

N.O.W. acts for E.R.A.

OCTOBER 1978

VOLUME 9 NUMBER 10

HOUSTON AREA N.O.W.

When National N.O.W. declared the E.R.A. Emergency earlier this year, N.O.W. members all over the country began mobilizing. The National E.R.A. March and Rally in Washington, D.C. proved to be successful and very visible. But equally important, if not more so, were the efforts carried out at the grass roots level.

In August, BROADSIDE reported the telephoning campaign to obtain signatures for postcards and letters to the U.S. House of Representatives. This was instrumental in gaining passage of H.J.R. 638. Linda Jones, President of H.A.N.O.W., coordinated a similar campaign for the U.S. Senate in September, and again the Houston area responded with enthusiasm.

During 8 evenings last month, Ms. Jones organized 21 volunteers for the effort, from several N.O.W. chapters, the L.W.V., and women not affiliated with any group, including some high school women. This effort generated over 1250 postcards and 895 letters. Funds for the printing of the materials and postage were provided by several groups. The Executive Board of H.A.N.O.W. agreed to donate \$100 and then provide \$125 as seed money, in hopes that other sources would donate the equivalent as reimbursements. More than \$300 has been required in expenses, and a few donations have been offered: Donations have come from A.A.U.W., C.L.U.W., Bay Area N.O.W., Univ. Feminists, and W.R.C.C. A number of individuals have contributed, and other groups have pledged funds. Several local businesses provided telephone facilities for the effort.

The goal of this action was to send the message to Senators John Tower and Lloyd Bentsen to vote for the extension, against rescission, and for cloture. It also succeeded in engaging the local community in a political process of immediate concern to all.

State council news

The Texas State N.O.W. Council meeting convened in Lancaster Sept. 23 and the major concern was the E.R.A. extension effort.

As of publication of this newsletter, these were the facts: although Senate majority leader Robert Byrd (of W.Va.) had assurances that enough Senators would vote for cloture (to end filibustering against the extension) and would vote for the resolution, he betrayed us when the minority of opposing Senators threatened to filibuster all legislation. This tactic would have possibly delayed the introduction of the extension resolution until after the Senate adjourned early in October for election campaigning. Faced with this threat, Byrd withdrew the resolution from the agenda. (These maneuvers are quite familiar to us by now, since they are typical of unratified legislatures.) However, Sept. 22, Sen. Birch Bayh (of Ind.) approached Byrd with the counterthreat that unless the resolution were rescheduled, proponents of the E.R.A. would filibuster President Carter's energy bill anyway.

National N.O.W. quickly scheduled a "Must Do For the E.R.A. Day" for Sept. 26, during which a demonstration was scheduled at the U.S. Capital and N.O.W. members throughout the country were urged to telephone and telegram key Senators to get the extension on the Senate floor. These Senators included Robert Byrd; Howard Baker (of Tenn., representing the opposing minority); Lloyd Bentsen (of Tex.); and Ted Kennedy (of Mass.) Also targeted was President Carter. The State Council promptly voted to pay travel expenses for three council members to the Washington action: Peggy Hall, of Montrose N.O.W.; Gail Baier, of San Antonio N.O.W.; and Maureen Conrad, of Sherman N.O.W.

Oct. 29 will be the twelfth anniversary of N.O.W. The past year has been an active and expensive one for N.O.W. during the nationwide effort to get Congress to pass the extension resolution. The legal suits against N.O.W. for encouraging boycotts of unratified states promise to require great expenses, also. As funds are depleted nationally and locally, National N.O.W. has requested that all chapters schedule fundraising events to commemorate our 12 years. Currently, there are tentative plans for a Houston event, but these should be firm by the time of the H.A.N.O.W. business meeting Oct. 4. Please attend the meeting to confirm details. Meanwhile, members may consider donations of \$12--a dollar for each year--which can be offered to the H.A.N.O.W. chapter (see p. 8 for address) or mailed to the national office of N.O.W.: NOW NATIONAL ACTION CENTER, 425 13TH ST. N.W., SUITE 1048, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20004. Donations in multiples of 12 (\$24, \$48, \$120, etc.) would help even more.

(MORE COUNCIL NEWS ON P. 3)

Wanted: feminist

Applications are now being accepted for the position of Counselor Coordinator in the Women's Resource Services at the University of Houston at Clear Lake City. This is one of only a handful of truly feminist, paid positions available in Houston. The W.R.S. maintains files of books and slides as well as serving as a public source of information and resources for women on campus and in the Houston area. One of the biggest and most famous projects of the W.R.S. is its Women's Week, held early each year at the UH/CLC campus. During this week the W.R.S. schedules a variety of activities, highlighted by a well-known keynote speaker.

The Counselor Coordinator position pays \$300 per month and requires concurrent enrollment in the UH/CLC graduate school for 6 hours credit in any subject field. The period of the position will begin July 1, 1979 and continue for 12 months.

Persons interested in applying should contact the current Counselor Coordinator, Ms. Rema Lou Brown, at 488-9216, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. weekdays.

BUSINESS

This month's business meeting will be Wednesday, Oct. 4, at 7:30 p.m.. The meeting will be held at 1902 Colquitt No. 16c. Important business concerning the E.R.A. will be discussed, so please attend!

(CONTINUED FROM P. 2)

The N.O.W. National Conference will meet in Washington, D.C., Oct. 6-9. The national office has instructed each state council to arrange for a delegate to attend each workshop being offered at the conference. This is because every workshop will provide a plan of action to carry out in each particular subject of interest. Gail Baier, Texas State Coordinator, has scheduled a caucus of all Texas N.O.W. delegates at 8 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 7, in her hotel room (check for the room number at the Hilton Hotel). During this caucus delegates will volunteer or be assigned to workshops and will receive a distinctive Texas N.O.W. identification logo.

The Texas **State** N.O.W. Conference will be held in Denton March 23-25, 1979, at Texas Women's University. Conference plans are still in the formative stages, but some information is available. A one-time registration fee of \$15 will apply to N.O.W. members and \$20 to non-members. N.O.W. chapters planning fundraising activities at the conference will be charged \$10 for a table and non-N.O.W. groups will be charged \$30. Nothing may be exhibited, sold, or distributed at the conference if it is in opposition to the goals of N.O.W. Ideas for workshops, speakers, and entertainment may be phoned to Susan Floyd at (817) 387-4735.

NEWS FROM W.R.C.C.

(Aileen McMurrer, H.A.N.O.W. delegate to the Women's Rights Coordinating Council, communicated the following information.)

The Rape Crisis Coalition will conduct volunteer training Oct. 17 at 7 p.m. Beginning Nov. 25, the Coalition will sponsor a Rape Week Speakout. To volunteer or for more information, contact Gail Padgett at 528-7051.

The W.R.C.C. is planning a celebration, "International Women's Year--One Year After" Thursday, Nov. 16, at the University of Houston. A slide show of the I.W.Y.-National Women's Conference will be presented, along with refreshments. More information about the exact time and location of the celebration will be provided in the November BROADSIDE.

SPECIAL NOTE

Dr. Nikki Van Hightower will present a lecture, "Are Women Changing Men?" October 5 for the benefit of the Houston Area Women's Center. The talk will begin at 8 p.m. at the Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church.

A donation of \$15 is requested for the fund to build a permanent facility for the Women's Center. Donations will be gratefully accepted if also sent to H.A.W.C., P.O.Box 20186, Houston, Tx. 77025.

Volunteers are needed at the Women's Center, as are donated items such as food and clothing. Contact the Center through WIRES, 527-0718.



Brickman

Members of Houston Area N.O.W.:

1. Voted to donate to the Sue Bennett Defense Fund.
2. Made plans for a substitute program to replace the play which had been cancelled by Family Services one week prior to the scheduled date.
3. Elected these delegates to the National N.O.W. Conference in Washington, D.C. Oct. 6-9:

Kathy Fittrakis, Delegate
Leona Hershkowitz, Delegate
Norma Saldona, Delegate

Jill Maleki, Alternate Delegate
Regina Dotson, Alternate Delegate.

CONFERENCE

There will be a district conference of the American Association for University Women the weekend of October 20-22 at the University of Houston/Clear Lake City. N.O.W. members who are also A.A.U.W. members are encouraged to attend this conference and the concurrent National World Future Society Conference at UH/CLC. The male-dominated World Future Society is offering a paucity of material at their conference about women in the future, except for one speaker.

Anita Miller, highly acclaimed spokesperson for the E.R.A., will present "Women, Education and the Future" Saturday, Oct. 21, at 3 p.m. (check with UH/CLC for possible schedule changes). The registration fee for the W.F.S. conference is reportedly expensive, but A.A.U.W. members may attend for a fee of \$5.00 per day, which, if paid at the conference Saturday, will enable a member to attend Ms. Miller's lecture.

herstory

One of the earliest known examples of a woman who made her living by writing was Christine de Pisan (Italian, c. 1364-1430). She was an outstanding advocate for women's emancipation, by stating that women should educate themselves, train in law in order to manage their own estates, and form clubs or unions to protect women's interests. She was well known in educated circles, writing on a diversity of subjects, including probably the first feminist book, Dit de la Rose, in 1401. She also wrote a collection of stories about celebrated women of the past, a biography of Joan of Arc, and autobiography in defense of herself. Her compositions, all on manuscript copies, were "best sellers" of the time.

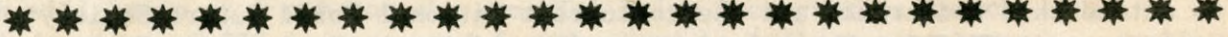
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for independence has expired...
So lets just call it quits and
head back to England...



SEPT '78

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NOTICES

- There will be no program meeting in October.
- OCT. 21: Copy Deadline for Nov. BROADSIDE
(Phone Yvonne at 664-4282)

OCT.
29:
12
YEARS
OF
N. O. W.

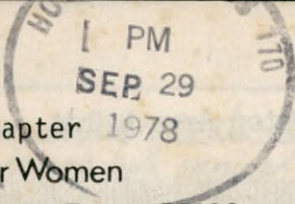


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Houston Area N.O.W. Chapter 1978
 National Organization for Women
 P.O. Box 66351 Houston, Texas 77006



HERIZONS
 [Redacted]

Address Correction Requested

BROADSIDE

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- 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.
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