

Rubyfruit BOX 2386 SANTA CRUZ Reader



A LESBIAN COMMUNIQUE SEPT/OCT 1977 ISSUE 14



RUBY RAPS

The Rubyfruit Readher is a lesbian communiqué published monthly by a small collective. Not all of us necessarily agree with everything that is printed but we take responsibility for choosing to print whatever appears in Ruby. We are an open collective and welcome new members--call 426-DYKE for meeting times.

CONTRIBUTIONS

We always need contributions, both graphics and written materials. Graphics must be black ink on white paper and be either 3 or 6" wide. Written materials must have a signature, phone, & address, altho a pseudonym will be printed by request. We tend to give preference to materials submitted by Santa Cruz County lesbians altho we also appreciate articles that concern out-of-town events. Send by 15th of mo.

DISTRIBUTION POINTS

Pick up Ruby at the following places and put yr 35¢ in the donation can: SC Women's Health Collective, Mother Right Bookstore & You've Got Me Flying Kite Shop; also, on sale at Bookshop Santa Cruz. Please send us yr \$ if you get Ruby at: Phyl's, Dragon Moon, Plaza Books, Cymbaline or Felton Co-op.

Well, it took us a little longer than usual to come out this month, but we finally made it. It was a combination of the collective dwindling and people going on vacation. This issue was put out by essentially 3 people with some helpers. **WORKERS THIS ISSUE:** Kater, Catherine, Clytia, Mamie, Jan (cover).

We really need help putting Ruby out. Please write or draw something. Many thanks to all our friends who keep sending us \$\$\$. Back issues are available if you send donation & postage money. **RUBYFRUIT READHER**
Box 2386, Santa Cruz, 95063
426-DYKE. If any lesbian can't afford 35¢, then Ruby is free.



This is a moon tree, a symbol from the moon cults of ancient Assyria which reveal the female principle

Come All Fair Womyn

to a

HALLOWEEN COSTUME EXTRAVAGANZA

Sunday, October 30, 8-midnight

Harvey West Park Clubhouse

(dancing, bobbing for apples & other games, prizes for best & worst costumes, refreshments, & more....)

A BENEFIT FOR RUBYFRUIT READHER

- \$2.00 donation -

* call in advance (2 days) for childcare - 426-DYKE

* we need help pulling this off - if you are interested in working call 426- DYKE or 427-3776

Letters to Ruby

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Sisters,

Enclosed is a poem i wrote that you may or may not want to publish--i hope you do, but even if you don't think it's good enough, well--at least i tried! It may seem a little long, but i felt that it needed saying, all of it.

I'm 16 yrs old, which you may want to include with the poem, since it's kind of relevant to the subject matter. I'd would very much appreciate it if you would put my name simply as "Karyn", nothing more.

Yours in Sisterhood, Womanhood, Dykehood & Personhood, all my love, Karyn

Dear Karyn,
We liked your poem a lot!
But remember 1 thing; dykes need self-confidence!! If you ever need someone to talk to, give us a call. We usually send our contributors a complimentary copy, but we were afraid it might fall into the wrong hands.
Sisterhoods Are Powerful!!!!

Love, Ruby



Greetings, m'dears...

Remember, i am that I AM, janus(PERSONNA of Mom & Dad's great galacterian mind) told us so, lightly; that the Old Way is guilt, etc...that agonizing reappraisal & 3½ years Contract Renewal time is about upon us, by REQUEST; that billions of souls up the AEONS will NE'ER know, for sure, how they woulda treated the Kozmick Flasher while we had her among us, cause it had to be shoddy/shabby all the way-and what a great goode sport/FRIEND/LOVER/etc. she is, aye.

Reignbeaux, flutterbys and ^{dot} ~~son~~ BEAMZ, Lightly, janus aurah of Karmah...Life is Love, every moment being Wholly Spirit, with each of us having Infinite numbers of personalities, from all times/spaces, natural(feelings/possessions/commissions)-Scorpio (death-we live and die every moment; money-life is more precious than; property-we are the Real Estate; and occult-occult is to metaphysics (we live in a metabolism-as above/so below) what Satan is to Lucifer, light/dark now merging, aye)...(excerpt from a longer article by ja of K.)

FIRING

Facts necessary to know before reading the following article: Two boys on Sue Hilton's YCC crew accused her of making sexual advances to one of the young women on the crew. This complaint went from the boys to their parents and then to the YCC administrators. The state made an investigation of this allegation, found it to be untrue, and finally fired Sue because she had "discussions on controversial lifestyles with her crew" (i.e. she objected to the boys using faggot as a derogatory term) and because her "effectiveness to function as a supervisor of (her) YCC crew or any of the other YCC crews was lost." The second reason had no basis in truth--in fact, Sue was never allowed to see or speak with or attempt to work with her crew again. If there was any loss of effectiveness it was due solely to how Sue's supervisors had handled the situation. Further, the young woman mentioned above did not complain. She likes Sue and feels her firing is terribly unfair. - Ruby -

♀ In case you haven't heard yet, Sue Hilton, a member of the S.C. lesbian community, was terminated from her job as crew leader for the Youth Conservation Corps in a manner which seems to be very arbitrary, and which is connected to "alleged immorality." Your intrepid Ruby reporter, spotting a hot story, cornered a member of her defense committee, who granted her the following interview in between interviews with lawyers, the ACLU, the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Commission), the NGTF and other assorted possibly useful people and groups.

Ruby: How's the case going?

Sue Hilton Defense Committee (SHDC): Up and down--it's discouraging talking to the people from the state, but the National Gay Task Force has come through with some useful stuff and also the ACLU might take the case. There's a lot of good womyn's energy for this at the local level.

Ruby: Are you planning to sue?

SHDC: We don't know for sure yet--we're trying to exhaust all administrative channels but the state won't even tell us what administrative channels are or aren't open to us.

Ruby: What are your main complaints?

SHDC: 1. Failure to give proper notice of the cause of the termination.

2. Firing for "ineffectiveness" without really determining if she could be effective or not.

3. If it was in fact true that she could no longer be effective, failure to determine the cause of that ineffectiveness--whether it was in fact her fault or the result of the investigation.

4. The legal questions currently seem to be related to the right to free speech, defamation of character and the right to confront the evidence against you.

Ruby: Why do you think they did this?

SHDC: It seems to be connected to the whole "Save Our Children" thing--everyone's really nervous about having anyone who might possibly be homosexual anywhere near people under 21. So stories get invented out of nothing, and the state overreacts to the stories.

Ruby: What do you hope to get out of this struggle?

SHDC: One thing we're trying to do is just make everyone aware that this kind of stuff does really happen to people. We want to talk with people about why this happens, and how gay rights is connected to left political movements and to feminism. We'd like to get this "fired for ineffectiveness" off Sue's record. We also want to get the state to think twice before they fire a lesbian again.

Ruby: Do you think you'll succeed?

SHDC: It will be (and has been) a good consciousness-raiser and context for political discussion. Whether we'll get some tangible concessions from the state we really don't know yet. I think they will think before they fire another lesbian, but they may try to keep from hiring any. We need a lot of support from all of you womyn out there.

Ruby: What do you want our readers to do?

SHDC: Feel free to join the Defense Committee, to help with advice, benefits, support. Womyn can call Sue at 426-9547 for meeting times and information, about SHDC or the case.

Write letters to: Mr. Herbert Rhodes
P.O. Box 2390
Sacramento, Ca. 95811

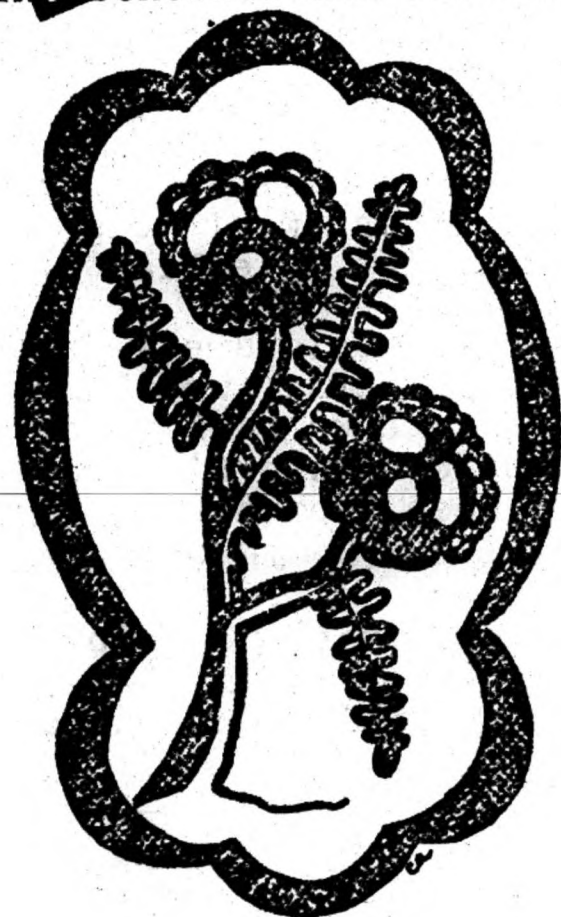
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and then send copies of this letter to:

Mr. Warren Douglas
Dept. of Parks and Recreation
District Headquarters
2211 Garden Road
Del Monte Research Park
Monterey, Ca. 93940

Mr. Herman Schlerf
Santa Cruz
P.O. Box
Felton

NO. 1. The Sue had just decided to sue
the Recreation Dept., Youth Conservation
Corp. for her undeserved dismissal--if the ACLU
will take the case. Keep your eyes open for news of up-
coming benefits and information concerning this case.



oooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
If you must drink orange juice,
keep in mind that the only
brand LN has found in Calif.
that is reportedly all-Calif.
is CAL_FAME. Other nationally
known brands of orange juice
either come from Florida, or
are suspect. From the cans
or labels themselves:
-Minute Maid, Houston, Texas,
plants in Florida
-Tropicana, Broden, Florida
-Treesweet, Indian River, Fl
-Orange Plus and Awake, both
by Birds Eye, White Plains,
New York (how many oranges
are there in NY?)
Ruby recommends drinkin'
it fresh, cuz it's just better
for ya!
--info, Lesbian News

NEWS FLASH

-- 9/16/77 -- State apparently
seeing its error: Has offered back pay, apologies, and other
little goodies to Sue. Stay alert for further information.
-- RUBY

freedom ride



Lesbian feminists in Los Angeles are calling on their sisters across the country to join them in a FREEDOM RIDE. They are pressing for lesbian visibility and gay rights at the IWY National Conference in Houston, Texas (Nov 18-21).

The FREEDOM RIDE buses will be departing LA several days before the conference. Bus caravans will also be leaving from major cities along the way to hold actions or demonstrations planned by local lesbians, and to pick up more women as they move to Houston.

In Houston they will make themselves seen and heard, both as delegates and non-delegates, by calling for passage of all pro-feminist, pro-minority, and pro-gay resolutions.

Why lesbian visibility? Lesbians have too long been invisible numbers in other people's movements. Lesbians are now under attack and must therefore come out as a forum for presenting lesbian issues.

They are outraged by the fact that the International Women's Year Conferences (both state

and national) are government controlled, and that many of the delegates are men. They are aware that in many respects the Houston Conference serves only to make the government look credible in its role of international "Champion of Human Rights", and to pacify women into believing that the government has a major commitment to feminism. By their presence, visibility, and actions in Houston they mean to say that simply a "report to Congress" (the official result of the Conference) is not an acceptable substitute for legislation protecting the self-determination and full civil rights of women in America.

They are going to Houston to speak for themselves and to notify legislators that they want them to pass legislation that will secure and insure their rights. They see the organizing closely linked with the struggles of poor and minority women and intend to coalesce and build mutual support with them.

For more details contact:
FREEDOM RIDE-IWY
2617 Euclid Ave, #B
Santa Monica, CA 90405
or phone: Jeanne Cordova
at 213/ 839-7254

LAUREN CRUX

(licensed marriage, family, and child counselor)

announces

the opening of her private practice:

lesbian feminist therapy

individuals, groups, families, relationship counseling
(I cannot take medi-cal; I do use a sliding fee scale)

Special Note- Upcoming Events: I am leading two groups for women beginning the first week in October.

CONFRONTING GREATNESS

"What is required of women at this point in history is a firm and deep refusal to limit our perspectives, questioning, and creativity..." (Mary Daly)

This group for women, "the primordial outsiders," will explore our fears of nothingness (failure, incompetence, guilt, self-doubt), our fear when we recognize and allow ourselves to experience our alienation from our true being.

We will focus on the theme of existential courage while we struggle with the anxieties which emerge as we deal with the "original sin" of being born female.

-Thursday evenings 7-9:30, beginning Oct. 6.

BODYWORK FOR WOMEN

--co-led with Sybil Meyer--

As women, our identities are directly related to our body-image, which until recently was defined primarily by male cultural biases. In order for women to experience ourselves from the inside out, we must reclaim and recreate our bodies. "We must turn to ourselves as a creative piece of work--not only in the arts, but in the creation of our lives." (Anais Nin)

This group is for women who want to explore their body image, increase their range of movement possibilities, and expand their range of choices for emotional expression, play, and human interactions. The group promises to be playful, serious, and informative--a chance for women to be together emotionally as well as physically while delving into the known and unknown aspects of our embodiment.

-Mon. eve. 7-9:30, begin. Oct. 3.

-- For appointment or more information,
I can be reached through Women In Transition-- 476-4656.

If I Were the Unicorn

If I were the unicorn
I'd find you.

This time you wouldn't run from me
because you'd know.

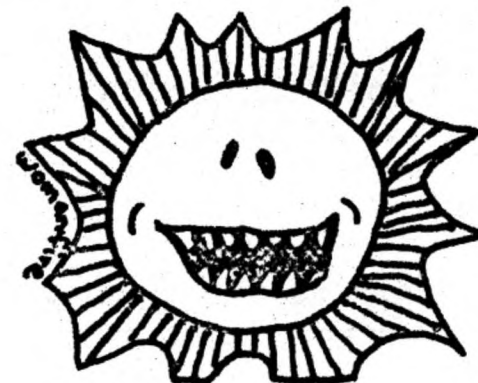
Looking into eyes
you'd see the flowers
that I saw;
stroking pearl skin
you'd feel the pearl skin
I felt.

My head lain in your lap
this time we'd both be home.

If I were the unicorn
you'd never go
away;
the meadows that I knew
in you you'd recognize
in me.

The glow I found
inside you is the glow
we two would share.
If I were the unicorn
we'd touch
and never part.

--Diane Stein, 1/27/77--



Sexual Fantasy Survey

If you are a lesbian and ever had sexual fantasies, or wondered about same, or wanted to hear other lesbians' fantasies, or just want a good lesbian book to read, then your help is needed.

Too many so-called lesbian books are written by non-lesbian, often male, authors. And their descriptions of lesbian fantasies are their fantasies, not the fantasies of lesbians.

Sharing fantasies can be scary, but it can also be fun, consciousness-raising, validating, and sexy. Lesbians interested in sharing their fantasies (anonymously, of course) with other lesbians through a lesbian author can send their fantasies (pick your 3 "favorites") or write for a short questionnaire to: Box 5120, Santa Monica, Ca. 90405. (Sister, Aug.-Sept., 1977)

10 **Aikido: the Way of Love and Harmony**

Japan's Revolutionary Martial Art

by Risa

As lesbians who are committed to creating a world that is fit for humans to live in, or even in seeking a safe space for ourselves, we are often faced with great unwarranted hostility. We find that we present both real and imaginary threats to the heterosexist, patriarchal structure of society. There are many people with investments in the present system who wish to do violence to us. We experience our oppression both from a distance (Florida, Wash.D.C.), and close up (harassment on the job and street, murder in S.F., etc.). In seeking to change the reality of our lives and our world, we want to affirm and celebrate the beauty, joy, strength and freedom of our womyn-identified lifestyles. On the other hand, we often feel we have to put this aside to do battle with those who would (and do) oppress us.

Under patriarchy, we are given basically two choices: to be an oppressor, or to be oppressed; an aggressor, or a victim. Because we were educated within patriarchy, we are often subtly bound by its' rules, and are not fully aware of its influence on all aspects of our lives.



In order to create and maintain wholistic change, we must go beyond the constructs of patriarchal role playing in all areas. This is apparent when choosing how to deal with the power dynamics of any situation--whether relating to people we like (our friends, lovers, children), or people we don't like (Anita Bryant, Lloyd Cooney, the local rapist or assailant).

It is in this sense that I think that Aikido, a revolutionary martial art from Japan, can be very useful to our community and to our struggle. In fact, it transforms the very nature of what we call "struggle."

Aikido is Japan's newest and most modern martial art. It is still a relatively unknown and less popularized martial art here in the States, and should not be confused with other martial arts that have received more Western publicity. Aikido

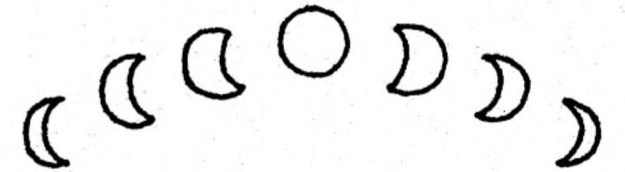
(Aikido, cont.)

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is not a sport and it is not a way of fighting. It is a meditation in motion, a philosophy with a unique physical expression, and a superb form of self-defense.

The founder of Aikido, O-Sensei, studied and mastered most of the other martial arts of Japan- many styles of ju-jitsu, judo, sword, spear, etc. However, after witnessing the destructive use to which these martial arts were put in WWII, he became disillusioned with them. Although a world renowned master who had invested his entire life in these martial arts, he became dissatisfied with the knowledge that they imparted. He felt that they did not go far enough in the ultimate transcendence of violence and all its' attendant dualities. So he undertook rigorous training in the spiritual disciplines of Japan, including Zen Buddhism and Shintoism.

Shinto is a Japanese religion based on the worship of Nature that was developed by womyn during the early Japanese matriarchy (which survived until relatively recently). O-Sensei became a Shinto priest and through his spiritual study, had an enlightening experience wherein he realized that the essence of the martial arts, like the essence of the Universe, is love. Guided by the principle of Aiki (Love and Harmony) and based on his vast knowledge of the martial arts, he discovered Aikido--a martial discipline fully consistent with the natural order of love, and yet completely effective as a martial art- a way of expressing and maintaining the balance and order of the Universe. Firmly rooted in matriarchal spirituality, Aikido itself is inherently womyn-identified, as womyn-identification itself is inherently love and harmony. The two complement each other and lead each other to completion, while showing us a way of never needing to compromise the beauty of our relationships with each other and with nature.

Aikido is a path with profound political and spiritual implications. It is a way of understanding and manifesting the rhythm of the universe. Self-defense is a natural byproduct of this. Which is not to suggest that Aikido is any less effective



12 (Aikido, cont.)

ive as self-defense than systems that are mainly focused on that goal. In fact, the ultimate in self-defense is never fighting - never fighting means never being defeated. In Aikido, we have no winner and no loser.

Aikido is a way of neutralizing all conflict. We never go against our partner's energy, nor do we place undue importance upon them by seeking to off-balance them. Both partners learn to maintain their balance and so we go directly to the source of the situation. We deal with the person's intention to do violence rather than with the result of that violence. Through Aikido we learn to lead our partner's mind through the vehicle of the body - so that as soon as they have a mind to attack, they are defeated by their own intention. We create a safe channel for the energy to continue its own course and express itself in.

By "safe", I mean safe for the Aikidoist, and safe for both partners who are training in an Aikido situation. On the street, attacking an Aikidoist is no more possible, and no more safe, than trying to upset the balance of the Universe, by attacking the air or the ocean - putting oneself in the center of a tornado, or in the breakers of a raging sea. Through Aikido we actualize the fact that violence is self-destructive, that energy is cyclical in nature, and therefore the energy a person puts out always returns to them. In the political arena and on the street violent energy tends to wipe out any number of innocent people in its circular route. Aikido provides a practical method of returning the energy immediately to its sender, harming no one else in the process.

Aikido would be devastating to (an) attacker(s) on the street, and likewise in a competitive situation. For this reason, matches and competition of any kind are prohibited, and indeed are not possible, in Aikido. Aggressive, male-identified persons who seek competition or a chance to win a fight take up other sports or martial arts to express themselves in.

Likewise, there are no limitations on what is possible when tapping into this infinite source of energy - so that the



size, strength, muscle power, or even the number of opponents¹³ becomes irrelevant to the trained Aikidoist. In fact, O-Sensei himself was only my height - five feet tall. Therefore it is possible, and expected, for a very small woman to deal effectively with two, three, four or more strong people attacking her. This is not theoretical; we practice it and find out for ourselves that it is true. Aikido is unique among the martial arts in that there is absolutely no advantage for the taller, heavier, "stronger," or male person.

This brings us to the question of who we will train with in Aikido. As Aikido is a system that teaches us how to cope positively with all situations, this brings up a larger question: who will we "train" with, how will we cope with, conflict in all areas of our lives? How can we

best further ourselves on the paths we have chosen? There is of course no one answer to this question - if there were, we'd be seeing the whole path ahead of us - which means it would be straight--and since none of us has chosen that road, we have to seriously evaluate where we are now, where we want to go, and how best to get there.

I think that the new developments in political action and social and cultural community among the gay people in S.C. and around the globe reflects a growing consciousness among us. We are aware that the Save Our Children and the Kill a Queer for Christ groups of the world (and their more sophisticated multinational counterparts) can and will intrude upon our most basic space if allowed to--not only upon our human rights to quality life, but also upon our very right to life itself. We are also sensing that we do not want to struggle from a reactive, defensive place, nor from a stance of aggression, using the tools of the oppressors. The oppressors' tools were after all developed by them for their benefit, and while they can be adapted for our use and their negativity minimized, they will never have the full strength of a system based on our own beauty. We need a strategy and a process that totally transcends the tools and definitions of the oppressors, and nourishes us every step along the way.



continued, page 2.2...

growing up gay

blowflies children. halfgrown maggots. goddam homos.
 hear some noise on the street. a stabbing on a street corner.
 wild cheers of the hunters.
 i tell my mom what i heard on the six o'clock news.
 she shrugs indifferently, not understanding my concern.
 one more faggot bit the dust.

a fruitless hunt in the library.
 no books to exemplify my kind.
 no prissy junior romances for dykes.
 they'll tell us about it when
 we're old enough to understand.

anita bryant the family's patron saint.
 my mom can spot a homo a mile away.
 is it my imagination
 or does she sometimes look at me a bit too closely
 at the breakfast table?
 i wait for an accusation that never comes.
 like waiting for the other shoe.

and if it comes--what then?
 tears, shouting, accusations, remorse,
 as--reluctantly, yes, but all the same--
 i become one of the hunted.

karyn
 age 16



During the past year I helped organize (with a collective of west coast womyn and men-mainly gay) the 1977 War Resisters League national conference. During this time I struggled intensely with still doing work within "the male left"--and although we were working hard to have WRL people relate feminist theory/action with nonviolent theory/action, it often seemed hopeless. The conference happened last month and the "report" below shares some of my "raised-hope" feelings.

circles of sunlight, circle of lake, fire circle,
 hug circle, circles of eyes, circle of arms.
 encircling of loves, ideas, womyn.
 tent/color circle around curve of lawn.
 parachute circle with cries of delight and
 laughter entwining, human spiral-circling again
 and again, circles of folk dancing, star gazing.
 workshop circles producing waves and circles of
 anger, discovery, sharing, joys.
 cooking pot encircling food to travel the
 circle/cycle from earth to earth.
 conference collective meeting in circles to end
 in hug and song circles.
 circle of women holding/nursing infants sharing
 birthing stories, sharing bottles of wine and beer.
 affinity group song-dyke-transition circles/
 support, fun, touches.
 children circles napping running creating.
 pools and circles of tears from our still crushing
 the breath in each other.
 and the smiles pleasure "good things" circle
 before on to home circles of love and struggle.



catherine---august, 1977

WOMYN'S MUSIC in MICHIGAN

This year's Michigan's Women's Music Festival was a huge success despite many difficulties beyond the control of the organizers.

Women started arriving before the festival was scheduled to begin, and many of them started working right away to help get the festival set up. All women were asked to sign up for at least 2 hours of work in some area (security, child care, garbage, food, health care, parking, etc.). Unfortunately, there turned out to be some problems in this area, as some women failed to take this commitment seriously, and others ended up having to work extra. I think we need to realize that the success of an event of this size (estimated 5-6 thousand) is dependent upon the participation of everyone involved. We all have to do the shit-work!

The facilities were amazing! 160 acres of meadow and forest. Large tents had been set up to house registration, health care, child care, food and security, in addition to the 2 large tent tops over the stage and merchants area. 2 meals

a day were served plus lots of bread, peanut butter, and fruit available at all times. The cooking was done in metal trash cans over wood-fire pits. What an amazing sight to see all those women working together. Even more amazing were the showers piped up from the cold stream and running constantly. There were always bunches of naked women there washing, cooling off, or just watching. A quite popular event! As for the portable toilets, they were often over-flowing, and it was important for us to learn how to deal with that situation without polluting our environment.

The workshops were numerous, ranging from early morning choir rehearsal w/ Kay Gardner, to politically oriented workshops, massage and health care, electronics and engineering, specific musical orientations, theatre and movement, a few happenings for kids, and more. I was surprised at the large number of kids there. I won't even go into what performers were there except to mention that Casse Culver & the Belle Starr Band were my favorite. Least favorite was Alix Dobkin, mostly because of her

negative stand on boy children in particular and her constant referral to men in her rap. I wasn't even thinking about men until she brought them up, and I felt it an intrusion into my consciousness. But oh well, political differences I guess.

What I haven't mentioned yet is the fact that it rained quite often, which caused a number of problems. The first rain was Fri afternoon for a couple of hours and the music continued later that evening. However, during the night it seemed that moisture and condensation worked its way into the amplifier and/or mixer and the entire Sat day and night was without sound. A special toast should go to that sound crew who worked at least a solid 24 hrs taking apart the equipment and tracing all the connections. Finally, Sun late morning, due to the persevering efforts of the repair crew in addition to getting another amp there, the music was restored. Now the task of getting 2 days and nights worth of performers into 1 day and night. Late Sunday afternoon, it started raining again. The stage was cleared briefly while trenches were dug around the stage, and wires and cords were

17 wrapped in plastic. Then the music began again, as we huddled beneath sheets of plastic or the merchants tent (which was difficult to see out of). The music and rain continued till about 4am ending with Kay Gardner and full moon ritual.

The sound situation was extremely unfortunate for those women who were only able to attend for the day(Sat) or so. However, everyone seemed to handle the situation extremely well, and were consistently supportive of the sound crews efforts.

I felt it was a rare opportunity to talk to other women from around the country (even the world) to compare life styles, processes, projects, situations, etc; especially to connect with the different projects happening in this country. One outstanding thing is that the Lesbian Defense Fund in Vermont was able to raise almost \$2500 needed to pay for a case they recently won. Congrats to them and us for raising the money.

And even more thanks to the We-Want-The-Music-Collective (are there really only three of you?) and all the other women who worked on making the festival happen. Sisterhoods Are Powerful!!!

Lesbian Health Issues

Have you as a lesbian ever tried to find out about your specific health needs? Or have you as a health worker or educator tried to understand how lesbian health needs differ from those of heterosexual women? Have you wondered why it is that many lesbians are involved in the Women's Health Movement and why this is important?

Although many lesbians are living really healthy lives, there are some specific health problems we encounter that are related to the stress of living in a heterosexual society. Some examples of these are: dealing with coming out or not to our health workers, alcoholism, therapy, etc. Our specific lifestyles affect other areas of our health such as what kind of V.D. we can get (more often it's what kind of V.D. we don't get) and, if we choose, our method of reproduction such as artificial insemination, cloning, and parthenogenesis.

We should have access to lesbian health research to referrals on organizations of lesbian and gay health workers and their services. It is important for us to

have a political analysis of the health care system from a lesbian viewpoint. It is also important for us to redirect the interpretation and teaching of science and health care from a non-heterosexist perspective.

I was part of a group of Santa Cruz women who researched many of these above subjects. The result of our work was an annotated bibliography on Lesbian Health Issues. We found that very little has been written on this subject and that even this little bit of literature is not widely distributed among lesbian communities or women's health centers. This is not an accident--it is a reflection of the heterosexual attitudes of our society. Many lesbians are reluctant to identify themselves as lesbians to their health workers because of the repercussions that are involved. Because of this, and because the medical establishment does not recognize our specific health needs, very little research has been done.

Each piece of literature we found covered only one or two issues, and as yet there

is not a complete work on lesbian health care. Hopefully this will change in the future and we see the bibliography that we wrote as a step in this direction.

The bibliography and most of the literature listed in it are in the S.C. Women's Health Center's library (along with other goodies like current and back issues of Lesbian Connection). All of you are more than welcome to come by and hang out in our library, to talk to me (Mare) or Kater or Val about health stuff that is going on with you. Remember also that we have lesbian health counselors for our WomanKind Health Services and that we can refer you to doctors in town (sometimes) who won't treat you offensively because you are who you are.

And last but not least, we'd be tickled purple if some of you would consider joining our collective when we get around to taking in new members. - Mare -

NEEDED: AN ELECTRIC TYPEWRITER WITH CARBON OR FILM RIBBON, 1½ WEEKS PER MONTH TO TYPE RUBYFRUIT READER COPY. SELECTRIC OR ELECTRIC FINE. PLEASE CALL 426-DYKE or 427-3776.

dyke
cuts
by catherine
call for
appointment 427-3776



NEWSFLASH: MOTHER RIGHT

Rhonda is selling her part of the bookstore. Jill is staying, and would like to form a collective. If you are interested or want further info call Jill at 426-1317.

S.C. WOMYN'S HEALTH CENTER

Health Info and Counselling
Medical Services by Appointment
Lesbian Counsellors Available
Dr. Referrals / Medical Library
Self-help Workshop Monthly

OPEN: 10-4 M-F; 7-9pm. Wed.

250 LOCUST ST.
427-3500

- 24 hour phoneline -

Rubyfruit distribution point



Rape

In your selfish sickness
You crush me
like a boulder
smashes wild flowers

Bitter warnings
and black-chilly stories
rush through my mind
like flash floods
through the desert

You flee
with my virginity
Leaving the seed
of a child.
I flee
in trembling fear
Leaving a trail
of blood
and tears

---Jade---

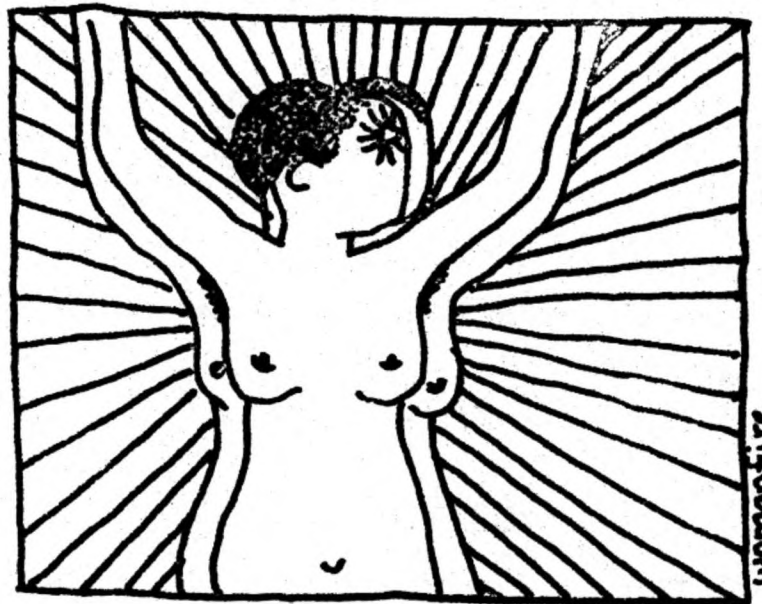
have you
Been...

- Raped?
- hassled?
- Assaulted?

haven't we all?
You can talk to a sister by
calling... **426-RAPE**

WOMEN AGAINST RAPE
P.O. BOX 711 SANTA CRUZ

CALL FOR info RE: **FREE
SELF DEFENSE CLASSES**

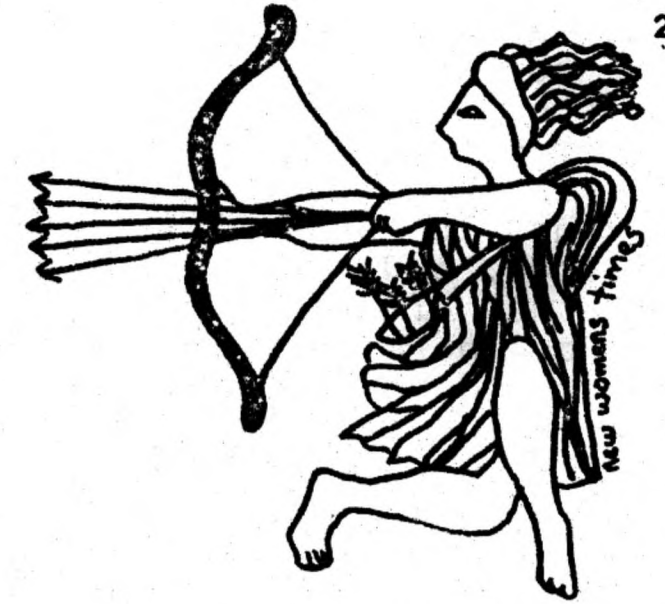


sweet revenge

National media has not picked up on it yet, but dozens of rapists have been cut up, castrated, beaten up & possibly bumped off by squads of female terrorists who get their names from victims, court records & police reports. Police in several Calif. cities are puzzled by the numerous instances of men checking into hospitals with broken bones and bad bruises who claim they do not know who their assailants were and are unspecific about their attackers gender. One source on the feminist grapevine says that one underground rape squad operating in the Sacramento area castrated one rapist per month throughout 1974, in each case dumping the man on the steps of a medical center after cutting off his testicles & dressing the wounds with band-aids. Four of them reportedly committed suicide. Still another recidivist found himself surrounded by a band of women who broke into his home and just stood there for six hours until he fell on the floor twitching with terror.

--Lesbian Tide--

@@
Is feminism just an issue of the uterus and the home?



justice prevails!

Public outcry, led by the Madison Chapter of NOW, triggered a recall drive against a judge who gave a judicial slap on the wrist to a 15-year-old boy who raped a high school girl. The judge had said that the rape was a "normal" reaction to girls' and women's dress standards in today's society. (The rape victim was wearing jeans and a sweater!) The recall effort against Judge Simonson was successful, and feminist lawyer Moria Kreuger led a field of 6 candidates for a clear victory. Yea! to wimmin organizing against our own destruction!

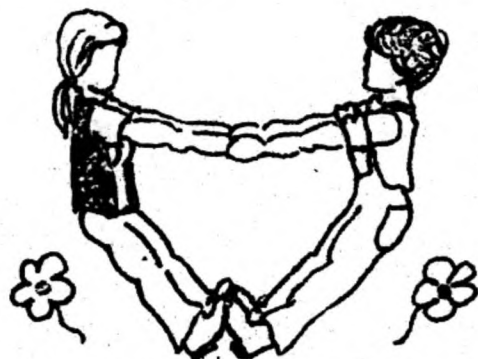
22 Aikido, continued from page 13

In seeking where and how to use our energy in the coming months, I suggest that we consider all resources available to us. There are men who practice Aikido. In terms of what I have learned, and am learning through my study of Aikido, for me to not be there because there are men would be like saying I refuse to be gay because of Anita Bryant, or anything else that appears prohibitive. We learn through Aikido that what appears as obstacles are merely polishing stones on which to sharpen our spirit and shine the mirror of truth, that beauty may be reflected. The teachings of Aikido are our birthright as womyn, as womyn-identified-womyn. The concepts and practical applications of Aikido in daily life are the ancient and long-denied magic of our foremothers.

Aikido is inherently revolutionary in nature. It can become part of the vanguard of our revolution. It's there for the learning, and available to everyone. No need to worry if you think you're a clutz; it's not mystified like other physical activities sometimes are. I myself am a fem from way-back-when who never even played jacks when I was a kid because it was too exerting. There are children Aikidoists who become black belts. I have even seen people practice Aikido with great skill and effectiveness who have no arms. It's not a "talent" that some have and others don't; it's for everybody.

"Sounds great but impossible," you may think. No more impossible than womyn finding love and satisfaction with womyn, than people organizing around cooperation rather than competition, than an economy based on people rather than profit. Only impossible to a patriarchal way of thinking. Also, the union of the opposite forces of Nature within a single person that results from the study of Aikido has many other potentials to tap: the development of our intuition and psychic abilities, the possibility for parthenogenesis, etc. The list goes on....

So check it out. The things I've written about only be-



come real when you see for yourself, and make more sense when you feel for yourself through your own practice. 23

There are free beginning classes offered through the University at the Field House. New classes start at the beginning of each quarter. You do not have to be a student to participate. We have some excellent women instructors. As is in keeping with the spirit of Aikido, the learning environment is very friendly and supportive. There will also be specific support for you from the lesbian Aikidoists (the Aididykes). With sufficient interest, funds, and space there can also be a gay peoples' and/or womyn's Aikido class, which I can teach. (I have a brown belt in Aikido and have taught previous classes. I have been training for three years.) In addition, Mary Heiny, a fourth degree black belt head instructor from Seattle, has offered to do an Introduction to Aikido workshop for the gay community of S.C. this fall. And a West Coast Lesbian Aikido Conference is in the planning.

So do check out the University beginning classes, and call me or Louise about the rest - we're sure to be back after Sept. 20th, maybe way before that so ring anytime: 427-3917. Also we moved into a new house. It's too small for a housewarming party so come by for a drink. Here's to the Future!!

00000000000000000000000000000000

We have learned of a birthday card being sold in Seattle at G.O. Guy Drug Stores, and also nationally, which States: "Birthdays are like rape-- If you've got to have it, you might as well enjoy it." We find this offensive and disgusting. Please send numerous complaints to its manufacturer: "Gallant Greetings" 2725 W. Fullerton Chicago, Ill. 60647

--Out & About--

00000000000000000000000000000000

Mother Right
tues - sat
11-6.

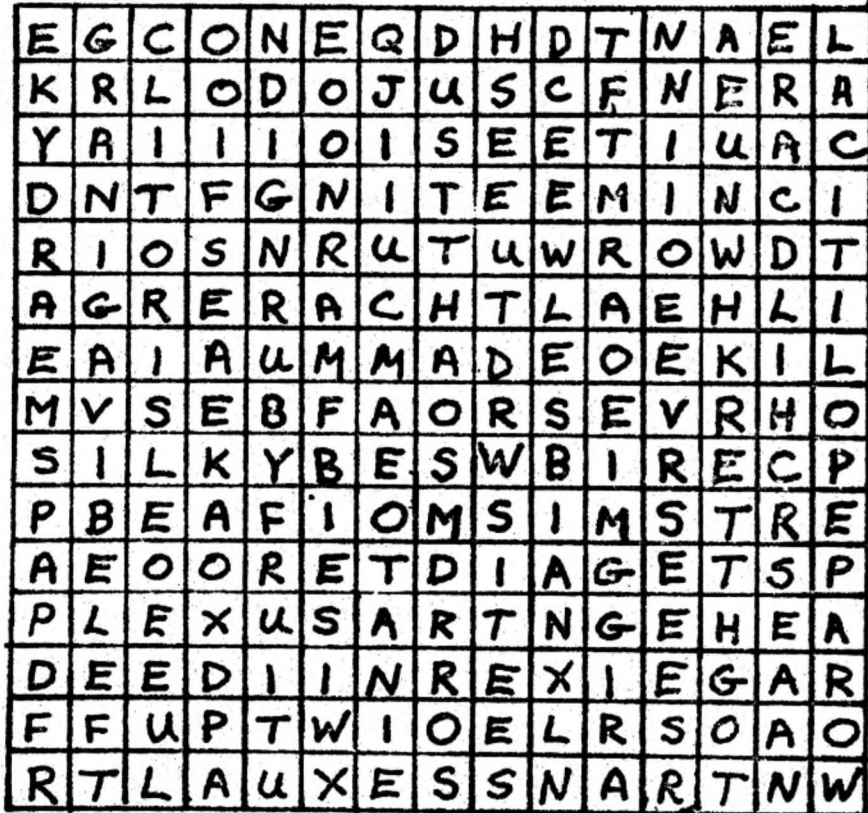
538 Seabright Ave.
Santa Cruz, Ca. 95062
426-1317

feminist bookstore

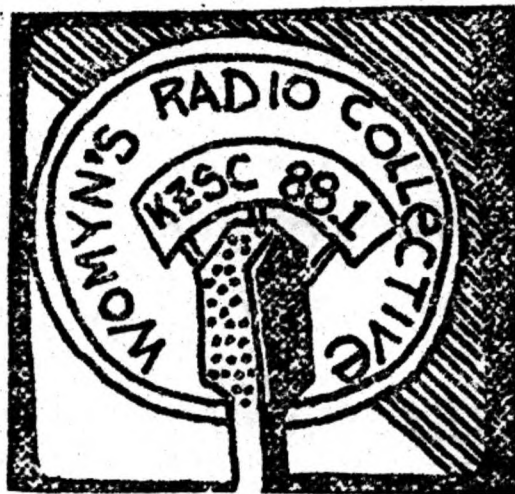
WOMONWORD

by CLYTIA

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle-- horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backwards. Find them and circle their letters. The leftover letters spell the WomonWord.



Clues: able, alert, burn, box, childcare, clitoris, coin, cunt, deed, D.O.B., dyke, eon, fear, feet, feminist, find, get, healthcare, her, homes, jog, keep, lean, left, lesbian, like, mad, massage, matrix, meeting, oak, pap smear, plexus, political, puff, queer, rage, rape, revolution, rubyfruit, sex, silky, sister, sons, street, tide, transsexual, turn, vagina, wage, witch, womanfire, wig, wise.



ON YER F.M. DIAL...

Monday
7-11
p.m.

You've got me flying

kite shop

123 PEARL ALLEY
SANTA CRUZ
426-HIGH

BEHIND WOOLWORTHS

A deadline of Nov. 1, 1977 has been set by Karla Jay and Allen Young for the return of questionnaires in their survey on lesbian and gay male sexuality.

Several hundred thousand of the surveys, including questions on sexuality, relationships and society, have been distributed thruout the US and Canada, and thousands have already been returned.

There is still a limited supply of questionnaires available. To obtain, write Survey, Box 98, Orange, Mass 01364. Specify amount and whether for gay male or lesbians.

ATTENTION WOMYN ARTISTS
All womyn are encouraged to bring their crafts and art work to Mother Right Bookstore to either place it there on a consignment basis or to arrange a showing.

3 lesbians need a roommate to share their beautiful home by the sea. Call Pam, Cath or Wendy at 427-2908. @@@@ Collective lesbian home w/ children 9 & 13 needs woman. House w/ sunny kitchen, fireplace, yard, art/craft workspace available. NO dogs. 426-9547.

Last night we sat on my bed untouching, talking about jealousy and sisterhood. We talked about our mothers, we talked about our fathers and the men we have known. We talked while I longed to lie belly to your soft belly our limbs entwined.

We talked till three.

Then you returned to the man who shields you, who guards you, who embalms you. I watch you retreating, shrinking into the arms of the man who is so sure, who has always been sure of knowing how to love you. And you? You are thankful that he never asks.



Ray Gwyn Smith



26 BLUE JEANS DAY

Several campus gay groups have successfully used the device of proclaiming, in advance, that on a certain day gay people on the campus will wear blue jeans. With adequate publicity the result, of course, is that very, very few blue jeans are visible that day. The point is an educational one: non-gays are forced to stop and consider for once, "What if everyone thought I was gay?" Those who fail to do so, and automatically slip into their normal campus costume, may get a thought-provoking taste of the discrimination that gays are all used to. In addition, gays in the closet can use the occasion to "test the water" for coming out; if challenged, they can claim to be forgetful "straights." (NGTF is proposing a national Gay Blue Jeans Day this fall, on Oct. 14. Start planning for it now!) **from Natl. Gay Talk Force Action Report, 7/77

SEPTEMBER

17 - SATURDAY 7:30 - ♀ coffeehouse - 538 Seabright. Explore emotions, bodies, spirits		18 - SUNDAY 7:30 - ♀ health center 250 Locust "Pre-conception Forum" - physical & psychological preparation for -				
19 - MONDAY * - see firing page 4 7-11 pm - ♀ Radio Collective - KZSC 88.1 FM - "Ma Rainey's Early Blues ♀" AND 8pm - interview w/ Sue Hilton*	20 - TUES.	21 WED. 7:30 - Lesbian Mothers Group meeting - call 426-9547 for place - new ♀ welcome	22 THURS. 6:30 - Gay Rights Coalition @ Raul 515 Broadway Womyn welcome.	23 FRI.	24 SAT. 7:30 ♀'s coffee house. 538 Seabright. Discussion on "what sisterhood means"	25 - SUNDAY 12-noon - Lesbian Umbrella Mtg. 265 Water St. - in annex - then picnic afterwards BRING FOOD!!
26 7-11 pm - ♀ radio collective - KZSC 88.1 FM - "Moms" w/ Luisa	27	28 7:30 Lesbian Mothers Group - see above ↑	29	30	OCTOBER 	SATURDAY ① 7:30 ♀'s coffee house 538 Seabright



2 SUN 7:30 - Metro - Radio Forum @ YUCA - 303 Walnut - offered by SC - ♀ health center		9 7:30 - Taboos & Tranquilizers side show on ♀'s health care @ YUCA - 303 Walnut.		16 7-11 pm ♀ radio collective - KZSC 88.1 FM		17 7-11 pm ♀ radio collective - KZSC 88.1 FM		23 (Call 426-LIFE for time & date of Lesbian Umbrella)		30 7-11 pm ♀ radio collective - KZSC 88.1 FM	
3 MON 7-11 pm ♀ radio collective - KZSC 88.1 FM - "Battered Womyn" w/ Laurie & Hollis		10 7-11 pm ♀ radio collective - KZSC 88.1 FM		18		24		25		26 7:30 Lesbian Mothers Group - see above ↑	
4 TUES		11		19 7:30 - Lesbian Mothers Group - call 426-9547 for place		26		27		28	
5 WED 7:30 - Lesbian Mothers Group call 426-9547		12		20		27		28		29 7:30 - ♀'s coffee house - 538 Seabright	
6 THUR		13		21		28		29		30	
7 FRI 14 NATIONAL GAY BLUE JEANS DAY		15 7:30 - ♀'s coffee house - 538 Seabright		22		29		30		31	
8 SAT 7:30 - ♀'s coffee house - 538 Seabright		15 7:30 - ♀'s coffee house - 538 Seabright		22		29		30		31	

The Lesbian Umbrella Organization is a community-group open to all lesbians. We have open monthly gatherings (next one Sept. 25-see calendar) which provide a way for us all to meet, discuss relevant issues and socialize, as well as for new lesbians to plug into any of several smaller groups. Call 426-DYKE(eves.) for more info., and JOIN US!!!

OCTOBER CONT.

RUBY'S ADVERTISING RATES:

We want to support more of the cost of our production through ads. We also hope to raise enough to start printing, (instead of mimeo).

So, if you would like to place an ad with us, please send camera ready copy (black ink and graphics on white paper to size) and payment by the 15th of the month.

Our rates are as follow:

CLASSIFIED:

- will be typed, single spaced
- \$1.00 for first 25 words
- \$.50 for each additional 10 words

DISPLAY:

- \$2.00 per column inch (2 3/4 inches wide)
- OR--

	high	wide	
-1/4 page	3 1/4"	x 2 3/4"	\$ 6.00
-1/2 page	6 1/2"	x 2 3/4"	\$12.00
-or	3 1/4"	x 6"	\$12.00
-full page	6 1/2"	x 6"	\$24.00

Feel free to write or call about trades.



CLIP IT OUT
FILL IT OUT...



AND
Send it in !!!

RuByfruit Reader
SUBSCRIPTION
(3 BUCKS for 6 MONTHS)

name
Address
..... Zip

box 2386, santa cruz, 95063