



President	Barbara Duke	476-0510
V-P	Laura Brookshire	459-8125
Secretary	Rita O'Brien	345-0839
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C-R Groups	Nancy Van Beek	836-0848
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JULY 1974 NEWSLETTER

PROGRAM MEETING - Wednesday, July 10, at 7:45 pm, at the Austin Women's Center, 2316 San Gabriel (corner of San Gabriel and 24th St.).

TOPIC: Boys and Girls Together, a slide show describing what sexism is, how it harms children through distortion of reality, and what needs to be changed. There will be a report on progress on Austin NOW's portion of the statewide textbook review project, and orientation for new Education Task Force volunteers. (See article on Textbook Review, page 3.)

Note: This slide show should arrive on July 9 and be available for several days, so if any other groups wish to rent it at this time, please contact Barbara Duke.

BUSINESS MEETING - Wednesday, July 24, at 7:45 pm, at the Austin Women's Center, 2316 San Gabriel.

The first order of business will be discussion and adoption of the proposed revised chapter by-laws. (See article, page 3.) The chapter will decide on plans for activity on Women's Equality Day, August 26, and discuss fundraising activities.

Chapter meetings generally begin at 7:45 with a coffee and get-acquainted time. Programs run from 8 to 9 pm, followed by chapter business as needed. Visitors are always welcome at chapter meetings; however, only chapter members may vote on chapter business matters.

Current Austin NOW Task Forces

Rape	Laura Brookshire	459-8125
Women and the Law	Laurel Vada Henderson	442-0971
Education	Patti Magee	477-5397
Women and Religion	Rachael Wahlberg	459-0309

Title IX Regulations Released

The Department of Health, Education, and Welfare has at last released its proposed regulations for Title IX, which forbids sex discrimination by schools in admissions, athletic facilities, etc. There will be a public hearing on the proposed regulations on Wednesday, July 17, from 1:30 to 3 pm, at the University Center auditorium of the University of Houston. Austin NOW has copies of the proposed regulations. For more information, contact Patti Magee, 477-5397.

Barbara's Column

Many thanks to NOW members who staffed the booth at Highland Mall on Saturday, June 22. Posters by Austin artist Judith Batemann and display of The NOW Guide for Austin Women helped sell Guides and memberships, and to focus attention on NOW. This was by far our most successful time at Highland Mall. Thanks go to Nancy Van Beek, who coordinated the effort, and to Jennie Liston, Susan Allen, Miki Fountain, Mary Lou Fossey, Rachael Wahlberg, Lee Sterling, Margaret Putnam, and Sue Rickett for running the booth. We are next scheduled for the booth on Saturday, August 10; let's have new volunteers for the work this time.

We need to get more NOW Guides into the hands of Austin women. People who work, please buy several - you'll find them easy to re-sell to co-workers. If you know a Representative or Senator, see if you can place some Guides in that office to be sold. How about getting Guides into beauty shops? It would be good to get something different in there with the movie and fashion magazines, so I think owners would buy them.

Fort Worth NOW has loaned us the sound/filmstrip series, The Silenced Majority. Filmstrips cover the origins of the women's liberation movement and NOW; women, jobs, and the law; women and education; and "rapping with the feminists," which includes thoughts from Kate Millett and Florynce Kennedy. Each filmstrip runs 12 minutes, and two of them would make a very good program for local groups and organizations. We will be publicizing the availability of this program when we have people prepared to show it. If we can charge for the programs, this can be both a money-raiser and a consciousness-raiser for us. People interested in presenting the show, please call me.

Barbara Duke

State NOW News

Texas NOW State Coordinator Martha Dickey recently toured the state, visiting a number of chapters; Austin NOW was delighted that she reached Austin just in time for our June 5 meeting. She reports that a new chapter is in the process of convening in Killeen.

The next State Board meeting will be here in Austin, on August 10, at 10 am at the Women's Center. Chapter President Barbara Duke will represent the Chapter, and Sue Rickett will attend as State Treasurer. If you see a need for statewide action on a project, ask Barbara or Sue to present it to the Board. Current state projects are the Education Task Force's Textbook Review work, and the Rape Task Force's city services survey (which was the springboard for the new Austin Rape Crisis Center).

Austin Women's Center Plans Meetings, Opening

The Austin Women's Center is planning its official Opening Day Celebration on Monday, August 26 (the anniversary of Women's Suffrage, now celebrated by feminists across the nation as Women's Equality Day). Current ideas for the event include an open house throughout the day and a fundraising activity in the evening. There will be a Women's Center Board meeting on Thursday, July 11, at 7 pm to discuss plans for the opening.

There will also be a regular business board meeting on Thursday, July 25, at 7 pm. The Board is composed of two representatives from each group that uses the Center. Anyone else who is interested is welcome to attend. For more information, or if you have ideas and can't make the Board meeting, call Center Coordinator Nancy Van Beek, 836-0848.

Textbook Review

"Textbook review" means reading texts proposed for adoption in the fall, and documenting any objections (preferably with suggested revisions). In cooperation with a statewide NOW Education Task Force project, Austin NOW has been given responsibility for reviewing grades 1-6 science books, grades 1-2 bilingual books, and kindergarten books. All reviews must be completed by July 29. More volunteers are needed to review all the books assigned to us (more than we had expected). It doesn't take very long to do one or two books, so please help if you can. Sample report forms and additional information are available from Barbara Duke. Return the completed clean typed copy to her or to the Austin NOW Education Task Force, c/o Austin Women's Center, 2316 San Gabriel, Austin 78705.

Grades 1-6 Science Books: available at Barbara Duke's house, 1907 David St., all month. Call first, 476-0510, and pick up books and instructions.

Kindergarten Books and Bilingual, Grades 1-2: available only at Maplewood Elementary School; may not be checked out. Must be used at the school, 9-4, Monday-Friday. Plans will be made for Education Task Force members to meet at the school regularly so that new reviewers can receive initial guidance if they want it.

Chapter By-Laws Revisions

Chapter members will receive with this newsletter a copy of the proposed revised by-laws for Austin NOW. Revisions to sections 1-15 are only in the form of insertions required by the National Board of NOW (see Section 15). Therefore, while the Chapter should ratify them for the sake of procedural consistency, the Chapter in fact has no option to ignore any insertions or to make additional changes.

The implementing by-laws are the first set proposed for adoption by the Chapter; previous Chapter implementing procedures had never been codified or ratified. The implementing by-laws were presented and discussed at the June 5 business meeting; further discussion may be held during the business portion of the July 10 meeting. They will be presented for adoption at the July 24 business meeting.

Austin Rape Crisis Center Opens

The Austin Rape Crisis Center opens July 1. It will be staffed every night, 9 pm to 9 am, with three trained volunteers. The phone number there is 472-RAPE. Rape victims who call in will be told what procedures are required by the police in order to prosecute; volunteers will accompany the woman through the police and hospital procedures if she wishes. (If the victim goes directly to the police or hospital, she will be told of the Center and offered its services.) The Center will also provide referrals for counselling and other services as needed by the victim.

472-RAPE will be answered 24 hours/day. Center Director Lee Donaldson will be in her office at various times during the day, generally in the morning. The rest of the time, an answering service will answer if volunteers aren't there, and will relay messages to Lee. The Center hopes to be staffed round-the-clock beginning October 1.

More volunteers (men as well as women) are needed to staff the Rape Crisis Center. If you are interested, please call Lee Donaldson at 472-RAPE. A series of training sessions for new volunteers will begin in early July.

TWPC to Hold State Convention

The Texas Women's Political Caucus will hold its annual State Convention in Austin during the weekend of July 26-28, at Dobie Mall. For more information, contact Carol Stalcup at the TWPC office, 474-1798, or leave word in her box at the Women's Center.

WEAL Convention in Dallas

The Women's Equity Action League will hold its annual State Convention that same weekend, July 26-28, in Dallas. For more information, call Kay Bieberdorf, 345-5624. Incidentally, Kay made news recently in prodding a reluctant City Council to promise action at last in developing an affirmative action plan to end the obvious pattern of racial and sexual discrimination in hiring and promotions in city government.

NOW to Staff Center

At the June 6 meeting of the Austin Women's Center board of directors, it was decided that the Center would be kept open between 5:30 and 6:30 pm, Monday through Thursday, and from 10 am to noon on Saturdays, to provide regular hours when interested people can drop by to see the Center and find out what's happening there, and to answer the phone (after the Center gets one). NOW is currently scheduled to staff the Center on Wednesday evenings. If you can take a shift, please call Barbara Duke or Sue Ricket.

NOW Newsletter Notes

The Austin NOW Newsletter is published monthly. It contains news of the Chapter's activities, and also a summary of feminist news around Austin. Non-members may subscribe to the Newsletter, at a cost of \$3/year (25¢/copy). Free 3-month trial subscriptions are available upon request. Beginning with this issue, the mailing labels will describe the subscription category - member, subscriber, trial, or exempt (for organizations and NOW officials) - plus the date that the subscription expires.

The Newsletter welcomes news, articles, etc.; the deadline for each issue is roughly a week after the last meeting of the previous month. Send items to Sue Ricket, 10021 Childress Drive, Austin 78753; or call her at home, 836-9462, or work, 836-1351x305.



First class



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From: