

MAMA BEARS

NEWS
& NOTES

VOL. 0

BOOKSTORE • COFFEEHOUSE • ART GALLERY • CRAFTS

NO. 3

PASSING IN REVIEW

THE WOMAN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA OF MYTHS AND SECRETS, by Barbara G. Walker (Harper).

Not since Elizabeth Gould Davis' The First Sex has so much of our suppressed herstory been assembled in a publication. It is an A to Z arrangement of 1,350 entries, with references listed after each topic from a bibliography of some 350 authors.

In 25 years of research a thousand hidden pockets of history, mythology, anthropology, religion and sexuality are explored. Tracing concepts to their prepatriarchal origins, it's ultimately clear the only original idea the patriarchy ever created was the suppression of women.

If the term encyclopedia should be a turn off for some, look out! Browsers beware; you will get hooked on endless fascinating detail. In cyclical time 'our-word' has been restored and this volume is a celebration of that! No women's home should be without it.
-Harriet Hart

RUNNING, June Millington
(Fabulous Records)

June Millington has come a long way since the early days of 'Fanny' and it's evident on her latest album, RUNNING. It's a tapestry of sound, a weaving of 3 different crafts: Producer (mixing and arrangements), Musician (vocals and guitar), and Songwriter. She has perfected all three crafts since her previous outing, HEARTSONG.

Most important, no matter what kind of music you're used to hearing, this album feels good in your space. With both lyrics and music Millington offers us a sustaining meal and the album, like her others, is going to wear well.
-Susan Wells

ANN MEREDITH of TEA FOR TWO SHIRTS does the best t-shirts in town! Beautiful, strong, and political--these are the words that spring to mind, viewing her 8 designs, all of which are on sale at Mama Bear's. Ann also does custom-designed shirts.

Trade in your used books at Mama Bears...we're taking all lesbian, woman's spirituality, gay men, third world women's, woman's self-help, and other women's movement books, plus what you can talk us into. Let's help our info recycle.

If you like getting Mama Bears News & Notes, slip us some spare change now and again for it, to help cover postage.

HOW WE'RE DOING

Launched, staying afloat, and under navigation, Mama Bears is doing fine. We are still in the overworked, no cash-flow stage, but we are joyous. The MBs team and our patterns of working together are a continual delight to us all.

The limited cash holds us back because we still need equipment. For instance; to enlarge the menu we need another refrigerator, a freezer, and an ice-maker. We still need clean air filters, fans, and ionizers. Keep your eyes peeled for used equipment!

CLASSIFIED

TREAT YOURSELF

or a friend, to a massage by Kam McCallum, certified masseuse. Drawing from Esalen, Swedish and Shiatsu training, specializing in stress reduction, body awareness and energy balancing. Appointments now available in the Mama Bears complex, call 233-0337. (Sliding scale)

BIORHYTHM CHARTS and consultations

By Red River

[14 years experience reading life cycles]

Weekdays at Mama Bears

ANNOUNCEMENT

Compulsive readers of SPY novels and conspiracy theorists (watchers of the international intelligence and intrigue) let's meet at Mama Bears! (Come one at a time, 3 minutes apart) The password is CONNIE SACHS. Tell your constant companion that a 'co' group may be forming. First meeting:

tuesday, march 6 7:30 PM

what's come to us...

Dear Mama Bears,

I've been told by several women who attended events at Mama Bears in January that just being there among women had done them good, that they hadn't realized how much they had needed to (touch in) until afterwards. So, Mama Bears may be but a growing child, but she's already filling a much needed role for us. I just want to thank you all.

-Reverent Dyke

THANKS FOR THE GOOD NOTE, RD. WE WANT WOMEN TO KNOW WE'RE HERE.

Dear Alice Walker,

Thank you for writing THE COLOR PURPLE.

-Grateful

It's such a pleasure to have access to Domen's space and bookstore in North Oakland -- finally! I was immensely moved by the Native American Domes Show you admirably pulled together before you were even open for business! Thanks, Mama Bears.

- a Lesbian Bear Cub

Dear News & Notes,

Do you know what I mean by amateur drug users? They're the folks with no tradition of self exploration whose doing of drugs, to be diplomatic, puts them in a great deal of ethical confusion. Boring trouble ensues until you figure out what's happening.

In our community it's important, also, to mention the women with problems behind power, the ones who 'get off' on political struggle and can't stop. 'Struggling' generated so much strife in our projects that very few of them survived. It's no accident that there's still so much needless division and bad faith. As long as we can't look at this we are easy to manipulate.

Part of the problem is our reverence for systems by which to make judgements of each other, like politics (as in 'politically correct'). Flocking to some other system wouldn't help. Think of the nauseating rhetoric a concept such as 'spiritually correct' would breed.

Are we too lazy to think, too guilty to question? How much boring trouble will it take to get us free from being sucked into irrelevant squabbles?

As ever, The Old Crank

MAMA BEARS

6536 Telegraph Ave. at 66th St.

Oakland, Ca. 94609

Bulk Rate
Postage
PAID
Permit No. 739
Oakland, CA

ON GOING Mama Bears is open late Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays for all-women socializing. Fridays are dancing nights--with Elaine Blake doing astrological mini-readings on request. All you need is your birthdate.

FEB 19 SUNDAY 4 PM **LARGE MIND HISTORY--A READING BY JUDY GRAHN, PAULA GUNN ALLEN, CAROL LEE SANCHEZ**
A reading on the transformation from this historical period to another. The Last Days of the Monarchy (Carol Lee Sanchez), Indian Women's History (Paula Gunn Allen), Queen of Wands (Judy Grahn). Music by Laura Brown, Mary Frances, Sue Carol Bartolucci. \$4.00, advance reservations accepted. Women only

FEB 25 SATURDAY 8 PM **TAROT WORKSHOP BY FFIONA**
Ffiona's workshop also includes the weaving in of color and crystals. \$3-5, advance reservations accepted. Women only

FEB 26 SUNDAY 4 PM Informal gathering of East Bay dikes interested in supporting the campaign for Pat Norman for S.F. Supervisor. For more information, ask at Mama Bears.

FEB 28 TUESDAY 7 PM Auditions for roles in Maria Coleman's opera version of a play by Gertrude Stein, "Three Sisters Who Were Not Sisters." To be performed at Mama Bears in late April. Costume makers are also needed. Call Mama Bears for more information. Women only

MARCH 3 SATURDAY 8 PM **BROWN BAG READERS THEATRE -- "WOMEN & ALCOHOLISM"**
If you haven't caught this group yet, come and see why they've become an important part of our community. \$3-5, advance reservations accepted. Women only

MARCH 8 THURSDAY 7:30 PM **MUSICA FEMINA -- JANNA MACAUSLAN & KRISTAN ASPEN**
With Janna MacAuslan (former Oakland resident) on classical guitar, and Kristan Aspen on flute, Musica Femina provides an "Informance" -- an intimate evening of the music and herstory of classical and contemporary women composers. \$5.00, advance reservations accepted. Women only

MARCH 10 SATURDAY 8 PM **KAREN RIPLEY, HUMORIST & TREASA CHANDLER, SINGER/SONGWRITER**
A mellow evening of humor and music. \$3-5, advance reservations accepted. Women only

MARCH 11 SUNDAY 3-6 PM **WOMEN'S TEA DANCE -- LIVE MUSIC BY THE BOOKSTORE BAND**
Dance chic-to-chic to the music of THE BOOKSTORE BAND--playing the mellow melodies of yesteryear. \$5.00, advance reservations accepted. Women only

7 PM **EAST BAY LESBIAN/GAY DEMOCRATIC CLUB -- OPEN MEETING**
Come and find out your rights under the new Oakland law granting civil rights to lesbians and gay men, and meet some of the women and men who made it happen.

MARCH 17 SATURDAY 3 PM The Woman's Movement is more notable for the mothers and daughters it united than for the husbands and wives it broke up. Raya Fastman photographed mothers and daughters for several years; her show, which runs til mid-April, contains portraits of many local women. Reception with Ms Fastman at 3 pm.

MARCH 18 SUNDAY 4-6 PM **EAST BAY KICK-OFF PARTY FOR PAT NORMAN FOR S.F. SUPERVISOR**
Pat is looking forward to this party with her old and new East Bay friends. Let us celebrate her energy and commitment, and lend our support to getting her elected: \$3-5, sliding scale. Everyone welcome.

MARCH 22 THURSDAY 8 PM **OPEN MIKE AT MAMA BEARS -- SINGERS, MUSICIANS, HUMORISTS, ETC**
Ready to meet the world with your act? Be signed up by 8 pm and the stage is yours for 15 minutes. Women only

MARCH 24 SATURDAY 8 PM **A FAMILY OF FRIENDS -- PORTRAIT OF A LESBIAN FRIENDSHIP GROUP, 1921-1973**
Margaret Anderson, Jane Heap, Janet Flanner are some of the women in this group, around which Frances Doughty, lesbian historian and researcher, has assembled a slide show and lecture. Our herstory becomes us. \$5, more if, less if. Advance reservations accepted. Women only

MARCH 25 SUNDAY 4 PM **GENNY HALEY & SUSIE ROTHFIELD -- ON FIDDLE, BANJO, GUITAR**
Genny and Susie, both members of Any Old Time string band, play blues, Cajun, and bluegrass, and specialize in songs by, for, and about women. Both really know their stuff, so this will be quite an event. \$3-5, advance reservations accepted