

VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

county of ventura

Public Social Services Agency

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Commission Members:

District 1

Judy Bysshe

Mary Jones

Celeste Weingardt

District 2

Carol Breyman

Pat Harris-Murray

Jeannette Scovill

District 3

Lois Hannon

Stacey Mac Donald

Anna McVerry

District 4

Connie Lawrason

Marilyn Maurer

Virginia Rogalsky

District 5

Aurora de la Selva

Beverlee Mc Grath

Eliza Thomas

ANNUAL REPORT

1991-1992

PRESENTED ON BEHALF OF THE

VENTURA COUNTY

COMMISSION FOR WOMEN

PRESENTED BY

STACEY B. MacDONALD, CHAIR

1991-1992

DISTRICT 1

SUPERVISOR SUSAN K. LACEY

**Judy Bysshe, Ventura
Mary Jones, Ventura
Celeste Weingardt, Ventura**

DISTRICT 2

SUPERVISOR MARIA E. VANDERKOLK

**Carol Ann Breyman, Oxnard
Pat Harris-Murray, Thousand Oaks
Jeannette Scovill, Thousand Oaks**

DISTRICT 3

SUPERVISOR MAGGIE KILDEE

**Lois Harrion, Camarillo
Stacey MacDonald, Santa Paula
Anna McVerry, Camarillo**

DISTRICT 4

SUPERVISOR VICKY HOWARD

**Connie Lawrason, Moorpark
Marilyn Maurer, Simi Valley
Virginia Rogalsky, Camarillo**

DISTRICT 5

SUPERVISOR JOHN K. FLYNN, CHAIR

**Aurora de la Selva, Oxnard
Beverlee McGrath, Oxnard
Eliza Thomas, Oxnard**

Karen Flock, Suz Montgomery, and Helen Spencer served portions of this year.

**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE CHAIRPERSON
FOR THE VENTURA COUNTY COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

TO: Ventura County Board of Supervisors

FROM: Stacey B. MacDonald, Chair

DATE: June 1991 - July 1992

INTRODUCTION

It has been a rewarding experience to serve as the Chair of the Ventura County Commission For Women.

The Commission has seen almost a complete turnover in members during the past two years, lost two long-term staff members and has now seen the resignation of newly hired staff and the loss of funding for that position. The Commission now faces an unknown future as a result of the on-going fiscal crisis of government in California today. In spite of these difficulties, it has managed to maintain consistency in its operation while continuing to go forward and explore new territory and options. This annual report is an honest attempt to address the changing role and efforts of the Commission. I have thought long and hard on its contents and used my experiences and experience on the Commission, along with my personal commitment to authenticity in government to provide a candid portrait of the Commission and its work. The contents of this report are my expressions and may not necessarily be the reflections or opinions of my fellow Commissioners.

WOMEN'S POLITICAL APPOINTMENTS COALITION

New projects undertaken by the Commission include the very successful Women's Political Appointments Coalition. Several successful workshops, further outlined in the Committee Report, were held and produced very fruitful results. Particular appreciation and thanks is extended to former Commissioner Kathy Long who, on behalf of Supervisor Kildee, was the driving force behind our efforts to get this program off of the ground. Supervisor Kildee's commitment to this project along with her fellow Boardmembers, enabled us to achieve greater participation than would have otherwise been possible. I count this as one of our great successes of the past year. Ms. Long and I were able to represent the Commission and its efforts by conducting workshops at Cal

Lutheran's Creative Options, Oxnard Women's Day and Camarillo Women's Day in addition to participating in the two County-wide workshops conducted by the Women's Political Appointment's Coalition. The Commission was able to attract, as speakers at its workshops, very formidable women leaders in California, such as Carol Whiteside, Assistant Secretary of Intergovernmental Relations to Governor Wilson, Anita Perez Ferguson, Vice President of the National Women's Political Caucus and Susan Rose, Former Executive Director of the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women. In addition, the Board of Supervisors' participation and appearances at the workshops showed its support of these efforts.

The goal of the workshops, sponsored in cooperation with the Thousand Oaks Chapter of AAUW and the Ventura County League of Women Voters, was to increase the participation of women on government boards, committees and commissions. Initial efforts to create a talent bank of interested persons are underway. Although not in progress at this point, another long-term goal of the Appointments Coalition is to see local governments in the County adopt gender-equity ordinances for boards, committees and commissions to insure the participation of women in government. Based on the research of the Commission, the County of Ventura appears to be on the leading edge in this arena, given the fact that at one point we had an all-woman Planning Commission and presently have a 4-1 ratio of women elected to the Board of Supervisors. The future is unknown and adoption of a gender equity ordinance at the County level may pave the way for local governments to follow suit. Although we have had men commissioners serve on the Commission for Women in the past, the Commission should not be excluded from our goal for gender equity. In "walking our talk", it would appear appropriate for the Board of Supervisors to consider appointing some men to the Commission for Women when vacancies occur. The Board of Supervisors along with local agencies are being encouraged to evaluate the importance of appointments by addressing such critical issues as entrenchment of long-term appointees, individual participation, contributions, attendance, and population diversity as appropriate criteria in influencing appointments. Specific to the Commission, the value of population diversity also arose during the course of the past year, and the Board may want to consider focusing on the make-up of the Commission to better reflect the diversity of Ventura County. Presently, of our fifteen members only three are non-anglo women, two Afro-Americans and one Latina.

HEALTH CARE

The Commission's on-going health care committee is forging ahead on issues surrounding women's health and well-being. An off-shoot committee is also

gathering information and investigating the possibilities of establishing cooperative efforts in the community to deal with the teenage pregnancy crisis as a result of Supervisor Susan Lacey's ongoing efforts to deal with this critical issue. Teenage pregnancy, when addressed, generates much discussion and prompts numerous individuals to offer support and encouragement to the Commission in dealing with this serious issue. I sincerely believe the teenage pregnancy matter must become a priority of the Commission and would like to see it work diligently toward developing a tangible program to be implemented in each of the Supervisorial districts within the next year. Commissioners Bysshe and Jones in District 1 have taken the lead in coordinating these efforts and full-support of the Board of Supervisors is encouraged to aid them in this project. Statistics demand that priority attention be focused on teenage pregnancy.

Additionally, at the recommendation of the Health Care Committee, the Commission donated \$500 to the Hispanic Nurses Association for its pap clinic and several of our nursing professionals volunteered and donated their time at the clinic.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The public relations committee has been established on an informal basis to take proactive steps toward creating a greater awareness of the Commission and its work. In line with this goal, as spokesperson for the Commission I was pleased to conduct interviews that generated several feature articles which appeared in many local newspapers as well as the Los Angeles Times. Channel 6 in Ventura broadcast an interview with myself and former Commissioner Long where we were given an opportunity to discuss the Commission and our special efforts surrounding the Women's Political Appointments Coalition. Special appreciation is extended to Steve Weingardt for his assistance in putting this program together. Although we have made some gains in bringing the Commission and its purpose to the forefront, I often find that the work it does remains very low profile and is unknown to other than active, organized women's groups. Special attention to increase knowledge of the Commission in the County would definitely enhance its endeavors. The Commission is one of the Board's greatest successes and it should be capitalized upon.

As Chair of the Commission I had the opportunity to generate special efforts to meet and make presentations to various women's organizations throughout the County regarding the Commission's work. I was particularly pleased to be able to make a presentation to a formal women's group at the Naval Weapons System in Port Hueneme. Not surprisingly, they are having difficulty with child care and establishing an on-site day care center. I was pleased to find they are interested in participating in the Child Care Council in Port Hueneme, an effort supported

by the Base Management. This cross-cooperation between the local government and the federal government is encouraging and can only benefit our communities in the long run.

CHILD CARE

Child Care, an early and successful project of the Commission continues to be of concern and is being monitored. As with any successful project the special interest groups whose primary task is to deal with child care are now ably handling the responsibilities and the Commission's role is to provide support rather than leadership in this area.

HOUSING

Homeless and housing issues are becoming more critical and in meeting this need Commissioner Scovill is actively monitoring housing matters by attending meetings of the various groups throughout the County and keeping the Commission informed on these issues. Her particular interest and dedication to this area is of great benefit to the Commission.

BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTERS

Commissioner McGrath continues her efforts to monitor and lobby for legislation affecting women, particularly issues surrounding domestic violence and crimes against women. She is also serving as the Commission's liaison with the two battered women's shelters in the County. I was pleased to be able to join her on one of her visits to the east-valley shelter and was very impressed with the accommodations and services provided to these women. I might add that during the course of our visit, Commissioner McGrath personally offered her home to a Non-English speaking resident whose time limit at the shelter was close-at-hand and had no place else to go.

LEGISLATION

Commissioner McGrath, at her own expense, has spent considerable time in Sacramento lobbying on our behalf on serious legislative matters. As a result of her efforts the Commission joined with other women's organizations throughout the State of California in support of legislation dealing with critical issues facing women in California today.

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

One of the areas identified as a need in Ventura County was the need for intensive leadership training and awareness for women. Although leadership training was incorporated into the Women's Political Appointments Coalition Workshops, no specific emphasis was placed on the matter during the past year. It would be appropriate for greater attention to be focused in this area in the future.

ADMINISTRATION AND ORGANIZATION

The Commission took a proactive approach to solving some of its own budget problems by reorganizing the Commission office and reevaluating the services it provides. Late last year long-time employee and herself a former Commissioner, Bonnie Warrington left her part-time employment with the Commission for a full-time position with the Housing Authority. Prior to this the Commission, as a result of budget cuts, lost another part-time clerical position. As a result of Ms. Warrington's resignation the Commission was left in the position of operating without staff for several months. It was a very difficult time given the fact that most of the Commissioners are fully employed and serve only as volunteers to the Commission. The Commission maintained a respectful level of service and primarily staffed the office with volunteers Gwen Hutchinson and Celeste Weingardt, who now serves on the Commission. Both women, in addition to the Commissioners who gave freely of their time to keep us up and running are extended a heartfelt thank-you for their dedication and devotion to the Commission. In addition to the other duties, as Chair of the Commission during this difficult time, I found that many of the office tasks and clerical responsibilities fell on my shoulders. Access to the office was limited to the hours of PSSA and made it difficult to accomplish certain business given the fact that I work during the same hours the PSSA offices are open. As a result of my experiences and the number of hours devoted to administrative and clerical tasks during the staff vacancy, I have serious concerns about the success of the Commission if it does not receive some staff assistance from the Board of Supervisors. Although volunteers assisted us during the staff vacancy, there must be management, direction, guidance and consistency in the operation of the administrative duties of the Commission, a responsibility that presently befalls the Chair of the Commission.

Over the course of its ten year existence, my observation of the role of the Commission has seemingly grown from an appointed advisory body to the Board of Supervisors to informal status as an on-going Department of the County. The Commission regularly provides ombudsman and support services on behalf of individuals, non-profit organizations, professional associations, other County Departments and businesses on behalf of the County of Ventura. The Commission is also seen as a conduit by County personnel and Departments to the Board of Supervisors in addressing matters of particular interest and concern to

women. Examples of matters brought before the Commission include, but are not limited to: health care issues; out-reach programs for incarcerated women and repeat offenders; legal, sexual harassment; spousal abuse and violence; and problems experienced in the District Attorney's Child Support Division both internally and externally, etc. The capacity to provide these services will be eliminated if no staff assistance is provided to the Commission. With increased communication by the Commission For Women with agencies established to serve the particular needs of women and families, these services can be successfully handled by non-profit organizations. The Commission may want to focus efforts in this direction given the fiscal constraints placed on the County by the State and the subsequent elimination of funds being allocated to the Commission by the County.

At some point it may be meaningful to clarify the purpose of positioning the Commission For Women under the auspices of the Public Social Services Agency rather than the Chief Administrator's Office or the Board of Supervisors. As Chair I found guidance from the County to the Commission confusing and lacking at times, particularly with regard to County policy it was expected to follow but was not especially familiar with. Commissioners are appointees of the Board, directed to serve the Supervisors but are accountable to the Public Social Services Agency as a part of its budget. This provided fertile opportunity for conflict, which for the most part was successfully avoided. Although the Commission did have staff expected to be familiar with County regulations this did not always prove to be the case. The Commission staff appeared to serve as an independent contractor rather than a representative of the County. If at some point the Commission has a renewed opportunity for staff assistance, I would highly recommend intensive training on the special nuances that surround operation of a Board, Committee or Commission affiliated with a governmental agency receiving public funds. As a City Clerk I brought a special knowledge to the Commission with regard to the Brown Act, Conflict of Interest Laws and Governmental Finance Policy that it would not normally have. This information is critical to the success of an appointed body, if for no other reason than to keep it "out of trouble, and from over-stepping its authority". The Commission is a political appointment and has at times dealt with political issues; as an off-shoot of the County Government greater support on operational procedures can only enhance its effectiveness. It is my recommendation that the Board of Supervisors appoint a County staff person as Liaison to attend the meetings of the Commission For Women and to advise it on appropriate actions it may take. Appointment of a Liaison to the Commission may also provide clarity of the Board's expectations of the Commission. Options may include rotational attendance by Board staff or an on-going appointment of someone from the CAO's office with flexible work hours structured to eliminate any over-time requirements to attend the Saturday meetings. Appointment of a Liaison or more direct Board involvement may

produce such positive results as eliminating the Commission's propensity to re-structure its organization with by-laws changes, reformulation of its goals based on changes in appointments and personal concerns of the members, and the on-going conducting of survey's to solicit information which may be readily available given a Liaison's access to County information.

There is no doubt the Commission has taken a leadership role in addressing the needs of women and families in Ventura County and pioneered action in several critical areas such as child care and family law; however, since its formation in 1981 significant advances and gains have also been achieved as a result of the increasing formation of numerous non-profit and professional organizations sponsored and organized specifically for women to deal with matters affecting women. I believe it critical that the essence of the purpose of the Commission For Women, from the perspective of the Board of Supervisors, be clarified before it can get on with its work in an effective manner. This is particularly important at this junction, given the budgetary and staff changes already implemented.

The steps the Commission took to address the fiscal crisis facing the County were a vital approach to reaching a more efficient level of service and economizing within the budget constraints placed upon us by the County of Ventura during the past year. As a result of these efforts a finance committee made of up executive board members was formed to handle financial matters of the Commission, particularly finances surrounding special events it sponsors. In addition to its County budget, the Commission now has an independent bank account with funds acquired by donations and fundraising to help support some of its on-going activities and special interests to help eliminate the need for public funds to accomplish its work. The Commission is a governmental entity and guidance on expenditures should be provided by the County to insure appropriate compliance with public policy and Board philosophies.

The Agenda process and packets were revised making it easier to conduct business at our monthly meetings and to reduce associated costs and labor. Taking the entrepreneurial approach a \$15 per month subscription fee was implemented to off-set the Commission's expenses in providing agendas and minutes to interested persons. The Commission also established a very cooperative relationship with the PSSA staff and now has a more open line of communication. Both B.J. Fitzgerald and Jan Butler are to be commended for their support of the Commission and its efforts while maintaining their first-line priority of serving the goals of the PSSA.

Lynn Sovich was hired by the Commission early this year to fill the vacancy left by the resignation of Bonnie Warrington. A competitive recruitment was held

and an oral board consisting of myself, Commissioner de la Selva and PSSA Representative Jan Butler made the final selection. Although only with the Commission for a short time and, gratefully in-line with the loss of funding for staff, Ms. Sovich was forced to resign as a result of her husband's employment relocation. She energetically and professionally reorganized the Commission office and created a very efficient, professional and organized operation. Lynn is to be commended for her professionalism and dedication to the Commission in her short tenure.

Much of the Commission's energy and effort has been directed at maintaining programs the past dictated were needed, such as Women's History Month, Salute to Women Awards, Survival Skills Day (now called the Women's Resource Fair), and the Family Law Forum. Some of these events have been adopted by other women's organizations, some have remained the responsibility of the Commission, and some have been returned to the Commission (Women's History Month). All of these events were important and may need to be maintained; however, I believe precious time is spent by Commissioners planning and coordinating special events. It may be more important for the Commission in its ready-made leadership capacity to focus its attention on more crucial matters affecting a greater number of women, such as pay-equity, sexual harassment, homelessness, health care issues and teenage pregnancy. Non-profit and professional women's organizations need to take the lead role in maintaining the early efforts of the Commission on its establishment of such programs as Women's History Month and the Salute to Women Awards. Commission efforts presently underway to seek "adoption" of these events by other organizations should be intensified to free the Commission to explore new paths.

CONCLUSION

There is an abundance of dedication and commitment by many members of the Commission For Women, each individual gave what they could. Commissioners brought truth, creativity, efficiency and dedication to the table in addressing the needs of the women and families in Ventura County as they saw them. It was a challenging year, fraught with many unforeseen difficulties around budget and staff reductions.

In addition to economic woes facing government today it is undergoing intensive scrutiny by the public and is being forced to reevaluate its role and the services it provides. The Commission For Women has played a formidable role in shaping policy around women and families in Ventura County and should continue to do so; however, it too must reevaluate its role and the services it can and should provide to best serve its constituency, women and families.

COMMISSIONER'S IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONSVCCFW

<u>COMMISSIONER</u>	<u>MILES</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>MISCELLANEOUS</u>
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DISTRICT 1

Bysshe	200	50	\$ 260
Jones	150	18	\$ 0
Weingardt	113	25	\$ 20

DISTRICT 2

Breyman	626	255	\$ 0
Harris-Murray	470	35	\$ 7
Scovill	3448	149	\$ 203

DISTRICT 3

Harrion	32	17	\$ 0
MacDonald	1,886	556	\$ 350
McVerry	200	247	\$ 0

DISTRICT 4

Lawrason	898	75	\$ 0
Maurer	120	10	\$ 0
Rogalsky	835	173	\$ 0

DISTRICT 5

de la Selva	221	132	\$ 0
McGrath	200	66	\$ 0
Thomas	1,300	560	\$ 0

TOTAL	10,699	2,368	\$ 483
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The highlight for 1991 for the Health Care Committee was their participation in the Pap Clinic held in Colonia, sponsored by the Ventura County Hispanic Nurses Association. The Commission was one of the largest financial supporters of this event. The Commission not only gave financial support, but several members worked that day assisting where needed. Over 100 women (primarily low-income, spanish speaking) received pap smears and breast exams.

In conjunction with AIDS Walk 1992, Maria Luisa Jimenez came to speak to the Committee. Ms. Jimenez is the primary AIDS educator for Las Clinicas del Camino del Real. Her work is focused on educating workers at farm labor camps.

The committee also continues to monitor the Ventura County Satellite Clinics (i.e. South Oxnard Clinic). Members conduct periodic visits to check to see that health care needs of area women and children are being met.

Proposed goals for the upcoming year include:

1. Continue to monitor activity of clinics and issue a report.
2. Continue participation in Supervisor Kildee's Health Care Forum.
3. Monitor Assembly Bill 321: Existing law contains a variety of programs which provide health care services for pregnant women and young children. This bill, among other provisions, will enact the Healthy Children Act of 1991, and require the Department of Health Services to establish a comprehensive program to provide prenatal services to pregnant women, and child health care to children under 12 years of age, for all women and children who are ineligible for the Medi-Cal program and do not have health insurance coverage for all of the services provided for under this bill.
4. Continue participation in Pap Clinics sponsored by Ventura County Hispanic Nurses Association.

Anna McVerry, Chairperson

Committee Members: Judy Bysshe
Mary Jones
Connie Lawrason

Marilyn Maurer
Pat Harris-Murray
Eliza Thomas

The Program Committee was established this year as an umbrella for various on going programs sponsored by the Commission. These programs are the Women's History Awards, Law Forums, Salute to Women Awards, and the Resource Fair.

Women's History Awards Program

A successful Women's History Awards Luncheon Program was held on March 14, 1992 at the Radisson Suites Hotel in Oxnard. Two educators, Diane Dowler and Geraldine Wilson as well as community activist, Diane Zeamba were awarded the Erica Neville Memorial Alice Paul Award for furthering the goal of "making women in history come alive in the classroom". It was well attended by 185 people.

Law Forum

On Saturday, June 27, 1992 the Commission's Fourth Annual Family Law Forum was held at Oxnard College Library. The day-long discussion on legal issues of concern to women was free to the public. Issues discussed by the professional panel of attorneys and judges included: Initial Considerations in a Divorce, Community Property Issues, Child Custody and Visitation, Child and Spousal Support Issues, Enforcement of Support, and Child Custody Mediation. A similar forum is in the planning stages for Simi Valley and Ventura.

Resource Fair

The Committee is currently planning a Resource Fair to be held at the Esplanade Mall during the month of September. The Resource Fair will provide information of services that are available for women and children throughout the county. It is expected that there will be twenty-five or more community agencies involved.

Salute to Women

1991 Salute to Women was held on August 11, 1991 at the family ranch of Judge Charles and Beverlee McGrath. Beverlee is a member of the Ventura County Commission for Women. Women of Achievement for 1991 were as follows:

Category and Winner's Name:

"The Arts"

Marianne Torrance Elcar
Santa Paula

"Business"

Juanita Sanford
Oxnard

"Health"

Mary E. Schrock, R.N.
Oxnard

"Education"

Jacqueline Richardson
Simi Valley

1991 Women of Achievement Continued

Category and Winner's Name:

"Community Service"

Dorothy J. Engle
Thousand Oaks

"Law Enforcement"

Lisa C. Ragone
Ventura

"Media"

Nancy S. Cloutier
Ventura

"Young Woman of the Year"

Melissa M. Macias
Santa Paula

This year the Commission will hold its annual Salute to Women of Achievement on October 18, 1992 at the Hilton Hotel in Oxnard. The Ventura Professional Women's Network will co-sponsor this event. This moves us forward in our goal of partnership and involvement among women's groups in Ventura County.

Carol Ann Breyman, Chairperson

Committee Members: Judy Bysshe
Connie Lawrason
Stacey MacDonald
Virginia Rogalsky

Jeannette Scovill
Aurora de la Selva
Eliza Thomas

Shelter services for the victims of domestic violence and their children are being provided by Interface in East County - Simi Valley, and by the Coalition Against Household Violence in West County - Ventura. The contracts awarded by the County of Ventura, Public Social Services Agency (PSSA), for provision of these shelters are in accordance with Chapter 146 of the Statute of 1980, Welfare & Institutions Code Section 189290 et seq.. Funding for contracts is provided by the County Domestic Violence Programs' Special Fund, commonly referred to as Presley money or the Presley Bill.

The Commission for Women's Representative, Beverlee McGrath, assists in monitoring these shelters through on-site visits, review of statistical reports, and meetings with Directors of Services. On a quarterly basis, she reports her finding to PSSA's Program Manager and to the Commission for Women.

This year, due to the additional stress on families caused by the economic crisis in Ventura County, both battered women shelters are operating at full capacity. These shelters continue to provide supportive programs for women and their children such as counseling, baby sitting, and educational assistance. The environment is warm and inviting, the premises are well kept and clean, and the staff is very caring.

Women from all races and economic classes can find themselves in an abusive relationship. Often women will endure abuse rather than leave a "secure" environment. Both of these facilities offer 24 hour staffing, clothing, food, and toiletries making the transition from having someone else providing for you to being the provider easier.

Beverlee McGrath
Women's Shelter Monitor

Housing Committee representative Jeannette Scovill has met with agencies and community organizations requesting either a speaker from the Commission or participation in on-going work to provide adequate housing for women and families in Ventura County.

NETWORKING FOR HOUSING IN VENTURA COUNTY

VCCFW is a member organization of "Networking" and Commissioner Scovill serves on the Board of Directors. This program seeks to pool resources to provide funding for construction of affordable housing or modification of existing housing to meet pressing need. Commissioner Scovill spoke before the Moorpark City Council during April regarding "Block Grant" funds. The presentation was a follow-up to a written request for funding. Each city has been invited to contribute to and seek grants from the "Networking" loan fund. Applications are accepted in the fall. Six Ventura County cities have contributed to this fund and are within the "entitlement area".

CITIZEN PLANNERS OF VENTURA COUNTY

Commissioner Scovill is Chair of the Board of Directors and President of the Tri-Valley Environmental Committee which is parent to Citizen Planners of Ventura County (CPVC). CPVC published a workbook of environmental planning principles for sustainable living in Ventura County. The book "Vision and Principles" represents Phase I of a seven series phase project. This project seeks to involve citizens in planning new development and directing re-development that is environmentally sound while still providing sustainable communities including affordable housing accessible to all. Commissioner Scovill has conducted six community planning workshops during the spring of 1992 and this work is ongoing.

VENTURA COUNTY APPLICATION FOR FUNDING FOR FAMILY SELF SUFFICIENCY GRANT PROPOSAL TO HUD.

Commissioner Scovill served on Committees organized by Rochelle Stephens of the Area Housing Authority to seek funding for a model program to pre-date mandated programs to encourage "family self-sufficiency". The charge of the HUD program is to coordinate the efforts of PSSA agencies to work together to assist families in breaking away from welfare dependency, and to acquire skills and leverage to purchase housing.

FORUM ON THE NEEDS OF WOMEN WHO ARE HOMELESS-MARCH 19, 1992-VENTURA
Ventura County Commission for Women's Representative, Jeannette Scovill attended this event. She made a presentation on the Commission, meeting times and opportunities for public involvement and/or comment.

The most notable accomplishments in Ventura County child care during the past year include Federal Block Grants, Family to Family Initiative, and Week of the Young Child celebrations.

Federal Block Grants were recently received and are the result of the efforts of the Child Care Planning Council which was established in June 1991. The council, formed with the help of Supervisors Lacey and Howard, included representatives from school districts, colleges, city representatives, home day care, and youth services. Through a series of public hearings and community meetings, the council developed a plan identifying the local priority of child care needs as shown:

- #1 SCHOOL AGE 56%
- #2 INFANT/TODDLER 22%
- #3 SPECIAL NEEDS 20%
- #4 PRE-SCHOOL 12%

Federal grants totalling \$750,000 have been received to date. The recipients of these funds include Child Development Resource, Santa Paula School District, Child Development, Inc. and Ventura School District. There is hope that additional Title 4A funding may come through which would help provide for transitional child care, emancipated minors, and quality control.

The Family to Family Initiative is a National program funded by Mervyn's/Dayton Hudson Foundation. It is a three year program presented through the cooperative effort of Child Development Resource, Oxnard College, and the Family Daycare Associations. This is a project to recruit and train family child care providers. It offers a basic 1 1/2 unit (24 course work hours) child care course that focuses on health and safety, child development, behavioral activities, and business and record keeping aspects of home child care. Additional courses are offered in advanced provider care, certification, and accreditation. A total of 140 people have participated in the Family to Family beginning classes, 40 in accreditation seminars, and 30 in providers Child Care Initiative Project. The Child Care Initiative Project is a recruitment and training project for new home care providers in Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, and Camarillo which receives half of its funding from local businesses. Some of the Ventura County sponsors participating in this project are GTE, Conejo Los Robles Regional Medical Center, Bank of America, the Conejo Valley Employers Child Task Force, 1st State Bank of the Oaks, Rockwell, and Ventura County Community Foundation.

Family to Family is designed to become institutionalized by December 1993, the end of its third year.

Ventura County is also one of only 25 designated areas to receive funding for a supplemental "Child Care Aware" project which was launched July 1992. Its purpose is to educate parents; help them identify quality indicators in child care and provide comprehensive referral information. Child Care Aware plans to

have a float in the County Fair Parade, information tables at Mervyn's and Target stores and they also plan to have a booth at the Commission for Women's Resource Fair this fall.

The week of the Young Child was observed this past April with well attended "Day in the Park" celebrations throughout Ventura County. There was also a rally held at the County Government Center with the theme "OUR HEARTS ARE IN YOUR HANDS". The annual Ventura County A.E.Y.C. banquet on April 9th honored people in six categories for outstanding achievement in child care. Additional awards were presented to six accredited family child care providers and seven accredited centers.

The Commission for Women is committed to improving, expanding and promoting quality child care and will continue to support these efforts through active participation with the Child Care Network and other agencies with similar purpose.

Celeste Weingardt
Child Care Liaison

Under the direction of Commissioner Kathy Long, co-chair of the Ventura County Commission for Women, the public meetings of 1991 culminated in a workshop entitled "DON'T BE LATE FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT". This event was co-sponsored by the American Association of University Women (AAUW), Thousand Oaks branch. The workshop was held in conjunction with the already planned District 2 outreach for 1991. This triad of cooperation proved very successful. The active planning period attracted talented community women.

The mission of the workshop was to raise the level of understanding of the appointments process, assist women getting appointed, publicize the newly compiled WPAC Talent Bank form, and to encourage women to participate in WPAC and file a Talent Bank form. Additionally, participants were informed of the broader work of the Commission for Women and asked to complete a "needs assessment" compiled by District 2.

"Don't be Late for your Appointment" was held Saturday, October 5, 1991 at Thousand Oaks Library. Speakers included Ventura County Supervisors Kildee, VanderKolk, Lacey, and Howard. Other speakers were Susan Rose, former Executive Director of the Los Angeles Commission on the Status of Women, Barbara Pieper from Governor Wilson's office, Judy Lazar and Elois Zeanah, Councilmembers for Thousand Oaks, Stella Spray, Oxnard City Planning Commission and Laura Newman, former Ventura County Planning Commission member.

Several Ventura County Supervisors assisted in the publicity and preparations for this event. WPAC members are indebted to Supervisor Magie Kildee who encouraged them to form this coalition and made time to prepare a public service announcement for local television, to Supervisor Vicky Howard for giving them an interview at the Women's Fortnightly Club in Moorpark that was aired on television, and to Supervisor Maria VanderKolk for preparing a public service announcement and for reviewing and offering important suggestions for the "needs assessment survey". Jeannette and Peter Scovill filmed and edited television clips and distributed them to cable companies. Celeste and Stephen Weingardt distributed them to major networks. The workshop drew 130 interested women.

Commissioner Long stepped down from the Commission for Women to accept a position as Aide to Supervisor Kildee. She was succeeded by Commissioner Scovill as Chair of WPAC mid-term.

The Commission for Women co-sponsored three women's day events at local colleges:
Creative Options-Cal Lutheran University-March 7, 1992
Camarillo Women's Day-Oxnard College-April 11, 1992
Oxnard Women's Day-

Literature was available and workshops were held featuring information on being appointed to Boards and Commissions. Leadership training, designed by Commissioner Stacey MacDonald, Chairperson was also included. Chairperson MacDonald and Kathy Long led each of the three workshops. The members of WPAC would like to thank Kathy for her continued interest and participation.

A second "DON'T BE LATE FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT" workshop was held Saturday, May 9, 1992 at the Ventura County Government Center. This event was co-sponsored by the Ventura County League of Women Voters under the direction of Katie Fellows. Commissioner Scovill attended unit meetings in Ojai, Oxnard, Ventura, and Thousand Oaks as well as the joint monthly meeting.

Forum speakers included Ventura County Supervisors John Flynn, Maggie Kildee, Maria VanderKolk. Other speakers were Carol Whiteside, Women in Government Assistant Secretary, Intergovernmental Relations, State of California, Susan Rose, Kathy Long, and Kris Kuzmich from Jack O'Connel's office. Commissioner Chairperson Stacey MacDonald was a panelist and conducted leadership self awareness exercises. This event attracted approximately 70 interested women.

Thanks to Supervisors Flynn, Erickson Kildee, and VanderKolk for their time in filming public service announcements to publicize this event. Also thanks to camera operator Peter Scovill, editor Jeannette Scovill, and distributor Celeste Weingardt.

WPAC meets the second Wednesday of each month. The members would like to thank Rochelle Stephens of the Area Housing Authority for hosting meetings during the spring. During summer and fall of 1992 meetings will be held at the Camarillo Airport Conference Center. Upcoming plans include a series of "brown bag" lunches to meet mentors and another "Don't be Late for your Appointment" workshop scheduled for November 14th in Moorpark. Congratulations to Celeste Weingardt, newly appointed Commissioner and first WPAC "graduate".

JUDY BYSSHE

Judy Bysshe was appointed to the Ventura County Commission for Women in January, 1992. She is serving on the Health Care and Program Committee, was a member of the Women's History Program Planning Committee, and is Chair of the Teen Pregnancy Committee.

Ms. Bysshe is currently Assistant Principal, Curriculum and Instruction, at Buena High School. She is also the President of the Ojai Film Society, an officer in Ventura Administrators' Association and an officer in Association of California School Administrators.

A 26 year resident of Ventura, Commissionner Bysshe attended U.C. Berkeley as a Russian major. She has spent 23 years in education and has been involved in a variety of community endeavors. She devotes her time to education, the environment, the arts, and equity issues for minorities and women. Because of her close ties with the schools, she is particularly concerned about teen pregnancy, gangs and girl's involvement in gangs, and equal job opportunities for young women. She is also concerned about the pervasive socialization through the media which defines women, and men's and women's relationships with and attitudes toward one another.

MARY JONES

Mary Jones has a Masters Degree in Nursing from University of California Los Angeles (UCLA). She has been a Registered Nurse for twenty two years and a Nurse Practitioner specializing in Women's Health Care for sixteen of those years.

Mary currently has an independent solo practice as a Nurse Practitioner. She is a part-time instructor for the UCLA School of Nursing and also works part-time for Ventura College in the Student Health Center.

In addition to her busy work schedule, Mary publishes a bi-monthly newsletter entitled Women's Link to Health. She has also produced a video entitled Menopause 90's Style. Mary enjoys presenting seminars on issues pertaining to women's health.

Mrs. Jones is on the Board of Directors for Big Brothers-Big Sisters in Ventura County, is a member of Toastmasters, and is also involved with various women's organizations throughout the county. Her appointment to the Commission for Women began in November 1991. She is a member of Leadership Development and the Health Care Committee.

Mary is married and the mother of two children; Joseph, 19 and Michael, 11.

CELESTE WEINGARDT

Celeste Weingardt was appointed to the Ventura County Commission for Women in April, 1992 by Supervisor Susan Lacey. Celeste states that she had always had an interest in government but had no idea how she could fit in until she attended a meeting of the Women's Political Appointments Coalition (WPAC). There she learned about the Commission for Women; through which she is now able to be actively involved and utilize her enthusiasm and expertise. Commissioner Weingardt is an executive member of WPAC, liaison to the Child Care Coordinating Council, and a member of the Family Law Forum planning committee.

Ms. Weingardt feels that the Commission is in a position to make an appreciable impact in this community as a rallying point for women's issues. She would like to see it become an even more visible force in the County by distributing a newsletter, using a mentor program for WPAC, and holding lunch time "brown bag" speaker's meetings in addition to the various forums and special events already being sponsored. She also feels the Commission should pursue the use of public access television to bring subjects of importance to a greater number of women as well as step up efforts to work in conjunction with other established women's organizations with common goals.

Celeste is a Graphics Artist for Miller Magazines. Her husband, Steve Weingardt, is Regional Manager for Century Cable. They reside in Ventura with their two children; David, 12 and Allison, 6.

CAROL ANN BREYMAN

Carol Ann Breyman was appointed by Supervisor Maria VanderKolk in January, 1991. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Education from Arizona State University and currently attends graduate school at California Lutheran University. Carol's diverse background includes five years as Executive Director of Phoenix Special Programs, Inc. (a non-profit educational corporation), agent for Coldwell Banker and manager of Beck Realty. After finishing her degree, Carol combined this experience and became a program consultant to business and schools. She conducted a needs assessment and designed community school programs for Creighton Elementary School District. Her community and political involvement led her to serve as manager of the campaign office for her friend, Carolyn Warner, when Ms. Warner ran for Governor of Arizona.

During Ms. Breyman's tenure as a history teacher at an inter-urban high school in Phoenix, she was the Academic Decathlon Coach and gifted facilitator. She served as school representative to the District's U. S. Core Competency Program. At the school level, she participated in developing a U.S. History outcome based curriculum. Her interest in education extended to serving as a counselor for Phi Delta Kappa's Western camp for prospective teachers for two years prior to moving to California.

Her specialty, "women's history", as well as her experience as a single woman for 15 years led to an interest in women's issues. This interest was further intensified as she saw the needs of unresolved women's issues reflected in students she taught and led to the acceptance of an appointment to the Commission for Women.

Since joining the Commission, Carol has served on the Women's Resource Committee and has been a liaison to the Child Care Coordinating Council. She was Chairman of the 1992 Women's History Award luncheon and is currently serving as Chairman of the Program Committee. Commissioner Breyman is also an active member of the Women's Political Appointments Coalition.

In addition to her work with the Commission, she has served on the Policy Committee of the Ventura Schools' Federal Credit Union and in April, 1992 was elected to their Board of Directors.

PAT HARRIS-MURRAY

Pat Harris-Murray was appointed to the Ventura County Commission for Women in May 1991 by Supervisor Maria VanderKolk. A registered nurse for over 18 years, Pat has been in private practice as a psychiatric nurse therapist for the last six years. Her practice specialties include adults with relationship issues such as: adult children of alcoholics, codependents, and adults with depression. She also teaches stress management and provides psychological support for persons living with chronic illness. Since 1986, she has been an instructor at The Learning Tree in Thousand Oaks and has taught such varied courses as meditation and relaxation, assertive communication, anger workshops, the mind/body connection, grief work, and therapeutic communication. She received their Teacher Award for Excellence in 1987 and 1990.

As a community volunteer, Pat has presented various mental health seminars and workshops throughout Ventura County. She has been a workshop instructor for "Creative Options - A Day for Women" at California Lutheran University every year since 1987.

Before earning her Master's Degree in Community Mental Health from UCLA, in 1985, Pat worked as a hospital nurse in the acute care units (ICU, CCU, and emergency rooms) of various Los Angeles hospitals. She worked as a staff nurse, head nurse and supervisor. In 1977, she moved to Ketchikan, Alaska and was the hospital's evening supervisor. In 1980 she returned to Los Angeles to continue her nursing education and worked as a staff nurse in acute care while attending college. In 1982 she married, Richard, and moved to Oak Park in 1986.

Pat had been looking for a way to become more involved in the community and to give back some of the gifts and joys she had come to know. Her work with women and their challenges on a daily basis combined with her varied background has given her a keen awareness of the issues faced by women in our society. She is a member of Leadership Development, Public Relations, and the Health Care Committee. Mrs. Murray is looking forward to further service on the Commission for Women.

JEANNETTE SCOVILL

Jeannette Scovill started her family and planted a backyard garden 28 years ago in Marin County, north of San Francisco. As her garden grew she began composting. As her family grew she developed a summer recreation program for the local elementary school and began backpacking in the Sierra Nevada mountains. She became a Training Director for the Camp Fire Girls of America and taught Camp Fire Leaders how to be resourceful in planning programming and in the use of recycled materials for craft projects.

In Gilroy, Jeannette initiated a program to provide a library for the local school and was a Cub Scout Den Leader. Working with the city and developers she implemented a water conservation program whereby Scouts installed conservation devices throughout the community.

In Salinas, Jeannette developed and implemented a Women's Re-entry Program for Hartnell Community College. She was elected to the California Post Secondary Commission where she represented 103 community colleges comprised of 1.25 million students.

Mrs. Scovill was the Maryland State Chairman of the Arts for Maryland's Women's Club. She also managed a company called Wrap-Away which has been featured on the Oprah Winfrey Show. When she and her husband came to Thousand Oaks, she managed a local vitamin store, then a health food store. As President of the American Nutrition Society, she provided the Conejo Valley with four years of nutritional education and taught allergy free cooking.

She is Chairman of the Board of the California Vegetarian Association, a statewide, non-profit organization devoted to improving our environment by promoting the vegetarian lifestyle. Jeannette has planned Public Access television shows which feature International Vegetarian Cuisine. She also produces, hosts, and edits a weekly show called "Focus on the Environment" which airs Tuesday, 7:30 p.m. and Thursday, 7:00 p.m. on Channel 8. In addition, Jeannette is President of the Tri-Valley Environmental Committee which brings Earth Day to our County. She was recently honored by the Department of Conservation as one of three recognized throughout the State for her individual contribution to recycling.

Commissioner Scovill is active in the Commission for Women. She is currently a member of the Executive Board, Program Committee, Leadership Development, Public Relations, Chair of Housing Issues, and Chair of the Women's Political Appointments Coalition.

LOIS HARRION

Lois Harrion was appointed to the Commission for Women on November 19, 1991. She resides in Camarillo with her husband, Milton, who is a teacher in the Rio School District. Their daughter, Karma, is currently attending Michigan State University.

Lois is a Registered Nurse and is Director of the Vocational Nursing Program for Simi Valley Unified School District. She is a lecturer and author of the nursing text, Professional Issues In Practical/Vocational Nursing. As a consultant and independent trainer specializing in Human Resource Management, she co-owns a consulting business, L'MARCA, based in Camarillo.

Mrs. Harrion is a member and past president of the California Association of Health Career Educators, a member of the NATIONAL BLACK Nurses' Association, and a past Vice President of the Ventura County Black Nurses' Association. In addition, Lois is an active member of St. Anthony's Church in Oxnard and is a member of St. Brigid's Church in Los Angeles.

Lois is a student of piano and enjoys running, reading, horseback riding, and singing.

STACEY B. MACDONALD

Stacey B. MacDonald is a 1990 appointee to the Ventura County Commission for Women in Supervisorial District 3, and served as the 1991/1992 Chairperson. She has spent most of her life in Ventura County and now, along with her husband, Jack, and their two children, 16 year old Carrie-Beth and 15 year old Jason, reside in beautiful Santa Clara Valley, city of Santa Paula.

Stacey has been associated with government at both the State and Local levels since the late 1970's. First as District Office staff in the 36th Assembly District and since 1982 served on Staff with the City of Santa Paula. She has held the elected Office of City Clerk in Santa Paula since 1984 and is also the City's Administrative Analyst. Stacey is presently serving as the Southern California City Clerk's Association President.

Ms. MacDonald is both professionally and personally active in the community supporting many volunteer efforts. She is a member of the Santa Paula Women's Club, serves as the City's liaison to Citizens Against Substance Abuse (CASA), and was appointed as the City's representative to the Ventura County Homeless Coalition.

Stacey has also been the recipient of statewide awards from professional organizations honoring her excellence and innovation for special projects relating to community improvement, as well as other public administration enterprises. As a Certified Trainer in professional and organizational development she participates and trains in a statewide program on leadership and professionalism for public officials. She has designed and participated in workshops and seminars focusing on personal and professional development for men and women in all areas and levels of local government.

Commissioner MacDonald is an active Chair and is a member of the Executive Board, Program Committee, Finance Committee, Teen Pregnancy Committee, Leadership Development, and Public Relations. In addition, she has been instrumental in planning two workshops for the Women's Political Appointments Coalition designed to help women get appointed to local boards and commissions.

ANNA MCVERRY

Anna McVerry was appointed to the Commission for Women by Supervisor Maggie Kildee in January, 1991. She is Chair of the Commission's Health Care Committee.

Anna graduated from U.S.C. School of Nursing in 1976. She has worked as a nurse at the Los Angeles County U.S.C. Medical Center, The Hospital for Sick Children in Washington D.C., as a visiting nurse in Los Angeles, and a pediatric nurse with the Ventura County Medical Center. While with the Pediatric Clinic at Ventura County Medical Center, she helped organize the hospital's first Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Clinic and Pediatric Neurology Clinic.

Ms. McVerry lives in Camarillo with her husband Kevin, an attorney, and their two daughters, 10 year old Catherine and 8 year old Margaret.

CONNIE LAWRASON

Connie Lawrason was appointed by Supervisor Vicky Howard, Fourth Supervisorial District, to serve on the Ventura County Commission for Women in January, 1991.

Ms. Lawrason states that she is really a "Domestic Engineer", however, her activities prove otherwise. She is Moorpark's citizen representative to the Citizen's Transportation Advisory Committee/Social Services Transportation Advisory Committee (STAC/SSTAC), is a representative to the Countywide Planning Program Citizen's Advisory Committee (CPP), and CPP's member to the Ventura County Agricultural Land Trust Advisory Committee. Commissioner Lawrason is involved in various other community activities including: Board member of Kiwanis International; Charter member of Kiwanis International Club; President, Board and life member of Moorpark Historical Society; Board and life member of Moorpark Beautiful Society; Board member and Treasurer of Ventura County Crime Stoppers; member of Moorpark Women's Fortnightly; Treasurer of W.O.M.E.N. of Moorpark Enjoying Networking; served on Moorpark's Disaster Council; served on the Conejo Y fund-raising group; and is a Board member of her Homeowner's Association. In 1988-1989 Connie served on the Ventura County Grand Jury.

In her role as a Commissioner, she serves on the Program Committee and is currently Co-Chairing the Annual Salute to Women Awards Planning Committee, is a member of the Health Care Committee, Finance Committee, and Executive Board.

Connie is married to Paul Lawrason, Teledyne Systems-Contract Management and first elected Mayor of Moorpark. They have two grown children and four grandchildren.

MARILYN MAURER

Marilyn Maurer was appointed by Supervisor Vicky Howard in March, 1991. She is currently a member of the Health Care and Teen Pregnancy Committee.

Marilyn is a retired school teacher from the Los Angeles School District. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree, Home Economics Major from University of California Los Angeles and holds a life California State teaching credential.

She is an active member in her community and is involved with Simi Valley's Neighborhood Council #2, Chamber of Commerce, Historical Society, and Cultural Arts Association. Ms. Maurer was the chapter organizer and five year advisor for the Future Homemakers of America. She is also a member of American Home Economics Association, Concerned Women of America, Intercessors for America, and the Right to Life Foundation. Marilyn also gets involved politically, she is a representative for the Simi Valley Republican Women's Club and past President, member of the California Federation of Republican Women-Southern Division, Ventura County Republican Central Committee, and a founding member of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Foundation.

Mrs. Maurer is married to Anthony L. Maurer. They are guardians to their neice, Michele. Marilyn has been a California resident since 1954.

VIRGINIA ROGALSKY

Virginia Reimer Rogalsky is a native Californian, having lived in Simi and Santa Rosa Valleys for the past twenty-five years. She has attended and received degrees from Moorpark College, California State University, Northridge, and the University of Southern California. After receiving a Master's degree in Library Science, she worked as a librarian for the Las Virgines School District and is currently working for the County of Ventura.

Since being appointed to the Commission in November of 1991, she has helped with the Women's History Project, is a member of the Program Committee and is Co-Chairing the June Family Law Forum. Commissioner Rogalsky is also a member of the Women's Political Appointments Coalition and worked on Anita Perez Ferguson's Congressional campaign. She has had a lifelong commitment to the improvement of opportunities for women in America.

Another strong commitment of Virginia's is to the preservation of our natural environment. Membership and editorship of the Audubon newsletter are on-going responsibilities. She organized the clubs' participation in this years Earth Day celebration.

Mrs. Rogalsky has been married for thirty-three years, has three children and one grandchild. Hobbies include gardening, reading, bicycling, bird watching, needlework, and quilting.

AURORA DE LA SELVA

Aurora de la Selva was appointed by Supervisor John Flynn in March, 1991. She is a Ventura County native, born in Ventura and raised in Oxnard. Commissioner de la Selva is a member of the Program Committee, Chair of the Resource Fair Planning Committee, Co-Chair of the Family Law Forum Planning Committee, a member of the Teen Pregnancy and Public Relations Committee, and an alternate for Housing Issues.

Aurora received a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from California Lutheran University and a Masters degree in Counseling Psychology from University of California Santa Barbara. She is a counselor at Oxnard College and previously worked at University of California Los Angeles doing research in the area of Schizophrenia.

Aurora has been involved in many Latino organizations concerned about youth development. She has also served on the Ventura Mental Health Advisory Board.

Her goal is to continue to work toward motivating youth to attend higher education and to assist women to achieve their educational goals.

Aurora lives in Oxnard with her husband, Roberto, and three children: Luis-20, Sergio-15, and Ivan-6.

BEVERLEE MCGRATH

Beverlee McGrath was appointed by Supervisor John Flynn in January, 1991. She is currently the Commission's Legislative Liaison, the Women's Shelter Monitor, and a member of the Teen Pregnancy Committee.

Beverlee is the lobbying coordinator for California Legislation dealing with animals used in produce testing. She is currently sponsoring Assembly Bill 3088 which deals with a statewide spay/neuter program. She is actively involved in her community as a member of the Ventura Humane Society, the AIDS Council, Membership Chairman for Ventura County Republican Women, Vice President of Big Brothers and Big Sisters, spokesperson for the Right to Life League, Catholic Charities Board Member, and Peer-Counselor at the Colston Home for Girls. In addition, she spearheaded and implemented a senior citizen's referral program, participated in forming the Cultural Council, and has served as Congressman Bob Lagomarsino's alternate on the Ventura County Central Committee. She has always been interested in community affairs and in the past has served as President, Vice President, Program Chairman, and Chaplain of Oxnard Republican Women.

Beverlee has worked as a featured nightclub entertainer working nationally as well as internationally. She has appeared in major films, television series, and numerous commercials. She received a decency award from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences honoring her work.

Beverlee has been married for 30 years to Superior Court Judge Charles R. McGrath, has raised four children, and is currently engaged in property management.

ELIZA THOMAS

Eliza Williams Thomas was appointed by Supervisor John Flynn in 1989 and Co-Chaired the Commission in 1990-1991. She is currently serving on the Executive Board, Health Care Committee, Program Committee, Treasurer of the Finance Committee, and a member of the Women's Political Appointments Coalition Workshop.

Eliza received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Nursing in 1965 from Florida A & M University, A Masters Degree in Nursing in 1972 and a Graduate Certificate in Gerontology in 1986 from the University of California, Los Angeles, and the University of Southern California. She has served as Assistant to Director of Health Sciences at Ventura College and has taught in this division since 1971. She has also served on various community advisory committees. Ms. Thomas introduced and was co-founder of Ventura County Adopt-A-Grandparent Program. She is active in the State Department of Education and presently serves as a consultant on recruitment and retention of disadvantaged students.

Eliza is the mother of two adult sons and a devoted grandmother. She has a special love for all people, a sincere interest in children and the aging population of adults 65 and over. Her major commitment is to help make our community a better place to live.

BONNIE M. WARRINGTON

Bonnie M. Warrington was Administrative Aide to the Ventura County Commission for Women through December 1991. Her involvement stretches back to its inception in 1981 when she served on various committees as a community member.

Bonnie was appointed to the Commission by Supervisor Jim Dougherty to be one of the representatives of Supervisorial District 4. As a commissioner she served as Executive Secretary, a member of the Child Care Task Force and was Chair of the Family Law Forum Task Force for which she was responsible for and implemented the first family law forum in 1988.

She is presently a Legal Assistant/Housing Counselor for the Area Housing Authority for the County of Ventura.

LYNNE A. SOVICH

Lynne Sovich was hired by the Commission for Women in April, 1992. She has a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration/Accounting from Plymouth State College. She worked for a major insurance company for ten years and left a management level position to raise her family. She moved to Ventura County three years ago and lives in Santa Paula with her husband, Michael, and their two sons-Nathan, 4 and Christopher, 2.

DIVISION OF RESPONSIBILITIES

SUPERVISING CHAIRS: (Group A)

Health, Leadership, Education, Programs/Events, Housing:

will oversee committee activities in their category in a supportive capacity to the committee chairperson

will respond to any calls, mail, inquiries to the commission regarding their area of responsibility (outside of active committee's scope)

will report to the commission any projects, concerns, topical items of interest to the commission

SUPERVISING CHAIRS: (Group B)

Executive (Commission Chair), Administrative (Commission Vice Chair), Finance, Public Relations, and monitors/liaisons: Childcare, Women's Shelters, Legislative, Commission's for Women:

will respond to any calls, mail, inquiries to the commission regarding their area of responsibility

will report to the commission any projects, concerns, topical items of interest to the commission

COMMITTEE CHAIRS;

Teen Pregnancy, Women's History, Salute to Women, Non-Traditional Job Training, Women's Political Appointments Coalition:

will set meeting dates, send out (or call) meeting notices at least 10 days prior to meeting.

will set agenda, direct the focus and efforts of the committee

will report regularly to the commission on the committee's progress

will submit any budget or motion items to the commission

will coordinate with public relations chair as needed

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

ADMINISTRATIVE	MONITORS/LIAISONS	FINANCE	EXECUTIVE
New Commissioner Orientation	Childcare	Budget	Agendas
Office Upkeep	Women's Shelters	Funding	Minutes
Referrals	Legislative		Annual Planning
Volunteers	Commission's for Women		Assembly of Representatives

HEALTH	PROGRAMS/EVENTS	EDUCATION	LEADERSHIP
(ACTIVE SUB-COMMITTEES)			
Teen Pregnancy Task Force	Women's History Salute to Women	Non-traditional Job Training	Women's Political Appt. Coalition

HOUSING	PUBLIC RELATIONS
Affordable homeless (M) Eco-home (M)	Press Release Coordination Newsletter

ISSUES/PROJECTS NOT CURRENTLY ACTIVE (an incomplete list)

Law Forum	Women TV Series	Resource Fair	Sexual Harrassment
Legal Issues	Low Income Women	Homeless Women/ children *	AIDS/Women
Senior Women	Mentoring Program		

(M) = monitoring

* Are currently monitoring, but not taking and active role