

BROADSIDE

HOUSTON AREA N.O.W.

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 8

AUGUST 1978

E.R.A. GETS 39 MORE MONTHS

The House Judiciary Committee passed H. J. Res. 638, giving an extension of time for ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. By a vote of 19-15, the committee extended the ratification deadline to June 30, 1982.

While it isn't the 7 years we asked for, the extension will suffice. Now the resolution goes to the full House for a vote, and then to the Senate.

It was touch and go in the Judiciary Committee for a while, but the resolution passed. Committee members have said that the July 9 March for the E.R.A., for which 100,000 people rallied in Washington, D.C., and lobbying helped swing the pendulum in favor of the resolution.

But 100,000 people gathering from all over the country in support of the E.R.A. and the extension may not be enough to convince Congress that the majority of Americans want more time to consider the E.R.A.--that it is indeed still a vital issue. Although the House will probably pass the resolution, there are claims that the Senate may not. However these confused and confusing claims about a possible anti-E.R.A. filibuster in the Senate are resolved, it is clear that we must not sit on our laurels and expect things to effortlessly glide along their proper course. We all must continue writing our U.S. Representatives and Senators urging them to vote for H.J.Res.638, and we must enlist our friends and neighbors, our work colleagues, our families in this necessary campaign.

Whoever said it would come easy, anyway? Whoever promised that after only a little effort (or even a lot), or a few years' involvement, or a little money, that we'd be able to turn entirely away from the struggle because we would have given our "share"? It is an ongoing struggle, and gaining a few

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points here and there do not alleviate the fact that we do not have full legal rights and equality. We've got to keep alert and active in the winning of women's rights, lest they be denied us with finality or by degrees (as with some Supreme Court decisions lately.)

* * * Ed.

WOMAN'S WORK

. . . "Already tilted in favor of men, the wage gap between comparably qualified men and women is even greater when two other elements--time and effort--are taken into consideration. Facts and figures compiled by the Survey Research Center at the Institute for Social Research (Univ. of Michigan) show that the average employed male spends 52 minutes of each working day not working--in scheduled coffee breaks, or in lunch break beyond the normal hour. The average working woman, however, spends only 35 minutes (8%) of her day in scheduled and unscheduled lunch breaks. . . . Women not only work longer on the job, they work harder. . . . A 'work effort scale', based on individuals' reports of the level of energy they expend while at work, indicates that the job effort of women is 112% of that given to their jobs by men."

Management Review, vol. 66, Nov., 1977

Hi & Lois





Celebrate the 58th Anniversary of Women's Suffrage with the National Organization for Women

Houston Area N.O.W. will sponsor a special picnic Aug. 26 to commemorate the 58th anniversary of the enfranchisement of women in the U.S. Other Harris County women's groups have been invited to co-sponsor and participate in the event, which will be an opportunity to expand friendships, exchange information, and have some summer fun. Donations to allay the expenses incurred in the E.R.A. ratification process will be accepted and forwarded where needed.

The picnic will be held from 4 - 9 p.m. at the picnic area in Memorial Park. There will be some liquid refreshment, but those attending should bring a sack supper or other goodies to eat. There will be information booths and materials available about the E.R.A., N.O.W., and other interests.

For more information or to volunteer in organizing the picnic, call Kathy Fitrakis at 682-7656 or come to the business meeting Aug. 2.

Citizen Kane

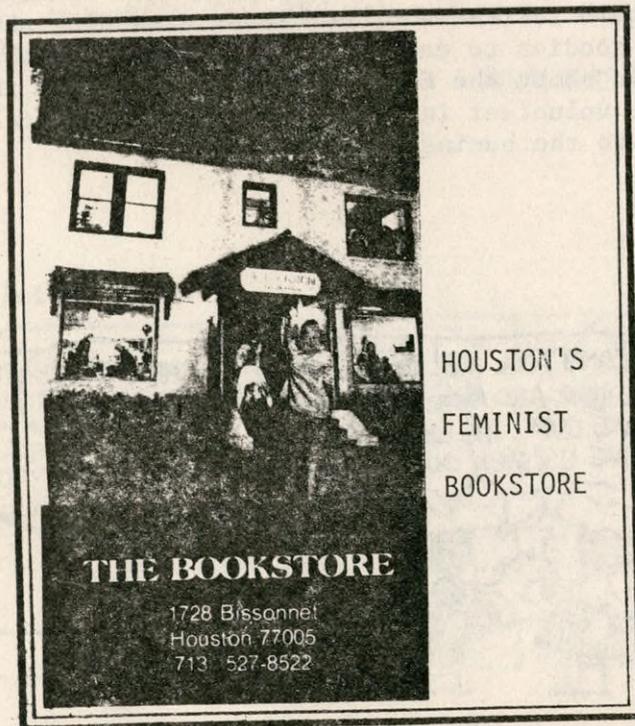


A TIME FOR ACTION--SUMMARY: JULY 12 BUSINESS MEETING

Members of Houston Area N.O.W.:

1. Made preliminary plans for an E.R.A. picnic Aug. 26 to be co-sponsored by the chapter and other women's groups. Donations at the picnic are to be applied to expenses for E.R.A. ratification.
2. Agreed to arrange a "Plays for Living" presentation for the Sept. 13 program meeting. This will be a play challenging sex role stereotypes and admission of \$2 will be charged to defray costs and to apply to E.R.A. ratification.
3. Voted to change business and program meeting dates: business meetings will be held on the first Wednesday of each month and program meetings will be the second Wednesday of each month in future.
4. Voted to apply the \$165 donated to the chapter recently and allocated to defray travel expenses to the Washington march to other projects dedicated to ratification of the E.R.A. (since the money was not used for the travel).

Linda Bain



HOUSTON'S
FEMINIST
BOOKSTORE

THE BOOKSTORE

1728 Bissonnet
Houston 77005
713 527-8522

The advertisement features a black and white photograph of the bookstore's exterior. The building is a two-story structure with a prominent entrance canopy. Several people are visible near the entrance. The text is arranged in a clean, sans-serif font, with the store's name in large, bold letters and the address and phone number in smaller text below.



ENTERTAINMENT NOTES

On these hot summer days and nights, it's tempting to seek air-conditioned comfort, and here are some ways to enjoy the cool.

For several weeks the PBS TV station (Channel 8) has been broadcasting "Turnabout", a TV show about women and by women. Usually, the program focuses on one or two topics, providing films and interviews with people involved with the subjects. Past shows have spotlighted returning to the work force, divorce, women artists and filmmakers, women astronauts and science fiction writers, and women's courage. "Turnabout" is highly recommended and airs Mondays at 7:30 p.m.

Music lovers, take note: KPFT-FM Radio, 90.1 on the dial, broadcasts "Ms-ellaneous", a program compiled by the station's women's collective. It features music (and no commercials) from 7-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays.

If you're a movie addict (like most of us), you'll find several currently showing movies very appealing. "one sings, the other doesn't" is an excellent French import about the lifestyle developments of two young women who were friends in the 1960's and lost track of each other for about ten years. The movie follows them through this period and their reunion. However, this is definitely not a soap opera. These women try traditional things, but the alternatives they test are the more thought-provoking. It is scheduled at the River Oaks Sept. 3-4.

One of the very best movies ever made about women and men, "His Girl Friday", will play at the Alley Theater Aug. 31-Sept. 1. Rosalind Russell portrays--no, is--a woman reporter who decides to leave the competitiveness of the newspaper world but is talked into working on just one more tough story at a prison. The action is rapid, the quips are funny, and the statements and questions about women's roles are priceless.

"An Unmarried Woman" deserves mention, too. It is a current film about a woman's coming to grips with divorce after about 15 years devoted to a middle class marriage that seemed happy to her. The woman actually has an unusually strong role and her situation is portrayed realistically. She has to face many decisions about how to live after divorce and eventually becomes a stronger person. The movie is at several theaters.

A short note about a beautifully animated science fiction film from Czechoslovakia: "Fantastic Planet". Life on another planet is illustrated as seen through the "eyes" of a young female of the planet's species. She also has a pet--a little human male that fits in her palm. An interesting world view, the movie will be at the River Oaks Aug. 25-26.

Happy viewing and listening!

* * * Ed.

BUSINESS MEETING

The August business meeting will be Aug. 2, at 7:30 p.m., at 1902 Colquitt, #16c. Note that this is the first Wednesday of the month.

Instead of a program meeting in August, a picnic is planned for Saturday, Aug. 26 (see elsewhere in this issue for details).

ACTION FOR E.R.A. EXTENSION

Houston Area N.O.W. joined forces June 17 with a coalition of women's groups to gather signatures on postcards and letters to Congress in support of the extension resolution. The coalition included Bay Area N.O.W., Federally Employed Women, American Association of University Women-Clear Lake City, Coalition of Labor Union Women, and Women's Resources Center, University of Houston-Clear Lake City.

Aileen McMurrer of H.A.N.O.W. coordinated the extensive effort involved in organizing the coalition and the action. Booths with pre-printed postcards and signature release forms (for use of signatures on computerized letters), along with other E.R.A. information, were set up at several supermarkets in Houston and Clear Lake City. In all, an estimated 800 postcards and over 100 signature releases were obtained during this one day. Hundreds of postcards and release forms were given to people who preferred to mail them later.

"CAN WE BE FEMINIST PHYSICIANS?"

". . . . medicine predominantly reflects the traditional male values. Until the last few years, women who 'made it' in this male profession were often hard-pressed to become 'honorary men'. . . . I believe that the next few years may bring some striking changes in the roles played by women in health. . . . In nearly every medical school there is now a strong cohort of women, many somewhat older than medical students traditionally are, more experienced in life, less easily brainwashed into docile acceptance of the contemporary conventions of medicine. They have an impressive potential strength. With each other for support, and the wider women's movement for reference, they may be able to begin to push medical care toward caretaking for health."

Mary Howell in Journal of Health
Politics, Policy & Law, vol. 2, pp. 168-172

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COPY DEADLINE

The copy deadline for the September BROADSIDE will be Saturday, Aug. 26. Please phone your information to Yvonne Broach by that date at 664-4282.

broad'side

- 1: a sheet of paper printed on one or both sides and folded
- 2: any strong or comprehensive attack, as by criticism
- 3: the simultaneous discharge of all the guns on one side of a ship

The views and opinions expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of Houston Area N.O.W. or N.O.W., Inc.



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 National Organization for Women
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Address Correction Requested

BROADSIDE

IS FREE WHEN YOU JOIN NOW.

- I want to join N.O.W. and enclose \$25 for chapter, state and national dues.
- I enclose hardship dues of \$16.50 for chapter, state and national dues.
- I'll pay in two equal monthly installments of \$12.50 (regular) or \$8.25 (hardship).
- I want to subscribe to BROADSIDE and enclose \$4.
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My U.S. Congressperson is _____
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