

CEWAER California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research

6631 Glen Oaks Way, Oakland, California 94611 415/ 339 - 0588

President, *Sue Hone*

Executive Director, *Suzanne Linford*

JUNE, 1977

CEWAER Helps Transition from School Board to Supervisor

by Helen Rudee, Supervisor, Sonoma County

Before I ran for Supervisor I attended the CEWAER October Conference "Now that You're In . . . What Next." Two members of my campaign came with me and took careful notes which we later discussed at great length. The workshops and session discussions were great transition lessons for me. The topics were those I was facing in my campaign and the panelists provided academic and "on the board" experience which were quite informative.

Again at the New Supervisor's workshop early this year after I had won my election, we all brought our experiences to the breakfast for the new women supervisors and shared them with other CEWAER members. In an hour and a half I gained extensive information which was very useful for me in my new position and which I had not needed when I was on the board of education.

My interest in CEWAER goes back a few years when I was invited as a school board member to participate in a panel discussion on education. I was impressed by the enthusiasm of the members, and their wish to share their experiences in order to help each other. I joined because I wanted to be part of this energetic, spirited group of women who strongly felt that we needed more women in politics. And who were willing to help women get elected and succeed.

I knew of no other organization or group who had the opportunity of collecting material for this purpose so conveniently as CEWAER did. And only CEWAER seemed interested in gather-



ing elected women's experiences with the public, the media, male politicians, bureaucracies, and other governmental agencies to be used by other women for their benefit. CEWAER seemed to know what was useful and was able to condense it and pull it together in a useful form. This has been very helpful and appreciated because women running for office are often too busy to do this kind of research and condensation.

One other feature that was most helpful during my shift from the board of education to the board of supervisors was my acquaintance with other women in politics whom I met through CEWAER. When I called them for information for a speech I was giving, they were very generous with sharing information on campaigning, meeting the public, working with me, working with politicians and fund raising. They also provided statistics on women in other top professional and administrative positions.

All of this information, some of it immediately available, other available in condensed form, was of inestimable value to me during my campaign year. No question seemed too insignificant to answer nor too complex to discuss.

I felt then and I feel now that CEWAER has the possibility of being a virtual library of information and resources to California's elected women.

President - SUSAN HONE, an alumna of the U. C. Berkeley Graduate School of Business Administration, has been a member of the Berkeley City Council since 1971 and became Vice-Mayor in 1974. Sue is currently a member of the Executive Committee of Association of Bay Area Governments, Executive Board of the East Bay Division of the League of California Cities and chairs the L. C. C. State Task Force on Employment and Training Programs. Sue has been a CEWAER Board member since 1974.

First Vice-President - SUSANNE WILSON received her B. A. in Political Science from San Jose State University. She has been a member of the San Jose City Council since 1973 and became Vice-Mayor early this year. Susie was a member of the National League of Cities Steering Committee for the Committee on Cities Environmental Quality and was Vice-Chair of the N. L. C. Nominating Committee of Women in Municipal Government. Among L. C. C. responsibilities were First Vice-President of the Peninsula Division and member of the Coastal Plan Review Committee. Susie is a founding member of CEWAER and has been a board member since its inception.

Second Vice-President - DIANE WATSON received her M. S. from California State University at L. A., majoring in School Psychology, and is currently in the Doctoral Program at Claremont Graduate School. Diane has been a member of the Los Angeles City Board of Education since 1975. Among her responsibilities are Board of Trustees for California Blue Shield and Board of Directors of Los Angeles Urban League.

Secretary/Treasurer - JANE TOLMACH, a recent candidate for the 36th Assembly District, received her Masters in Social Science from Smith and has been an Oxnard City Council member since 1970.

Jane is currently a member of the Transportation Policy Planning Committee of Ventura County Association of Governments, Executive Board of Southern California Association of Governments and is Vice-Chair of the Board of Directors of South Coast Transit Authority.

Immediate Past President - ANNE RUDIN, current CEWAER President and a founding member, is serving her second four-year term on the Sacramento City Council. Anne is on the Board of Directors for Sacramento-Yolo Employment Training Agency, the State of California Employment Services Board, and the Intergovernmental Procedures Act Advisory Council. A registered nurse, Anne is a past president of the League of Women Voters of California.

NOMINEES FOR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ARE:

ROBIN YOUNG became a member of the La Habra City Council in 1972 and was one of the first (two concurrently) elected women on that council.

VIVIAN DOERING, a member of the Escondido Union School District Board of Trustees for many years.

MARIE COLLINS was appointed to the Oakland-Piedmont Municipal Court in 1970 and was elected for a six-year term in 1972.

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE, a current CEWAER Board member, was first elected to the House of Representatives from the 28th District in 1972; previously she had been a member of the California State Assembly from 1966.

WILMA MUTH, the first woman on the Inyo County Board of Supervisors, was also the first woman on the City Council of Bishop.

Action Areas For CEWAER

(The following is condensed from a speech Yvonne Burke made at the recent CEWAER Annual Conference, May 13-14.)

CEWAER can have an important impact in researching methods and technology of using federal dollars to solve problems affecting women. But crucial to the use of that money is women's underrepresentation in the policy making decisions that come out of federal and regional commissions. For example, burglary is often given priority over family violence when the latter is a larger problem. If more women were members of the commissions determining where these funds should be spent, the priorities would change.

One of the largest problems that now exists in the United States is the lack of facilities for homeless women. Pilot programs are desperately needed for homeless women and their children, and CEWAER women could be instrumental in this area. For example in Los Angeles for every 100 beds for homeless men there are 4 beds for homeless women and less if they have children. Legislation attempting to deal with this problem is now pending.

Affirmative Action is another area where CEWAER women should take the initiative. When their cities apply for public works projects under public works legislation, they should be reminded of affirmative action guidelines in awarding contracts to firms who represent minorities and women. Women are greatly underrepresented in the best paying union jobs, particularly in the construction trades.

Perhaps the greatest challenge is in seeing that laws will solve social problems and balance inequities that exist for women and minorities.

Sue Hone on Networks

At the CEWAER conference following Yvonne Burke's speech, Sue Hone pointed out that there is no vehicle for women who

work in battered programs to contact each other and relate. This seems to be true of women working in other areas as well. Although substantial organization is developing among women in professional administration and elected groups.

Networks of women who can provide information, referrals and support for each other are of critical importance if women are to enter confidently and competently in fields traditionally reserved for men.

One of the priorities this year for CEWAER is to develop information resources and the channels that will carry that information throughout the state.

All of the pieces for developing a solid professional, political womens organization exist, and it is timely for us to put them together. Write and let us know your concerns and ideas for building a strong, effective organization.



Sue Hone

Yvonne Burke and Shirley Pettis, California Congresswomen are on the executive committee of a new, important caucus formed in April to bring women legislators together in working on legislation and regulations.

Of the eighteen Congresswomen in the House of Representatives fifteen have joined this non-partisan caucus and the potential for growth is good as more women are elected to office.

CEWAER Regionals New or Endangered Species?

The September newsletter will carry information which identifies and describes the new regional CEWAERs. Sightings have been made in the northern and southern parts of the state, and it is our intention through a program of conservation and education to locate a healthy pride of CEWAER Regionals before the end of the year.

If you have a contribution to make or questions to ask, contact the editor c/o 6631 Glen Oaks Way, Oakland, CA 94611.

Cracked Egg Breakfast

Rose Ann Vuich, State Senator, described her race for Senate at a breakfast hosted by CEWAER during the May League of California Cities Meeting in Sacramento.

Twenty-seven women attended, representing cities from Indio to Berkeley.

The speaker was interesting, the atmosphere stimulating and the consensus was that this kind of meeting should happen at every conference of elected officials.

HAVE A GOOD IDEA TO SHARE ???
PROBLEM TO SOLVE ???

CEWAER's library needs your information. Phone (415) 339-0588.

The need for an annual conference was discussed at the CEWAER Coronado Conference held May 13-14 at the Hotel Del Coronado.

Panelists and speakers covered such topics as Affirmative Action, Property Tax Reform, Juvenile Justice, Women in China and how CEWAER can influence current legislation. In addition women took time to discuss local issues.

In general it was agreed that an annual conference is a time for many things, and the shared support from women in office to other women in office was the best reason for getting together. Like all good conferences it was a time for renewal. We'll do it again!

FOCUS: Women of Achievement

Robin Young, Councilwoman from La Habra and CEWAER Board member developed a means of focusing the community on outstanding women when she promoted a very successful awards contest for distinguished women in La Habra.

The publicized and popular contest involved the entire community from the school board of La Habra to the county of Orange and culminated in a luncheon attended by one hundred and twenty people who came to watch the winners receive their certificates of appreciation for distinguished service in ten categories.

Nominations for the awards in Culture, Education, Religion, Business, Homemaking, Community Service, Sports, Medicine and Government Service came from the community at large and were processed by a steering committee. Not only was it a great morale booster for everyone involved, but it also helped Robin meet many people in her community.

If you want to develop something similar, contact Robin Young at 213:691-9945 or write c/o City Hall, La Habra, California 90631.

Meetings to Come (and go to)

June 11-15 Annual Conference of Mayors, Tucson, Arizona

June 16-19 California Convention of the National Commission on the Status of Women. University Southern California. Delegates will be selected for the national convention in Houston on November 18-21. For more information contact Lisa Hubbard and Jackie Basha, Room L1, Stoner Hall, USC, LA 90007. 213:747-5500.

June 23 California Women in Government. Bruce Altman will speak on "Small versus Large Organization - Choosing a Management Style." at the Luminaries Restaurant, 3500 Ramona Blvd. Monterey Park, CA - Noon, Lunch \$5.00.

July 22 CEWAER Board Meeting at San Jose Airport Conference Board Room, 10AM. The agenda will cover CEWAER's priorities for the coming year plus a financial report. All CEWAER members are invited.

September 8-9 National Women's Political Caucus Convention, San Jose.

FOUNDERS

- Yvonne Brathwaite Burke*
- Doris Davis*
- Pauline Davis*
- Diane Feinstein*
- March Fong Eu*
- Mary Henderson*
- Helen Kennedy*
- Maureen O'Connor*
- Ivy Baker Priest*
- Helen Putnam*
- Anne Rudin*
- Pat Russell*
- Marilyn Ryan*
- Renee Simon*
- Susanne Wilson*

CEWAER Presidents

- 1974 - 1976 *Pat Russell*, Councilwoman, Los Angeles
- 1976 - 1977 *Anne Rudin*, Councilwoman, Sacramento
- 1977 - 1978 *Sue Hone*, Vice mayor, Berkeley

September 25-28 Annual Conference, League of California Cities, San Francisco. For more information call your local League of California Cities Office. --- If you have information on upcoming conference that would be of interest to elected women, please notify the editor.

Please enter my Membership as Voting _____ Affiliate _____ Sponsoring _____

Name (please print) _____

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Dues: \$15.00 _____ Donation: \$ _____ Total enclosed \$ _____

CEWAER would be pleased to receive your resumes for inclusion in our talent roster. Mail this form to California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research, 6631 Glen Oaks Way, Oakland, CA 94611. Yearly dues for Voting, Associate and Affiliate membership is \$15.00.

If you don't need to fill out a membership form, pass it on to someone who does!



California Elected Women's Association
for Education and Research

JUNE

JULY

*AUGUST

AUGUST 15, TIME TO SEND INFORMATION IN FOR SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER. IDEAS TO SHARE, INFORMATION NEEDS OR QUESTIONS TO RAISE -- SEND TO SUZANNE LINFORD 6631 GLEN OAKS WAY, OAKLAND, CA 94611. (415) 339-0588. NOTES OF CRITICISM AND LETTERS OF PRAISE CAREFULLY CONSIDERED.