



Newsletter

Hawaii Women Lawyers R.O. Box 2072 Honolulu, Hawaii 96805

APRIL MEETING

- Date: Friday, April 30, 1982
- Time: Noon to 1:30 (Brown bag lunch)
- Place: Bishop Trust Building Penthouse,
1000 Bishop Street
- Agenda: 1) Jade Young: "Dressing for Success", and
2) Vote on new Bylaws and Charter for HWL

April Meeting: Jade Young is a professional wardrobe consultant who operates her own consulting business. In addition to giving group workshops and conducting personal consultations, Ms. Young presents corporate programs concerning wardrobe planning. Also at the April meeting a vote will be taken on new bylaws and a charter for HWL. HWL is presently an unincorporated association. The HWL Board of Directors proposes that we incorporate and make certain changes to our present bylaws. Copies of the new charter and bylaws will be available for review at the April meeting. If you wish to review the charter and bylaws in advance of the meeting, please contact Nancy Stivers at 521-9262.

HWL Foundation: The Board of Directors is completing the final steps necessary to establish Hawaii Women Lawyers Foundation, a nonprofit corporation operating for charitable, literary, educational and scientific purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Once established, HWL Foundation will accept proposals (as well as tax-deductible contributions, of course) to fund projects consistent with the advancement of its goals. The Board of Directors of the Foundation will initially be comprised of the existing members of the HWL Board. Our thanks to HWL member C. Frederick

Schutte for his assistance in drafting the charter and bylaws for the Foundation, as well as the proposed charter and bylaws for HWL.

Dispute over Resolution to Commemorate Ten-Year Anniversary of Hawaii's Ratification of ERA: The debate in the Legislature over whether to adopt a resolution to commemorate the tenth anniversary of Hawaii's ratification of the ERA suggests that the political climate for women's equality may have worsened during the last decade. Ten years ago, the Legislature rushed to make Hawaii the first state in the nation to ratify the ERA. On March 22, 1982, a resolution commemorating this event was introduced in the House of Representatives and in the Senate. The resolution passed the House but, to the surprise of many, was referred to committee in the Senate. The referral to committee was initiated by Senator Steve Cobb who argued that the resolution was improper because it provided that certified copies of the resolution be sent to the states which had not yet ratified the ERA.

On March 30, a hearing on the original resolution and on another Senate version which modified the allegedly objectionable provision was held before the Senate Judiciary Committee. The hearing drew representatives of numerous women's organizations who supported the resolution as well as many opponents of the ERA. The anti-ERA forces used the hearing as an opportunity to argue that Hawaii should rescind its ratification of the ERA on the grounds that a constitutional amendment was unnecessary and would result in a "parade of horrors" (e.g. unisex bathrooms, coed prisons, unqualified women in combat duty, etc.). Lea Crandall, on behalf of HWL, delivered testimony endorsing the commemorative resolution. Notwithstanding the fact that the issue before the Committee was whether the ERA should be commemorated, not whether it should have been ratified in the first place, Senator Ben Cayetano insisted that HWL rebut the legal allegations of the anti-ERA groups regarding the necessity and effect of the ERA.

HWL agreed to submit a memorandum addressing these concerns, and the vote on the commemorative resolutions was postponed pending receipt of the memo. The memo was submitted to the Senate Judiciary Committee on April 12. As of April 15, the Committee had taken no action on the resolutions. Mahalo to Lea Crandall, Sara Smith, Meg Hogan and Ruth Hood for the substantial time and effort they devoted to preparing the HWL submission.

Referral List for Office of Affirmative Action: Annelle Amaral, Director of the Office of Affirmative Action and speaker at our March meeting, requested a list of women attorneys handling employment discrimination and sexual harassment cases to be used for referral pur-

poses. The names of attorneys who indicated interest in being on the NOW referral list will be submitted to Ms. Amaral together with any others expressing interest who contact Nancy Stivers by April 30.

Upcoming Events of Interest:

April 23-24: The Second Statewide Conference sponsored by the Hawaii Council of Asian and Pacific Island Women, Inc. will be held at John A. Burns Hall, 4th Floor, East West Center. Among other speakers will be Judge Marie Milks who will speak on the topic "Women in the Professions: Problems of Discrimination". For further information contact Carol Odo, 422-9858 or Florence Lau, 948-7553.

May 8: The American Society of Women Accountants and HWL are co-sponsoring a seminar, "More Business Games Mother Never Taught You" -- 8 a.m. - 12:30 at the Honolulu International Country Club. Registration materials for the seminar and luncheon were forwarded with the March HWL newsletter.

June 9-12: The Thirteenth Annual Conference of the National Association of Commissions on the Status of Women will be held at the Ala Moana Hotel. The event is being hosted by the State Commission on the Status of Women. For registration information contact the State Commission at 548-4199.

Women's Bar Associations: Congratulations belatedly to women attorneys on the Island of Hawaii who joined with women paralegals to found the Big Island Women's Law Association last September. The first president of the Association is Carolyn Sugiyama. Womens bar associations like HWL are active throughout the United States. The National Conference of Women's Bar Associations met in Detroit in March and will meet in San Francisco in August. The Conference is presently conducting a survey which will be used to compile a national directory of women's bar associations.

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