

HCWPC

Harris County Women's Political Caucus
3602 milam houston 77002 (713)524-5743



NEWSLETTER
JULY 1974

TWPC CONVENTION

It's convention time again! The revised schedule--as of press time, subject to change at any hour of the day or night!--is as follows:

Friday afternoon: press conference at which the report on the constitutional revision commission will be released.

Friday evening: adoption of convention rules.

Saturday morning: workshops and special interest caucuses (the workshops have been somewhat reorganized, but a revised list wasn't available to us at press time. All 6 workshops will be offered at both workshop sessions--Houston's legislative candidate Karey Bresenhan will lead one!)

Saturday afternoon: plenary session--nomination of officers, keynote speech (by Ms. C. Delores Tucker, Pennsylvania secretary of state), by-laws, etc.

Saturday evening: fun(d)raiser

Sunday morning: resolutions and elections

A major action of the convention will be the endorsement of state-wide candidates. State policy council has adopted the rule that a vote of 2/3 of the delegate votes present at the convention will be required for endorsement. The name of the Woman of the Year, voted on by the policy council at its June 22 meeting, will also be announced.

Delegate votes will be apportioned according to the same rather complicated formula used last year. HCWPC membership as of June 22 allows us 70 delegate votes, which we will be able to vote regardless of how many Harris County members are present at the convention.

BUT

apportioning votes within our caucus will be much simpler if seventy members attend and vote, one woman/one vote. To avoid having to make complicated mathematical calculations, and to make sure all our voices are heard, let's all plan to attend!

The cut-off date for determining local caucus delegation size was June 23. Anyone who has joined a local caucus since that date has two options: she can vote with her caucus (though her membership will not

TWPC Convention Cont.

increase caucus voting strength), or she can vote with the at-large delegation (increasing the size--and the voting strength--of that delegation, whose cut-off point is not until noon of July 27, just before the plenary session). This latter tactic has the practical advantage, for all us politically-minded people, of widening the voting influence of the local caucus in the at-large delegation. The state policy council made the decision to allow the two above options, but local policy councils may, if they so choose, vote to require members joining after the 22d of June to vote with the at-large delegation.

HCWPC members are encouraged to run for state office and for the policy council from special interest caucuses. In order to run, a member must be recognized at the nominating session, and must nominate herself. Time will be allotted for nominating speeches.

TWPC officers, as presently constituted, are the chair and the vice-chairs for membership, political action, legislation, finance, and communication/organization; however, proposed changes to the by-laws may divide each of the latter two into 2 separate vice-chairs. The finance vice-chair may become finance vice-chair and comptroller, and the responsibilities of the communication/organization vice-chair may be divided along lines similar to our HCWPC structure, vice-chairs internal and external. In addition, if convention delegates elect to the policy council women who are presently serving as policy council delegates, then more openings on the policy council will be available.

For more information on the convention, contact Olga Soliz, HCWPC coordinator, 524-5005 (after 5), 748-7573 (Bus.).

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED....

State policy council has asked for Harris County input on the resolutions to be proposed at the convention. Send all proposed resolutions to

Rhonda Abrams
800 Babcock Rd #141
San Antonio, Tx. 78201

prior to July 19, 1974. This deadline will enable her to coordinate the resolutions from around the state, print them before the convention, and send copies to the local caucuses for discussion--so the earlier you send your resolutions in, the better!!

Caucus members interested in discussing the resolutions will meet at the Women's Center at 6:15, Wednesday, July 17 (just before the policy council meeting). If you can't go to the convention, here's your chance to express your views to those who are going; if you are attending the convention, this meeting will be a good opportunity to plan resolution strategy. For further information about resolutions, call Pam Pitt at 523-9647.

RAPE CRISIS COALITION

The policy council meeting of June 19, after a long and often emotionally charged discussion with members of the Rape Crisis Coalition, voted to request that the Coalition report to HCWPC, and voted Sharon Moline-Vincent representative from the caucus in the coalition. The following is a progress report by Coalition member Alice Shrader:

Background:

The coalition currently has active membership from members of Harris County Women's Political Caucus, National Organization for Women and some independents. Some members of the local American Civil Liberties Union and Women in Medicine have expressed an interest in working with the coalition. Their

Rape Crisis Coalition Cont.

affiliation is not yet official to my knowledge. Efforts are being made to solicit input from local women in law and Crisis Hotline.

The coalition meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at the Women's Center. The meetings are scheduled from 7:30 to 9 but usually last longer than that. Anyone wanting to put an item for discussion on the agenda should contact Sharon Moline-Vincent before the next meeting, Tuesday, July 16. Her phone is 661-3231.

PRIORITY GROUP REPORTS--

Discussion Group for Victims: In the last newsletter this group was announced as a consciousness-raising group. The people working on this project want to make clear, though, that actually it is not a CR but a discussion group. These meetings will begin the second and fourth Thursdays of July at the First Unitarian Church, 5210 Fannin, 7:30 p.m. Betty Beaudry, who is a psychiatric nursing instructor at TWU School of Nursing, has volunteered to facilitate the meetings. These meetings are open to the public and free. All members of this group who met with Ms. Beaudry expressed a feeling of great confidence in her as a person-woman and as a professional. They reported to the business meeting that she was very interested in rape and had done a great deal of studying on the psychological effects of sexual assault on the victim. Women interested in participating in the discussion group should contact Sharon Moline-Vincent at 661-3231.

Police Information Committee: This group has formulated a list of 30 questions to use as a guide in interviewing Police Detectives on their attitudes toward rape victims and police procedure. They plan to interview all the detectives in homicide division, where adult rape victims are processed, and in juvenile division, where all victims under 17 are taken. They have interviewed Detective Jesse White, who is one of the two women detectives in homicide, and have scheduled interviews with others. They hope through these interviews to get documented information of police procedures and attitudes. Contact person for this group is Bette Anne Knoll, 493-4656.

Rape Speakers: The purpose of this group is to inform and educate the public. Initially they are soliciting speaking engagements with small audiences, primarily in women's and youth groups in churches and community associations. They are currently preparing speeches and outlines including information on the following topics: statistics of incidence of rape, myths about rape, refutations of the myths, psychological effect of sexual assault on the victim, possible political-cultural causes of rape, self-defense basics, sexual child abuse, and the processes that a victim goes through in hospital, police, courts.

Most of the interested speakers at this point have some experience in public speaking. However, as an added insurance that they will be effective and well-organized, they have located a feminist college speech teacher who has volunteered to review them on the basics and perhaps help organize the initial speeches/outlines. These people are reading everything they can get their hands on that has to do with any form of sexual assault. Contributions of reading matter are always appreciated. Contact persons are Alice Shrader, 926-5809, and Bette Anne Knoll, 493-4656.

Rape Crisis Coalition Cont.

Legal Procedures-Law Reform Group: This group has made a lengthy list of items to research, including information on jury selection, discrepancies between what the law says and what is actually practiced, current penalties (official and in actual practice), etc. This group is just beginning to work and has a lot to do. In the area of law reform, they realize that, to be effective, interested Houston people must participate in a statewide effort. Toward that goal, they have initiated contacts with legislators Sarah Weddington and Kay Bailey who are currently working on rape reform. Nancy Lee, 661-6093, reported at the business meeting.

Self-Defense: Last session of current class is Monday, July 8. Another one is already being planned, to start in the next few weeks, we hope. July first the class was filmed by Channel 11 news and the films were shown at 5 and 10 on Tuesday, July 2. Contact person is Judy Stroud, 782-2481.

JEFF DAVIS NURSES

WHAT'S WRONG AT JEFF DAVIS?

Unsterile deliveries (284 between January and July of this year alone); outdated and hazardous equipment; poor patient care due to insufficient staff and facilities; lack of privacy for patients and staff; too few trained personnel to perform tasks that therefore fall to untrained staff; substandard working conditions and inadequate pay for a staff already harassed by a gross work overload.

Would you want to have your baby at Jeff Davis? The women Jeff Davis serves--70% Black, 20% Chicana, 10% White--have no choice. The appalling conditions at the hospital have been allowed to develop without regard to the health and lives of the women and children involved, and change depends on continuing public attention being focused on the situation, and on strong support for vigorous, meaningful action.

As you all know, 9 nurses were fired by the hospital administration for trying to draw attention to these conditions. These women want good medical care for the women and children whose lives and health are as important as those of Houstonians who can afford better care than Jeff Davis now offers. They want their jobs back, with decent working conditions.

WHAT'S BEING DONE?

Quentin Mease, chair of the Harris County Hospital District's board of managers, announced June 25 that a blue ribbon group of community medical leaders will investigate labor and delivery conditions at the hospital. He insisted that hospital district board members have been discussing the feasibility of such an investigation for a lo-o-ong time, and that this special committee is in no way being formed in response to demands for a full investigation made by the Coalition to Support the Nurses, a feminist groups' coalition. (Isn't "coincidence" wonderful?)

Representatives of the Coalition to Support the Nurses (including members of HCWPC, WEAL, NOW, the Socialist workers' Campaign, and three of the fired nurses) in a press conference July 3 accused the blue ribbon committee of intending little more than a whitewash job. Mease had said neither a member of the Coalition nor (especially!) one of the fired nurses could serve on the committee. The "community medical leaders" so far

Jeff Davis Nurses Cont.

appointed have been administrators and those closely allied with administration. Evidently, in Mease's opinion, the nurses, whose direct experience with Jeff Davis conditions has led them to try to draw public attention to the hospital and bring about improvements, don't deserve a blue ribbon.

The Coalition picketed the hospital, at 1801 Allen Parkway, on June 19 in support of the nurses, and another picket was scheduled for Saturday July 6. Press coverage of action so far has been generally mediocre.

Speakers in support of the nurses addressed the July 10 hospital board hearing on the yearly budget. The Coalition also plans an all-out campaign to inform and arouse the public about conditions at Jeff Davis, including extensive media exposure for the nurses.

The Nurses for Improvement Committee has been formed to drum up public support and financial help for lawyers' fees. Contributions can be made payable to the Nurses for Improvement, 8339 Whitecastle Lane, Houston. The Coalition has been meeting Monday nights at 7:30 at the Women's Center. Caucus members who want more information can call Susan Heavey, 528-5168, 691-2283 (Bus.).

REVENUE SHARING AND NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS

HCWPC has gone on record, in a letter to the mayor and the city council, as supporting the revenue sharing allocation suggested by the Houston General Revenue Sharing Coalition. The Coalition (which includes such groups as the National Association of Social Workers, the United Fund, PASO, the National Urban Coalition, the American Jewish Committee, the Chicano Training Center, the Association of Black Social Workers, the Houston Area Urban League, the League of Women Voters, and many others) proposed that 15% of the unbudgeted General Revenue Sharing funds accruing to Houston through the 4th entitlement period (July 1973-June 30, 1974) be allocated for the establishment of a human resources department.

More specifically, this proposal would have established, operated and maintained multi-purpose neighborhood centers, hopefully including much-needed child care facilities, and would have funded pilot studies to determine social service needs in the community. The HGRSC's revised proposal for the use of these unbudgeted funds called for \$1,800,000 for the multi-services centers. Mayor Hofheinz had spoken out in favor of the establishment of neighborhood centers, but he had also suggested that revenue sharing funds be used for capital expenses--one-time only, rather than ongoing, expenditures.

On July 3, the city council passed the Hofheinz revenue sharing budget unopposed. This means that revenue sharing money will go for construction of the centers, but not for their operation and maintenance as the Coalition requested. Nevertheless, this allocation of money for human care services, though it falls short of what was asked, does represent an improvement over the record of the last administration; it also sets a precedent for future allocations. Much work must still be done, in such areas as obtaining citizen participation in planning what goes into the service centers, and -- especially important for HCWPC-- continuing to push for a commitment, by the city, to some kind of planning or provision for child care.

CHICANAS UNIDAS

The Harris County Chicana Women's Political Caucus met and organized on June 12 at Ninsa's Mexican Restaurant. On June 19 the HCWPC policy council voted to welcome the Chicana Caucus into HCWPC. The Caucus will work to encourage and recruit Chicanas into HCWPC, and will generally concern itself with the priorities of Mexican American citizens. Olga Soliz will serve as chair, and Elma Barrera as representative on the policy council. For information about meeting times and places, call Olga, 524-5005, 748-7573 (Bus.), or Cilia Estrada, 682-3575, 222-8949 (Bus.).

COALITION OF LABOR UNION WOMEN

On Tuesday, June 25th, Mary Lou Heidrich, Cilia Estrada and Peggy Hall attended the second meeting of the Coalition of Labor Union Women in Houston. The meeting was held at United Paperworkers, Local 1305, 209 W. Shaw in Pasadena. The chapter will officially convene at the third meeting, Tuesday July 16th, 7:30 at the United Paperworkers.

Women from several different unions attended, including American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, which represents Ben Taub and Jefferson Davis Hospitals. The nurses involved in the Jeff Davis protest addressed the group, initiating a very good discussion with the union representative. Each group presented its side, and some of the differences were resolved.

CLUW was unable to take action at this meeting, since three meetings must take place before the chapter can convene. However, a committee was set up to consider the Jeff Davis action and report back to the group in July.

The Coalition discussed the needs of working women, particularly stressing that more women should be encouraged to join unions, and that unions must exert greater effort to organize women. The meeting was well-attended and generated a great deal of energy for labor union women to work together and solve their own problems.

For more information on the Coalition of Labor Union Women, call Peggy Swan (473-7766); Debby Leonard (522-5776); Deloris Woods (236-0517).

WOMEN IN ACTION

At the June program meeting, Fran Snedeker and Rebecca Howard of Women in Action spoke on their work with women in the Harris County Jail, and asked for the support of the caucus members, individually and/or collectively as a political organization, for their goals.

Conditions in the jail are extremely poor--hot, overcrowded, and smelly. About 130 women are incarcerated, some waiting for their trials to come up, others serving their sentences out, all in a continuing state of discomfort, indignity, and sometimes even peril. Basic toilet articles are often virtually unattainable. Medical care, especially prenatal care, is less than minimal--for example, very few women receive the thorough physical examination that each woman is supposed to undergo before she is incarcerated. The jail provides no psychological counseling; women are left to cope, by themselves, with their feelings of guilt, fear, helplessness,

Women in Action Cont.

hostility, and anxiety for their children outside. The Houston Community College does provide some adult basic education and vocational training, but the training women are offered--in contrast to the broader range available to make prisoners--is solely in secretarial and business skills. Women are often kept miserably uninformed about the progress or disposition of their own cases.

The volunteers of Women in Action provide many prisoners' only contact with the outside world. They can carry messages in and out, visit with the women, and otherwise try to give them some feeling of influence again over what were once their lives. WIA is also coordination an arts and crafts program, for which teachers are needed (more about this later).

Ms. Snedeker invited everyone interested in seeing for herself the conditions in the jail to accompany the WIA volunteers on one of their weekly visits, on Thursdays between 12:30 and 2:00. WIA's primary work, according to Ms. Snedeker and Ms. Howard, has been directly with the women in the jail, though they are now meeting with the commissioners in an effort to make their concerns heard.

Several areas were suggested in which HCWPC might be able to involve itself in the jail effort as an organization:

- 1) Political pressure might be brought to bear on Sheriff Heard and the Commissioners Court to investigate jail conditions;
- 2) HCWPC could keep watch on proposals made to the Criminal Justice Committee of the Houston-Galveston Area Council, in order to support or protest such proposals;
- 3) HCWPC could seek permission to put on a display about conditions in the jail for the August meeting here of the American Correctional Association;
- 4) Individual caucus members could write the County Commissioners deploring conditions in the jail, and suggesting that they be investigated and drastically improved. Good points to emphasize, Ms. Snedeker said, might be the poor medical care, and perhaps the narrow range of vocational training offered the women.

It was suggested that the caucus might send representatives to visit the jail and gather first-hand information, which, along with information supplied by WIA, could serve as a basis for future caucus action in Commissioners' Court and elsewhere. However, no immediate action was taken on this proposal. The WIA representatives felt that HCWPC could make more of an impact acting independently of, rather than in coalition with, Women in Action, especially since identification of WIA with HCWPC in the minds of some of the administrators who have been uncooperative all along might prove a set-back to the progress made so far.

*****IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN WORKING TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS*****
IN THE JAIL FOR WOMEN INMATES , HERE'S WHAT TO DO:

- 1) Write the county commissioners about the inhumane treatment of women in the jail. (You can write a letter even if you can't volunteer your time!) Write to:

Judge of Harris County:	Bill Elliot	Address:
Commissioner Pct. 1 :	Tom Bass	Family Law Center
" " 2 :	Jamie H. Bray	1115 Congress Ave.
" " 3 :	Bob Eckels	Houston, Tx. 77002
" " 4 :	E. A. (Squatty) Lyons	Phone: 228-0311

Women in Action Cont.

- 2) Contact Fran Snedeker at 629 W. Alabama, 526-5547, for more information on Women in Action, to arrange to visit the jail, etc.
- 3) AND if you are an arts and crafts teacher and would be interested in working with 10-15 women inmates--the class meets once a week, is now scheduled for Monday morning but could be re-scheduled to an evening--contact Fran Snedeker and volunteer.

FEMINISM IS IN THE AIR

Did you catch Susan Heavey and Jan Hanchett on KYOK? They appeared June 26 on James White's Grssroots show, co-hosted by Alice Bonner. Susan and Jan were disappointed at the level of consciousness displayed by some of the callers-in, but you never know who might be listening and learning!

COMMITTEESCOMMITTEESCOMMITTEESCOMMITTEESCOMMITTEESCOMMITTEESCOMMITTEES

PRIORITIES COMMITTEESELECTION OF FEMINIST CANDIDATES

Thank you and congratulations are in order to all of us who worked so hard during May, June, and preceding months for the election of our candidates. We were disappointed in May at Sissy's defeat, and again in June at JoAnn's failure to make it through the run-off. But what's important is that they knew we were there, and that we will be there again and again. Our hard work forced the opposition to confront their major opponents, the feminist candidates in these races who will be the winners next time. Caucus members also helped elect such feminist winners as Ron Waters.

However, most importantly, one of our own, Karey Bresenhan, was selected as Democratic candidate in district 90 for the general election in November. For the first time a woman will face another woman in that race. It is especially important for us to work for our feminist candidate in district 90, since this time the race will be run on the real issues, not on the gender of the candidate. Hooray!

The November election seems a long way off, in the middle of July, but we have plenty of work to do starting RIGHT NOW:

Karey needs 22 typists to type labels for direct mailings to her 22 precincts;

she needs volunteers to register voters who are new to her district.

If you haven't already volunteered for one of these tasks, call Pam Pitt at 523-9647 or Karey at 666-6780 to offer your efforts. We've laid a lot of groundwork for the election of a feminist to the legislature; let's all help keep the good work going.

FULFILLMENT OF CITY ADMINISTRATION PLEDGES

The priorities committee for ensuring that Houston mayor Fred Hofheinz fulfills his pledge to HCWPC reports actions in the following areas:

- 1) Day Care: Committee representatives met with Ms. Marie Oser, chair of

Committees Cont.

the newly-established Ad Hoc Task Force for Children, which concerns itself with day care programs and their funding. The Policy Council has voted that the Caucus become a member of the Task Force.

2) Rape: The Policy Council determined that the rape crisis priority will be dealt with in the future by the Rape Crisis Coalition, in order to avoid duplication of efforts.

3) Women's Advocate: Committee representatives have scheduled a meeting in July with Poppy Northcutt, Women's Advocate, in order to discuss and define the relationship between her office and the Caucus.

4) Women in city government: Committee member Cilia Estrada is serving on the city of Houston's Affirmative Action Commission, along with 17 other members, 6 of them women (1 black, 3 Spanish surnamed, 2 anglo). Cilia is devoting considerable time and energy--absolutely without pay--and reports that the Commission is meeting frequently and working furiously to complete its task by the target date, the end of July. The Commission is examining, discussing, and re-wording where necessary proposals for affirmative action programs for the city.

Anyone interested in working with the priorities committee in the above areas can call its chair, Olga Soliz, at 524-5005, or 748-7573 (Bus.).

STANDING COMMITTEES

POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE

The Political Action committee, chaired by Peggy Kress, is considering scheduling workshops on political action for this fall. People who have suggestions about areas they want information on can let Peggy know, 772-8559.

-----OLD BUSINESS-----

TWPC POLICY COUNCIL

The June 22 state policy council meeting spent much time on convention planning, but here are some other actions and announcements:

Finance vice-chair Jane Macon announced that the tax exempt fund now has its charitable tax exemption status. Its name has been changed to Woman Power, Inc.

The council voted to participate in a suit with the Texas Civil Liberties Union and the Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund to stop the practice of requiring people to sign paper ballots. If the court disallows TWPC participation, the council voted to file a brief.

At the meeting a fund was established in memory of Mary Ida Hofheinz, a caucus member and active worker in the Farenthold campaign, who died in May. Contributions in her name to Woman Power, Inc. will be collected at the convention.

NWPC CONFERENCE

reported by Cilia Estrada

About 600 to 700 women attended the recent NWPC conference held at the Wichita, Kansas, convention center, June 28-30. They came from all over the U.S.--one from as far away as Hawaii. The largest delegations were from Kansas and Iowa. Some twenty delegates from Houston, Dallas, San Antonio, Austin, and El Paso represented Texas.

The main events of the conference were held at the Holiday Inn Plaza which housed most of the participants. The Wichita Women's Political Caucus deserves praise for their fine coordination of all the events as to facilities, dissemination of information, timing, etc. A welcoming committee at the airport with a table containing material on the convention as well as ready answers to questions about limousine service to hotel, taxis, car rentals, or just plain, friendly conversation, was a very hospitable idea.

Friday was workshop day. Workshop subjects included Caucus Organizing, Finding Women to Run, Getting Women Appointed, Politics of Coalition, Abortion, Rape, Child Care, and A Candidate's Guide to Using the Media. The excellent workshop on rape was presented by three Memphis women: Pam Hazen, a NOW member who coordinates People Against Rape in Memphis; Brenda Brown, police department planner; and Joan Moore, sergeant, investigation of sexual crimes, Memphis Police Department. Brown and Moore are part of the MPD Rape Squad. They made a visual presentation of statistics and simple self-defense methods. The statistical facts and figures, gathered by Brenda Brown, showed Memphis patterns of rape and dispelled the usual myths about rape. This report and others will be available at the Center to interested individuals.

Sissy Farenthold, Gloria Steinem and Bella Abzug addressed the convention on Saturday. Farenthold spoke on women in politics, strongly encouraging women to run; with Steinem feminism was the subject; and Abzug gave a stirring political speech. All were very inspiring, and the audience responded with long standing ovations.

The steering committee met on Saturday in the late evening. Discussion and debate focused on the financial situation of the NWPC, which is some \$11,000 in debt. The picture is grim, since local caucuses have been unable or unwilling to turn in even minimum \$1.00 dues. Texas was among the three largest donors of dues for 1974 and for 1973.

Neither the steering committee nor the conference has the power to change the amount of the present dues, since this can only be done by amendment of the by-laws at the 1975 national convention. Local caucuses were requested to increase membership dues to \$20.00, of which \$10 will go to National and the rest split between state and local caucuses. This increase in dues would be effective January 1, 1975. It was unclear what would be done about the present pressing financial situation of the NWPC, that is between the months of July 1974 and January 1975, except that a committee was formed to study the situation and propose suggestions or solutions.

Boston was selected as the next convention site in the summer of 1975; a definite date will be announced later.

When the Raza Unida women pulled out of the NWPC (actually the TWPC) Lupe Anguiano, chair of the Chicana caucus, also vacated that position. At the steering committee meeting Olga Soliz was nominated and elected to fill that position. She will, of course, also be part of the steering committee of the NWPC. That committee's next meeting will be in Denver, Colo., September 28 and 29.

NWPC Conference cont.

The convention did not succeed in finding solutions to the NWPC's most pressing problem: money. A lot of time was given to the manner in which monies would be collected and divided between national, state, and local caucuses. Discussions and suggestions on how and where to obtain funds were vague and generally non-committal. It would seem that the delegates present were unwilling or unable to appraise the seriousness of the NWPC's financial situation. Hopefully, upon reconsideration of events at the convention, these same delegates (now at home with their local caucuses) will come to the realization that commitment to a cause, an idea, or an organization must come from the heart and mind, but first of all from the pocket-book.

UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT--AGAIN:

The HCWPC newsletter is now being edited by newly elected vice-chair internal Suzanne Marshall, assisted by membership and information committee members and any other persons noble--or foolhardy--enough to risk volunteering.

An accurate, complete, and regular newsletter is essential to the efficient operation of this caucus. We'll seek out as much news as possible, but our job will be infinitely easier if you will make it your job to send us all the information you want to see in the newsletter.

BRIEF announcements (meeting dates, etc.) can be taken by phone; the number to call, at least temporarily, is Suzanne's: 523-9024 or 224-5441, x61. But for greatest efficiency, longer news items must be written out (or typed, if possible!) and either a) handed to Suzanne; b) mailed to Suzanne (at 1842 Kipling, Houston 77006); or c) left in the HCWPC vice-chair internal/newsletter box at the Center BEFORE THE DEADLINE.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE WILL BE THE 28TH OF EACH MONTH: THE DEADLINE FOR AUGUST WILL BE JULY 28. PLEASE HELP US KEEP TO THIS SCHEDULE. OTHERWISE HOUSTON WILL BE FILLED WITH THE SOUNDS OF WEEPING AND THE GNASHING OF TEETH--NO ONE WILL GET HER NEWSLETTER ON TIME!

CALENDAR

- July 11 Membership and Information Committee. 7:30 pm, 2508 Helena (Susan Carlman's house; phone 524-5531)
- July 17 Discussion of resolutions for TWPC convention. 6:15 pm, Women's Center
Policy Council. 7:30 pm, Women's Center. **DON'T MISS THIS ONE--IT'S THE LAST BEFORE THE CONVENTION!**
- July 24 Program meeting. 7:30 pm, Women's Center. Speaker ~~to be announced~~ *Poppy Northcutt, Women's Advocate*
- July 26-28 Texas Women's Political Caucus third annual convention. Dobie Center, Austin, Tx. Registration is \$10; all forms are due July 16. Address all inquiries about the convention to
TWPC
P. O. Box 13063
Capitol Station
Austin, Tx. 78711
Double rooms are available at Dobie Center for \$8.50 per person per night (write Dobie Center).
- July 28 Newsletter deadline for August.

QUESTIONS? MORE INFO? CALL ONE OF THESE PEOPLE

Officers:

Chair: Barbara Lane Farley, 461-6075.
 Co-Chair: Sharon Moline-Vincent, 661-3231.
 Vice-Chair Internal: Suzanne Marshall, 523-9024, 224-5441 x61.
 Vice-Chair External: Kathy Whitmire, 521-0649, 228-9531 (Bus.).
 Secretary: Susan Heavey, 528-5168, 691-2283 x40
 Treasurer: Sylvia Garcia, 529-7860, 225-0521 (Bus.).

Priorities committees:

Election of feminist candidates: Pam Pitt, 523-9647.
 Fulfilling city administration pledges: Olga Soliz, 524-5005; 748-7573.

Standing committees:

Political action: Peggy Kress, 772-8559.
 Affirmative action: Patty Payne, 661-4698.
 Lobbying and Candidate rating: Bebe Bruce, 529-7053.
 Sexuality and reproduction: Deanie Murphy, 668-4600.
 Membership and information: Susan Carlman, 524-5531.
 Funding: Harla Kaplan, 772-4987.
 Cilia Estrada, 682-3575, 222-8949.

HEALTH WORKSHOPS

Workshops on Common Female Health Issues are currently being presented by Polly Perez, an R.N. who a few months ago quit her job of six and a half years with a well-known Houston Ob/Gyn to open her own female health counseling and education service. She has also taught Lamaze classes for several years.

Attendance at the first six workshops was good, and the workshops were successful. The sessions meet in the work room at the Center, and those of you who don't care to attend all six can pick and choose at \$2.00 per workshop.

Sounds good? Clip the handy registration slip--or, if you can't bear to mutilate your newsletter, registration slips are available at the Center. For more information, call Nancy Kuykendall, coordinator, Task Force on Reproduction and Its Control, NOW, at 664-4152 (home) or 224-5704 (work).

**WORKSHOPS ON
COMMON FEMALE HEALTH ISSUES**

Women's Center - 3602 Milam - 7:30 P.M.

Group II	July 2	Breast Examination \$	July 30	Menopause
		and Mastectomy \$	Aug. 6	Sterilization & Abortion
	July 16	Pelvic Examination \$	Aug. 13	What Women Can Do as Groups and as Individuals to Get the Care We Deserve
	July 23	Pap Smear & Cervical \$		
		Carcinoma \$		

Name _____ Address _____
 Telephone (home) _____
 (work) _____

Make check payable to Paulina Perez and bring or mail it to Nancy Kuykendall, c/o Women's Center, 3602 Milam, Houston, Texas 77002.

ALL SIX WORKSHOPS - \$10.00

JOIN US!

CLIP AND MAIL FORM TO: MEMBERSHIP, HCWPC, 3602 Milam, Houston, 77006
 Make checks payable to HCWPC.

NAME _____ PRECINCT NUMBER _____
 ADDRESS & CITY _____ ZIP _____
 HOME PHONE _____ OFFICE PHONE _____

___ Enclosed is \$12.50 for full HCWPC membership through all of 1974.

___ Enclosed is &7.50. I need to waive \$5 of my 1974 state dues.

___ I need to waive all dues. Attached statement gives my reason.

___ I am interested in the following committees: ___ funding
 ___ political action ___ affirmative action ___ lobbying and candidate
 rating ___ sexuality and reproduction ___ membership

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