

# the Common SCold

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a women's newsletter, Portland, Maine

Oct. 1983 [No. 34]

ATTENTION ALL OUR READERS!!!! A mistake was made in last month's issue. The theme "Women and Spirituality" is for our November issue, not October. The deadline is October 10. Thank-you to all the women who submitted articles for that issue. They will appear next month, and there is still time to send in more. The theme for the January issue will be "MEMORIES". The deadline will be December 10th. The theme for March will be "SCIENCE FICTION"!!!!!!!!

Chris Madsen, a lesbian who was fired by the Christian Science Monitor because of her sexual preference, will speak at Our Books, 4 Pine Street, Portland, at 7:30 P.M. on Friday, October 14. Chris is suing the newspaper and will discuss her case. Donations to her legal defense fund will be requested. Refreshments will be served.

The Economic Justice for Women Project, a project of the Feminist Spiritual Community, and other local groups are planning a "Let 'Em Eat Cake" carnival as a part of the First National Let Them Eat Cake Sale set for October 1, 1983. A repackaging of the old-fashioned bake sale "in politically-themed cake boxes, satiric carnival games and educational activities to raise consciousness about the effects of Reaganomics and place human alternatives on unforgettable display." Money raised will go to the groups which organize and run the sale. We believe the sale will be taking place in Monument Square at noon; but check this out. Call Donna Jones, 772-0266 or 774-6396.

The Yellow Wallpaper by Charlotte Perkins Gillman, performed by Pamela Ryan, YWCA, 8-11pm, Friday Oct. 28th, \$3 donation.

AN EVENING WITH MAY SARTON: The Margaret Fuller Forum of the All Souls Unitarian Church, Augusta, presents Maine poet May Sarton in a special evening's performance Saturday, October 22, at 8 P.M. at the Kennebec Performing Arts Center, Water St., Gardiner. Her program, entitled "Kinds Of Love, A Poetry Reading," and, according to Sarton, is a new arrangement showing loves such as love of place, parents, friends, and lovers. The presentation has nothing, however, to do with her novel of the same title. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

MAINE WOMEN IN THE ARTS will be holding its annual meeting on Saturday, October 29, from 8A.M. to 4:30 P.M., at the Portland School of Art. In addition to lectures, demonstrations and performances, there will be an open forum for discussion of issues, concerns and needs of women artists and a one-day show of work in the new Baxter Gallery at the Portland School of Art. Meet old friends, make some new ones, cross boundaries, connect, organize and act. Celebrate women's creative energy by sharing the day with other Maine women artists. For further information, call Cindy Barnes at the Portland School of Art, 775-3052. The day will include a dance performance by Claudia Finkelstein and Deborah Young, accompanied by Terri Eisen on the piano, and a poetry reading by Nicole d'Entremont.



## AUCTION!!!

### YWCA Workshops - Fall 83

- Oct. 5th - Women and Media  
Free to Members
- Oct. 6th - Parenting Without Sex Roles  
Members \$3/Non-members \$5
- Oct. 11th - Body Images  
Members \$5/Nonmembers \$7
- Oct. 24th - Sexual Assault - FREE
- Oct. 27th - All About Herpes  
Members \$3/ Non-members \$5
- Nov. 2nd - Alzheimers Disease  
Members \$3 Non-members \$5
- Oct. 28th - Yellow Wallpaper  
\$3 Donation

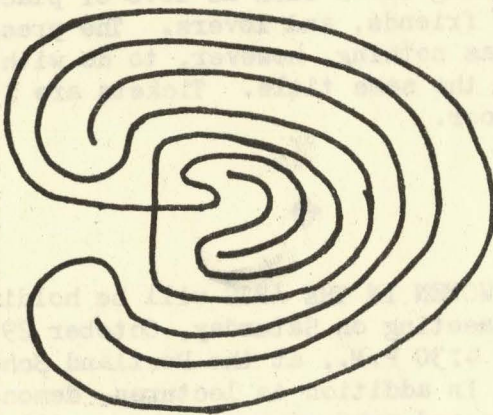
The Family Crisis Shelter, serving battered women and their families in Cumberland County, will hold its 3rd annual auction on Friday, Oct. 14th at the First Parish Unitarian Church Hall, Congress Street, in Portland. Viewing of sale items begins at 6:00 PM with the auction slated for 7:00 - 11:00 PM.

Auction items have been donated by area restaurants, businesses and individuals. It's an enjoyable evening and an opportunity to show your support for stopping violence against women. Anyone wishing to donate may call Donna at 775-1694.

The Feminist Spiritual Community meets every Monday at 7pm, at the State Street Church.

The Alliance to Preserve Reproductive Choice holds meetings the second Tuesday of each month, 7-9pm at the YWCA.

The next meeting of the Collective will be October 16, 4 P.M., at 71 Walnut Street, Portland. Everyone welcome. For further information, call Deborah 772-3093 or Ann 797-3227.



"The labyrinth is a universal symbol for earth mother found in ruins of ancient cultures throughout the world. Its winding spiraling passage represents both life and death. It is the womb, the wrapper of our mystical center. When we find our way to the center, we make a complete turn and go out the way we came in. In so doing, we have experience of ourselves."

FROM RIPENING, An Almanac of Lesbian Love and Vision, by Lee Lanning and Vernetta Hart.

## Unearthing Our Heritage

All of time, past, present and future, is synchronous and exists as varied levels of consciousness. We use the word "present" for convenience to describe a mode of consciousness we share overtly or experience physically. With this view, therefore, our fantasy frees information we already know from other times, other levels of consciousness.

An archaeological dig of women's works reinventing our heritage is being presented in the Nickelodeon Cinema windows September 15 to October 15. Please join these women in this spirited, lighthearted, sometimes humorous celebration of women's lives.



## Guatemalan Women's Tour

October 22-25

The Portland Women's Collective, the YWCA, Greater Portland NOW, the University Women's Forum, the Feminist Spiritual Community, and the Maine Women's Lobby are working cooperatively on a very exciting project for October! We are coordinating the Maine leg of a nationwide tour by two women from Guatemala. Edna Barrios from Guatemala City and Carmen Victoria Alvarez from Quiche province will be coming to this country under the sponsorship of a group of women representing various Foundations located in Washington and Boston. The women will be visiting and lecturing in Washington D.C., Boston, New York City, Chicago, Madison, Minneapolis, San Francisco, and Austin; not to mention Portland and Orono! They are coming to talk about the suffering and struggles of their people (particularly indigenous women), the economic and political repression in their country, their personal experiences in the popular revolution, the role of indigenous and Ladina women in that struggle, as well as a weaving collective they are starting to support Central American women.

The women and their interpreter will be in Maine from October 22 to October 25. Any member of the sponsoring groups is welcome to attend any of the following scheduled events:

### Saturday, October 22

- 1:00 pm. Press Conference. YWCA. Portland.
- 2:00 pm. Welcoming reception. YWCA. Portland.
- 6:30 pm. Lobster/clam dinner. YWCA. Portland. (Bring your own lobsters and clams! Trimmings will be provided)

### Sunday, October 23

- 7-9:30 pm. Lecture and reception following. University of Southern Maine. Portland.

### Monday, October 24

- 7-9:30 pm. Lecture and reception following. University of Maine at Orono.

### Tuesday, October 25

- Morning. Weaving workshop/demonstration at H.O.M.E. (Homeworkers Organized for More Employment). Orono.

We will also be planning additional and informal events. For more information on these and others, please contact Cheryl Ring (623-1819, 774-5508, or w289-2491) and Nicole d'Entremont (779-6905) for the Collective or any of the other sponsoring organizations.



# DOES POVERTY WEAR A SKIRT?

## Annual Meeting of the Maine Women's Lobby

9:30 - 3:30  
Saturday, Oct. 15  
Lovejoy Hall  
Colby College  
Waterville, Me.

### Agenda

9:30 **Registration, Reception - Meet Board Members and Candidates**

10:00 **Welcome - Stephanie Smith, Chair - Maine Women's Lobby**

10:15 **Legislative Review - Betsy Sweet, Executive Director - MWL**

*Report on first half of 111th Session*

*Legislative Plans for the rest of the session*

11:00 **New Directions: Where the Lobby is going - Stephanie Smith**

11:30 **"Does Poverty Wear a Skirt?" - Keynote Address**

*Trish Smith - Director, Maine's Bureau for the Elderly*

*Erica Bronstein - Labor Education Specialist, Bureau of Labor Education*

12:30 **Lunch (Box Lunch Available)**

**Film and Discussion: "Killing Us Softly" - a concise and important analysis of the 40 billion dollar industry that preys on the fears and insecurities of every female in America**

1:30 **Workshops (Choose One)**

#### A. **Getting Involved in Politics**

*How to's of involvement in: Town government, Party Politics, Local and State Caucuses*

*Workshop Leader - Ginger Jordan-Hillier*

#### B. **Lobbying on Our Own Behalf**

*Ins and Outs of the Legislative Process*

*How to make your representative work for you*

*Being an effective constituent/lobbyist*

*Workshop leader - Betsy Sweet*

#### C. **The Feminization of Poverty**

*Why It Happens*

*How Can We Stop It?*

*Workshop Leader - Anne Gosline*

3:00 **On Our Way - What are the next steps?**

4. 3:30 **Adjournment**





# a FOOD ABUSE workshop

Many women with concerns about food, fat, and self-image manage to keep their weight at what they consider an "acceptable" level. The price often means severe emotional stress and nutritional deprivation, as well as the traumas of bingeing, vomiting, or fasting altogether. In a society that supports "Food as Love", this workshop will help women find and strengthen other means of nurturing themselves and develop ways of fulfilling appetites in other areas of their lives.

**Maddy Spadola, m.s.ed.**, is a Registered Substance Abuse Counselor (R.S.A.C.) in the State of Maine.

As a result of her individual and group work at Skyward, a nationally acclaimed program for women with alcohol and drug abuse problems, she has developed groups for women concerned about their food abuse. A compulsive eater herself, Maddy helps women explore issues of appetite, fat, and self-image connecting these with our sense of well-being and the enrichment of daily lives.

140 Washington St., Camden 04843 • 207-236-9022 •

**Who:**

MADDY SPADOLA

**When:**

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

**Where:**

OCTOBER 22 & 23, 9-6 p.m.

**Fee:**

72 FRONT STREET, BATH

\$40

gnaws it • How she claws it • When she finds herself alone" Mother Goose

"Hannah Bantury • In a panty • Gnawing on a mutton bone • How she





## FILMS AT THE YWCA

Thursday, Sept. 22 7:30 P.M.  
Friday, Sept. 23 1:30 P.M.

### Anatomy of A Murder

A small town lawyer defends a U.S. Army Lieutenant on the charge of murdering a bartender who allegedly raped his wife. Based on a novel by Robert Traver. Starring James Stewart, Ben Gayara, Lee Remick, George C. Scott, Joseph N. Welch. Directed by Otto Preminger, 1959. Music by Duke Ellington.

Thursday, Oct 20 7:30 P.M.  
Friday, Oct. 21 1:30 P.M.

### Magic Prison - A Dialogue Set to Music

A dramatized dialogue of letters between Emily Dickinson and a stranger, Colonel L.W. Higginson reveals the unique qualities of mind and character of this American poet. Set to music by Eyia Laderman, the film dramatizes some of the most moving moments in this great poet's life. 1980

also :

### World of Light - A Portrait of May Sarton

A beautiful film that throws a sensitive beam of light upon the life and works of May Sarton. 1982

Thursday, Dec. 8 7:30 P.M.  
Friday, Dec. 9 1:30 P.M.

### Home to Stay

Henry Fonda stars as a spirited grandfather fighting off recurring lapses into senility and the spector of a nursing home, with the help of his granddaughter, Sarah. Adopted from the novel "Grandpa & Frank" by Janet Majuus. 1978

also :

### The White Heron

A young farm girl has her first brush with romance and it forces her to choose between the treasures of her world of nature and the ambitions of a handsome young hunter. Based on Sarah Orre Jewett's turn of the century story.

**FREE TO MEMBERS.**

Shown in the Everywoman's Center  
Call 772-1906 for more information





THE ALLIANCE TO PRESERVE REPRODUCTIVE CHOICE

ANNOUNCES ...

## A POST-ABORTION SUPPORT GROUP IN PORTLAND

### OUR PHILOSOPHY:

- 1.) *to share and explore experiences with other women in a safe environment.*
- 2.) *to break through the stereotyped taboo and shame that sometimes surrounds the decision to have an abortion.*
- 3.) *to support a woman's right to control her own body.*

**PARTICIPANTS:** *Women who have had abortions.*

**WHERE:** *YWCA, 87 Spring Street, Portland.*

**WHEN:** *Every 4th Wednesday of the month, 7 to 9pm*

**NO AGE LIMIT and NO FEE**

**All phone calls are confidential.**

**For more info, contact: Merrie Allen at  
761-1549 or 773-3333**



# the Common Scold

Under English Common law, "common scold" was a criminal charge levied against "women addicted to abusive speech." Men could not be so charged. We name this newsletter "The Common Scold" to honor all of herstory's scolds. We honor the women who dared to speak their minds, the women who dared assert themselves, the women tried and convicted by all-male juries. Let us all be guilty of the charge "common scold."

## Editorial Policy

The Common Scold is published monthly by the Newsletter Task Force of the Collective. Our purpose is to provide women with a forum for our feminist voices. We will only print material by women, and will consider for publication any material not deemed racist, sexist, classist, hetero-sexist, ablebodied or ageist. We reserve the right to edit material on matters of length and content. No revisions or rejections will occur without dialogue with the author. The viewpoints expressed are not necessarily those of the Newsletter Task Force.

## Submission Guidelines

We encourage women to submit articles, graphics, poetry, cartoons, reviews and announcements. We appreciate typewritten submissions, though handwritten submissions are also welcome. Deadline for submissions is the 10th of each month. All submissions must include the author's name, address, and phone number (if available) should we need to contact the author. Within the pages of the Newsletter, names will be omitted upon request. Please enclose SASE if you would like your work returned to you.

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## Advertising

Cost of advertising is \$5 per issue. Submissions and advertisements should be sent to: The Collective, c/o Elze, 372 Preble St., South Portland, 04106.

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## All Hallow's Eve

"A holy night; we are closest to the world of the spirit, most in tune with our own spirit. A magic night; we create illusions, changing reality by our dress and our manner. As the night progresses we shed our dress, our illusions, and dance naked before the fire. The worlds of matter and spirit merge."

[From RIPENING, An Almanac of Lesbian Love and Vision by Lee Lanning and Verne Hart.]

## OUR BOOKS

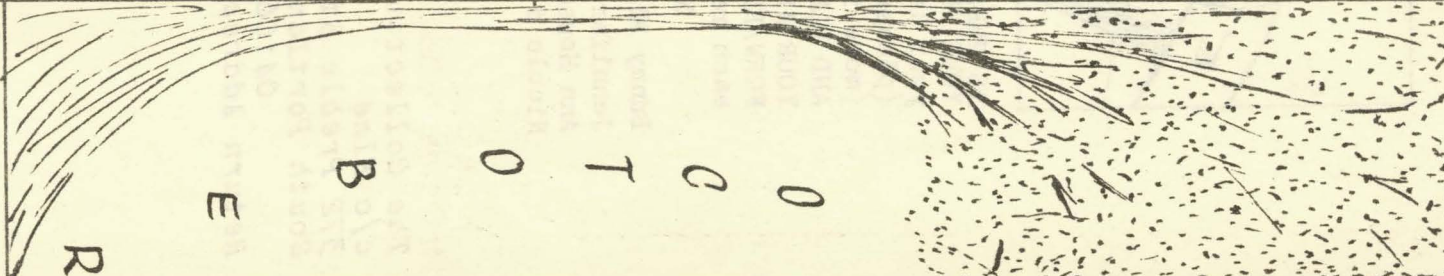
has moved to  
4 Pine St.  
(Longfellow Sq.)

New and Used Paperbacks

Gay, Lesbian, Feminist Books





2	3	4	5	6	October 1 Walk-a-thon for Peace - Freeze Walk 9AM Deering Oaks Park. Let Them Eat Cake Carnival FSC	
	Feminist Spiritual Community 7pm State St. Church	Unearthing	Our Heritage at Nickelodeon	7 Windows	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Holiday for some Feminist Spiritual Community	Alliance to Preserve Reproductive Choice 7-9pm YWCA			Auction to Benefit the Family Crisis Shelter 7-11pm	Maine Women's Lobby Annual Meeting 9:30-3:30 Colby College Waterville
	Unearthing	Our Heritage	at the Nickelodeon Cinema	Windows		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Collective Meeting at Walnut St. 4pm	Feminist Spiritual Community				Welcoming Recept. for Guatemalen Women 2pm YWCA Lobster & Clam Dinner 6:30 YWCA An Evening w/ May Sarton, 8pm, Gardiner	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Lecture by Guatemalen Women 7-9:30pm USM, Portland Reception following	Feminist Spiritual Comm. Lecture by Guatemalen Women 7-9:30 UMO - Orono	Weaving Wkshp & Demo. at H.O.M.E (Orland) Portland NOW Mtg 7:30pm YWCA	Post-Abortion Support Group 7-9pm YWCA		"The Yellow Wallpaper" (a 1-woman play) 8-11pm YWCA	Maine Women in the Arts Annual Meeting, 8-4:30 Baxter Library (including lectures, performances, etc.)
30	31					
	Feminist Spiritual Community All Hallows Eve					





IS THERE A GREEN DOT ON THIS ISSUE OF YOUR NEWSLETTER? If so, then this is your last issue, so resubscribe now- (please!!). Subscriptions are \$8 (more if you can, less if you can't) AND PLEASE KEEP US UP TO DATE ON YOUR ADDRESS--NEWSLETTERS ARE NOT FORWARDED; and it costs us 25¢ for each returned copy.

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	Avis Loring

Themes:

November  
Women & Spirituality

January  
Memories

March  
Science Fiction

Remember: Deadline for each issue is 10<sup>th</sup> of month before.

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