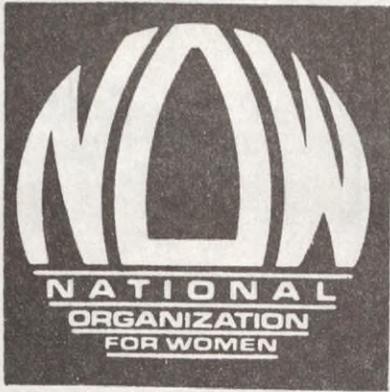


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VOL 1 NO 3

CHAPTER
at
the University of HOUSTON

MEETING

TUESDAY, AUGUST 4,

BALTIC ROOM

Business Meeting 6:30

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON CENTER

Chapter Meeting 7:30

NOW ACTIONS

- I. The Last ERA WALKathon - 9:00 am, Saturday, August 22, on Buffalo Bayou Trail - 4.5 miles per lap, Sabine St to Shepherd to Sabine along Hike and Bike Trail, Memorial and Allen Parkway. This is a joint project of NOW chapters in the Houston area.

For all of these jobs, contact Deborah Bell, Houston ERA Walkathon Coordinator, 681-9507

JOBS

Time commitment

<u>JOBS</u>	Time commitment
1. be a walker	2 - 4 hours on 8/22 plus time required to solicit sponsors/contributors
2. be a staff person for WALKathon - medical aides, marshals, checkers, child care	2 - 4 hours, 8 - 12 am, 8/22
3. be or find sponsors for walkers i.e. get money.	5 minutes, as often as possible
4. recruiter of walkers	5 - 15 minutes, as often as possible
5. help coordinate WALKathon	hours and hours(!) NOW til August 31

MORMON MISSIONARY CAMPAIGN IN UTAH call Jo Ann Evansgardner for information, 741-4009

1. go as Missionary to Salt Lake City two weeks, (includes two days required training) beginning either August 8 or August 22.
2. raise or contribute money to support a missionary

EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT LETTER WRITING AND PHONE BANKING

These are the techniques used to secure the extension of the time for ratification - see Calendar elsewhere in this newsletter for dates, times and phone number of coordinator. Time involved is about 2 hours, usually in the evening. We also need coordinators to run these sessions in their home neighborhoods. Training provided.

(continued)

MESSAGE BRIGADE AND PETITION CAMPAIGN

The Message Brigade and Petition Campaign are a new part of NOW's total mobilization to push ERA Ratification over the top by June 30, 1982. We are seeking 1,000,000 members of the Message Brigade who will be available, at a moment's notice, to send messages to political leaders who can affect ratification. And we want millions and millions of Petition signers to impress on Ronald Reagan and the Republican Party that they will destroy the viability of their Party with those who stand for women's rights unless they change their position on ERA. Exit polls in the 1980 elections showed that the voting difference between women and men for Ronald Reagan was at least 8%. In a closer election, that difference can make the difference. We are not fooling ourselves. We will never change the minds of the dogmatic ideologues who will cling to their oppression of women despite its political cost. But we can and will influence those politicians whose current opposition to the Equal Rights Amendment is based on political reality - that people supporting the ERA are an increasing political force.

1. Staff tables at high traffic periods at Agnes Arnold, Satellite UC, UC. 1 - 3 hours, usually at noontime Fall Semester
2. Coordinate materials and scheduling, reserve tables, keep track of receipts 2 - 6 hours/week
3. Carry Message Brigade envelopes and ERA Campaign Petitions around with you full time, a minute or two at a time

MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT AND CHAPTER ORGANIZATION

NOW at the University of Houston is a recognized student organization as well as an about-to-be-chartered chapter of the National Organization for Women, Inc. We have adopted by-laws, submitted a budget to the Student Association, recruited over 30 dues paid members and identified 200+ interested and/or supportive faculty, staff, students and community residents. Our first nominations/elections are planned for September -- all positions are open to self-nomination. In addition to chapter, inter-chapter, and state-wide activities, there will be a national (delegated) convention in Washington DC in early October.

1. 10 Chapter Officers minimum of one meeting a month, more likely two; considerable work in between
2. Chapter Newsletter - writing, layout, collating, stapling, labeling, etc. 4 - 8 hours, once a month, depending on the job(s) you pick
3. Broadside (interchapter) help with collating, stapling, etc. 1 evening per month
4. Chapter activists to pursue various feminist projects, e.g. program on prevention of violence against women being planned by Student Association, Student Life, UH P.D., Houston Women's Center Rape Prevention Project, NOW chapters in the Houston area, for September 14th.

The Last Best Hope

"Ask not what your country can do for you..." John Kennedy said in his 1960 inauguration speech, "but what you can do for your country."

Today when even political pundits are worrying not what their country can do for them, but what their country may do to them, the National Organization for Women is determined to do something for the country. While many citizens are feeling individually helpless, feminists are undauntedly planning to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment by June 30, 1982.

The much televised frustration of such politically powerful men as Tip O'Neill and Robert Byrd makes it un-surprising that few people feel individually able to affect this country's course. Why then do NOW members think they can? The answer is two-fold - we know what we have accomplished under seemingly impossible odds when we set ourselves the task - witness the extension - and we can imagine what will happen if we lose. We know that together we will triumph.

(continued on page 3)

WE WILL HELP WRITE THE LAWS -- WE WILL BE A FORCE FOR CONSTRUCTIVE SOCIAL CHANGE -- THIS YEAR THE NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN WILL BRING ABOUT A CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGE THAT WILL GUARANTEE TO EVERY WOMAN WHAT EVERY MAN ENJOYS AS A BIRTHRIGHT -- EQUAL PROTECTION UNDER THE LAW.

The Equal Rights Amendment is protection against state actions which disadvantage women (and on some occasions, men) solely because of their sex. It will protect against right wing fundamentalists who want to restrict women to the roles of wife, mother and housekeeper, even though the possibility of that lifestyle began to disappear during WWII. Only 16% of American men make enough to afford it. It is the opposition to constitutional equality between women and men which is dreaming.

We are not arguing that ratifying the ERA would solve all the problems afflicting this country. We are arguing that women have a right to rights and that political organization is the key. Winning would make organized feminism a mighty political force -- no doubt of that, and a prize worth fighting for. But it is the thought of what it would mean to lose that galvanizes me and all of us action. If we just give up, "they" will think they are empowered to deny us all future progress toward equality for women. "They" will say, and believe, "The women really don't want equality." Congress will think the right wing really does have a mandate to remake this country in "their" image.

WHAT WE EACH HAVE TO DO IS ORGANIZE. Raise money. Educate. Inspire with hope and courage. WIN! You know what you can afford. You may be able to contribute fulltime, or an hour now and then. You may have 10s of dollars, hundreds, or only pennies. What ever it is, NOW IS THE TIME. None of us can afford to do nothing, to give nothing.

Elsewhere there are descriptions of organized actions you can join to be part of the solution. Look them over -- choose your future.

THINK OF JUNE 30, 1982. FOCUS ON IT. HOW DO YOU WANT TO FEEL ON THAT DAY?

Jo Ann Evansgardner

STORASKA : SUBMIT UNTO THY RAPIST

The Student Association and U of H police considered inviting Fred Storaska to speak at a symposium on rape prevention. He was dropped as a speaker after U of H's NOW members and feminists pointed out his sexist, stereotyped views to Steve Yaney, president of the student body; Mr. Robischeaux, representative of UHPD; Sue Stoner, and Maria Gonzales.

Storaska, in HOW TO SAY NO TO A RAPIST AND SURVIVE proposes:

Get on the ground if that is where your assaulter wants you. (p. 81) Act humble in his presence . . . demonstrate this humility before he is forced to humiliate you. (p. 81) Use sex as a weapon if you must. Encourage him to put his hands on sexual areas of your body. Or put them there yourself, if you have to. Make sexual overtures. (p. 96)

The script he proposes for the victims runs like this:

"I really need someone tonight. It was just luck that you came by." (p. 83)

Dr. Javorek in "When Rape Is Not Inevitable" found that 86% of victims who screamed and ran away escaped being raped. Of those who did not employ either method of resistance, only 20% escaped and 80% were raped.

It is interesting that Storaska is not a psychologist, psychiatrist, M. D., or sociologist. His NOPRA Hotline phone# now belongs to a shipping company. No one working there ever heard of him. His office is a rented desk in the rear office of his booking agent. If he had come to U of H, his fee would have been \$2250.

An all-day program of speakers, workshops, discussion groups and panel presentations will be offered on September 14th. NOW members who attended the first planning meeting are pleased that Storaska is not coming and that 'qualified' experts from the rape crisis movement will be. More on this in next month's newsletter.

newsclips

6F /The Houston Post/Fri., July 3, 1981
DOONESBURY / by Garry Trudeau



2C /The Houston Post/Tues., June 30, 1981

Post/commentary

Still needed

In South Dakota a husband can completely disinherit his wife, however long they have been married, except for the right to live in the family home. In New Jersey, if a husband dies without a will, the property goes to his children, not his wife. In South Carolina a wife may lose her share of her husband's estate if she commits adultery; the husband risks no such loss if he commits adultery. Some 25 million wives in this country have been physically abused at some time in their marriage, 4.7 million of them badly battered. But in New Hampshire the penalty for wife beating is no more than a small fine. In Florida a woman battered by her husband cannot sue for damages, although he could sue her if he were the victim. In Alabama, the defense of "passion killing" is allowed a wronged husband, but not to a deceived wife.

These generalities represent thousands of individual incidents or cases that have meant anguish, pain, sudden poverty or even death to a woman. They can occur because the woman has only one right guaranteed by constitutional amendment — the right to vote. Nothing else in the Constitution or the Bill of Rights applies to women, although more than half of all Americans are women.

The proposed Equal Rights Amendment states: "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 gives Congress "the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article."

Nothing in the amendment could force our society into unisex bathrooms — although airline lavatories are commonly used by either sex without upsetting decorum. Nothing in the ERA could force a homemaker to take a job outside her home. Nothing in the ERA has anything to do with the draft. Congress could draft women now in an emergency.

Because most women who work outside the home are homemakers as well, they have a double need for equal rights under the law. In comparison to their male counterparts, women today make less money than they did more than 20 years ago. On average, women with college degrees make less money than men who have never finished high school. On average, a woman makes 59 cents for every dollar paid to a man by business or industry.

Just as Texas granted women the right to vote before the 19th Amendment was ratified, so was Texas one of the first of 35 states to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. But until another three state legislatures vote to ratify, the whole effort is in abeyance. U.S. women must depend on the votes of the three remaining states to acquire the legal equality that the Texas Legislature was willing to grant, and that an almost 2-to-1 majority of the nation favors. If, in the next year, a stubborn few legislators can prevent the adoption of this amendment to the Constitution, women may have to wait until the 21st century to gain the rights all men now have, have had for 111 years.

NANCY THURMOND, the very bright, pretty, young wife of Sen. Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.) looked surprised, even stunned, but retained her composure when one of her guests told Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) off in the Senate dining room.

Nancy was giving an all-feminine luncheon there in honor of Helga Orfila, wife of the OAS secretary general when Sen. Helms stopped to greet her and then made the rounds shaking hands with all eight of her guests. One of them held on to his hand while she told him that the virtually all-male Senate had no business deciding when

a woman could have an abortion. Every other woman at the table listened, speechless.

"No man has a right to decide because no man has ever been pregnant or afraid he was pregnant or faced with any of the complications involved," she told him. "A man can simply get up and walk away from an experience. Besides, an egg is not a chicken. My husband would think I was out of my mind if I served him two chickens for breakfast every morning."

She went on, "Look what happened in the Italian referendum. Even after the pope was shot, they voted overwhelmingly for abortion. Why don't we have a referendum in this country?"

"Maybe we will," replied Helms. His hand now freed, he quickly greeted the remaining three luncheon guests who simply said, "How do you do," and continued on his way.

Arms Cost \$1 Million a Minute

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — The world's rate of military spending is running at about \$1 million a minute, the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute said in its 12th annual report.

In 1980, arms spending worldwide topped \$500 billion, the institute said, and it is expected to grow with increased U.S. spending,

which the Soviets are expected to follow.

"There has been an increasing militarization of the planet during the last 10 years," said the institute's Frank Barnaby. The arms trade "went out of control" in the 1970s, he said. "There is a drift in world armament trends away from nuclear deterrence to nuclear fighting."

Sojourner Truth is selected for Women's Hall of Fame

SENECA FALLS, N.Y. (AP) — Although clubbed in Kansas and mobbed in Missouri, Sojourner Truth never gave up her fight for the rights of women and slaves.

Now, almost 100 years after her death, the former slave has been chosen for induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame in this upstate New York city credited as the birthplace of the women's rights movement in America.

She will be one of two women installed on July 18. The name of the second woman will be announced next week.

"An uncompromising personality made Sojourner Truth unable to join in the organized activities of her time," Marilyn Bero, president of the Hall of Fame, said.

"She set out alone, on foot, to bring her message of freedom and hope to all who would listen. Her courage as the only black woman of her time to defend abolition, women's suffrage and protection for the poor served as an inspiration for all

people involved in the battle for human rights."

Last December, Congress authorized creation of the Women's Rights National Historical Park in Seneca Falls to commemorate the formal beginning of the U.S. campaign for equal rights for women. The park includes the Wesleyan Methodist Church, where the Women's Rights Convention was held in 1848.

Other members of the Hall of Fame, opened in 1979, include Margaret Mead, Amelia Earhart and Susan B. Anthony.

Born into slavery in 1797 and named Isabella by her parents, who were owned by a wealthy Dutchman, Sojourner Truth led a stormy existence. She was sold at the age of 6 along with 100 sheep to a brutal master, resold by 1810 to a new owner, married and became a mother of at least five children before fleeing from bondage in 1827.

"Strange powers" told her to adopt the name Sojourner Truth and preach the message of liberty in 1843. So she did, traveling from state to state to pass on her gospel, which expanded from a call for universal liberty to include women's rights and suffrage after she met Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other advocates of women's rights.

"Proclaim liberty throughout the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof," read the satin sash she wore with her gray dress and white turban as she traveled. Heedless of hostile crowds, she pressed on with her war of words.

Although she could neither read nor write, Sojourner Truth was one of the best and most famous anti-slavery speakers of her day, drawing on a forceful style and wide knowledge of scripture.

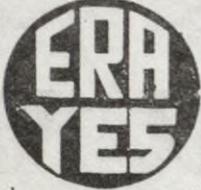
She made one final speaking tour of the East after the Civil War, returning to Battle Creek, Mich., in 1875 when her grandson and traveling companion, Sammy Banks, became ill. She died there in 1883.



Houston Chronicle

Sunday, June 14, 1981

"I'm sorry if you were embarrassed," apologized the outspoken one to her hostess. "But this is too important an issue to keep quiet about in front of Sen. Helms." Helms, of course, is the arch anti-abortionist who thinks a woman should be forced to have a criminal rapist's child or a pitifully deformed child if she can't pay for the abortion herself. Wonder what he would do if all such children were left on his doorstep?

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<p>MONDAYS--letter writing in Clear Lake area--call Pat Kuhlmann--488-3278</p>	<p>COUNTDOWN = ONLY 11 MONTHS LEFT DEADLINE - JUNE 30, 1982</p>				1
2	<p>3 Northwest NOW program meeting---topic: ERA 7:30 pm, Cypress Creek Library 376-2736</p>	<p>4 NOW at UH Chapter mtg University Center 7:30 924-5177 RossAnn Daumas</p>	<p>5 ERA letter writing University of Houston U. Center 7:30 pm 741-4009 (call after 11am)</p>	<p>6 Houston Area NOW Business meeting 7:30 pm 1520 Texas Ave. 458-2196</p>	7	8
9	<p>10 Women's Lobby '81 YWCA 3515 Allen Pkwy 6:30 pm ----- Kingwood NOW meeting call Debbie Tate 358-0356</p>	<p>11 ERA Work meeting 7-9pm 3700 Watonga (off Mangum) Indian Springs Apt. Club Room) 681-9507 (eves.)</p>	12	<p>13 Houston Area NOW Program meeting--7:30 pm--1520 Texas Ave. 458-2196</p>	14	15
16	17	18	<p>19 ERA Work meeting 7-9 pm, 3700 Watonga (off Mangum) Indian Springs Apt. Clubroom) 681-9507 (eves.)</p>	<p>20 Houston Area NOW Work meeting--7:30 pm University of Houston U. Center 741-4009</p>	21	<p>22 ERA WALKATHON Deborah Bell, Coord 681-9507 (eves.)</p>
23	24	25	<p>26 WOMAN SUFFRAGE DAY CELEBRATION - U of H 741-4009</p>	27	28	29
30	31		<p>Southwest NOW meeting call Cindy Caudle 957-5083</p>			

SECTION 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied on abridged by the United States on 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.

THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

National Organization for Women
 NOW, at the University of Houston
 Box 509, University Center
 Cullen Boulevard, Houston 77004

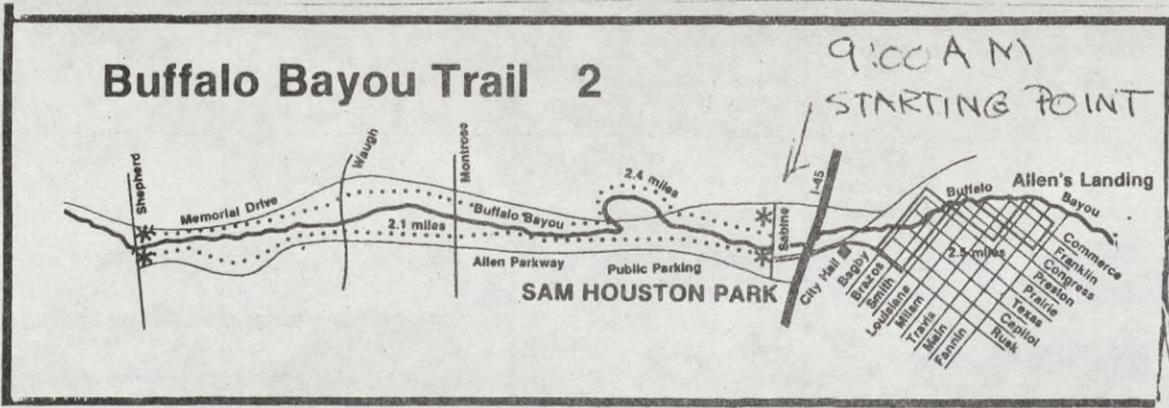
11 MONTHS
 10 MONTHS
 9 MONTHS
 8 MONTHS
 7 MONTHS
 6 MONTHS
 5 MONTHS
 4 MONTHS
 3 MONTHS
 2 MONTHS
 1 MONTH
JUNE 30, 1982

****WOULD YOU LIKE AN OFFICIAL WALKATHON RUNNING SHIRT?!**

White T-shirts with green printing, such as the one worn by the runner on the front cover of this newsletter, will be sold by Deborah Bell through the end of the Walkathons. The cost is \$10.00 per shirt and can be ordered by calling her at 667-5601 or 681-9507, or through your local Chapter. She will also print your sponsor's name on the back of the T-shirt if you want. The front of the shirt says "On the run for the ERA" and has the date (8/26/81) in the middle.

FROM BROADSIDES/HORIZONS

SUPERSISTER Michiko Suwa Gorman is a champion long distance runner. She was born August 9, 1935 in Chingtau, China and makes her home in Los Angeles, California. She set a new world record for the 26 mile 385 yard race of 2 hours, 46 minutes and 36 seconds in the women's division of the Western Hemisphere Marathon. The race was held in Culver City, California in 1973. She has also won first place among women runners in the Boston and New York City Marathons four times. Miki Gorman is married and has two daughters.



AUGUST 22