

LUBBOCK NOW TIMES

The Newsletter of the
NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN

In Lubbock
January 1978

Retreat At Hand

This is a reminder of the informative and interesting retreat which will take place Saturday January 21, from 9:30 am to 7:00 pm at 5401 50th (Village West Apartment party room). The retreat is open to all members and interested visitors. There will be time for discussion, leadership development, socializing and finding out where Lubbock and National NOW are and where they are going. Members will be contacted by phone in early January to make reservations. We look forward to your participation in this important event which we feel will be an invigorating way to start off the New Year with NOW.

Ester Sepeda Coma President

(Dannie Botros files the following report.)

On Tuesday, December 13, I had the pleasure of attending the annual meeting for the election of officers of Comerciantes Organizados Mexico Americanos. This organization, known as COMA, is composed of business and professional people who are dedicated to the upgrading of Mexican American business opportunity. The group in Lubbock has been in existence four years, has 115 members, and is affiliated with a statewide organization.

Upon arriving at the meeting, I was presented with a copy of the Nominating Committee's proposed slate of officers. It was the same old format that we all know and love so well: male president, female vice-president, female secretary, etc. However, as the voting began, a

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FEBRUARY PROGRAM ON SELF-DEFENSE

Lubbock NOW is planning to focus the next four monthly programs on violence. The first will be at 7:30 pm, February 7 at the Wesley Foundation, 2420 15th. The speaker will be Bill Morgan, the Lubbock Police Information Officer. He will speak on both preventative defense and reaction to an attack. Although women traditionally have been trained to believe that they are fragile, defenseless creatures who must rely on a handsome hero (that is, a handsome hero who is not committing the affront at the moment) to save them from vicious attack, this is not necessarily true. Through training and encouragement we can learn to save ourselves!

Future programs will concern the problems of rape, battered women, and child abuse. Please come and share in this vitally important series. (PROGRAM ASSISTANCE IS WELCOME: Call Carole Smith at 797-3764 or 747-4551 if you are interested in joining the program committee. NOW)

Search Goes On

The Search Task Force met twice during the month of December and the present members are very excited about the projects we are working on. The first meeting on December 1 focused on our goal to evaluate Lubbock day care centers and publish this information in booklet form. We invited Carolyn Badgett, who licenses child care facilities through the Department of Human Resources, to discuss with us the minimum standards for day care and how to effectively conduct an

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HOGWASH

OFF THE RECORD

By Ed Reed



"The girls and I got tired of flower arranging."

Avalanche-Journal, December 30, 1977, submitted by Richmond Flowers.

Lubbock NOW Newsletter

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Articles, poetry, etc., should be submitted to the editor, 2123 17th, Lubbock 79401, typed, double-spaced on a 35 character line. Articles may be subject to re-write.

"Five year old Kimberly Kimble of Lubbock wrestles with stiff layers of petticoats, tugs at lacy socks and twists a stray hair into a curl. Unconsciously she strokes the satin ribbon that adorns her taffeta dress. Suddenly, her grin becomes an ear-to-ear smile as the spotlight is trained upon her. Kimberly is a veteran of the world of little girl pageants.

Stephanie Scholz, a veteran of ten years of pageants states, "during my first pageant everything went wrong: my hair was too fluffy, and my clothes too skimpy." Now she knows that judges look for a girl whose dress isn't too sexy or too plain.

The benefits little girls gain at pageants come at a price -- modeling lessons, talent lessons, numerous outfits, a costume, registration fee and traveling expenses.

Some parents force their child to stay in the sun so she'll have a golden tan for the pageants. Others drill their child until she can repeat the correct answers. The most obvious disadvantage for the average child is the long hours of practising and the pressure to look good at all times.

"You have to go to have fun," said Mrs. Kimble. "After all, you don't want to turn your child into a china doll," she added.

Avalanche-Journal, December 4, 1977, submitted by Cecilia Owens-Beckham.

WICKED PLAINVIEW

Our hearts are with Plainview NOW. Program speakers have renigged because of intimidation, and public facilities have been mysteriously cancelled on meeting days, presumably, due to pressure from anti-forces. Please keep up your spirits in spite of the odds. The constitutional right to assembly is at issue here and, of course, also the equal rights of all adult citizens!

WOMEN IN LUBBOCK

Besides NOW there are many social services and other women's organizations in Lubbock which are deeply dedicated to the problems of women. Although some are not expressly feminist in commitment or philosophy, we feel that their work and concerns are significant to us and to our community.

The following articles have been contributed to the Lubbock NOW Times to inform us of some of these services and projects.

Although it seems fair to say that the Lubbock community is not totally committed to women's full

equality, neither in employment, nor recreation, nor interpersonal relationships, it should serve as some balm to our lonely and misconstrued spirits that many women's problems are being studied and responded to by other groups besides ours.

We thank Margaret Elbow, Joe Love Nelson, Susan Oblekson, Carole Smith, and Judy Sokolow for their articles and hope that publishing them will serve as a small measure of our appreciation. There is much, much more work to do, but some of us have made a beginning.

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Junior League and Public Affairs

The Junior League of Lubbock is a member of the Association of Junior Leagues, Inc., whose purpose is exclusively educational and charitable and is: To promote voluntarism, to develop the potential of its members for voluntary participation in community affairs, and to demonstrate the effectiveness of trained volunteers.

The Public Affairs Committee of the Junior League of Lubbock is charged with studying public affairs in the fields of Junior League interest and concern, reporting findings to membership, and organizing and directing any action program decided upon by the Junior League.

Before any action is taken on an issue a thorough study is undertaken, the total membership is educated to the pros and cons of the issue, then the membership votes on a carefully designed plan of action.

This year our committee chose as an issue to study: "Women Alone Facing Crises Deserve Dignity." At this point, we are in the middle of the study. It has consisted of

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Abortion Help

Lubbock women are fortunate to have access to abortion facilities in their own area. This is not the case in other areas of the High Plains. Women from points as far away as Amarillo, Abilene, and eastern New Mexico must travel to Lubbock to terminate an unplanned pregnancy.

There are five doctors who perform abortions in Lubbock. A woman may choose to terminate her pregnancy in the first trimester at the office of two local physicians who perform the procedure or at Planned Family Clinic, 3302 6th (792-6331), which employs three doctors. Counseling services are available at the clinic along with low-cost (\$5.00) pregnancy testing. Termination of second trimester pregnancies, which in Lubbock must be performed in a hospital, are quite expensive (ranging from \$400 to \$800) but may be obtained locally. Unfortunately, for many low-income women the opportunities to terminate a pregnancy are limited. The cut-off of federal funds for abortions has drastically effected those who cannot pay and there is no local assistance available.

--Susan Oblekson

More Women In Lubbock

Family Services

Family Services Association of Lubbock, funded by United Way, offers comprehensive counseling services to the Lubbock community. Executive Director, Margaret Elbow makes this statement of interest to NDW members:

It concerns me that people ask if our counselors are sensitive to feminist issues, if we advise people to stay married, or if we attempt to change an individual's sexual orientation in counseling Gays. The questions are certainly legitimate and need to be asked, but my concern relates to the need for the questions in the first place. Our counselors believe that a counselor or therapist has no right to predetermine what is best for any individual, but that it is our responsibility to enable people to make their own decisions based on their value system.

Our services to Gays is no different than that to any other individual, couple, or family. We recognize that Gays have relationship difficulties which are not unlike those of heterosexual couples. It is our responsibility to be sensitive to the unique needs and dynamics of any individual's situation regardless of sexual orientation, ethnic background, or religion.

I am a growing silence
In quiet hours before dawn,
A small beast stalking words;
An easy phrase about your beauty
Or some tangled line on life,
Anything that could be carried
As a payment for your time.
--Littlebook

B & P W TORCH

Every year the Business and Professional Women's Club of Lubbock (B&PW) selects a business to be honored for particularly progressive policies with regard to women, involving both positive action in hiring and promoting qualified women and company support of the goals of women's groups.

If there is a company which you feel should receive the B&PW "Torch Award", send a complete explanation to:

Carole Q. Smith
3716-B 53rd Street
Lubbock, Texas 79413

These should be received by February 7. The award will be presented on February 28th at the Lubbock Women's Club.

BE PERSUASIVE! Those companies which promote equality deserve to be recognized.

D.E.B.T. HELPS

Among the services for women in Lubbock is a unique program for Handicapped and Developmentally Delayed infants and their families. D.E.B.T., Developmental Education, Birth through Two, funded by the Lubbock Independent School District, provides comprehensive family services including medical evaluations, individualized home teaching, parent counseling, physical and speech therapies, and coordinated services with existing social services. The D.E.B.T. program was originally funded through a federal grant, but has been taken over by the forward looking Lubbock community as an ideal way to serve infants. Funds also are awarded from the Hogg Foundation.

Since D.E.B.T. believes parents play a very important role in a child's life, their efforts are

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Media Task Force Reports Activities

The Media Task Force met January 8 to write letters regarding feminist issues in the media. Sexist ads (see JEERS) drew fire while favorable images for women were applauded. (see CHEERS).

In addition to letter-writing, plans were made for the upcoming meetings with representatives of the local television stations. Programming for women and monitoring results of news coverage will be discussed.

The next meeting of the Media Task Force will be February 12, Sunday 7:00-9:00 pm at Charlotte Guinn's, 3312 80th.

Media Cheers

-to Ethel Harding, 82, of Farwell who after years of farming and rearing children returned to school and received her college degree in December.

-to Dr. Cecil Mackey on her commitment to Women's Athletics at Tech.

-to Drs. Ruth Dunn and Kenneth Dunn on their book, How to Raise Independent and Professionally Successful Daughters (Prentice-Hall)

& Jeers

-to the A-J for an article about the leader of the Missouri delegation to NWC referring to her twice as Miss O'Donnell and once as Mrs. O'Donnell. (A case for Ms.!)

-to the A-J for a January 8 headline regarding police "Gals".

-to the Chicago Four-Holiday Inns for the ad in a Fall issue of Time: Four women posing scantily dressed represent the concepts "sporty, tasty, busy, and jazzy".

D.E.B.T. HELPS

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directed to the parent, who must become the child's best teacher if he or she is to reach optimum growth. The D.E.B.T. program serves all sectors of the community and tries to promote a healthier, more positive self-image in all the children and families served. Without the D.E.B.T. program, many people, particularly women, who assume so much of child rearing responsibilities, would continue to be lost in the maze of confusing medical diagnoses and would face alone the awesome task of finding appropriate educational facilities for their Special youngsters. The impact on a child's development is greater the earlier the child and family receive help. Many children are being saved from institutional life once the supportive services the program offers are integrated into the family. Through parenting groups, people, particularly women, explore those factors which influence their abilities to parent. Single parent families as well as two parent and extended families are represented in the group. It is time for humane treatment of all people, including the handicapped. The D.E.B.T. program serves us all by serving this sector of our community.

--Judy Sokolow

Course on Women

Professors Nancy P. Hickerson and William J. Gardenier are offering a survey course at Texas Tech in anthropology (Anthropology 330), with a focus on the biological specializations, cultural adaptations, and special roles characteristic of women. It meets every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m., Spring Semester 1978. There is still time to sign up, and it can be taken for graduate credit. We hope many NOW members are already enrolled--if not, do--during late registration.

NOW Legislative Action Report

Here is more current legislation pertaining to women's interests. Please write letters to Senators Tower and Bentsen and Representative Mahon voicing your opinions about these issues. (Remember Tower is up for re-election!!!)

Battered Spouses

(H.R. 7927), Boggs (D-La) and Steers (D-Md)
(S. 1728), Anderson (R-Min) and Kennedy (D-Ma)
(H.R. 8948), Mikulski (D-Md)

Purpose:

Bills call for the establishment of a grant program supporting community groups in their efforts to prevent and treat domestic violence. The emphasis is on direct assistance to battered spouses. The bills also call for increased efforts in researching family violence. Mikulski's bill varies slightly from the others.

Status:

House: Referred jointly to the Committees on Education and Labor, Interstate and Foreign Commerce, and Judiciary. Mikulski's bill to Education and Labor.
Senate: Pending in Human Resources Subcommittee on Child and Human Development.

Pregnancy Discrimination

(H.R. 6075), Hawkins (D-Ca)
(S. 995), Williams (D-NJ)

Purpose:

To amend Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to prohibit discrimination on the basis of pregnancy. Legislation was drafted in response to GE v. Gilbert Supreme Court decision on December 7, 1976, in which the court ruled that employers may legally exclude pregnancy-disability benefits from company disability

insurance programs.

Status:

House: Education and Labor Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities hopes to mark-up bill in October.
Senate: Passed 75-11 on September 16 with no amendments.

JUNIOR LEAGUE

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meetings, reading articles, books, and specialized newsheets concerned with women in various kinds of crises. The types of crises that we decided to look into included single women, divorced women, widowed women, and women who are emotionally alone. We've attended several meetings of the Women's Protective Services in Lubbock and agreed to try to gather statistics on the incidence of wife battering in Lubbock. Of course, no official action has been taken, as we are trying to learn, and to keep our membership abreast of the happenings in Lubbock.

Last year we studied the Equal Rights Amendment, both pros and cons, but the difference in view of the committee members, as well as the total membership of the Lubbock League, were so diverse that no official stand was taken, and we do not plan to take an official stand in the future.

The Junior League of Lubbock has studied children's issues, and we have a Child Advocacy Committee. In the past, we have taken actions relating to the welfare of children. This past October the Junior League of Lubbock voted to send a letter of endorsement in support of Community Development Funds for a new day care center in the Chris Harwell area of Lubbock.

--Joe Love Nelson
Public Affairs Chair

THE BOOKSHELF

Gersoni-Stavn, Diane. Sexism and Youth. This anthology provides, in one convenient source, analytical essays, personal reminiscences and reflections, community studies, government reports and resource lists dealing with sexism in the areas of family socialization, the schools, the church, children's literature, films, toys, and games. Letty Cottin Pogrebin writes in the foreword that "somewhere in these pages there is a plan of action for anyone who wants to improve the quality of life and diversity of options for boys and girls alike."
(submitted by Cecilia Owens-Beckham)

Search Goes On

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evaluation of day care centers. She was extremely helpful in giving us suggestions and important information.

At the second meeting on December 14, we concentrated on our project to develop a directory of business and professional women and to compile a guide to community resources for women. We composed a list of groups, organizations and businesses who offer services for women and composed a letter to be mailed to them in late December to elicit information about the services they offer. We also assembled the list of business and professional women we have obtained thus far for our directory.

We are looking forward with anticipation to our January 25th meeting at Dorothy Stevenson's home, 5401 50th, where we will be reporting on each of the above projects and beginning to organize the information obtained in preparation for laying out the booklets we plan to publish.

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Sepeda - COMA

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nomination was accepted from the floor. Ester Sepeda, a woman, was nominated for president in opposition to the slate. Of the seventy voting members present that night, only ten were women. Nevertheless, Ester won by an overwhelming majority. This group definitely wanted Ester as their president!

Ester and her husband, Raul Sepeda, came to Lubbock from Abernathy three years ago and are co-owners of Sepeda Builders. In addition to being an active partner in the business, Ester also sells real-estate. She and Raul have six children and two grandchildren. She presently serves as a member of the planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Lubbock and is Secretary of the Minority Contractors of West Texas Association.

Congratulations Ester! Best Wishes to you and COMA in 1978.

New Members

Lubbock NOW welcomes the following new members. Please clip and attach to your NOW call list:

Dorothy McLarty
3416 20th
Lubbock 79410 797-1972

Marvin McLarty, Jr.
3416 20th
Lubbock 79410 797-1972

Judy Sokolow
3606 54th
Lubbock 79413 799-8891

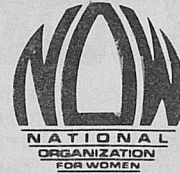
Michele Stanton
5612 Amherst
Lubbock 79416

Dorothy Stephenson
5401 50th
Lubbock 79411 797-2644

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Lubbock NOW Officers

President	Elaine Bagley	795-1156
Vice-President	C. Owens-Beckham	747-0029
Treasurer	Sue Sappington	765-9677
Recording Secretary	Charlotte Guinn	795-9674
Corresp. Secretary	Briggs Twyman	799-3789



Search

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At this time our task force is small but extremely enthusiastic. We are asking that anyone interested make a special effort to attend our January meeting. In addition to

the above mentioned items of business, we will discuss how to develop resources and expertise in establishing a woman's center -- our long term goal. Please join us. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m., January 25.

--Cecilia Owens-Beckham

Join NOW NOW

MEMBERSHIP FORM:

Please fill out and return to Susie Sappington, 1523 24th Place, Lubbock, Texas 79405.

NAME _____	PHONE _____
ADDRESS _____	ZIP _____
_____ \$22 year's membership (National, State & Local Dues) or renewal	
_____ \$12 special membership may be elected by those who cannot pay more (such as some retirees, and some students, etc.)	
_____ \$6 to join Lubbock chapter; already a member of National NOW	
_____ \$4 receipt of Lubbock Newsletter only (non-member)	
_____ \$3 receipt of Texas NOW Newsletter (appears quarterly)	
_____ \$5 and up Friends of NOW (for information call 795-4637)	

NATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR WOMEN
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Lubbock, Texas 79410

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