



HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

NEWSLETTER

July 1988

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July Monthly Meeting

DATE: Friday, July 29, 1988

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

PLACE: Amfac Plaza Exhibition Hall

TOPIC: "Mayoral Candidates Debate"

HWL has invited the major mayoral candidates to participate in a debate on issues of concern to the general public wishing to make an educated choice for Mayor. Although incumbent Mayor Fasi has declined our invitation, we will be able to hear from candidates Patsy Mink, Randall Iwase, Marilyn Bornhorst, and Dennis O'Connor. We urge you to attend this forum in order to more fully understand the candidates' positions.

Recap of June Monthly Meeting

Cheryl Vasconcellos of Hawaii Planned Parenthood shared recent experiences of the agency with HWL members and representatives from other organizations. Suggestions of ways to volunteer in efforts to ensure accessibility of abortion and continuation of pro choice freedoms were made. Some of the volunteer actions that can be undertaken are: contributions of legal research already undertaken on related issues, research time on issues facing HPP in their pending lawsuit; monetary donations for HPP's legal defense fund; volunteer time to assist in a concerted effort to fight illegal encroachment on access to safe and low cost abortions. See article below for more details!

Formation Of Ad Hoc Committee to Support HPP Legal Defense Fund

When abortion is a legal medical service, a woman's right to privacy to choose an abortion is protected by the Hawaii and United States Constitutions, and the only requirement that the State can place on first trimester abortions is that they are performed by a licensed physician, WHY has Hawaii Planned Parenthood ("HPP") been thwarted in its attempts to provide safe, low-cost first trimester abortions in its downtown clinic? The reason is that a vocal minority who seek to impose their anti-abortion stance on all women have actively lobbied and sought legal action to block HPP's clinic.

The majority position in Hawaii and nationwide, however, overwhelmingly supports a woman's personal right to make choices concerning her reproductive life. Continued and vocal support of HPP is important. Even if the majority favors reproductive choice, when organized minority groups opposition like Hawaii Right to Life speak out and we do not, we risk losing hard fought gains and fundamental rights. HWL is taking active steps to help assure that these valuable rights are not lost by creating an ad hoc committee to help HPP in its efforts.

HWL and the community already supported HPP last year by protesting HPP's abrupt ouster from Aloha United Way. Aloha United Way recently changed its procedures and will now collect and distribute funds to charities designated by donors even when the charity—like HPP—is not on AUW's list.

HWL will help HPP in its current lawsuit involving its downtown clinic by providing legal research. If you have prepared legal memoranda on injunctions, declaratory judgments and/or damages in constitutional actions (in federal or state court) that might be helpful to HPP's lawsuit, or if you can contribute pro bono research time on these or other issues, please contact the committee. HWL will also assist in community education to correct misperceptions about the legal proceedings and the need for the clinic. HWL seeks to involve other organizations in supporting HPP and fundraising for HPP's legal defense fund.

If you are interested in working on any of these areas, can contribute legal memoranda on relevant topics, or want more information on the issues, please call Cori Lau at 536-6922.

The Ad Hoc Committee will hold its first meeting on Friday, July 22, 1988 at 12:00 noon, at the 10th Floor Conference Room, Cades Schulte Fleming & Wright, to discuss immediate tasks and plans. Please attend and bring interested friends. We hope to see you there!

Number of Women-Owned Businesses Continues to Grow

According to new government figures, the number of women-owned firms continues to grow. IRS statistics show that between 1984 and 1985 the number of female-operated sole proprietorships increased 11% and their receipts increased 16%.

IRS figures show that in 1985 there were 3,738,000 women-owned sole proprietorships, 28% of all such businesses, with receipts of \$65 billion or 12% of sole proprietorships.

If this growth continues at the same rate, it is anticipated that women will comprise half of all self-employed people by the year 2000.

Announcements

Biography Project Committee is Looking for Memorabilia

Professor Mari Matsuda from the William S. Richardson School of Law was recently appointed editor of **Early Women Lawyers of Hawaii**, a volume of biographical essays on seventeen women admitted to the Hawaii Bar between 1888-1959. The eighteen writers are presently doing research, conducting interviews, and collecting photographs and other memorabilia.

The Project Committee needs photographs of the following women: Rose August, admitted on September 6, 1929; Jean Vaughn Gilbert, admitted on April 8, 1931; and Margaret Scott Tekli, admitted on December 13, 1948. The Committee would also like HWL members to share their anecdotes and other insights on any of the women being honored. In addition to the three named above, the list includes Almeda Hitchcock, Marguerite Ashford, Carrick Buck, Rhoda Lewis, Ruth Loomis, Harriet Bouslog, Sau Ung Loo Chan, Betty Vitousek, Alana Wong Lau, Marybeth Yuen Maul, Patsy Takemoto Mink, Mary Helen Stevens Pitts, Betty Barrett Gillette, and Lily Miyamoto Okamoto. Please contact Mari Matsuda at 948-6553 or Esther Arinaga at 531-4171.

Domestic Violence Hotline is Now Operational but Needs More Volunteers

Volunteers are now operating the Domestic Violence Hotline on Mondays and Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. However, we need more attorneys and paralegals to staff the hotline Monday through Friday so we can increase the hours of operation. Volunteers will receive a packet of information and there are training videotapes available to assist the volunteers. The maximum time commitment asked is only two hours total per month. Please call Leslie Hayashi at 521-3149 to sign up or for more information.

Ad Hoc Committee to Support HPP Legal Defense Fund Meeting

If you are interested in working on this Ad Hoc Committee, please join us for our first meeting on Friday, July 22, 1988, at the offices of Cades Schutte Fleming & Wright, 10th Floor Conference Room, 1000 Bishop Street, at 12:00 noon.

National Conference of Women's Bar Associations to Hold Annual Meeting

The National Conference of Women's Bar Associations will hold their annual meeting and Women's Bar Exposition in Toronto from August 5-7, 1988. This annual meeting will precede the ABA Annual Convention in Toronto. NCWBA has had a remarkable year. First, they participated in key strategy sessions of the anti-Bork coalition and submitted written testimony opposing the appointment of Bork to the Supreme Court. NCWBA co-sponsored the amicus brief with the NOW Legal Defense Fund regarding the **New York Clubs Association** case and was a supporter of the Family and Medical Leave Act. For more information regarding this organization or the conference, please contact Lorraine Akiba at 521-9200.

Reminder to Renew Your HWL Membership

To insure that you will keep receiving the HWL newsletter, please renew your membership dues. Check the address label to see when your dues expire. If (6/89) does not appear after your name, you need to renew your dues. Thanks for your support.

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.

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.

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