



Ventura County Commission for Women

FEBRUARY 1987

VCCW Issues

CALIFORNIA WOMEN: A HISTORY

is the theme for a luncheon to celebrate the first National Women's History Month, March 1987, and is also the title for a new book by the luncheon's guest speaker, Dr. Gloria R. Lothrop.

The luncheon, scheduled for Feb. 21, 1:00 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel, Ventura, will give county residents an opportunity to listen to Lothrop as she shares her enthusiasm for the women who helped to shape the colorful past of the American West.

Gloria Ricci Lothrop is a Professor of History at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, where she teaches the history of California and the American West as well as American women's history, the history of European minorities and the American Indian. Currently, she is co-editing a guide to the historical resources of California.

As Cal Poly's 1981 nominee for the California State University Outstanding Professor Award, Lothrop has also been honored by the California Historical Society, by Westerners International, and the Italian government. She was named the Outstanding Alumna of Immaculate Heart College, and has been the recipient of the Fulbright Fellowship, the Haynes and Oakley Graduate Fellowships and the Huntington Library/Haynes Research Fellowship. Presently she is serving on the Executive Board of the Los Angeles Council for International Visitors and the California Historical Society.

Lothrop's interest in the history of women, particularly the women of the west, began after eight years of teaching.

She said her realization that there was a need to know more about the women in our history came about the time Betty Friedan shared her thoughts about the need for fulfillment with the women of this country. Lothrop said her research uncovered astounding information about a variety of women who made a difference - like Theodosia Shepard, a woman from Ventura County who shipped tuberous begonias and seeds all over the country - but who were never mentioned in the history books.

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"By 1890, there were over 800,000 women living in the west, and they were not even referred to (in our history)," Lothrop said.

The awareness by many of the roles women have played in history remains an exciting area for Lothrop, and she enjoys sharing the information with others. She said the knowledge passed on to other women is like finding a new pride in ourselves as women.

The Feb. 21 luncheon, organized by the Women's History Project of Ventura County and the Ventura County Commission for Women, includes co-sponsorship by the following county organizations: American Association of University Women, Camarillo Branch, Simi Valley Branch, Thousand Oaks Branch, Ventura County Branch, Women's American ORT-Ventura Oaks Region, Baha'is of Santa Paula, CAAN, Inc. (Child Abuse and Neglect), California Lutheran University Women's Resource Center, Creative Options: A Day for Women, Channel Islands Business and Professional Women, Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce, Delta Kappa Gamma, Eta Omega Chapter, Friends of the Commission, Tres Condados Girl Scout Council, Interface Domestic Violence Program, National Organization for Women, Ventura - Oxnard, New Ventura County Woman, Organized Parents Against Latchkey, Rape and Sexual Abuse Center of Ventura County, SOLO Project, R.O.P., Superintendent of Schools Office, Soroptimist International of Ventura, Ventura College Re-entry Center, Ventura County Coalition Against Household Violence, Ventura County Commission on Human Concerns, Ventura County Library Services Agency, Ventura County Women's Equity Coalition, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom

Prepaid reservations are necessary, and may be made by sending a check for \$12 per person, payable to The Friends of the Commission, to 2661 Tanglewood Drive, Camarillo 93010, by Feb. 16.

National Women's History Project Resource Catalogs are available from the Commission for Women office. Call 652-7611.

Re-Entry Services

The Ventura College Re-Entry Center is located on campus in building CL2. The center, headed by Dr. Priscilla Partridge de Garcia, is there to assist both women and men who are entering or re-entering college after a number of years away from an academic environment. Many services are offered to the re-entry student from how-to-register to career and personal counseling.

The center welcomes donations to help support their services and programs. If you buy flowers or gifts from "Ashwood on Main," 2538 East Main Street, Ventura, and say "Ventura College", the Re-Entry Center will receive a donation worth 5% of your purchase - and you'll get a ringing endorsement of the center's services from the shopkeepers.

The center sponsors a noon-time speakers' program on Tuesday, 12 noon - 1 p.m. To find out more about the Re-Entry Center, call them at 642-3211, extension 286.

CAHV on TV

The Ventura County Coalition Against Household Violence is pleased to announce they will be on the "Inside Out" program hosted by Rubin Botello.

Tina Pugliese, Board Member, Carole Doty-Kloepfel, Executive Director, and Alicia Tisnado, Shelter Manager will be interviewed on CAHV services to the community.

The program will be aired on Avenue Cable channel 6, February 3rd at 8:30 p.m. February 5th at 6:30 p.m. and February 6th at 7:30 p.m.

We encourage all those interested in the Domestic Violence issues to view this program.

California Commission

The State Commission on the Status of Women has identified four action areas for 1987: child care, economic equity, equity in education, and health care.

The Commission is currently seeking input from other commissions across the state for prioritizing the four areas.

Among the issues in the child care arena are affordability, employer assisted child care, latchkey programs, publicly-subsidized child care and state regulation of quality and licensing.

Under economic equity, the commission is looking at child support, equal credit opportunity, equitable community property division, homemakers' rights, housing affordability, and insurance and pensions.

A look at equity in education is needed in math, sciences and engineering, school athletics, sex equity and affirmative action programs, tuition and vocational education.

In employment areas, the commission would like to take a closer look at affirmative action programs, comparable worth and pay equity, equal employment opportunities, homemakers' rights, non traditional occupations and sexual harassment.

In health care, among the big issues for women are care of adults (in-home care, nursing homes, adult day-care, respite services), health insurance, health problems unique to women, licensing of midwives, maternity benefits, protection of fertility (i.e., protection from toxics, IUD, and other substances which are damaging), reproductive rights and teenage pregnancy.

Other areas of concern are crimes against women and children, specifically child abuse, domestic violence, police response to women victims, rape and victims' rights.

And finally, in the public assistance area, the state commission is concerned about Aid to Families with Dependent Children (AFDC), Medi-Cal funded abortions, pre-natal care services, Work Incentive Programs (WIN) and workfare/welfare.

The Solo Project Has Arrived!

This Project, offered through the Regional Occupational Program of the Superintendent of Schools, may be able to help you (or someone you know).

The primary goal will be the promotion of women into non-traditional occupations and assistance to employers in hiring them. A related concern will be quality child care. We hope to do this in several ways:

1. Develop a resource center of various current, attractive materials relating to female workers,
2. Offer a referral telephone service for County residents so they can connect with the most helpful social service agencies,
3. Coordinate our activities with the Commission on Human Concerns, and
4. Establish a SOLO Project Technical Steering Committee.

Participants should consist primarily of displaced homemakers, single heads of households and minority women although SOLO will welcome responses from any resident of Ventura County. The SOLO Project is funded through the State Department of Education and will operate through December 1987.

If SOLO can assist you, or if you can provide us with appropriate leads, resources or your own expertise, please call the SOLO Project at (805) 388-4222 between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. We look forward to hearing from you!

Educational Equity

We recommend two recent publications for up-to-date information on educational equity for women and girls. Single copies are available free directly from the publishers.

"Project SEE Update," (Sex Equity in Education), Fall 1986 issue. Write: Project SEE, California State Department of Education, P.O. Box 944272, Sacramento, CA 94244-2720.

"California Women," Issue III, 1986. Write the California Commission on the Status of Women, 926 J Street, Room 1506, Sacramento, CA 95814.

**MARCH IS
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!**

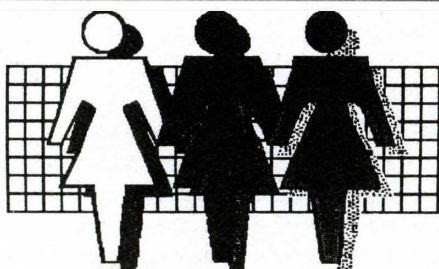
If your organization, school, workplace, community, etc., is planning a special activity or program for Women's History Month in March, 1987, please send an announcement of your plans to the Commission for Women office. We would like to publish a schedule of events and programs being held countywide. Please let us hear from you by February 14, 1987.

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To become a newsletter sponsor, please send a minimum contribution of \$25 to the Commission office at 505 Poli St., Ventura, CA 93001.



**Ventura County
Commission for Women**

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**VENTURA COUNTY
COMMISSION FOR WOMEN**

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