

Harris County Women's Political Caucus

(713) 453-6247

Houston, Texas 77053

P. O. Box 6316

January 1978

THANK YOU AND WELCOME to our new members. Some of you became interested in the Caucus because three of our members- Kathy Whitmire, Craig Roberts, and Kathryn Ross - ran for office. Others joined because political action seems to be the only way to achieve equality and justice. Others - what ever the motive, we are glad to welcome your viewpoints, your talents and your energy to the Women's Political Caucus.

LAS VEGAS NIGHT AUCTION * JAN. 21

Would you bid for a dinner with Ron Waters? Or how about a collectable from Karey Bresenhan's antique shop? These items will be among many at HCWPC Las Vegas Night Auction on Jan. 21 at 8p.m. at River Oaks Garden Club, 2503 Westheimer.

Try your luck - or skill - as local politicians wheel roulette and deal blackjack. Or take your first \$5000 in play money - the starter is free with \$5 admission price - and head for the craps tables. Use your winnings to bid at the auction later in the evening! HCWPC Las Vegas Night Auction!

FUND-RAISING: HCWPC WANTS YOUR IDEAS!

"Money is the mother's milk of politics," said Jesse Unruh. Ergo, a program on fund-raising commences this very political year. Heading the program are Nancy Aft, Fund-Raising Chair and Jan Friese, who put together two well-organized parties for Kathy Whitmire. They will outline the when, where and how of a successful fund-raiser. Breaking into small groups, the membership will develop ideas for fund-raising events. When we re-convene, the suggestions from the groups will be presented. Raising money- for an organization or a candidate- requires workable ideas, planning, and willing hands. Bring all three to the Jan. 25 meeting!

NOTES FROM THE CHAIR
Joyce Cragg

We worked hard for Kathy. We gave our money to Kathy. We all gloried in Kathy's victory. We did it. We can do it. But we need you at the Caucus meetings. We need your ideas. We need your help and we need your support. Please make a strong effort to attend the caucus meeting.

We need to write letters to the mayor, insisting that we have a women administrative assistant to handle women's issues at city hall and in the city.

We have state-wide elections coming up this year. Choose the candidate you want to win and work as a volunteer. In that campaign, keep track of the hours you work, keep track of the money you contribute, and turn in this information into the caucus. We'll discuss how we will use this information at our business meeting.

ERA

The proposed seven year extension for the Equal Rights Amendment is now House Resolution # 638. Write your United States congressperson, expressing your support of the bill. You KNOW the ANTI'S are writing!

DUES ARE (PAST) DUE. Any dues not paid are now overdue. For our new members (and veterans who have lamentably not been keeping up), the membership chair is:

Patsy Putnam
5510 Starling
Houston, Tex. 77017
645-0573

Our List

We need a list of women qualified to work in city government. If you would like to be appointed, or you a women who would, contact the caucus.
HCWPC, P. O. Box 6316, Houston 77053.

HAFFCU: LOAN RATES GO DOWN

HAFFCU now offers lower interest rates on A-1 car loans, and share-secured loans. A-1 car loans are being made at 10%, and share-secured loans 9%. Regular loans are 12%. Another new service HAFFCU offers its members is the automatic drafting of a member's checking account, either to add to her share account, or to make a loan payment.

For for information, call the HAFFCU office (Wed. 11-3, Thurs. 3-8, or Fri. 11-6). If you haven't joined, DO IT!

HC BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTION SET FOR JAN. 21

Two seats on the Harris County Board of Education are up for election Jan. 21. In County Commissioner's Precinct 2, Mrs. Mark M. Carter, an incumbent for 42 years, and Harold Meyer are running. C.C. Prec. 4 is a three-way contest among incumbent Edgar A. Reeves, Jack Terence, and Letha Reynolds. Mrs. Reynolds was endorsed by HCWPC for the school board trustee elections last Nov.

The Board consists seven unpaid members; four elected from commissioners precincts and three elected at large. The six year terms are staggered.

Its staff performs testing and evaluation services for special students from independent school districts which are either not large not wealthy enough to establish programs of their own. Other services provided by the board, by contract, are educational consulting and in-service teacher training. The Board's authority includes approval or disapproval of boundaryline changes such as that of Westheimer ISD.

To find out where to vote for Prec. 2 election, call: Galena Park ISD (672-7491); Pasadena ISD (944-7411); Deer Park, North Forest Goose Creek, Crosby, Channelview, Sheldon, LaPorte and Houston ISD (692-6216). For Prec. 4 polling places, call: Aldine ISD (449-1011); Humble ISD (446-9181); Klein, Spring, North Forest, Cypress-Fairbanks, Huffman and Houston ISD (692-6216). HISD is a split school district.

MCCONN FIRES VAN HIGHTOWER

Mayor Jim McConn made good on a campaign promise—he fired Nikki Van Hightower. On Jan. 5, before the all-male Rotarian Club, McConn responded to a reporter's question by stating, "There is no place in the McConn administration for Nikki Van Hightower."

Mayor McConn stated he would allow a "reasonable period of time for Dr. Van Hightower to find another job." As for a guardian of women's rights within city hall, McConn vowed he would be his own women's advocate and "represent everybody."

Van Hightower responded that the worst insult was that her firing was done in a public meeting before an all-male group.

HCWPC urges you to write the mayor, asking for a woman activist for women's interests be appointed to an administrative aide position in city hall.

WHAT'S HAPPENING

- January 18: HCWPC Action Meeting. 7:30, First Unitarian Church, Southmore at Fannin.
- January 21: HCWPC Las Vegas Night Auction. 8:00. River Oaks Garden Club, 2503 Westheimer.
- January 25: HCWPC Program Meeting. Fund-Raising\$\$\$\$. 7:30, First Unitarian Church, Southmore at Fannin.

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