

# WHAT'S HAPPENING



Vol. I, Number 1

November-December

1972

## WHAT IS NOW?

Doris Day, the rosy-cheeked star who has accumulated a small fortune from 1950 "boy-catches-girl-next-door" movies, said recently in "Parade Magazine" that "Women's Lib is ok, but unnecessary" for a woman to liberate herself. We don't know where her head has been turned, but we wonder if she has glanced at the unweildy stack of state and federal statutes governing a woman's life. We doubt if she has peered into the red tape of credit and insurance policies of banks and employers, which can exclude pregnant women from sick-leave pay, or make it difficult in some cases, to even buy a car without a man's signature. Has she heard the powerful voice of tradition in the small voice of a six-year-old girl who tells her mother that "boys are doctors, girls are nurses"--picked up from the worldly wisdom of her five-year-old brother? Has Ms. Day ever walked into the personnel department of a large department store chain where the "girls" in the outer offices prepared applicants for the final interview in the enclaves of power in the inner offices, usually occupied by men?

Perhaps Doris Day can afford to be a little shortsighted, but the rest of us cannot be so optimistic. Fighting institutions from city hall to the White House, is a lonely battle for one person. The minority of women who have achieved independence in spite of the obstacles should be angry, not proud, that it was harder for her than for her male counterpart.

In short, we couldn't disagree more with Ms. Day's remark that the movement is "unnecessary." That is what NOW is all about. Sisterhood is powerful and ready, willing and able to work changes.

The women's movement is a troubleshooter's movement - seeking reform in areas as: Ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment, Equal Employment Opportunities, revision of state protective laws for women, educational opportunities, reorientation of the education system, developmental child care, paid maternity leave, revision of income tax and Social Security laws, the right to control our own reproductive lives, a chance for women in poverty, revisions of marriage, divorce and family laws, full participation in political activities and public accommodations.

This newsletter, "What's Happening, NOW" (WHN) will be published regularly, not only to inform members of GAINESVILLE, NOW events, but keep tabs locally and nationally on the areas of reform mentioned above. Subscriptions will be mailed to local dues-paying members. Local dues finance this newsletter.

### NOW HOLDS FIRST MEETING

GAINESVILLE, NOW met for the first time about a month ago at the Center for United Ministries.

An estimated 200 women attended the meeting.

The membership is divided into consciousness-raising groups which meet weekly. All members are urged to attend the Action Planning Board meetings every Wednesday where policies are discussed.

In order to keep the power structure open to all members, NOW has no officers. Ideally, four board of directors volunteer as temporary coordinators.

### MEETING SET FOR DECEMBER 5TH

An open meeting will be held Tuesday, Dec. 5th at the Center for United Ministries.

Members and their interested friends are urged to attend. If you have plants, paintings or items you'd like to sell, bring them.

Help is needed to to organize the Dec. 5th meeting. Come to the Nov. 29th Action Planning Board meeting in Room 150-B of the Reitz Union.

The December meeting will give members and guests the opportunity to present their ideas and queries of the movement.

### FLORIDA BLUE KEY VOTES AGAINST WOMEN; NOW WILL FIGHT THE POLICY

Florida Blue Key leadership fraternity, voted last week against allowing women in the politically influential group.

A group of NOW women have consulted an attorney and plans to file suit against the tradition-crusted fraternity are being formulated.

The issued will be discussed at the Action Planning Board meeting Nov. 29.

## BAREFOOT AND PREGNANT

This month's Barefoot and Pregnant Award goes to Alachua County School Board members E.D. Manning and William Enneking, for their persistent efforts to keep the mandatory leave policy for pregnant teachers. They voted to keep the policy both times the issue was raised, in August and September. Fortunately, the policy was repealed on the second vote, 3-2.

## OUR APPRECIATION

... to State Rep. Ralph Turlington and Rep. Bill Andrews and Sen. Bob Saunders who were reported in a Gainesville Sun story last month as saying they would vote for the Equal Rights Amendment.

## MARRIAGE IS DISABLING

Under Florida law, married women are considered disabled. Married women cannot buy or sell property under the Homestead Act, cannot sue or be sued, or sign legal documents without their husband's permission. Hiring a lawyer can cost anywhere from \$150 to \$350 for each of these issues. A woman can do it herself for the small sum of \$16 for filing costs. For more information call Women in Law, here in Gainesville.

## GAY LIB SPONSORS COFFEE HOUSE

The Gay Liberation Front of Gainesville is sponsoring a coffee house Friday nights from 8 p.m. until midnight at 1921 NW 2nd Ave.

Everyone is welcome. And bring your musical instrument. Coffee, tea, pretzels, potato chips and other munchies will be served. A donation of fifty cents is asked for to cover the refreshments. For further information, contact Lois Buxbaum at 373-6365.

## EXPLORING WOMEN'S POTENTIALS

A Humanistic Growth Workshop on "Exploring Women's Potentials" will be offered to the public Dec. 2nd, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Center of Man.

The encounter group will discuss such topics men-women relationships, new roles and careers and different stages of life cycles. The fee is \$10. For more information call either Chloe Atkins or Carolyn Griffis at 372-7883.

## GIVE BABY-SWAPPING A TRY

To liberate the NOW mother, the Action Planning Board suggests co-op baby sitting. Call a member with children to sit for you. Then sit for her when she needs the favor. Let's discuss it at the next Action

## WOMEN AFFAIRS OFFICE OPENS

The newly formed Office of Women Affairs officially opens at the University of Florida in January.

Marian Jedrusiak will be the director and student government coordinator for the new office.

Among its services, the office will provide counseling for women students.

University women are urged to contribute their time and talent to the new office.

Contact Ms. Jedrusiak at 378-8959.

## "WOMEN IN SOCIETY" COURSE OFFERED

The University of Florida is offering "Women in Society," a four credit-hour course for the Winter term.

The first day of class for CSS-155, section 120, will meet Wednesday from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Jan 3rd in Room 109, Little Hall. The drop-add period ends 4 p.m., Jan. 5th. The course covers a great diversity of topics, including childcare, court decision alternate life styles, and novels affecting women.

## AID CENTER

An Abortion Information and Dissemination (AID) center has been established at the University of Florida. The number is 392-6132. The Center is open Monday through Friday from 1:00 to 5 p.m. and 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. on the third floor of the Reitz Union. AID provides information on all aspects of abortion, including an estimate of expenses entailed before, during and after the abortion.

## INFORMATION ON OTHER GROUPS

Zero Population Growth... 392-1635  
League of Women Voters... 378-7365  
Know, Inc. P.O. Box 86031, Pittsburg Pa., 15221 A non-profit feminist Press, records feminist literature and provides reprints.

Women's Bureau, Dept. of Labor, Washington, D.C., 20210 They will provide a list of publications from the U.S. Printing Office.

Women's Action Alliance, 200 Park Ave., Suite 1520, New York, N.Y. 10017. The Alliance assists women in initiating action projects in their own community.

## M HELP WANTED

An experienced woman typist whose total income is less than \$7,500. under the work-study program. Contact Carolyn Griffis at 372-7883

The Monday Consciousness-Raising group is trying to hold rap sessions with local high school girls. Anyone having information or contacts that could help us call Su Grier, 392-8506, Debbie Gohlke 378-0585, or D. Chris Matyas 373-5759

COORDINATORS: Mary Smith 376-8736, Edna Saffy 376-1026  
 TREASURER: Donna Burnell 373-8056 will take membership applications/  
 Local dues are \$3.00, national membership dues costs \$10  
 SPEAKER'S BUREAU: Gail Manahan 468-1750, Judy Wilson 236-3896 (Ocala)  
 MINORITY RELATIONS: Janet Blevins 373-7003, Betty Hall 376-8736,  
 Ingrid Rosenshein, 372-7600  
 LAW: Judy Wright, Clara Gehan, Windy Sloan  
 NOW REPS, MARRIED STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Sharon Hiett 376-4804  
 Barbara Vaughn 376-4804, Glenda Kaplan 373-0528  
 NEWSLETTER: D. Chris Matyas 373-5759, Susan Grier 392-8506, Ann White  
 WHN STAFF 392-7878, Judy Wilson, 236-3896

GAINESVILLE NOW STILL NEEDS:

- \* Chairperson for new members
- \* Publicity coordinator
- \* More PIRG (Public Interest Research Group) representatives
- \* Help on art work for local membership card.
- \* Two more coordinators (directors) temporary until March or April

CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING (CR) TIMES:

MONDAYS; Linda Tieman 3780181 or  
 D. Chris Matyas 373-5759  
 TUESDAYS: Debbie Lewis 373-6413  
 WEDNESDAY: Alice Shoff 373-1320  
 THURSDAYS: Phyllis Sigal 376-2785  
 ANN WHITE 392-7878

A WORD ABOUT CONSCIOUSNESS-RAISING

The Primary purpose of women's consciousness-raising (CR) groups is to understand one's self and what it means to be a woman in a patriarchal society. Five to eight members is an ideal size to insure that everyone has the chance to speak. There are no basic rules, but some guidelines are helpful for a newly-formed group. Each woman is encouraged to express herself openly without being interrupted. Because women are often denied a voice in society, each member is respectfully listened to, at whichever point she has reached in her own consciousness. The atmosphere is relaxed and the content of the discussions is unrestricted. Specific topics, however help to focus on what may have been difficult for group members to face before. Advice is never given, but reactions can be expressed. CR is not an encounter group, but it can develop into a warm sharing experience. The flexibility of the group enables it to become a special interest group or "task force" at any time.

POSSIBLE CR AND INTEREST GROUP ACTIVITIES

Women's Section in Library	Integrate Blue Key
Review Required Textbooks	Hold a symposium (for example, on self defense)
Contact Women in Law School	Become a Lobby Group 392-1665
Gainesville Sun Help wanted Segregation*	United Student Action Lobby
Participate in the spring annual	Bill Watson or Bob Gidel
Women's Symposium	

CR THOUGHTS:WHAT ARE YOUR FEELINGS WHEN YOU REMEMBER:

being interrupted by a man because what he says is more important  
 being asked over the telephone for the "man of the house"  
 being asked a question and feeling you need to consult your husband about the local pest extermination contract.  
 being ignored as though you were invisible when a salesman or waitress is talking with you and man  
 being coerced into a sexual relationship because he paid for the dates or expected it.  
 being told as a student that you should be a nurse not a doctor  
 being pushed by society to get married because you were getting "old"  
 being afraid of your girlfriends getting your boyfriend and competing with them  
 other women cutting down other women  
 men talking about women in degrading terms or as a sex object  
 being asked to stop what you are doing and help him since His work is more important

--JW

NEWSLETTER -- HELP!

Call in announcements, articles, tips to one of the WHN staff members (page 3) or become a staff member yourself Much help is needed in all facets of the newsletter.

Sorry: we haven't the funds to send our newsletter to all interested It goes to subscribers (\$3, price of local membership dues)

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