



N.O.W. Bay Area NEWS Chapter

Volume XI, Number 8
August, 1983

National Organization for Women

667-1259



National NOW Times, August, 1983

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Program Meeting..Self-Assessment and Redirection, Part II
August 4, 1983
A Uniting Church El Camino Real & Reseda
7:30 PM

LETTER FROM MEMBER!!!!!!

There was an editorial in the last newsletter that shook some of us up by stating that Bay Area NOW was in danger of disbanding. Many of us attended the July 7 meeting to do our best to save the Chapter. But apparently even more of us were not "shook up" enough, or didn't care enough to come and help with our evaluating and re-directing process.

Bay Area NOW is still in danger! I became even more conscious of some of our problems at the July meeting, one of which I wish to address in this editorial. Unfortunately, NOW has a nation wide reputation as a predominantly white, middle and upper middle class, organization of women. While there are members who are minority or working class women (and some members who are not women at all!!! i.e. men), it is difficult to break down the stereotype by observing the attendance at our meetings. Where are the minority women from the Bay Area? Where are the working class women, the vast majority of women in the Bay Area? Where are the men who profess to be feminist? In fact, where are the majority of ALL Bay Area feminist--I'm talking about those who live outside of Clear Lake City?

I see the greatest danger to Bay Area NOW as the narrowing of organizational focus to those issues primarily of interest to the white, upper middle class, Clear Lake City women. THIS IS NOT THEIR FAULT!!! it is OUR (the unrepresented groups) responsibility to attend meetings so that those issues important to us are heard. It is OUR responsibility to break down the stereotype.

I challenge all Bay Area NOW members and feminist non-members to attend the next two in the series of three evaluation meetings. We accomplished a lot without you at the first, but we are NOT out of danger yet. I'm not sure we will get out of danger without your help. Remember, if the issues important to you are not addressed by Bay Area NOW, it is because you were not present to address them. Be there on August 4 and September 8, 7:30 PM, A Uniting Church, Clear Lake City, or remain unrepresented, unheard, and un-considered in the focus of Bay Area NOW.

Donna Berend

MINUTES: BAY AREA NOW BUSINESS MEETING...JULY 20, 1983

The business meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM, at a Uniting Church, by president, Judy Snyder. There were eleven members present.

BAY AREA NOW MINUTES CON'T.

It was announced that Anita Marcos has volunteered to chair the Membership Task Force. This was done at the July 7 program meeting. Also at that meeting, a committee for the Nikki Van Hightower campaign was formed. Members volunteering for this committee are Rema Lou Brown, Sonia Carmean, Bobbie Faulkner, Pat Kuhlmann, Anita Marcos, Colette Roberts, and Jeanne Saletan.

Bonnie Huval passed out copies of what was accomplished at the July program meeting.

Phyllis Tucker, acting treasurer, reported that we have a balance of \$1062.26.

10th Anniversary Party: Phyllis reported that the invitations have been sent out to members and others including past national presidents, present national leadership of NOW, state presidents, board members, all Houston chapters, and state task forces. Refreshments will be divided and assigned by the telephone tree. The music will be by tape, decorations will be green and white, and will be put up at 7:00 PM, July 30. Prices for the drinks will be 50¢ for soft drinks and \$1.00 for keg beer and wine. Coffee will also be available. Guests will be able to bring their own bottle. Everyone will be asked to help with clean up before 11:00 PM.

Forum for Nikki Van Hightower and Kathy Whitmire: Pat Kuhlmann reported that plans are still in the making.

Mall Activities: Judy Snyder reported that all went very well at the Leafletting in Almeda Mall on July 9. There will be another leafletting event on August 6 at Bay Brook Mall. Bobbie Faulkner will coordinate this event. Volunteers are needed to staff the table. Those deputized to register voters are especially needed.

Coming Events: Judy Snyder announced events for July, August, and September. During July and August, Houston area artists will present A Place in the Sun. On July 28, TARAL will have a fundraiser at the Comedy Workshop. August 27 will be the 20th Anniversary of the March on Washington, at the Lincoln Memorial, in Washington, D.C. September 30-October 2 will be the National Convention in Washington, D.C. September 9-11 will be the Texas NOW Convention in Corpus Christi. Delegates for the National Convention are: Pat Kuhlmann, Bobbie Faulkner, Janice Brooks, Colette Roberts, with Judi Hoffman and Phyllis Tucker as alternates. The October 6 program meeting will feature a representative from the National Chapter Development Staff. Deborah Bell, from Texas NOW Area III, will also be asked to attend the August 4, September 8, and/or October 6 meeting to help with Chapter Development.

Fund Raising for Indigent Women: Phyllis Tucker stated that she wanted the Chapter to establish some way to help pay the dues for women who cannot afford to pay them. It was decided to pass around a can at each meeting and collect donations for this purpose. Persons will be asked to pay as much as they can afford and the rest will be paid by BA NOW. No one will be turned down because she cannot pay dues.

Text Book Review: Janice Brooks announced that the Text Book hearings will begin on August 1. She thanked those who helped review the books.

C. R. : Pat Kuhlmann announced that the current CR group is ending its 10 sessions. A new group will begin on Tuesday, August 30, and run for 10 weeks. Those who are interested are to contact Pat.

Newsletter: Phyllis Tucker asked for suggestions as to how the newsletter can be improved. She had received a complaint about its contents. The consensus was that Phyllis is doing a great job with the newsletter. It was suggested by Donna Berend that whoever chairs or coordinates an event or activity could write a paragraph or two about what was done and turn it in to Phyllis for the newsletter. In this way, members could see what BA NOW is doing locally.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Donna Berend, Secretary

EDUCATION & TITLE IX.....JANICE BROOKS....645-2136

The 1983 Textbook Adoption Hearings are scheduled for the week beginning August 1, 1983 in Austin before the State Textbook Committee. This is the views regarding the new textbooks that are up for adoption in the public schools of the state of Texas. Texas NOW is well represented this year. We will testify on adoptions in the following subject areas;

English As A Second Language

Geometry

Vocational Agriculture

Trigonometry

Marketing and Distributive Education

VIE Building and Construction Trades

Algebra I & II

Language and Composition

World History

Many thanks to all Bay Area members who offered their help. If you would like to attend the hearings please call me.

One of the issues that we in Bay Area NOW has not addressed in accordance with National NOW policy is the issue of Minority Rights. One of our own members Colette Roberts, immediate past regional board member, has been appointed chair of the National Committee Against Racism. We shall begin with this issue to include in each Bay Area NOW Newsletter a report on Minority Women in NOW.

MINORITY WOMEN IN NOW

The National NOW Minority Women's Committee no longer exists! Don't get upset; it has been broadened, expanded, and made more inclusive- it is now the Committee Against Racism. The committee members will include women of all ethnic backgrounds, who are concerned with eliminating racism in and out of NOW. At the last National NOW Conference, a very powerful resolution was passed. It reads:

MINORITY WOMEN RESOLUTION

WHEREAS the goals of NOW to eliminate discrimination are consistent with the goals of racial minorities,
WHEREAS outreach by NOW to racial minorities has continually been superceded by other priority programs, and
WHEREAS the previously adopted and established policies of NOW have been implemented by sufficient action, and
WHEREAS there has been an alarming increase in violence against minorities and governmental disenfranchisement of those civil rights gains of the past decade,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT NOW:

1. Sponsor and support participation in a counter-rally in Washington, DC in conjunction with the Anti-Klan National Network and participate in and support the August 28, 1983 major national civil rights commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Martin Luther King "I Have a Dream" statement.
2. Direct the Minority Issues staff person to work with the regions to develop regional conferences and to design programs and policy recommendations which will aid in the implementation of the action plan.
3. Create a full time administrative management position for a racial minority member who shall be responsible to the membership to promote the interests of minority women in all aspects of the organization.
4. Expand the responsibilities of the Minority Women's Conference Implementation Committee to include establishing the priority of needs for the Minority Issues staff person, based upon this resolution action plan and future adopted action plans.

5. ACTION PLAN: Secure extra temporary staff to alert all chapters to mobilize and to coalesce with their local civil rights, religious and labor organizations to promote attendance at the counter-Klan rally. Publish a job description and salary consistent with the duties described above for a Minority Issues manager and solicit resumes within the remaining term of the current administration. Contact those volunteers from the nation's chapters identified at this national conference to acquire their materials, products and suggestions regarding the following actions; Develop a racism C.R. kit with photos, tapes, and films, etc; Develop NOW materials that are multi-lingual on all levels; Mandate a non-resolutions Plenary devoted to Minority Issues at the 1983 NOW National Conference; Fund compilation of NOW minority herstory; Seek out fund-raising items that are representative of multi-cultural communities.

Several parts of it have already been addressed, and the committee's job shall be to assure complete accomplishment. We shall be meeting for the first time in August, after the "We Still Have a Dream" march in Washington, DC. Those of you who cannot attend in DC, please participate in activities planned in Houston. The argument that the civil rights

movement is run by black males who care very little for feminists of any color, shade or hue is fairly accurate. But the unions, the government, big business is run by white males, and we haven't let that stop us in working for equality! We have the job of educating everyone, regardless of color, and one way to achieve that is to part of activities that speak to our goals. Also- each time you discuss and work on an issue, any issue, please remember to include the impact it has on minority women. We can, and will change the current image of NOW from white middle class to that of one that is truly representative of all women and men. It cannot, though, be accomplished without you. Your input is valuable. Please write, or call me any-time, I welcome you suggestions.

In Sisterhood,
Colette Roberts, Chair
280-8440

The vast majority (75-80%) of Texas children of divorced parents receive no financial assistance from the non-custodial parent. Current legal remedies and systems in our state are inadequate to reverse this trend. In response to this injustice, the Texas Legislature passed HJR 1, calling for an amendment to the state Constitution to allow the assignment of income for purpose of child support (only). What this means is that courts would be able to order employers to deduct child support payments directly from the parent's paycheck to ensure continues support for the children. Most other state allow this mechanism and it has been found valuable and workable.

To do this, the Texas voters must approve a Constitutional change at next November's election.

Between now and then, it behooves all of us who care about the well-being of Texas parents and children to get folks registered, educated and out to vote on this vital issue. A state wide coalition is forming called TEXANS FOR CHILD SUPPORT. You will hear more about this in the next newsletter.

(info from Texas Council on Family Violence..July '83)

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN ... BECKY MONROE ... 486-8616

Judge denies restitution for rape victim

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (UPI) — A federal judge ruled the Victim and Witness Protection Act of 1982 was unconstitutional, and refused to order cash restitution to a woman who was kidnapped by three men and raped.

U.S. District Judge William Acker said he felt sorry for the victim but could not order restitution.

The judge said he believed he was the first jurist to rule against the federal restitution act, which became effective for crimes committed after Jan. 1 of this year.

U.S. Attorney Frank Donaldson said he would inform U.S. Attorney General William French Smith of Acker's decision and await instructions from Washington before proceeding with an appeal.

Acker was considering whether a woman who was kidnapped from Georgia and sexually abused April 6 should receive money for medical expenses from Edward Eugene Satterfield, one of three Dekalb County, Ala., men found guilty last week by a federal jury:

The judge gave Satterfield a life sentence for the crime but said he could not order restitution.

"This is obviously a very serious constitutional issue," Acker said. "And it is one that I think should be addressed on appeal by the appellate courts in proper order.

"I don't expect to be the last court to speak on this matter, but apparently I will be the first," he said.

The Victim and Witness Protection Act, signed into law Oct. 12, 1982, by President Reagan, gave the federal courts power to order that convicted criminals make cash restitution to victims. Acker predicted his ruling would be appealed and could go to the U.S. Supreme Court.

The act has been criticized for depriving convicted criminals of property without due process and a right to a jury trial.

(The following is from a speech delivered by Wilma Scott Heide at the Sixth National Conference of the National Organization for Women, 1973, during her term of office as president of NOW.)

As a further matter of integrity, feminism includes the freedom and power to love ourselves and each other as women, as men and as women and men loving each other as persons and embracing such children as we choose to have or have had in that love. No particular sexuality preference, if any, is either a requirement of or a barrier to feminism in NOW. That orientation, in my view, is the sine qua non for getting on with the business of educating and being educated by our children vis-a-vis the full potential of human sexuality. We do not equate normal with natural and in neither do we see bases for praise or sensure. Our sexuality is; that is its own validity, and though often vital is not the totality of our identity. I would propose the philosophy as a societal imperative to help hang up our sex hang-ups. Though we've resolved this in NOW, we have yet to exhibit the courage of our convictions. This conference must move beyond resolution to action programs for NOW and society.

What we are about is love in its deepest, most abiding sense. If we did not care, we would not be here; indeed, if we did not care, NOW would not be.

(and, from Bella Abzug)

It is time to recognize that lesbians and homosexuals are individuals like anyone else, who happen to have made certain personal choices about their private lives. These choices are their own business; they have no greater effect on their work than their color, size, shape or ethnicity, and they should not be subjected to discrimination of any kind because of their sexual preferences. They are fully entitled to the same Constitutional protections as all other Americans.

TUNE IN TO WOMEN ON KPFT - 90.1 FM Radio

Women's music, sports, news & information, listener-participation

Tuesdays - 8:00pm - A Woman's Place with Clara Kern

4th Tuesday of each Month is NOW night

Fridays, 8:00am to 10:30am, BREAKTHROUGH with Pokey Anderson & Cherry Wolf

In a stunning victory for pro-choice and civil liberties forces, the Senate relected S.J. Res 3, a constitutional amendment to overturn abortion rights. The fight is not over. In the U.S. House, anti-abortion riders have recently been offered on three separate bills:

1. Health insurance for federal employees;
2. Health care for the unemployed (H.R. 3021);
3. Immigration (H.R. 1510) would prohibit abortion coverage under a new health care plan that would be established for immigrants in the "legalization" program.

Write your representative ask for copies of the bills, let him/her know your displeasure with these bills.

1983 TEXAS STATE NOW CONVENTION

FRIDAY SEPT. 9, 1983 THRU SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 11, 1983

HOLIDAY INN-EMERALD BEACH
1102 S. Shoreline
Corpus Christi, Texas

YOU MUST PRINT OR TYPE

Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip:

Individual Registration Fee for NOW Members postmarked on or before August 24, 1983.....\$30.00

Individual Registration Fee for non-members postmarked on or before August 24, 1983.....\$35.00

NOTE: Registration Fee after August 24, 1983 is \$40.00. DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATION AFTER August 31. BRING THIS FORM AND MONEY WITH YOU.

I will need special assistance to disability:

_____ Interpreter for deaf
_____ Wheelchair access

_____ Readers for blind
_____ Other

BRING SWIMSUITS.

SEND THIS FORM TO: CORPUS CHRISTI NOW
1983 STATE CONVENTION
Box 6122
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411

10
You are cordially invited
to attend
the
"10th Anniversary Party"
of
Bay Area N.O.W.

Saturday, July 30, 1983
8 - 11 P.M.
Clear Lake City Recreation
Center
16511 Diana Lane

R.S.V.P. Judy Snyder 486-5565
Pat Kuhlmann 488-3278

BAY AREA NOW CALENDAR

- July 30 Bay Area NOW "10th Anniversary Party"
Clear Lake Recreation Center 8 - 11 PM
- August 4 Bay Area NOW Program Meeting
- August 6 Harris County Women's Political Caucus Annual
Convention...St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
1805 W. Alabama...8:45 AM - 4:45 PM. Regis-
tration \$10.00. Box lunch available \$3.50
- August 7 Benefit for the Gay Switchboard of Houston
Tropicana Club...2114 Peckham 4:00 - 9:00 PM
\$12.00 per person.
- August 17 Bay Area NOW Business Meeting
- August 23 NOW FOCUS..."A Womsm'n's Place"...KPFT-FM
8:00 PM
- August 26 Women's Equality Day... Women's suffrage
Celebration...Houston Area Women's Center
4 Chelsea Place...Featuring Sissy Farenthold
7:00 - 9:00 PM...Free
- August 27 "We Still Have A Dream" march...Washington,
D.C....see your NOW Times, May '83.
- August 30 New C.R. Group...A Uniting Church...7:00 PM
Call Pat Kuhlmann...488-3278
- Sept. 8 Bay Area NOW Program Meeting
- Sept. 9,10,11 Texas NOW State Conference...Corpus Christi
Registration before Aug. 24 \$30.00
After Aug. 24 \$40.00 see information.
- Sept. 21 Business Meeting, Bay Area NOW
- Sept. 26 NOW FOCUS..."A Women's Place"...KPFT-FM
8:00 P.M.
- Sept. 30 - Oct 2. National NOW Conference...Washington,
D.C....see National NOW Times

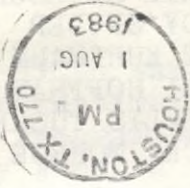
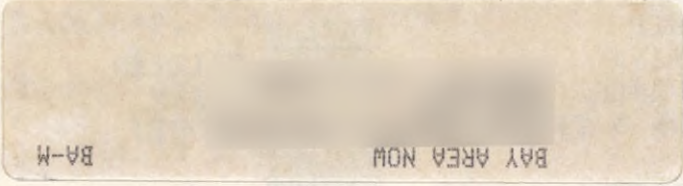
BAY AREA NOW POSITIONS/RESOURCE CONTACTS:

PRESIDENT	JUDY SNYDER	486-5565
VICE PRESIDENT	MARIE STIMSON	331-0444
SECRETARY	DONNA BEREND	1-948-8896
TREASURER (ACTING)	PHYLLIS TUCKER	944-0033
NEWLETTER	"	"
MEMBERSHIP	VACANT	
LEGISLATIVE	JEANNE SALETAN	471-2862
CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING	PAT KUHLMANN	488-3278
EDUCATION & TITLE IX	JANICE BROOKS	645-2136
E.R.A.	VACANT	
FUNDRAISING	VACANT	
LESBIAN RIGHTS	PHYLLIS TUCKER	944-0033
PUBLICITY	PAT KUHLMANN	488-3278
	COLETTE ROBERTS	280-8440
REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS	MARIE STIMSON	338-2009
TELEPHONE TEAM	JUDY SNYDER	486-5565
TEXAS NOW STATE	PAT KUHLMANN	488-3278
COUNCIL DELEGATES	JUDI HOFFMAN	944-0033
	PHYLLIS TUCKER	944-0033
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN	BECKY MONROE	486-8616

WHO CARES ABOUT WOMEN? NOW CARES!!! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR? JOIN NOW, now. Clip and mail to Phyllis Tucker
243 Empress Houston, Texas 77034

_____ I want to be a member of Bay Area NOW, Texas NOW and National NOW (\$40.00)
_____ I want to be a member of Bay Area NOW, Texas NOW and National NOW and can afford dues of \$_____.
(Dues for NOW are on a sliding scale from \$15 to \$40)
_____ I am already a member of National NOW and want to join the BAY Area Chapter (\$8.00)
_____ I am not a NOW member but want to receive the newsletter for one year (\$5.00)
_____ I am making a contribution of \$_____ to NOW.
_____ I authorize my name and address to be printed on the NOW roster for members.

NAME _____
HOME ADDRESS _____
TOWN, STATE ZIP _____
PRECINCT NUMBER _____ (FROM VOTER REGISTRATION CARD)
HOME PHONE _____ OTHER PHONE _____



BAY AREA N.O.W. NEWSLETTER
c/o PHYLLIS A. TUCKER
243 EMPRESS
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034

It's a man's world.

unless women vote!

Are You Registered?

****VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE BAY AREA NOW NEWSLETTER ARE THOSE OF THE INDIVIDUAL AUTHIORS AND/OR CONTRIBUTORS AND DO NOT NECESSARILY EXPRESS THOSE OF ANY OTHER NOW CHAPTER, TEXAS NOW OR NATIONAL NOW.*****