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## Mainely NOW vol. 1, no. 3 (October 1973)

National Organization for Women - Maine Chapter Staff

*National Organization for Women - Maine Chapter*

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# MAINELY NOW



Vol. I, No. 3

October 1973



## PAR political action research

photo by  
Lee Agger

AUGUSTA, Sept. 16th Mary Iyer, Saco, E.R.A. coordinator told the gathering at the conference that PAR booklets will be sent to NOW members or interested citizens in each of Maine's legislator's home district. PAR is a tool for research in preparation for lobbying. Information gathered will include a personal profile, voting record, campaign funding and issues which will then be analyzed to assist in an effective and informed lobbying force. Those who have received their PAR booklets are urged to return them to Mary by Oct. 15th. (Participants in the survey are needed in Aroostook and Washington Counties.)

## METHODISTS join

Keynote Speaker, Liz Cox, from the NOW Legislative Office in Washington set the tone of the Coalition Conference sponsored by N.O.W. She said, "The eyes of the nation will be on Maine and Montana in 1974, the two states which convene in January". The ERA lost in Montana by 13 tie votes. She went on to say it did not seem "irrational" for women to demand their rights by the 200th Birthday of our Nation in 1976.

Judy Pickering, former ERA Coordinator in Conn. stressed the need to create an atmosphere which would enable legislators to change their minds.

Workshops on speaking, lobbying, fund raising and public relations were held in the afternoon.

Four State Lawmakers were present-- Senator Bennett D. Katz R-Augusta, announced gubernatorial candidate; Rep. John O'Brien D-Portland; Rep. Nancy Clark D-Freeport; and Rep. Kathleen Watson Goodwin, D-Bath.

In addition to new support for the coalition from the Methodist Women of Maine, there were indications of a change in the position of labor. Two hundred invitations to join the Coalition have been mailed. The committee on Organizations will follow up with personal contacts.

# OUT of THE woods

The Forestry Department at Georgia-Pacific hired six women this summer. They received the same pay as their male counterparts. G-P supervisors said they showed remarkable aptitude for the work in the woods. Donna and Janet are both students at the U. of Me. Presque Isle majoring respectively in Phys. Ed. and Nursing. Christy, Linda and Denise were 1973 graduates of Woodland High School.

Bangor Daily News  
June 25, 1973



Georgia-Pacific Co. has hired a crew of female foresters for the summer. Included in the group are, front, left to right, Christie

James, Duvall. Standing, Patricia Sasciere, Donna Crosby, Linda Call, Denise Huntley. (Miles Photo)

## now & THEN

### 19th Amendment

#### Woman's Suffrage

The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.

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

### 27th Amendment

#### E.R.A.

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.

1872

One hundred years ago Susan B. Anthony, a champion of women's rights, was arrested for trying to vote in the '72 presidential election.

1972

U.S. Congresswoman, Shirley Chisholm, from New York, becomes the 1st black woman to run for the Presidency in 1972.

\*\*\*\*\*

1920

Harry T. Burn, member of the Tennessee legislature cast the deciding vote for the 19th Amendment thus making it the law of the land.

1973

Maine Senate: WHO?

\*\*\*\*\*

1926

Brownie Scouts first official uniform included bloomers to match the brown dress.

1973

Today's five-part uniform provides slacks and shorts for active little girls.

\*\*\*\*\*

# see it NOW

## Women in Municipal Government

Office:	# of Women
Assessors	36
Assessor's clerk	1
Board of Appeals	1
Councilman	15
City auditor	2
Conservation Commission	68
Clerk	325
Collector	266
Deputy collector	8
Deputy clerk	10
Deputy treasurer	5
Health officer	6
Planning board	136
Registrar of voters	369
Selectman	50
School committee	200
SAD directors	176
Treasurers	287
Welfare directors	8
Attorneys	1
Regional planning board representative	24
Purchasing agent	1
Urban renewal authority	1
Recreation director	4
Town managers	13
School superintendents	4
Road commissioners	5
Overseer	115
Excise tax collector	2
Housing authority	1
Town agent	1
<b>TOTAL women in municipal (government in Maine)</b>	<b>2,139</b>

from MAINE TOWNSMAN, July 1973  
(pub. of Maine Municipal Assoc.)

\*\*\*\*\*

Agnes Magula, Director of Finance at the University of Maine in Farmington, in the company of twenty other women, tried for the 2nd year in a row to gain entry into the "for men only" show at the Fairgrounds in Farmington. The show is held on public land, which is financed by public funds. Though two members of the group were finally permitted to enter, the show had been abridged. Later they were threatened with arrest by three Deputy Sheriffs. At issue is blatant discrimination.

## task forces

A new national N.O.W. Task Force on the Arts has been formed by Suzanne Benton, metal sculptor, Ridgefield, Conn. Anne Hazlewood-Brady, Arundel, Maine will also serve on the committee. Both were members of the original Feminist in the Arts group formed in New York in 1970.

The Kennebunk Chapter has formed a Task Force on Rape. Anyone who has, or is willing to gather information in preparation for a conference, please contact Britt Rose, RFD#1, Box 178, Kennebunkport 04046.



Madison Avenue



# Open Admission

## The Worship of Force

Rape is sexual assault and the most devastating violation of civil liberties we know. Although rape is a sexual crime, it has its roots in violence, in the need to break or violate the body or the spirit of another human being. Clouded in myths, rape is supposedly committed by sexually unfulfilled men on women who secretly desire to be raped. The brutal facts speak otherwise; the onus of proof still rests with the victim. A strange and perverted code of responsibility indeed.

Today with rape on the increase drastically, and it is no excuse to dismiss the increase due to greater reportage, the need to find solutions to the problem can no longer be swept under the carpets of the courts or shut away in the attics of the mind. Assuming, as with all cures, prevention is the most desirable approach to disease, the following is the list of DON'TS based on the restrictive behavior of women:

Stay off the streets at night; don't hitch hike; never talk to strangers; don't sit in a bar alone; don't go to nightclubs or taverns by yourself; always lock your car if driving alone; look in back seat of car before you get in; don't walk, take a cab; always carry something which doubles as a weapon. BUT don't be paranoid.

While these are valid steps for survival, they are stop-gap measures which do not get to root causes. I suggest that the primary cause is the worship of force veiled in whatever terms our civilization chooses to describe it: "win at all costs"; "to the victor belongs the spoils"; "violence results from a feeling of worthlessness or powerlessness", ad infinitum.

Born out of disillusionment, outrage, and disgust, women across the nation are taking matters into their own hands through the study of self-defense, through the establishment of Rape Crisis Centers, through testimony and resultant evidence used to shake up those in official positions to act.

Recently a bill was introduced into the Senate of the United States extending the definition of rape as any sexual assault. It is important to know that N.O.W., in the person of Mary Ann Largen, Chairperson of the National Task Force on Rape, was asked by Senator Mathias (R.-Md.) to help his staff draft this significant piece of Legislation.

(Continued)

## THE TREASURE SELMA LAGERLÖF

A chilling tale of love and murder and mythic sisterhood by a Nobel Prize winner who has been too long out of print.

## Nerves BLANCHE M. BOYD

"Diane is the strength we all have in adolescence and the fear we felt of growing up female and defeated. It is rare to find a book that explores the tension this creates between mother and daughter."—Marilyn Webb

## the Cook and the Carpenter a novel by the carpenter

A radical story of love and illegality, set in Texas. The author uses a neuter pronoun, trusting the reader to know which character is female and which male.

## Rubyfruit Jungle RITA MAE BROWN

"A good and true account of growing up un-American in America. For once, a woman has been honest and vulgar and political and funny enough to write about her real life."

—Gloria Steinem

## Early Losses PAT BURCH

"A beautifully-written novel of self-indulgence of epic proportions."

—Mary Perot Nichols

DAUGHTERS, INC., Plainfield, Vt. 05667

Please send me *Nerves* ☐ *Rubyfruit Jungle* ☐  
*The Treasure* ☐ *Early Losses* ☐ *The Cook &  
the Carpenter* ☐ ALL FIVE ☐

I enclose \$3.35/book or \$16.00 for all five.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Because I believe in the principle of prevention rather than punishment, I would like to see the creation by men of an organization which would help the potential rapist. What are the signs a man should look for in himself?-much as the signs for cancer are publicized!

Unfortunately, such an organization will be long in coming because the worship of force, however subtle, persists in society. Until churches recognize that love is more important than the act of procreation; until schools desist their imbalanced emphasis on football-manhood; until TV is made aware that it perpetuates the concept of ineffectual women and their ruthless or not so ruthless protectors; until the movie industry grows out of its fantasy world, violence in all its forms will persist.

A.H.B.

Reasonable Cause.



Just a  
Snake in the glass

## Miscellaneous

Maryline White, Biddeford-Saco Journal reporter, won the second place award for political writing in the New England Assoc. Press News Executive Annual Contest. Last year she won 1st prize in news writing, both for papers under 40,000 circulation.

Virginia Culver, Thiensville, Wisc., is the first woman president to be elected to the 85 year old, 28,000 member, American Numismatics Association. (About time we got the other side of the coin...)

Samantha White, 8 years old of Steilacoon, Wash., during the week of August 16, 1973, became the youngest person ever to ascend Africa's highest mountain, 19,340 foot, Mt. Kilimanjaro. The child's father had to stop at 18,640' because of altitude sickness. Her mother had abandoned the climb at a lower altitude, but Samantha and one guide continued to the peak, known as Uhuru, or in English: Freedom's point!

Ramona Barth, Alna Maine, while in California was named to the Board of Advisors of the Women's History Library in Berkeley. The Elizabeth & Arthur Schlesinger Library at Radcliff is its Eastern counterpart.

"Miss America, Rebecca Ann King of Colorado, said she would stick to her stand on legalizing marijuana and a woman's right to an abortion. 'I feel all individuals should be able to make moral decisions,' she said. 'The government can't be big brother, from marijuana to seat belts. Abortion is not necessarily my moral choice nor is marijuana.' Miss King also said nothing that happens during her reign as Miss America will dissuade her from going to law school with an aim to becoming a juvenile court judge."

Boston Herald Advertiser  
September 23, 1973

The Quaker, Mary Dyer, though she was hanged on the Boston Commons, won her battle to prevent a State imposed Religion in America. Richard Owen has composed an opera based on her life, which will have its premier performance on the Commons early next year.

Elaine Noble, co-moderator of a weekly radio program in Boston called "Gayway", a speech instructor at Emerson College, and an outspoken lesbian has been appointed by Gov. Sargent to the Commission On The Status of Women. Rep. Barney Frank (D-Boston) congratulated the Gov. for his "mature decision".

Boston Globe



# bibliography

## for CHILDREN

Saturday's Child Thirty-six women talk about their jobs. Suzanne Seed, J. Philip O'Hara \$6.95 Ages 11 and up.

Fanny Kemble's America by John Anthony Scott T.Y. Crowell, \$4.50

MS. Africa: Profile of Modern African Women by Louise Crane. Lippincott, \$4.95 Ages 12 and up.

Firegirl by Gibson Rich (A Feminist Press Book) \$1.95 Ages 8-10

Georgina And The Dragon by Lee Kingman Equal job opportunities and a grandmother suffragist extraordinaire keep 10 yr. old Georgie busy. \$3.95 Ages 8-10

Mary Jane By Dorothy Sterling; Mary Jane is the first black girl to attend the newly integrated school in her town. \$3.95 Ages 9-12.

Rita The Weekend Rat By Sonia Levitin Cynthia overcomes her belief that girls are not as interesting as boys. \$4.50 Ages 9-12.

The Tamarack Tree By Betty Underwood This story exposes a society in conflict with its human values, but it is also the personal story of Bernadette's miracle of self-discovery and her determination to be free as a woman and as a human being. \$4.95 Ages 9-12.

The Spider Plant by Yetta Speevack Carmen Santos uses her ingenuity to help her brother, as well as herself to adjust to the hostile surroundings of New York City when they move from Puerto Rico. \$4.50 Ages 8-12.

## mass comedia

Joke heard on radio: The teacher asked a little boy where God was. He said, "In Heaven". She asked another pupil where he thought God was. "In the bathroom", he said. "In the bathroom?" said the teacher, "Why do you say that?" "Because each morning my father goes to the bathroom door and says, "My God, are you still in there?"

# sanity

"To even glimpse what I might have been and never never will become, had I not had to 'waste my life' fighting for what my lack of freedom keeps me from glimpsing." -Robin Morgan, from "Monster"

## a view of our own

Gloria Steinem will preside over an hour long special next year, intended as a series pilot in magazine-type format, taped by Station KERA, Dallas.

## not for sale

Store Front for Women opens in Belfast, Maine. Contact: Ms. Dunson, Psychologist at the local Mental Health Clinic.

## job bank

The Maine Municipal Assoc. has a job bank at 89 Water St., Hallowell, Me., 04347.

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## FALL WOMEN'S AWARENESS LABORATORIES

October 12-14 at Ocean Park, Maine

Nov. 2-4 at King's Grant Inn, Gilford, N.H.

Conducted by experienced women trainers of

## NEW DYNAMICS ASSOCIATES

in cooperation with

The University of New Hampshire's

Division of Continuing Education

## CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING: LEADERSHIP TRAINING

## GROUP DYNAMICS - LIFE PLANNING

Contact: Janice Sanfacon, Box 92, RFD5, Laconia, N.H. 03246, (603) 524-1441

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## FIRST CHILDBIRTH CONFERENCE

To-The-Editors:

*Write-On*

### A Personal Apology

Women from 12 states and 4 countries convened for the first international Childbirth Conference held in June of this year. Coordinators Lolli Hirsch & Dorothy Tennor have compiled the testimony in booklet form available through New Moon Publications, Box 3488, Ridgeway Station, Stamford, Conn., 06905. (Ed. note: We are unable to give you a cold analysis of this extraordinary document. To read it is an experience in itself full of pain, outrage, common sense, and truth. It foreshadows great changes in the fields of gynecology and obstetrics.)

### PRIME TIME ?

There are 7½ million women over the age of 65 in the U.S., (single, divorced or widowed) half of whom live on an annual income of less than \$1,900.

### PRIME RISK

BankAmericard says single women are better credit risks than single men. Widows and married women are better risks than either of them.

Portland Press Herald  
9/27/73

### IN STEP

We salute: Sheriff Dutremble, Biddeford, who encouraged distribution of NOW E.R.A. material at the Sheriff's Annual picnic at Acton Fairgrounds.

## NEWCLEAR POWER

"Astronomer, Marjorie Meinel, and her husband from Tucson, Arizona, have devised "solar farms" to harvest energy from the sun to fulfill our needs for pollution-free power. The total collection area needed to supply the entire U.S. would be 5,500 sq. miles. The Meinel system would collect energy by means of mirrors or lenses focused on a thin film-collecting surface. The energy is then transmitted to a conventional generating plant. Four major So.W. utility companies have already provided funding for a model of the system. The next step is a demonstration plant." (Why not in Maine?)

from MS. Magazine  
October 1973

A bad way to start an effort is to make a big mistake early in the game. I did just that recently. In mailing 1000 brochures and invitations to a fund-raising event for the WPC I made a serious oversight. It was decided tickets for the event would be \$12.50 per ticket and \$25 per couple. I did not include the \$12.50 per person on the final invitation. It was not deliberate; it was insensitive and incompetent on the part of one person, Barbara McGough, but does not reflect the spirit of the Women's Political Caucus.

Be assured that any future mailing will be more carefully screened for sexist inferences.

Regrettfully,  
B. McGough

Hi!

In an otherwise well-done report on this year's Equal Rights Day Celebration, you somehow missed one of the most colorful contestants in the Myth America Contest: Fran Harriman's graphic portrayal of the Myth "All Women are Castrating Females (Bitches)", as she zoomed up the aisle snapping an enormous pair of scissors, close on the heels of an intended male victim.

Sincerely,  
Bobbie St. Jean  
(An Alternative to Bert Parks)

## 1973

- Oct. 11th - Self-Defense for Women Demonstration (Karate) & Task Force Report on Rape - Kennebunk N.O.W. Unitarian Church - 7:30 p.m.
- Oct. 11th - Greater Portland N.O.W. meeting 7:30 at Y.W.C.A.-Portland. Panel discussion on women's opportunities w/representatives of local employment agencies.
- Oct. 12-14th - New Dynamics Associates (See ad on pg. 6)
- Oct. 15th - Week long Symposium at St. Francis College: Woman: An untapped Resource - Speakers from N.Y. & Boston on Banking; Higher Education; Journalism & other fields. Open to Public - Evenings 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 3rd - Saturday 9-4p.m. Faneuil Hall, Boston. "Women's Changing Role in Politics" - Helen Gahagan Douglas, Speaker - Details: 772-8743



Mainly NOW is free to Maine NOW members. All others, send \$3 to keep us fluid and keep your copies coming.

Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ \$3 for 12 monthly issues \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 NOW national dues  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$5 special membership for some students and others who  
cannot pay more. Indicate reason for this choice.

Checks payable to: The National Organization for Women  
c/o Maggi McLaughlin, Treasurer  
16 Fairmont Street, Portland 04103

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_ State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If joining NOW, please add:  
Home phone \_\_\_\_\_ Business phone \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

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State co-ordinator:.....Lois Reckitt, South Portland  
ERA Task Force:.....Mary Iyer, Saco; Susan Clark, South  
Portland  
Chairperson, ERA coalition:....Pat Ryan, South Gardiner  
Newsletter Contact:.....Anne Hazlewood-Brady, Box 534  
Kennebunkport, Maine 04046  
NOW Office-Portland.....Nancy C. Dibner 772-8743

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ADS DESPERATELY NEEDED. Full page: \$40; half-page: \$20; Quarter page:  
\$10; Classifieds: \$1 first 15 words, 5 cents each additional. Send  
camera ready copy to above; make checks payable to: N.O.W. - E.R.A.

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