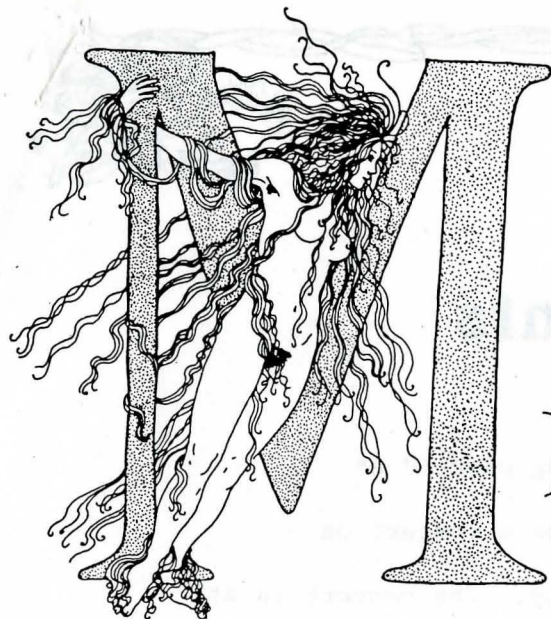


May 184



# MAINE LESBIAN FEMINIST NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter has undergone another change - after long and loving service, Catherine has decided not to work on the newsletter any more. She has done such a wonderful job that I know she will be missed. For myself, I had not counted on this much responsibility with the newsletter and I cannot offer the artistic extras that made our newsletter so special. Is there an artistic woman out there who would like a space to share her talent and work with us to help make our paper special again? Also, without more help and interest than we have now, I will not be able to promise any regularity in publication; all I can say is that we will do our best to continue to get out a paper as often as possible. If anyone would like to help, if only once in a while, write to MLF, Box 125, Belfast, 04915 or call Donna at 342-5069. Thanx.

\* \* \* \* \*

"Men define intelligence, men define usefulness, men tell us what is beautiful, men even tell us what is womanly."

Sally Kempton



## Calendar Events

- \* June 15-17 Kay Gardiner: Music and Healing weekend at Blueberry Cove. Part of the weekend will be a concert on Saturday, June 16 and can be done separately. The concert is at 8 pm and costs \$6.00.
- \* Blueberry Cove has many other events this summer which will be announced as appropriate. They have 30 acres on the estuary at Tenants Harbor, are open for women's events all summer long - contact them for further information.
- \* Step-parents Support Group - A few lesbians in Northern/Central Maine have begun meeting twice a month to discuss step-parenting and offer support to each other around the issues of being a lesbian step-parent. We invite more women in similar situations to join us. Contact Nancy (469-7737) or Dottie (862-4697) for more information.
- \* Women-Quest, A Transformational Journey, Box 606, Newburyport, Ma., 01950  
Canoe Trip - July 15-21. Penobscot River, Maine. Beginners welcome.  
Mt. Kathadin - July 30-Aug. 4. For women with eating disorders.
- \* Women's Motorcycle Festival '84, upstate New York, Aug. 24-27. For info. write W.M.F. '84, 7 Lent Ave., LeRoy, N.Y. 14482 or call (716) 768-6054. Open to first 200 paid entrants.

- \* Hardscrabble Hill, Castine Rd., Box 130, Orland, Me. 04472  
(207)469-7112. Hardscrabble Hill is a woman's residential retreat center offering workshops from spring to fall in such things as carpentry, poetry, song, healing, writing, counseling and more.
- \* The new "Free to Be" gay/lesbian AA meeting reaches recovering alcoholics throughout Central Maine. This meeting is at All Souls Unitarian Church on King St. in Augusta at 7:30 on Fridays. There are also lesbian/gay AA meetings in:  
Portland - First Parish Unitarian Tues. and Thurs. at 8 pm  
Bangor - Unitarian Church Thursday at 8 pm.
- \* Feminist Spiritual Community - every Mon., 7 pm, State St. Church, portland
- \* Gay Health Action Committee - iregular Mondays, Portland. 775-5540.
- \* Gay Parents Support Group meets Wed. evenings at 7:30 at the USM Student Union, 92 Bedford St., Portland. For more info call 780-4085 or 772-4741.
- \* 6th Annual Southeastern Lesbian Writers Conference to be held in central Georgia June 7-10. Help us learn to tell our own stories. For more info send S.A.S.E. to: WOMONWRITES '84, 7134 5th Ave. No., St. Petersburg, Florida, 33710.



# TAKE BACK THE NIGHT 1984 COALITION

WE ARE EXCITED!! WE ARE ORGANIZING!!

FRIDAY, JUNE 1 RALLY - speakers on rape and domestic violence\*

*June 2*

WEST MARKET SQUARE, BANGOR - 6:30 PM

*June 3*

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL MARCH, BANGOR - 8:00 PM

SINGALONG, UNITARIAN CHURCH, BANGOR - 9:00 PM

IN CELEBRATION OF OUR UNITY AND POWER TO STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN.

## WE NEED YOU!! JOIN US!!

PLANNING

MEETINGS

THURSDAYS, MAY 3, 10, 24, 31 - BANGOR PUBLIC LIBRARY - 7:30 PM

"TAKE BACK" THE NIGHT EVENT - ACCESSIBLE TO HANDICAPPED

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT 947-4690 OR RAPE CRISIS CENTER, 942-7442

*child care available — \*rally rain site: Unitarian Church, 6:30 P.M.*

The TAKE BACK THE NIGHT 1984 Coalition invites you to participate in Maine's third annual TAKE BACK THE NIGHT event. We hope to encourage hundreds of women to join us in our efforts towards ending violence against women. Following is our tentative schedule of events:

June 1, Friday evening

a women's dance to kick-off the weekend (and your shoes) at the Portland YWCA.

June 2, Saturday

a full day of workshops at U.S.M., Portland, to include sharing of information on self-defense for women, domestic violence, incest, rape, lesbian battering, sexual harassment, pornography, and various films.

an evening rally and march through the streets of Portland to reclaim women's right to be out in the night free from violence.

June 3, Sunday

a women's breakfast and open discussion of ways to implement our goals on an everyday level in our local communities, at the Portland YWCA.

### WALDOBORO DAYS TRIATHLON

The Waldoboro Days Triathlon on Saturday, June 23rd will be a race of canoeing (5 miles), running (6.2 miles) and biking (25 miles) for the "iron person" or for relay teams of two, three, four or more members. Young or old, fast or slow, yin or yang, well seasoned or not, all can participate. You don't even need a canoe; any self-propelled boat will do. You don't even need to be able to do the whole distance; several people could run the 6.2 miles, for instance.

The idea is to have a good time and to support a good cause. All proceeds will go to the Family Violence Project and New Hope for Women which provide shelter and services for battered women and their families.

So come on all you strong women! Get together and find some one with a boat and bike and enter a team in the Waldoboro Days Triathlon. Get some good exercise in the beautiful outdoors of Maine's coastal villages. AND - help keep the doors of the shelters open to those women and children in need.

For additional information and an application form, send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Waldoboro Days Triathlon, P.O. Box 304, Augusta, ME 04330 (623-3569).

- \* Theatre Rhinoceros presents: The National Lesbian Playwriting Contest. The contest offers a first prize of \$1000.00 and production, a second prize pf \$500.00, and the opportunity for playwrights to make connections with and have their work read by directors and theatre artists. Send script and SASE and/or inquiries to: Playwriting Contest, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. #9, San Francisco, CA. 94103, or phone (415)522-4100.
- \* In August, The ADVOCATE - the national gay newsmagazine - will publish its 400th issue. To celebrate, they are planning to honor 400 men and women who've made significant contributions to the gay movement. They've asked us to send in up to 10 names for consideration. These people should be from our area and we need to send names and phone numbers and addresses so they can send a questionnaire which will determine whether or not they will be accepted as one of the famous 400! MLF will forward these names if any of you want to nominate someone.
- \* Rhode Island Feminist Theatre presents its Tenth Annual Tour Show called 2082 REVUE. It is a delightful comedy which embraces serious topics of concern for today's audiences. The show employs new talent from Rhode Island to England. "Come laugh, come cry, come along 100 years with us." For info write to RIFT, box 9083, Providence, R.I. 02940 or call (401)273-8654.

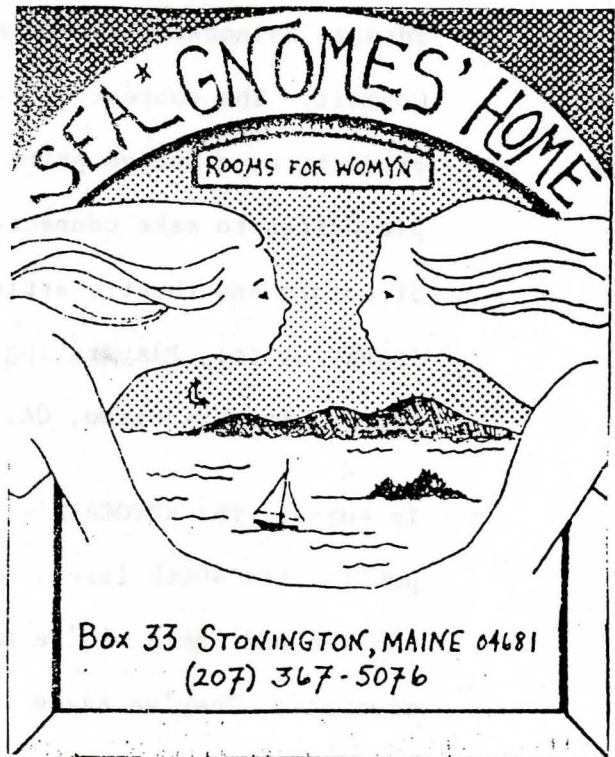


# FEMINIST SUMMER CAMP FOR GIRLS



**June 24-July 20, 1984**  
**South Central Pennsylvania**  
**Ages 8-16**

Mountain Meadow Country Experience  
Rm. A-205  
243 W. Tulpehocken St.  
Philadelphia, PA 19144



## Identifying gender

*Susan Brownmiller recounts a childhood experience as evidence of how gender is identified in American society.*

"We had a game at our house called 'setting the table' and I was Mother's helper. . . . Placing the cutlery neatly, as I recall, was one of my first duties, and the event was alive with meaning. When a knife or fork dropped to the floor, that meant a man was unexpectedly coming to dinner. A falling spoon announced the surprise arrival of a female guest. No matter that these visitors never arrived on cue, I had learned a rule of gender identification. Men were straight-edged, sharply pronged and formidable; women were softly curved and held the food in a rounded well. It made perfect sense, like the diffusion of pink and blue that I saw in babies, an orderly way of viewing the world. Dad, who was gone all day at work and who loved to putter at home with his pipe, tobacco and tool chest, was knife and fork. Mommy and Grandma, with their ample proportions and pots and pans, were grownup soup spoons, large and capacious. And I was a teaspoon, small and slender, easy to hold and just right for pudding, my favorite dessert."

Source: *Femininity* by Susan Brownmiller

USA Today

# HEY QUEER!

## Every Day in this Country

- millions of people still live in fear of these words
- thousands of our people are dying with AIDS
- in employment and housing there is legalized discrimination
- in city streets and parks we are beaten by punks and police
- in court-rooms our children are taken away from us
- in the armed forces we are kicked out or thrown in jail
- at borders and ports our people can be barred from entry

## One Day in San Francisco

Ten of thousands of us will march to a rally at the site of the Democratic Convention. There, the best spokespeople of the Lesbian and Gay community will speak out against the oppression of our people. Convention officials estimate the media audience to be between 500 million and 1 billion people.

## NATIONAL MARCH

FOR

## LESBIAN/GAY RIGHTS

SUNDAY, JULY 15th — SAN FRANCISCO ▼ 1984

The National March endorses include the Lesbian/Gay Democratic clubs of San Francisco, the National Gay Task Force, the National Coalition of Black Gays, and the California Chapter of N.O.W. This historic opportunity to reach hundreds of millions of people will occur in less than 60 days. Help us speak out for equality not only for yourself—but for the millions who are forced to remain silent.

### If You Could

tell 500 million people about Lesbian/Gay rights for \$25, would you do it?

- ☐ Yes, I can become a Sponsor for \$25 or an Angel for \$100
- ☐ List my name in the official March Program.\*
- ☐ Send me a Program and Button. (Add \$1 for postage & handling).

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address/City/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Send checks or money orders to **NATIONAL MARCH FOR LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS**  
2301 Market St. Suites A, B & C, San Francisco, CA 94114 (415) 863-5005

\*Your name will remain confidential if you do not mark this box. Those who wish to remain anonymous may send money orders and leave the name above blank.



# In Case You're Interested---

The MLF newsletter committee has information about the following items.

Call Donna Light at 342-5069 if you'd like to know more about:

- \* Steering Our Course: Feminist Education in the 80s, 6th annual conference, June 24-28 to be held at Rutgers University
- \* Women's Wilderness Experience, Jeanie Mudd, p.o. box 4861, Santa Fe, NM 87502. They have many trips and experiences all over the country.
- \* 13th Annual International Women's Writing Guild Conference: Aspects of Transformation II, Skidmore College in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., July 27-Aug.3 We have a lot of information about cost and accomadations as well as what kinds of things will be happening or write: Hannelore Hahn, Ex. Dir., IWWG, PO Box 810, Gracie Station, N.Y., N.Y. 10028, tel. (212)737-7536
- \* We also receive each month several women's publications from around the country and it seems like it would be a nice idea to start a kind of lending library which would make it possible for others of you to read and experience what is happening out there in the rest of the world - out of the woods, you know!



# POETRY

Sweeter moments love has not known:  
Tears mingled with the heat of sweat  
That streams and pools beneath cotton sheets  
Reminiscent of a flowered summer day.  
We sail beyond the last star  
Into a world of arms that hold  
And hearts that beat with sole intent.  
There is no need for magic,  
For conversations that dim the sparkle of our sighs:  
You are all I desire to know so late this night.  
Dreams have no more power over  
That which your passion has made real.

-- Lydia Chapman --

I am afraid  
today  
I feel naked and  
unprotected  
today  
No one seems to realize that  
I am not sure  
today  
I am not strong or  
full of myself  
today

please  
treat me with  
love  
today

D. Light

# ADVERTISING ~

Subscriptions to MLF are available for \$8.00 a year (more if you can, less if you can't).

Send to MLF · Box 125 · Belfast, ME 04915



**C**ome to Waterville ~

for 1 1/2 hours of soothing massage by Bette. ~

call 873-5926 for an appointment.

## JKS

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Printing  
at reasonable  
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342-5946



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MLF is printed by JKS copy-printers, Searsport, Me.

\* A Lesbian-owned business



Advertising Rates: Full page - \$10.00,  
Half Page - \$5.00, Quarter - \$2.50  
Single page flyer inserts -  
\$5.00/100 .....

Small ads such as roommates,  
sex, etc. = \$2.00