

Lots to learn at con

Lobbying presented by WSA members



Dianne Harkin

By Eva Tuck

Dianne Harkin and Dorothy Middleton, members of Women for the Survival of Agriculture presented this workshop.

They suggested first and foremost, that groups or individuals identify an issue. Then, be sure to write down the correct facts and have back up material in reference to your issue.

Next, find others who are interested in the same issue, and get them to do some of the research too. (You can never know too much about a topic when you are lobbying!)

It is important to try to get the feeling of the public on your issue, so you know what you are up against and who is likely to support your stand. Also, get the media involved in your lobbying effort, but be sure to give accurate information to ALL newspapers, radio and TV stations.

One way of drumming up more support when you are lobbying is to get invited to speak to other organizations. Make them aware of the issue.

Once you have everything ready to present your issue, perhaps in the form of a brief for instance, make sure you look the part. Don't wear your barn clothes and use a briefcase to carry all your support materials. Make sure the clothes you do wear make you look important. A suit is often a good choice.

Finally, plan a strategy. Think about how you are going to present your issue, when and to whom to be most effective.

The workshop leaders suggested women are the best people to do lobbying because they are likely doing it all the time and not knowing it!

Be careful at all times, officer says

By Beth Burnett

This workshop was conducted by a constable of the North Bay Police Force.

His message could be summarized in the following way. In all areas of crime, the best offense is the best defense — be careful at all times.

Rape

Women of all ages are victims of rape. Do not walk in dark or shaded areas. If you are going out at night, do not go alone. Keep your car doors locked when driving alone. Be sure all doors and windows are securely locked. Use only your surname and initial in the telephone directory.

If attacked, scream loudly and aim for the eyes of the attacker with your finger nails to gouge or scratch. High

heels can cause pain if driven down on the arch or foot of the attacker. Escape if at all possible.

Burglary

Most burglars work from dusk to midnight. In apartments, the favored time is midnight to 3 a.m., with July and August being peak months as people are off on holidays. Thefts also increase in December.

Organized criminals are interested in:

1. TV and stereo equipment
2. Furniture, jewelry and clothing
3. Collections of stamps, paintings, guns etc.

Check your home to eliminate dark areas, shrubbery near windows and doors, fancy deep door wells — anywhere a criminal can hide easily. Be sure all doors and windows are

continued on page 22



Be Aware Workshop