWI's meeting host, the [Alliance for Justice](#) provides information on judicial nominees and much more including its Boulder Advocacy program which provides assistance on federal laws related to the roles of 501 c(3) organizations in supporting issues 501 c(4) organizations in supporting specific candidates.

What works to get out the vote? What does CWI need to do to encourage women and men to vote and to enlist others to vote? CWI must present a strong message that states "each and every vote counts." We need to elect persons who will truly work, once elected, on legislation that will ensure that all persons are included in its benefits.

In in upcoming 2018 elections, there are more women running for office than ever before – seeking governorships, seats in local governments, and in both House and Senate congressional seats. This election will affect individual lives on a daily basis: protecting immigrants and "dreamers," providing adequate health care, educational opportunities, affordable housing, etc.

It is our obligation as citizens and moral human beings to make sure that all persons have a voice in the government. "Getting out the vote" offers us the opportunity to see that social justice pervades. We cannot be spectators as we look to the future for ourselves and future generations. Political initiatives will affect all these lives. Getting out the vote is a call for action and we must act now.

CWI will be highlighting Black History Month in February. In our Feb. 27 CWI meeting on "Learning from Our Sisters of Color and Each Other on How to Bring it to the Polls Nov. '18", we will provide an opportunity for attendees to meet and learn from Janice Mathis, Esq. the fairly recent Executive Director of the National Council of Negro Women (NCNW). To celebrate Women's History Month in March, Molly MacGregor, Executive Director, National Women's History Project (NWHP) headquartered in CA will lead our March 27 CWI meeting on "Networking Women's History Organizations and Sites". Both organizations are sponsoring DC history month luncheons open to non-members for \$125 tickets. The NCNW Luncheon is Feb. 24 and the NWHP luncheon is March 24. See newsletter announcement page for more details.

Cordially,

Harriett Stonehill, Co-President

Sue Klein, Co-President

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) Meeting Summary
"Update on US based International Programs to Help Girls",
January 23, 2018, 12 noon to 1:30 PM at Alliance for Justice,
11 Dupont Circle, Washington, DC

Co-president Harriet Stonehill introduced the meeting's theme by highlighting the importance of developing programs to help girls in the "Global South" and high poverty countries to obtain an education and address their critical needs. Harriet Stonehill said, "the next generation is our future" and we need to support the many programs that focus on providing direct support to girls or on improving policies such as full implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The four programs discussed at the meeting were Girl Up, School Girls Unite, Girls Gotta Run and Girls Learn International.



Kelsey Carroll is the Communications and Digital Media Associate for "[Girl Up](#)," the United Nations Foundation's adolescent girl campaign that engages girls to take action to achieve global gender equality. "Girl Up" provides leadership development programs to inspire, train and connect girls from different sections of the world, helping girls become leaders and create change. "Girl Up" currently works with girls in six countries: Guatemala, Ethiopia, Liberia, Malawi, India, and Uganda. For each country, the focus is different depending on the girls' critical needs and issues they face in the specific country. Kelsey briefly described Girl Up's work in Liberia. It aims to help girls find and develop professional careers. Girl up also funds a comprehensive program in Liberia run by UN agencies that provide educational tools that will help girls shape their futures, offer health services and reduce harmful traditional practices such as early marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). Girl Up is also present on high school and college campuses in the US and other countries. Currently, there are more than 2,000 Girl Up clubs in 98 countries. Girl Up campus clubs are organized by dedicated youth leaders who learn about world challenges and solutions, take action, and build movements for girls' rights worldwide.

Wendy Schaetzel Lesko is the President of the [Youth Activism Project](#) that encourages teens to advocate on policy issues such as gender equity and sexual violence. In the CWI meeting, Wendy discussed "[School Girls Unite](#)," one of this nonprofit organization's programs. School Girls Unite is a girl-led initiative focused on providing education for girls in Mali and lobbying Congress to make education a top foreign policy priority. Since 2004 School Girls Unite, in partnership with a sister organization in Mali, has provided scholarships to 75 girls in rural villages. Twenty of these students have completed 9th grade which represents a significant achievement. Less than 1% of Malian girls living in extreme poverty reach this level of education. Through student-organized fundraising such as concerts and film screenings in the US, School Girls Unite continues to generate enough money to continue its scholarship program for the remaining 23 girls who have been supported since they were in 1st grade. Wendy also shared the book, [Wonder Girls](#) that features the School Girls Unite philanthropy and policy advocacy.



Gaby Grebski, a school counselor, health educator and coach, is a Board member of the [Girls Gotta Run Foundation](#), a unique grassroots non-profit using the national sport of running in Ethiopia to help empower female runners to stay in school, avoid child marriage, and improve their own economic circumstances while increasing economic opportunities for their families and communities. Founded in 2006, Girls Gotta Run was inspired by a Washington Post article about the plight of young female runners in Ethiopia using running as a means to escape an ongoing cycle of poverty with aspirations of becoming the next Olympic hopeful. Through Athletic Scholarships, Girls Gotta Run invests in middle school girls during the time period they are most at risk of dropping out of school by providing important resources such as tuition fees, books, school uniforms, hygiene products, food, health care, athletic gear, and access to coaches, female mentors and training facilities. Girls Gotta Run partners with the [Center for Creative Leadership](#) in teaching a life skills and leadership curriculum to all girls in the program that addresses healthy relationships, family planning, nutrition, HIV prevention, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship. Girls Gotta Run also works with the families, providing mothers with access to the Women's Savings and Entrepreneurship Group and small grants that help families build and sustain small businesses that help to support their daughters as they graduate from high school and move on to higher education. Scholarships are now being provided to 100 girls in two regions. For more information, please visit www.girlsgottarun.org.



Marzia Nawrozi is the Feminist Majority Foundation's (FMF) Afghan Expert and presented FMF's [Girls Learn International](#) (GLI) program. GLI works with over 200 chapters in middle and high schools throughout the US and is headquartered in FMF's Los Angeles Office. The GLI Program focuses on closing the gender gap in education so that all young people have the chance to go to school. Girls are disproportionately excluded from education, but it is crucial that girls, boys, transgender and non-binary youth, and adults all work together in order to come up with creative and realistic solutions to solve the crisis in girls' education. GLI members have the opportunity to learn and teach one another about worldwide issues such as human trafficking, racial discrimination and sexual and reproductive rights. Members also use their

knowledge of these issues to fundraise for projects that keep girls worldwide enrolled in school with the GLI Partner School Network. While presenting GLI, Marzia shared personal stories of growing up during the Taliban regime and not being allowed to go to school for six years. Marzia also talked about struggles that girls face in developing countries and how programs such as GLI, Girls Up and School Girls' Unite are beneficial and make differences. Marzia believes that coming to the United States as an exchange student changed her life. After completing her program, she went back to Afghanistan and worked on women's rights for two years. She came back to the United States through the Initiative to Educate Afghan Women's program. She dedicated her life to help girls with their education.

These four programs are among the many programs dedicated to breaking social and cultural barriers that limit girls' freedoms, successes and empowerment. Girls worldwide are struggling with systemic oppressions including gender-based violence, human trafficking and child marriages. For many girls in the Global South and developing countries, education is both a privilege and a rarity. Currently, 130 million girls around the world are not in school and more than 1 in 3 women alive today were married before the age of 13, according to Girl Up.

The speakers concluded the meeting by listing ways in which we can help, support and achieve gender equality worldwide. Girl Up encourages high school and college students to apply for their yearly [Women in Science \(WiSci\) STEAM Camp](#) which aims to close the gender gap through access to education, mentorship opportuni-

ties and leadership training. This year, the WiSci STEAM camp will be in Namibia. Students can also help Girl Up by joining or creating a [Girl Up campus club](#). Individuals can support Girl Up by [donating](#) to the campaign, attending an event or fundraising for Girl Up. With more support and help, Girl Up can increase girls' opportunities, help shift public perception around the world about the value of girls and advocate for the implementation of policies that support girls' rights and equality.

We can help support School Girls Unite through [social media](#) for event updates. We can also show your support by printing out and signing the [Equal Education for Girls Globally Petition](#) to create awareness for the importance of education. Finally, if you are a student, you can use the [Activist Gameplan](#) to start your own School Girls Unite Group. We can also support School Girls Unite through [donations](#).

We can support Girls Gotta Run by [donating](#) or [sponsoring an athlete](#). Sponsoring an athlete will provide a year-long Athletic Scholarship for a girl in Sodo or Bekoji, Ethiopia. The scholarship allows girls to attend school, have access to healthcare, access to libraries and daily meals. We can also support Girls Gotta Run by attending their [fundraisers](#) or organizing your own fundraiser which can include marathons or art exhibits.

We can support GLI by [donating](#), becoming GLI members and joining or organizing GLI campus clubs. Chapter members can be a part of the GLI partner network of international schools in 10 different countries to help create fundraising projects to keep students in school. We can also create more awareness for GLI through social media and students can write in the student-driven GLI [blog](#).

Over the past decade, there has been tremendous progress around the cause of equal education access for girls globally. Many organizations have brought attention to the importance of gender discrimination and accessible education worldwide, which was prioritized by the [Malala Fund](#). The Malala Fund is a real engine on the international level and Girl Up is a major driver in the US. However it is also important to learn about, sustain, and foster collaboration among the larger and smaller organizations such as School Girls Unite, Girls Gotta Run, and Girls Learn International. Perhaps for the next United Nations October 11 [the Day of the Girl](#) there can be a collaborative effort to publish and publicize information on the many US-based organizations that are working on this global movement for gender justice and youth rights.

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/>. Some of us already saw Sovereignty at Arena Stage and recommend it!

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018, Noon – 1:30 PM. Women and Girls in Sports Day Briefing, US Capitol Visitor Center Room SVC 208-09. [RSVP](#) required by 2-5 if possible.

Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018. 3-7 PM. Building a Safe, Economically Secure Future for Women and Girls, YWCA. Kennedy Caucus Room, 325 Russell Senate Office Building. [Registration Link](#).

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2018 11AM-12:15 PM. Black Women & the Economy. Economic Policy Institute. House Office Building [RSVP here](#). Livestreamed at <https://www.facebook.com/Keith.Ellison>

Wednesday, Feb. 21. 11 AM-3:30 PM. Internet, Data, & Privacy Colloquium: Law and Technology: Where Humanity & technology Meet. Dialogue on Diversity, The Rabin Group, 1341 G St. NW 5th Floor, Washington, DC. Register www.dialogueondiversity.org

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2018, 12:15 PM. 92nd Annual Black History Luncheon, National Council of Negro Women, Washington Renaissance Hotel, 999 9th St. NW, Washington, DC [Register](#) .

Monday, February 26, 2018, Supreme Court Rally to Support Labor Unions in the Janus Supreme Court Case. Contact: Connie Cordovilla for details. ccordovi@aft.org

Tuesday, February 27, 2018. Noon-1:30 PM. Learning from our Sisters of Color and Each Other On How to Bring it to the Polls Nov. '18, Clearinghouse on Women's Issues, Alliance for Justice, See page 1.

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 Early Bird Registration.

Saturday March 24, 2018, 11-2:30PM. 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](#).

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.

Extras

[Free Podcast](#) from Montgomery County NOW. Episode 29 for Jan. 2018 is on the "World of Entertainment and Ida B. Wells-Barnett".

Now to Feb. 18, 2018. **Theater Recommendation: Sovereignty** by Mary Kathryn Nagle at [Arena Stage](#). (Good equity and feminist focus re Cherokee lawyers and important Violence Against Women 2013 Amendment.) Tel. 202-488-3300. Ask for special ticket prices.

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

Photos: Anne Martin, Draft of 1-23-1817 meeting summary, Aina Ramiamanana, FMF Intern,

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary & VP Legislation, Roberta Stanley; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis, VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Directors: Connie Cordovilla, Sherry Klein, Anne Martin

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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.



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.

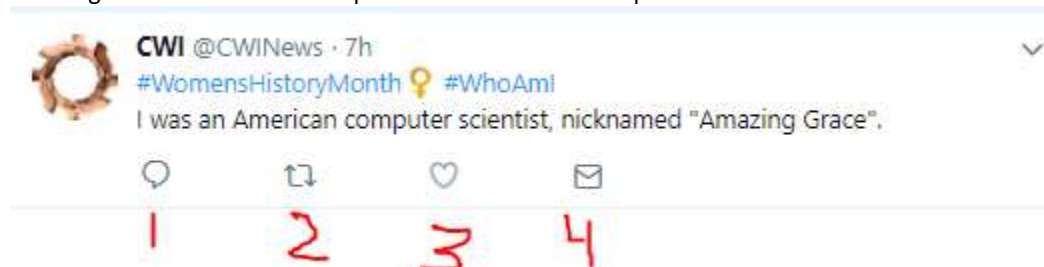
Taking Advantage of CWI Media Resources by Sherry Klein, CWI VP for Technology

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 Phongsavanh 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 under-

stand 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 Phongsavanh** 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 Emergence 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](#). 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

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary & VP Legislation, Roberta Stanley; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis, VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Directors: Connie Cordovilla, Sherry Klein, Anne Martin

DIRECTOR EMERITA: Elaine Newman, **EX OFFICIO:** Barbara J. Ratner

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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:
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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.



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

April 2018 Newsletter

www.womensclearinghouse.org

Invitation to the April 24, 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)

Working Women, Pay Equity and Union Bargaining- Where the Rubber hits the Road

In this CWI meeting the distinguished presenters will discuss the complex problem of pay equity, segregation of women in the service sector and lower paying jobs, the importance of unions in raising women's equity and the looming Janus case. In doing so they will highlight key questions that we need to ask of candidates about work, pay equity, and leadership. **Presenters:**

Carolyn York is the recently retired Director of Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy at the National Education Association and NEA's current representative on the board of the National Committee on Pay Equity. She spent her decades long union career fighting for the issues that impact women, particularly that of equal pay while working for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, the Service Employees International Union, the United Autoworkers and the state of Wisconsin Comparable worth Task Force.

Elise Bryant, Executive Director of the Labor Heritage Foundation and the recently elected President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women, has spent her life as an organizer, a leader and a mentor of women workers, whether in the arts or on the shop floor. A gifted labor educator, lately of the National Labor College, Elise merges the art of spoken and sung word with the workers' issues and actions.

Elyse Shaw, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Women's Policy Research manages projects on women's political participation with special attention to the intersectional nature of race and gender on women's lives. She also works on workforce development and job training initiatives, IWPR's Status of Women in the States project, and contributes to IWPR's research on global women's issues. She will address the "union difference" in women's pay and the slowdown in achieving equity.

Connie Cordovilla of the American Federation of Teachers and the National Committee on Pay Equity, and recently elected President of Virginia NOW will talk about the impending Janus Decision of the SCOTUS and its impact on women workers. Connie has worked for thirty years as a trade unionist and avowed feminist, is on CWI's Board and organized this meeting.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch. Next CWI meeting Tue. May **22, 2018**

Dear CWI Members,

Persist! That is the word that will move us forward. And indeed we do persist, and as individuals, and as an organization we will continue to persist to accomplish our mission. We do so through education and action. CWI, for over 40 years, has been at the forefront of getting contemporary issues that need addressing into the public square for action. During the recent marches our members were there. We have been active in uniting with other organizations who have the capacity to provide the needed services that we have addressed.

During the first week in April we had religious celebrations, both Easter and Passover, which celebrated activities of seeking better lives and freedom. Those long past “freedom fighters” included women who persisted, women who showed courage and persistence in pursuing their causes. At Temple Micah’s Women’s Seder, notable contemporary women, **Gloria Allred and Renee Brant** were acknowledged. Indeed they showed persistence, which was also the theme for the honorees by the National Women’s History Project this year.

Gloria Rachel Allred has devoted her legal career to fighting for women’s equality, handling high-profile cases of sexual harassment, work place discrimination, and hate crimes. Over the course of her career, she has sued the all-male Friar’s Club for discrimination against women, and won; sued and won a case against producer Aaron Spelling establishing the legal principle that actresses cannot be terminated because of pregnancy; and has represented women who have accused Bill Cosby and Donald Trump of sexual assault and harassment.

Renee Brant was a founding member of the American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. She became a voice for those who could not speak for themselves. While training as a doctor, Brant realized how few services there were for women and children survivors of sexual abuse. Using her training in adolescent psychiatry and women’s health, she developed her hospital’s Sexual Abuse Training Team, as well as protocols and educational programs for doctors. Through her work, she helped create a framework for dealing with a problem that few had even been willing to speak of before. Source: Jewish Women’s Archive, <https://jwa.org>.

At our 3/27/18 meeting we also thanked our CWI Board Member, Secretary and Vice President, Legislation, **Roberta E. Stanley**, who will persist in continuing the fight for women’s rights as she returns to her home state of Michigan. We also invite CWI members to let us know if they would like to join our board as we continue to provide speakers to address local, national, and international issues and then seek to provide informed action by petitioning, marching, and other means.



We will persist! **Harriett Stonehill, CWI Co-President** And **Sue Klein CWI Co-President** in photo with **Roberta “Bert” Stanley**, center, with her Best Wishes cake which we all enjoyed.

Meeting Summary, March 27, 2018: “Networking Women’s History Organizations and Sites”. View the recorded meeting here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZSQIMKxLufk>

Molly Murphy MacGregor, Co-Founder and Executive Director of the National Women’s History Project (NWHP) described the origins of NWHP in 1980. She told the story of being a second year teacher in CA when one of her students asked about the Women’s Movement and her subsequent research to provide substantial answers. She was struck with her own lack of familiarity about the topic that now allowed her the simple luxury of wearing pants as a teacher, and became more and more involved exploring the history while noticing the very limited resources available. MacGregor and the NWHP proposed women’s history week to local schools to celebrate and include women who work in and out of the home, and offered to provide curriculum. President Carter issued a resolution establishing women’s history week during March 8 (International Women’s Day) and in 1987 NWHP led the successful campaign to establish March as Women’s History Month.



Press Democrat, Feb 27, 2015"

NWHP used to be the “Google” and “Facebook” of the women’s history movement – and now women’s history resources are more available, so NWHP is changing its name next year to National Women’s History Alliance with a major web and social media presence. It is transitioning away from being a provider of resource materials (except for particular themes) into becoming a major networking clearinghouse. For example, you can find women performers who bring history alive on the website. As a clearinghouse they plan to answer questions like what individual or organization might have done something in the past or who is currently working on a particular issue, or what listserv you might join, (in addition to resources and curriculum available). To sign up to be a free part of the Alliance, on <http://www.nwhp.org/> under “Keep in Touch”, enter your email address and you will be redirected to a secured site to submit your contact information. This year NWHP’s theme is “Nevertheless she persisted”. The theme for 2019 will be on “Peace and Nonviolence”. Do nominate honorees who exemplify this. A major goal of the NWHP and National Women’s History Alliance is to generate a national holiday in the Centennial year of 2020 commemorating women’s right to vote from the 19th Amendment. View NWHP’s Gazette here to learn more about this history: http://www.nwhp.org/wp-content/uploads/gazette_How-Women-Won-Vote-.pdf. NWHP will continue to connect people and resources. MacGregor (and our other presenters) emphasized the power of people knowing their own history to increase their own empowerment.

NWHP is funded through donations, partners, and sales of women’s history materials. They are open to ideas for what gaps they can fill as they transition into becoming the National Women’s History Alliance.

One meeting attendee asked about the term “herstory” and MacGregor explained that NWHP uses the term “history”, because it’s not really “his story”, but rather the word comes from the Greek word meaning “inquiry”. NWHP does not use the term “herstory” anymore as its nuance marginalizes women’s history and almost has a connotation of applying to suffragettes only.

Becky Schergens, long-time National Advisor to the [National Women’s History Museum](#) (NWHM) described and quoted their new report “Where are the Women? A Report on the Status of Women in the United States Social Studies Curriculum.”



Her presentation begins at the 17th minute of the video. Download this report <https://www.womenshistory.org/social-studies-standards> to learn how your state’s K-12 curriculum standards compare to other states. Sadly, women’s history is rarely well represented in the classroom unless a teacher makes a special effort to identify and use the many existing resources.

Schergens discussed the study results and provided handouts of highlights. State standards underemphasize women in general, but over emphasize women in domestic roles. The takeaway is that state standards should be increased and improved so that they are more comprehensive in requiring coverage of key aspects of women’s history.

Schergens briefly updated the 2017 Women’s Museum Acts (HR 19 and S. 1498) to establish two possible sites on the National Mall and require private funds for the Museum construction while allowing federal funds for planning, design and operation of the museum.

While these Acts have numerous co-sponsors, the Women’s History Museum’s physical status in Washington, DC has received recent set-backs due to the administration change and statements of the Smithsonian Director. An April 1, 2018 Washington Post [article](#) by Peggy McGlone titled “A Smithsonian initiative to celebrate women --- Programs will highlight historic achievements, but the institution’s chief says it’s not in a position to open a dedicated museum” explains some of the current obstacles and their new women’s history initiative to highlight women’s achievements. This initiative will use \$2 million from Congress to hire “curators and create programs to elevate the profile of women and their contributions”. Rep. Carolyn B. Maloney chief sponsor of the bill to establish the NWHM said Smithsonian officials also “should put in writing their support for a women’s museum so that we can proceed.” In the meantime the NWHM is plowing ahead with research to be ready with facts and data to back up the position that such a stand-alone museum is needed with or without major federal funding.

Melani N. Douglass, Director of Public Programs, National Museum of Women in the Arts shared (starting at about the 32nd minute of the video recording) that there are five programs per season at National Museum of Women in the Arts, including an Art and Social Change program which has five programs with a diverse audience age-wise (18-80): two family style dinners with a speaker, and Q&A during dinner, as well as a catalyst cocktail hour. The dinners have become a forum where the audi-

ence is solicited for answers at the end. The goal for programs is to increase the circular network of women interested in the Arts. The programs are live streamed.



Douglass began her career as an educator and has a Master's degree in Fine Art in Curatorial Practice from the Maryland Institute College of Art. She founded a nomadic Family Arts Museum that celebrates family as fine art. In her CWI presentation she emphasized the importance of knowing and sharing all of history- "knowing the whole history is important, because if we don't tell the truth, people will not have appreciation." She provided examples including that of her young daughter watching a birth video which increased the daughter's appreciation, perspective, and respect for her mother, giving her the "utmost status." Another example is that Douglass became aware of an education/history gap in high school, as she had been taught history "in an interconnected way, history of people who looked like them" at home, but her classmates did not necessarily have the same advantage of learning history at home that was

more comprehensive and inclusive than that taught in school. (For example, often black students are taught about George Washington, but not that he owned slaves, or who physically built this Nation's Capitol, or they see pictures of a white Jesus in school or among mostly white classmates.) A third example she gave was black women talking about the crack problem in the 1980s and nobody listening to the brown bodies telling the story, and now we have meth drug problems that could have been prevented.

Douglass posed many more thought-provoking questions, including "What would have happened if we had listened to Anita Hill?" (Would we have prevented years of sexual harassment and harm?) What if we had learned from what Black women said after Reconstruction? (Would this have helped us be more prepared for Trump's winning the election?) What if we had listened to the Queen of Hawaii and her struggle for independence of her people? ("We wouldn't have these disagreements about what it means to understand [our] independence and really [have] a relationship with the government that does not dehumanize people.")

Douglass also gave the audience a larger appreciation for the meaning of the scope of the NWHM research and results. She explained that there are so many education standards, that for women to be represented or even mentioned in so few is truly indicative of the lack in equality.

During the Question and Answer session on this celebration of women's history month we discussed: Women written out of film history, Academics forgetting about activists, and the bottom line that we must keep recording history and must question what we're not learning – be aware of gaps.

Here is some information about the organizations/sites that sent information but could not be present at our 3-27-18 CWI meeting.

Turning Point Suffragist Memorial. The Turning Point Suffragist Memorial Association is raising funds to honor the suffragists who fought for and won women's right to vote through construction of a national memorial, establishment of the Turning Point Institute and development of a Constitution

Trail. The memorial will be located in NOVA Park's Occoquan Regional Park in Lorton, Virginia, part of the historic prison grounds where the women were incarcerated. Web-site: www.suffragistmemorial.org.

Maryland Women's Heritage Center. An outgrowth of the Maryland Women's History Project that began in 1980, the Maryland Women's Heritage Center honors women and girls who have been inducted into the Maryland Women's Hall of Fame as well as the Unsung Heroines who have shaped their families and communities. Additional exhibits include Women in the Military, STEM Careers, Civil Rights and Social Justice and the Arts. The website provides information about the Maryland Women's Heritage Trail, including access to a guidebook and map of historic sites . Websites: www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org. The Center is looking for a new site near Baltimore to house its collection and operations.

Nelson Diversity Surveys. These data reveal the representation of women and minorities among faculty in 15 STEM disciplines at research universities. Data are full populations, which are disaggregated by discipline, by race/ethnicity, by rank, and by gender. More about them is available at http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nelson_Diversity_Surveys.

I am Psyched! (American Psychological Association). *I am Psyched! Inspiring Histories, Inspiring Lives* is a multimedia initiative that explores the history and contemporary contributions of women of color in psychology. The exhibit, which is currently on national tour, is encouraging young women and girls of color, and others, to consider careers in psychology, use psychology to improve their daily lives and create positive social change in their communities, and to be excited by the museum experience. <http://www.apa.org/pi/women/iampsyched/default.aspx>.

We would also like to mention that there are some small DC sites that are only open part time. You may be interested in the **Clara Barton Museum** 437 7th St. NW Washington DC 20004. www.ClaraBartonMuseum.org and **The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG)** 409 12 St, SW, Washington DC www.acog.org

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.

Friday, April 13, Noon Eastern Time. Webinar. From reflection to action: Systemic inequities affecting Black girls and what educators and clinicians can do. By Sara Goodkind. Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://psu.zoom.us/j/205195971> Or iPhone one-tap : US: +14086380968,,205195971# or +16468769923,,205195971# Or Telephone: Dial(for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location): US: +1 408 638 0968 or +1 646 876 9923 or +1 669 900 6833 Webinar ID: 205 195 971

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 17, 7 -9 PM. To Buy the Sun: The Challenge of Pauli Murray, Pauli Murray Center for History & Social Justice. Howard University West Campus, Dunbarton Chapel, 2900 Van Ness St NW, Washington, DC 20008. [Tickets](#): \$15.

Wednesday, April 18, 1-3 PM ET. Advancing Financial Literacy for Individuals with Disabilities in person Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, 1300 I Street NW, Suite 1000, Washington, DC 20005 or by Webinar. [More Information](#).

Monday, April 23, 6 PM. Marching to Progress: Women in 2018, NYU DC featuring clips from Robin Hamilton's Fannie Lou Hamer film, followed by a Panel discussion. 1307 L ST NW DC 20005 [RSVP](#)

Tuesday, April 24, Noon CWI Meeting, Working Women, Pay Equity and Union Bargaining-Where the Rubber hits the Road, Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle NW, Washington, DC. See page 1.

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.

Monday, May 7, 4-5:30 PM. Launch of book by Jill Norgren about the 100 Women Trailblazers in the Law (the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project is a project of the Senior Lawyers Division of the American Bar Association), of whom Sonia Fuentes, former CWI member, is one. You can read about the Women Trailblazers in the Law Project here:

https://www.americanbar.org/groups/senior_lawyers/resources/women_trailblazers_project.html

and about Jill Norgren's book here: <https://nyupress.org/books/9781479865963/>. Woodrow Wilson

Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, 6th Floor Moynihan Boardroom. Register to

tend. http://pages.wilsoncenter.org/20180507WHSNorgren_Registration.html

Wednesday, May 9, 6:30-8:30 PM. Feminist Majority Presents Feminist Wave Rising Campaign, Bracewell LLP 2001 M Street, NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC 20036. Please join Eleanor Smeal, President of the Feminist Majority, and Dee Martin, Feminist Majority Board Member, for a cocktail fundraiser to launch the Feminist Majority's Feminist Wave Rising Campaign to advance women's rights and discuss plans for the critical 2018 elections. [Purchase Tickets or Sponsorships](#).

Extras

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

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

April 10 [video](#) of Equal Pay Day Press Conference and Petition Delivery by NWLC and Partners outside the EEOC.

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.

Beyond the Walls: A Look at Girls in D.C.’s Juvenile Justice System by Rights4Girls and the Georgetown Juvenile Justice Initiative.

[Be Her Resource A Toolkit About School Resource Officers And Girls Of Color](#) Monique W. Morris | Rebecca Epstein | Aishatu Yusuf

Religious Liberty for a Select Few: The Justice Department is Promoting Discrimination Across the Federal Government by Gruber, Bewkes et al. [See](#)

Tune in to [52 Women](#), the official podcast of MCNOW! [Episode 41 - Equal Means Equal, Jaelynn Willey, LGBTQIA+ rights, and Stella Adler](#) #52Women mcmdnow.org/52women

The Boys Aren’t Broken, The Systems Are: Changing the Narrative about Young Men of Color [Download the full issue](#).

Keeping Students First: Building Community Labor Partnerships for Strong Schools.” Schott Foundation [Full Report](#)

[New State Grades on the Economic Status of Women Show Stagnant or Declining Progress in Most States](#) from Institute for Women’s Policy Research.

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

Photos: Sherry Klein, 3-27-2018 meeting summary Sherry Klein, Carly Allen, FMF Intern,

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary & VP Legislation, Roberta Stanley; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis, VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Directors: Connie Cordovilla, Sherry Klein, Anne Martin

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700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655

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.



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

May 22, 2018 CWI Newsletter

womensclearinghouse.org

Invitation to the Tuesday, May 22, 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)

How to Use Social Media to Advance Support for Feminist Issues

In this CWI meeting the presenters will discuss how groups can use social media to further their goals.

Presenters:

Loretto Gubernatis, a four time silver and 11 time bronze Telly Award winner, and recent judge of 65 shows, will help us understand how to use videos to share important information on helping feminist candidates and explain complicated policy issues. She will also talk about recording and sharing meetings such as she does for CWI, including putting them on TV where they are aired on Baltimore public access Channel 99 on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. She will demonstrate how she uploads the shows to Youtube and then posts them to all her listed social media sites: Facebook, Twitter, Google+, Linked In, and Tumblr. She will also explain the **like** system and **hits** system and how they can support the videos. In addition to her women's rights work such as documenting inductees into Women's Hall of Fame, some of her award winning shows include "A Day in a Life of Billie Holliday", "The Baltimore Fire of 1904", and "The House of Ruth."

Barbara Janey, a branding expert from Corporate 500 companies and long-time educator and consultant, will provide tips for differentiating organizations so that it is obvious why the organization exists and why to choose to support them. She will provide examples from her corporate experiences. This focus should help long-time organizations such as the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues as well as new efforts such as The Resistance, an initiative of the National Women's Law Center.

Sherry Klein, a cybersecurity enthusiast with an Information Technology Quality Assurance background and experiences as CWI web manager and Vice President for Technology, will share research on how some women's organizations use their web sites and social media to further their goals. She will also discuss some exemplary social media platforms and social media strategy, and invite attendees to share their insights on how women's organizations use social media to further their goals. Sherry has been an active member of 40 Plus DC and the Association of Information Technology Professionals DC Chapter.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch.

Next CWI meeting, Noon Tue. June 19, 2018 (New Date).

Topic: Sustainable Energy: Key for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Dear CWI Members,

CWI's next election is June 19, 2018

CWI will hold its election of Officers and Board Members for two year terms from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020 at our June 19, 2018 meeting. Five members of the CWI Board of Directors will be continuing their 2017-2019 terms. They are Co-Presidents, Harriett Stonehill and Sue Klein, Membership Vice-President, Linda Fihelly, Technology, Vice President, Sherry Klein, and Board Member, D. Anne Martin. If re-elected to renew their 2 year 2018—2020 terms, Holly Joseph has agreed to continue as CWI Treasurer, Jeanette Lim (Esbrook) as Vice President, Legal Affairs, Loretto Gubernatis as Vice President, Media Relations, and Connie Cordovilla as Board Member. To learn more about current CWI Board Members and Officers visit the CWI leadership page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/leadership/>.

We request nominations for CWI Secretary and new Board Members for 2018-2020. In addition to support for CWI's gender equality goals and meeting attendance, candidates should be CWI members. If you join or renew now your membership will be extended to June 30, 2019. (See form at end of newsletter or on CWI website.)

If you would like to serve as CWI Secretary or as a new CWI Board member, please contact Nominations Committee member Sherry Klein (sherrykdc@gmail.com) or current CWI officers before June 1, 2018. We will send the slate to CWI members 15 days before the CWI June 19 Annual Election Meeting. Organizational and individual CWI members are encouraged to come and vote at this June 19 meeting where the meeting presenters will address using energy sources to help poor women globally. At our April 24, CWI meeting we had a cake to thank Roberta E. Stanley, CWI Secretary and Vice-President Legislation who moved back to Michigan. We hope she will continue her active membership role in updating us on legislative issues and opportunities for CWI to sign on to letters to help advance gender equity.

Suggestions from Harriett Stonehill on using our united energies to advance equal rights

Let's applaud and help our colleagues in Illinois (IL) become the 37th state to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA). ERA passed in the Illinois Senate and now needs a victory in the Illinois House of Representatives. For updates follow on Twitter [@ERACoalition](#) and [@IllinoisNOW](#). As Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg recently stated "I would like my granddaughters, when they pick up the Constitution, to see that notion - that women and men are persons of equal stature. I'd like them to see that it is a basic principle of our society."

And, in this vein, we must as CWI activists continue to use our voices and our votes to keep true freedom alive. We must work as individuals and organizations to see that women are elected to state legislatures, governor's offices, and the U.S. Congress. Before the primaries in some states, at least 431 women were running for the House this year. Fifty women were running for Senate. Not all filings have yet occurred. These numbers were from the Center for American Women and Politics. These women, whose platforms reflect equality and women's rights, need our full support with financial aid when possible, ([visit feministmajority.org](http://visitfeministmajority.org)) and getting out constituents to vote. This is the only way to keep true freedom alive and ensure our security. "Security exists only when everyone enjoys a fair opportunity to enjoy the promise of American life." (William A. Galston)

For additional inspiration, you may want to read "*Sharp: The Women Who Made an Art of Having an Opinion*" by Michelle Dean, a study of the work of 10 influential female writers. The writers include Mary McCarthy, Nora Ephron, Janet Malcolm, and Zora Neale Hurston. Their writings, both novels and essays, reflect contemporary political views that are relevant to be examined today. Another recommendation is "*The Female Persuasion*" by Meg Wolitzer, a novel with the emphasis "that women owe it to each other and to the world, to be their best selves." We, as members of CWI have always acted on this belief and will continue to do so in our individual voices and actions.

Harriett Stonehill, CWI Co-President and Sue Klein, CWI Co-President

Meeting Summary, April 24, 2018: “Working Women, Pay Equity and Union Bargaining- Where the Rubber hits the Road”. View the recorded meeting here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CQ8fUerubo>

In this CWI meeting the distinguished presenters discussed the complex problem of pay equity, segregation of women in the service sector and lower paying jobs, the importance of unions in raising women’s equity and the looming Janus case. In doing so they highlighted key questions that we need to ask of candidates about work, pay equity, and leadership.

Presenters: Carolyn York, Connie Cordovilla, Elyse Shaw, Elise Bryant



Carolyn York is the recently retired Director of Collective Bargaining and Member Advocacy at the National Education Association (<http://www.nea.org/>) and NEA’s current representative on the board of the National Committee on Pay Equity (<https://pay-equity.org/>). She spent her decades long union career fighting for the issues that impact women, particularly that of equal pay, while working for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Workers, the Service Employees International Union, the United Autoworkers and the state of Wisconsin Comparable worth Task Force.

Carolyn York’s presentation is from approximately 4:48 to 27:31 on the Youtube video.

Here are excerpts from [Carolyn York's](#) notes:

"When I first began working on pay equity in the early 1980's, women earned 59 cents for every dollar men earned. Perhaps you remember the song....59 cents for every man's dollar....

Today – close to 50 years later, we have made progress – that number is now 79 cents. But to close the gap, if we need another 50 years to accomplish that, we will have been advocating for fair pay for 100 years. Clearly, we need to keep the heat on and work to end pay discrimination much more quickly.

In the height of pay equity initiatives, many state governments examined their pay practices, identified the jobs that were predominantly held by women and people of color, and implemented adjustments to get rid of pay disparities between jobs done primarily by women and/or people of color and those primarily done by men or white employees. These studies looked at jobs within the state or municipality's work force to see which jobs were equivalent based on the skill, effort, responsibility and working conditions required for those positions. These initiatives occurred overwhelmingly in the public sector and where employees had bargaining rights. In some cases, lawsuits also helped push jurisdictions to take action.

And then, due to court decisions that concluded that in most cases, Title VII did not cover comparable positions, and the inability of advocates to pass the necessary legislation coupled with what I would call an American belief in market fairness, and sexism that continues to today.

So, here we are, 50 years later and women and their families continue to earn less in every paycheck regardless of their age, their education, their job choices, and every other factor. These inequities grow over time and follow women into retirement when their pensions (if they are lucky enough to have one) or their retirement accounts are lower because their retirement income is pegged to what they earned while working.

Teachers are an interesting example to me for several reasons – I worked with them for 15 years – and I saw the impediments to fair pay.

- Teaching has been a female-dominated occupation since the mid 19th century when colleges began to enroll women and public education took root – (today over 3/4th of public school teachers are women) – the respectable occupation for educated women who were denied entry to most other fields. Even in my high school class (1971), many of the top female students became teachers. The difference today is that women have more choices for occupations. Teaching honestly is also harder today – the demands on teachers to comply with everything from the IDEA, the dreaded No Child Left Behind Act and its myriad tests, to the incredible socio-economic diversity of our schools today make educating children extremely challenging.
- The Equal Pay Act did not help teachers generally because there were so few men in the profession – and the single salary schedule was a huge help to ensuring equal pay. And most of the public sector pay studies of the 80s did not help teachers because in school districts nearly every job is female-dominated and so there are no male-dominated jobs to compare them to. In schools, the studies that were done were mostly for support staff – cafeteria workers, classroom aides and so on – who could be compared to male-dominated positions such as grounds crews and custodians. However, these jobs remain seriously underpaid and have led to living wage initiatives in many localities.
- Teachers are extraordinarily altruistic. Many times I heard teachers say things such as "if it came down to me getting a raise or being able to give supplies to students who need them, I wouldn't want the raise." And they mean it. It's well documented that teachers reach into their pockets to the tune of hundreds of dollars every year to buy things for their classrooms and their students.
- Add to this, education budgets are always up against other urgent priorities such as Medicaid funding – and in the give and take of lobbying for state and local spending priorities, teachers are generally doing the best they can to plug the many holes that need filling.

Fast forward to today – 2018 -- teachers have walked out of schools, shutting them down, and rallying in state capitals for days on end – in West Virginia, Kentucky, Oklahoma, and Arizona – so far. Which state will be next?

These actions are AMAZING! But they did not happen overnight – the frustration and anger have built over many years. Based on EPI research, teachers were paid 2% below comparable private sector workers in 1994. Today, that gap has grown to 17%. When benefits are included, the gap shrinks to 11 percent – but that is still a great deal. Average teacher salary is now \$58,000/year, which is slightly below the national median. But half of teachers have Masters degrees and 2/3rds have more than 10 years' experience. According to the Center for Budget and Policy Priorities, a major reason the gap has gotten worse is that some states have given huge tax breaks to big business and that has devastated ed funding. Two of the worst were – you guessed Arizona and Colorado.

Arizona schools are now the 2nd worst funded in the country; Oklahoma's are 5th worse.

In some states, this has led to huge teacher shortages. In Arizona, 60 percent of teaching positions are vacant or filled with people who don't meet state standards. And it is common for teachers who live in states that border better paying states to pour over the border into the higher paying states.

Shockingly, in Oklahoma, more than 90 school districts now have 4-day school weeks in part so teachers can work other jobs.

Two things that really stand out to me about this teacher uprising:

- It is still about the kids. In every state where teachers have walked out, they have also highlighted the intense needs in their classrooms for new textbooks, school repairs, and everything else they know their students need. They are speaking up for themselves but bringing the voice of their students with them.
- The almighty market doesn't like to budge. At the beginning, I mentioned that courts were reluctant to impose pay equity on employers because it was perceived as something the market could take care of. Why would an employer pay more for some workers when they could hire them for less? And employers have always maintained that they need to establish equity with the employers in their "market" – the areas they hire from, not within their workforce. And pay equity was an internal process. So, now we have states where they don't have workers to fill their jobs, the potential workers are driving to higher paying jobs in other states, in desperation they are filling some of the positions with unqualified workers, and through it all, they are luring corporations into their state with big tax breaks. So, what happens??

Teachers walk out. That's what happens."



Elyse Shaw, Senior Research Associate, Institute for Women's Policy Research (<https://www.iwpr.org>) manages projects on women's political participation with special attention to the intersectional nature of race and gender on women's lives. She also works on workforce development and job training initiatives, IWPR's Status of Women in the States project, and contributes to IWPR's research on global women's issues. She addressed the "union difference" in women's pay and the slowdown in achieving equity. Ms. Shaw's presentation runs from approximately 27:55 to 38:51 on the Youtube video.

Here are excerpts from her notes:

I am going to discuss just a small portion of the research done by IWPR on the wage gap and the slow march toward equal pay as well as the difference in pay for women in unions compared with women not in unions. Though it has been more than 50 years since the Equal Pay Act was passed, THE GENDER WAGE GAP STILL EXISTS.

There has been progress: The wage gap in 1980 (using weekly earnings) was 64%. In 2017 it has narrowed to 81.8%. HOWEVER, most of this progress took place in the 1980s and 1990s. In fact, over the past 10 years the wage gap has only narrowed by 2 percentage points. IWPR has calculated that if this pace of change remains the same, the wage gap will not close until the year 2059. IWPR's most recent analysis on the importance of pay equity shows that the wage gap could cost college educated millennial women \$1 million over their lifetime.

These numbers don't account for the differences among different groups of women. When we look at the data broken down by race/ethnicity we find the outlook is even worse for women of color. Black women on average earn 68% of what White men earn. The wage gap for Black women will not close for 106 years (the year 2124). Hispanic women earn 62% of what White men earn. The wage gap for Hispanic women will not close until 2233 – A WAIT OF 215 YEARS.

There are many factors that go into the wage gap including the lack of paid family leave and affordable child care. This leads many women to take unpaid time off from the labor force to care for family and children. Occupational segregation also plays a huge part in the wage gap -- 38 % of women work in female-dominated occupations. Only 6.6% of women work in male-dominated occupations. Female-dominated occupations tend to pay less than male-dominated occupations with similar skill-levels and educational requirements. THIS MEANS MORE THAN 8 TIMES AS MANY WOMEN WORK IN OCCUPATIONS WITH POVERTY LEVEL WAGES.

Low-wages are particularly prevalent in occupations that involve: education and care of children, care of the elderly, and care of the infirm. Many of these low-wage, female-dominated occupations also require additional training and education and are still low-wage. Low-wage work is often work that was/is traditionally done at home, un-paid by women, which continues to be work done predominantly by women when it is paid.

Closing the wage gap and ensuring pay equity is crucial for the economic security of working women and their families. In the U.S. poverty would be cut in half if women had equal pay. While providing paid family leave and tackling issues such as enforcing equal pay laws and eradicating pay secrecy are important to pay equity.

WOMEN ALSO NEED BETTER PAY AND BETTER TERMS AND CONDITIONS IN THEIR CURRENT JOBS.

This is where the union advantage for women comes in. Because hiring, pay, and promotion policies and decisions are more transparent. Women, especially women of color, who are part of a union are more likely to have benefits (such as health insurance) and earn higher wages. IWPR's research on the differences between union and non-union women finds that overall median earnings are higher for women in unions. On average, the weekly earnings for women in unions is 30% higher than that of non-union women (\$942/week v. \$723/week). Black women in unions earn 28% more on average per week (\$790/week v. \$616/week). Hispanic women see the largest increase. Hispanic women in unions on average earn 47% more than non-union Hispanic women (\$829/week v. \$565/week).

Increasing the access to unions and union contracts for women would play a large part in closing the gender wage gap. Additionally, IWPR's analysis highlights how unions historically benefit society at large. They have pioneered many of the employment best practices we see today. Unions continue to champion policies that are good for women and working families. All of which will help make progress on equal pay.

IWPR resources:

- [The Union Advantage for Women \(https://iwpr.org/publications/union-advantage-women-2018/\)](https://iwpr.org/publications/union-advantage-women-2018/)
- [The Gender Wage Gap by Occupation 2017 and by Race and Ethnicity \(https://iwpr.org/publications/gender-wage-gap-occupation-2017-race-ethnicity/\)](https://iwpr.org/publications/gender-wage-gap-occupation-2017-race-ethnicity/)
- [The Wage Gap Will Cost Millennial Women \\$1 Million Over their Careers \(https://iwpr.org/publications/wage-gap-cost-millennial-women-1-million-over-careers/\)](https://iwpr.org/publications/wage-gap-cost-millennial-women-1-million-over-careers/)
- [The Gender Wage Gap: 2017: Earnings Differences by Race and Ethnicity \(https://iwpr.org/publications/gender-wage-gap-2017-race-ethnicity/\)](https://iwpr.org/publications/gender-wage-gap-2017-race-ethnicity/)
- [Women's Median Earnings as a Percent of Men's 1985-2016 with Projections for Pay Equity, by Race/Ethnicity](#)
- [Five Ways to Win an Argument about the Gender Wage Gap \(https://iwpr.org/publications/womens-median-earnings-1985-2016/\)](https://iwpr.org/publications/womens-median-earnings-1985-2016/)



Elise Bryant, Executive Director of the Labor Heritage Foundation (<https://www.laborheritage.org/>) and the recently elected President of the Coalition of Labor Union Women (<http://cluwn.org/>), has spent her life as an organizer, a leader and a mentor of women workers, whether in the arts or on the shop floor. A gifted labor educator, lately of the National Labor College (<http://www.nlc.edu/>), Elise merges the art of spoken and sung word with the workers' issues and actions.

Elise Bryant opened the presentation with a union song, "Which side are you on", emphasized that we are going to be pivotal in what happens next, as we are "tethered to the arc of justice of history". Ms. Bryant set the stage by placing our current situation in historical context.

Elise Bryant is teaching how to unlearn racism, specifically in the labor movement, and was pointed to a major moral contradiction in the Declaration of Independence with the "truths to be self-evident that all men are created equal". This established a problem of defining men who were non-land owners and those who were enslaved by other men. The solution was set in the Constitution when such men were defined as three-fifths human, and no mention of women humans. "Voting was a legal privilege, not really a right."

She remembered a powerful quote by Abigail Adams existed referring to women during the time US laws were being formed after British rule: "by the way, in the new code of laws which I suppose it will be necessary for you to make, I desire you would remember the ladies and be more generous and favorable to them than your ancestors. Do not put such unlimited power into the hands of the husbands. Remember, all men would be tyrants if they could. If particular care and attention is not paid to the ladies, we are determined to foment a rebellion, and will not hold ourselves bound by any laws in which we have no voice or representation."

Elise Bryant compared the desire for rights back then to the still prevailing pay inequity and poverty in the "richest country on earth" and pointed out the Constitution's first words: "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union..", emphasizing the word Union, and how carefully the word was selected to create togetherness for the 13 states which until that time had different currency, etc.

She referenced the earlier presentations about the pay gap and how Unions help balance the gap. She passed around a bar chart which illustrated the gap, pulled from AFL-CIO's commonsense economics, which ultimately derives their data from the same source as that of IPWR's per Elyse Shaw.

Elise Bryant told about her personal background and how her family was able to live the American dream by having a living wage, sending the children to college, have food on the table, etc, and how Unions help indirectly increase wages for non-union members.

She explained why we start to see wages dipping below the cost of living starting in the 2000's, linking it to the decrease in Union membership due to increase in industrialization and financialization of the economy of the United States. As an educator, she believes that we need to educate and train people by allowing them to discover for themselves by participating in trainings where they will be empowered to do something afterwards to carry forward the messages.

Elise Bryant spoke about the right to work (for less) as what the phrase really means, because they will not earn as much as with union support. She mentioned that unions are the backbone of democracy. She suggested we have an oral history project to collect experiences from the women in the room and someone has a project like that which has high school students take the history and create a poem or story from what they hear. Ms.

Bryant said the person sent the book compilation of rap and creative output from her own story and what the students heard.

Elise Bryant nodded to the March for Our Lives movement and said, “We are the leaders we’re looking for and we are going to mentor that next generation of leaders to come who already are here and work together through generations” and intersectionality and that she is grateful. She ended the presentation with Bev Grant’s song “We Were There” at 53:57.



Connie Cordovilla of the American Federation of Teachers (<https://www.aft.org/>) and the National Committee on Pay Equity (<https://pay-equity.org/>, and recently elected President of Virginia NOW (<http://vanow.org/>) talked about the impending Janus Decision of the SCOTUS and its impact on women workers. Connie has worked for thirty years as a trade unionist and avowed feminist, is on CWI’s Board and organized this meeting. Her presentation on the Youtube recording starts at 54:54.

“What is the Janus Case? What is it about? Mark Janus is an Illinois child social worker who believes that if he pays anything to the union, it would all go to political ends because unions are political.

The fight to reverse *Abood v. Detroit* (1977)

- ***Abood v. Detroit Board of Education***, 431 U.S. 209 (1977), is a US labor law case where the United States Supreme Court upheld the maintaining of a union shop in a public workplace and set the right to collect fair share dues. “In short, the Abood case ruling says that people don’t have to belong to the Union in a shop that’s unionized but they do have to pay the fair share of what would be charged for the people who do the negotiation of the contract elements for them. They do not have to pay money into the political things.”

“The influence of the Koch Brothers (American States Legislative Exchange), Right to Work- this is an attack on the ability of the 99% to achieve and maintain a comfortable economic status that affords them a decent life- the ability to buy a home, own a car, send their children to college or post- secondary education that will place them on a career path to economic self-sufficiency- in another word, the American Dream.

The term Right to Work as Dr. Martin Luther King noted, is a false slogan because wherever it is enacted, wages are lower, job opportunities are fewer and there are no civil rights. It is actually the Right to Work for Less- of everything.

What is the only organized body that speaks out for all workers- organized labor

What has labor done for workers?

- a voice at work about working conditions, the weekends, paid leave, retirement
- Workplace integration by race and gender and ethnicity. Labor unions have played a historic role in integrating the workforce- think about the migration of poor black southerners to the industries of the north and the economic boom that those unionized jobs created for Black people. For Black Women in particular, those **who belong to unions make 30 percent more than those who don’t. And while black women earn 65 cents for every dollar earned by white men, that wage gap is 20 percent smaller for unionized black women.**
- unified place to push for legislative reforms and workplace safety and health
- The NWLC tells us that **Unions are associated with smaller wage gaps related to gender and race in part because they promote transparency in criteria and decisions on compensation, recruitment, and promotions. Gender-based wage gaps persist throughout the economy, but the wage gap for union members is 53 percent smaller than the wage gap among non-union workers**

Who will most affected by a decision that bans unions from charging fair share cost and forcing union to resign their members every year?

The target here is public sector employees – 17 million of them. Almost 18% of them are black women and almost 12% are black men. Black Women also face a double pay gap- a gender pay gap and a racial pay gap. For unionized Latino Public Sector Workers, their pay is 51% higher than non-unionized Latino workers. These jobs are a ticket to the middle class American Dream and their effect is not just within unions but in the communities where the unionized workers live and work- because it raises the standard for all the workers.

What are we going to do when the decision comes down?

Four ways the decision can go:

1. Reverse the ruling on Abood v Detroit from 19 Starting from the day of the decision, unions cannot collect the fair share fees but must still represent all workers in the unit by US Labor law.
2. The court up holds the Abood v Detroit- fair share is collected- but they suggest changing the way that membership is defined and fees collected – placing a burden on Unions. This may be a respite but we know that the groups behind the case will have another in the wings..
3. The court dismisses Janus v AFSCME as improvidently granted, keep Abood Decision in place- but again, we know that the groups behind this attack are waiting with another challenge
4. SCOTUS specifically upholds the Abood ruling, effectively putting the challenges in abeyance

What are unions poised to do?

1. Social Media Campaigns and press releases
2. Organizing Campaigns
3. Legislative relief in states
4. Judicial appointments to the Supreme Court”

Connie Cordovilla’s presentation ends at 1:04:55 and questions were entertained.

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.

Wednesday, May 16, 2018, 10 AM 1:30 PM. Highlighting the Past, Present and Future of Women of Asian Descent in Psychology, American Psychological Association, 750 First Street NE, Washington, DC [Free Tickets](#).

Wednesday, May 16, 2018, Time’s Up Webinar, 2PM-3 PM EST. National Women’s Law Center. [Register](#)

Friday, May 18, 2018, 8:30 AM-12:30 PM, Moms Summit: Addressing the Needs of America’s Families. Capitol Visitors Center Auditorium of the US Capitol. RSVP here: https://action.momsrising.org/survey/moms_summit_dc/?t=6&akid=10785%2E2093795%2ERt9_pb

Monday, May 21, 2018. Varying Degrees: How America Perceives Higher Education in 2018. New America, 9 AM to Noon. 740 15th St. NW, Suite 900, Washington, DC. [Register](#)

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

Photos: Sherry Klein, 4-24-2018 meeting summary Sherry Klein,

Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019

OFFICERS: Co-Presidents, Sue Klein and Harriett Stonehill; VP Membership, Linda Fihelly; Treasurer, Holly Taggart Joseph; Secretary & VP Legislation, Roberta Stanley; VP Media, Loretto Gubernatis, VP Legal Affairs, Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Directors: Connie Cordovilla, Sherry Klein, Anne Martin

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700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

Membership Form

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
joseph.holly@gmail.com

2. Or 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 of Individual or Organization _____
For Organizations also Provide Name and emails of two PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVES
NAME/Title _____
NAME (Org. Representative 2) _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ CELL _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 1) _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 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 before July 1 your membership year will start early but still end 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)

____ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*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) Circle One: ____ YES ____ NO

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

Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

June 2018 CWI Newsletter

womensclearinghouse.org

**Invitation to the Tuesday, June 19, 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, north or south exit)**

Sustainable Energy: Key for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Sustainable energy is a critical component for lifting women and their families in the developing world out of poverty. Time spent collecting fuel for cooking and the lack of electricity contributes to poverty and can put women at risk as they search far from their homes to gather fuelwood. Additionally, the fumes from smoke from wood cookstoves and kerosene lamps sickens children and their families and leads to chronic and acute health problems like pneumonia, burns, and heart disease. Fortunately, there are clean technologies for cooking and lighting like clean cookstoves and solar lanterns that are bringing life-changing and life-saving improvements to families in the developing world. Come learn about initiatives to improve the lives of millions of women around the world with presentations by representatives from the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, and Solar Cookers International.

Moderator: Leslie Black Cordes currently serves as Vice President of Programs and Operations at the Alliance for Justice. Leslie has more than 25 years of experience in nonprofit management, resource mobilization, and legislative and government work including her most recent role as Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships at the UN Foundation's Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. Previous positions include Interim Executive Director, Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, Senior Director, Partnership Development for Energy and Climate at the United Nations Foundation, Chief of the Environmental Protection Agency's Energy Supply and Industry Branch, and roles as Acting Co-President, Vice President of Programs, and Director for International Programs at the non-profit Alliance to Save Energy. Leslie has also served as deputy director of the U.S. Agency for International Development's Energy Efficiency Program and spent eight years with the U.S. Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee.

A representative from the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves is expected to join the following presenters:

Corinne Hart is the Senior Advisor for Gender and Environment in the Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at USAID. She provides technical leadership and assistance on gender integration into environmental programming, including the agency's work on energy, infrastructure, biodiversity and forestry, land tenure, urbanization, and climate change. Before joining USAID, Corinne served as the Director of Gender and Humanitarian Programs at the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, an initiative of the United Nations Foundation. In that role, she designed and managed the Alliance's strategies on gender, women's empowerment, and humanitarian response. She has 10 years of experience in project and grant management, strategic planning, and capacity building, and worked to increase the capacity of the household energy sector to mainstream gender, support women energy entrepreneurs, and reach the most vulnerable populations.

Caitlyn Hughes is a program director at Solar Cookers International (SCI) where she facilitates knowledge sharing both within and outside of the solar cooking sector. She gathers and analyzes data and identifies best practices from SCI's field projects as well as the global solar cooking community, and manages the creation of the Solar Cooking Adoption and Impact Survey. She works with the Solar Cooking Webmasters to manage the world's largest online database of solar cooking knowledge. Caitlyn organizes opportunities for partners to share their knowledge through working groups, webinars and conferences. Caitlyn has a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Development from the University of California Davis and a master's degree in Humanitarian Action from Ruhr University in Germany. Her past experiences include interning with Development Assistance Research Associates (DARA) in Madrid, Spain; volunteering with United Action for Children (a local non-profit in Cameroon, Africa); working as an Assistant Director fundraising for non-profits such as Save the Children, The Nature Conservancy, and the Sierra Club.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch. Next CWI meeting, Noon Tue. Sept. 25, 2018.

Dear CWI Members,

CWI's Board and Officer Election is June 19, 2018

CWI will hold its election of Officers and Board Members for two year terms from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020 at our June 19, 2018 meeting. Five members of the CWI Board of Directors are continuing their 2017-2019 terms. They are Co-Presidents, Harriett Stonehill and Sue Klein, Membership Vice-President, Linda Fihelly, Technology, Vice President, Sherry Klein, and Board Member, D. Anne Martin.

The following CWI Board members have agreed to be nominated to renew their 2 year 2018—2020 terms. Holly Joseph has agreed to continue as CWI Treasurer, Jeanette Lim (Esbrook) will continue as Vice President, Legal Affairs, Loretto Gubernatis will continue as Vice President, Media Relations, and Connie Cordovilla as Board Member. To learn more about current CWI Board Members and Officers visit the CWI leadership page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/leadership/>. **For the 2018-20 Board Terms, Barbara Janey has accepted the nomination as CWI Board Secretary. Megan Corrado, Advocacy Manager, Women for Afghan Women, a new CWI organizational member, has accepted the nomination as a new CWI Board Member.**

We urge everyone to pay their modest CWI individual or organizational membership dues for 2018-June 30, 2019 or longer before or during the June 19 meeting so they can participate in the election and show their support for CWI. See the CWI membership form at the end of this newsletter. Since we are especially interested in serving a wider feminist community we encourage people to join CWI as **organizational members** and distribute information to their co-members. With permission from your organization you can give them a CWI organizational membership and serve as one of their two organizational member representatives to CWI. That way you will receive newsletters and announcements which you are encouraged to share with colleagues in your organization. We are also encouraging member organizations to suggest topics for CWI monthly meetings and even organize these meetings to educate many others about your organization's priorities.

Members of Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) VOTE.-Vote by vote, we change the world. We let our informed voices be heard.

CWI Members are longtime advocates for the **Equal Rights Amendment (ERA)**. In fact, Sue Klein took baby Sherry Klein (now CWI VP for Technology) to her first public Capitol Hill meeting to support the ERA when Sherry was an infant. Holly Joseph, CWI Treasurer, asked her Maryland U.S. Senator, Ben Cardin, to be the lead sponsor of legislation meant to bring new life to the effort to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. Realizing the importance of establishing equality of all in our Constitution, he agreed to introduce ERA legislation using the "three state strategy" advocated by former CWI board member Carolyn Cook's United for Equality LLC. Nevada and Illinois (as of May 30, 2018) have both joined the original 35 states in ratifying the ERA - leaving just one more state to join the 37 states who have supported the ERA's ratification. Many believe that since the Madison 27th Amendment was finally added to the U.S. Constitution in 1992 -- over 200 years after it was introduced, the clause limiting the approval of ERA to 1982 should not interfere with full ratification of ERA whenever this is accomplished by one more state—meeting the ratification requirement by $\frac{3}{4}$ of the states

CWI has sponsored meetings on ERA and many other domestic and global topics. Topics of CWI informational and action focused meetings this year included: *Turning Anger into Change: 15 Ways to Stop a Bigot*, *Learning from Sisters of Color*, and *Each Other*, on *How to Bring it to The Polls*, *Networking Women's History Organizations and Sites*, *Social Media Strategies for CWI*, and *Working Women, Pay Equity, and Union Bargaining - Where Rubber Hits the Road*. CWI has provided this information so that each of us can make an informed decision as to who to vote for. It is now our obligation to VOTE and get out the vote on issues of concern to women. Women's activism and marches helped save the Affordable Care Act and led to town-hall meetings across the country. This led to the largest number of women running for local, state, and federal office. Now we are working as individuals on campaigns, "get out the vote," registering new voters and making sure all can vote.

Abraham Lincoln stated, "I appeal to you again to constantly bear in mind, that with you, and not with politicians, not with Presidents, not with office-seekers, but with you, is the question, 'Shall the Union and shall the liberties of this country be preserved?'"

Harriett Stonehill, CWI Co-President and Sue Klein, CWI Co-Presidents

Meeting Summary, May 22, 2018: How to Use Social Media to Advance Support for Feminist Issues

[View the latest CWI meeting at the bottom of the CWI YouTube Playlist](#)

Information on the background of the presenters Loretto Gubernatis, Sherry Klein, and Barbara Janey is in page 1 of the May 2018 CWI newsletter. Background information on Cari Stein is in this summary. It is also included in the introduction by Sherry Klein in the meeting youtube video. Following are some highlights from the meeting on the presenters' advice to an audience with much interest in, but a wide range of skills in using social media. The photo below shows Presenter Cari Stein with the video and screens in the Alliance for Justice conference room which the presenters used to illustrate key aspects of social media.

Presenters **Loretto Gubernatis** and **Sherry Klein** distributed handouts of some social media related terms from webopedia.com, except for "trending", quoted from the "Using Social Media in Business" course by Dr. Brad Semp, and one link to a marketing tools resource site provided by another online teacher. (<https://www.marketingtercom/tools/>).

Loretto Gubernatis introduced the concept of "Guerilla TV" – Media as having the capacity to influence mass audiences without much funding. She recommended not waiting for budget approvals or grants before beginning. Gubernatis focused on learning hard and soft skills for oneself so that you are not dependent on external agencies. Gubernatis's spirited and inspirational message included that you are "Never too old to learn", and emphasized always keeping up to date with modern technology. She suggested focusing on content in lieu of flashy tricks or gimmicks. Gubernatis shared her YouTube Channel Hanburycross. (<https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>) . She implored meeting attendees and others to support each other's endeavors, for example, by "Liking" or "Subscribing" to posts, pages, channels, etc., and sharing intrapersonal networks focused directly on women's issues. Finally, Gubernatis emphasized the urgency in promoting women speakers and voices in order to counteract the impact of anti-women politicians, policies, and administrations. Hanburycross hosts the CWI videos as well as many other public access shows from a variety of topics and genres. There are children, teen, seniors, and political shows produced for Baltimore Public Access channel 99 and posted on the Youtube channel. Check them out!

Sherry Klein shared main lessons she learned from a free online Ed2Go/Gale/Cengage course offered through the local library called "Using Social Media in Business". 1) Post *at least* daily to social media platfor 2) Have a social media strategy – A) select your objective - awareness/loyalty/sales B) Be as specific as possible about your target audience, the more detail the better C) Pick which media platforms you will use – how many? – (She shared that the teacher suggested starting out with one or two.) 3) Use measurements collected in a template/dashboard to track progress.

Klein used CWI as an example of a social media diagram, which is one element included within a social media template provided by the library course. It shows the process flow including social media platforms used and who is responsible for updating information on each, how information flows, automated tools used to post, where information comes from, etc.

Finally, Klein showcased several feminist/feminist related websites and social media platforms such as those of

- Feminist Majority Foundation <https://feminist.org> <https://twitter.com/feministnews>
<https://twitter.com/FemMajority>
<https://www.facebook.com/FeministMajorityFoundation/?ref=share>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/feministmajority>
- Equal Pay2Day <https://www.equalpaytoday.org> <https://twitter.com/EqualPay2dayOrg>
<https://www.facebook.com/EqualPayToday/> <https://www.instagram.com/equalpay2dayorg>
https://medium.com/@ichaney_31a98
- Dialogue on Diversity <https://www.dialogueondiversity.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/dialogueondiversityorg> <https://twitter.com/dialogondiv>
<https://www.youtube.com/user/DialogueOnDiversity>
- Clearinghouse On Women's Issues (CWI) <https://womensclearinghouse.org/>
<https://twitter.com/CWInews> <http://www.facebook.com/womensclearinghouse>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2Rk7RfiKzA&list=PLnfiFIIPQZAg2ZAITWPfPDE6Z4AxMTNC>
6 <https://www.pinterest.com/clearinghouseonwomensissues/>

Barbara Janey began with the question of Content – asking “What is our mission? Who are we directing our work to?” Janey said to make sure you are “THE” website to go to – the importance of branding your mission, for example “Clearinghouse=Women’s Issues”.

Janey warned that if a website doesn’t instantly engage the viewer, it is possible the audience will never return to the site. Janey mentioned that it is difficult to trust content. There is uncertainty in knowing who is posting what (attribution) and the legitimacy of information. She suggested we be very suspicious of new content and sources and to read multiple sources in order to assert the accuracy of data. Janey suggests we be vigilant of branding, asking ourselves “What image is the source trying to promote?” Janey emphasized the importance of promoting content surrounding diversity, pulling information from every different group. Finally, Janey mentioned that it is important to evaluate what’s being looked at on your sites and how long the viewers are visiting for.

Cari Stein, the Executive Producer of “*To The Contrary*” (pbs.org/to-the-contrary) a show on PBS hosted by Bonnie Erbe focusing on issues of special interest to women from diverse perspectives. She is also President and Chair of the Board of the nonprofit production company that produces *To the Contrary*, Persephone Productions, Inc. Stein discussed how much social media has changed and will continue to develop in the future. In order to maintain long term engagement, she said we need to be working on social media on multiple platforms daily. She used “*To The Contrary*” as an example and said she often spends more time on communicating via social media than in producing the TV shows.

Stein explained that for “*To the Contrary*” they interconnect all their events and content, tweeting hashtags and changing the stream constantly. For example, they host content on the website and tweet links back to the website to encourage website visits, reinforcing a loop of information. Stein found that people will engage more with comments on Facebook compared to the other platforms they are using. Stein mentioned that there has been a shift away from paper mailings and manual distribution list administration towards online distribution systems like MailChimp. Another strategy “*To The Contrary*” has incorporated is the use of Google Hangouts to encourage interaction from the audience. She recommends visual posts and Google polls.

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, as well as SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our Video sponsor and provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. **Times Below Are For EDT.**

Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 1 PM – 3 PM. I am Psyched! For LGBTQI Pride Month. American Psychological Association 750 First St. NE, Washington, DC 20002. \$5 [Registration](#)

Tuesday, June 12, 2018, 9:30-11:30 AM. A More Resilient World: The Role of Population and Family Planning in Sustainable Development. Wilson Center, Ronald Reagan Building, One Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, DC 20004. Will also be webcast. [RSVP](#)

Thursday, June 14, 2018, 9:AM Webinar Women's Rights & Climate Finance "Strategies for Organizing to Influence, Monitor and Track Climate Finance (From Global to Local). WEDO. [Information and Registration.](#)

Monday, June 18, 2018. 11:30 AM Reception 12:30 PM Justice First! Luncheon, To be Headlined by Senator Kirsten Gillibrand, Alliance for Justice, Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill, 400 New Jersey Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20001. [Purchase Tickets](#)

Wednesday, June 20, 2018, 9:30 AM-4 PM. Dialogue on Diversity's 2018 Health Care Symposium: A Quest for Policy Stability – Achieving the Wellness Society. UNIDOS US 1126 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036. [Register for Free Symposium](#)

Wednesday, June 20, 2018, 1:30 Webinar: Putting Mid-Term Elections in Context. National Council of Jewish Women (NCJW) [Register.](#)

Tuesday, September 25, Noon CWI meeting. CWI Board Members welcome future topic suggestions.

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

*Photo from Cari Stein: Meeting summary Sherry Klein with the help of notes from Elle Winfield, FMF Intern.
Newsletter edited by Sue Klein*

CWI BOARD OF DIRECTORS, JULY 2017 – JUNE 2019

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700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues
Membership Form
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
joseph.holly@gmail.com
2. Or 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 of Individual or Organization _____
For Organizations also Provide Name and emails of two PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVES
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Enclosed is a check for CWI membership. Membership year is: **July 1-June 30** (Please fill in beginning and end date). If you pay before July 1 your membership year will start early but still end 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)

____ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*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) Circle One: ____ YES ____ NO
Membership dues and contributions are tax-deductible to the extent provided by Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

September 2018 CWI Newsletter

womensclearinghouse.org

**Invitation to the Tuesday, September 25, 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, north or south exit)**

Strategies for Supporting Progressive Women Running for Office

The September and October CWI meetings were selected to help us increase our knowledge of ways to help with the midterm elections and beyond! There are many ways that candidates and their supporters can educate potential voters about themselves and their issue priorities. This September 25th meeting will focus on video media promotion, using political action committees (PACs) and tips from candidate training such as Emerge America. In addition to discussing effective campaign strategies, the presenters will discuss proper use of campaign funds, including PACs, and effectively targeting their opponents. The discussion after the presentations will give all meeting participants the opportunity to ask questions and share their advice on what successful candidates should do to win and keep winning. The presenters will also be asked to provide insights on what strategies are especially effective with progressive voters.

This meeting is organized by **Connie Cordovilla, CWI Vice President, Strategic Planning** and **Loretto Gubernatis, CWI Vice-President, Media Relations**, and will be chaired by Connie.

Presenters include:

Loretto Gubernatis, CWI Vice President Media Relations and the President of McDonagh-Davis will show some clips from her public access TV shows of feminist candidates. This and other types of "Guerilla TV" are low cost ways for candidates to share their message and even create YouTube videos and channels and other media strategies. Gubernatis will describe how she provides opportunities for candidates and elected officials through her TV shows, "Her Voice" and "A Place at the Table." (See Loretto's YouTube [Channel HanberryCross](https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross). Just type in the name of the show i.e. **Her Voice** and it will take you to the shows. <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>).

Alice Cohan, Political Director, Feminist Majority will help us understand what is a Political Action Committee (PAC) and what does it allow us to do? Cohan will discuss the importance of Feminist PACs, because who is elected impacts all the issues that we care about. She will encourage Feminist Organizations to form PACs. She will also describe the endorsement processes of various PACs. For example, there is a network of Feminist PACs and one of Progressive PACs that meet to share information about races and candidates. Cohan will also describe how organizations and individuals can still be active without a PAC. For example, Feminist Majority Foundation (C3) organizes students on campuses to Get Out the Vote. See www.feministmajority.org and www.feminist.org.

Laila Mohib, Expansion Director, Emerge America will share information on the mission and purposes of Emerge America and other groups that also support progressive candidates that share common views. Many of these groups focus on engaging young women and women of color. According to their website <https://emergeamerica.org>, "Since 2002, Emerge America affiliates have recruited, trained and inspired over 4,000 women to run for elected office." Their network now covers 25 states. Mohib will discuss how Emerge trains potential candidates on presenting themselves to voters, raising money for their campaigns, and other strategies to win and maintain their offices. Emerge America has active groups in Maryland and Virginia.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch.

Next CWI Meeting, Noon Tuesday, October 23, 2018. Understanding Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections



Dear CWI Members,

CWI held its election of Officers and Board Members for two-year terms from July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2020 at our June 19, 2018 meeting. Five members of the CWI Board of Directors are continuing their 2017-2019 terms. They are Co-Presidents, Harriett Stonehill and Sue Klein; Membership Vice-President, Linda Fihelly; Vice President Technology, Sherry Klein; and Vice-President Organizational Management, Anne Martin.

The following CWI Board members were re-elected to renew their two-year 2018—2020 terms. Holly Joseph CWI Treasurer; Jeanette Lim (Esbrook) Vice President, Legal Affairs; Loretto Gubernatis, Vice President, Media Relations; and Connie Cordovilla, Vice President, Strategic Planning. To learn more about

current CWI Board Members and Officers, visit the CWI Leadership page <https://womensclearinghouse.org/leadership/>. New CWI Board members elected for the 2018-20 term are Barbara Janey West, CWI Board Secretary and Megan Corrado, Advocacy Manager, Women for Afghan Women, a new CWI organizational member. Megan will also serve as Vice President, Global Issues. *(Photo top row, left to right Jeanette, Linda, Megan, Anne, Sherry, and Loretto. Front row: Harriett and Sue. Missing: Connie, Holly, and Barbara.)*

We urge everyone to contribute to CWI by paying their modest CWI individual or organizational membership dues for 2018-June 30, 2019 or longer. They can also show their support for CWI by attending meetings, suggesting speakers, and getting their favorite organizations to join CWI. See the CWI membership form at the end of this newsletter or on our website, www.womensclearinghouse.org. Since we are especially interested in serving a wider feminist community we encourage people to join CWI as **organizational members** and distribute information to their co-members. With permission from your organization, you can give them a CWI organizational membership and serve as one of their two organizational member representatives to CWI. That way, you will receive newsletters and announcements, which you are encouraged to share with colleagues in your organization. If you are not sure whether you have paid your 2018-19 dues, please contact our Treasurer, Holly Joseph at joseph.holly@gmail.com or VP for Membership, Linda Fihelly at lfihelly@hotmail.com.

The CWI Board of Directors selected these potential Tuesday, Noon CWI meeting topics for 2018-19:

September 25, 2018. Strategies for Supporting Progressive Women Running for Office. Organizers: Connie Cordovilla and Loretto Gubernatis.

October. 23, 2018. Understanding Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections. Organizers: Megan Corrado and Harriett Stonehill.

November 27, 2018. Outcomes of the November Elections: New Leaders for a New Era: Organizers: Jeanette Lim Esbrook, Holly Joseph, and Harriett Stonehill

January 22, 2019. Using Media Safely, Expeditiously, and Effectively to Empower our Feminist Organizations. Organizers: Loretto Gubernatis and Sherry Klein.

February 26, 2019. Ensuring that the 2020 Census Does Not Discriminate against Immigrants and Others. Organizers: Jeanette Lim Esbrook and Megan Corrado.

March 26, 2019. Potential Collaboration between the National Women's History Museum and the Smithsonian's American Women's History Initiative. Organizers: Sue Klein and Holly Joseph

April 23, 2019. Financial Literacy Organizers: Connie Cordovilla and Anne Martin

May 21, 2019. A Feminist Approach to U.S. Foreign Policy. Organizer: Megan Corrado

June 18, 2019. Collaboration Among Women's Organizations. Organizers: TBD.

Harriett Stonehill, CWI Co-President and Sue Klein, CWI Co-President

CWI Meeting Summary, June 19, 2018

Sustainable Energy: Key for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment

Sustainable energy is a critical component for lifting women and their families in the developing world out of poverty. Time spent collecting fuel for cooking and the lack of electricity contributes to poverty and can put women at risk as they search far from their homes to gather fuelwood. Additionally, the smoke fumes from wood cookstoves and kerosene lamps sickens children and their families and leads to chronic and acute health problems like pneumonia, burns, and heart disease. Fortunately, clean technologies for cooking and lighting, such as clean cookstoves and solar lanterns, are bringing life-changing and life-saving improvements to families in the developing world. Presentations by representatives from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), the Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves, and Solar Cookers International outlined practical strategies on how to improve the lives of millions of women across the globe.



Photo of Presenters. Left to Right: Leslie Black Cordes, Caitlyn Hughes, Corinne Hart.

Leslie Black Cordes, Vice President of Programs and Operations at the Alliance for Justice (AFJ), opened the discussion with remarks on the importance of the outlined topic, specifically emphasizing its relationship to CWI's Mission statement. Before joining AFJ, Leslie was the Senior Director of Strategic Partnerships at the UN Foundation's Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves. Here are some background highlights from Leslie and important links to websites with information she displayed.

Caitlyn Hughes, Program Director at Solar Cookers International (SCI) from Sacramento, CA, gave an informative presentation on the intersectionality of environmental damage and women's empowerment across the developing world. The discussion centered around the problems of open fuel cooking, which has become an increasingly prevalent issue in post-conflict countries and disproportionately endangers women and girls. Hughes outlined the main dilemmas women and children face, before demonstrating the innovative solutions of Solar Cookers International, which targets the environmental, health, and social risks involved with food production. Here are links to key points from her presentation on the variety of solar cookers available, ranging from those made with cardboard and aluminum foil to more expensive and long-lasting solar cookers using parabolic dishes which have even been used by rooftop restaurants to save energy costs in Nepal. She also described how SCI works with local alliances that manufacture and train users of solar cookers. For more information and great photos of solar cookers visit www.solarcookers.org. One of the DC area SCI Associates also told us how she used solar cookers in her back yard.



Corinne Hart, Senior Advisor for Gender and Environment in the Office of Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment at USAID, shared insights on governmental policies to assist gender integration into environmental programming. Specifically, Hart promoted the importance of female entrepreneurship and professional opportunities for women in STEM, outlining two core projects that she manages: Advancing Gender in the Environment (AGENT) & Engendering Utilities--a program developed by The George Washington University that helps utility companies hire and advance women into high paying technical and management positions. Both programs have shown remarkable success. For example, the companies are now using gender disaggregated information on employee status and satisfaction to guide their policies and procedures. Check out the program's website

www.usaid.gov/energy/gender for more information and to access a tool kit on

energy and infrastructure. In addition to empowering and improving the health of women and families, these projects in developing industries help the countries scale up their electrification and discourage people from illegal hookups to electricity sources. The discussion reinforced the importance of defining energy, a nontraditional sector, as a gender

equality issue. This requires adjustments at both the industrial and household levels to ensure long-term prosperity. She also described how the important gender analysis and gender advisor framework continues to be used successfully at USAID.

Presentations by the speakers were followed with an informative Q&A session, which included comments on governmental receptiveness, long term sustainability and policy recommendations for future action. Some of the audience questions also asked if some of these improvements such as solar cookstoves and deliberate attention to decreasing gender discrimination in the utilities industries would be beneficial in the US. The clear expertise of Cordes, Hughes, and Hart was extremely beneficial to enhancing understanding of these critical issues among our members and meeting attendees. The CWI both thanks and supports their efforts to bring increased gender equity to the field of environmental policy.

CWI Joins Others in Objecting to the 2020 Census - Citizenship Question

By Jeanette Lim Esbrook, CWI VP for Legal Affairs

In March 2018 the U.S. Department of Commerce announced their intention to include a citizenship question in the 2020 Census and on June 6, 2018 published in the Federal Register an Information Collection for the 2020 Census that included the citizenship question. Proponents of including the question claim it is necessary to gather an accurate statistical count, while opponents claim it might suppress responses and therefore lead to an inaccurate count.

As of August 2018, there were six federal lawsuits challenging the inclusion of the citizenship question. Opposing the citizenship question is a coalition of groups, including the Brennan Center for Justice; National Coalition on Black Civic Participation, et al; Asian Americans Advancing Justice; Muslim Advocates; and Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, whose president is Vanita Gupta, formerly the acting head of the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division.

In July, CWI signed onto this coalition's amicus brief for *New York v. U.S. Commerce Department of Commerce, et al*, (Case #18-CV-2921, So. District of NY), a case filed by the New York Attorney General's Office, and joined by 16 additional states' attorneys general, the District of Columbia, several cities, and the U.S. Conference of Mayors, to stop the Commerce Department from adding this harmful citizenship question. The lawsuit alleges that the inclusion of this citizenship question in the short census form violates the Constitution, which requires an actual count of every person. Furthermore, the suit asserts that the question violates the Administrative Procedure Act, in that it is arbitrary and capricious and reverses seven decades of precedent without a factual basis. All groups, particularly young children, women, immigrants, low-income communities, and communities of color should continue to enjoy the recognition, freedom, and economic and political power to which they are entitled under the Constitution.

In response, the U.S. Department of Justice filed a [motion to dismiss](#) the lawsuit. Amicus briefs have been filed in support of the Justice Department's motion to dismiss by the [American Center for Law and Justice](#), the [State of Oklahoma](#), the [Project on Fair Representation](#), and the Federation for American Immigration Reform (FAIR). (Note the misleading names of these groups.)

There are several additional cases challenging the Commerce Department proposal to include the citizenship question in the 2020 census. CWI also agreed to sign onto these three challenges in: 1) *California v. Ross* (N.D. Cal); 2) *City of San Jose v. Ross* (N. D. Cal); and 3) *La Union del Pueblo Etero v. Ross* (D. MD).

Article I, Section 2 of the U.S. Constitution mandates that the U.S. House of Representatives be reapportioned every 10 years once a national census of all residents is completed. In addition to the reapportionment of the U.S. Congress, Census data are used to draw state and other legislative district boundaries. Census data also are used to determine funding allocations for the distribution of an estimated \$675 billion of federal funds each year. The resulting census count is then apportioned among the states according to their respective numbers, counting the whole number of persons in each state. A fair and accurate 2020 census is a critical civil rights issue. The principle of who is counted is based on the concept of usual residence established by the Census Act of 1790 and is defined as the place a person lives and sleeps most of the time. The census requires a count of citizens, non-citizens legal residents, non-citizen long-term

visitors and illegal residents. Given its importance to American government and society, the census must be above partisan politics.

The current suits assert that the Trump administration proposal to add a citizenship question to the 2020 census is unconstitutional and will intimidate immigrants from completing the census survey, resulting in inaccurate data on minority communities, and will undermine the purpose of the Constitutionally-mandated census. In the *NY v. Commerce* case the U.S. District Judge Jesse Furman ruled that the plaintiffs “plausibly allege that [Commerce Secretary Wilbur Ross’] decision to reinstate the citizenship question was motivated at least in part by discriminatory animus and will result in a discriminatory effect.”

On August 17, 2018, the U.S. District Judge Richard Seeborg of the Northern District of California issued an order allowing the two Californian cases to continue with a trial expected to begin in late October. The Judge wrote that the plaintiffs “make a sufficient showing” that the new citizenship question “will undermine” the accuracy of the head count and “violate the Constitution’s actual enumeration command.”

The Commerce (and Justice Departments’) response to the lawsuits objecting to the citizenship question is to claim that the plaintiffs’ lack standing because the inclusion of the citizenship question will not suppress response rates or lead to an undercount and that the deleterious effects plaintiffs allege are all speculative and contingent.

The last census to have asked all respondents to indicate their citizenship was in 1950, prior to the enactment of the Voting Rights Act and the Supreme Court decisions confirming core constitutional protections for equal voting rights and political representation. From 1960 until 2010, most census respondents received a short-form census questionnaire that did not include any question about citizenship. A small portion of respondents - approximately one-in-six households - received a long-form questionnaire, which included a citizenship question with a battery of other personal questions, ranging from mode of entry into the house and the extent of its kitchen facilities. In 2005, the long-form was displaced by the American Community Survey, a monthly data-gathering Census Bureau exercise to collect continuous, consistent nationwide demographic data. The 2010 census was a “short form only” census, and the same is expected for the 2020 census.

The misguided decision to reverse 70 years of consistent census practice and insert an untested citizenship question damages our communities, undermines the integrity of the count, and violates the purpose of the census. Citizenship has not been included on the long form since 1950, but it was part of the short form starting in 1910 until its removal in 2010. The Census count serves as the basis for states to redraw their district lines every decade. Under the Constitution, those districts must be equally sized. In the 2016 case, [Evenwel v. Abbott](#), the Supreme Court rejected the claim by a group of Texas voters that only eligible voters would be counted toward equalizing districts. The justices unanimously rejected that assertion and ruled that states may draw districts based on the total number of people in those boundaries, not just cities eligible voters.

What can people do? Respond to opportunities to voice opposition and comment on any additional Federal Notices on the design and content of the 2020 Census which are expected. The final design will be made during the summer of 2019. It is also important to influence Congress to: 1) hold hearings that expose the harmful purpose of the citizenship question and discourage it; 2) enact legislation prohibiting the citizenship question in the census and; (3) prohibit the use of funds for this purpose through the appropriations process.

Amplifying Afghan Women’s Voices: The Key to Sustainable Peace in Afghanistan

By Megan Corrado and Manizha Naderi

CWI thanks Megan Corrado, our new VP for Global Issues for this article, which was published in [The Hill](#) on August 16, 2018. Megan is the Advocacy Manager, [Women for Afghan Women](#), as well as a member of the U.S. Civil Society Working Group on women, Peace, and Security, which advises the government on the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325.

For years, the United States (U.S.) has engaged in [backchannel talks](#) with the Taliban to little avail. However, [news](#) that Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of South and Central Asian Affairs, Alice Wells, met with the militant group in Doha last month represents the latest wave of diplomatic efforts to address America's longest running war. In this endeavor, the U.S. empowered one of its most experienced diplomats—at once forcing the Taliban to confer with a woman as a condition for dealing with the U.S. directly, while simultaneously demonstrating leadership in the implementation of [United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325](#), which calls for incorporating women into all facets of peacebuilding processes.

This complemented the recent [unofficial efforts](#) of Ambassador Robin Raphel and Lt. Col. Christopher Kolenda (ret.). These successive waves of women's leadership in dialogue with the Taliban—and the latter's acquiescence to participation—may signal a relaxation of their hardline positions towards women and obviates a tacit recognition that women's involvement creates [more durable, inclusive peace agreements](#).

Indeed, some herald this high-level, female-led engagement on the heels of the [Eid-al-Fitr ceasefire](#) as a [potential opening](#) towards ending the long-running conflict. Those three days—[the first peace in 17 years](#)—demonstrated that regardless of internal ideological schisms, the Taliban's [central leadership maintains the ability to enforce commands](#) throughout its ranks. Nevertheless, skepticism that momentum towards peace truly exists should abound. Most evidently, the Taliban [rejected the ceasefire's extension](#), killed [30 Afghan soldiers](#) immediately after its conclusion, and since orchestrated a spate of attacks.

Moreover, the Taliban consistently repudiate [reconciliation overtures](#) by Afghanistan's President Ghani and insist they will only participate in a peace process with the U.S. Despite reports Ambassador Wells undertook "[talks, not negotiations](#)," any exclusive engagement between the U.S. and Taliban undermines the [embattled](#) Ghani government's legitimacy, capitulates to the militants' demands, and belies American avowals that negotiations be "[Afghan-led and Afghan-owned](#)." In light of this concession, it is [worth reflecting](#) as to whether the Eid ceasefire was merely a means to garner American favor and get the conversation—devoid of the Afghan government—for which they have long angled.

It is unclear as to why the Taliban would pursue diplomacy now. After years of gains, they [maintain substantial territorial and population control](#) and have effectively created a military stalemate; yet, the Taliban remains capable of [conducting a sustained insurgency](#). With no tactical urgency, they likewise have failed to advance political priorities—they [rejected multiple invitations](#) to become a political party, called on Afghans to [boycott](#) the October elections, and continually [attack voter registration centers](#). Indeed, the Taliban stands to gain by disrupting the elections and may use talks with the U.S. as a ploy to sow popular distrust in the government.

The [peace marches](#) across Afghanistan and the [Eid ceasefire celebrations](#) illustrated the people's war-weariness. However, are the Afghan people ready to accept the outcome of a negotiated peace with the Taliban, as well as a government and security forces filled with former combatants? Many Afghan women, who were [disproportionately affected](#) by Taliban tactics, see talks between the Taliban and government as a non-starter and dialogue between the militants and U.S. as a betrayal—particularly because the [U.S. partially predicated its invasion](#) on the empowerment of women. Women and girls have made [phenomenal strides](#) in exercising their rights since 2001 and any efforts to subvert that progress cannot be tolerated. The U.S. has an obligation to the Afghan government it supports and the Afghan people—specifically, its women and girls—to promote stability and prevent the country from descending back into bloody Taliban rule.

While the only solution in Afghanistan may be political, the Afghan and U.S. governments must first ensure that the political will exists amongst the Afghan people to include the Taliban in peacebuilding efforts. This can be achieved through a national dialogue—one that is inclusive of women in both its facilitation and conversation.

While American women are leading current diplomatic efforts with the Taliban, Afghan women must be able to elucidate their concerns about the peace process and give voice to their [traumatic experiences](#) after bearing the brunt of the Taliban's brutality. Women's involvement [must occur at the most nascent stage](#) of peacebuilding to determine who should participate, reify gender inclusion in the process, [establish their role](#) in the state's future, safeguard their

rights, help shift entrenched cultural norms, and ensure their empowerment will be preserved and expanded before the peace for which they so desperately yearn can be attained.

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, as well as SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our Video sponsor and provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. **Times below are for EDT.**

Note the Woman's National Democratic Club is sponsoring Winning Wednesdays from Sept. 12 to Oct. 31

From 6-9 PM. Share information on hot races, voter registration and more. Cash bar and snacks. Whittemore House, 1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW, DC 20036. Free: For more information see www.democraticwoman.org

September

Thursday, September 13, 2018, 7-9 PM. Reception featuring Wendy Davis former Texas State Senator and others to discuss women, harassment and inclusion in the workplace with an emphasis on challenges by an increasingly conservative Court. Sponsored by the Alliance for Justice. Location: National Resources Defense Council, 1152 15th St., NW Suite 300. RSVP to Alisha Dingus at alisha@afj.org or 202-464-7383.

Saturday, September 15, 2018, 11AM-1PM. The Women's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote. The League of Women Voters of Baltimore City. Book talk and Light Lunch with Baltimore author Elaine Weiss on the fight to ratify the 19th Amendment. Church of the Redeemer, 5603 N. Charles St. 21210. \$20. Pay and register [here](#).

Monday, September 17, 2018, 2-3PM, Building Safe, Engaging & Equitable Schools. American Institutes for Research, National Press Club, 4th Estate Room, 529 14th St. NW, DC 20045. Register: [JOIN IN PERSON OR ONLINE](#).

Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 9-11 AM, Maternal Health Initiative, critical quality gaps in reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health (RMNCH) in low-and middle-income countries. Wilson Center, 6th Floor Auditorium, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20004. Please [RSVP](#).

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 11AM-1:30 PM. The Power of the Women's Vote, Maryland Women's Heritage Center. The Meeting House, Oakland Mills Interfaith Inc, 5885 Robert Oliver Place, Columbia MD. Light Brunch, Tickets \$30 or \$10 for Students. [Register](#).

Saturday, September 22, 2018, 10AM-3 PM. Emerge Maryland Training, Baltimore, \$35. [Register](#).

Tuesday, September 25, 2018. Noon CWI meeting. Strategies for Supporting Progressive Women Running for Office. See page 1 of this newsletter.

Thursday, September 27, 2018, 4-5:30 PM. A Gender Audit: What is It? How to do it? Why is it essential? The SID-Washington Gender & Inclusive Development Workgroup. 1129 20th St. NW, Suite 500 Washington, DC. [RSVP](#).

October

Tuesday, October 2, 2018, 7-9 PM. Secure the Vote: Safeguarding our Elections: A Panel Discussion. League of women Voters-Arlington. SPACES The Artisphere, 1101 Wilson Blvd, Arlington, VA 22209. [Register](#).

Wednesday, October 10, 2018. Women for Afghan Women to celebrate the October 11, International Day of the Girl. Details TBD.

Tuesday, October 23, 2018. Noon CWI meeting. Understanding Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections.

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

Photos by Sherry Klein. Meeting summary Elle Winfield, FMF Intern. Newsletter edited by Sue Klein

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NAME of Individual or Organization _____

For Organizations also Provide Name and emails of two PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVES

NAME/Title _____

NAME (Org. Representative 2) _____

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

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TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

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October 2018 CWI Newsletter (Rev. p1)

<https://womensclearinghouse.org>

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NW. (Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, north or south exit)**

RSVP for Program is now needed for security purposes. See <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Protecting Every Vote: Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections

The fall 2018 CWI meetings are focusing on increasing our knowledge of ways to help with the midterm elections and beyond! On Tuesday, October 23, CWI will host a panel discussion entitled, "Protecting Every Vote: Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections." This event will include high-level experts from the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, and the Campaign Legal Center. They will highlight how we can make sure our elections are safe and fair and that there is voter encouragement, not suppression! This meeting is organized and chaired by **Megan Corrado, Esq., CWI Vice President, Global Issues.**

Celina Stewart, Director of Advocacy and Litigation, and Jeanette Senecal, Senior Director of Mission Impact, League of Women Voters will discuss expanding civic engagement and empowerment opportunities for all voters. Ms. Stewart and Ms. Senecal will also provide immediate strategies to improve and monitor elections. Ms. Stewart develops and implements League political strategies and policy positions around election reform and voting rights issues; oversees prospective litigation for the national and state Leagues; works closely with League grassroots staff in implementing the national agenda; and serves as the lead lobbyist and liaison with Congress and the Administration for the League. Ms. Senecal helped develop and launch the award-winning VOTE411.org website in 2006, which reached over four million voters in 2016. She leads the League's efforts on issues such as reforming and modernizing election laws and expanding voting rights and access.

Allegra Chapman, Director of Voting and Elections, Common Cause, will discuss election integrity, voting protection mechanisms and strategies, and the ways in which every vote can be accurately counted. Ms. Chapman leads national and state efforts to reduce barriers to voting and ensure that elections run efficiently and fairly throughout the country. Ms. Chapman previously served as staff counsel for Demos from 2008-2011, where she engaged in litigation and negotiations in several states to enforce Section 7 of the National Voter Registration Act, which requires public assistance agencies to provide voter registration services to their clients. She also helped defend the constitutionality of New York's statute eliminating prison-based gerrymandering and worked on other elector reforms, including Election Day voter registration. From 2011 until joining Common Cause, Ms. Chapman was an Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Bureau for the State of New York, where she brought actions for violations of federal, state, and local civil rights laws on employment discrimination, racial profiling in public accommodations, religious rights infringements, and police matters, amongst others.

Erin Chlopak, Senior Legal Counsel, Campaign Legal Center, (CLC) will discuss campaign finance laws and the ways in which they affect elections and disenfranchise certain voters. Ms. Chlopak joined CLC in August 2018, after spending nearly a decade working on a wide range of campaign finance issues in the Federal Election Commission's Office of General Counsel. Her areas of focus include CLC's appellate and district court litigation and its Federal Reform and State and Local Reform programs.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch and information to share.

RSVP for Program to attend the meeting is now required for security purposes. Go to <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Next CWI Meeting, Noon Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2018. Outcomes of the November Elections: New Leaders for a New Era

Dear CWI Members,

CWI is active in supporting women's equality by signing on to letters, amicus briefs, and other advocacy initiatives. This month, we met with staff in the Office of Management and Budget to try to stop (or at least improve) the plans of the Office for Civil Rights in the U.S. Department of Education to weaken Title IX's institutional protections related to sexual harassment and assault. Please become a CWI member and join us in our monthly noon meetings to share your expertise and commitment and to advance gender equality in the U.S. and globally. Member organizations and individuals receive our CWI newsletter and information on feminist meetings, webinars, and more!

Co-President, Harriett Stonehill, shared recommendations from "The New Rules Summit," hosted and described by *The New York Times* (9-30-18), which assembled a group of 250 successful women leaders to examine challenges that women face and then devise practical recommendations for change led by business, policy makers, and individuals. Melinda Gates, of the Gates Foundation, urged participants to strive to: "achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls." In doing so, she urged women to insist on equal educational opportunities for girls, support universal access to contraceptives, get more women in leadership positions as lawmakers, chief executives, and decision makers of all kinds, and amplify the voices of young activists.

The session on "Eliminating Unconscious Bias," was chaired by Iris Bohnet. Speakers urged Businesses to emphasize transparency in processes, incentives, and outcomes. Policymakers should expand the definition of family care, so that resources are proportionally allocated based on incomes. Individuals in the workplace should immediately identify bias and support others who call out coworkers for biased behaviors. They should vote in elections, run for office, and lobby in favor of policies that could have a wider impact. (See following summary of September 25, 2018 CWI meeting.)

The session on "Sexual Harassment," chaired by Marianne Cooper, recommended that: Business leaders must take a stand and establish a culture in which talking about sexual harassment is encouraged and not punished, and establish a system for people to call out troubling behavior. Policymakers should establish sexual harassment education in kindergarten through high school based on research. Lastly, individuals who see something, should say something. Whatever your level of power, speak up and call bad behavior out.

The session on "Closing the Pay Gap," chaired by Hannah Riley Bowles, urged Business leaders to push companies to be transparent and accountable concerning their pay and hiring practices. Policymakers should require companies with more than 250 employees to publicly disclose wage gaps based on gender. Individuals should take advantage of on-line data bases to determine the general salary range for their positions.

"Boardroom Diversity" was chaired by Debra L. Lee. Business leaders must prioritize the promotion of diversity among leadership on boards and in their respective companies. Women and minorities should make up half of the board members. This can be helped by implementing term limits. Policymakers in state governments should require public companies to have women on all types of boards. Individual workers can urge institutional investors and companies to hold boards accountable on diversity.

"Parenthood Penalty" was chaired by Lori Nishiura Mackenzie. Business Leaders must recognize that a variety of managerial, technological, and cultural norms must change. Organizations must offer paid leave to all employees seeking family or medical time off. Flexible schedules should be encouraged. Working parents and their needs should be supported regardless of gender. Policymakers need to facilitate reliable universal child care to support working parents and ensure there are well enforced policies prohibiting parental discrimination. Under Individuals, working parents should be considered the norm and their skills and values should be appreciated.

Other topics included: Intersectionality: Race and Gender, Securing the Pipeline, and Men as Change Agents. Many of the Summit recommendations have been discussed in past CWI meetings and CWI members have been supporting them. A key way to continue this effort is to get out the vote and electing officials that will seek to implement these recommendations!

Harriett Stonehill Co-President, CWI and Sue Klein Co-President, CWI

CWI Meeting Summary, September 25, 2018

Strategies for Supporting Progressive Women Running for Office



Connie Cordovilla, CWI's Vice President for Strategic Policies who is also President of Virginia NOW, organized and moderated this meeting. Getting progressive women elected to office is critical for enacting and enforcing policies that benefit and support women and families. There are many ways this can be done through money, volunteering, and training candidates. One of the ways to support a candidate is through lobbying efforts. Non-Profit 501(c)(3) organizations can spend up to 20% of their money on lobbying efforts and a 501(c)(4) can dedicate all of their money to lobbying. Another way to support women is through programs such as Emerge America. They help progressive women run for office by training them in critical skills that are needed to launch and win a campaign. These points were discussed by our speakers from the Feminist Majority Foundation and Emerge America. They both presented practical ways to help women and described how an organization can leverage their power to do so.

Loretto Gubernatis, CWI Vice President Media Relations is a film maker, author and producer. She has won 15 Telly Awards for her television productions including the documentaries and she is the president and owner of McDonagh-Davis Associates and the HBCTV YouTube network Channel. Her film and TV genre stretches from children's programs to art museums, women's history, the celebration of black history, the Baltimore Teen Scene, the Senior Scene and sports shows. Gubernatis described how she provides opportunities for candidates and elected officials through her TV shows, "Her Voice" and "A Place at the Table." (See her YouTube [Channel Hanburycross](#). Just type in the name of the show i.e. *Her Voice* and it will take you to the shows.) Gubernatis shared clips from her many videos focusing on women and suggested how women candidates can utilize social media, particularly video, to enhance their public image and get their messages across. She also described how she provides opportunities for candidates and elected officials through her TV shows, "[Her Voice](#)" and "A Place at the Table." She volunteered to help candidates and their supporters create low cost campaign videos or post-campaign interviews which they can share on YouTube and other social media. The 9-17-18 *Washington Post* article, "Roll video, and roll to victory?" by Karen Heller, discussed how some women candidates are investing in family centered professional videos. The professional Gubernatis videos may be an effective lower cost option. Resulting videos can be used by the candidates and their supporters. Email: mcdonagh_davis@msn.com



Alice Cohan, Political Director, Feminist Majority has been a feminist activist for over 45 years. Before joining the Feminist Majority, she worked for NOW for about 20 years, serving as ERA Field Organizer, Field Director, and Political Director. She has worked in many political campaigns for feminist women candidates, especially projects, such as "Elect Women for a Change". Cohan has directed major rallies and marches for the ERA and reproductive justice and worked on LGBTQ, Civil Rights, and Labor marches. The largest March she directed was the 2004 March for Women's Lives, which brought over 1 million supporters. She has done multiple political trainings, assessments of candidates, recommended endorsements, and offered political advice to many. She now chairs an informal network of Political Action Committees that focus on Feminist Candidates for Congress.

Cohan reminded us of the importance of electing candidates who support feminist policies because the perspectives of our elected officials impact all the issues that we care about from health care and reproductive rights to equal pay and environmental protection, and much more. She then discussed strategies for progressive groups to support candidates. She urged activist non-profit organizations that have 501(c)(3) tax deductible status to apply for 501(c)(4) tax status, so they can

endorse candidates and form political action committees (PACs) to support or oppose candidates. The Feminist Majority Foundation www.feminist.org has a 501(c)(3) tax status, as does CWI. However, Cohan described how organizations and individuals can still be politically active without a PAC. For example, Feminist Majority Foundation (c)(3) organizes students on campuses to Get Out the Vote. See www.feministmajority.org and www.feminist.org. Cohan pointed out that (c)(3) organizations can still help by holding information sessions on issues and support legislation and rule-making, -using no more than 20% of their budget for lobbying, and supporting voter registration and other “get out the vote” efforts. However, 501(c)(4) organizations, such as The Feminist Majority and NOW, will also allow an organization to endorse candidates and form a (PAC,) which is a legal entity allowed to take direct action to endorse and contribute financial assistance and volunteer “in kind” support to specific candidates. PACs often provide information on candidates they endorse. For example, see <https://feministmajoritypac.org/candidates>. In response to a question about whether it is better for an individual to contribute to a candidate directly instead of to a PAC, Cohan pointed out that a candidate is especially likely to remember a larger combined donation from a PAC contribution.

More details on what feminist organizations can do to participate in supporting either partisan or non-partisan elections were discussed in our September 27, 2016 CWI meeting on “Complying with Non-Partisan Election Laws While Supporting Feminist Goals” by Eleanor Smeal, President of the Feminist Majority and Abby Levine, Director of the Bolder Advocacy Project of the Alliance for Justice. The [videos](#) by Gubernatis of this meeting are available on our CWI website. The meeting summary is in our [October 2016 CWI Newsletter](#). Cohan recommended using the Bolder Advocacy Guide and getting their training. See their website www.BolderAdvocacy.org. Cohan also discussed the importance of the youth, women’s, minority, and elder vote and reminded everyone to know the location of their polling places. College students may take advantage of voting on or near their campus, but students in DC may also consider registering in their home state and using an absentee ballot if a home state vote might make more of an impact than a DC vote. You are never too young or too old to become politically active! We need you! Visit <http://www.feministmajority.org/>

Laila Mohib serves as Emerge America’s Expansion Director, overseeing the expansion of the organization’s training program for Democratic women into new states. During the past 15 years, Mohib has worked with elected officials, candidates, and organizations to develop skills in training, messaging, polling and outreach. She was the Director of Women’s Engagement and the Democratic Women’s Alliance at the Democratic National Committee (DNC) during the 2016 election cycles. During the 2014 season she held the role as the Director of Asian American and Pacific Islander Outreach also at the DNC. She has worked with the Communication Workers of America’s campaigns and spent two election cycles with EMILY’s List in the Political Department. She also worked in Congress, in Candidate Recruitment at Progressive Majority, and with the DNC’s Office of Independent Expenditures.



<https://emergeamerica.org/>

Mohib pointed out that Emerge America is a 527 organization so they are partisan in only helping recruit and train Democratic women candidates to run for public office. They also trained transgender candidate, Danica Roem, who was elected to the Virginia House of Delegates in November 2017. Emerge America continues to provide assistance and networking after training and tailors their six month programs to individual needs and challenges of the candidates. The Emerge America website, <https://emergeamerica.org>, provides information on their services, shows that they are working in 25 states, and asserts that “since 2002, Emerge America affiliates have recruited, trained and inspired over 4,000 women to run for elected office.” Mohib noted that they have a good track record in increasing the number of Democratic women leaders from diverse backgrounds: “37% of their graduates are women of color; 52% of the graduates have run for elected office and/or been appointed to a board or commission; and in 2017, 152 alumnae won their races — a 73% success rate.” Mohib also provided some insights on how Emerge America trains potential candidates on presenting themselves to voters, raising money for their campaigns, and other strategies to win and maintain their offices. Emerge America has active groups in Maryland and Virginia.

Congratulations to **Caitlyn Hughes** who has been selected as Executive Director of Solar Cookers International where she worked for the past four years. Caitlyn was a wonderful presenter at our June 19, 2018 CWI meeting on **Sustainable Energy: Key for Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment**. See meeting summary in September CWI newsletter.

Coming DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

In 2018 we will send selected events to CWI members on our e-mailing list. Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in 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, as well as SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our video sponsor & provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>.

Note the Woman's National Democratic Club is sponsoring Winning Wednesdays to October 31, 2018 from 6-9 PM. Share information on hot races, voter registration and more. Cash bar and snacks. Whittemore House, 1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW, DC 20036. Free: for more information see www.democraticwoman.org

October

Monday, October 15, 2018, 1-2:30 PM, A Conversation About Women in Leadership Ahead of the 2018 Midterms, Women in Public Service Project, Wilson Center, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave, NW, DC. [RSVP](#)

Wednesday, October 17, 2018 6:00-7:00 PM Webinar If you Care About Stopping School Pushout, You Should Care About Reproductive Justice, National Women's Law Center. [Register Here](#).

Thursday, October 18, 2018 9:30-11 AM, 3 Steps Congress Can Take NOW to End Domestic and Sexual Violence. U.S. Capitol Visitor Center/ Room CVC 268, part of [YWCA Week without Violence](#).

Thursday, October 18, 2018, 4-5:30 PM, A Gender Audit: What is It? How to do it? Why is it essential? The SID-Washington Gender & Inclusive Development Workgroup. 1129 20th St. NW, Suite 500 Washington, DC. [RSVP](#)

Tuesday, October 23, 2018. 12-1:30 PM, Protecting Every Vote: Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections. Clearinghouse on Women's Issues located at Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Tuesday, October 30, 2018. Women for Afghan Women celebrates International Day of the Girl. Details TBD.

November

Tuesday, November 27, 2018. 12-1:30 PM, Outcomes of the November Elections: New Leaders for a New Era Clearinghouse on Women's Issues located at Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Avenue NW.

The CWI Board of Directors selected these potential Tuesday, Noon CWI meeting topics for 2019:

January 22, 2019. Using Media Safely, Expeditiously, and Effectively to Empower our Feminist Organizations. Organizers: Loretto Gubernatis and Sherry Klein.

February 26, 2019. Ensuring that the 2020 Census Does Not Discriminate against Immigrants and Others. Organizers: Jeanette Lim Esbrook and Megan Corrado.

March 26, 2019. Potential Collaboration between the National Women's History Museum and the Smithsonian's American Women's History Initiative. Organizers: Sue Klein and Holly Joseph

April 23, 2019. Financial Literacy Organizers: Connie Cordovilla and Anne Martin

May 21, 2019. A Feminist Approach to U.S. Foreign Policy. Organizer: Megan Corrado

June 18, 2019. Collaboration Among Women's Organizations. Organizers: TBD.

Important Vacancy Notice

The CWI Board is looking for a member to join the Board and serve as **CWI Secretary**. Join a dynamic team that plans and coordinates CWI programs and coordinates with other feminist and social justice organizations. Don't delay, contact any of our Board members listed below.

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

Meeting summary Connie Cordovilla and Sarah Timmerman, FMF Intern. 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; 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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700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

Membership Form

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
joseph.holly@gmail.com
2. Or 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 of Individual or Organization _____
For Organizations also Provide Name and emails of two PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVES
NAME/Title _____
NAME (Org. Representative 2) _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ CELL _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 1) _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 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 before July 1 your membership year will start early but still end 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)

_____ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*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) Circle One: ____YES ____NO

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



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

November 2018 CWI Newsletter

<https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Invitation to Tuesday, November 27, 2018 CWI Meeting

**Noon-1:30 PM at the Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle NW, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Ave.,
(Nearest Metro Stop: Dupont Circle, either exit)**

RSVP for the meeting is now needed. See <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Post-election Results and the Impact on Women's Issues

Although the 2018 mid-term elections are still not completely decided, many of the results bode well for women's rights and progressive change. One thing is certain - it was an election in which women were heard. As candidates for Congress, Statehouses, state and local governments, there were record numbers of women. Women voters also made their presence known. Was it the effect of Kavanaugh, #MeToo, gun violence, health care? Probably all of that and more. Even as the recounts continue, CWI will turn to the impact of these elections at our Nov. 27 noon meeting. We have arranged for speakers from key women's rights groups to discuss the impact of the election on women and families. They include YWCA's VP Catherine Beane who is responsible for their recent report, "What Women Want 2018." We are also happy to have the National Organization for Women (NOW) President Toni Van Pelt and NOW's longtime program director, Jan Erickson, and National Women's Law Center (NWLC) Vice President Anna Chu.

Catherine Beane is Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy at [YWCA USA](http://YWCAUSA.org), where she leads efforts to impact legislation and policy related to racial justice and civil rights, women's empowerment, economic advancement, and women's health and safety. Most recently, she addressed gender equity, school discipline, and student achievement issues for the National Education Association, and served as the policy director for the Children's Defense Fund. She began her career as a trial attorney representing indigent youth and adults in juvenile and criminal proceedings. She earned her B.A. from Emory University, and her J.D. from Catholic University of America.

Toni Van Pelt took office as NOW President in August 2017 and also serves as the President of the NOW Foundation and Chair of the NOW Political Action Committee. She has been a NOW leader since 1989 starting in the Upper Pinellas NOW Chapter and later as President of Florida NOW and regional director of the National NOW Board. She co-founded and later served as President and Public Policy Director of the Institute for Science and Human Values. As director of the DC public policy office of the secular humanist movement Toni lobbied for policies driven by the empirical scientific evidence as opposed to faith. Earlier in her career she worked for Northwest Orient Airlines and owned a travel agency. She is committed to building an inclusive, intersectional, and intergenerational feminist movement.

Jan Erickson is Director of Government Relations for NOW and also serves as Director of Programs for NOW Foundation. She is the primary staff member responsible for the organization's work on reproductive rights, educational equity, economic equity, retirement security, violence against women and women's health issues, among others. Jan has also been a professional staff member in the U.S. Senate, in a governor's office and with a state legislature. While working in the Alaska State Legislature she was instrumental in securing state ratification in 1972 of the federal Equal Rights Amendment and adoption of a state Equal Rights Amendment. In addition, she organized a statewide coalition in 1970-71 to successfully repeal the state's restrictive abortion laws. Erickson has also staffed, managed, and consulted in more than 30 local and state election campaigns. She taught journalism at the high school level and worked for three newspapers, and wrote a column on women's rights. She graduated from the University of Alaska-Anchorage, served as Alaska State President for NOW in the mid-1980s and co-chaired the State NOW PAC.

Anna Chu is Vice President for Strategy and Policy, National Women's Law Center. She previously served as the Vice President of Policy and Research at the Center for American Progress (CAP) Action Fund, leading its economic justice advocacy work, and directed CAP's Middle Out Economic Program. She also served as the Policy Director for the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee, and as Policy Advisor for the House Democratic Caucus. After attending the University of Southern California Law School, Chu began her career as a law clerk to former Chief Judge Jane A. Restani in six different federal appellate courts. Following this, Chu spent time as an attorney at Paul Hastings, Janofsky & Walker LLP.

CWI meetings are free and open to the public. Bring your lunch and information to share.

RSVP for Program to attend the meeting is now required for security purposes. Go to <https://womensclearinghouse.org>

Next CWI Meeting, Noon Tuesday, January 22, 2019.

Dear CWI Members,

Thanks to Eleanor Smeal for this 11-8-18 press release about mid-term election results including the 501 (c)4 Feminist Majority endorsement of many feminist candidates at the Federal and State levels. We are proud that the Feminist Majority's sister organization the 501 (c)3 Feminist Majority Foundation which is also headed by Ellie Smeal, is an organizational member of the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues. While this press release mentions endorsing women and men Democratic candidates, since the Clearinghouse on Women's Issues (CWI) is non-partisan organization, CWI would also be happy to publicize information on other victorious candidates who are supportive of issues to help women achieve equality. Cordially, Harriett Stonehill and Sue Klein, Co-Presidents of CWI.



FEMINIST MAJORITY

30 Years of Working for Women's Equality from the Streets to the Legislature

This year, the Feminist Majority endorsed its largest field of U.S. House candidates since its founding in 1987—92 new House candidates (67 women and 25 men) and 91 incumbent House candidates. In the House races, all of our endorsed incumbents won and as many as 34 of our endorsed new women candidates and 16 of our endorsed new men candidates won, contributing to the 116th Congress's Democratic majority in the House of Representatives. All of the candidates we endorsed support access to abortion and birth control as well as equality for women, LGBTQ rights, civil rights, healthcare access, education equity, and economic justice.

The newly elected Democratic women make up over 60% of the Democratic gains. They are a very diverse group including the 2016 Teacher of the Year, a former military helicopter pilot, a former CIA officer, veterans, small business owners, non-profit organization leaders, social workers, lawyers, health care workers, public servants, and state legislators. They include African Americans and Latinas, the first two Native American women, the first two Muslim women, and the youngest women ever to be elected to Congress.

On the Senate side, nine Feminist Majority endorsed women incumbents were re-elected while two were defeated. We were also proud to endorse new candidates Jacky Rosen, who won in Nevada, and Kyrsten Sinema, who was in the too-close-to-call Arizona race that will not be decided for several more days.

The Feminist Majority's Students Vote, Students Win independent expenditure campaign was determined to increase the feminist vote among young people, hiring some 200 campus organizers to rally students to the polls. Those organizers recruited over 2000 volunteers working on campuses in Arizona, Nevada, Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Dakota to get out the youth feminist vote.

Young voters nationwide turned out in record numbers, favoring Democrats by an overwhelming 2 to 1 margin, according to exit polls. Turnout rates for 18-29 year olds hit 31% in 2018 up from 21% in 2014, according to data from CIRCLE.

In Nevada, turnout among 18-29 year olds in 2018 was estimated at twice the turnout in 2014, according to the Institute of Politics at Harvard Kennedy School of Government. Turnout was even higher at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas and the University of Nevada, Reno where Feminist Majority organizers worked to mobilize student voters. UNLV turnout was 120% the rate from 2014 and at UNR, turnout was

more than 300% what it was in 2014, according to NextGen.

Lines of college students waiting to vote were so long at Arizona State University that the Feminist Majority protested and worked with election lawyers to double the number of voting stations in the late afternoon. Even with the additional stations, the final students at ASU could not vote until more than 2 and ½ hours after the polls closed.

At the statewide level the Feminist Majority endorsed women candidates for governor who won in Maine, Kansas, Michigan, Rhode Island, Oregon, and New Mexico, with a possibility of a recount and victory in Georgia. The women Democratic gubernatorial wins represent a historic breakthrough.

In 1987 when the Feminist Majority began, women comprised 5% of Congress. In 1992, after five years of our Feminization of Power campaign and the Year of Women, women comprised 10% of Congress. With the midterm elections of 2018, women will comprise 23% of the Members of Congress with over 100 women in the House and 23 women in the Senate. There is still a long way to go to equality but with determination we will get there at a faster and faster rate with more diversity and more feminist women and men.

For Women's Lives,



Eleanor Smeal
President

CWI Meeting Summary, October 23, 2018

Protecting Every Vote: Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections

On October 23, 2018, CWI hosted a panel discussion entitled, “Protecting Every Vote: Procedures for Safe and Fair Elections.” This event included high-level experts from the League of Women Voters, Common Cause, and the Campaign Legal Center, who highlighted how we can make sure our elections are safe and fair, and encourage voter participation, while eliminating suppression efforts. This meeting was organized and chaired by **Megan Corrado, Esq., CWI Vice President, Global Issues**. You may view the event on CWI’s YouTube page by clicking [here](#).



Presenters left to right: Megan Corrado, Erin Chlopak, Allegra Chapman, Jeanette Senecal



Jeanette Senecal, Senior Director of Mission Impact, League of Women Voters, joined the [League](#) in 1999 as part of the e-Democracy team. With a background in tackling community improvement challenges in multi-cultural environments, she helped develop DemocracyNet, a first-of-its-kind voter information website that helped alter how voters interacted with candidates, campaigns, and democracy. Ms. Senecal's work with the over 500 DemocracyNet employees and volunteers nationwide provided the lessons and a roadmap to launch the League's award-winning [VOTE411.org](#) website in 2006. Ms. Senecal also leads the League's efforts on issues such as reforming and modernizing election laws and expanding civic engagement and empowerment opportunities for all voters. Much of Ms. Senecal's expertise focuses on helping Leagues and volunteers innovate and engage with voters both off- and on-line and providing ongoing strategic guidance to Leagues and partners alike. As senior director for elections, she also heads up initiatives such as the Public Advocacy for Voter Protection project and voter registration programs in high schools, community colleges, and naturalization ceremonies that protect and reach out to the nation's underrepresented voters. Ms. Senecal attended St. Lawrence University, where she received a BA in Government and Environmental Studies and an MA in International Affairs from George Washington University.

Ms. Senecal discussed expanding civic engagement and empowerment opportunities for all voters, and provided immediate strategies to improve and monitor elections and the importance of creating a voting plan. She provided statistics about voter eligibility, discriminatory voter laws, and practical challenges voters face in seeking to exercise their rights. Ms. Senecal stressed that get-out-the-vote efforts are more important than ever in light of voter suppression initiatives, such as gerrymandering schemes, stringent voter identification (ID) laws, and voter ID matching requirements. Despite these issues, the current mid-term election cycle offers significant hope in the unprecedented diversity in candidates at all levels, a historical number of competitive races in previously safe districts, the exceedingly high rate of grassroots, small-batch fundraising, and the increase in voter engagement, such as through the traffic on the League's website inquiring as to how to register and participate in the upcoming election. Ms. Senecal affirmed the need to convey positive messages about the election to help deter hopelessness about individual voter impact, as well as concerns about election integrity and security, which tend to depress low propensity voters and quash voter enthusiasm. She reminded the group that when one person does not vote, s/he provides the opposing candidate double the power and votes—the one s/he receives from her/his own supporters, and the one surrendered.



Allegra Chapman, Director of Voting and Elections, Common Cause, joined the [organization](#) in July 2014. She leads national and state efforts to reduce barriers to voting and to ensure that elections are run efficiently and fairly throughout the country. An attorney, Ms. Chapman was staff counsel for Demos from 2008-2011. There, she engaged in litigation and negotiations in several states to enforce Section 7 of the National Voter Registration Act, which requires public assistance agencies to provide voter registration services to their clients. She also helped defend the constitutionality of New York's statute eliminating prison-based gerrymandering and worked on other elector reforms, including Election Day voter registration. From 2011 until joining Common Cause, Ms. Chapman was an Assistant Attorney General in the Civil Rights Bureau for the State of New York, where she brought actions for violations of federal, state, and local civil rights laws on employment discrimination, racial profiling in public accommodations, religious rights infringements, and police matters, amongst others. Her previous positions include attorney for MFY Legal Services in New York, where she litigated in housing court and under the Americans with Disabilities Act; attorney for Lansner and Kubitschek, where she practiced family constitutional law; and law clerk for D.C. Superior Court Judge Michael Rankin. Ms. Chapman earned her BA in Philosophy from McGill University and her JD from Emory University Law School. She is a member of the New York Bar.

Ms. Chapman discussed election integrity, voting protection mechanisms and strategies, and the ways in which every vote can be accurately counted. She highlighted the ways in which our laws and political culture create obstacles to

voting, resting the burden on election participation on the individual citizen, despite the need for widespread participation for the health of democracy. Ms. Chapman noted that registration is the biggest barrier to voting, resulting in a massive disparity in registration rates amongst people of color and low-income voters versus high-income voters to the detriment of historically marginalized groups. These groups are further inhibited from exercising their right to vote by health and mobility challenges, polling station distance from their home or place of employment, and inability to leave work during the hours in which the polls are open. One way to encourage voter participation, often employed in other long-established democracies around the world, includes automatic registration, wherein interaction with any government agency, such as the Department of Motor Vehicles or Internal Revenue Service, results in individuals' automatic registration to vote, providing s/he meets the basic standards of age and citizenship. Additional efforts to overcome voter suppression and apathy include widespread voter education campaigns to ensure people know their rights and the importance of their individual vote. Ms. Chapman concluded her presentation with a discussion of the current situation in Georgia, wherein voters that have not cast a ballot in three years have been purged from the voter rolls, and the ways in which court decisions have given states the power to institute discriminatory policies, such as the voter ID match requirement.



Erin Chlopak, Senior Legal Counsel, Campaign Legal Center (CLC), Erin Chlopak joined CLC in August 2018, after spending nearly a decade working on a wide range of campaign finance issues in the Federal Election Commission's (FEC) Office of General Counsel. Her areas of focus include CLC's appellate and district court litigation and its Federal Reform and State and Local Reform programs. From 2017 to 2018, Ms. Chlopak served as the head of the FEC's Policy Division, overseeing all of the Division's work on FEC regulations, advisory opinions, and other legal policy guidance. From 2009 to 2017, Ms. Chlopak worked in the FEC's Litigation Division as a staff attorney and then as Assistant General Counsel, litigating numerous constitutional and other campaign finance cases. She has argued before federal district and appellate courts, including before the en banc U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit in *Holmes v. FEC*, in which the court unanimously upheld the federal pre-election limits on individual contributions to candidates. Ms. Chlopak began her legal career as a litigation associate at Sullivan & Cromwell, after clerking for Judge Helen Gillmor of the U.S. District Court for the District of Hawaii. She received her BA from Johns Hopkins University and her JD from American University's Washington College of Law.

Ms. Chlopak discussed campaign finance laws and the ways in which they affect elections and disenfranchise certain voters. She highlighted the key Supreme and Appellate Court cases that have given rise to the current interpretation of the campaign finance legal regime, illuminating the role of money in politics. A series of recent judicial decisions have chipped away at laws restricting donation amounts and requiring donor disclosures, creating a climate wherein a small and unrepresentative group of wealthy individuals and corporations now have an overwhelming amount of influence over politics to the detriment of lower-income, more diverse populations. This influence undermines the concept of self-government and the meaning of the First Amendment in and of itself. The [Campaign Legal Center](https://www.campaignlegalcenter.org/) is working to create robust public financing systems, which allow for more grassroots participation in campaigns, fight for anti-gerrymandering measures, regulate campaign advertisements to foster transparency, enhance donor disclosure, and hold the FEC to account.

Coming DC Area and National Feminist Events and Resources

We will send selected events to CWI members on our e-mailing list. Please send your upcoming feminist events to post in 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, as well as SUBSCRIBE and LIKE our video sponsor & provider <https://www.youtube.com/user/Hanburycross>. Times are EST.

November

Tuesday, November 27, 2018. 12-1:30 PM, Outcomes of the November Elections: New Leaders for a New Era
Clearinghouse on Women's Issues located at Alliance for Justice, 11 Dupont Circle, 5th Floor; entrance on New Hampshire Avenue NW.

Tuesday, November 27, 2018. 6:30-8:00 PM. A Night of Suffrage Theater, National Woman's Party, Belmont-Paul Women's Equality National Monument, 144 Constitution Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002. [For More Information](#)

December

Monday, December 3, 2018, 9AM to 12:30 PM. Open Debate: Femicide in the Americas, Organization of American States, 200 17th St. NW, Washington, DC 20006. [Attend Event](#)

Monday, December 3, 2018. 6:30-8:30 PM. ERA: One State Away from Constitutionality. Ellie Smeal, Eileen Davis, Andrea Miller & Wendy Murphy. Woman's National Democratic Club 1526 New Hampshire Ave. NW, DC 20036 [Registration](#) Fee \$15 Young Dems or \$25 non-member.

Wednesday, December 5, 9-11AM. Release of Report *Do the Harder Work--Create Cultures of Connectedness in Schools: A Youth and Parent Organizer Response to the Federal Commission on School Safety.* Communities for Just Schools Fund, National Press Club, 529 14th St. NW, Fourth Estate Room, Washington, DC 20045. [RSVP](#)

Thursday, December 6. 7-8:30 PM. Women and the Vote: Opposition to Women's Equality, from Suffrage to ERA. National Archives, William G. McGowan Theater, 700 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC 20408. [For more information.](#)

Tuesday, December 10, 2018, Memorial for Arvonne Fraser. Evening. Woman's National Democratic Club. Whittemore House, 1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW, DC 20036. For more information see www.democraticwoman.org

The CWI Board of Directors selected these potential Tuesday, Noon CWI meeting topics for 2019:

January 22, 2019. Tentative Topic: **Using Media Safely, Expeditiously, and Effectively to Empower our Feminist Organizations.** Organizers: Loretto Gubernatis and Sherry Klein.

February 26, 2019. Ensuring that the **2020 Census Does Not Discriminate against Immigrants and Others.** Organizers: Jeanette Lim Esbrook and Megan Corrado.

March 26, 2019. Potential Collaboration between the National Women's History Museum and the Smithsonian's American Women's History Initiative. Organizers: Sue Klein and Holly Joseph

April 23, 2019. Financial Literacy Organizers: Connie Cordovilla and Anne Martin

May 21, 2019. A Feminist Approach to U.S. Foreign Policy. Organizer: Megan Corrado

June 18, 2019. Collaboration Among Women's Organizations. Organizers: TBD.

Important Vacancy Notice

The CWI Board is looking for a member to join the Board and serve as **CWI Secretary**. Join a dynamic team that plans and coordinates CWI programs and coordinates with other feminist and social justice organizations. Don't delay, contact any of our Board members listed below.

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

Meeting summary Connie Cordovilla and Sarah Timmerman, FMF Intern. 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; 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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700 Seventh St. SW, Suite 3, Washington, DC 20024 Tel. 202/438-5655



Clearinghouse on Women's Issues

Membership Form

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
joseph.holly@gmail.com
2. Or 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 of Individual or Organization _____
For Organizations also Provide Name and emails of two PRIMARY REPRESENTATIVES
NAME/Title _____
NAME (Org. Representative 2) _____
ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
PHONE _____ CELL _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 1) _____
EMAIL (Org. representative 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 before July 1 your membership year will start early but still end 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)

____ Additional tax-deductible contribution of \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

*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) Circle One: ____ YES ____ NO

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