

# IN OUR OWN WRITE

a monthly newsletter by the  
**WASHINGTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER**

1825 18th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20009 (202)347-5078  
August 1979 Issue

© 1979

## WOMEN'S NITE OUT RETURNS

### NEW BEGINNING

Lo and behold, the magic of Women's Nite Out returns after approximately ten months of silence. The first Women's Nite Out was on April 23, 1977, and featured poetry reading.

Thereafter, the talents of many other fine musicians, poets and dancers graced the upper room of our old Summer School location. What a blow it was to us when we became homeless and needed all our energy to keep the Center and our faith alive. Our need to "do" Women's Nite Out during this period was best expressed through the Women's Nite Out Extravaganza on October 21, 1978. It was unbelievably wonderful to be a part of.

However, the staff realized that now the community needed a "coffeehouse" atmosphere on a regular basis more than ever. So the plans for a future Women's Nite Out began in earnest with sometime in the Fall as a target date. We were not quite sure how we would manage it financially, but we knew we had to try.

The rebirth of Women's Nite Out is due largely to the efforts of the Women's Center volunteers and the financial support of the Rising Women's Coffeehouse Collective.

The Rising Women's Coffeehouse Collective were the creators of the Rising Women's Coffeehouse, which was located on Decatur Place until its closing in 1977. It was one of the finest regular showcases for women's talent in the area and its closing was a great loss to the women's community. They were also known for their yearly cruises in Annapolis on the Harbor Queen.

The Collective has decided to bestow a substantial amount of money to the Women's Center specifically earmarked to the Women's Nite Out program (see opposite column for further details). This sum will not only insure the existence of Women's Nite Out for at least two years, but will enable the Women's Center to expand its past visions into reality.

For more information about our plans, read the "CENTERNEWS" section of this newsletter.

### A SPECIAL GIFT

#### RISING WOMEN'S STATEMENT

We wish to announce to the women's community our decision to transfer the funds of Rising Women collective to the D.C. Women's Center in hopes that it will help maintain our initial purpose of a "woman's place" by supporting the center and their Women's Nite Out program.

Rising Women collective organized 6 years ago with 13 women to raise funds and support in hope of opening a full-time women's coffeehouse. In those 5 years we became known as D.C.'s number one benefit organizers. We have become business women skilled in mailing, lighting, sound, public relations, booking, finance, patience and endurance. Our credits included the Women's cruise out of Annapolis, dances with Rum Boogie, Hysteria, BeBe K'Roche, concerts featuring Willie Tyson, Casse Culver, Meg Christian, numerous mailings and our opening once a week at Quaker House in 1976. Our last benefit was our Valentine's Day dance in 1977. At that time there were 5 collective members and we were running out of energy. It has been difficult for us to decide to disband the Rising Women collective and our dream of a women's coffeehouse but we feel a part of it can be realized through the Center's Women's Nite Out. We wish to thank the community for their support over the years and say that it has been a rich and rewarding experience for us in many ways. We look forward to seeing you at the opening of Women's Nite Out.



JO

# WIND DISSOLVES

July, 1979

Dear Friends,

We have decided that Women in Distribution must be dissolved. This decision has been extremely difficult, but we feel that the closing of Women in Distribution is the best alternative available to us.

We know there will be many questions surrounding our closing WIND and we would like to answer some of them now. We will try to explain briefly what our experience and thoughts have been and how we have come to this decision.

Three main factors have influenced our decision to dissolve Women in Distribution: the financial position of WIND; the activities of the small and women's presses; and the activities of the major publishers.

First and foremost is our financial position. In many ways we were successful. Each year between 1975 and 1978 our sales doubled. Our list of titles increased from 30 in 1975 to 600 in 1979. The number of bookstores and libraries that regularly order from us rose steadily from 25 in 1975 to 600 in 1979.

Despite this apparent success, we continued to lose money each year. The time involved in processing, packing, recording orders, accounting to and corresponding with publishers, in collecting payments, in reviewing new titles, writing copy, designing and producing catalogues, increased as WIND grew. Our expenses increased (Postage, utilities, supplies). Some of our expenses increased because of our growth in size (e.g. insurance). WIND's percentage was not enough to cover these increases. In 1978 we raised the cost of our service to new publishers. This decreased our losses somewhat, but was not enough to keep up with rising costs.

We saw several possible courses of action and wanted to know which one(s) to take in order to bring us closer to breaking even. The alternatives included: raise the cost of distributing through WIND to all publishers (we planned to do this effective 8/79); decrease salaries and reduce the number of women working at WIND (presently three women full time, one part time); move to a smaller location; expand WIND further by taking on new loans or selling shares (this included the possibility of expanding beyond "women's books" to other small press books, and more mass paperbacks of the "best-seller" variety); and continue as we are, but try to get financing from grants, private donations, etc.

After extensive work sessions with our accountants, we had to accept the conclusion that none of our proposed alternatives would result in making WIND a viable, self-sufficient operation in the foreseeable future. It became clear to us that the only responsible thing to do, would be to dissolve WIND, and to dissolve it quickly, before the summer brings further losses.

All in all, we are not inspired to think that we should keep operating through next year.

The financial position of WIND was not the only factor in our decision. WIND's future looked all the more bleak because of the difficult time small and women's presses are having trying to survive. The activities of the major publishers are making it more difficult to sell the work of the independent presses.

Three years ago, many chain bookstores and non-counter-culture bookstores started to acknowledge the demand for books by, for and/or about women. Their usual suppliers (trade publishers and distributors) did not have much to offer in this area, so they were eager to find sources. Many of them came to WIND. Since then, the large publishers have recognized the market that exists for "women's books", and have published many books to sell to that market. Some of these books, covering everything from lesbian sexuality to women in corporations, have been good, and some have been terrible. The important point (from our point of view) is that in the eyes of most buyers for "straight" bookstores, the area of "women's books" and "alternative lifestyle books" is now being covered by the trade publishers. It is also true that less and less shelf space is being given to small press books in women's bookstores. This is true for two reasons: many good books are coming from the trade and the women's bookstores want to give their customers a good selection of books; and in order to remain in business the women's bookstores must be competitive with the regular bookstores.

We feel this phenomenon is disastrous, not only in the short run, for the growth of WIND and other alternative distributors and publishers, but in the long run, for freedom of speech and expression. When the trade publishers feel the "fad" of women's liberation has died down, it will be very easy for them to stop publishing "women's books". We have all seen the "fads" within the framework of "women's books" that have been used. We have all heard the stories of the different New York publishers who are looking for good "incest" books one year or "self-defense" books another year--whatever will sell. This year gay books are coming out in (relatively) large numbers from the trade publishers. But will they publish books on lesbian mothers' custody fights? We have all heard about "concentration" in the book industry. Publishing companies are merging with and being bought out by conglomerates such as ITT, Gulf and Western, and CBS. It is alarming to think of these corporations having complete control of what we can find at our local bookstore/library.

We do not like to be doomsday predictors, but it seems to us that the situation is very serious.

We are writing this in a semi-state of shock and may not be answering all the questions that will arise. However, along with getting all the books/records sent back to publishers, we wanted to tell those of you who have supported us what our thinking was in this painful decision.

Sincerely,

Helaine Harris and Cynthia Gair

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

The D.C. NOW Sexuality Task Force is meeting on Sunday, August 12 at 2:00 PM at the Whitman-Walker Clinic, 1606 17th St., N.W. The meeting will be followed by a wine and cheese party. All women are welcome.

The Sexuality Task Force is having a potluck supper with the local chapters of NOW in D.C., Montgomery County, Prince Georges County, Alexandria, Northern Virginia and other locals. Women who are interested in the National Organization for Women and in the Task Force are invited to attend. The supper will be held on Saturday, August 11, at 7:30 PM, at 1660 Missouri Ave., N.W. (off 16th St.). Bring a dish. For information, call Hilda at 882-7763.

**Housing forum/dinner:** The D.C. Area Feminist Alliance presents a forum on the policies, strategies, and players in the D.C. Housing Game. The forum will be held August 3rd at the First Congregational Church, 10th & G Sts., N.W. Dinner at 7 PM, speakers at 7:30. Program includes presentations by Marie Nahikian, Margo Karanjai, Arleen Rogan. For more information call 293-1347 (day) and 547-3602 (evenings).

A group of Feminist Artists is meeting on a regular basis. The meetings are open to interested artists. The next meeting is August 4, at 4:00 PM, at Barbara Berman's house, 1731½ Corcoran Street, N.W. Come and bring some of your work. For information, call Sarna at 387-5261.

Off Our Backs is currently soliciting articles for their special issue on racism and sexism in the November publication. Send your submissions to OOB. Deadline is 9/15. See July OOB for further details.

We are trying to get a group together to drive up to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. If enough people are interested in going, we may be able to get a bus; otherwise, we will car pool. The cost of attending will be reasonable. If you are interested in going or learning more about it, call Lauren at 554-3472 or Lynn at 362-5227.

**Mark your calendar:** Lesbian Feminist Weekend in the Poconos, sponsored by Sisterspace of Philadelphia, will be held 9/14-16, 1979. This event will provide womanspace in the mountains and many workshops. There is cabin space for 500 women. More information will be provided at a later date. After August 15, call the Women's Center for more information - phone: 347-5078.

**LIGHT BLUE JACKET:** Did you end up with mine after the Debutante Ball in May? If so, please call the Center, 347-5078, and leave a number where you can be reached.

Jewish lesbians are cordially invited to Women's Outreach Service, Friday, August 3rd (the first Friday of every month is Women's Outreach). Sponsored by M.C.T.- Mishpocheh at Christ United Methodist Church, 1 St., S.W., between 3rd & 4th Sts. at 8:30 P.M.

The D.C. Area Feminist Alliance will hold its next meeting on Monday, August 13 at All Souls Church, 16th and Harvard Sts., N.W. The meeting will begin at 7 PM and the agenda will include a discussion of position statements on lesbianism, classism, and racism which resulted from previous Alliance meetings. All interested women are invited to attend. For more information call Judy at 783-3410 or Jill at 832-4959.

Linda Talbot will be performing at the GCC Coffeehouse, 1469 Church St., N.W., on August 4 at 8 PM.

Lesbian rap sessions are held every Wednesday night, 7:30 at the Lesbian Health and Counseling Center. The sessions began in May and were intended to last six weeks, but they caught on with women and are now permanent. The rap sessions are community get-togethers. Topics are open. Women talk about relationships, coming out, how do you say hello, and good-bye, how to meet other Lesbians, finding one's own space in the community, being older, being younger, or whatever they want to talk about each time. The LHCC is located at 1606 17th St., N.W., Whitman-Walker Clinic (near Q St.). For information, call 332-5295 Wednesday nights, or just drop by.

The LHCC is offering a workshop, "Transforming Our Negative Attitudes", a workshop on the Bach Flower Remedies in two parts. Part One will be held Saturday, August 11, from 3:30-5:30 PM, at 1604 17th St., N.W. Admission is \$2.50. (All proceeds will go towards the purchase of Bach Remedy Supplies for the LHCC.) Part Two will be held on August 15, from 8-10 PM, at the same address and admission fee is \$2.50. For pre-registration call LHCC Thurs. at 332-5295, Jan at 232-0829 or Sue La at 234-3414.

**LESBIAN ANATOMY CLASS**- Nurturing workshops for women sponsored by the Lesbian Health and Counseling Center. For the price of the average evening at Tess's you will be able to enjoy an evening asking all those questions you were always too shy to ask about your body. A supportive atmosphere is the primary goal. Bring a friend whose body you are comfortable with or come alone and a body will be provided. Limited to 10 Lesbians. Cost: \$5.00. Thurs. Aug. 16th, 7-10 PM. Advance registration required. Call Lenora at 234-4167.

**WOMEN'S WEIGHTLIFTING** starting August 1. Call Lenora for details, 234-4167. (cont. on p. 8)

# CENTERNEWS

## RAP GROUP TOPICS

We hope you will join us for another rap group planning meeting on August 6 at 7:30 PM in the Women's Center lounge. The planning meeting is the best place to make suggestions for future rap group topics. We are looking for ideas to broaden and better focus our schedule each quarter. If you feel that you would like to "put in you two cents" (invaluable, to us!) , or if you think you would like to facilitate a topic in which you have an interest, please come to the meeting or call Angie at 347-5078 (W.A.W.C.) on Tuesday nights or 521-3199 (other eves.).

August 6 Planning Meeting 7:30

August 13 Staying Healthy in a Sick Society- What can we do to safeguard our physical and mental health while our society works to destroy itself? How do we make ourselves more knowledgeable about our bodies and less dependent upon those who use their knowledge to control?

August 20 Rape, the Unspeakable Rage- Is it our past, present or future? A few years ago, it was a public issue. Now, the issue has gone quiet. Or have we gone quiet?

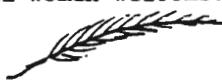
August 27 Body Imagery/Images- How do you feel about your body...nice, too fat, too skinny, smooth? What is your mirror image of yourself?

## WRITING WORKSHOP

In September, Susan Wood-Thompson will start a poetry-writing workshop at the WAWC. Eight weeks long, the workshop will consist of one two-hour meeting per week (possibly Thursday nights, but call this month if another day is better for you.) Fee for the 8 weeks is \$40. Focus will be on: techniques for structuring poems, drawn from tradition; examples will show application of these by contemporary lesbian feminist, and other women poets, black and white.

Susan has an M.A. in creative writing, a Ph.D. in contemporary American poetry, and has taught at The College of William and Mary, in the South Carolina Arts in the Schools program, and at conferences and workshops for Southern women. She has published in Sinister Wisdom, Feminary, Primavera, and others. If interested, call Susan at 234-7108 and/or watch for details in the next issue of In Our Own Write. All women welcome!

8



## SPECIAL RAP GROUP

### THE SINGLE/OVERWHELMED MOTHER

I am a single and overwhelmed mother interested in creating more pleasurable and growth-producing experiences for myself and my child. I would like to meet with other mothers in similar situations to share, support, brainstorm, and possibly develop something ongoing for our energy and needs.

I've often felt the following feelings. Are they familiar to you?

Not enough time/energy for myself.

Not enough support as a woman or as a mother.

Burnt out, isolated.

Misdirected anger at my child.

Feeling my space frequently invaded by my child's omnipresence.

Disappointment in myself as a mother and as a woman.

The need to be relieved, on occasion, from my parenting responsibilities.

If you think you could benefit from such a group, LET'S GET TOGETHER!

August 21, Tuesday

7 PM

Women's Center  
1825 18th Street, N.W.

-Childcare provided

-Women who are not mothers, but who've considered sharing their energies with others' children are also welcome.

-Mothers who are not single are also welcome.

-Questions?? Leave message for Pam or Angie at The Women's Center, 347-5078, Mon.-Thurs., 6-9 p.m.

## WOMEN'S NITE OUT

Women's Nite Out will begin one Saturday night in September. The exact place, date and times had not been finalized before we went to press, so watch this spot next month for details or call the Women's Center near the end of August.

Our first Women's Nite Out will include both music and literature to reintroduce the format. We are arranging for a space large enough for the informal, coffeehouse setting with munchies available. Once started, we plan to hold Women's Nite Out every two or three weeks alternating music and literature. We will be planning special events like open mike, open poetry readings and extravaganzas. Women interested in performing should call the Center and leave a message.

Anyone interested in helping with set up, clean up, etc., leave your name and number at the Women's Center. Thanks!



All women & children  
Welcome!

# and more centernews

## ART ON THE WALL

After a long delay, Art on the Wall is back at the Women's Center. The Art on the Wall project was started in the fall of 1976, when we were still at Summer School and was a major project during our stay there. The main focus of Art on the Wall was and still is to feature local women artists by offering exhibiting space on a first come, first served basis.

When the Center was forced to move from the Summer School, we had to abandon Art on the Wall for obvious space reasons. Although our new exhibit space is smaller than before, we will offer the space on a regular basis for local women artists with an opening party for each artist.

Our first exhibitor will be photography by Deborah Brooks. Look for the announcement in the September issue of IN OUR OWN WRITE for the opening party date. We look forward to seeing you there!

## SPORTS

The Washington Area Women's Center Softball Team may be in the Softball Play-Offs if they continue to win! The games are every Thursday at 23rd and Constitution Ave., NW at 7:15 PM. Come on down to the softball field and cheer with us!

## DEAR MEMBERS

As you can tell from the front page story, we are really excited about the rebirth of Women's Nite Out. A special note of thanks goes to the Rising Women Collective, whose commitment to the women's community is recognized and deeply appreciated. Judy Reagan and Chris Lundberg are also to be thanked for their involvement with the coordination of the coming Women's Nite Out Performances.

Last week's meeting was very relaxing as we munched out on the potluck dinner arranged before we got down to business. It was really nice to see some new faces there along with the newer regular volunteers. It was so pleasant that I hope we make a habit of meeting at least once a month in a staff member's house/apt. If we decide to do this once in a while, we will record the location of that meeting on the telephone answering tape. OK?

Maggie, a summer volunteer, is going to be going back to school in Miami, Ohio the last week in July. We are going to miss her!

We are also going to miss the fine efforts of WIND (see story on page 2). Helaine and Cynthia are very special women and we know the decision to dissolve WIND must have been extremely difficult.

As always there is an open invitation to all our membership to attend staff meetings. If you need a ride and would like to attend, just give us a call!

## WomanSpace in the Woods



### A BACKPACKING WORKSHOP

Here's a chance for you to learn the basics of backpacking that includes a weekend hiking in the company of other women. Two classes (August 14 & 16) will cover the essentials: food, clothing, equipment, shelter, how to choose what to carry and how to pack it. That Saturday (August 18), we'll adventure into the woods for an overnight hike.

I'll be sharing what I can about "co-existing with nature without leaving a trace", organizing and simplifying for life on the trail, efficient hiking techniques, etc. Hope you'll bring along cameras, harmonicas, field guides, kazoos and other instruments of pleasure, also your enthusiasm for life out-of-doors!

and later.....

For those with backpacking experience (including the above workshop participants), I'll be co-ordinating a weekend hike in September. We'll organize over a potluck meeting on Tuesday, September 18 and backpack September 22-23.

Instructor: Nancy Landau 979-6398

#### AUGUST WORKSHOP INFO:

Aug. 14 & 16	Classes	7-9 PM	\$12
Aug. 18-19	Hike		

#### SEPTEMBER WORKSHOP INFO:

Sept. 18	Mtg/Potluck	7 PM	
Sept. 22-23	Hike		\$ 5

For further info: call the Center 347-5078.

## HISTORY PROJECT

Interested in The Women's Center History Project but don't know how to get involved? Call Judy at 892-5897 or Susanna at 332-8447. Group meets generally every second Tuesday. All women are welcome.

## HELP!

Mad dog telephone answering machine on the loose at the Women's Center office! Responsible for the maiming of innocent messages called in to our office during the past two weeks. If your call has not been answered, please call leave a new message. We will try, try again!

# WomanSpace in the Woods



"hiking in the company  
of other women"

BACKPACKING Workshop  
SEE "CENTER NEWS"  
"WORKSHOPS" for info.

WAWC STAFF  
mtg. 6pm  
all ♀ welcome

5 PLANNING  
WRG MEETING  
7:30 pm

6 CENTER WKSHP\* 7  
♀ center history  
project mtg 7:30 pm

N.O.W. SEXUALITY TASK  
FORCE  
1987 8pm  
call for  
directions - 751 7728

12 \* N.O.W. SEXUALITY  
TASK FORCE MTG and  
PARTY 2:00 pm  
WHITMAN-WALKER CLINIC  
WAWC STAFF MTG  
6pm All ♀ welcome

WRG 13  
"Staying healthy in a  
sick society" 7:30  
D.C.A.F.A. mtg  
7pm

14 A.R.M. mtg\*  
N.O.W. SEL. TASK FORCE  
1987 8pm  
Backpacking WKSHP  
7-9 pm \*

WAWC STAFF MTG  
6pm all ♀ welcome

19 WRG  
"RAPE" 7:30  
20

21 SPECIAL  
7pm WRG  
N.O.W. SEXUALITY TASK  
FORCE  
1987 8pm

WAWC  
STAFF:  
CALL 347-5078  
for MEETING  
INFORMATION.

26 WRG  
"Body Images" 7:30  
27

28 CENTER WKSHP\*  
Elizabeth Seton  
first native born saint  
6/1774  
N.O.W. SEL. TASK  
FORCE  
1987 8pm

29 Judy Reagan  
plays at "Food for Thought"  
6-8:30 pm  
(Conn. 13, St. N.W.)

LHCC 7-10

COLUMBIA C.O.G.S.  
mtg. 7:30-9:30 pm 1  
LESBIAN COOKIE PARTY  
(bring your favorite cookie)  
997-1593

LHCC 7-10pm  
ARM SELF HELP CLINIC\*

8 A.R.L. VA.  
522-0493  
LHCC 7-10  
ARM SELF HELP CLINIC

Judy Chicago 9  
talk/slideshow...  
\* 8pm \$ 4.50

16 Backpacking WKSHP  
7-9 pm \*

22 LHCC 7-10  
ARM SELF HELP CLINIC

23 Backpacking WKSHP  
7-9 pm \*

24 DIGNITY \*

7:30 PM

25 COLUMBIA  
C.O.G.S.  
CRAB FEAST

call: 997-1593

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112

113

114

115

116

117

118

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

149

150

151

152

153

154

155

156

157

158

159

160

161

162

163

164

165

166

167

168

169

170

171

172

173

174

175

176

177

178

179

180

181

182

183

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

201

202

203

204

205

206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

215

216

217

218

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

226

227

228

229

230

231

232

233

234

235

236

237

238

239

240

241

242

243

244

245

246

247

248

249

250

251

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296

297

298

299

# MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 4th Michigan Womyn's Music Festival will be held on 200 acres of partially wooded country land in Mount Pleasant, Michigan, from August 23 to 26. The concert schedule is the following:

Thursday night:  
7:30 Alix Dobkin  
9:00 Woody Simmons  
10:30 Holly Near &  
J.T. Thomas

Friday afternoon:  
2:00 Missy Speert  
3:00 The Harp Band

Friday night:  
7:30 Linda Shear  
9:00 Berkeley Women's  
Music Collective  
10:30 Rashida Shah

Saturday afternoon:  
2:00 Robin Greenstein  
3:00 Reel World  
String Band

Saturday night:  
7:30 Gwen Avery  
9:00 Terry Garthwaite  
10:30 Sirani Avedis &  
Kid Sister

Sunday night:  
6:00 Diane Zimmerman  
7:30 Teresa Trull &  
Julie Homi  
9:00 Alive!

The price of admission includes concerts, camping space, vegetarian food and workshops. The admission fees, which are sliding scale, are the following at the Gate: (1) for one day: \$8, \$9, or \$12 (low, average or contribution), (2) for 2 days: \$16, \$18, or \$24, (3) for three days: \$24, \$27, or \$36, (4) for 4 days: \$30, \$35, or \$48. For more info or to order tickets in advance, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: We Want the Music Collective, 1501 Lyons St., Mt. Pleasant, MI, (517) 772-0582.

## LETTER

I am a Black lesbian and I am concerned about the places we are able to meet and socialize with each other. I feel that all lesbians should stick together and we should have our own places to go to.

I am particularly concerned with recent events at the Phase. A friend of mine was there, and she told me a fight broke out between a white woman and two Black women. The police were called and the two Black women were taken to jail. I don't know all the details, but it doesn't sound right to me. No matter what the situation, it seems to me that the women should have dealt with the problem, not the cops.

White lesbians are often saying to me that they want more Black lesbians to get involved in things and participate in social events. Although I see very few Black lesbians at concerts, dances, etc., I can really say that at the last Women's Center dance everyone made me feel very welcome and comfortable. I wish this situation could be extended to the clubs, especially the Phase.

The point is--must we do battle with each other? There is something very sick, very sad and very insane about women oppressing other women.

--t.w.

## FROM OUR PAST

"...Tokenism does not change stereotypes of social systems but works to preserve them, since it dulls the revolutionary impulse."  
--Mary Daly, Beyond God the Father

WOMEN'S CENTER HISTORY PROJECT needs interested women to help on Aug. 7 and Aug. 21st at 7:30 PM. They generally meet the 2nd Tues. of every month. For details call Judy S. at 892-5897 or Susanna at 332-8447.

## WORKSHOPS

Women who are interested in learning about the workings of the Center are invited to attend Center Workshops on any or all of the following days. It's a great way to gain skills, share talents and make friends.

August 7 6:30 PM W.A.W.C. Lounge  
August 28 6:30 PM W.A.W.C. Lounge

## CLASSIFIED

W.A.W.C. CLASSIFIED RATES AND INFORMATION: Personal Ads (housing, individual selling items)-\$1.00 for 30 words. Business & Services Offered-\$2.00 for first 30 words, 10¢ per word thereafter. Display Ads (camera-ready copy)- \$7.00 for  $\frac{1}{4}$  page, \$13.00 for  $\frac{1}{2}$  page. The Staff reserves the right to refuse any ad it deems exploitative/demeaning to women. Check or money order MUST accompany ad copy and be received by the 15th of the month previous to publication. Make all checks payable to the Washington Area Womyn's Center.

Woman seeks one or two other women to share 2 B.R. plus den Mt. Pleasant house. House has big porches, W/O, AC, fireplace, separate dining room, quiet street. Call Isabelle: 724-6455 (w) or 332-3094 (h).

GAY WOMEN'S READING GROUP is forming. It will meet on occasional Tuesdays in Md. The purpose will be to share reading aloud with other gay women. For further information call Lee, at 565-3892.

Housing wanted: Woman, graduate student at George Washington University, is looking for a room in a house or apartment to share with other women. Would like to be near a Metro stop or within convenient commuting distance to school. Prefers non-smoking and no cats, can pay up to \$160/wk. Call 676-2331, evenings

Employment: D.C. Logistics Office for the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights is hiring a woman co-coordinator with skills in office management, fund-raising, grass roots organizing and outreach. \$150/wk, through 10/31. Call (202) 789-1070 to set up an interview appointment.

House for rent: 4 bedroom house located in Mt. Pleasant area. Excellent condition - \$450/mo. Call evenings, Donna 234-3414.

For rent: English basement apartment in house in Mt. Pleasant area. 1 bedroom, \$175/mo. Call evenings, Donna 234-3414.

**SELF-HELP CLINIC** - Do the most exciting thing you will do this summer. Come to a clinic sponsored by the Abortion Rights Movement; meet your cervix, learn self cervical-vaginal exam, breast exam, and other ways to gain control of your reproductive life. The clinic runs for one month, meeting weekly as of Wed., Aug. 1, 7:30 PM, 1212 Pennsylvania Ave., SE. For more information call 544-1823.

**LOCAL A.R.M. CHAPTER MEETING** - Abortion Rights Movement of Women's Liberation will hold a meeting on Tuesday, Aug. 14, 7 PM at 1212 Pennsylvania Ave., SE. Plans for Abortion Rights Action Week (to take place in the Fall) will be discussed. Call 544-1823 for more information.

**JUDY CHICAGO**, artist originator of "The Dinner Party," will be giving a slide show and talk on the conception and development of the artwork "The Dinner Party." It will be held on Thursday, August 9 at 8 PM at the Baird Auditorium in the Natural History Building of the Smithsonian Museum. Tickets, which cost \$4.50, are available from the Smithsonian Associates office. They should be ordered right away. The Washington Women's Arts Center is attempting to raise \$50,000 to 60,000, to bring "The Dinner Party" to the Washington area.

**IN OUR OWN WRITE** is the monthly newsletter of the Washington Area Women's Center, 1825 18th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20009. The Women's Center does not necessarily support opinions expressed in articles, announcements, ads and inserts but the staff does reserve the right to refuse any items which are exploitative or demeaning to women. All items are subject to space limitations.

\* \* \* \* \*

This issue is brought to you by Maggie Nash, Jan Dixon, Sandy Black, Angie Carrera, Sue Valenza, Jane McInerny, Chris Lundberg and Judy Reagan. Thanks, too, to Lynn for her help in calling and verifying announcements this month!

Round of applause to Tina Lunson, the Printer!

**THEATRE OF SORTS** (formerly Earth Onion), who you may recently have seen performing at Tess's, are forming acting classes and workshops and will be having an intensive weekend theatre retreat in early August. Director, Jane LeGrand, 462-6396.

**D.C. N.O.W.** is holding a "statewide" meeting on Aug. 16th to elect delegates to the N.O.W. National Conference in October. All N.O.W. members who live in D.C. are welcome to attend and eligible members may vote. The meeting will be held in the City Council Chambers of the District Bld. (14th and E Streets NW), from 6-8 PM.

**JUDY REAGAN** will be performing her original woman's music at Food For Thought (Conn. Ave. and S St. NW) on Aug. 29th from 6-8:30 PM.

Starting Aug. 10, and every second Friday of each month, Dignity/Washington will be sponsoring a Women's Open House at the Newman Center, 2210 "F" St., NW, from 7:30 pm to 11:30 pm. All women are welcome.

**CORRECTION:** the phone number for the NOW Sexuality Task Force should be 751-7728.

## WASHINGTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER

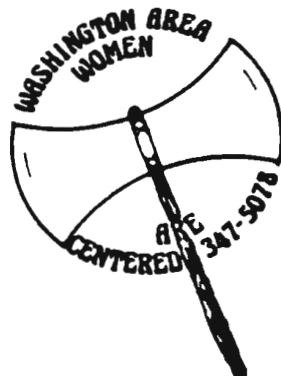
### Referrals:

Housing  
Employment  
Physicians  
Therapists  
Legal  
Shelter  
Library and periodicals  
Dances and special Events  
Rap Groups  
Classes

### Support Groups:

Music  
Poetry and Fiction  
General  
Art-on-the-Wall  
Women's Nite Out

**IN OUR OWN WRITE**, a monthly newsletter



## DEADLINE FOR SEPTEMBER - AUGUST 15

79 Sue Lorentz  
02 5710 Stillwell Rd.,  
21 Rockville, MD 20851

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
Permit # 44937  
Washington, D.C.  
1825 18th Street, NW • Washington, DC 20009  
Phone: 347-5078

**WASHINGTON AREA WOMEN'S CENTER**

