



BROADSIDE

HOUSTON AREA NOW

BROADSIDE--Vol. 11, No. 4

APRIL, 1980

The Dinner Party

THE DINNER PARTY exhibit opened with a weekend of woman-high. Lectures, slide shows, art exhibits, entertainment and food contributed to the spirit of the opening, which centered on THE DINNER PARTY exhibit itself. The exhibit is properly lighted, so the effect when you approach the door and catch your first glimpse is breathtaking. The exhibit should definitely be seen several times. Repeated visits, with a little thinking time in between, are necessary in order to move from the impact of the full scope of the project to an appreciation of the variety of the work, from awe at the time and labor involved, to an enjoyment of the delicacy of the colors of Virginia Woolf's plate,

and pleasure at the freedom of Georgia O'Keeffe's runner.

Volunteers are still needed. If you can possibly commit yourself to a day, you will have the opportunity to linger at the exhibit a little longer. We all feel that THE DINNER PARTY belongs to US-- but it is up to US to make sharing the exhibit possible by donating some of our own time. THE DINNER PARTY took over five years to complete--a day is only a little time to contribute. To volunteer, call Rema Lou Brown at 488-9215, 488-9216, or 488-9217.

THE DINNER PARTY will be on exhibit through June 1, at the Developmental Arts Building at University of Houston/Clear Lake. See related exhibits in the Bayou Bldg.



COALITION OF GREATER HOUSTON NOW CHAPTERS

HERIZONS--Vol. 5, No. 4
APRIL, 1980

NATIONAL ERA MARCH - - MAY 10

NOW has called a National March for the Equal Rights Amendment on Saturday, May 10, in Chicago, Illinois.

This march will be a culmination of ERA activities in Illinois this Spring, including a Labor Conference set for April 26.

Chicago's Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) is working with NOW to build the Spring activities. The United Steel Workers District #31 Women's Conference last month voted unanimously to endorse the Labor Conference and the May 10 march.

Illinois is the only Northern industrial state that has not ratified the Equal Rights Amendment. Texas NOW, and HANOW specifically, in our efforts for ratification of the ERA can do our part to build for the May 10 march in Chicago by organizing to get numbers of ERA supporters to Chicago and lend our visible support for the ERA. Locally, we can begin by informing other groups and organizations such as women's, labor, and civil rights organizations of the efforts of our Sisters in Chicago on behalf of ratification of the ERA in Illinois.

October, 1980, will mark the second anniversary of the ERA extension approval; no state has ratified the ERA during that time. A massive turnout on May 10 in Chicago can break through the present impasse on ratification and give powerful impetus to winning the Equal Rights Amendment.

--Leona Hershkowitz
HANOW

LATE FLASH!!!

***ACTIVITIES PLANNED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE May 10 March in Chicago include a leafleting campaign Sunday and Monday, May 11 and 12, and a lobby day in Springfield, Illinois, on Tuesday, May 13.

***A BUS WILL BE GOING FROM TEXAS, with stops in Austin and Dallas. Attend your next NOW meeting for details. ***Everyone who possibly can must attend this march. White clothing is the color of the day; the march is going to be comparable to the famous July 9, 1978 March in Washington. It is imperative that we break up the logjam which is holding up ratification of the ERA!

* * * * *

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR A HOUSTON AREA NOW SALES TABLE AT THE STATE CONVENTION IN HUNTSVILLE MAY 16-18. ALSO, VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED BY THE HOSTING CHAPTER TO HELP WITH REGISTRATION. NOW is the time to get yourself involved!

* * * * *

ERA ACTION TEAM STILL ACCEPTING DONATIONS AND OFFERS OF HELP! \$1.00 SENDS 10 POSTCARDS! CONTACT JAN STEVENS, 445-2220 "FAILURE IS IMPOSSIBLE."

Spinning/Weaving

(New tales, new myths are needed as we struggle to find women's history, and to create our own language. Mary Daly has begun in her book, GYN/ECOLOGY, and Judy Chicago's THE DINNER PARTY has inspired further search and research of women's heritage. The writer of the following admits to having been Divinely Inspired, having seen the Creation of Judy Chicago, and having Feasted at that Fertile Table.)

IN THE BEGINNING, the Primordial Goddess created the Earth. She put the Sky above, and the Oceans around the Land; She made Trees, Flowers, and all the Plants; She made Birds, Fish, Cattle, and all the Animals. Light came from the Earth itself; there was neither Night nor Day. And it was Good. The Primordial Goddess saw that someone was needed to put these Good Things to use, so She created Woman. She gave the beautiful new creature hair from the Clouds, breasts from the Earth, and feet capable of holding her tall and strong above the Earth. She gave Woman the strength of Stone, the resiliency of the Willow Tree, and the endurance of the Earth itself. The Primordial Goddess saw that Her creation was Good, so She gave Woman great Power, and many gifts. She put blood in her body so that she might live, and gave her many talents, and then two special gifts: "Not only will I give you many talents, but I will give you the gift of Creativity," the Primordial Goddess

said. "And not only will I give you the blood by which you live, I will also give you the gift of Life-Blood, with which you can create your own Daughters."

Upon receiving these gifts, Woman set about using them. Her first creation was the Wheel--which she made into a wonderful Spinning Wheel. With this Spinning Wheel, she created all the tales of her history, she created songs, and all the wonderful things that she needed to use to make her life pleasant and rich. The Spinning Wheel became the Altar of Peace for all Creatures on Earth.

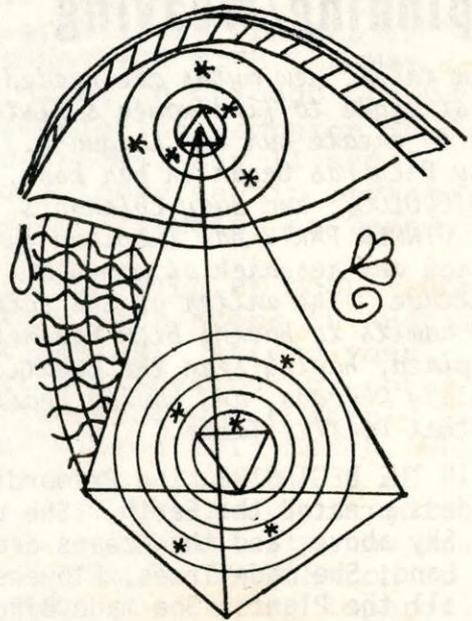
One day the Primordial Goddess looked and saw that Woman needed a helpmeet so that she might bear children and rear them. So when some of Woman's Life-Blood drops fell on the Earth, the Primordial Goddess made a mud of blood and earth and made a new creature. "Because you are made of part of Woman, your name shall be part of Woman, too, and I shall call you 'Man.'" So spoke The Goddess.

Woman and Man lived together in happiness for some time, and together they were blessed with many daughters, and they had sons, too. But one day, Man noticed the Life-Blood which came from Woman, and he became envious of her Power, for he knew that if he bled, he would die. But Woman could bleed and not die; and not only did she not die, but she could make New Life with her Blood. Man's envy was great, so while Woman slept, Man stole her Spin-

ning Wheel, and all her Tales, and History, and Peace, and all the Good Things Woman had created with her Spinning Wheel, and he hid them. When Woman awoke, she asked where her Spinning Wheel was, and Man lied, and said that those things had never been, that she must have dreamed them. And he seized her Power, and began to make his own things, and among them was War, for Man kept hoping that some day he might bleed and not die, as Woman could do. And Woman could do nothing, for her Power had been stolen from her.

The Primordial Goddess saw what had happened, and She was sad. "You still have your Life-Blood," said the Primordial Goddess to Woman. "And you still have your Creativity, for no one can take these gifts from you. But you must search for your lost Spinning Wheel, and your Tales and Power. And I will put Signs in the Sky for you," the Primordial Goddess went on. "I will make a Big Light, the Sun, to light your way while you search; and I will give you Darkness, so that you might weep in secret for your lost Power, and I will make a Pale Light, the Moon, so that you may conduct ceremonies with your Sisters; and I will make both Lights round, to remind you of your Spinning Wheel, and your search for your lost Power."

So now we continue to search, and perhaps soon we will reclaim our Spinning Wheels.



MAKE PLANS NOW TO ATTEND THE STATE CONVENTION IN HUNTSVILLE, MAY 16-18. Pre-registration fee will be \$20.00 for members, and \$25.00 for non-members; there will be rooms available on the Sam Houston State University campus for \$5.60 per night with linens, or \$3.60 per night without linens. The school will be able to provide three meals for \$8.25. This could prove to be the most affordable convention yet, so BE THERE! All Texas NOW members will receive complete details in the Call to Convention, which will probably be sent out in mid-April.

THE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES:
THEIR POSITIONS ON THE ERA
AND ABORTION

*(The following information is
from the NATIONAL ABORTION
RIGHTS ACTION LEAGUE (NARAL)
and THE HOUSTON CHRONICLE.)*

JOHN ANDERSON is the only Republican candidate who is a firm supporter of the ERA. He was quoted as saying that he would use the White House as a "bully pulpit" to get the ERA ratified. He voted for the ERA extension. Anderson opposes any attempt to amend the US Constitution to prohibit abortion; he supports public funding of abortions for poor women, and believes there should be no restrictions whatsoever regarding circumstances under which a poor woman may elect abortion. His name would have to be written in on the Texas primary ballot.

GEORGE BUSH simply says he would see that justice is upheld in regard to equality under the law. While he is personally opposed to abortion, he opposes any amendment to prohibit abortion; he supports public funding of abortions for poor women in cases of rape or incest, or to save the life of the mother.

JIMMY CARTER supports the ERA, although no new state has ratified during his administration, including Georgia, which turned down the ERA already in 1980. Carter is opposed to an amendment to prohibit abortion, but he opposes public funding of abortion in general, but may agree

to it in cases of rape or incest, or to save the life of the mother.

EDWARD KENNEDY supports the ERA, opposes an anti-abortion amendment, and supports public funding of abortions for the poor.

RONALD REAGAN opposes the ERA, and is in favor of a Constitutional amendment to outlaw abortion (this amendment also would outlaw some forms of contraception, such as certain forms of The Pill and the IUD.) He opposes public funding of abortion.

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THOSE OF YOU WHO WISH TO VOTE FOR JOHN ANDERSON WILL FIND THAT HIS NAME IS NOT ON THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARY BALLOT IN TEXAS. THERE WILL BE A LEVER MARKED "UNCOMMITTED," HOWEVER, WHICH MIGHT HELP ANDERSON GET SOME TEXAS DELEGATES. WATCH FOR FURTHER INFORMATION ON THIS IN THE NEXT BROADSIDE/HERIZONS.

Ronald Reagan commented that he would not want to live in a country that drafted its women. Now you're getting down to it, Reagan! I would not want to live in a country which had you as president! Anyone care to chip in on an island? The man's daughter even opposes him!

APRIL						
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MAY						
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CALENDAR

APRIL, 1980

3--HANOW ACTION MEETING,
World Trade Building,
1520 Texas Ave., 7:30 pm.

10--HANOW PROGRAM MEETING,
World Trade Building,
1520 Texas Ave., 8:00 pm.

MAY, 1980

10--Equal Rights Amendment
11 Activities in Illinois.
12 A huge march in Chicago
13 (see page 2) and other
activities.

16--TEXAS NOW Convention,
17 Huntsville
18

ALL DURING APRIL AND MAY
(THROUGH JUNE 1)--THE DINNER
PARTY ART EXHIBIT BY JUDY
CHICAGO, UNIVERSITY OF
HOUSTON, CLEAR LAKE--AND
RELATED ACTIVITIES--PICK UP
A BROCHURE AT THE EXHIBIT.

NATIONAL NOW CONVENTION IN
SAN ANTONIO, OCTOBER 4 & 5

ads



Hurry and Get Your T-Shirt! Navy blue with white letters, the T-shirt sells for \$5, plus 75¢ postage. To order, mail check to Houston Area Women's Center, P.O. Box 20186, Houston, Texas 77025.

HELP WANTED: Press operator, experience preferred but not necessary. Located in Jacinto City. Call Gail, 453-0469. A Woman-owned and -operated business.



Get your "ERA-YES" cap green & white (NOW's official ERA colors)\$5.00 from Peggy Hall, 522-4468

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**INFORMATION FOR INCLUSION in the next BROADSIDE/HERIZONS newsletter should be submitted by the 15th of each month for the next month's issue. Material may be mailed to Jan Stevens, 6726 Desert Rose, Houston, Tx. 77086, or you may give it to Jan at the HANOW Program meeting, 2nd Thurs. each month.

Views and opinions expressed in BROADSIDE/HERIZONS are those of individual authors and do not necessarily express those of any NOW chapter or National NOW.

**Now is
 the Time...**

HOUSTON AREA NOW
 P.O. Box 66351
 HOUSTON, TX. 77006

President	Aileen McMurrer	524-0439
Vice-President	Patricia Bastidas	528-0296
Secretary	Leslie Reston	776-9827
Treasurer	Jan Stevens	445-2220

**to join
 NOW!**

MONTROSE AREA NOW
 1803 FAIRVIEW
 HOUSTON, TX. 77006

President	Peggy Hall	522-4468
Vice-President	Kay Whyburn	667-8556
Secretary	Peggy Mazeika	981-1074
Treasurer	Burnet Oliveros	526-0664

NORTHWEST HOUSTON NOW
 1031 ARROWHILL
 HOUSTON, TX. 77077

President	Susan Blanchard	376-5486
Vice-President	Elaine Oliver	468-7348
Treasurer	Marilvn Hannahs	496-2136

I wish to join _____ chapter of NOW.

NAME _____ PHONE _____

ADDRESS _____

I enclose dues: _____\$30.00 Regular _____\$16.00 Hardship

I wish to pay either of the above in two installments and I enclose
 _____\$15.00 Regular _____\$8.00 Hardship

This is my first installment _____ This is my second installment _____

Make your check payable to the chapter of your choice, and send to the appropriate address as listed above. Dues include membership in the local chapter, Texas NOW, and National NOW.

Defend a Woman's Right to Choose!



National Organization for Women



HOUSTON AREA CHAPTER
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

HANOW
P. O. BOX 66351
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

SECTION 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

SECTION 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

SECTION 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

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