

HAWAII WOMEN LAWYERS

NEWSLETTER

October 1997

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October Calendar

- **Saturday, October 4**, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at the Kahala Mall. Neighborhood Justice Center Mediation Fair. Call 521-6767 to volunteer.
- **Friday, October 10**, 7:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. Pacific Club. HWL Board member Calleen Ching speaking to Rotary Club of Hawai'i on violence.
- **Friday, October 10**, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. "Our Rights, Our Lives" live television special broadcast on 'OLELO, which is Channel 55 for Oceanic Subscribers and Channel 21 in Hawaii Kai. (See this page for details.)
- **Sunday, October 19**, 2:00 p.m. Free. "A Day of Remembrance" at the Richards Street YWCA, featuring the creation of the Helping Hands Quilt. (See page 2 for details.)
- **Thursday, October 16**, 12:00 noon. Free. "In Search of Mrs. Pinkerton: American Women and the Gendering of Orientalist Discourse." UH Office for Women's Research Brown Bag Series. For information call 956-3641.
- **Saturday, October 18**, 4:00 p.m. on KHON-Fox Channel 2. "Protect Yourself from Domestic Violence" (See page 3 for details.)
- **Friday, October 24**, 3:30 p.m. "Trust Accounts" HSBA Practice Management Workshop. Speaker: G. Richard Morry, Esq. Free. HSBA Conference Room. Call 537-1868 for reservations.
- **Friday, October 24**, Last day that donations are being accepted for the abused women and children's shelters food drive. Various locations. (See page 3 for details.)
- **Saturday, October 25**, "Mysteries of Old Hawai'i" HSBA Fundraiser for domestic violence programs. 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at Ko'Olina. (See page 4 for details.)

HWL "Our Rights, Our Lives" Program To Air October 10th on 'OLELO TV55

On Friday, October 10th, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., a television special built around the HWL book series, "Our Rights, Our Lives," will broadcast live on channel 55 (channel 21 in Hawaii Kai). The show is part of the popular consumer legal education series "You and the Law in Hawai'i." Hawai'i attorney and law professor Robert J. LeClair hosts the show.

A panel discussion will cover basic issues of special concern to women, including sexual discrimination & harassment, family law, women & litigation, and civil rights claims and procedures. Panel members will be:

Representative Patsy Mink

U.S. House of Representatives

Elizabeth Fujiwara, Esq.

Law Offices of Elizabeth Fujiwara

Susan Ichinose, Esq.

Simons & Ichinose

Rosemary McShane, Esq.

Office of Corporation Counsel, Family Support

Representative Mink will explain Medical/Medicare benefits, Worker's Compensation, unemployment insurance, welfare benefits and Social Security Programs. Liz Fujiwara will explore employment issues such as glass ceilings, wrongful termination, labor rights, age and pregnancy discrimination, the rights of disabled persons, sexual harassment.

Rosemary McShane will cover domestic relations issues such as alimony, property division, custody, mediation in divorce, child abuse and neglect. HWL President Susan Ichinose will talk about the Hawai'i Women Lawyers organization, explaining how its programs serve the community. She will also speak on the subject of women and property rights (or lack thereof). If time permits, the panel may also discuss why the Equal Rights Amendment failed.

Friday's program will be broadcast live, and calls will be taken from the viewing audience. The program will be rebroadcast on Sunday, October 19th, from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

October is National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Programs Part of HWL Mandate

In October, members of Hawai'i Women Lawyers are focusing particular attention on domestic violence issues. The mandate of HWL dedicates us to the support of issues of special concern to all women and children in Hawai'i.

As you read this newsletter you will find that HWL has just this month published multi-lingual domestic violence cards, is co-sponsoring the Helping Hands Quilt, has produced a parent counseling pamphlet, and is raising domestic violence awareness in the community via television and social services groups. If you are not already supporting these efforts as a member of Hawai'i Women Lawyers, today is the perfect time to join us. Call 545-8055 for a membership application.

PRO (filē)

HWL Board Member Calleen Ching

Calleen Ching was part of the first graduating class of the William S. Richardson School of Law. She has been doing public interest work ever since, presently serving as program coordinator for AmeriCorps and Students & Advocates for Victims of Domestic Violence (SAVD), a project of Hawai'i Lawyers Care.

HWL: *How long have you held this job?*

Ching: "For a little less than three years now. Prior to this, I worked at Legal Aid, then did a disability rights project, and was at the Civil Rights Commission before coming to AmeriCorps/SAVD. I have also been a per diem judge in family court."

HWL: *Do you like what you are doing right now?*

Ching: "Definitely. When I worked at Legal Aid we did a lot of divorce work for abused spouses. It seemed that all we did is react to clients' problems after the abuse had already happened.

"With AmeriCorps I get to do prevention work such as community outreach and educational programs. We are working to head off abuse problems *before* they happen, hopefully preventing some of the heartache that I used to deal with on a daily basis. I find that very rewarding."

HWL: *What are some examples of these programs?*

Ching: "During Aloha Week, we had a booth at the Bishop Museum where we tried to get kids to think about violence as a conscious choice. The keikis put their handprint on a paper, along with a pledge to remember that hands are not for hitting. When they signed that piece of paper, they had to think about the concept of using fists for violence. It was a very positive experience. We're hoping to display some of the work in Honolulu Hale."

HWL: *Do you collaborate with other organizations?*

Ching: "We had a project with Junior League of Hawai'i that involves presentations to high schools around the state. We have also joined forces with HWL and other groups; anything we can do to reach the community with our message."

HWL: *Is there any truth to the story going around the legal community that your fish committed suicide?*

Ching: "Totally untrue. Unquestionably, he was emotionally disturbed and suicidal for some time. He ate the plastic plants in the bottom of his bowl, and twice I found him on the bathroom floor after having tried to make the leap to the toilet and freedom. But in the end, he died peacefully in his bowl."

HWL: *What would you be doing if you weren't a lawyer?*

Ching: "I don't know. I'm a thwarted writer. I occasionally write haiku for the Honolulu Advertiser. I have an unpublished short story that I'm working on. My hobby is cooking. I've attended cooking school in France several times, most recently in '92. Once a month I do a big dinner for friends. I love it, but it takes a lot of time."

HWL: *What made you run for the HWL Board?*

Ching: "Susan and Rosemary asked me nicely. I'm finding it really interesting, though. And it's great when I see my clients using the end products, like *Our Rights, Our Lives*, and the multi-lingual help cards. HWL is doing a lot of things to improve our community as a whole, and I'm proud to be part of it."

HWL Produces Counseling Pamphlet for Mothers/Fathers in Paternity Cases

In an effort to counsel and educate both parents involved in paternity cases, Hawai'i Women Lawyers has published two pamphlets which are now being distributed in family court and the family support division. The pamphlets were a joint project of HWL, the Family Court, and the Family Services Division, Dept. of the Corporation Counsel, with funding from the Hawai'i Women's Legal Foundation.

"Dads Count!" and "Kids Need Moms & Dads!" are aimed at fathers and mothers involved in paternity cases. They are designed to educate both parties on some of their rights and responsibilities as a parent, with information such as how to modify a visitation order to petition the CSEA to change support. These pamphlets urge regular visitation with the children in a non-combative atmosphere as well as timely payment of child support.

The brochures give extensive referral numbers for agencies that can provide support and services for immigrant assistance, abuse protection and legal aid. In addition, the pamphlet offers advice on heading off future trouble with "Does & Don'ts" for parents in volatile situations.

In both pamphlets, the primary focus is placed on putting the kids first, by reminding them that children who have a mother and a father who love them, visit them, and support them, do better in life than children who don't.

HWL Co-Sponsors YWCA Helping Hands Quilt

Hawai'i Women Lawyers is helping to underwrite the cost of creating a tribute to victims and survivors of domestic violence. The project, created by the YWCA, is part of a national initiative to identify and activate alternatives to making peoples' lives safer.

As part of its Week Without Violence, the YWCA will hold "A Day of Remembrance" on October 19th. The centerpiece for this event will be the making of the Helping Hands Quilt. Each participant will be asked to trace and quilt an outline of his or her hand, enforcing the theme that hands are not for hitting. The center square will honor the Week Without Violence.

Funds for the fabric, thread, needles, cotton batting, and other sewing materials are being furnished by Hawai'i Women Lawyers. All HWL members wishing to work on a square of the quilt should report to the YWCA on Richards Street in downtown Honolulu at 2:00 p.m. Upon completion, the quilt will be displayed at the YWCA.

Food Drive to Aid O'ahu Shelters for Abused Women and Children

During Domestic Violence Awareness Month, SAVD is spearheading a food drive to supply the abused women and children's shelters on O'ahu. Other groups participating in the program are AmeriCorps, Japanese Cultural Center, and the Legal Aid society of Hawai'i.

Last year the October food drive was successful in collecting over 500 lbs. of food for the O'ahu shelters. This year SAVD is hoping to exceed that amount.

From now until October 24th, non perishable food will be collected at the following locations:

Japanese Cultural Center of Hawai'i
2454 South Beretania

Laniakea YWCA of O'hau (lobby)
1040 Richards Street

Legal Aid Society of Hawai'i
Downtown at 1108 Nuuanu Avenue
Waianae at 85-555 Farrington Hwy.
Windward at 47-200 Waihee Road

UH Federal Credit Union
McCully & Moana Campus locations

Domestic Violence Video to Premiere During 60-Minute KHON Special

On October 18th, KHON FOX 2 will air "Protect Yourself from Domestic Violence," beginning with a 30-minute video showing the layperson how to file for a TRO in Family Court, and the subsequent steps to obtaining a more permanent protective order. The videotape includes dramatizations of the TRO process and an Order to Show Cause hearing, giving the viewer a sense of what to expect when seeking help from the judicial system. Leslie Wilcox and Emme Tomimbang (who also produced the project) narrate.

The second half of the show will feature a panel discussion on domestic violence, featuring Family Court Judge Linda K.C. Luke, Honolulu City Prosecutor Peter Carlisle, and Nancy Kreidman of the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline. Channel 2 news anchor Wilcox will moderate.

The video was produced by The Young Lawyers Division of the Hawaii State Bar Association, in conjunction with the Domestic Violence Clearinghouse and Legal Hotline. YLD President Keith Amemiya says, "Many victims of domestic violence are confused and intimidated by the legal system. They believe that if they cannot afford a lawyer, they are incapable of obtaining protection from the courts. We wanted to educate these victims in a way that would make seeking legal protection an obtainable goal." Funding for the project came from the Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation, the McInerny Foundation, the Atherton Family Foundation, the Cades Foundation, and the Hawaii State Bar Association.

After the October 18th premiere, the video will be made available to shelters and community service organizations throughout the state.

HWL Publishes Multi-Lingual Domestic Violence Help Cards

Recognizing the language barrier that prevents many immigrants from seeking protection from abuse, Hawai'i Women Lawyers, spearheaded by Vice President Rosemary McShane, has recently published Multi-Lingual Domestic Violence Help Cards with information on where and how victims of domestic violence can get help. Each card is designed as a fold out piece the size of a business card, so that it can be tucked discreetly into a pocket or purse.

The cards provide 24-hour emergency phone numbers for shelters, sex abuse treatment Centers, and child protective services. It also directs foreign language speakers to immigrant agencies who can help in the language of the victim. All information is written in Spanish, Tagalog, Ilocano, Korean, Chinese, Vietnamese, and English.

The cards have been distributed to agencies such as Hawai'i Lawyers Care, Catholic Charities, various immigrant centers, the Family Peace Center, Suicide & Crisis Center, AmeriCorps/SAVD, the Neighborhood Justice Center, Victim Witness Kokua in the Prosecutor's Office, Hale Ola, Child & Family Services, Developing Options to Violence, and the Domestic Violence Task Force.

Additional distribution is being handled by Carol Lee at Advocates for Immigrant Women. The cards may be ordered by calling Carol at 486-5072 or faxing 486-5169. Written requests may be sent to 98-939 Moana Lua Road, Aiea, Hawai'i 96701. There is no charge.

HWL wishes to thank the following participants:

- Rosemary McShane
- Hawaii Women's Legal Foundation for their funding
- Advocates for Immigrant Women
- Carol Lee
- Bow Mun Chin at Na Loio No Na Kanaka
- Nani and Island Printing Centers

Preliminary plans have already underway to publish the Multi-Lingual Domestic Violence Help Cards for the Neighbor Islands.

HWL's next multi-lingual project is the translation, printing and distribution of the "Safety Plan" for a person currently in danger and living with a violent partner. The "Safety Plan" was created this summer by the Social Services Subcommittee of the Domestic Violence Task Force.

Chop Sui Generis

We're very proud of HWL Board member and paddler Na'u Kamali'i, whose Outrigger III Masters Team placed first in the Masters Division and 8th overall in the 41-mile race from Molokai to Waikiki last weekend.

Congratulations to Hawai'i Women's Legal Foundation on a successful 1997 fundraising dinner. Between ticket sales and silent auction proceeds, HWLF grossed over \$72,000 for the foundation's grant programs. Thanks, too, to Mayors Harris, Lingle, Kusaka and Yamashiro for their hilarious "talk-show." (Words cannot describe Peter Carlisle's swimsuit/tutu ensemble in the Dennis Rodman look-alike contest.)

“Mysteries of Old Hawai`i” Fundraiser October 25th

Proceeds Benefit Domestic Violence Programs

A fundraiser for two domestic violence prevention programs will be held on Saturday, October 25th from 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. on the outdoor private estates of Lanikuhonua in Ko`Olina.

“Mysteries of Old Hawai`i” will be an entertaining evening of eerie stories told by local storytellers Barbara Wong, Makia Malo, and Jeff Gere’s storyband trio “Hearsay.” Guests will dine on international dishes from around the world while bidding on nearly 100 silent auction packages.

Hosting the evening is the Hawaii State Bar Association. Proceeds of the event will benefit the Students & Advocates for Victims of Domestic Violence (SAVD) and the HSBA Public Services Fund administered by the Hawaii Justice Foundation.

SAVD provides direct legal assistance and safety to domestic violence victims. SAVD is a program operated by Hawaii Lawyers Care through a Federal AmeriCorps grant.

The HSBA Public Services Fund is used toward HSBA public service projects, such as Neighborhood Legal Clinics, the Professionals for Drug Free Kids project, and the recently produced domestic violence TRO video (see story on page 3).

Tickets are \$100 per person, which includes transportation to the event, dinner and entertainment. For more information, contact Nancy Arcayna at the HSBA office at 537-1868.

Seeking Newsletter Contributors

We are always looking for news from our members. It can be something brief, such as a Chop Sui Generis item. Or perhaps you have knowledge on an appropriate subject that you wish to share with the membership.

The deadline for newsletter contributions is the first day of each month. News stories may be any length. Feature pieces usually run approximately 250 to 500 words. We use items as space allows, and we reserve the right to edit for space, content and style.

You may send your newsletter contributions to us at P.O. Box 2072, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96805. Or fax your items to the HWL office at 545-8636. Please be sure to include your name and daytime phone number.

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