

LesbianNews

APRIL

MARCH 1995

VOL. 6 ISSUE 8

\$2.50

Women's Building Could Happen

By Barbara McLaughlin

What a way to wake up! There were 70 of us seated cozily at 8 a.m. at Decadence Gourmet Foods Restaurant enjoying the energy and free food and reveling in the knowledge that this time a Woman's Building in Victoria might soon be a reality. Other times, tries for a building have failed. Maybe its time has come. There's been some skillful politicking and maneuvering going on. Whatever, Lnews hopes to be a tenant, and furthermore, it was easy to recognize that lesbians are heading the forces to bring bricks and mortar to a long-held dream. Thanks to Brenda Hopper and Decadence.

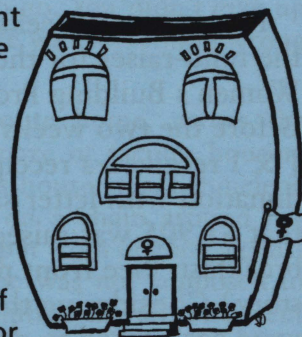
Women who come to the Victoria Sexual Assault Centre to pour out their stories can hear the clatter of typewriters just beyond the walls that are supposed to be providing them safety. Centre executive director Tracey Porteous provided the emotion in a well-orchestrated fund-raiser for the Victoria Women's Building Society.

Reminding us of our status in the 'service industry', Porteous went on, "Women's services have been housed in basements, living rooms, bedrooms. Offices have ripped couches, worn out desks.

"A building is a luxury we can't afford not to have. Individually we are paying a lot of rent that could be used for staff salaries." For example, S.A.C.'s rent will increase from \$35,000 to \$46,000 in three years. With that money she could hire two more staff and maybe reach faster the 300 women on the waiting list.

"We've got a job to do, money to raise, a good idea, a dynamic group of women, Victoria Beacon Hill MLA Gretchin Brewin said in concluding remarks endorsing the efforts of the Society.

Suggesting government isn't going to do it for us, she went on to say that women must look to each other, turn to each other to solve community issues. "To me the (women's) building represents ownership. That means control of future expenditures, stability of tenure, legacy of future for the next generations, opportunity for collective action. It means we can relax about where we live, and build equity for other opportunities.



"Men who say it can't be done should not interrupt women who are doing it," Brewin paraphrased.

Suzanne Vite, Deputy Minister, Women's Equality, citing her ministry's grant of \$15,000 to the Society, said the project was timely. "We have to be careful that services for women are protected and maintained. This building can be a model for operating differently. Its most influential reason for being will be found in the ways we find to serve effectively and efficiently."

She charged us to talk about what is happening, what's at issue, why it's important to pursue the building project, and noted that *options for government to help are reduced if community is not involved.*

Emcee Judy Lightwater told us she sees Victoria developing one of the best networks of women's services in Canada. And suggested we all donate a day's pay to the project.

As she outlined the society objectives, Project Administrator Jodie McConnell said 17 agencies have already indicated support for and interest in accessing space, among them, LesbianNews and LesbiAntics.

Call the project people at 388-7920. Or write a cheque and send it to: Victoria Women's Building Society, Suite 317 - 620 View Street, Victoria, B.C. V8W 1J6. ♀♀

WHAT'S INSIDE...

Getting Set for the Future: A new column about what to do with what's left of your money.

Mosaic: Loonies for Toonies.

Everywomans: Rattling the bones of a 20-year history.

Brainfever: Is Flossie A Dog? Or is she groomed to a destiny of indecision? Only her vet knows for sure.



It's been two weeks since the fund-raiser for the Women's Building Project. Before the two weeks were up J & I received a receipt for donation with letter saying that \$1,905 was raised at breakfast. (See front page story.) Considering that we were each asked to donate a day's pay and considering that there were 70, mostly women Of Means, in the room, the amount raised is rather pitiful. This building is needed. But unless we offer more than rhetoric and philosophy to the cause it isn't going to happen. Government speakers couldn't have been more pointed in telling us that if we (the Victoria community, lesbians, women and men) don't put up dollars to match our stated needs for the building, we can forget any help from any level of government. There's a lot of work to be done. We need flapping lips and dollar commitment. Even if a looney is all that a poor dyke can part with it makes sense to me. Lesbians need all the services a building can provide. I can think of a women's building housing Hot Flashes Coffee House, lesbian event meeting rooms, child care, LesbianNews and a dyke library, not to mention all the other outreach ser-

vices that exist for all of us.

The other burning issue for lesbians right now is the parade. Are we going to have one? Can it end with the picnic sponsored by the Pride Society? Can it be as much fun as it was last year without some of the angst? My take on it is yes it can. The dykes who got together to pull it off last time were fired up to go for it but we have heard nothing. Well? If you know more than we do, let Lnews have the info soon.

You will find a story about the Gay & Lesbian Archives in Toronto this issue. It would be fabulous if one of you would donate an LNews subscription to the archives. Make cheque payable to S. Hamill and mark it donation and make our day.

Karey has decided to do some new things with Brainfever. It isn't the first time she's serialized the stories, but we can look to more of those little grabbers one finds at the precipice of a thriller...*continued next month*. She's not doing it to drive you crazy. Or even to double subscriptions, nice as that would be. We are going to keep editorially mum about any reasons, if there are any reasons.

Speaking of subscriptions we welcome Lahl Sardyke to the LNews team. A trained and reliable secretary, Lahl has taken over subscription records and mailing labels. If you don't think keeping track of all of you isn't a big job...Do you realize we have to print 200 copies of LNews each month? Do you realize we have an estimated readership of 800? We're growing. Thanks to all of you. BMCL

LesbianNews was founded September 1988. It is staffed entirely by volunteers, as follows:

Editors: Karey Perks, Barbara McLaughlin

Artists: Shannon Oliffe, Barb Csinos

Production: Marti Carr-Harris

Desk Top Publisher: A. Toklas

Subscription Mailing List: Lahl SarDyke

Treasurer: Sally Hamill

Subscription sales and advertising: Barbara McLaughlin

Contributors This Month: Theresa Newhouse, Jennifer Waelti-Walters, Tanya Anderson

Editors can be reached directly if you have a special story etc. Call Karey Perks at 380-7562 or Barbara McLaughlin 479-2445.

Letters to the editor may be edited for space and clarity. Letters and submissions must be accompanied by name and telephone #. Only under extraordinary circumstances, discussed with you, will we print letters that are unsigned.

LesbianNews is published 10 times per year and serves lesbians, bisexuals and allies primarily on Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Its goal is to celebrate all aspects of lesbian life. We encourage all lesbian writers, artists, designers to contribute. Copy deadline is the 13th of the month prior to publication. Copy on floppy disk or typed double-spaced preferred.

Let us know of your interest in covering local events. We reserve the right to edit for space and readability.

Submissions to: P.O. Box 5339, Station B, Victoria, B.C. V8R 6S4.

Subscriptions are \$20 per year. Cheque or money order to S. Hamill at above post office.

Individual copies are \$2.50 on sale at Everywomans Books, 635 Johnson St.

Advertising: Business cards \$11 per issue, \$50 for 5 issues and \$90 for 10 issues.

Display ads are \$20 for 1/4 page, \$40 for 1/2 page. Full page \$80 per issue. Send camera ready copy or a layout with a cheque to our PO Address. **Deadline is the 15th** of the month prior to publication to guarantee inclusion.

Classified Ads and Notices are \$5 per month for up to 25 words and .50 for each word thereafter. If you want us to hold and forward personal ad replies, add \$2. We run non-commercial notices, free of charge. We reserve the right to refuse any ad that might create legal difficulties or that offends our highly developed sensibilities. We reserve advertising space for lesbians and allies only.

Gift Certificates: Available for those wanting to present Lnews as a gift to discerning friends. Call Barbara for ads or certificates at 479-2445 up to 7 p.m. Messages will be returned.

THE STORY OF FLOSSIE CONTINUES...

By Karey Perks

Flossie pulled the fall of auburn hair away from her ear and tried to listen over the surge of her own breath for any sound in the lab that might be made by Schmeleng. She stood that way for a long time, nervously twisting the hair around and around her fingers, but all she heard was the creak of settling machinery and the hum from the lights overhead.

The scent of his fear and rage still emanated from the ride machine. She pulled shut the door with a loud clang that made her jump, but she left the lock wheel open for him to get out. He had to come back that way. Likely he was going to tell her she had done something stupid, as always whenever she went near the racks of instruments. "Get away from there before you do something stupid." But stupid wasn't smelling out new things. Stupid was going where the ride machine took you and not coming back. And didn't she always come back when he sent her in it?

"Stupid you, Schmeleng." She said it hesitantly, out of a growing suspicion that things were badly out of Order. She sniffed around the lab and found the bag he made her carry with their lunches in it. Go home and look for him there, her nose told her. This was contrary to her experience, which said that if he went into the ride machine he would come back that way.

It worried her to know something her nose didn't know. She tried to crawl into the dark cave under the office desk, her refuge before Schmeleng had made her too big, but now she barely fit. Everything was falling apart. She buried her face in the comforting aroma of tuna fish, letting it surround her nose like a shield. Her eyes were leaking. First her nose and now her eyes. It was almost like being in the ride machine, except there was no door to get back to where it all started, because

“

WHAT PLACE WAS THERE FOR A GOLDEN RETRIEVER IN A WORLD WHERE THINGS BECAME IRRETRIEVABLE?

Schmeleng had already changed everything by making her different. It was all his doing, and he wasn't even here. Piss on him. If her nose said look for him at home, that's where she had to go. You didn't give up on your nose just because there was something wrong with the Order of things.

She followed her usual route home, across the University and through the maze of faculty housing cul-de-sacs where Schmeleng's house was. Schmeleng made her wear a house key on a chain around her neck. She held it tightly to keep it from jingling against her old dog licence, which she was not supposed to wear, and let herself in. She sniffed the air. His scent was cool, faint as the morning's toast. Still holding the key, she scuffed through the deserted kitchen into the empty living room. It made her feel good to having something to hold onto.

She flopped on the couch. It was good he wasn't here, but it was bad that she didn't know where he was. He was so afraid, when she locked him in the ride machine, and she couldn't say why she wouldn't let him out. It wasn't like her; she wasn't some short-tempered German Shepherd who kept up the attack even when her opponent was ready to run away. But there was no way that she was going to let Schmeleng put her in that machine again. No way. So it was good, what she did.

It was good and it was bad at the same time. She felt like one of those yellow balls she sometimes picked up at the tennis courts on the way home. Good. Bad. Good. Bad. Good. Bad. Where was the Order in that? Think! Schmeleng would yell at her when she got confused, but all she could think was, what if the Order of things was coming too far apart to get back together again, and she had lost it forever? What place was there for a Golden Retriever in a world where things became irretrievable?

A nap, that was what she needed. She put what was left of the sandwich back in the lunch bag, set it on the coffee table, and dropped the chain with her dog tag and key on it inside her shirt. Then she wrapped herself in a quilt and stretched out on the couch. Sometimes, she thought, as she yawned and closed her eyes, sometimes you woke up from a nap and everything was fine. ♀♀

GETTING SET FOR THE FUTURE

THE FIRST IN A SERIES OF ARTICLES TO HELP YOU PLAN FOR YOUR FUTURE BY A LESBIAN FINANCIAL PLANNER WITH THE WOMEN'S FINANCIAL PLANNING CENTRE

by Tanya Anderson

Lesbians at Midlife, an American anthology, has a chapter by S. Lisa Hayes on financial planning for retirement.



As she points out "From the day you know you are a lesbian you know that you, and

you alone, are responsible for your life." In the National Lesbian Health Survey (2,000 lesbians in the U.S.A.) the number one concern for lesbians was money problems. It is safe to assume that many Canadian lesbians would have the same concern. According to Statistics Canada, for every 100 people tracked from the start of their working lives, the following situation exists at age 65: only 7 have annual incomes over \$35,000, 49 have incomes between \$10,000 and \$35,000, 19 have incomes under \$10,000 and the remaining 25 are dead. Not a cheery thought. Now we know where most of the women are in this group. Alive but not necessarily in the top seven per cent. The good news is that we live longer than men but the bad news is that we earn less money and run the risk of outliving our incomes.

Lesbians at Midlife is written for American lesbians but the basic

message is universal: earn money, retain your earnings, protect your assets for emergencies and allow a portion to grow to outpace inflation. So, what's a gal to do when it's a stretch to cover the rent or the mortgage and that adorable SPCA foundling has turned out to be a Bouvier who is devouring the sofa along with a quarter of the grocery budget? Develop a plan. By making prudent decisions to save a small part of your earnings today, compound interest and time can make those savings grow. It is possible at even low income levels to make small monthly investments that will compound and grow dramatically. Once you start to save your money, you must retain as much as possible by using the few tax-saving tools available such as registered retirement savings plans and home ownership. Many financial planners use what is called the Priority Pyramid to illustrate the fundamental elements of a sound financial plan. The foundation of the pyramid is protection. This includes having a will and a power of attorney (particularly important for lesbian couples), life and income replacement insurance, and an accessible emergency fund such as Canada Savings Bonds. The middle

level is longer term savings — RSPs, home ownership and term deposits. The top of the pyramid is growth. This is when you start to send your money out to work for you — mutual funds are a good place to start because you require only a low initial investment. Whatever your risk tolerance and goals, you can find the investment that is right for you using mutual funds. These funds, of course, can be tax sheltered in your RRSP. At the very top of the pyramid, there are higher risk areas of investing such as stocks, investment real estate and so forth. This is a very general guideline to the steps involved in setting up a conservative plan. To sum up: protection, savings and growth. In the coming months, I'll expand upon some ways to answer the question, "How much do I need to save for retirement and where will it come from." ♀♀



**WOMEN'S FINANCIAL
PLANNING CENTRE**

Tanya Anderson
Account Representative

Bus.: (604) 472-1319
Res.: (604) 388-7456
Fax: (604) 472-1302

1623 McKenzie Avenue
2nd Floor
Victoria, B.C. V8N 1N6

*Lavender
Link*

Accommodations
136 Medana St.
Victoria, B.C.
V8V 2H5
(604) 380-7098
Gloro & Pearl

Enjoy comfort in a tastefully renovated character home only minutes from the Inner Harbour and downtown, and two blocks from the ocean.

(604) 380-7098

LOVE A SINGER

by Jennifer Waelti-Walters

Musaic has been welcomed into the hearts of many members of the Lesbian communities in Victoria and we are thrilled by our reception. We love you to love us and support us and applaud us. The Day Without Art in the Art Gallery in December 1993 was the first concert I had ever sung in my life—as it was for a lot of people in the chorus. When we finished, the entire audience surged to its feet as one. It was a moment I shall never forget. We all looked at each other in wonderment: We caused that!

There are about 50 regular singers and we welcome everyone from “I was told to be quiet in 2nd grade and have never sung since” to regular musicians who’ve been singing ever since they could crawl. The warmth and level of acceptance and effort make Musaic a family within in the wider community.

When I started with Musaic - then Octavia - in January 1993, I thought that all I had to do to be in a choir was turn up regularly and sing. I soon learned that this was not the case, and since I’ve been on the Coordinating Team I’ve become even more aware of the ongoing costs of a large chorus. Sheet music costs money; conductors have to be paid; a hall with a piano must be rented, and so on.

Every month’s expenses are about \$1,500. As we sing for a 10 month year, it costs a whopping \$15,000 to keep Musaic solvent. Break that down by 50 people and it costs \$30 a month per singer. Not quite. We have three subscription levels: about 33% of the choir pay \$30; those who work part-time pay \$15 (another 33%); and the singers who are unemployed pay by donation when they can. It’s easy to see that we don’t meet our costs, even making some money on a concert. The December concert is a benefit and we aren’t expert enough yet to learn music fast enough to produce more than two programs a year—December and June. Mark June 17th in your diary: Phillip Young Auditorium, MacLaurin Building, UVic, in the evening.

So this is an appeal: if any of you would like to become non-singing associates of Musaic and either pay a regular subscription or give us a donation, we will soon be able to provide you with a tax receipt (sent out in January ...). Also, we need helpers for concerts and for the ongoing organization of the choir. Come

and give us your support. Instead of buying a CD once in a while give us the equivalent.

Loving a musician (or fifty) is a wonderful new way of loving music.

You can donate to Musaic by sending cheque to Musaic, c/o 54 Government Street, Victoria, B.C. V8V 2K3. Or phone me, Jennifer Waelti-Walters at 598-7984. ♀♀

Cheryl McGarrigle

Travel Consultant

Home: 388-9974

*Up to date on Olivia Cruises
Travel Agent to the Lesbian Community*

ENSIGN
TRAVEL LTD.
(604) 386-8427

JAMES BAY SQUARE, 3C - 435 Simcoe Street
Victoria, B.C. V8V 4T4 Fax: (604) 361-2662

WOMEN'S NIGHT EVERY THIRD FRIDAY

GAY RUMORS BAR

1325 GOVERNMENT STREET, VICTORIA, B.C.
WOMAN • LESBIAN • LESBIGAY • WOMAN • LESBIAN • LESBIGAY • WOMAN

Susan Slatkoff, M.A.

Psychotherapist

Therapy with adults specializing in:

Sexual abuse ♦ Dream and symbol work ♦ Women's body issues
Depression ♦ Substance abuse ♦ Relationships

1422 Wende Road, Victoria ♦ 477-8385

EXPOSE YOURSELF — TO FEMINISM

By Theresa Newhouse

Many a new dyke has wandered through the doors of *Everywomans Books* in search of words, ideas, faces to help her make sense of her life or join the community.

At its birth, in 1975 feminist and particularly lesbian literature was almost impossible to come by in Victoria. "We were hungry to have access to the world of ideas," said Ann Hillyer, one of the founders.

On a trip to women's bookstores in California, Hillyer and one of the co-founders, Lynn Greenhough, saw how influential non-profit women's bookstores could be. She said they started *Everywomans* with the idea of exposing more women to feminism.

Everywomans has been more than just a source of lesbian theory, for some it has been a personal and cultural resource. "When I first got involved I was just coming out," said collective member Mary Fair. "I thought it would help me connect with the lesbian community and see what the community was like."

Fair said she has valued the diversity of the collective. "It's hard to stagnate or factionalize there because there are so many different ways of being." Her

exposure to so many interesting straight and lesbian women has been a valuable learning experience.

Collective member Jahnet Hewsick also sees *Everywomans* as a natural magnet for new lesbians. "I enjoy acting as a welcome wagon for new dykes and dykes who are just coming out. We often get phone calls or women come into the store and they want us to make referrals. I really enjoy acting as a source of information. I've had some wonderful encounters."

Fair is pleased to see *Everywomans* take on this role in the community, and added that over the years there's been more lesbian input in the collective. Attitudes about lesbianism within our own community and the women's movement have changed through the decades and the bookstore has been a part of it all.

"We wanted [*Everywomans*] help in the process of having the discussion of lesbian politics more visible within feminism," said Hillyer.

Greenhough recalls women "literally wearing dark glasses and trench coats when they first came into the store; the prevailing

The

Collective of Lnews:

I recently received my copy of Lnews and I am still fuming over the letters which directly attack and name women in the SWAG organization and then refuse to name themselves. That to me is an act of cowardice. To the authors I say "shame," at least if you believe your virulent position to be right, have the personal courage to

belief at the time was that feminists must be lesbians. And lesbians, of course, were seen as subversive."

Fair agrees. "In the early years women came into the store much differently then they do now," she said. "A lot of women weren't sure whether they had lesbian rights because it was a new movement."

Fair said she feels the gradual growth of visibility and pride within the lesbian nation has resulted in the store's increased profile. But it has not always brought positive responses. "We've had a window smashed and [another time] been posterized with obscene right wing propaganda," said Fair.

Everywomans is still going strong. A number of diverse and dynamic young women have joined the collective in the last few years, and the store continues to expand its lesbian content. ♀♀



DOVETAIL ent.
Home Improvements
727-0968
MEG HERWEIER
•Carpenter•Painter•

Rowena Hunnisett M.A.

Psychotherapy for Individuals, Couples & Groups

54 GOVERNMENT STREET

TELEPHONE 384-2833

Thirteenth Opinion

name yourselves.

It takes little personal integrity to attack others and then hide behind the cloak of anonymity and by that act not allow the victims to defend themselves.

I am very disappointed at the Lnews allowing its pages to air the internal problems of SWAG from a biased position with no input from SWAG and no (I am told) input from SWAG sought.

Where or what is your policy on unnamed "letters"? I shudder at the ramifications if Lnews policy allows this to continue.

Stefan Carson

Ed note: See policy on inside page one which we call the "flag".

Oh No, Not A Mistake!

SWAG made an error in not continuing its commitment to organize the vigil. Three members who resigned made an error in not staying and working out the problem(s). Now what? Heads will roll. People are resigning. Feelings are hurt. Is this a typical lesbian feminist reaction to things gone awry? Whatever has happened to taking responsibility for one's actions, to dialogue, to consensus, to working through the problems as they arise? Surely this is not the first time women have had differences of opinion? Everywomans Books has a long-standing collective that operates on a consensus basis. They have had many heated discussions but heads never rolled. On one occasion some women resigned over a hot issue but the bookstore didn't fold; instead, dealing with the conflict made them grow stronger. It is time to review the consensus making process. Perhaps a day-long workshop would help. I'm distressed to hear that consensus was not viable in this case. When used honestly and with a real desire to work through conflict, this is a very empowering way to resolve issues. The Hopi circling method is one of great power and empowerment. I would be willing to hold such a circle to pass on the method to anyone interested in learning a revitalized way to reach consensus. Let's stop fighting and start talking!

Reva Hutkin

From the Harvard Educational Review:

The editorial board of the Harvard Educational Review plans to publish a special issue on the topic of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgendered People in Education. Enclosed is a copy of the Call for Papers that appears in the 1995 spring issue of the journal.

In response to the growing climate of homophobia, we hope to provide a forum that portrays the realities of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgendered students, parents, teachers, administrators, counselors, and others with positive regard for members of those communities. We are interested in papers exploring relevant issues such as race, gender identity, homophobia, parenting issues and policy advocacy from a theoretical, research or practice perspective.

We would appreciate your sharing the enclosing Call for Papers with your colleagues.

Vitka Eisen and Irene Hall for the Editorial Board.

Deadline for Optional proposals is May 1, 1995. Deadline for papers is September 1, 1995. To receive a Call for Papers contact: Harvard Educational Review, Gutman Library Suite 349, 6 Appian Way, Cambridge, MA 12138. Phone (617) 495-3432; fax (617) 496-3584.

Optional proposal process is for authors who may want feedback on their ideas. Process is facilitative rather than evaluative. Proposals should be no longer than three double-spaced pages and should include a description of the planned submission. All proposals will receive a response by July 1, 1995. Response should not be reviewed as a guarantee of publication. All proposals should be submitted by May 1, 1995.

Papers can range from 10 to 30 pages, but should not exceed 35 pages of text, double-spaced. Book reviews typically run 5-8 pages (one book). Authors of all submissions should be identified only on the title page. Three copies of each manuscript, double-spaced and accompanied by a one-page abstract, should be sent to the address as given in letter, above. By Sept. 1, 1995.

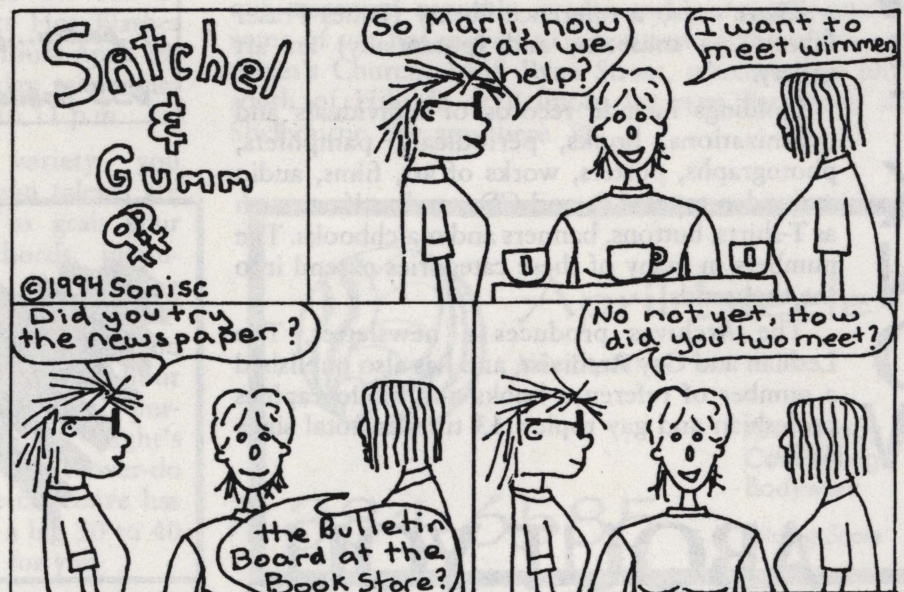
* * * * *

Dear LesbianNews:

Could you please send me any info or printed matter that you may have that will help me get in touch with any other lesbians on Vancouver Island. I would like to correspond with women of all ages. Thank you

A. Falkenberg

ed note: here's your letter. But if you want other lesbians to correspond with, do we have your permission to print your address?



STONEWALL BABIES TAKE NOTE

Allyson Publications, Inc. seeks submissions for lesbian and gay essay collection. A leader in gay and lesbian publications, Alyson is looking for personal essays from lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transsexuals born after (or shortly before) the Stonewall Riots of 1969.

Were Ernie and Bert your role models? Have you never had sex without an awareness of AIDS? Are you a Riot Grrrl, Lesbian avenger, Queer National? Did your high

school have a L/G/B support group? Did you go? Did you take your lover? When you were coming out, did you skip Radclyffe Hall and Gordon Merrick and jump right into Audre Lorde and David Leavitt? Are you a second-or third-generation queer? If someone asked, "Are you a friend of Dorothy?" would you answer, "Yeah, I loved Bastard Out of Carolina"?

If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, then you should probably contribute to CHILDREN

OF STONEWALL, in which a new generation will tell the world what it is like to inherit the older generation's legacy of relative freedom and pride — and trouble.

CHILDREN OF STONEWALL is scheduled for release by Alyson Publications in 1996. For guidelines, please send a SASE to Robin Bernstein, CHILDREN OF STONEWALL, c/o Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118. Deadline for submissions is June 30, 1995. No fiction or poetry please. ♀♀

N
O
R
D
I
D
W
E
K
N
O
W

Lnews received a letter and brochure from the Canadian lesbian and Gay Archives to say they heard about us from a lesbian mainland publication. Apparently, the CLGA is the largest Canadian (gay & lesbian) archives with over 2,000 square feet of space. It's the second largest lesbian and gay archives in the world, according to the pamphlet, containing much material which cannot be found anywhere else; the stories of the individuals and organizations of the Canadian lesbian and gay community, and records of events that have shaped their past.

Founded in 1973 by members of the gay liberation magazine *The Body Politic*, the archives has grown rapidly in both volume and scope of material, expanding to include all relevant, recordable information by and about lesbians and gay men in Canada. Lifestyles, ideas, cultures and politics of the Canadian gay and lesbian as well as considerable info about lesbians and gays beyond our borders.

There's also a reference library (James Fraser Library), a museum, and (potentially) an art gallery.


Holdings include records of individuals and organizations, books, periodicals, pamphlets, photographs, posters, works of art, films, audio and video tapes, LPs and CDs, and artifacts such as T-shirts, buttons, banners and matchbooks. The numbers in many of these categories extend into the thousands.

The Archives produces a newsletter, *The Lesbian and Gay Archivist*, and has also published a number of reference books and bibliographies on lesbian and gay topics, 13 titles in total since 1979.

The archives is located at 56 Temperance Street, Suite 201, Toronto, Ont.


Mailing Address is P.O. Box 639, Station A, Toronto, Ontario M5W 1G2. Telephone is (416) 777-2755. If you want to become a member, a donation of \$50 or more entitles you to membership, free access to the archives, the right to vote at our annual general meeting and a newsletter. Lnews has a copy of the pamphlet if you are interested. Call Barbara at 479-2445. ♀♀

♀ EVERYWOMANS BOOKS ♀
a non-profit collective



...poetry...feminist theory...travel...biography...

635 Johnson Street 388-9411



SHIATSU
 Gift Certificates
 "She'll love you for it"

Lynn Kirk, CST
 480-1560

ABOUT YOU

LITTLE LEZZIE FLASHES

Tune in Monday at 8:30 to CFUV for local lesbian er dyke documentary as locals Lahl, Meg, Shelly and Rose with silent partners (whatever they are in terms of production) Lisa and Kyle give us the lowdown and upswing of dyke life in Victoria. If you have cable, find it on 104.3FM. If you don't have cable it is as listed 101.9. The show is called Dyke Dimensions and it began with the kind of chaos one must expect from technical tyros and novice newsmakers who might have benefitted from a rehearsal. First show is the most important, sometimes. Opening had Lahl doing a five-minute summary of six hours of research on the word Dyke which affirmed my opinion that dyke's been a good word to reclaim. I call myself a dyke. Lahl's research shows that the word refers to justice, truth, warrior, friend to oneself, strong, mother of earth, daring, sacrificed to the greater good, and giving. Now who wouldn't want to be a dyke? REAL WOMEN MOVE OVER! The frenetic pacing and self-consciousness of opening will gradually disappear as the dykes get their dimensions together. It's worthy of our support. It is also a good place to get the word out — so if you have an event that needs pitching, let the Dyke Dimension know.

Address is CFUV c/o University of Victoria, Box 3035, Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P3. Topics for discussion include safer sex, comedians, writers, building community, ageism, dykes of colour, clothing crises, survivors of incest and rape. Not once did I hear anything about leather or strap-ons as the T/C mentioned in its local side er snide column. Grrrrllls, we have to be so careful what we tell the press. We are still so TITillating. A wild schedule, and life-stuff that one can expect as one ages, prevented me from attending a couple of events. I refer to Everywomans 20th anniversary celebrations which I understand were quite wonderful. Congratulations to the collective for stick-to-itiveness and general good work. Lnews has been selling out at Everywomans for the last little while, so we have doubled our numbers. And we are checking with Nicole to see how things go. I have missed also, every performance Nicola Harwood has presented. It's about my life! So darn busy I cannot enjoy it. Waiting for Nic to return a phone call so that we can talk. Do you hear that Nic? The VI Sisters said a hearty thank you to us all Saturday night and made us all feel not only proud but also glad, very glad that we supported their efforts. Congratulations on winning, but even more so, congratulations for responding like the champions you are. There's dances and dances and more dances. And dancing and stretching and watching Jenny Waelti-Walters turn 53 right before our eyes! Congratulations Jenny. And congratulations to all of you who keep community going and growing despite all. Until next time. BMCL



HOT FLASHES SEEKS TALENT

Vancouver contemporary acoustic guitarist Doreen MacLean headlines the fun at the next Hot Flashes coffee House April 29, a Saturday take note, from 8 to 11 p.m.

For variety, you home-spun talents are invited to grab your vocal chords, instruments, joke-telling abilities, permance talents of all kinds and join the half-hour open-mike (mic?) portion of the night's events. Don't over-do it as the collective has allotted a big 30 to 40 minutes for you.

Give Jean a call at 920-9993 to book your spot. Now. Be a warm-up for a hot new act and who knows?

And, speaking of who knows....Hot Flashes, one of our treasured monthly events and pre-menopause for some of us...has moved to a hot new location. It's at St Alban's Church, 1468 Ryan Street, which is one block south of Hillside at Belmont between Fernwood and Shelbourne. See you there. ♀♀



BRENDA HOPPER
Real Estate Sales

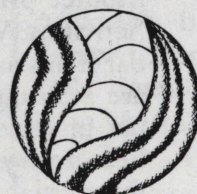
Business (604) 384-8124 24 hours
Toll Free 1-800-665-5303
Fax (604) 380-6355

THE ISLAND'S 1st
REAL ESTATE TEAM

**PEMBERTON
HOLMES**

ESTABLISHED 1887

1000 Government Street
Victoria, B.C., Canada V8W 1X8



April Steele

MSc DipAth

Art Therapy
Counselling
Bodywork

381-6585

Sliding Scale

VICTORIA HAVEN FOR SPORTS MAVENS

By Corrine Devison

So you've just moved to Victoria or you've been here all along but have been too busy being a slave to your job or personal life? You're wondering what does this city have to offer a fem jock, to a sports dyke or to a fan who loves watching women sweat and saunter on and off the playing field. Well you're in luck. Victoria is a haven for year-round sports and rec dykes. Our city's blistering cold winters won't stop our avid golfers, sailors or very short-skirted field hockey players.

Alas, as the rest of Canada digs and plows out from the seasonal snow storms, Victoria is busy mowing our soccer, flag football, field hockey and lacrosse fields.

Well into spring and nearing summer brings field lacrosse, softball, soccer and more flag football. Of course, there are still plenty of lesbian or gay activities to enjoy, from basketball and volleyball to outdoor recreation and bowling. There are a few softball, ice hockey and field hockey teams where most of the

players are lesbian, but I'll leave it up to you to play dyke detective. If your gaydar is a bit rusty and all athletic women are starting to look like dykes, fear not, your local sports dyke will play Watson to your S. Holmes. With the retirement or disbanding of the V.I. Sisters, the only lesbian ball team is Rumours of the Government league.

Finally, if your leisure interests include watching or playing with some very hot women athletes, try your local fastball teams at Hyacinth Park, Topaz Park, or at Vic. West Park (by Da Vinci Centre). Most of these ball teams play on weeknights from April to July, between six or six-thirty and eight PM. These three parks represent the most competitive to recreation ball. While field and ice hockey are winding out their seasons in April, make sure you catch them again next Sept.-Oct. Both sports are non-contact and possess recreational and competitive teams. (Sorry, you'll have to leave body

slamming for the bedroom, even minor contact may send you to the box.)

Victoria is a busy city. As I write this in the middle of March, a masters field hockey tourney and competitive ice hockey tournament are going on. Outdoor recreation, soccer, flag football, ice hockey and softball are about to get under way or are winding up their respective seasons. If you're a sports fan, part-time athlete, recreation enthusiast, or a woman who wants to start or watch a new activity, enjoy our city's seasonal activities. Happy dyke hunting!

P.S. Good luck to the Victoria Stingers and other Island hockey players participating in the Banff International Ice Hockey Tournament April 8-10. The Stingers are thinking about going to the Amsterdam Gay Games in '98. Keep dreaming and keep saving. You never know what will happen unless you keep the dream alive. ♀♀

CAPITAL QUEERS - A NEW WAY OF FINDING OUT ABOUT OUT AND OUT AND MORE OUT.

Pride Day is almost upon us and Capital Queers is celebrating by publishing a combination Pride Day Souvenir Book and Greater Victoria Queer-Positive Business Directory.

The Directory will be out (no pun intended) by early June and distributed prior to, and at, Pride Day Activities. We're looking for Calendar Items and for Advertisers. If you are a business person, with a product or service to sell, we'd like to hear from you. If your group has an event planned send us the info. Advertising rates for businesses will be quite reasonable. Calendar items will be included free of charge.

We are Jude Angione and Lynn

Kirk. Jude is Layout Coordinator for Living Proof — the joint PWA Society and Victoria Aids Respite Care Society newsletter. Lynn is a Shiatsu Therapist in private practice. Capital Queers is a volunteer project we cooked up for ourselves, as a service to the community, and to give us an excuse to play with our newly-acquired computer.

For more info, call Capital Queers voice mail at 727-8681. Leave us your name and address and we'll send you out an info sheet. DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISING COPY IS MAY 15/95; DEADLINE FOR CALENDAR ITEMS IS MAY 31/95. ♀♀

Belly Dancing & Yoga

with

Midwife, Diane Smith

**Saturday Mornings,
9 a.m.**

also

**complete
midwifery care
in the
childbearing year**

598-4052

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHO'S DOING WHAT?

Please mail items to us at P.O. Box 5339, Station B, Victoria, V8R 6S4. Or call Barbara 479-2445. See inside front cover (flag) for details.

ON-GOING

LESBIAN 5-PIN BOWLING

LEAGUE: Fridays, 6:30 to 8:30, Town and Country Lanes. Spares needed. Beginners Welcome. Call Dawn, 384-2061.

MUSAIC: An 'out' performance chorus for lesbians, gays and allies. Open to anyone who loves to sing. No musical background or audition required. New members welcome again in September to our weekly rehearsals. For info call Helen at 383-8613.

SERIOUS DYKE WRITERS WANTED: For writer's group. Call Lahl at 595-7179. Meeting date to be determined by group.

SOME VERY NICE DYKES: New contact is Laurie 384-6335. Meets every 2nd Tues and Thursday for coffee, conversation, fun, support. Mini groups form for various interests. All ages welcome.

LESBIAN SOBRIETY GROUP: Open discussion meeting weekly for lesbians recovering. This group

will not focus on any particular recovery programme. It will be for lesbians to come together to explore all kinds of recovery. A safe place for sober lesbians to share. We will meet Tuesday evenings 7:30 p.m. beginning April 25. Call Cindy 370-1289.

DYKE HOUSING: Looking for lesbian-folk interested in creating Dyke/Lesbian Housing (i.e. co-op, co-housing, condo, apartment building, row housing etc.) Call Rebecca at 595-7179 if you are interested, and we will set up a meeting to share ideas.

ENTREPRENEURIAL SUPPORT GROUP: It's not only lonely at the top. It can be lonely just getting there. If you are looking for fellow lesbians in home business, cottage industry etc. for purposes of sharing advice, mutual concerns, ideas and support, call Trish Sharp at 389-1517 to get a club going.

LESBIAN ART SHOW: Submit now to a community based juried dyke art show to be held October 1995.

All visual art media welcome. Any lesbian artist may apply. Submissions accepted 'til May 15, 1995. For information call Margot 380-6617 or Rebecca 595-7179.

SPONSORS NEEDED FOR ART SHOW: The Lesbian Art Show needs stuff. We are looking for submissions (see above). We also need sponsors and donations of money, labour, equipment etc. Do you have a space for the show? Do you have connections that will help us find a space for the show? In return, at the very least, we offer a dynamic, community based dyke art exhibition, acknowledgement of your contributions, your place in lesbian history, and our heartfelt thanks. If you can help call Rebecca at 595-7179 or Margot at 380-6617.

If you have a purple sticker in this spot, your subscription is up with this issue!



VICTORIA'S MEETING PLACE FOR THE GAY/LESBIAN COMMUNITY

OPEN DAILY FROM NOON 'TIL 1 A.M. EXCEPT SUNDAY... UNTIL MIDNIGHT

JOIN US FOR THE GOOD TIMES!

Watch **LIVE ENTERTAINMENT WEEKENDS!** for **GAMES NIGHT...**

POOL TOURNAMENT WEDNESDAY NIGHT...

**B.J.'s Lounge * Broad Street at Johnson
Ph: 388-0505**

Lesbian Seniors Care Society

The purpose of this unique organization is to enable senior lesbians to live active and meaningful lives through the establishment of housing with varying levels of care and a community support network.

The members of the steering committee of the Society are Milnor Alexander, Tanya Anderson, braude, Donna Cameron, Stefan Carson, Jacquie Denage, Karen Gallagher, Sally Hamill, Jenny Leary, Sandy McLellan, Lynn Murray and Sharon Wilkinson.

They look forward to getting input and support from our community. We can all be part of creating safe, lesbian positive environments for our seniors.

For further information, call Jacquie at 386-8380.

WHAT'S GOING ON? WHO'S DOING WHAT?

Please mail items to us at P.O. Box 5339, Station B, Victoria, V8R 6S4. Or call Barbara 479-2445. See inside front cover (flag) for details.

UP-COMING AND ADS

A PLACE TO LIVE: Construction is driving 'em crazy. Two lesbians seek housing for selves and well-mannered lab cross dog in 2 bedrm house by May 1st or 15. Sooke or Metchosin would be nice. Quiet is chief concern. They have references. Call Pam at 391-0921 if you have a spot for good tenants.

SEEKING WORK: Lesbian seeking manual labor or outdoor work: landscaping, gardening, nurseries etc. Hardworking, reliable, references. Call Ann at 592-6034.

ACCOMMODATION WANTED: Lesbian seeking house-sit for March and April. Prefer Victoria area. Good with pets. Reliable, references. Call Ann at 592-6034.

SUBLET: Two-bedroom house in Fairfield available July 1 to Nov.1. Call Diane 598-4052.

LESBIAN OUTDOOR CLUB: Meets at 6:30 p.m. first Wednesday of each month, 625 Niagara. For Potluck planning sessions. Call Semone or Michele at 360-1975.

PURPLE MOON SISTERS (PMS): presents From The H.I.P. (Hornby Island Performers) entertain women in Victoria. A total show for us from

Hornby with beer, wine and cheese. Admission \$7 at the door at CNIB Auditorium Richmond Street. Volunteers can phone Lou at 598-9060.

SHIATSU: Take a break from the stresses of daily life with Japanese finger-pressure body work. \$35/hour. Gift Certificates available. Lynn Kirk, CST. For appointment call 480-1560.

ROOM FOR RENT: In cozy house to quiet, mature lesbian. Half-block from the Gorge. Call Karey 380-7562.

PETS KIDS PLANTS KLEENING: Need a gardener, child care, house sitting, house cleaning? For reliable and prompt service call Trish or Kim at 389-1517.

SERVICES

University of Victoria: Jenny Waelti Waters heads Women's Studies Department. She can arrange meeting rooms under banner of Women's Studies. Call the secretary, 721-6157.

Some Very Nice Dykes: Laurie 384-6335

Non-Violent Civil Disobedience Trainers: Alison Anderson, 598-8184

Lesbian/Gay Provincial Employees Assoc: or funding via Women's Equality Ministry. Anne R., 953-4511.

Unitarian Church: welcomes openly gay/lesbian. Call Lisa at 388-4910

SWAG: Status of Women Action Group has a lesbian issues committee. Call 383-7322.

LesbiaNews: P.O. Box 5339 Station B, Victoria. V8R 6S4

P-FLAG: Information # is 642-5171 for those who are interested in Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

Bowling: Dawn H., 384-2061

Lesbian Seniors Housing: Jacquie Denage 386-8380

Blind Date Productions: Gwyneth Powell, 598-2327

Lesbian Outdoor Club: Semone/Michele, 360-1975

Dyke Basketball: Mary Lasovitch 598-8040

****Note:** SWAG is setting up a special calendar of events, a list of granting agencies and women and dyke services - a more inclusive list than above. Please let them know what's up at 383-7322. It's called Feminist Activist Network. It is inclusively lesbian.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

Please send me 10 issues of **LesbiaNews** starting with _____ (month).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal Code _____

I enclose cheque or money order, payable to S. Hamill, P.O. Box 5339, Station B, Victoria, B.C., V8R 6S4, for _____ subs at \$20 each.

TOTAL \$ _____

Please send me a gift subscription of **LesbiaNews** starting with _____ (month).

Name _____

Address _____

City _____

Postal Code _____

Please put this name as gift giver:

(Back issues available for \$2.50 including postage)