

## **Ms. President NOW Board Report**

To: National NOW Board Members

From: Bonnie Grabenhofer, Vice President

Date: June 8, 2016

What an historic victory! Hillary Clinton is the first woman to become the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee. We hope you took the time to savor this long awaited milestone after all of our hard work throughout this very tough primary season. By the time of the board meeting, we will have completed our work in the last primary in Washington, D.C. making Hillary's delegate count even higher. Then we will excitedly await the Democratic convention in July when we expect that it will become official – Hillary Clinton will become the first woman to become the presidential nominee of a major U. S. political party! I can hear the glass shattering already.

What an exciting year this has been so far, and we hope it will be even more exciting as we continue to work toward the goal we set in NOW's 2013 resolution: Elect a Feminist Woman President and Celebrate NOW's Golden Jubilee which urged the NOW PAC to build toward this goal and focus its endorsement and field strategy to accomplish this goal in 2016.

### **Ms. President NOW – Primaries and Caucuses**

NOW activists have been working in their states and helping in others during the primaries and caucuses. Below are some highlights from several states that had primaries since the last board meeting in mid-March.

#### *Florida*

Florida NOW had been extremely busy getting out the vote and making calls for Hillary, organizing sign waving, and arranging house parties and debate and primary watch parties for the March 15th primary. Congratulations to the nearly 250 Florida NOW members who participated in this massive effort! Here are some highlights.

Terry Sanders, Florida NOW President and FL MsPresidentNOW Coordinator is on the Florida for Hillary Leadership Team, a select group of leaders in Florida including legislators, community leaders, activists and organizers. She spoke at the opening of the official Hillary office in Orlando, substituting for the Orlando Mayor at the last minute.

Meredith Ockman, SE Regional Director and FL NOW Secretary, is the LGBT Liaison to Palm Beach County. She helped open the Palm Beach County campaign office and mentored/guided the Hillary Clinton Campaign staffer there.

Barbara DeVane is on the core committee for Clinton in Northern Florida and worked to organize phone bankers and volunteers for early voting week and Election Day, as well as turnout for many events including opening of their headquarters in Tallahassee and Chelsea Clinton and Bill Clinton visits to Tallahassee. Check out the [Tallahassee Democrat](#) on March 16 with quotes and a fabulous picture of Barbara celebrating Hillary's blowout win in the Florida primary.

West Pinellas and Pinellas NOW marched for Hillary in Hillsborough Gay Pride (Ybor City, Tampa, FL). Team NOW for Hillary volunteers include Toni Van Pelt, Larry Potter, Carol Cross, Marilyn Allen, Marilyn Hafling, Patti Norkiewicz, and Cora Kostka.

The campaign said they really needed phone calls, and Florida NOW stepped up making about 15,000 calls!

### *Alaska*

Alaska NOW President Barbara McDaniel is on Hillary's Leadership team in Alaska. Alaska NOW called their members before the caucuses and they participated in a number of local events for Hillary. For example, NOW volunteers attracted a lot of attention with their exhibit table at the Mat-Su Caucus making statements, loud and clear, for Hillary's stand on equal rights and ending violence against women members. Many people used their volunteers' props and got photos with their life-size Hillary!

### *Maryland*

Edith Miller, MD NOW President, and Linda Mahoney are on Hillary's Leadership team in Maryland. They with Gay Bruhn, and Bonnie Grabenhofer participated in debate watch parties, organizing meetings, office openings, and rallies in Baltimore and Silver Spring. They did a number of visibility events at train stations and busy intersections around the state and provided visibility at early voting locations resulting in a significant win for Hillary.

### *Oregon*

Oregon NOW worked with Hillary for Oregon campaign organizing phone banks to call NOW members and spreading the word and participating in campaign events. While Hillary didn't win in Oregon, their efforts helped her exceed expectations by winning 45% of the vote.

### *Emails and phone calls*

NOW PAC continued to send emails to NOW members in most states prior to their primaries or caucuses to remind them why NOW PAC endorsed Hillary Clinton and encourage them to vote and get involved in the campaign.

In the March board report we reported about sending emails and coordinating phoning to 9 of the early primary caucus states with about 70 callers making about 6,000 phone calls.

Since then we sent emails and/or coordinated phoning and number lookups to all or targeted parts of VA, NC, MI, OH, AZ, WA, NY, VA, CT, IL, DE, RI, PA, MD, WY, MT, and CA – making approximately another 9,000 calls. Many thanks to Pat Reuss and about 90 volunteer phoners.

Alaska, Indiana, Connecticut, Florida, and Oregon NOW called their own members.

### **Clinton Delegates and Leadership**

We are especially proud of the NOW leaders who have earned the distinction of being selected to run as Hillary delegate candidates or been appointed to Leadership Teams or special positions within the campaign. The ones that we know of are listed below; there may be more that we don't know of yet – please email Bonnie at: [vpaction@now.org](mailto:vpaction@now.org)

#### *National Democratic Convention Delegates*

A number of NOW leaders were honored to be selected by the Hillary campaign to run to be Hillary delegates from their states to the National Democratic Convention. At the time of this report some have already achieved delegate status and others are completing their states' procedures.

- Bear Atwood—won as at-large delegate from Mississippi
- Elaine Togneri – elected from Florida-12
- David Stewart – alternate from Iowa
- Gay Bruhn – ran from Illinois-11
- Lois Galgay Reckitt – Maine's 1<sup>st</sup> District
- Mary Schutten – Oregon
- Linda Tosti-Lane – Washington state

#### *Hillary for America Leadership Teams*

- Gay Bruhn – Illinois
- Barbara McDaniel – Alaska
- Linda Mahoney – Maryland
- Edith Miller – Maryland
- Terry Sanders – Florida
- Meredith Ockman – LGBT Liaison to Palm Beach County
- Barbara DeVane – on core committee in Northern Florida
- Marian Bradley – organizer for HFA in Montana

### **Ms. President NOW Resources**

- Secret Facebook: primary strategy/organizing tool; sign up on [nowpac.org](http://nowpac.org) and accept email invitation to join
- Public Facebook

- Buttons and Stickers
- Fact Sheets (available on nowpac.org, NOW Leaders page, and Facebook)
  - Women’s Reproductive Justice: One Reason We Support Clinton
  - Talking Points: NOW PAC’s Endorsement of Hillary Clinton
  - Flyer: Key Facts – Hillary’s Positions on NOW Issues
  - Hillary’s Record for LGBTQIA Rights
- Organizing Materials (available on NOW Leaders page, and Facebook)
  - MsPresidentNOW Tweet 4 Hillary
    - @mspresidentnow;
    - #ImWithHer and #NOW4Hillary
  - Example Tweets 4 Hillary
  - Kickoff Event Exercises
  - Take Action 1
  - What NOW Members & Chapters Can Legally Do to Elect Hillary
  - Who Speaks for NOW PAC Endorsements
  - House Party Guide
  - Sign In Sheet

### **Ms. President NOW at the Conference**

Hillary and the Ms.PresidentNOW campaign will be addressed in several exciting events at the conference.

On Friday morning, in a workshop called “Looking at the 2016 Feminist Political Landscape” a panel with Bonnie Grabenhofer, Representative Cheri Bustos, Eleanor Smeal, and moderator Linda Berg will discuss NOW PAC’s strategy to elect the first woman president and the current political opportunities and perils for feminists running for federal office this year. They will talk about the upcoming presidential election while emphasizing swing states and states with key Senate and House races.

On Saturday at the PAC Lunch Plenary, the focus will be on Hillary’s campaign and NOW PAC work to help elect her. Speakers are NOW PAC members Bonnie Grabenhofer and Jacqueline Kozin, and Mini Timmaraju (HFA),and Jamia Wilson, with moderator Eleanor Smeal and Woman of Impact Award Honoree Senator Barbara Mikulski.

Saturday, 4:30-6:30, will be the NOW PAC Party – Poster Session and Silent Auction where participants will have an opportunity to view posters highlighting some of the excellent Ms. President NOW work done by NOW activists. NOW activists have been instrumental in gaining votes and delegates for Hillary in primaries and caucuses throughout the country. They have run for delegate, held leadership roles in the campaign, opened offices, and done rallies, watch parties, visibility events, tabling, door knocking, and lots of phoning. Members can view items representing their work like pictures, flyers, and media and talk to the organizers about their events and tips for success. At the same time participants can bid on highly sought after feminist suffrage and ERA memorabilia and many other wonderful items.