



NATIONAL
ORGANIZATION
FOR WOMEN

N.O.W. NEWS

BAY AREA CHAPTER

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

PROGRAM:

AMNESTY

INTERNATIONAL

PROGRAM TOPIC: AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

PRESENTED BY: BILL OHSIE AND KRIS DAVIS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 5, 1985

TIME: 7:00 p.m. POT LUCK DINNER, 7:30 p.m. PROGRAM

LOCATION: A UNITING CHURCH, EL CAMINO REAL & RESEDA BLVD.

The views and opinions expressed in the Bay Area Newsletter are those of the individual authors and/or contributors and do not necessarily express those of any other NOW Chapter, Texas NOW or National NOW

FROM THE PRESIDENT:

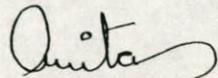
I am pleased that our hot summer season is almost behind. For those of us with young people in our lives, having them back in school, gives a new meaning to the word FREEDOM. This also means getting back to the somewhat neglected business of our organization.

We are facing many crisis' (what else is new?). Our newsletter needs help and a new editor is needed desperately. We also need a program co-ordinator and a person in charge of fundraising. Right now, our funds are low and any monetary contributions to the chapter will be greatly appreciated. We also need to develop a new phone tree so we can have a better communication system. In short, we need your input, your time, and money to make our chapter a success. It isn't easy, I know, but no one said succeeding in our struggle was going to be easy.

On Saturday, August 31st the chapters in Area III had a meeting at the Houston Women's Center. We discussed many items of concern to all of us in the Houston area including the upcoming Texas NOW Convention, hostessing the radio show the 4th Tuesday of the month on KPFT; and sharing a newsletter with several chapters involved to cut back time and cost. We have agreed to have these meetings once a month to share ideas, develop communications and increase visibility in the area.

Please call me and let me know how you can help and what type of actions and direction you would like the chapter to take. It will make me feel supported and certainly will make us, Bay Area NOW, more effective.

In sisterhood,



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DON'T FORGET!!!

NOW night on KPFT 90.1 fm
Fourth Tuesday of every month
from 7:30 to 8:30 pm, Clara
Kern interviews guests and
discusses issues of import-
ance to NOW members and all
members of the community who
believe in equality.

RAPE TASK FORCE

by

Judy Snyder, Chair

Have you ever imagined what it would be like to be raped? Since rape is one of the foremost threats against us, we probably think about it and have nightmares about rape more often than we realize. But these fears and bad dreams can be conquered only when we refuse to ignore the problem. Only when we name the source of our oppression can we fight the forces that keep us in fear.

One of the best ways to begin that fight is to join the Rape Crisis Program. Before you join, you are given twenty-six hours of intensive training on such topics as historical perspectives of rape, the myth of rape, the psychology of rape, and the counseling of rape survivors. These twenty-six hours serve as a consciousness raising experience, forcing the participant to examine the issues and attitudes pertaining to rape, a topic many of us would rather put aside. In the training sessions and afterward, the trainee is struck with the magnitude of the problem and with the necessity for finding solutions.

Later, the new recruit is given supervised experience on the rape crisis line, in preparation for regular three-hour shifts on the hotline. These shifts can now be taken in the Clear Lake area instead of the Women's Center downtown.

Most of us also become PAV's, or personal accompaniment volunteers. This means that we carry a beeper for a week (used only when we are away from home at night or on weekends). It also means being awakened from a sound sleep at four o'clock in the morning, getting into your car by yourself, and driving to a nearby hospital to be with a survivor.

Are there rewards for this superhuman effort? When you hear the survivor tell her story ("Oh, it was awful, Judy. I never thought it would ever happen to me...Should I tell my children about it? I have a teenaged daughter...") you realize you are listening to a woman bare her soul to express the agony shared by millions of women. And you become more determined to fight--to wipe out the root causes of this problem that we face.

con't on pg 4

Rape Task Force, con't.

Starting in September, the Rape Crisis Center in Clear Lake (in the United Way Center in Clear Lake) will again offer training sessions for volunteers. The training will be held on the following days:

Saturday, September 28 (daytime) 9-5

Tuesday, October 1 (evening) 6-9

Wednesday, October 9 (evening) 6-9

Saturday, October 12 (daytime) 9-5

Please call me, Judy Snyder, at 486-5565 and let me know you are interested in joining our group. We need volunteers.

Also, watch for Foley's ad on September 29 in the major newspapers, supporting the work of the Rape Crisis Centers. We will be asked to hand out literature advertising the centers at the malls where Foley's are located. Please volunteer for this effort. Way to go Foley's!

FUNDRAISING---Judy Snyder

NOW members, I need your help! We have seventy-five more Saving Spree coupon booklets to sell to raise money for our chapter. I have given out seventy-five already, but I must have more volunteers willing to put effort into this project. The booklets sell for \$8.00 and the chapter makes a \$4.00 profit for each book sold. This can be a substantial means of fundraising for our group. Please be at the meeting on September 5, 1985, so that I can give you some of the books. They are not hard to sell. (Just ask Roberta Blackburn. She and her husband, Les, have sold 15 books and have gotten 15 more). We must sell these books by October 3. See you at the meeting, Thursday, September 5, 1985.



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1985 NATIONAL NOW CONFERENCE

by
Judith Hoffman

New Orleans may never be the same after being invaded by 1,700 feminists! Spending three days sequestered at the Fairmont Hotel allowed little time for any activity that was not directly connected to the Convention (i.e. sleeping, partying, or visiting the nearby "Quarter"). Pleanaries, workshops, caucuses, political strategy meetings, candidate forums, hospitality suites, lobbyists and campaign propaganda were all necessary ingredients for this election conference. Tension viewpoints, tension differences, tension politics, the tensions mounted until they erupted easing the pre-election friction that characterized the 1985 Conference. The election results brought peace and unity-various candidate supporters vowing to work together regardless of personal (political) differences.

These next three years will bring change...change that a majority of delegates clearly feel is needed. We will put our political differences aside and work for our common goals as sisters and brothers united in NOW.

For our sister, SUE DEVANEY, our newly elected National NOW Treasurer (President of North-East Houston NOW) our pride, our love, our support. We are very proud of this honor.



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NOW



ORIGINS

June 28-30, 1966

Third Annual meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women is held in Washington, D.C. The Commission, founded by President John Kennedy at the request of Eleanor Roosevelt, examines the extent of discrimination against women in the United States.

June 30, 1966

The need for a civil rights organization for women recognized by 28 women attending the Commission meeting. NOW is formed. The founders draft a statement of purpose calling for NOW "to take action to bring women into full participation in the mainstream of American society."

October 29-30, 1966

The first organizing conference of NOW is held in Washington, D.C. Kathryn Clarenbach is elected the first Chair of the Board; Betty Friedan, first President of NOW. There are 300 charter members of NOW.

February 15, 1967

In a national action, NOW members enter government EEOC offices in New York, Washington, Pittsburgh, and other cities to protest EEOC's lack of support on sex discrimination cases.

August 30, 1967

NOW members picket The New York Times to protest its sex-segregated want ad policy.

November, 1967

The second National Conference is held in Washington, D.C. Members set position on ERA and abortion, giving support to both. A "Women's Bill of Rights" is written. NOW's membership is 1,200.

Mother's Day, 1968

NOW members rally in front of the White House demanding a revival of ERA.

December, 1968

The Third National Conference is held in Atlanta. Priority action given to the repeal of abortion laws. NOW's headquarters move to New York City from Detroit.

March, 1970

Fourth National Conference. NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund is created; national headquarters moves to Chicago.

August 26, 1970

NOW Strike for Equality commemorates the 50th Anniversary of women's suffrage. 25,000 participate in NY; 10,000 in L.A.; and 15,000 in Chicago. These demonstrations gain media attention and increase the number of members involved in the movement.

March 29, 1971

NOW protests against AT&T successfully throughout the country for their sex discriminatory policies. NOW attorney Sylvia Roberts successfully appeals the Weeks v. Southern Bell case which established the principle that women had the right to bid for "men's jobs," a right previously denied them under the guise of protecting them from strenuous work.

September 3-6, 1971

Fifth National Conference in Los Angeles. Membership is at 15,000. Affirmation that discrimination against lesbians is a legitimate concern of feminism.

March 22, 1972

Passage of ERA in the Senate. Hawaii is the first state to ratify the ERA.

June 23, 1972

Congress passes Title IX ensuring equal educational opportunity for women in federally funded institutions. NOW plays significant role in its passage.

January 22, 1973

Supreme Court declares abortion a legal right of women.

August 25, 1973

NOW chapters challenge Little League on sex discrimination, through demonstrations at the Little League World Series and filing charges of discrimination.

August 26, 1973

NOW lobbying office opens in Washington, D.C.

June, 1974

NOW files EEOC charges against Sears and Roebuck for sex discrimination and non-compliance with Equal Employment opportunity laws. Over 100 NOW chapters enlist the support of Sears employees and customers with investigations and leafletting.

October 28, 1974

Congress passes Federal Equal Credit Opportunity Act after two years of efforts by NOW to end discrimination against women in obtaining credit.

May 11, 1975

Mother's Day march in front of the Vatican Embassy in Washington, D.C., publicizing the hierarchy's attempt to pressure the government to ban birth control and abortion.

July 21, 1975

NOW endorses the first political candidate in NOW history, Congresswoman Bella Abzug (D-NY) for the Senate.

January 5, 1976

National NOW Action Center opens in Washington, D.C., consolidating the former national office, legislative office, and public information office.

July 4 - August 28, 1976

NOW Vigil is held at the White House - "Shoulder to Shoulder for the ERA."

January 18, 1977

Indiana becomes the 35th state to ratify the ERA.

April 21-24, 1977

Tenth National Conference is held in Detroit. The second decade of NOW is celebrated with an ERA rally. NOW/PAC and National ERA Strike Force created. Ellie Smeal is elected fifth National President.

August 27, 1977

First ERA national Walk-a-thon is held for Equal Rights.

October 20, 1977

NOW spearheads drive to extend deadline for ERA ratification.

1978

NOW continues economic boycott of fifteen unratified states. Over 300 organizations join the boycott.

July 9, 1978

NOW sponsors ERA march in Washington, D.C. 100,000 attend.

August 15, 1978

House approves extension of ERA Ratification deadline.

PORNOGRAPHY HEARING

-----By Ann J. Robison-----

The Pornography Commission of the U.S. Attorney General's Office will be holding public hearings on pornography Sept. 11-12, 9:30 am to 6:00 pm at the Federal Courthouse in Houston as part of a year long, nation-wide program.

The Commission is interested in hearing anyone who may have been victimized by pornography. (Examples: A wife who was forced to endure bizarre sex acts after her husband viewed pornography or a sexual assault victim who may have been assaulted after or while the offenders watched pornography.)

The hearing will also include testimony from Dr. A. Nicholas Groth, Dr. Ed Donnerstein, Dr. Malamuth and other experts in the fields of offender treatment and pornography.

If you (or someone you know) wishes to testify, your identity can be altered to protect anonymity or you may submit written testimony.

For more information, please contact Ed Chapman, Investigator Attorney General's Commission on Pornography, U.S. Department of Justice, 10th and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20530 -- or Call (202) 724-7837.

Ann J. Robison is Chair, Texas NOW Task Force on Pornography and Program Specialist, Sexual Assault Prevention and Crisis Services, Texas Department of Health.

ADS FCR BAY AREA NOW:

\$ 5.00 per month
\$12.50 for three months
\$30.00 for six months
and get seventh
month free.

*She's 84 and aiming for more.
She's having...*



THE TIME OF HER LIFE

Marie LeMaster of Houston chats with Channel 8 host, Barbara Petzing, about mining the riches of "the golden years." Receptionist/Librarian at the Alley Theater, LeMaster offers us a glimpse of the contentment that can be gained from knowing one has lived life to the fullest, and the joy of reaching out to new experiences unhampered by the doubts and insecurities of youth. She has no fear of growing older because she's determined to have... THE TIME OF HER LIFE.

KUHT/CHANNEL 8
Monday, September 9
at
10:00 p.m.

Produced by
Waverly Evans, Liz Kaderli,
and Barbara Petzing

FOR MORE INFORMATION
CONTACT: Charles Jackson
or Jill Pickett
(713) 749-2304

KUHT-TV is public television at the University of Houston in cooperation
with the Association for Community Television.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to our DONNA BEREND. On Saturday, August 3rd, she graduated at University of Houston-Clear Lake. Donna is an example to all of us and a reminder of our strength. She has managed to do graduate work, keep a family and be involved in our chapter. All this she has accomplished communting from her home in Texas City. We are grateful and proud to have her as one of our members.

BEST OF LUCK, DONNA!!!

Anita Marcos has just bought the "Frame Factory" in Clear Lake on Hwy 3 and Bay Area Elvd. If you have any framing that needs to be done or need any prints or posters, give Anita the business.

The 1985 Texas NOW Convention will be sponsored by Tarrant Co. NOW on October 18,19,20 at the Sheraton Centre Park Hotel, Arlington, Texas. Key note speakers will be Ellie Smeal, our newly elected national President, and Kathleen Kennedy, the daughter of the late Senator Robert Kennedy. The workshops promise to be very informative. Among the topics to be discussed and explored are:

- Feminist and Heterosexual Relationships
- Abortion Terrorism
- Pay Equity
- Dealing with Sexual Harassment
- Feminism and Politics
- Third World Women
- Women and Images

Plan to participate in this exciting and informative convention with motivated and caring Texas feminists. The convention is open to all persons seeking equality between the sexes; however, only dues paying Texas NOW members can vote on any issues. It should be a wonderful experience! For more information call Anita Marcos 482-6515.

Please note that we have changed our meetings to 7:00pm from 7:30pm. Beginning Thursday, September 5, 1985, we will have a "Pot Luck" dinner. You may bring something (big or small, store bought or home made, snack or main course) or bring only yourself. No obligation. We will share what we have and socialize for 30 minutes.

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS ACTION ALERT

ACTION IN THE MORNING,
CELEBRATION AT NOON --
HERMANN PARK PAVILION

" DAY OF RESCUE "

THAT IS WHAT LIFE [SIC] ADVOCATES IS CALLING SEPTEMBER 14TH!!

ON THAT DAY THEY PROPOSE TO INVADE WOMEN'S CLINICS
AND DISRUPT NORMAL ROUTINE. THEIR PURPOSE IS TO
STOP PROCEDURES AND CLOSE THE CLINICS FOR THE DAY.

BUT IT WON'T STOP THERE

LIFE [sic] ADVOCATES HAS A NATIONAL PLAN FOR THE YEAR....

ONE ACTION PER MONTH

THEIR GOAL IS TO PERMANENTLY CLOSE ALL CLINICS THAT PERFORM ABORTIONS!

!!! WE CANNOT WAIT ANY LONGER !!!

WE MUST ACT NOW TO PRESERVE OUR RIGHTS

THE COALITION TO END CLINIC VIOLENCE* IS PLANNING TO TAKE
ACTION ON THAT DAY TO PREVENT THIS ATTACK ON WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: MICHELE...524 3052 OR LYN...331 0444

TO VOLUNTEER: 338 1578 OR 774 9706

* COMPRISED OF...NOW, TARAL, ACLU, AMERICAN ATHEISTS
AND VARIOUS AREA CLINICS

