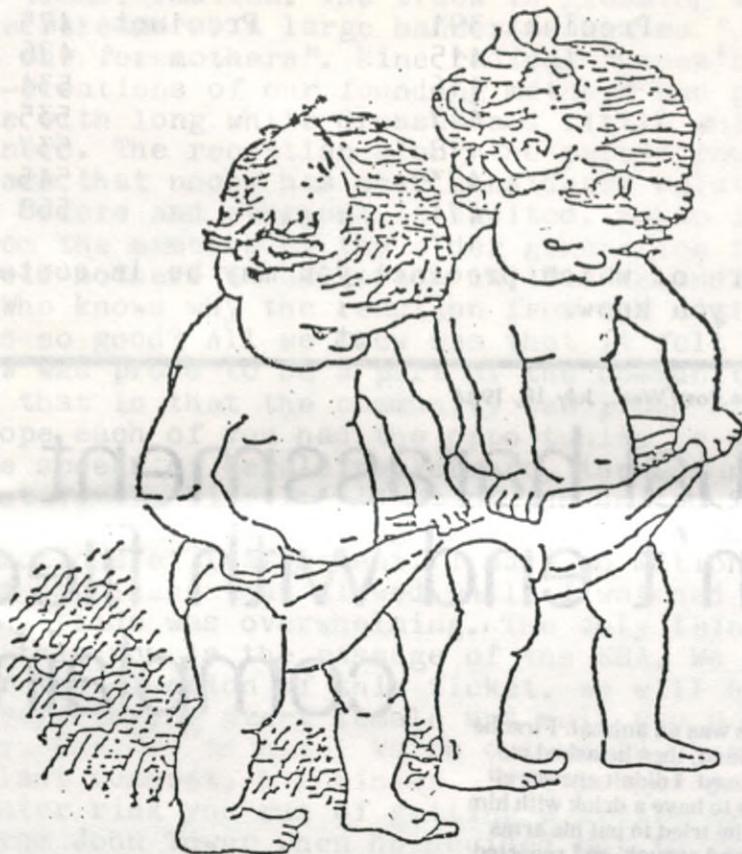


# N.O.W. NEWS

3 2

Volume XII, Number 8  
August, 1984

**BAY AREA CHAPTER**  
**NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN**



oh, that explains the difference  
in our salaries!

Program Meeting: Pay Equity  
Presenter: Bonnie Huval  
Date: August 2, 1984 7:30pm  
Location: A Uniting Church El Camino Real & Reseda Dr.  
Clear Lake City

ATTENTION MEMBERS!!!!

If any of you reside in one of the following precincts please contact me.

pt

Precinct 076	Precinct 391	Precinct 475
090	415	476
091	416	534
092	417	535
306	418	537
307	473	545
378	474	568

If anyone is unsure of which precinct you may be in contact me and I will let you know.

pt

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4H /The Houston Post/Wed., July 18, 1984

# Sexual harassment doesn't end with filed complaint

**DEAR ABBY:** My ex-boss was an animal. First he asked me if I ever fooled around, then he asked me what kind of birth control I used. I didn't answer either question. He invited me to have a drink with him after work. I refused. When he tried to put his arms around me, I decided I had had enough, so I reported him to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and filed a complaint. It was a hard thing to do, but I had to do it so he wouldn't pull the same stuff with his next secretary.

I work for the state and was immediately transferred to another job where I'm very happy.

Don't ask me how they found out, but the people in the office I left know that I filed a sexual harassment complaint against the boss. Now, whenever I see my former co-workers, I feel uncomfortable because they laugh and make jokes about the circumstances under which I left. To me it was a serious matter and I had to put a stop to it.

Do you think I did the right thing in filing that complaint? And why do they try to make me feel guilty?

— UPSET

**DEAR UPSET:** You did the right thing in filing that complaint. Trying to make the victim feel guilty is a cruel game some people play. Don't let it get to

you. Working women everywhere would do well to follow your courageous example.

## RANTINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Let me begin by bragging about the Friendswood Fourth of July celebration. Take one plain truck, 9 radical NOW members, wave one ERA banner and say "liberation now" and EUREKA..... instant transformation. The truck is gleaming with red, white and blue streamers. A large banner proclaims "Bay Area NOW salutes our foremothers". Nine radical "women's libbers" become re-creations of our founding mothers and grand-mothers complete with long white dresses and little white hats waving ERA banners. The reception along the parade route is grand. It appears that noone has ever considered saluting our foremothers before and everyone is excited. Maybe its the reception from the members of the older generation that marched with their mothers in Galveston in 1917 demanding votes for women. Who knows why the reaction from the citizens of Friendswood was so good? All we knew was that it felt good and Bay Area NOW was proud to be a part of the community. The other side of that is that the community was proud of Bay Area NOW.

I hope each of you had the opportunity to witness and hear the speech of Geraldine Ferraro, the woman who will be the first female Vice-President of the United States. I find it impossible and infuriating not to be able to describe deeply my emotions at that moment. I made no motion to stop the tears of happiness that flowed while I watched this historic event. My pride was overwhelming. The only thing that can surpass this now is the passage of the ERA. We must and shall work for the election of this ticket. We will be out in the public registering every female and male who believes in equality. Our day is here. Watch out world, here we come!

My last comment, a reminder. "The longer you stay around, the greater risk you run of getting a little cynical". (a quote from John Tower when he decided not to run for re-election) Elections for chapter offices come up in November. Nominations will begin in September. I am very near burn-out as are some of our other members. We need some time away from the responsibilities of office. Please think it over. You have a lot to offer and you can bring new ideas into the chapter. Talk to those of us in office. We will be happy to tell you the joys and the pitfalls of the office. Just remember that someone else died and if the chapter is to continue you will have to be the one to carry it on for this year.

pt

REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

On July 6, 1984, six pro-choice groups called for "massive federal intervention" to put an end to a "reign of terror" including bombings and harassment at abortion clinics and offices in Washington and six states. Barbara Radford, executive director of the National Abortion Federation, said... "There is a reign of terror throughout the country. Patients and staff at abortion facilities are being harassed, clinics are being invaded and machine-gunned, and so far this year nine abortion clinics have been bombed"....

I mention this to you to introduce the rest of this article. The following remarks are from a letter we received from Sammie Roberts, past Bay Area NOW member who now lives in Fairhope, Alabama, a suburb of Mobile. As much as we miss Sammie, the work and actions being taken by our sisters in Mobile is of greater cause. We salute Sammie and the many NOW members of Mobile and all the other areas of the country who are putting their lives on the line to protect the right of every woman to make her own choice in her reproductive life.

....The anti-choice (be damn if I'll call them Right-to-Life groups) people are really stepping up activities in our area. The Ladies Center in Pensacola (bombed Monday, June 25th and owned by the same people operating the Ladies Center in Mobile and the Huntsville, Al clinic which has been having a rough time) is now being picketed... More and more men are joining the Anti-choice pickets.... And, will you believe this one: thursday, June 28th, our chapter held a NOW/PAC fundraising with wine & cheese, etc. in Mobile and the home of the hostess was picketed???... The local NBC affiliate showed up and talked with one of the "ladies", and I use the term loosely, who informed the reporter that the NOW executives were holding an urgent, special meeting to further aid the abortionists in Mobile!!!... The tension is gathering steam and we wonder how long it will be before we start getting the late night calls like the Huntsville NOW members are getting. The Huntsville NOW spokesperson has received nearly ten death threats via telephone.... Sat., 7-7-84, We were "on the line" this morning at 8am and shortly thereafter the clinic executive director arrived and we had some good news and some bad news.. the bad news is that the Mobile clinic came close to being bombed around midnight last night. The good news is that they were not successful and the woman who was caught is in jail right now.....

TO OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS WHO ARE FIGHTING THIS WAR...  
OUR LOVE, PRIDE AND TOTAL RESPECT. OUR STRENGTH BE WITH YOU!

The House sent a clear message to the Reagan Administration and the Supreme Court on June 27 when it voted overwhelmingly to pass legislation protecting the vitality of major civil rights laws. H.R. 5490, known as "The Civil Rights Act of 1984," swept the House in a 375-32 vote, as harmful amendments to weaken the bill went down to defeat. Attention now turns to the Senate where opponents are trying to delay the companion bill, S. 2568, currently bogged down in the Labor and Human Resources Committee.

The bills are a direct response to the Feb. 28 GROVE CITY COLLEGE v. BELL Supreme Court ruling that the ban on sex discrimination applies only to that part of the school receiving federal funds. Since federal dollars came to Grove City College only through students with federal financial aid grants, the financial aid office alone is subject to the anti-sex discrimination requirements under Title IX of the 1972 Education Amendments. Discrimination in the rest of the school, the Court ruled, would not be grounds for Title IX enforcement action.

The decision has already led to the Reagan Administration's abandonment of more than twenty enforcement actions against colleges and universities. A major concern is that the Administration will now attack other civil rights laws prohibiting discrimination by recipients of federal dollars. Officials have already begun arguing that these laws should be viewed as narrowly as Title IX, applying the discrimination ban only to the specific "program or activity" receiving federal assistance. H.R. 5490 and S. 2568 would not only restore Title IX to its former strength, but also reaffirm the broad coverage of:

Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act that bans discrimination on the basis of race, color, or national origin in federally-financed assistance projects such as highways;; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 that targets discrimination against the handicapped; and The Age Discrimination Act of 1975.

Specifically, the bills delete the term "program or activity" in each of these statutes, substituting the word "recipient" so there is no mistake about congressional intent: an entire institution is prohibited from discriminating when any of its parts receive government funds.

Sponsors of S. 2568 hope to bring it up for a floor vote by early September. Even with 63 co-sponsors it could be a tough battle to curtail delay tactics. Only a massive outpouring of grass roots support will ensure that this bill stays on track.

**ACTION:** Call Sen. Bentsen's office 229-2595 and Sen. Tower 229-2766. Express your concern for passage of the bill and you might even want to request a copy of the bill. S. 2568.

LESBIAN RIGHTS

As most of you are aware by now, the drive to get enough signatures on a petition to call for a referendum on the vote by the Houston City Council on adding "sexual orientation" to the affirmative action plan of the city has been successful. The churches with their supposedly "Christian" attitudes passed out petitions at their services and then encouraged their members to go out and get signatures. The petitions carried some of the greatest distortions I have ever read. (I believe that is considered lying. In the Christian religion I was raised up in, lying was a sin. However, I guess now it's ok to lie if your doing it in the name of God.) I find it difficult to believe that the same religions that have taught love, concern and caring can now foster such emotions as hate and death as Christian beliefs. Yes, this issue evokes strong emotion in me also, but I think my anger comes from the ignorance of people who are not thinking for themselves, but are being led by charlatans.

For those of you who may find yourself in a situation among these so-called Christians may I inform you of the following; Leviticus is the book of the Bible that supposedly knowledgeable people like to quote as condemning homosexuality. "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is abomination. (Leviticus 18:22) "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them. (Leviticus 20:13)

Taken out of context, these passages seem to present homosexuality as an extremely serious sin. These passages are located in the part of Leviticus known as the "Holiness Code," which has its origin in the sixth century B.C. The purpose of the 600 or more rules that Leviticus codified was to define a unique lifestyle for the Jewish people that would clearly separate them and protect them from the ever-present threat of being overrun or influenced by their "pagan" neighbors. The list of prohibitions covers everything from sex to food to the method of worship. The code also forbade the eating of shellfish, cross-breeding cattle, wearing two kinds of fabrics, planting two types of seed in the same field, etc. I encourage you to read your Bible, and don't be led by the misinterpretations of others.

Those who would quote the Bible "literally" with no concern for contextual meaning, mistranslations, or the cultural constraints and belief that have changed biblical text throughout the centuries do a grave disservice to biblical scholarship. They misrepresent the messages of the Bible, and selectively choose which passages to emphasize in order to reinforce their own prejudices. The Bible mentions homosexuality in eight different passages. Those who attempt to condemn homosexuality quote these passages out of context and with no regard for true biblical representation. The same method of argument used to condemn homosexuality would also encourage slavery, condemn equal rights for women, and forbid shellfish consumption.

SCOTTY/By Michael Fry

Houston Post 6-27-84



Guide again available

A guide to how your Harris County government works is again available from the League of Women voters. The second edition of the Harris County Handbook is designed to answer questions about the structure, financing and administration of county government. The handbook can be purchased for \$3.18 plus \$1 handling if mailed. The handbook is available at the LWV office at 3400 Montrose, Suite 229, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. weekdays.

Believe it or not ...

In South Dakota, if Kenneth Stands who admitted raping a 14 year old girl stays out of trouble for the next 3 years, his record will be wiped clean. The judge said he didn't want to ruin Stands' chance of becoming a school principal, teacher or guidance counselor. Stands, who holds a master's degree in guidance and counseling, was arrested on 21 counts of first degree rape. Stands spent 70 days in jail awaiting trial and was sentenced to serve 60 days in the state penitentiary.

Rose Robinson  
Ms. Magazine



The following is for those of you in the business world and everyone who deals with the general business of living. In case your thinking of moving up in the corporate structure you may want to keep this in your desk.

### How To Tell A Businessman From A Businesswoman

He is careful about details....

She's picky!

He loses his temper because he is so involved in his job....

She's bitchy!

He's depressed (or hung over), so everyone tiptoes past his office....

She's moody, so it must be her time of the month!

He follows through....

She's stubborn!

He makes wise judgements....

She reveals her prejudices!

He is a man of the world....

She has been around!

He isn't afraid to say what he thinks....

She is opinionated!

He exercises authority....

She is tyrannical!

He's discreet....

She's secretive!

He is a stern taskmaster....

She is difficult to work for!

Comments: We haven't come a long way, and don't you call me baby.

### OTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN CONGRESS

On June 25 the House passed a measure which takes important steps toward making polling and registration places more accessible to the elderly and handicapped. The EQUAL ACCESS TO VOTING ACT, H.R. 1250/S. 1676, requires that jurisdictions provide voting aids for those with hearing and vision impairments, and make a "reasonable" number of facilities easily available to the disabled. Over 36 million citizens currently face serious barriers when they try to exercise their right to vote. The Senate might act on its version of the bill before it recesses for the Republican convention in August.

## Labor TV focuses on pay equity

Bolstering labor's struggle to eradicate sexual discrimination in the workplace, the AFL-CIO's Labor Institute of Public Affairs (LIPA) has produced a television program focusing on the issue of pay equity for women.

The program is part of the America Works series broadcast nationwide by over 80 public television stations. Critically praised, this series shows grassroots people joining together to solve problems involving jobs, education, health care and other areas of concern to working people.

Profiling Lynda Clendenning, a University of Maryland clerical library worker (and president of AFSCME Local 1072), the program follows her on the job, at public hearings, in consciousness raising efforts with co-workers, and at meetings with state officials.

Working with a coalition of women's, labor and civil rights organizations, Clendenning successfully lobbies for a comparable worth study of the state employe compensation system.

The production also shows how these efforts increase the self respect of

workers. "People used to be apologetic about what they did," says Clendenning. "I was. I used to say, 'I'm just a technician.' Now I say, 'I'm a technician.' "

Included in the show is an information segment using cartoons and videographics to outline the current position and history of women in the U.S. workforce. Also featured is a debate between a leader of the National Committee on Pay Equity and a prominent spokesman of employer positions on the major issues of comparable worth.

The America Works series will update this pay equity program for a public television premiere at the end of August as a preface to six new shows to air starting Labor Day weekend. Other programs in the series feature working women including the episodes on Voter Registration and on Health Care Cost.

All videotapes in the series may be ordered from the AFL-CIO Department of Education, 815 16th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 for a rental fee of \$5 or a purchase fee of \$40. Tapes are available in 3/4 or 1/2 inch VHS or Beta formats. □

CLUW News

May-June 1984

\*\*\*\*\*MARILYN MIESZKUC...FAMILY PICNIC\*\*\*\*\*

Mark your calendar! Make your plans to bring your family and friends to Frankie Carter Randolph Park—Hwy 2351—on August 5, 1984 from 12 - 4pm. For just \$10 per adult or \$30 per family, you can have a great time and wonderful meal of frajita's, rice, beans, guacamole, tea or lemonade, and watermelon. Entertainment will be presented by feminists Gloria Pruitt and Raws Ruffin. There will be clowns and balloons for the children and speeches for the adults. Support the best candidate for State Representative - Dist. 130. For tickets contact Phyllis Tucker 944-0033 or Anita Marcos 482-6515

**\* Fun \* Food \* Entertainment \***



**Meet the candidate for  
State Representative - DIST 130**

**\*\*\*MARILYN MIESZKUC\*\*\*  
(a representative for all people)**

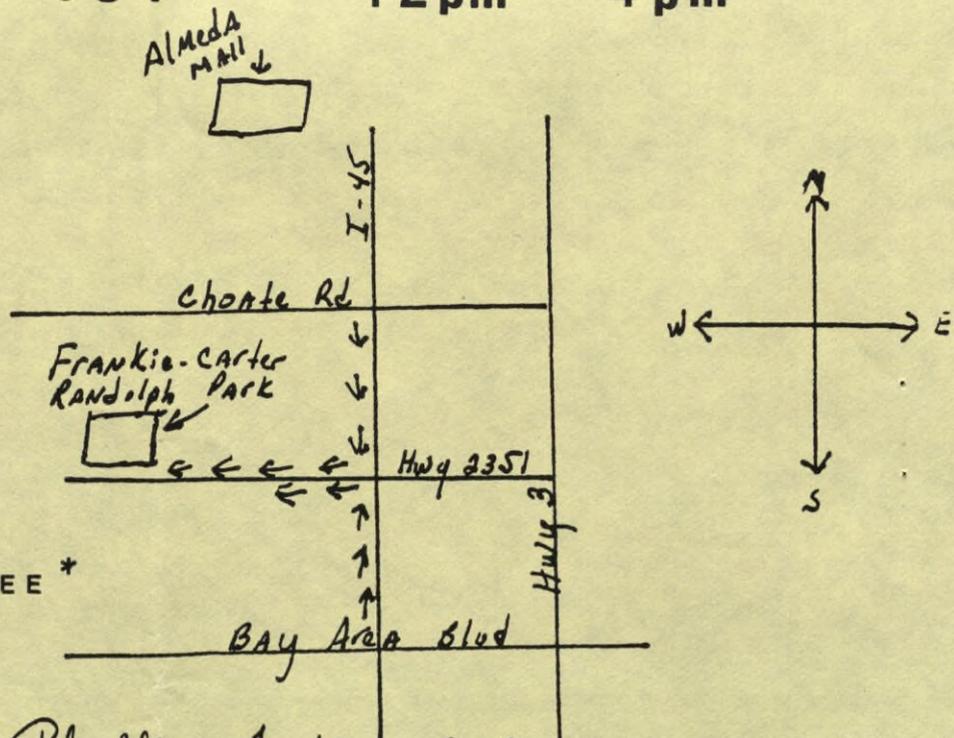
Bring your family and friends to a family  
picnic at Frankie Carter Randolph Park  
August 5, 1984 12pm - 4pm

DONATIONS

ADULTS \$10.00

FAMILIES \$30.00

\* CHILDREN UNDER 12 FREE \*



For tickets call: *Phyllis Tucker* 944-0033



### BAY AREA NOW CALENDAR

- July 31 Texas NOW-PAC Party at Cody's 3400 Montrose  
6 - 9 P.M. \$10 per person (Let's car-pool)
- Aug. 2 Bay Area NOW program meeting. Topic-Pay Equity  
7:30 pm at A Uniting Church
- Aug. 4-5 Texas NOW State council in Dallas, Texas. Contact  
Pat Kuhlmann or Judi Hoffman
- Aug. 5 Marilyn Mieszkuc Family Picnic. Frankie Carter  
Randolph Park in Friendswood. Food, Entertainment  
and Fun. 12 - 4pm. \$10 per adult or buy a family  
ticket for \$30. Children under 12 free.
- Aug. 14 Fundraiser for Lloyd Doggett. Talk with Pat  
Kuhlmann
- Aug. 15 Bay Area NOW Business meeting
- Aug. 19 Gender Gap Project 5 - 7pm at the I.B.E.W. Hall  
Contact Deborah Bell at 713-681-9507 for details
- Aug. 26 Women's Equality Day. Events planned by Houston  
Area Women's Center. More details at program  
meeting.
- Sept. 6 Bay Area NOW program meeting
- Sept. 15-16 Texas NOW State Convention. This year in Houston.  
More details in next 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

## BAY AREA NOW COMMITTEES

Committee to Combat Racism: Caroline Perez 488-4086, Colette Roberts 280-8440, Betty Swartz 337-5308

Education & Title IX: Janice Brooks 645-2136, Dorothy Howard 486-0752, Elizabeth Lorange 559-2882

Legislative/Political: Donna Berend 409-948-8896, Rema Lou Brown 488-1896, Andrea Harry 534-6150, Sara Hindman 338-1196, Dorothy Howard 486-0752, Crickett Ingraham 339-1909, Pat Kuhlmann 488-3278, Rusty Richards 488-5546, Colette Roberts 280-8440, Marie Stimson 338-2009, Betty Swartz 337-5308, Nancy Whitecotton 483-5281

Lesbian Rights: Judi Hoffman 944-0033, Debra Hayden 280-0863, Chris McCarty 280-0863, Colette Roberts 280-8440

Media-Watch: Caroline Perez 488-4086, Colette Roberts 280-8440

Reproductive Rights: Anita Marcos 482-6515, Madeline McGallion 476-5442, Colette Roberts 280-8440

Sexual Harassment: Marion Bowen 333-2620, Cindy Husbands 332-5055, Judi Hoffman 944-0033, Anita Marcos 482-6515, Iledy Salazar 928-5088, Phyllis Tucker 944-0033

Violence Against Women: Donna Berend 409-948-8896, Sara Hindman 338-1196, Judy Snyder 486-5565, Deborah Teasley 480-5565

**WHO CARES ABOUT WOMEN? NOW CARES!!! WHAT ARE YOU WAITING FOR?**  
Join NOW, now. Clip and mail to Judy Snyder 16310 Mill 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 (\$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 \_\_\_\_\_

BA-M

BAY AREA NOW

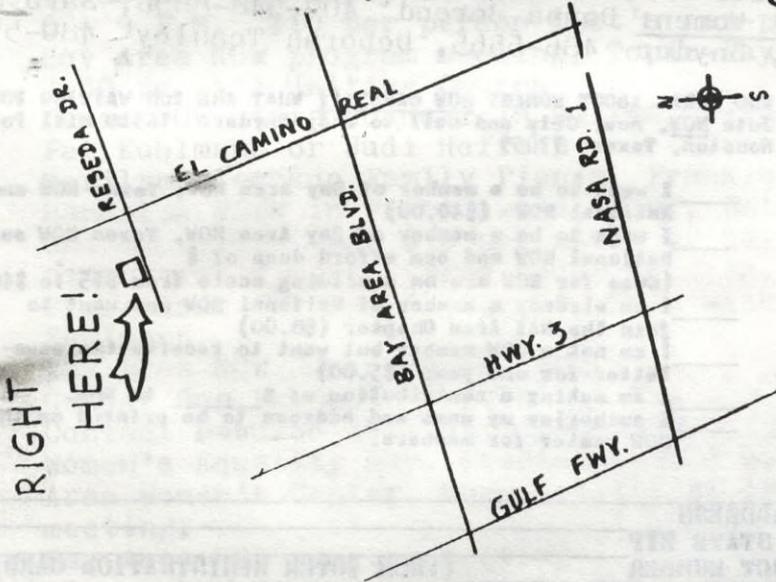
DAY AREA N.O.W. NEWSLETTER  
C/O PHILLIS A. TUCKER  
243 EXPRESS  
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77034



USA  
20c

WHERE DO WE MEET?

IN CLEAR LAKE  
CITY



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