

BROOKLYN-QUEENS NOW NEWS



Summer 2013
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718-769-0101
bklynqnsnow@yahoo.com
www.brooklynqueensnow.org



BROOKLYN-QUEENS NOW CHAPTER CALENDAR-2013

Chapter meetings take place the first Monday of the month at 7pm, unless otherwise noted. Inclement weather may force the rescheduling of a chapter meeting, so be sure to RSVP to the number provided Or call 718 769-0101. Call the numbers below for exact location and directions. Check for Calendar updates on our website: www.brooklynqueensnow.org.



- Jul 8 Chapter meeting in Howard Beach, Queens. Call 718-843-7978.
- Sat, Aug.24, 12-3 PM *Women's Equality Day* Celebration & Pot-luck in Jackson Heights. Call 718-672-6399.
- Sept 9 Chapter meeting in Sheepshead Bay. Call 646-228-7570, *Election of officers*. Candidates listed on Page 4.
- Sept 10 Primary Day- Municipal Elections, Sept. 24 Runoff elections
- Oct 7 Chapter meeting in Howard Beach. Call 718-843-7978.
- Nov.4 Chapter meeting in Forest Hills. Call 718-896-9130.

BQ NOW PAC ENDORSEMENTS



The Brooklyn-Queens NOW PAC (Political Action Committee) has been very busy interviewing numerous candidates for City Council, Public Advocate, Brooklyn District Attorney, Borough Presidents and Mayor.

Back in April we demonstrated in front of former Assemblyman and sexual harasser Vito Lopez's fundraiser. We officially announced our endorsement of Anthony Reynoso for the North Brooklyn seat. See photo.

From Left: Sonia Ossorio, Anthony Reynoso, Shirley Ranz, Joanne Simon at Bklyn Boro Hall

-continued on next page-

BQ NOW ENDORSEMENTS

Mayor: John Liu , 646-490-9818

Public Advocate: Reshma Saujani , 847-452-9510

Brooklyn DA: Ken Thompson, 212-257-6800

Bklyn Borough Pres-Eric Adams, 917-327-3804

Queens Boro Pres-Melinda Katz, 718-480-6656

City Council-Queens

Costa Constantinides CD22- 917-716-4540

Danny Drom- CD25, 718-457-2928

Rory Lancman-CD 24, 917-363-9004

John Duane CD 19, 718-427-4163

Sondra Pedeon 27CD, 347-785-5119

City Council-Brooklyn

Kathleen Daniel-CD41, 347-620-4158

Alan Maisel CD 46, 718-968-2770

Todd Dobrin CD47, 917-667-2139

Theresa Scavo CD48, 347-668-4548

Kim Council- CD37, 917-860-2179

Anthony Reynoso CD34, 347-546-4128

These candidates need volunteers.

Why didn't we endorse the only woman running? We regret that Christine Quinn proved to be such a disappointing candidate. Her record of: backing Mayor Bloomberg's overturning of term limits, opposing the Living Wage Bill and the Five-Day Sick Leave Bill demonstrated her loyalty to Big Business and not to the working women of this city.

John Liu, on the other hand, has demonstrated his concern for women. As City Councilman he was with us every week when we demonstrated for anti-sexual trafficking legislation. As Comptroller he demonstrated the need for Pay Equity legislation by conducting an investigation of pay inequities in corporations doing business with the city.

NOW-NYC, Planned Parenthood, and NARAL Pro-Choice New York have endorsed **Scott Stringer** for comptroller.

Sonia Ossorio - president of NOW-NYC - said that Elliot Spitzer's "hypocrisy" for patronizing hookers after signing legislation to stiffen punishments on johns played a role in her decision-making process. She also said that the former governor's participation in an industry that promotes the degradation and trafficking of women was something she couldn't tolerate.

Court Orders FDA to Remove All Restrictions on the Morning After Pill



Feminists win access to the morning-after pill (MAP) for all women and girls in the U.S! Ten years of speakouts, consciousness-raising, petition gathering, phonebanking, flashmobs, sitting-in and putting pressure on the Food and Drug Administration helped make this court decision possible. Women cannot be on equal footing with men if we can't decide when and if we will bear a child. Morning-after pill over-the-counter gives women an enormous freedom. *Organizing pays!*

Prior to the court's ruling, emergency contraception was kept behind a counter, only available without a prescription for women age 17 and older, and government issued identification had to be shown to buy it. The lawsuit, originally filed on January 21, 2005, uncovered evidence that President Bush's Administration pressured FDA review staff to enact an age limit on the pill for political reasons. In December 2011, the FDA finally decided to eliminate the unnecessary age restriction, but in an unprecedented move, Dept of Health and Human Services blocked the change with President Obama's support!

Plaintiff and National Women's Liberation organizer **Erin Mahoney** (& BQ NOW chapter member) said,

"The Morning-After Pill was already available without a prescription in at least 63 other countries, including the United Kingdom, France, Denmark and Ghana. We are glad the U.S. has finally caught up to women around the world, but it shouldn't have taken over a decade of pressure from feminists, our allies and a lawsuit."

ADVERTISING

Acceptance of advertisements does not constitute endorsement of the advertisers by Brooklyn-Queens NOW.

NOW is the time.
Keep up the good work!

Councilman Lew Fidler

1402 East 64th Street
Brooklyn, NY 11234
(718) 241-9330

Lew, Robin, Max & Harry Fidler

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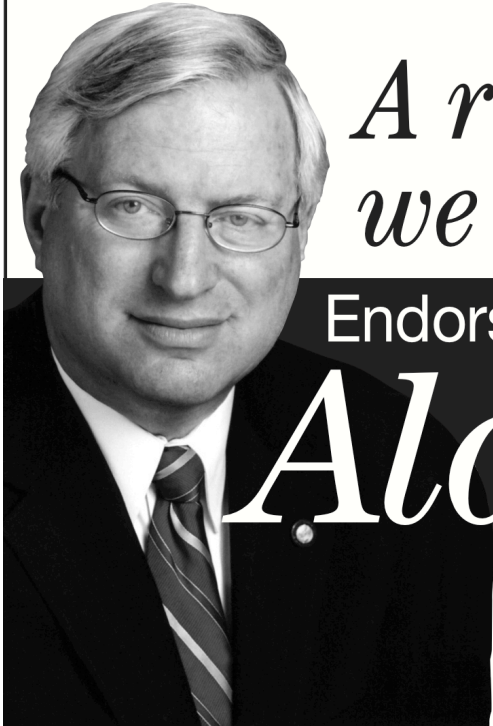
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Member Rate: \$30 per issue, \$105 per year

Non-profit Rate: \$40 per issue, \$145 per year

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*A record of which
we can all be proud.*

Endorsed by Brooklyn-Queens NOW

Alan Maisel

Democrat for City Council
Democratic Primary · 46th District · Brooklyn

Paid for by Maisel for Council

ACTION ALERTS

END SEXUAL ASSAULT IN THE MILITARY

Senator Kirsten Gillibrand is a major sponsor of the *Military Justice Improvement Act*.

26,000 instances of sexual assault and unwanted sexual contact in our military in one year is heartbreaking. Survivors have been silenced, the rising number of assaults and horrific news stories of justice denied point to the desperate need for bold reform, oversight and accountability.

And yet, unacceptably, bipartisan legislation to transfer prosecution of sexual assaults to independent trained military prosecutors has been stopped.

The assaults themselves are appalling, but worse is when victims are re-victimized by a system that fails them. Too many victim's cases are swept under the rug, allowing predators to repeat their crimes.

It's created a broken culture that can't be allowed to continue. **Time and again, victims are failed.**

Our servicemen and women deserve a vote and a system of justice that is equal to their sacrifices.

Add your name to others in demanding a full Senate vote on the Military Justice Improvement Act. We owe it to the troops who bravely serve our great country. - See more at: <http://endsexualassault.com/?code=20130618-gillibrand>

BQ NOW ELECTIONS

Our chapter elections will take place on Sept. 9, 2013. The candidates are:

President- Rachele Suissa
Vice-Pres- Julie Kirshner
Treasurer-Shirley Ranz

To be eligible to vote you must have been a chapter member prior to May 9, 2013 and you must vote in person.

NYS Legislature Fails to Pass Women's Equality Act

Although the NYS Assembly passed the Women's Equality Act the Senate refused to introduce any bill that dealt with abortion rights. The abortion segment of the bill would simply have brought NYS's reproductive rights law up to the Federal standard and would clarify that only licensed medical professionals should set the medical standards.

Instead the Senate broke the bill into 10 separate measures and passed 9. The bill then went back to the Assembly. They refused to pass the law without the abortion rights provision. This resulted in none of the 10 points of the WEA passing.

Although we will continue to push for the reproductive rights portion of the bill we must contend with the fact that the anti-choice State Senate will remain intransigent. We can still get passage of 9 important provisions of the WEA We are asking the Governor to call a special session to vote on the bill passed by the Senate.

Call your Assembly member at their local office and ask that he/she pass the 9 WEA bills already passed by the Senate. (for contact information, go to <http://assembly.state.ny.us/mem/>)

Here's what you can say/write/fax:

Assembly member _____

I live in your district. Thank you for voting for the WEA. Please do what you can to get as many measures of WEA as possible passed into law. Vote for the 9 Senate-passed WEA bills. These issues are too important to have them languish due to partisan politics. Women deserve relief from discrimination NOW. Thank you again your support of the Governor's Women's Equality Act.

TODD

DOBRIN
OUR DEMOCRAT FOR CITY COUNCIL

Thank you to Brooklyn-Queens NOW for endorsing my candidacy in the Democratic primary for City Council, 47th district.

www.DobrinForNY.com

DEMOCRAT
RORY LANCMAN
 For City Council 

Rory Lancman

Assembly Member 2007-2012
 City Council Candidate

Thank you
 Brooklyn-Queens NOW for
 your support,
 and for all you do for
 equality in New York City!

National NOW Conference 2013

by Rachelle Suissa, Chapter VP

This year's National NOW Conference featured an array of speakers, panels, plenaries and events of interest to women from all around the country. The guest of honor was the **Reverend Jessie Jackson**, whose speech dealt with the commonalities of the women's rights movement and the civil rights movement in the United States.

The conference featured a number of interesting workshops, including: the role of teachers' unions in Chicago, the struggle to increase the minimum wage around the country, the passage of the 20-week abortion ban in the House of Representatives, and local initiatives to protect and preserve birth control access for women of all ages. **Saru Jayaraman**, a professor of political science at Brooklyn College, received the Woman of Honor Award for her work with the Restaurant Opportunities Center, which promotes awareness of company tipping policies and works to increase the minimum wage for restaurant workers, many of whom work in substandard conditions, without paid sick or parental leave. The Restaurant Opportunities Center now has movements in Chicago, Houston, Los Angeles, Miami, Michigan, New Orleans, New York, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C.

The Conference also featured a *Feminist Flash Mob*, in which women gathered in the streets to dance to a feminist song—it really stirred the crowd! National NOW President **Terry O'Neill**, who ran unopposed, was reelected to another term. She made it clear that one of the main goals of NOW is to increase diversity throughout the organization. **Chitra Punjabi** was elected Vice-President of Membership. We look forward to working with National on issues of importance to women and girls.

DANIEL DROMM
 NYC Council Member



www.danieldromm.com

PRO-CHOICE IN QUEENS

Clinic Escorts Needed!

On a typical Saturday at **CHOICES**, a women's health clinic in Queens, anti-choice protesters outnumber pro-choice volunteers 5 to 1. Escorts provide a buffer zone from the lies and harassment coming from the anti's.

Join us on Saturday mornings from 7 to 11am at **CHOICES** in Jamaica, Queens. Located at 147-32 Jamaica Ave, the clinic is close to the E, J, Z and LIRR trains.

**BROOKLYN-QUEENS NOW
LEADERSHIP CONTACT NUMBERS**

President: Julie Kirshner 718-769-9607
 Vice President: Rachelle Suissa 646-228-7570
 Treasurer: Joyce Mizrahi 718-896-9130
 Membership: Judy Barkoski 718-843-7978
 PAC President: Shirley Ranz 718-769-8901
 Newsletter Editor: Shirley Ranz

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The Concise **Douche-English Dictionary** 1st. Ed.
 •Essential Dating Vocabulary•

PHRASE IN DATING PROFILE	TRANSLATION
I hate feminists	I hate women
I'm one of the few Nice Guys	I'm one of the few Egomaniacs
I'm not racist, but...	... but I am racist
I drive a BMW	in the trunk is the electron microscope necessary to locate my genitals
I'm opposed to same-sex marriage	I'm opposed to you finding out how in the closet I am
people are all dishonest	I am dishonest. Me.
I will not date anyone even slightly overweight	I do that thing where you mistakenly think it's okay to not address your grotesque personal failings as long as you're honest about them.
I would prefer to date someone of my own skin color	It's not hard enough to find someone compatible—let's go ahead and dramatically narrow the field (ps: I am racist)
I'm opinionated!!!	I'm punishingly narrow-minded
Don't message me if you like _____ music	Yes, I would like to die alone please!
the world would be a better place if people with low IQs were not allowed to reproduce	WENN ES DEM INTERNATIONALEN FINANZJUDENTUM IN UND AUSSERHALB EUROPAS GELINGEN SOLLTE, DIE VÖLKER NOCHEINMAL IN EINEN WELTKRIEG ZU STÜRZEN, DANN WIRD DABERGEN BIS NICHT DER SIEG DES JUDENTUMS SEIN, SONDERN DIE VERNICHTUNG DER JÜDISCHEN RASSE IN EUROPA!!
I'm a Hopeless Romantic	I can in no way handle adult relationships
I'm a Gentleman	I have somehow avoided learning that virtues are not self-defined
Why do women only date jerks?	I am 12
I'm a Men's Rights activist	I hate women AND am in the closet (and am probably racist too, just for good measure)
Women all play head games	I hate women
I hate women	I hate people
I hate people	I hate myself

**National Organization for Women
 Brooklyn-Queens Chapter**
 102-17 64th Road, #4I
 Forest Hills, NY 11375

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