

- Maine Lesbian Feminist Newsletter -  
May 1979

Meeting Notes, March 24, 1979

Deb Stahler, scribe

The day long MLF gathering at Mary McIntyre's home in China Me. included a business meeting, workshops, pot-luck meals, and night-life. Workshops offered were: Gardening, massage/healing, and political issues.

The morning meeting included and airing of what MLF is and should be to meet our needs. Also discussed was the question: "Should we accept Eastside's (gay bar in Augusta) Tuesday/Women's night offer?" Some felt it nice to have a place for women to socialize while others thought Tuesday was an off night, inferior offer. The issue was not resolved. Volunteer sheets for various MLF work-positions were distributed.

Afternoon meeting notes:

A. Announcements:

Next MLF meeting will be held in Belfast, May 12. All volunteer positions, HAVE volunteers. Others are welcome to offer their time at the May 12th meeting or by contacting the newsletter.

Womenspace is available! The Hungry Hunza in Portland has space (40 people) for MLF or related events Monday and Thursday nights. Contact Sparky: phone #774-3221 in Portland.

Maine Women's Lobby reports Laffin's Anti-gay bill is the #1 target for defeat. The Lobby supports the Gay-rights bill. For information or to donate money/become a member of the Lobby, write: MAINE WOMEN'S LOBBY P. O. Box 15, Hallowell, Maine 04347.

B. Discussions:

Volunteer positions: Volunteers are still needed for: Newsletter, Membership, etc. Those who have volunteered will report on their activities at general meetings.

MLF defined: It was agreed (without dispute) that MLF should provide both a political forum and a social outlet for its members (and our sisters).

Belfast Women's Center? There is space above the Grasshopper in Belfast to house events for Women. Some members from Belfast envision holding two dances/month. Anyone interested in helping to organize dances, etc. may contact the newsletter.

Publicity for MLF. We discussed how MLF could reach more Women. Someone suggested putting personal ads in local newspapers. Several members volunteered to place the ads. Others are welcome.

The meeting ended with a new dedication to continue and grow into a more fulfilling organization.

Announcements & Information:

An anthology of writings by Jewish Lesbians is being put together by Five Jewish Lesbians who live in the Boston area. Submissions or for more information write to, Shepa Koyech, P.O. Box 6050, Boston, Mas. 02209, before June 1st.

"The Gay Report: Lesbians and Gay Men Speak Out About Sexual Experiences & Life styles" written by Karla Jay & Allen Young - was published May 16, 1979 by Summit books - price \$14.95.

A new Monthly feminist journal "Full Circle" can be gotten by writing to and sending \$7.50/yr. to: P. O. Box 235, Contoocook, N.H. 03229.

"Children of Gays" by Renee Epstein - Is in the process of being written, she would like help, if interested call toll-free, 1-800-223-0180 or write: West 75th st., NYC, N.Y. 10023.

Barbara Ruth announces publication of her third book: "The Politics of Relationships": Lesbian Poems of Love and Struggle. Send \$2.50 plus 25¢ handling to: Barbara Ruth, 5111 Longbranch, San Diego, Calif. 92107.



New statistics' Have you Heard? Lesbians have fewer cavities. Oral sex strengthens the teeth.

"Songs of Fire: songs of a Lesbian Anarchist" by Kathy Fire. Send \$6.00 to Kathy Fire, 5111, Long Branch, San Kiego, Calif. 92107.

Dolores & Nadine have a 2-bedroom mobile home for rent in Hollis --quiet country spot with small garden space available. \$165. plus utilities. Available immediately. Call 727-3904 for details.

Waking at the Bottom of the Dark a new book of poems by Jan Clausen, a founder and editor of Conditions, a fine magazine of women's writings with an emphasis on writing by lesbians, is available from Long Haul Press, P. O. Box 592, Van Brent Station, Brooklyn, N.Y. 11215 \$3.00 + 50¢ postage.

The Women's Writer's Center, Inc. Williams Hall, Cazenovia College, Cazenovia, N.Y., 13035 Tel.: 315-655-3466 ex. 138 Contact: Sherry Sylvester. It is an independent institute for the education, Support & Study of women writers and "combines a supportive community of emerging writers with the practice & experience of Resident & Visiting Faculty."

Star Film Library was formed to make good politically relevant films available to low income groups otherwise unable to afford commercial rentals. Star Film Library, 120 Boylston St., Room 707 Boston, MA 02116.

Pamir Productions, P. O. Box 40218, San Francisco, CA 94140 is looking for contributions for a book of "Gay Women's EROTICA"

Lesbian Herstory Archives, P.O. Box 1258, N.Y., N.Y. 10001 announces a National Lesbian Photograph Drive" to end the legacy of lost faces" to "help us make sure our future sisters will be able to see us." All Photos welcome.

Rumor has it...not to eat raisins at Kathy and Debbys' house. Debby has a new pet rabbit named biscuit. (Remember Ruby Fruit Jungle?)

1-800-452-4601 Call this toll free number fro information about the current status of the sexual prefrence bill, L.D. 860. Call and then take appropriate action.

### In Praise of Thirds

While birds in twos by custom build their nests,  
Though lovers hand in hand will walk, a pair,  
And coupled too are eyes and lips and breasts  
As if in union each is made more fair,  
I shall against that alchemy of two  
An incantation make of three for you.

Two eyes are married in the thing they see;  
Two breasts when joined must then a heart confine;  
Full lips without a tongue would silent be;  
To join two points there needs to be a line.  
When two together coupled wish to come,  
It can most pleasantly with thirds be done.

Since you and she have wanted to combine  
Your joyous hearts and limbs in linkage sweet  
But found your hearts alone best intertwine  
For you a third could make love's ring complete.  
So though I know how deep in love you be,  
No reason that not to make love with me.

Karen Saum



## open conversation

remember color coded messages sent wildly,  
 never with texture, never with names;  
 mute colors expected that waved and spun  
 flags in the fog to signal  
 shallow seas, high winds, risk.

where is the language of sounds,  
 the round, swollen phonetics of need  
 put away once for safe keeping/

look threads now, count rows,  
 draw together dozens of small  
 substantial nets; drop them deeply  
 inside the places that echo-  
 patiently, pull gently, sound travels slowly.

Barbara Maria

Dates to write into your calendars!

The Womens' Counseling Service is offering workshops:

"Becoming the Person you Want to be" - Sat. May 5, 11 - 4 p.m.

"Getting in touch" - Exploring our sexual needs, expectations, fears  
 and fantasies, - five Thurs. nights, starting May 10th..all day June  
 2nd and 3rd.

"A Massage Weekend" - May 19 & 20 Fee \$10. - \$20.

Must Pre-register for each workshop. Call 729-8272 or write "Women's  
 Counseling Service, 72 Front St., Bath, Me.

A Bi-National Lesbian Conference will be held in Toronto, Canada on May  
 19 - 21, 1979, for more information write: Loot, 342 Jarvis, Totonto,  
 Ontario.

June 10th - "N. O. W. State Conference" at the Portland YWCA, 87 Spring  
 St., 9a.m.-5p.m. All are welcome to attend! Judy Goldsmith, the National  
 Executive Vice-president will be the keynotespeaker with a full day of  
 workshops following- Pre-registration \$3.00, at the door \$5.00. Checks  
 should be made out to N.O.W. and sent to: Melanson, 44 Grove St.,  
 Kennebunk, Me. 04046.

\*\*\*\*\*Audre Lorde\*\*\*\*\* This wonderful poet will read her poetry at Colby  
 College on Friday, May 4, 1979 at 7 p.m.

Maine Women's Lobby Road Race Saturday May 5, at Run For Your Life Facility  
 on Old Granite Road in Manchester (outside Augusta near intersection of  
 Rt. 202 & Rt. 17) Registration \$3.50. 2 mile race begins at 11 a.m., 5  
 mile race begins at 11:45 a.m.

Tues/Womens' night at Eastside is happening on the 1st and 3rd Tues. each  
 month.

Maine Women's Lobby Board Meeting is open to all members: Thursday, May 10,  
 4:30 to 8:30 at Maine Teachers Association in Augusta.

"The First Annual Festival of Women in the Arts" to be held May 13, 1979  
 (Mother's Day), in the Hyatt Regency Cambridge Grand Ballroom. Activities  
 will include Theater, Dance, Symphony, Jazz, and will be followed by an  
 open wine bar reception. For more information write 367 Boylston, Boston,  
 Mass. 02116 (617) 267-8518

\*"Berkly Women's Music Collective" Band/Feminist Folk, Rock & Blues,  
 Saturday, May 12 at 8 p.m.

\* "Wallflower Order" A Six Women Dance Collective from Oregon,  
 Friday, May 18 at 8 p.m.

\* Both programs to be held at Paine Hall, Harvard University (617)  
 628-4692.

Free Child Care.



More Dates

A Gay Rights on Washington is being planned for October 1979. A Northern New England Area Conference for the March on Washington is being held in Bellows Falls, Vt., May 5 & 6 for all interested lesbians & gay men. Child care, interpreters for the deaf, food & housing is available. For information call Sarah 802-257-7643.

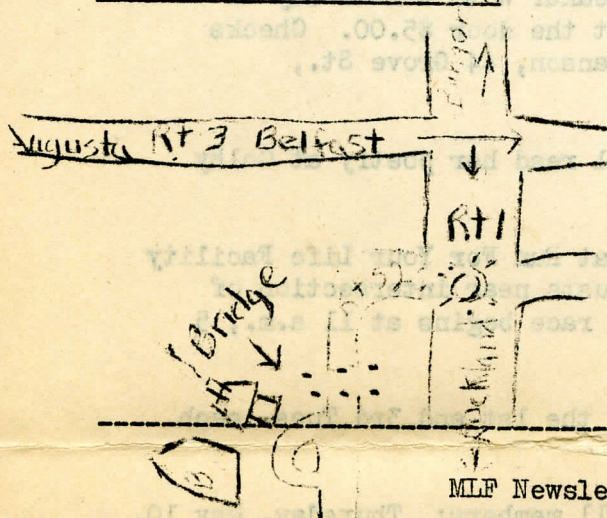
TERESA TRULL with Debbie Porges Sunday May 6, 3p.m. & 7:30p.m. at Boston University. Suggested price \$4.50 - Tickets available at: Amarath: 354-8371- Mass.; Women's Exchange: 661-2059, Mass.; Women's Bookstore: 791-5127, Mass.; Mailorder: 124 Amory St., Cambridge, Mass., 02139.

The Second National Gay Health Conference to be held May 18-20 at Hunter College in New York City. Bernice Goodman, MSW. and Henry Messer, MD, are scheduled as Keynote Speakers. For further information write National Gay Health Coalition at 55 West 26th Street, No. 402, N.Y., N.Y. 10010. Tele.: 212-725-0114

Wallflower Order Dance Collective, a women's dance collective from Eugene, Oregon, is tentatively scheduled for May 20, at the Newberry Street Guild in Portland. They work for a balance of art & politics. For more information call Joni at 773-0899 or write to 155 Brackett St., Portland, Me. 04102.

Agenda for MLF Meeting Sat. May 12th at Joanne and Joyces' in Belfast.

- 11-12 Morning Hello's and Lunch, bring your own.
- Workshops or Free time
- 12-1 New comers
  - Woman craft - Rebecca Wave
- 1-2 Lesbian Relationships - Majorie Meyer
- 2-3 Herbs - Fauna & Barbara
- 3- GENERAL MEETING - bring MLF Questionnaire
- 5- Pot Luck Supper
- 7-12 Dance and party - Downtown Belfast, third floor above the shop called Grasshopper on Main st. - enter door to the right of the Grasshopper and follow the signs - Refreshments will be available or bring your own - small cover charge - womens Music brought to you by Rebecca.

Directions to the meeting:

Coming from Portland or Waterville, take Rt. 95. From Waterville last exit before Toll. From Portland first exit after toll. Follow signs to Belfast Rt. 3. Take Rt. 3 to Rt. 1 South. Follow Rt. 1 to blinking lite. Hang right onto Rt. 52. After you go over little bridge first house on right. From inter. of Rts. 1 & 3, 1 mile to house.

Call 338-2366 if you get lost.

MLF Newsletter Subscription

MLF needs your \$5.00, our yearly rate, in order for us to continue the newsletter, it cost money to send it out, please contribute as much as you can if not \$5.00. All contributions are more than welcome and needed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Send to: MLF  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ P. O. Box 125  
 Belfast, Maine 04915

Membership Form For A Friend

I enclose \$2 \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 \_\_\_\_\_ \$25 \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for support and membership in the Maine Women's Lobby. Please make checks payable to Maine Women's Lobby and mail to MWL, P.O. Box 15, Hallowell, Maine 04347.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Legal Residence (Town) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_