

Daughters of Bilitis

Newsletter

Nov. 6, 1969

S.F. Chapter
1005 Market St., 208
San Francisco
861-8689

DATES TO REMEMBER

Nov. 8, 14, 15, 16, 22 - Sirlebrities at SIR. 83 6th St., SF, SU 1-1570.
Zip code is 94103. Tickets, which range from \$3.00 to \$10.00, depending on the date, are available for the Capades Show.

Nov. 21 - 8PM - Business meeting at the office - 1005 Market St., SF.
See following story - not at Jackson's.

Nov. 29 - 9PM - 2AM - Free dance at SIR. Live rock band, the GLASS THUNDER. Drawing at midnight for door prizes.
At SIR, 83 6th St., SF.

Dec. 6 - 8PM - NOVA general business meeting. 850 Elizabeth St., SF.

Dec. 6 - 10PM - NOVA BYOB social, 25¢ donation suggested. 850 Elizabeth St., SF.

REPORT ON WOMEN'S COALITION MEETING

from Elsa

The D.O.B. took another good stride towards involvement with all women in their struggle for liberation from socially obsolete restrictions when it elected to be represented at a Women's Coalition Meeting sponsored by the National Organization of Women on September 27. The day-long gathering held in Glide Fellowship Hall in San Francisco brought together a surprising variety of women's organizations. These ranged from Women's Liberation groups, Womanpower, an academic Women's Caucus, a Women's labor union, groups seeking elimination of abortion laws...all the way to Soroptomists, and Women's City Club spokeswomen courageously feeling their way out of the conservatism of their past image.

D.O.B. was represented by its national president, Rita Laporte and D.O.B.'s own Del Martin, officiating as secretary of N.O.W.'s northern California chapter. A good sprinkling of D.O.B. members helped swell the audience that filled the large hall by the time the program was well under way. It

was racially mixed, easy to look at, and covered an age span from late teens through middle age and in a few instances into the 60's at least, though with the emphasis on youth. Aileen Hernandez of N.O.W. ably, in fact brilliantly chaired the meeting.

The day was so packed with good presentations, so alive with ideas and reports of action and so warmly understanding as between diverse groups, it would require more space than is available to do it justice. Several things stood out for this participant. With hardly an exception, prepared or unprepared to speak, the speakers discussed their activities, goals, operations and objectives with clarity, vividness and brevity. Boredom such as most of us have come to feel was inevitable at most meetings was kept at bay by the urgency of the problems discussed. These ran the gamut of what all women face who are resolved to realise their unique personhood: access to work and pay in accordance with ability and without sex discrimination... the right to choose -- or not choose -- motherhood... freedom from insult and put-down by mass media exploiting womanhood to sell products... elimination of brainwashing in education which can cripple girls emotionally and intellectually from infancy and on through life and distort boy's and men's ideas and attitudes towards girls and women... "protective" laws that don't protect but do discriminate... and more, much more that we all know. It was brought out by more than one speaker that women can be their own and their sisters' worst enemies through competitiveness and by not taking advantage even of the freedom's and opportunities that are already available.

D.O.B. members will be interested particularly in apparent demonstration of acceptance, even warmth by a predominantly heterosexual group. Because of the number of organization representatives present, not all could be fitted into the morning session allotted to this phase of the program. Among those left out due to pressure of time was the D.O.B. representative. Expressions of disappointment resulted in N.O.W.'s secretary inviting Rita Laporte to speak when the afternoon session was convened. She did so just before the showing of the devastatingly ironic film, a multi-media presentation entitled "Image of Women" (which deserves a separate review). When Rita reached the platform she was greeted with an ovation -- the only speaker to receive applause in advance of speaking. There was more applause following her brief outline of what D.O.B. stands for. Although predominantly an organization of Lesbians, she said, it is open to and welcomes all women

over 21 years. It was the oldest women's rights organization in the country since its members regard themselves as women before Lesbians and from its founding the organization has worked for their realisation as human beings as well as their right to live the emotional life of their nature and preference.

Workshpps of special interest occupied the afternoon -- groups on Child Care Centers, Abortion, Image of Women, Mass Media, Women in Politics, Job Discrimination, Equal Rights Amendment, Institutional Education. Each reported back briefly to the discussions to the reassembled meeting and in some cases committees were formed for further action.

A followup Women's Coaliton meeting was agreed on, to take place within two or three months probably. Anyone interested may communicate with National Organization of Women, 330 Ellis Street, SF, 94102. If it is as good as the first, every D.O.B. member able to attend would find it a heartening experience.

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CLASSIFIED ADS

FELINE - I know you're getting tired of reading this, GANG, but 365-8527 is still the number to call for free, loving cats and Kittens of almost any description. Please help us find good homes for these. How about Christmas presents? We planto have another batch ready about then.

REWARD - Free kitten to anyone who finds two girls a cheap (under \$150) place to live on the peninsula. We need an unfurnished place that allows cats. We would also be very interested in sharing a place (yours, ours, or one as yet unfound) with girl or girls who are also sick of high rents. Angel or Tony 365-8527. PS... You may forfeit the reward if you so desire.

AN OPPORTUNITY TO EDUCATE - Ladies needed for acting voices and for research and source documents for educational medium. 647-6618.

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STATEMENT

The five fundamental directions - north, east, south, west, and diagonal appear to be only two-dimensional. If you have problems remembering how to get along in three-dimensional space, try this - upwards, downwards, backwards, forwards, and diagonalwords.

POTPOURRI

by Terry

The Halloween Dance was a great success, after getting off to a slow start. Thirty-two people attended and we netted \$28.00. President Connie was pleased that the dance was put on by a committee - the first time in a long time. "Real nice to see things going, thanks to Jeri", says Connie. And Jeri appreciates the help done by her committee.... Due to lack of interest, the office is no longer open on Tuesday or Thursday nights, so come to the business meeting if you desire books or information.... "Boys In The Band" began previews Friday Oct. 31 at the Committee Theater, 836 Montgomery St. It is an internationally acclaimed comedy on the theme of homosexuality. Performances nightly except Monday. For information call 986-1639... Rita took a trip to LA two weeks ago, and tells us that the business meeting of the LA Chapter was filmed. It will be shown in a series starting in January in the LA area.... And don't miss Rita's letter in the October 31st issue of Time Magazine, which includes also a cover story on homosexuality.... A great big THANK YOU to Jack at SIR for running off the last page of our last newsletter after our machine broke down!! - and most of all for running off this one for us.... Not to be repetitious but due to lack of interest, this will be my last newsletter. I am resigning in support of Connie and Cam, but more important because I myself no longer wish to be associated with the organization for the same reasons that Cam and Connie no longer wish to be associated with the organization. Anyone wishing to know these reasons contact Cam (as per her letter, last page). In parting I would like to say that I enjoyed myself immensely, met several interesting people, and I really believe in the goals of DOB. As for my position as manager of the DOB softball team - I hope to have my own team next season, and will contact the girls who are now on the DOB softball team and give them an opportunity to play.

DAUGHTER OF THE MONTH

This month, our nominee is Jeri, who put on such a terrific dance for us. Jeri and Rose have been together for 3½ years, and met in Oregon through a mutual straight friend, no less. They have been in the Bay Area for a year and a half now, and plan to buy a home here soon. Rose says Jeri is a good cook (she collects cookbooks). Rose collects salt and pepper shakers. They have three children - Winnie, Pooh, and Tiger. Both are members of the softball team. Jeri says she doesn't really have a position on the team - runs slow, hole in glove.... But as one who has seen her play - she pitches very well and hits like heck. Jeri likes rag time music, is a great mystery reader, plays the piano and trumpet, knits, has been to Europe and lived in Hawaii for 2 years. And thanks again Jeri for that great dance.

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NOTICE REGARDING PLACE OF BUSINESS MEETING

Business meetings at Jackson's have been cancelled by President Connie. Some girls brought their own bottles to the dance, which is illegal in a setting such as Jackson's, a restaurant-bar operation. The next business meeting will be at the office.

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WHO'S WHO

Secretary - Karen - 244-6373 - San Jose
Treasurer - Diane - 771-9170 - San Francisco
Social Director - Jeri - San Francisco

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL DOB

October 13, 1969

Daughters of Bilitis
1005 Market Street
San Francisco, California

Members of DOB, San Francisco:

Please accept this as my letter of resignation, and, by the request of Connie personally, as a letter of her resignation also.

At the risk of sounding mysterious at best, I feel that a confrontation of angry people will accomplish nothing but more hard feelings and complications that are out of proportion to the past record of Connie's and my administration.

Accusations and histrionics are out of my scope, as well as Connie's and as her Vice-President and collaborator in many things, I advised her to resign her position as President of the San Francisco Chapter.

I am fully cognizant that my advice was drastic, but the present situations demand drastic action. Our resignations are for the good of all concerned: DOB, Connie, and myself.

Since the current state of affairs are reaching proportions that can only end in disaster, and since disaster has not been the hallmark of our administration, as most of you will acknowledge, I feel that a quiet and dignified exit, made as gracefully as is possible by Connie and myself will be gratefully accepted by all of you.

Connie's written resignation will have been received by the time you open this, and will, I suspect, be rather formal and brief. Please be advised that neither of us wish to have any more dealings with DOB, be it Chapter, National, San Francisco, or New York...either now or in the foreseeable future.

If any of you are curious as to the nature of this resignation, please feel free to contact me. I will be more than happy to discuss my termination with anyone who is more than a mere "Bad News Seeker".

Respectfully,

Cam Bergen
721 Filbert Way
Campbell, California
95008

**ISSUE [S] MISSING
NOT AVAILABLE**

**December 1969-
January 1970**