

BROADSIDE

broad-side n. 3b: a sheet of paper printed on one or both sides and folded. 4: something (as a ballad) printed on a broadside. 5a: the simultaneous discharge of all the guns on one side of a ship.

Vol. 6, No. 5 Houston Area NOW Newsletter May, 1975

ERA: The April 14th hearings went about as expected. Speakers in favor of ERA were substantially better than the "anti's," which was particularly notable since they drew on the whole country for speakers while we relied on Texas. Several NOW members from Harris County spoke: Jan Dilbeck, Helen Cassidy, Frances Hicks, Janice Shiffman, Barbara Lane-Farley, and Poppy Northcutt. The pink ladies were really out in force and were very unladylike to some of our members.

HCR 57 was referred to a subcommittee of which three members are apparently in favor of rescinding ERA, while two strongly support it. We all need to write letters, especially to Joe Wyatt (chair of the subcommittee), Bill Sullivan, and Bob Close, who are anti-ERA, as well as to Chris Miller and Wilhelmina Delco, who favor ERA. If you think you can get a group to sign form letters which you can then return for sending en masse to Austin, call 527-8522 for information on getting form letters.

RAPE: On Monday April 28 the rape reform bill was to go to the House floor. Subcommittee weakened HB 284 though it still has some good features. Rep. Sarah Weddington thinks it will pass the House. It's important to write to your Senator and your Representative in support of rape reform. Call 487-2489 for updated information on the status of this legislation.

ABORTION: 11 bills, most of them sponsored by Uher (Bay City), are being considered. All would seriously impair a woman's chance to have a safe, early abortion at reasonable cost. Mickey Leland is the only Houston representative on the committee considering these; write to him as well as to your own representative and senator and ask for NO LEGISLATIVE REGULATION of this medical matter.

HOMOSEXUALITY: HB 759 to repeal the laws against certain sex acts has been referred to a subcommittee.

Thanks to those who have sent copies of their correspondence with legislators. These give us files for future reference (election time) plus information to guide ongoing activities. WE MUST WRITE MORE LETTERS.

Betty Barnes

IN MEMORIAM

Jeanne Alleman died April 16, 1975, her long battle with cancer over. In 1970 the doctors told her she had maybe two years, at the outside, to live. They underestimated her. She lived five. Every day, for one thousand, eight hundred and twenty-five days, she lived with the knowledge that she was dying.

Although I didn't know it, she was dying when I met her over two years ago. I found out about her condition only by accident from someone else, several months later.

Jeanne and I had only two or three private conversations, one of which was held over a Bloody Mary in the bar of the Shamrock Hilton during a NOW National Board Meeting. We fell into that easy, relaxed conversation that comes quite naturally between feminists and, although nothing earth-shaking was said, we left with the knowledge that we shared a common purpose.

I went with several other NOW members to Jeanne's memorial service. As I sat and looked at the flag-draped coffin of Captain Jeanne F. Alleman, United States Army, I remembered sitting in Austin three days earlier listening to fatuous, self-proclaimed constitutional authorities, misogynistic female impersonators, a cretinous carpetbagger from the Tennessee legislature, and that mutated Barbie Doll, Phyllis Schlafly, -- all proclaiming that women should not have equal rights because they are unfit to serve in the armed forces of their country. Unfit, my foot.

Just then Jeanne's sister Renee came to talk to us. "I just wanted to tell you how much the movement meant to Jeanne", she said. "It was the one thing that kept her going." That just about broke me apart.

Jeanne left a generous bequest to Houston NOW. Her family requested that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made either to NOW or to the American Cancer Society. If you wish to make a donation to NOW in Jeanne's memory, please make such a notation on your check so we can keep an accurate account for her family.

Jeanne died as she had lived, with dignity. Her life and her death are a shining example to us all. She died free.

Jan Dilbeck

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

Houston Area Chapter

Financial Statement
March 31, 1975

INCOME	<u>3-1 to 3-31</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Dues	\$764.50	\$1764.50
Contributions	282.49	460.07
Broadside	54.00	72.00
Donations for products	180.92	278.96
Fund raiser	-----	12.00
Other	<u>25.00</u>	<u>25.00</u>
Total	\$1306.91	\$2612.53

EXPENSES

National dues	\$495.00	\$1160.00
Broadside printing	-----	113.47
Broadside and general postage	50.00	169.85
Meetings	19.70	58.00
Products	-----	300.40
Center		
Rent	100.00	200.00
Utilities	8.03	43.34
Phone	36.17	114.51
Supplies and maintenance	-----	20.54
Administration: officers' expenses.	25.00	25.00
Chapter donations	22.77	43.85
Miscellaneous	<u>5.00</u>	<u>10.91</u>
Total	\$761.67	\$2259.87

CASH IN BANK, January 1, 1975	\$329.86
NET INCOME	\$352.66
CASH IN BANK, March 31, 1975	\$682.52

Respectfully submitted,

Norma J. Lee, Treasurer.

CHILD CARE TASK FORCE REPORT

There's been some action on the federal level which calls for us to do something on the state level about funds for child care. President Ford has signed Title XX of the Social Security Act, which will take effect October 1, 1975, and will establish a grant-in-aid program for the states for such services as child care, food and health programs, and services for the handicapped and the aged. Title XX is very important because the states have unprecedented flexibility in what they do with the money. Texas urgently needs to expand its child care programs; Title XX could provide funds for this. Money is allocated to the states much the way it has been under Title IV-A: federal share is 75%, state matching funds 25%.

The attitude of some of our state legislators towards appropriating money for social services is unbelievable. Some see no need for federal funds at all. Many others think that Texas' present social services offer enough. Texas will be allocated \$140 million in federal funds under Title XX, but there is talk in Austin of matching enough state funds to qualify for only \$99 million. This could severely hamper our already insufficient child care programs. The Committee on Health and Welfare in the House has already voted to cut state spending for social services; the Senate Financial Committee will vote soon. Senator Chet Brooks from Houston is a member of that committee; he needs to hear from all of you. Write to him and to your own Senator and Representative, urging them to vote for appropriating the maximum amount of state funds for Title XX. Remember, send copies of correspondence to Betty Barnes for the files of the Legislative Task Force.

Peggy Felix

JOIN HOUSTON AREA NOW (Members receive the Broadside)

___ I want to join NOW (\$15, for both National and local dues)

___ New membership ___ Renewal ___ New to local, but nat'l member

___ I want to join NOW but can only afford \$7.50 per year

___ I want only a Broadside subscription (\$3 per year--cheap)

___ I pledge \$ ___ to the Women's Center

___ My ERA donation is enclosed \$ ___

Name _____

Occupation _____

Address _____

Zip Code _____ Phone _____

Mail to Norma Lee, NOW, 3602 Milam, Houston TX 77002.

SEXUALITY & LESBIANISM TASK FORCE REPORT

This month's program meeting will feature the topic "Is There Sex After 30?" Paula and Robert Beck, social workers who have been married 8 years, and a gay couple of similar long-standing will offer a panel discussion on the changes in intimate relationships over a period of time. All are invited to attend and discuss, May 8th at 8 PM at the Center.

Rites of Spring plans are finally definite: a camping weekend west of Austin May 31-June 1. Get in touch with the Task Force for details, and to coordinate tents and food. This will also be discussed at the May 8 meeting of the Task Force.

Pokey Anderson

RAPE CRISIS COALITION NEWS

The trial of JoAnn Little was to start April 28. Whether or not a NOW action will be planned depends on developments in the trial; check the bulletin board at the Center for updates.

See the Legislative Report for information on rape reform legislation.

Alice Shrader

MENTAL HEALTH TASK FORCE REPORT

Another "Growth Group" will start in May. These are the step after CR. For information call Diana Freeland (869-5951 x 261) before May 15. Free.

We still need help interviewing therapists by phone for the NOW referral service. If you have a few daytime hours to help, please call me.

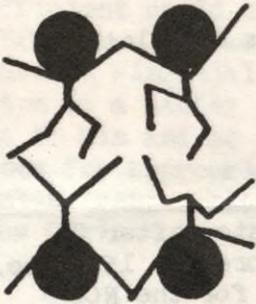
Feminist therapists recognize the importance of political and social pressures on their clients' lives and are willing to spend time discussing the ways to handle such pressures. A good critique of various therapy styles and their relation to feminism can be found in Feminism as Therapy by Marder and Rush. If your therapist is unsympathetic to your request for help dealing with cultural pressures, or prescribes drastic treatments such as shock therapy, you should seek opinions from other reliable therapists or psychiatrists.

Barbara Brown

MAY PROGRAM MEETING: CHILD CARE

The May Program meeting at the U of H University Center will consist of a panel on child care, with speakers invited by the Child Care Task Force. This will be May 7 at 8 P.M.

Village Play School



A Day Care

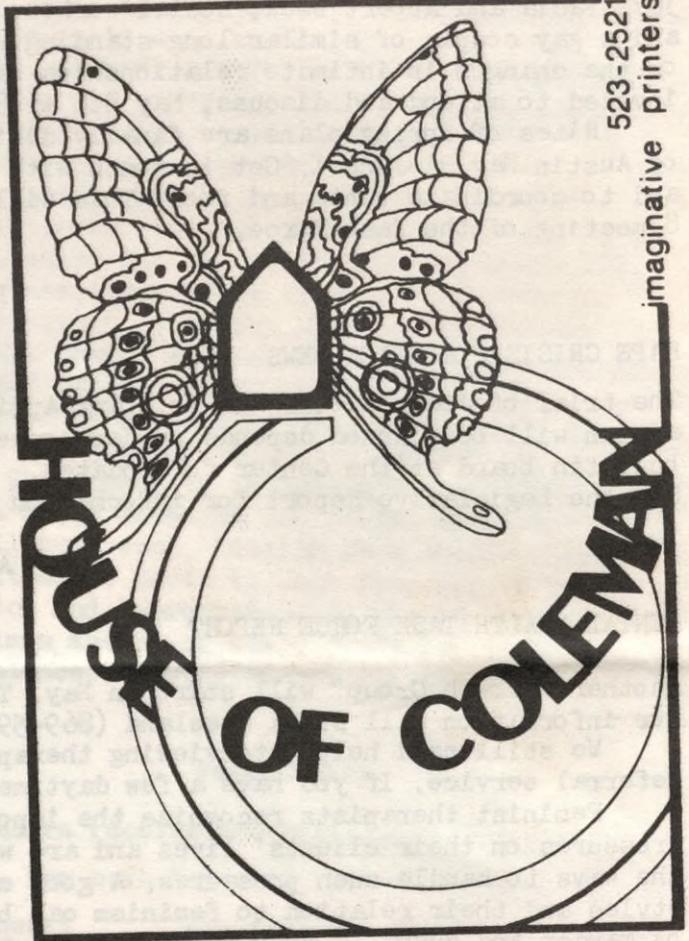
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MARY ROSS T. RHYNE

Women's Center Calendar for May 1975

- May 5 (Monday)-Orientation, "Introduction to HCWPC" 8 PM
6 (Tuesday)- Rape Crisis Coalition Program Meeting, 7:30 PM
Crisis Counseling, 6-7 PM
7 (Wednesday)-NOW Program Meeting, U of H University Center, 8 PM
8 (Thursday)-Sexuality & Lesbianism Task Force, 7:30 PM
12 (Monday)-Orientation, "Sexuality & Lesbianism," 8 PM
13 (Tuesday)- Feminist Credit Union, 7:30 PM
Crisis Counseling, 6-7 PM
14 (Wednesday)-NOW Business meeting, U of H, 8 PM
19 (Monday)-Orientation, "How to Center Sit," 8 PM
20 (Tuesday)- Rape Crisis Coalition Business meeting, 8 PM
Child Care Task Force, 8 PM
Crisis Counseling, 6-7 PM
21 (Wednesday)-HCWPC Policy Council Meeting, 7:30 PM
Membership Task Force Meeting, 8 PM
26 (Monday, Memorial Day)-CLOSED
27 (Tuesday)-Legislative Task Force, 7:30 PM
Reproduction & Health Task Force, 7:30 PM
Crisis Counseling, 6-7 PM
28 (Wednesday)-HCWPC Program Meeting, 7:30 PM
Masculine Mystique Task Force, 8 PM
29 (Thursday)-Pat Parker, Oakland, Cal. poet, poetry reading 8 PM

BROADSIDE DEADLINE: 6 PM TUESDAY MAY 20th. FOR SURE!

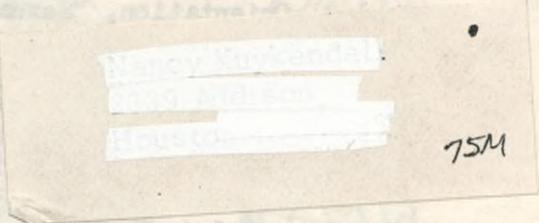
Center Sitters for May:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1 Adrienne Nelson | 16 Open |
| 2 Linda Hebert | 17 Barbara Brown |
| 3 Pokey Anderson | 18 Alice Shrader |
| 4 Jan Dilbeck | 19 Dianna Vejtasa |
| 5 Mary Ross Rhyne | 20 Betty Barnes |
| 6 Jackie Howard / Ro Lund | 21 Beverly Horton |
| 7 Diana Freeland | 22 Mary Jane White |
| 8 Susan Carlman | 23 Craig Roberts |
| 9 Mark Delaquaize | 24 Marion Friedman |
| 10 Amanda Masterson | 25 Barbara Lane-Farley |
| 11 Mary Jane White | 26 Closed |
| 12 Suggie Casey | 27 Dianna Vejtasa |
| 13 Susan Rokes/ Donna Lessard | 28 Norma Lee/ Ann Robinson |
| 14 Sharon Macha | 29 Nancy Kuykendall |
| 15 Jan Cunningham/ Edwina Brady | 30 John Pierce |
| | 31 Open |



National Organization for Women
3602 Milan
Houston, Texas 77002

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NOW Officers:

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Vice Pres.: Nancy Kuykendall, 664-4152
Secretary: Beverly Horton, 692-6481
Treasurer: Norma Lee, 667-2251

R Public Relations: Helen Cassidy, 748-5369
Nancy Kuykendall, 664-4152

Women's Center: 524-5743

Center Directors:

Jan Pierce, 522-1278
Mary Jane White, 686-9564

Speakers Bureau: Ann Robinson, 667-2251
BROADSIDE editor: Mary Ross T. Rhyne
527-8522

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Helen Cassidy, 748-5369
Cilia Estrada, 682-3575

Task Force Coordinators:

CP Child Care: Dianna Vejtasa, 772-7393
Peggy Felix, 649-2603
N Education: Kay Whyburn, 667-8556
Employment: Barbara Cigainero, 864-8939
Legislative: Betty Barnes, 487-2489
Masculine Mystique: Craig Roberts, 626-8265
Membership: Mary Jane White, 686-9564

Mental Health: Barbara Brown, 528-4966

~~Minority Women: Jan Tarver, 527-9041~~

Rape Crisis Coalition: Alice Shrader **R**
daytime, 523-2521; 926-5809

Reproduction & Health: Nancy
Kuykendall, 664-4152

Sexuality & Lesbianism:

Pokey Anderson, 528-1859
Marion Friedman, 667-9507

Women in Sports: Jan Cunningham, 522-7164
(National NOW Task Force Co-ordinator)

Women in the Arts: Charlotte Moser, 527-8851 **R**

credit

R