

January 2020

Montgomery County PA NOW (National Organization for Women) has elected new officers as of January 1, 2020.

Betsy Parziale, President

Brian Jones, Vice President

Kathy Maniscalco, Secretary

Kathleen Defrees-Shank, Treasurer

The Program Chair is Beth McAlister. We thank Beth for volunteering for this important effort.

FACEBOOK: Beth is also our Facebook (FB coordinator). Please "LIKE US" on FB: MONTCO PA NOW

The Website Coordinator is Brian Jones. Brian is in the process of updating the website so you may be able to renew your membership on-line. Please let us know if you need more information than is currently offered.

We are looking forward to electing new NOW State Representatives who will represent Montco PA NOW at its regular meetings and conferences. Until then, two officers will represent us at the PA NOW meetings. Please let us know if you are interested. David Grunfeld is the elections and by-laws chair. Kathy Shank is ERA Task Force Coordinator.

We welcome all NOW members and visitors to our Program Meetings. We promise they will be exciting and informative.

NEW PROGRAM MEETING PLACE: Montgomery County Community College, 340 Dekalb Pike, Blue Bell, PA 19422. (Best entrance is on Morris Road) The new Program meetings will be held in College Hall Library which is near the large clock tower. The Library can best be reached by the front entrance.

PROGRAM DATES – MONDAYS

January 27, 2020 Topic: Legislation progress review: *Equal Rights Amendment* and *Violence Against Women Act*. JANUARY is *Human Trafficking Awareness Month*.

February 24th Topic: TBD

March 23rd Topic: Protection from Abuse Panel with David Grunfeld, Lawyer and others representing supportive services in Montgomery County.

April 20th Topic: TBD

May 18th Topic: TBD

MONTGOMERY CO PA NOW BY-LAWS were revised and passed in the Fall of 2019.

If you are interested in receiving a copy of the by-laws, please contact us at the above address.

If you need to **renew you membership**, please send the attached copy of membership renewal information to the membership address listed below.

We would like you to like us on **Facebook** if you can. Please go to **“Montco PA NOW”** on FB to find our site and “LIKE” us. We will then acknowledge your request.

Please also check out our website at www.MONTCOPANOW.ORG.

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT to the CONSTITUTION

Section 1. Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by any state or on account of sex

Section 2. The Congress shall have the power to enforce by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

Section 3. This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

“There is nothing complicated about ordinary equality”. Alice Paul (1920)

“Laws which disable women from full participation in the political, business and economic arenas...would readily be recognized as invidious and impermissible” Ruth Bader Ginsberg (Reed vs Reed)

Please use this membership application to renew or join NOW and send to the Membership address listed below. Thank you for your interest and concern for equal rights and all issues that affect women.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I wish to join NOW and commit myself to take action to eliminate sexism and all other forms of oppression, to create a society in which each individual can live with dignity and security.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ - _____

I Enclose: \$ _____ (Regular Dues: (\$45)

\$ _____ (Reduced Dues (\$18-\$44)

\$ _____ (Additional contribution)

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

Notes:

Dues will include local chapter, National, and State dues.

Membership dues are not tax deductible.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY: Date: _____ Chapter 0360 Total National Dues: _____

Member Number: _____ State Dues: _____

LATEST NEWS January 2020

On **January 14th** **Virginia House of Delegates passed the “Equal Rights Amendment” to the Constitution.** Virginia is the 38th state to ratify the ERA. A lawsuit has been filed to challenge the deadline to ratify.

See Feminist Majority.org, MSmagazine.com, and NationalOrganizationforWomen.org with statement from Toni Van Pelt, President for the latest information and pictures on MS magazine website.

On **January 10th**, Toni Van Pelt was arrested for demonstrating with Jane Fonda and other actresses for Climate Change initiatives. “Climate Change issues are women’s issues and family issues”, Van Pelt stated.

COMING SOON: **2020 National Conference** sponsored by National NOW and Feminist Majority in Washington, D.C. at the Capital Hilton on **June 3-7, 2020.** Voting by members will be June 5-6.

Toni Van Pelt, President of NOW and Ellie Smeal, founder of Feminist Majority are reaching out to members and interested people to attend the conference which will be held prior to the major political conventions.

If you are interested in attending this exciting conference, go to National NOW or Feminist Majority websites.

“WOMEN MUST HAVE A REAL SAY AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE UPCOMING ELECTIONS”

January 18th, Saturday, is Women’s March for Reproductive Rights Day. National NOW will take part in the Washington, D.C. march where the rally will be filled with women and supporters. Buses are going to D.C.

There will also be a rally in Philadelphia for those who cannot go to D.C. Meeting at the Art Museum area at 10:00 A.M. Please bring your own sign.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR MONTHLY MEETINGS AT MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE!