

January 2017

Dear Women For: Orange County Members and Friends:

Greetings and welcome from Women For: Orange County. February is our Membership Month, and we extend to you an invitation to become a member, or to renew your membership, for 2017. Women For: OC is an organization interested in learning about and supporting vital, relevant, and thought-provoking issues. We plan our meetings and events to be stimulating to the growing progressive presence in Orange County. Our programs will enrich our lives, the lives of our families, and our diverse communities. If you no longer wish to receive mailings from Women For, please indicate this on the remit envelope.

Women For can be proud of its 2016 accomplishments.

We held our 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Great American Write-In at the Delhi Center in Santa Ana. Over 50 organizations participated, with nearly 300 attendees writing more than 2200 cards and letters to local, state, and national legislators and decision-makers.

At our August 2016 Suffrage Day brunch, Hans Johnson of Progressive Victory was our keynote speaker. We honored Deborah Hernandez, Mig Anglin, Mary Perdue, and Theresa Sears.

Our monthly general meetings for 2016 covered a variety of subjects. We began the year with Dean Chemerinsky of UCI Law School as our speaker. Other programs included "The Characteristics of Abuse", "Plastics in our Environment", "Gun Violence in America", "Refugees Welcome", and "White Privilege". We visited the UCI Stem Cell Research Center, discussed the ballot propositions, and viewed the Michael Moore movie, "Where Should We Invade Next?".

For our November Holiday Meeting we raised \$2900 for supplies for Stop Hunger Now. Sixty of our members gathered for a working event in which we packed 10,000 meals to be sent to parts of the world in food crisis.

Through your membership, we were able to donate money to groups supporting progressive interests. Last year we contributed to Planned Parenthood, Equal is Equal, AIDS Walk of OC, Stop Hunger Now, OC Interfaith Committee to Aid Farm Workers, and Friends of Harbors, Beaches, and Parks. Through honorariums paid to our speakers we donated to UCI Law School Student Scholarships, Human Options, Latino Coalition Against Plastic Pollution, Arab-American Council, OC Human Relations, United Way, and the Thurgood Marshall Association.

In this mailing you will receive a flyer announcing our membership meeting on February 22, 2017. Please return your membership check in the enclosed reply envelope. Your support will help us continue to present great programs and to support just causes. We hope you will have a wonderful, healthy and productive New Year. We look forward to seeing you in 2017 as a member of Women For: Orange County.

Sincerely,

Judy Curry, President

Londa Woods, Membership Chair