



# BROADSIDE

HOUSTON AREA NOW CHAPTERS

VOL. 13, NO. 7

AUGUST 1982

## EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT TEMPORARILY DELAYED

On June 24, 1982, the National Organization for Women ended the ERA Countdown Campaign. It was apparent that a few men in a few states were going to deny equality to over half the population by failing to ratify the proposed amendment by the June 30 deadline. Media reports claimed NOW conceded or admitted defeat, which was not true. Eleanor Smeal, President of NOW announced the new direction the organization will be taking in getting more feminist men and women elected, therefore we will know we have the votes for ratification. 1982 is a ripe time to "clean house" because all house seats are up for election and many seats in the Senate. We need to work on both a state and federal level. The ERA has been reintroduced in both houses but a vote is not expected this year. Now is the time to make your commitment to Equality as never before. Register to vote, work a campaign, donate to NOW/PAC, come out for the Walkathon, help identify our friends who are running for office.

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### \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$ NOW/PAC WOMAN WALK '82 \$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$\$

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Last year several of the NOW chapters in Houston participated in the "Last Walk for the ERA." We had never done a walkathon in Houston before, but figured it would be something to regret if we didn't do it for the countdown campaign. About \$7,000 dollars were raised for the ERA. This year the focus of the Walkathon is to raise money for NOW/PAC. Through our political action committee we can make donations to pro-equality candidates and endorse those candidates. Also we hope to find more feminists who will become candidates. Walkers and support staff are needed for the walkathon which is scheduled for Sunday September 26. To be a walker, all you do is find sponsors who agree to donate a certain amount of money per mile that you walk, or a flat rate for once around the course (probably Memorial Park). Pledge forms will be available soon. If you can not walk, sponsor someone else, serve at one of the check stations, or the water/first aid crew. There will be prizes in different categories. Come to your August chapter meeting for more details or call Deborah Bell 681-9507, Melissa Key at 520-8489, or Pat Kuhlmann at 488-3278.

# CALENDAR

2 - Women's Lobby Alliance meeting at #4 Chelsea Place. 6:30pm.

5 - Houston Area NOW business meeting. Office at #4 Chelsea 7:30pm.

11 - Spring Branch-Memorial NOW meeting at 7:30. see page 4.

12 - HANOW Program meeting. See page 7 for details.

21-22 - Minority Women's Convention at U of H downtown.

26 - Women's Suffrage Day at UT School of Public Health hosted by the Houston Area Women's Center. Film "She's Nobody's Baby" will be shown. Admission is free. Wine & Cheese & Sisterhood. The address is 6905 Bertner but it is tricky to find. There is a light at the intersection of Holcombe & Bertner. Enter the building from parking area.

27-29 - Texas State NOW Convention at the Hilton Inn in Austin. By-law changes, workshops, elections, & Fun.

## SPECIAL DATES IN AUGUST

6 - 20 year old American Gertrude Ederle is first woman to swim the English Channel, 1926. Her time was 14 hours, 39 minutes.

13 - Lucy Stone, abolitionist and suffragist, born 1818.

21 - "One widow & 11 maides" are dispatched from London to Virginia to be sold, for 120 pounds od tobacco each, as wives to the settlers. 1621.

22 - Ann Franklin, first Woman newspaper editor takes over at Newport Mercury (R.I.) 1762.

25 - Althea Gibson, tennis and golf star, born 1927.

26 - 1920, the 19th amendment giving women the right to vote is ratified. Know as "Women's Equality Day" or "Women's Suffrage Day."




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SEPTEMBER 26, NOW/PAC Walkathon for more information see page 1.

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## NOT FOR WOMEN ONLY

The Washinton-based National Women's Education Fund has picked 19 cities, including Houston, for a series of seminars to teach women how to "Do More Than Talk Politics." The meetings will emphasize campaign organization in an effort to get more women elected to public office. The seminars are open to men as well - if they share the fundamental goal of increasing the influence of women in public life. The Houston session is Sept. 11-12 at the University of Houston. Contact your NOW chapter for more details.

# ERA reintroduced in Senate, House



WASHINGTON (UPI) — The Equal Rights Amendment was reintroduced in Congress Wednesday, and House Speaker Thomas O'Neill told an ERA rally on the Capitol steps that "success is out there."

Judiciary Committee Chairman Peter Rodino, with 201 co-sponsors, reintroduced the controversial constitutional amendment in the House, and Sen. Paul Tsongas, D-Mass., with 50 co-sponsors, introduced it in the Senate.

Afterward, members of Congress joined several hundred ERA supporters and politicians at the rally on a typically hot and steamy Washington summer day.

"I'm sure 80 percent of the people are with us even though the amendment failed" to win ratification, O'Neill told the cheering crowd. "I know that success is out there."

Tsongas pledged: "We are here today to make it clear ERA is going

to pass Congress and become part of the Constitution."

The crowd, mostly women, cheered old ERA slogans, and hissed and booed at any mention of President Reagan, who opposed ERA, or Phyllis Schlafly, who successfully rallied opposition to it.

"Do you get the feeling that momentum is building?" asked Tsongas. "Yes," the crowd thundered back, amid whistles and applause.

One group of women silently unfurled a green banner with the words of the amendment across the steps of the Capitol's west front. Others held aloft banners proclaiming: "ERA Won't Go Away," and "Put Women in the Constitution."

The new amendment reads the same as the earlier version, which passed Congress but fell three states short of becoming the law of the land.

It says: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be abridged by any state on account of sex."

The Houston Post/Thurs., July 15, 1982

The 1982 National NOW Conference is expected to attract record-breaking attendance in Indianapolis on October 8-10. As the first National Conference after the historic ERA Countdown Campaign and the first election of national officers in three years, the event will set the course for the focus of NOW activities in a new and challenging phase of our history. The National Conference is the supreme governing body of NOW.

Marion Wagner, 1982 Conference Coordinator, urged all NOW members to attend. "We are pleased to invite you all to Indianapolis," she said, "and honored to be hosting what we know will be a historic and unforgettable Conference. Our Indiana NOW activists are looking forward to having you here and to doing all we can to make this an energizing and rewarding experience for you."

Business card ads are available at a rate of \$5 per month, below are the rates for other size ads.

Size	One Issue	Six Issues
1/4 page or less	\$8.00	\$40.00
1/2 page	\$15.00	\$85.00
Full page	\$32.00	\$175.00

Styling of ads are at the discretion of the Editor unless camera ready copy is provided. We reserve the right to refuse advertising to anyone. Ads for political candidates are paid ads and do not signify endorsement by NOW.

# COMPROMISE

I want to wake up tomorrow  
to the news that the  
revolution is over;  
quiet, bloodless, and over.

We should wake tomorrow  
to the news that  
the ERA is not even needed,  
that there is no such thing  
as a "non-traditional job",  
that universal, non-sexist  
childcare is available to all,  
that the concept of people before  
property is a reality,  
that the control of our bodies  
is once again ours  
and the AMA has been  
forcibly disbanded,  
that entire communities of  
of women and children exist  
without fear,  
that woman-loving has replaced  
misogyny.

That's what I want.  
Here's what I'll settle for.  
I'll settle for waking up  
tomorrow,  
opening my door,  
and taking my place within the  
ranks  
of the millions of women  
blocking all streets  
with our sheer numbers,  
letting the other 47.9% know  
that we won't be divided  
ever again.

from "Love Song to the Warriors"  
by Oriethya

available at HEIDI'S

"The Women's Voting Bloc" will be  
the topic of a speech by Sissy  
Farenthold on August 16. See en-  
closed Flyer.

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## SPRING BRANCH - MEMORIAL

There was a good turnout for the  
July 14 meeting, quite a few new  
faces, ready to get involved to  
get the ERA ratified in this next  
effort, Although old friends were  
missed. Since the ERA had been  
reintroduced that day in both the  
house and the senate, it made us  
all feel really good. Welcome to  
those who came for the first time  
and hope to see you at the next  
meeting on August 11. It will be  
at 12847 Butterfly Lane at 7:30pm.  
Call Mary Helen Merzbacher,  
465-7398 for directions. We will  
be selecting a delegate and an  
alternate for the National NOW  
convention, so it is important all  
members come.

September and October meetings  
will be at the Spring Branch-  
Memorial Library at 930 Corbindale  
on the second Wednesday of the  
month. 7:30pm.

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Thanks to Aileen McMurrer from  
TARAL for the July program. We  
learned a lot about what we need  
to do to secure women will always  
be able to obtain a safe and legal  
abortion. We must help motivate  
the large number of pro-choice,  
but inactive segment of the  
population. Call Aileen to set up  
a house meeting, 520-0850.

FOR SALE

UPRIGHT PIANO w/Bench

Only \$300.00

call 664-4282 after 7pm  
or weekends

DO YOU HAVE A SPECIAL TALENT?

Houston Area NOW is planning a series of classes to offer as a fundraising effort. Already set are classes in Resume & Job interviewing skills, exercise, History of the Women's Movement. Other possibilities: cooking, knitting, & languages. Instructors are needed. Also suggestions on other classes that could be offered. call 864-1772.

"Let my brother come here and atone for all of his past sins, and honor his sister" SAPPHO.

"I declare to you that woman must not depend upon the protection of man, but must be taught to protect herself, and there I take my stand." SUSAN B. ANTHONY.

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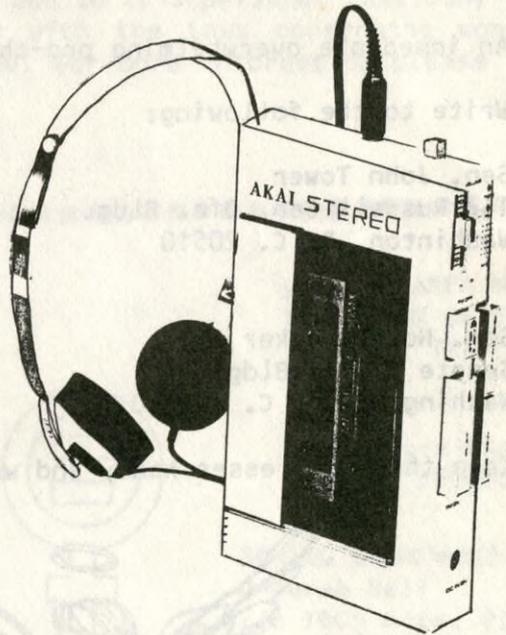
I'M MAD TOO, GLORIA

bumperstickers available from Spring Branch-Memorial NOW, or send \$1.00 and a self-addressed stamped legal envelope to:

Mary Helen Merzbacher  
12847 Butterfly Lane  
Houston, TX. 77024

# WIN THIS!

Spring Branch - Memorial NOW is conducting a raffle. The prize is an AKAI "Sportmate" Stereo Cassette Player with FM radio adapter. Tickets cost only \$1 and are available from SB-M NOW members and at meetings. Retail value is about \$250.00. The drawing will be August 29 at the Texas State NOW convention.



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by appointment                      Suite 107B

463-2103

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## CHOICE ALERT!

Senate consideration of an anti-abortion proposal is very likely before the end of July. Various sources report the Senate Majority leader Howard Baker has agreed to allow the full Senate to debate only on one anti-abortion proposal this year. There are several including SJR 110 (Hatch's "States Rights Constitutional Amendment") S1741 (Helm's "Human Life Bill"), and Helm's S2148, Hatfield's S2372. Both S2148 and S2372 cut off federal funding, including the education of medical students in abortion techniques, and each has further ramifications. The National Right to Life is pushing SJR 110 but is does not have much support, instead NRTL reports it is more likely that Helms will bring up S2148 as an amendment to other legislation.

An immediate overwhelming pro-choice message should be sent at once.

Write to the following:

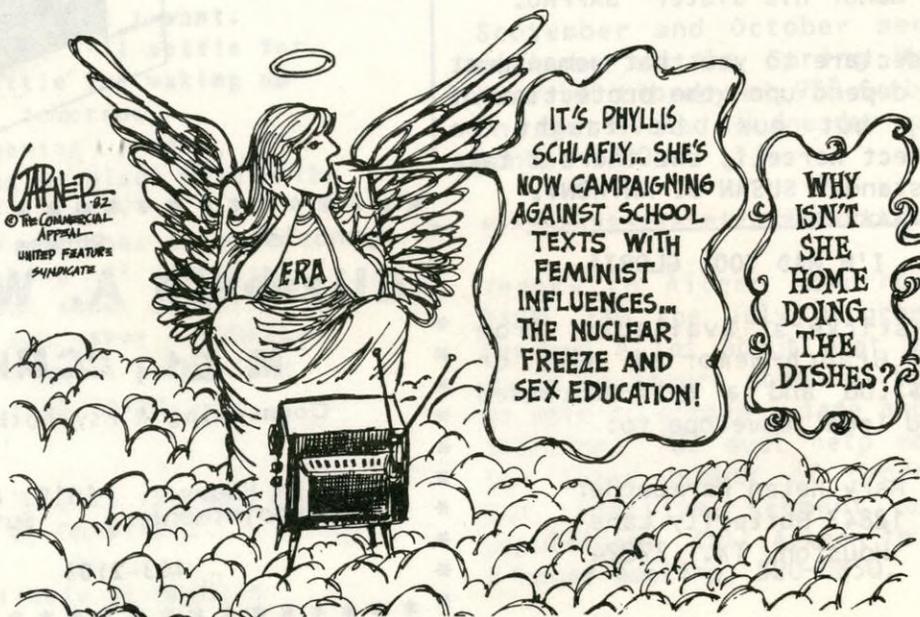
Sen. John Tower  
142 Russell Sen. Ofc. Bldg.  
Washinton, D. C. 20510

Sen. Lloyd Bentsen  
240 Russell Sen. Ofc. Bldg.  
Washinton, D. C. 20510

Sen. Howard Baker  
Senate Office Bldg.  
Washington, D. C. 20510

President Ronald Reagan  
The White House  
Washington, D. C. 20500

Keep these addresses handy and write often, for choice, for ERA, etc.



AUGUST 12 - JUNGMAN LIBRARY - 7:30 PM

HOUSTON AREA NOW PRESENTS A PROGRAM ON

"SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE."

Heddy Salazar a victim of this form of sexism will speak about her experience. The difficulty in finding someone to handle her case and her personal research on the protections in law concerning sexual harassment. At the time a secretary, Hedy find herself not only unemployed but in the midst of fighting the system of things. The first attorney she hired was inept, which resulted in her search to find out just how she could fight back. To add to this personal testimony will be two attorneys who are familar with the laws concerning women's rights, Thea Fabio and JoEllen Snow. For more information please call 864-1772.

BROADSIDE is the monthly newsletter of several area chapters of the National Organization for Women who have chosen to participate in its publication and circulation. Views and opinions expressed are those of individual authors and do not necessarily express those of any NOW Chapter or National NOW. Advertising is available at reasonable rates.

For Information and  
newsletter circulation  
Lee Lannoo 864-1772

Information for inclusion should be submitted by the 15th of the month for the next month issue. Material may be mailed to:

Deborah Bell, Editor  
1003 Afton #265  
Houston, Texas 77055 or call  
681-9507



HOUSTON AREA NOW  
P. O. BOX 66351  
Houston, TX. 77266

Office  
#4 Chelsea Place  
call 522-6673

SPRING BRANCH-MEMORIAL  
Deborah Bell  
c/o 1003 Afton #265  
Houston, TX 77055  
call 681-9507

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**453-0469**

For your printing needs.



# National Organization for Women

Houston Area Chapter  
P.O. Box 66351  
Houston, Texas 77266-6351

*See you at the next meeting!*

## THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

SECTION 1: Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of sex.

SECTION 2: The Congress shall have the power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

SECTION 3: This amendment shall take effect two years after the date of ratification.

## Defend a Woman's Right to Choose!

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**TO:**

