



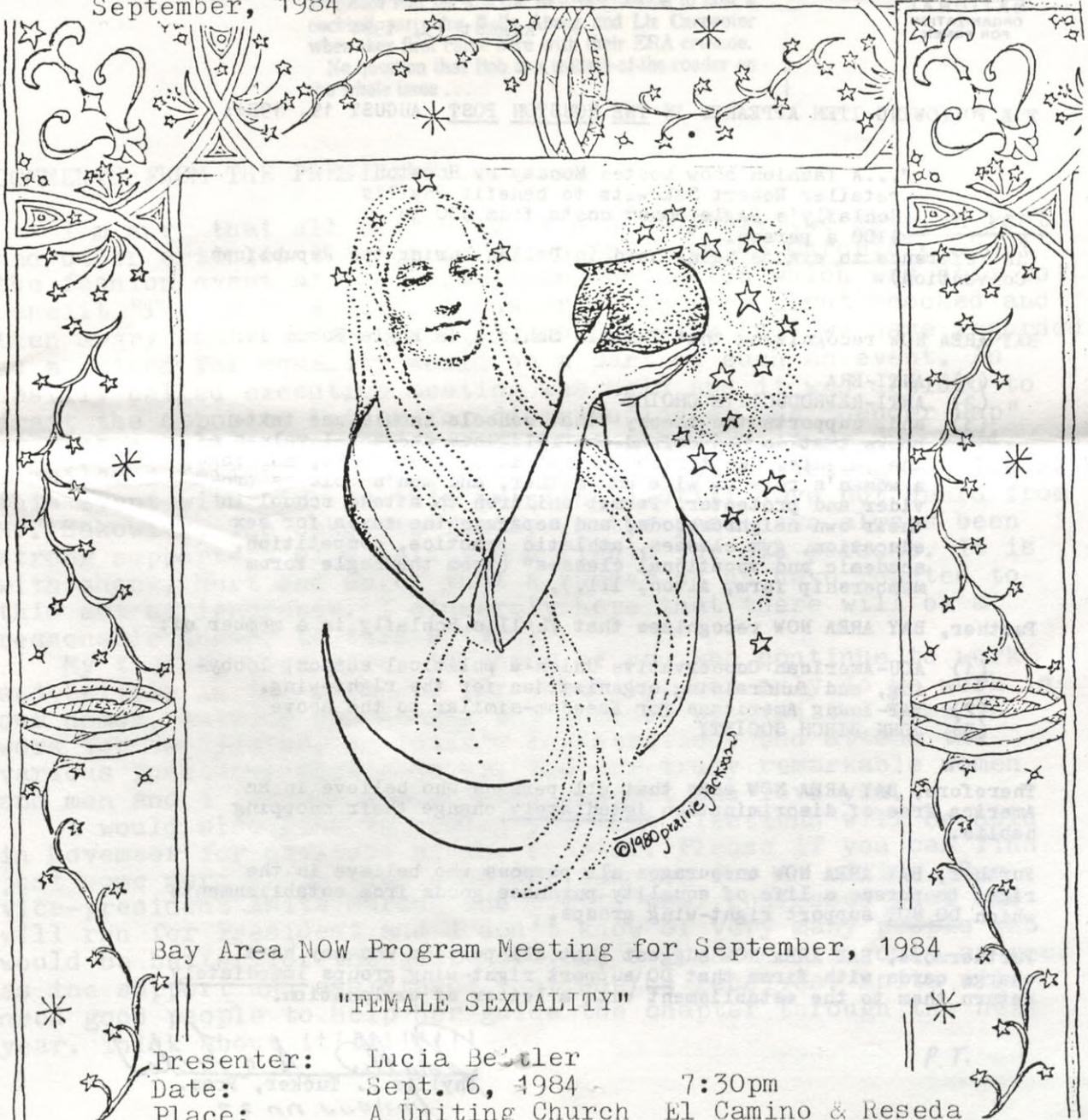
N.O.W. NEWS

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

BAY AREA CHAPTER

Volume XII, Number 9
September, 1984

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN



Bay Area NOW Program Meeting for September, 1984

"FEMALE SEXUALITY"

Presenter:	Lucia Bettler	
Date:	Sept. 6, 1984	7:30pm
Place:	A Uniting Church	El Camino & Reseda



National Organization for Women

BAY AREA CHAPTER

P.O. Box 590143 Houston, Tx. 77259

August 19, 1984

THE FOLLOWING ITEM APPEARED IN THE HOUSTON POST AUGUST 19, 1984:

"...A fashion show hosted Monday by Houston retailer Robert Sakowitz to benefit Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum costs from \$50 to \$100 a person..."

(in reference to events being held in Dallas during the Republican Convention)

BAY AREA NOW recognizing that Phyllis Schlafly's Eagle Forum is:

- (1) ANTI-ERA
- (2) ANTI-REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE
- (3) and, supports the theory "that schools should use textbooks that do not offend the religious and moral values of the parents. Use textbooks that honor the family, marriage, a woman's role as wife and mother, and man's role as provider and protector. Permit children to attend school in their own neighborhoods, and separate the sexes for sex education, gym classes, athletic practice, competition, academic and vocational classes" (from the Eagle Forum membership form, Alton, Ill.).

Further, BAY AREA NOW recognizes that Phyllis Schlafly is a member of:

- (1) ACU-American Conservative Union-a political action, lobbying, and fundraising organization for the right-wing.
- (2) YAF-Young Americans for Freedom-similar to the above
- (3) JOHN BIRCH SOCIETY

Therefore, BAY AREA NOW asks that all persons who believe in an America free of discrimination immediately change their shopping habits.

Further, BAY AREA NOW encourages all persons who believe in the right to pursue a life of equality purchase goods from establishments which DO NOT support right-wing groups.

Furthermore, BAY AREA NOW suggest that all persons who may have charge cards with firms that DO support right-wing groups immediately return them to the establishment with a letter of explanation.

Phyllis A. Tucker
Phyllis A. Tucker, Pres.
17131944.00 22

... Incidentally, Lynn's brother, merchandising exec Bob Sakowitz, was in Dallas last week commentating a fashion show for Phyllis Schlafly's anti-ERA group at the Republican National Convention. Sakowitz's beauty salon bigwig, Michael Kemper, flew over with Bob and did the coiffures of the gals who modeled in the show. It's buzzing around now that the pro-ERA group is miffed with Bob for taking part in a Schlafly event. It's not easy for Bob. The gals seem to have forgotten that he was the first in Houston to host a cocktail party for Bella Abzug and Liz Carpenter when they first came here with their ERA crusade. No question that Bob is a middle-of-the-roader on the whole issue ...

Maxine Mesinger
 Column "B. G. City Art"
Houston Chronicle
 8-27-84

COMMENTS FROM THE PRESIDENT.....

I'm sure that all of you saw the article in the Houston Post and other articles that appeared in the Houston Chronicle about the fashion event at the Republican Convention which was held to benefit "The Eagle Forum". A number of us were first shocked and then angry that someone such as Bob Sakowitz that we have regarded as a friend for equality would be a part of such an event. An hastily called executive meeting was held and it was decided to draft the opposite letter for distribution at the "Gender Gap" project that same day. On the following Monday, Aug. 20, 1984, I mailed a letter to Bob Sakowitz asking for a meeting to discuss this event with him. At this printing I still have not heard from Mr. Sakowitz. The Sakowitz family in the past have always been strong supporters of equality and rights for all persons. It is with shock, hurt and anger that a number of us have reacted to this act of ignorance. I sincerely hope that there will be a reasonable answer to this action.

My thanks, once more, to those of you who continue to work and believe in the struggle for equality. Not only do we work in our homes, outside our homes, but somehow we find the time to work for candidates, do voter's registration, and attend the various functions that come up. You are truly remarkable women and men and I for one appreciate, respect and love you.

I would also like to remind you that elections will be held in November for officers of the chapter. Please if you can find just some more extra time consider running for an office. Our vice-president Anita Marcus has pretty well confessed that she will run for President and I don't know of very many people who would be better for the job. However, a President is only as good as the support and assistance that she/he receives. Anita will need good people to help her guide the chapter through the next year. Think about it!!!!!!!!!!!!

P.T.

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CURRENT STATUS OF BILLS IN CONGRESS

(remember you can write your congress-person and request a copy of any of the legislation that you are interested in)

PAY EQUITY:

- H.R. 5680 Federal Civil Service, the Federal Pay Equity and Management improvement Act of 1984, mandates that an independent consultant perform a seven-month pay equity study of the federal civil service system. H. Con. Res. 239 and S. Con. Res 83 are companion measures that would establish a commission to perform a pay equity study within the legislative branch.

CIVIL RIGHTS:

- H.R. 5490 and S. 2568 Civil Rights Act of 1984, would restore the scope of four major civil rights statutes narrowed by the Supreme Court's interpretation of Title IX in GROVE CITY COLLEGE v BELL.
H.R. 5569 Gender Bias in the U.S. Code, would eliminate hundreds of gender-based references from the U.S. Code

CHILD CARE:

- H.R. 4193 School-Age Child Care, would provide \$30 million to community agencies and nonprofit organizations to institute before and after-school child care programs.
S. 1531
H.R. 5885 Information and Referral, would provide \$8 million in seed money for private organizations to set up child care information and referral clearinghouses.

SPOUSAL BENEFITS:

- H.R. 2300 Civil Service Pension Reform, protecting survivor benefits for widows and former spouses of civil service employees. The Senate bill would also provide for continued health insurance coverage of divorced spouses.
S. 2821

HEALTH:

- H.R. 5600 Family Planning reauthorizes the Family Planning program and the Preventive Health Care Block Grant for three years with modest funding increases each year; the Adolescent Family Life program is extended for three years at current funding.
H.R. 1904 Family Violence, the Child Abuse Amendments of 1983, passed the House on Feb 2, 1984. The bill contains a measure to provide \$65 million over three years to establish a support program, primarily aimed at shelters for battered women and their dependents

(information compliments of Congressperson John Bryant from "Update" the newsletter of the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues)

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*****AND NOW FOR THOSE INDIVIDUALS THAT CLAIM NOW MEMBERS ARE
RADICAL, LIBERAL, UN-AMERICAN CRAZIES...let's compare the
right-wing, ultra-conservative, fundamentalist Christians
that seem to be in control of the Republican Party*****

Soviet ideal woman is feminine, not feminist

Houston Chronicle

Sunday, August 12, 1984

By JACK REDDEN
United Press International

MOSCOW — The ideal Soviet woman is not one who walks in space and certainly not one who would aspire to high office.

No, she is one who can sew a button and peel a potato and generally respects the "stronger sex."

So says a Leningrad child psychologist in an article printed in the Soviet trade union newspaper Trud.

"The true strength of a woman lies not in her physical strength but in the weakness of her sex," the psychologist, V. Garbuzov, wrote. "By her tenderness, her pure female tact, her delicacy, she first wins the heart of her father, then husband."

Boys and girls are meant to be different, Garbuzov concluded. The psychologist shunned the Western movement away from stereotyping children into male and female roles.

"Giving a girl an apron as a present before she is given a Sunday dress instills in her the skill of housekeeping, the skill and taste for this eternal female cause," it said.

A mother must teach by example, acting and dressing properly, it said. Her daughter must learn the role of mother by caring for dolls, then pets

and then the younger children.

"Before she goes to school she can already sew on a button, iron a handkerchief, peel a potato," the article described a girl properly raised.

"A rough, coarse girl will inevitably turn into a rough, coarse woman. To prevent this happening, a girl must from her earliest years be prepared for her noble designation of woman, wife, mother."

The article appeared at about the same time as Soviet cosmonaut Svetlana Savitskaya was in the news. She returned to Earth after becoming the first woman to walk in space.

On the Soviet battle of the sexes, it was clear whose side Garbuzov took.

"There is yet another thing that a daughter must be taught," the Trud article said, "to respect the stronger sex in the form of a specific boy, youth or man for his personal qualities."

The psychologist author expressed alarm at a survey that showed Soviet women did not respect their men, and placed the blame squarely on the women, who have outnumbered men through most of the century due to deaths in war and revolution.

"I am afraid that this is the fault of the female half of the family ... constantly branding sons, brothers, husbands etc. as stupid, unfaithful, drunks," the article said.

Women are making a "terrible mistake," the article said, warning that they might end up divorced and lonely. "What could be more bitter for a woman?"

Although women officially enjoy full equality, they are often blamed in the government-controlled press such as Trud for such social problems as high divorce rates and troubled children.

If any of this
sounds familiar
I would suggest
you read the
Platform of the
Republican Party
which was drafted
by the radical-
Fundamentalist
Far-Right.

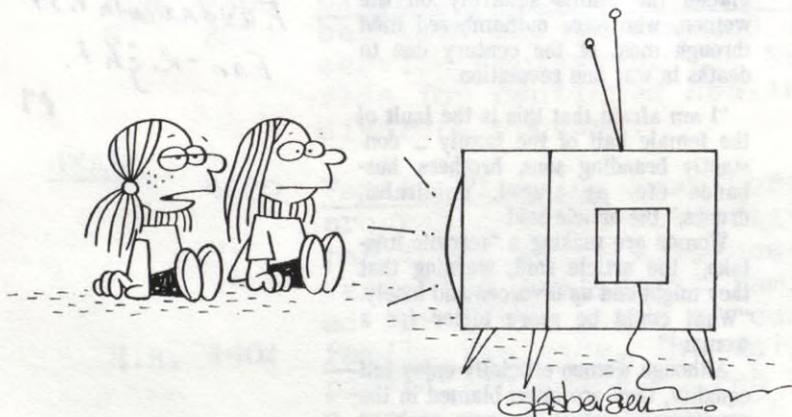
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VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

- Each year in the United States, 3 to 4 million women are beaten in their homes by their husbands, ex-husbands, boy-friends or lovers.
- Twenty-one percent of all women who use the hospital emergency surgical service are battered.
- Almost half of all injuries presented by women to the surgical service are battered.
- Battering precipitates 1 in every 4 suicide attempts by black women.
- Half of all rapes of women over 30 are part of the battering syndrome.
- Twenty to fifty percent of all murders in this country are committed within the family and 13% are committed by spouses.

(from the American Journal of Nursing, June '84 article "Wife Abuse in the Medical Setting, an introduction for Health Personnel."



"Just once I'd like to see a witty female game show host with silly, emotional male contestants."

NETWORK ADDRESSES

Want to write to a network about its shows? Here's how to reach them: ABC, 1330 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10019; CBS, 51 West 52nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10019; NBC, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N.Y. 10020; PBS, 475 L'Enfant Plaza, West, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20024.

TV GUIDE

LESBIAN RIGHTS

In our continuing effort to educate ourselves and the public on the issue of lesbian rights, I want to share with you information from a great organization "Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays".

WE ARE PARENTS & FRIENDS OF GAY PERSONS. New windows of understanding have opened to us. We are committed to help other family & friends learn what we have learned, and to help change attitudes and create an environment of understanding so that our gay children can live with dignity and respect.

We invite you to share our knowledge, to be free from fear, and to reach out, search, and discover more about being human.

AS PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS MEETING WITH OTHER PARENTS & FRIENDS....

We have learned....our gay daughters and sons come from "model" families, single-parent, those with dominant or submissive mothers, weak or strong fathers-all kinds. There is no pattern.

We have learned....our gay children or friends are the only child, the youngest/middle/oldest, one of twins. In some families one child is gay, in others two or more. There is no pattern.

We have learned....to be free from the burden of guilt for our children's natural, normal, sexual orientation.

We have learned....to recognize our children's expression of love as honest and moral.

"WE LOVE OUR GAY CHILDREN."

(For those persons living near or visiting Houston, the Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays invite you to attend their meetings on the third Sunday of every month at 2:00pm at the Presbyterian Center, 41 Oakdale. For more information call Freda Jerrell 464-6663)

Coalition For Peace and Justice in Central America
presents

Holly Near and Ronnie Gilbert
with

Nina Golden on piano and Susan Freundlich, sign language artist

October 29th 8:00pm Tower Theatre

Tickets before Sept. 28th \$12.00, after Sept. 28th \$13.50

CURING FEMININITY

By WRAY HERBERT

SCIENCE NEWS, VOL. 124

SEPTEMBER 10, 1983

Consider a psychological interview in which an adult male reports these personality traits: He puts work and career above personal relationships, travels a lot and works long hours; he makes career decisions (relocating, for example) without considering others' needs; he passively allows others to take responsibility for much of his social life because he is unable to express emotions. How would he be diagnosed?

He might, according to Rutgers University psychologist Marcie Kaplan, be diagnosed as suffering from Independent Personality Disorder. He might, but he wouldn't, because there is no such thing as Independent Personality Disorder; instead, he would most likely be viewed as typically male and left undiagnosed. In contrast, Kaplan says, a healthy adult woman who shows up in the clinic with personality traits considered typically female would automatically earn a diagnosis — most likely Dependent Personality Disorder — and be labeled sick and in need of treatment.

Writing in the July *AMERICAN PSYCHOLOGIST*, Kaplan takes on an enduring question — why are more women than men treated for psychiatric disorders? — and she answers it by arguing that the very rules of diagnosis, as codified in the so-called DSM III, the bible of psychiatric diagnosis, are stacked against women. The male-dominated committees that wrote the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual*, she says, have arbitrarily defined what is maladaptive, so that healthy feminine attitudes and behaviors (or what are stereotypically viewed as feminine attitudes and behaviors) match those that are officially psychopathological.

Several theories have been put forth to explain why women are more frequently diagnosed as mentally ill. It has been suggested that women are more willing than men to express symptoms, so that they are

been suggested that there is indeed more mental illness among women — that because of their underprivileged position in society women are at greater risk for emotional disturbance. But the most convincing theory, Kaplan argues, is that women are diagnosed as mentally ill both for overconforming and for underconforming to female stereotypes. According to several studies of therapists' attitudes, Kaplan notes, most therapists have the same criteria for healthy men and for healthy adults, but they tend to use different criteria in defining healthy women; the typical psychologically healthy woman is more submissive, less independent, less aggressive, more emotional and more

emotionally expressive, more excitable and more concerned about appearance. If a woman rejects this stereotype, she is an unhealthy woman; if she conforms to it, she is an unhealthy adult, as defined in several parts of the DSM III.

The part of the diagnostic manual most heavily stacked against women is the chapter on personality disorders, Kaplan claims. Histrionic Personality Disorder (what used to be called hysteria) is defined by the presence of self-dramatization, overreaction, irrational and angry outbursts, vanity and dependence — traits that, Kaplan notes, are not all that different from those of the female stereotype.

Similarly, Dependent Personality Disorder is defined by characteristics that echo the clinicians' ideal of a healthy woman — passivity and a tendency to subordinate one's needs to the needs of others. Some-

one with this personality disorder, the DSM III says for example, might tolerate an abusive spouse. But the manual ignores the dependency of people — usually men, Kaplan argues — who rely on others to maintain their houses and raise their children, or of those people — again usually men — who remarry only to replace the original caretaker. "In short," Kaplan con-

cludes, "men's dependency, like women's dependency, exists and is supported and sanctioned by society; but men's dependency is not labeled as such, and men's dependency is not considered sick, whereas women's dependency is."

To make her point, Kaplan invented two fictitious personality disorders based on stereotypically male traits: Independent Personality Disorder, described earlier, and Restricted Personality Disorder, which is defined by such traits as appearance of self-assurance, limited emotional expression, resistance to answering others' emotional needs and stoicism. Without these diagnostic categories, Kaplan says, a male with such traits — the counterparts of histrionics and dependency in women — would go undiagnosed and untreated. "Masculinity alone is not clinically suspect," she concludes, "femininity alone is."

REMEMBER.....

Your ad, business card, comments can be right here for all members and supporters to read.

Check the program meeting for rates and details.

Inexpensive and very worthwhile.

Steinem perspectives

■ **On feminism:** The radical vision of feminism depends on its possibility of transforming the status of all women, not just a correct few.

■ **On military service:** No wonder there is a deep conviction among many women that this society just doesn't want us to learn how to use force. What would happen if all the underpaid waitresses and rape victims and battered wives had a little military training?

■ **On value of work:** If all the productive work of human maintenance that women do in the home were valued at its replacement cost, the gross national product of the United States would go up by 26 percent.

■ **On networking:** It's a primary way women discover that we are not crazy, the system is. We also discover that mutual-support groups can create change where the most courageous individual woman could not.

■ **On pomography:** Until we finally untangle sexuality and aggression, there will be more pornography and less erotica. There will be little murders in our beds — and very little love.

■ **On survival:** We look at how far we've come, and then we know — there can be no turning back.

Source: *Outrageous Acts and Everyday Rebellions* by Gloria Steinem

Law booklet covers Texas women and law

The League of Women Voters of Houston has released a booklet entitled *Women Under Texas law*. The publication, written by Lavora Spradlin Arizaga, a Houston attorney and Director of the League of Women Voters of Texas, covers property rights, marriage, divorce, parent-child relationships, and domestic violence.

The booklet, which costs \$2.75 including tax, postage and handling, may be purchased from League of Women Voters of Houston, 1947 West Gray, Suite 202, Houston, Texas 77019. For more information, call the League office at 529-3171 any weekday between 9 AM and 3 PM. ●

VITAL STATISTICS

A case of sex discrimination? Though nearly half of the male local-news anchors in this country are over 40, only 3% of their female counterparts have reached that venerable age. Furthermore, while 16% of male local anchors are over 50, there are no female anchors of that vintage, according to a survey conducted by Audience Research and Development.

TV GUIDE



'Woman's Guide'

A 54-page booklet containing useful information about laws which protect working women during the job hunt, at work and during retirement has just been released by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

Free single copies of the 1983 edition of "A Working Woman's Guide to Her Job Rights" are available by writing Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor, Washington, D.C. 20210.

The 1984 Texas NOW convention will be held Sept. 14 - 16 at the Sheraton Crown Hotel and Convention Center here in Houston. Special guests and speakers will include Texas State Treasurer Ann Richards, National NOW Secretary Kathy Webb, candidate for Congress from Pennsylvania and former National Vice-President Jane Wells-Schooley. Full registrants will enjoy the luncheon and evenings entertainment by Judy Eron, feminist singer and songwriter from Nashville, Tenn. and NE Houston NOW chapters own comedian Debbie Tate hosting the NOW-PAC auction. The convention will kick off on Friday night with a FREE open bar and snacks sponsored by the NE Houston NOW Chapter.

The Texas NOW Convention is not a delegated meeting. To vote at the convention, you must be a NOW member at least 30 days in advance -- you must have joined NOW by Aug. 14, 1984. Bring proof of membership, especially if you have joined in the last three months such as current membership card, recent issued of the National NOW Times with your mailing label, canceled check, or a letter from your treasurer. Registration fee postmarked after August 24, 1984 for members and non-members is \$30.00, but this will not include the Saturday luncheon. NOW policy states that any NOW member unable to pay full registration fee may waive all or part of the fee.

*Note....I would like to remind all Bay Area NOW members that Bay Area NOW submitted to the Texas NOW State council the proposed change to the State By-Laws to delete the office of Vice President-Communications. The responsibilities of that title are to publish the State Newsletter and get advertising for the State Newsletter. Members of Bay Area NOW believe that creating an office for a newsletter editor is an unnecessary expense. The monies spent in funding this office could be put to better use by expending the amount on issues. Let's put the newsletter editor back into the position that it belongs..an appointative office to report the happenings of the business of the council and chapters around the state.

*****ATTENTION: MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS*****

Help us pay for the expense of publishing the newsletter. We will begin selling ads to appear in each months issue of the Bay Area NOW Newsletter. Rates will be available at the program meeting. If you have a service to sell, a business to advertise, an apartment to rent, put it in the newsletter.

Bay Area N.O.W. Officers

President	Phyllis Tucker	(713)	944-0033
Vice-President	Anita Marcos	(713)	482-6515
Secretary	Donna Berend	(409)	948-8896
Treasurer	Judy Snyder	(713)	486-5565

Calendar

Sept. 5 Reception Sheila Jackson Lee, candidate, 215th Civil District Court-Harris Co., Texas. Inns of Court Club 707 Travis 4:30 - 7:30pm \$25

6 Bay Area NOW program meeting 7:30pm

7-8 Democratic State Convention Dallas, Texas

10 Fundraiser for Lloyd Doggett, candidate for U.S. Senate Rockefeller 3620 Washington Ave. 5 - 7 pm \$10

14-16 Texas NOW State Convention in Houston at the Sheraton Crown Hotel 15700 Drummet Blvd Workshops, Elections, Entertainment, Good Sisterhood Registration after Aug. 25 \$30

19 Bay Area NOW Business Meeting 7:30pm
A Uniting Church El Camino Real & Reseda

24-27 Voters Registration at U.H./CLC contact Donna Berend or Pat Kuhlmann

WHO CARES ABOUT WOMEN? NOW CARES!!! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?
Join NOW, now. Clip and mail to Judy Snyder 16310 Hill Point
Houston, Texas 77059

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 (\$0.00)

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.

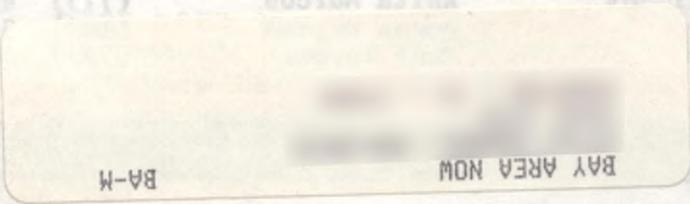
NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

TOWN, STATE ZIP _____

PRECINCT NUMBER _____ (FROM VOTER REGISTRATION CARD)

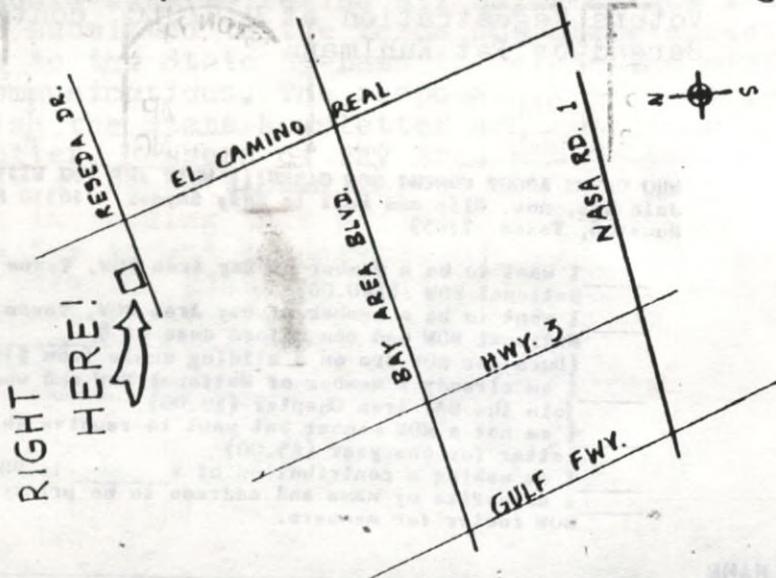
HOME PHONE _____ CIRCLE PHONE _____



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

WHERE DO WE MEET?

IN CLEAR LAKE CITY



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