

# HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

## NEWSLETTER

May 1988

**1988**

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### **May Monthly Meeting**

DATE: Friday, May 27, 1988

TIME: 12:00 Noon - 1:15 p.m.

PLACE: Cades Schutte Fleming and Wright  
10th Floor, Conference Room

TOPIC: "Country Club Membership for Women"

HWL invites you to a forum discussion concerning membership policies for women at three Oahu country clubs. Recent news reports have revealed that three of Hawaii's top private country clubs have membership by-laws which prohibit women from holding full club membership. We have invited Lloyd Asato, Kenneth David, Tom Kilmer, Dennis Fitzgerald, Chief Justice Herman Lum, and Chief Judge James Burns, as representatives from Mid-Pacific, Oahu and Waialae Country Clubs to present their views on their current policies and discuss any possible changes which may be in the works. Please join us for a question and answer session which promises to be a lively discussion of this controversial topic.

### **Recap of April Monthly Meeting**

HWL thanks Dr. Barbara Peterson for her interesting and informative presentation on remarkable women who have played a part in the making of modern Hawaii. Dr. Peterson

tailored her slide show presentation to specific interests of women lawyers and disseminated fascinating and well researched facts concerning these notable women.

### **National Women and the Law Conference**

Ramona Hussey was the law school's and HWL's student representative to this annual conference, held this year in Austin, Texas during March 10-13, 1988. The widely attended conference on women's legal issues is designed for law students, practicing attorneys, and community organizers. The planning group and workshop leaders are drawn from all of these groups and includes women of color, handicapped women, and lesbians. There is a continuing commitment to make the conference all inclusive and accessible by providing childcare, rotating the location of the conference across the country each year, and keeping fees relatively low.

This year's theme "Stirring the Water in the Pool - Changing the Reflections of Women" came from a speech given by Sojourner Truth over 100 years ago, when abolitionists abandoned the cause of women's suffrage in favor of Black suffrage. It was chosen to remind people now, as then, not to favor the agenda of one group at the expense of another, and to challenge us to stir up the changes necessary to achieve justice in society.

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Conference workshops were grouped by categories of issues and within each were numerous specific workshops. Categories included: Constitutional Law, Violence Against Women, The Criminal Justice System, Education, Environmental Health, International Law, and Legal Practice.

Of the many workshops Ramona was able to attend, she felt the most helpful were: (1) **Proving Damages for Women Tort Plaintiffs** where experienced personal injury attorneys shared their strategies, tools, and thinking in successful suits against perpetrators and third parties involving rape, sexual harassment, and medical malpractice for women victims. Examples were given of useful demonstrative evidence, the use of experts, and ways to compute damages. (2) **Women of Color General Session** where participants spoke to the special problems for women of color within the feminist movement. A strong concern was expressed for the need to support each other in developing our own inner strength and spirituality. (3) **Establishing a Feminist Law Practice** also offered important particulars on how to go about organizing such a practice, including deciding questions of what types of cases you will or won't take as a feminist, how many hours are expected of each attorney, and how flexible can the firm be to accommodate those with children.

Other workshops included: "Who Controls the Birth Process?", "AIDs in the Criminal Justice System", "Divorce Reform and Alternatives", "Women in Litigation", "Feminist Definitions of Violence", "Title VII Cases", and "Focus on the Victim: Theories and Strategies".

A full report and extra copies of conference materials are available from Ramona Hussey. If interested, please call her at 988-6723.

## **HWL'S Mentor Program**

In an effort to improve the standards of the legal profession and to assist new attorneys, several mainland bar associations have established mentor programs. One of the new ideas involves a "big sister" program where new attorneys can contact and consult with experienced attorneys for actual advice and input in real case situations. New attorneys are provided with a directory of participating lawyers listing their areas of practice. Appropriate arrangements are made in advance to handle any malpractice liability problems. HWL is considering establishing such a program for its members as part of its mentor and networking projects. We are currently seeking feedback as to whether members would be willing to participate in such a program. If you are interested, please contact Hisae Ishii-Chang at 521-9200.

## **Announcements**

### **Mayor's Conference on Employer-Sponsored Child Care**

Mayor Frank F. Fasi's Second Annual Conference on Employer-Sponsored Child Care will begin at 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, May 12, 1988 at the Kilauea Recreation Center. For further information and registration, please contact the Office of Human Resources at 527-5860.

### **Pan-Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association Meeting**

Nainoa Thompson of the Polynesian Voyaging Society will be the guest speaker at the Pan-Pacific and Southeast Asia Women's Association meeting on Saturday, May 14, 1988. The meeting will be held at the Pacific Beach Hotel. For further information, please contact Audrey Maust at 395-6437.

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## **“For Pete’s Sake”**

A benefit auction to raise funds for a bone marrow transplant will be held for Peter Isaak, a well known local tennis player and instructor. Peter has leukemia. The benefit will be held on May 15, 1988 at the Kailua Racket Club from 4 to 7 p.m. If you are interested in contributing funds to help Peter in his fight against leukemia, please attend the benefit or send contributions to the Kailua Racket Club, P. O. Box 105, Kailua, Hawaii 96734. Reservations for the \$25 per person benefit can be made by calling 261-7133 by May 13. Contributions can be made payable to “For Pete’s Sake”.

## **Annual Patch Child Care Conference**

PATCH will hold their annual child care conference on Saturday, May 21, 1988. For more details, please contact the PATCH Training Program at 842-3676.

## **Professional Women’s Network Trade Show**

The Professional Women’s Network Fifth Annual Trade Show will be held on Tuesday, May 24, 1988 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Ilikai Hotel’s Pacific Ballroom. The cost for members of other professional women’s groups is \$6.00.

## **HWL Dues Renewal**

It’s that time again! Check the address label on your newsletter to see when your dues expire. Most dues are paid until 6/88. Payments received in May and June will renew your membership until 6/89. Thanks for your support.

## **Personals**

Congratulations to Elizabeth Ann Ishii who recently became a partner at the law firm of Damon Key Char & Bocken.

Best wishes to Sharon Himeno who has formed her own law firm. The new firm of Okamoto Himeno Hisaka & Furusho is located at 707 Richards Street, Suite 728, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813, telephone: 533-0549.

Female Texas attorney with one son, recently licensed in Hawaii, wants to rent or exchange homes for one month in the summer or early fall. Please contact Susan Burris, 601 Castlewood, Friendswood, Texas 77546, telephone: (713) 482-1129.

If you have any announcements you wish to submit for the monthly newsletter, please contact Lorraine H. Akiba at 521-9200, Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright, 1000 Bishop Street, 12th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 by the 3rd of every month.

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## **HWL MEMBERSHIP**

If you have not done so already, please renew your membership. Dues are \$25, \$15 (Out of State Members), \$15 (New Admittees), \$5 (Students). Please remit with the following form to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805:

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Business Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Residence Address \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate the committees, if any, on which you would be willing to serve \_\_\_\_\_

Please note any topics or projects in which you are interested \_\_\_\_\_

Moved? Name change? Receiving duplicates? Please send old mailing label with corrections to HWL, P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawaii 96805.

## **HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS**

P.O. Box 2072  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96805

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Lorraine H. Akiba (6/88)  
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Honolulu, Hawaii 96808