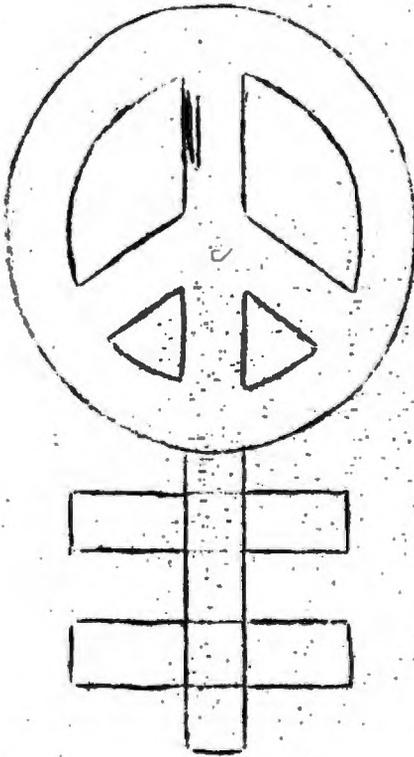


# SISTERS



TM

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE  
OF  
THE DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS.

a woman's organization for the purposes of aiding the Lesbian to discover her place in society, and of educating society to understand and accept her, without prejudice, and:

1. To encourage and support the Lesbian in her search for her social, economic, personal, interpersonal and vocational identity within society by maintaining a growing library on the themes of homosexuality and of women in general; by providing social functions where she can communicate with others and expand her social world outside of the bar scene; by providing an organized structure through which she can work to change society's limitations upon her life-style; by providing a forum for the interchange of ideas and problems within her own group.
2. To educate the public to understand and accept the Lesbian as an individual, eventually leading to the breaking down of theories, prejudices and limitations upon her life-style by sponsoring public discussions; by providing individuals as speakers and participants in various forums designed to educate the public; by dissemination of educational and rational literature on the Lesbian.
3. To encourage and support and participate in responsible research dealing with homosexuality.
4. To investigate the penal code as it pertains to the homosexual and to promote changes to provide an equitable handling of cases involving homosexuals through due process of law, without prejudice.

DAUGHTERS

OF  
BILITIS

San Francisco Chapter

President: Ruth M. Sudul 843-5861  
Vice President: Barbara 527-3653  
Secretary: Karen R. Wells 843-5861  
Treasurer: Diane 771-9170

Editors: Terry, Karen Wells:

Staff: Barbara, Kathy, Ruth, Marcy, Norene, Sue (with special help on the rewriting of the purpose of DOB from Elaine)

The staff of Sisters and the entire membership of DOB wishes to thank the former editor and producer of our Newsletter, Roberta, who held it all together for 18 months, all by herself. Thank you, Bird.

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*For Elsa  
with love  
from Karen*

CO-EDITORIAL : DOB LIVES !

A few months ago, after our National DOB conference in New York, DOB released its magazine The Ladder to independent writers. The magazine is still being published from Reno, Nevada, and has turned its focus to Women's Liberation (although still in part dealing with the Lesbian.) We of DOB feel that although The Ladder fills certain needs of the Women's Liberation cause, there still exists a great need for an exclusively Lesbian magazine, devoted to Lesbian liberation. As a result, the Daughters present Sisters.

We are aware that there are several gay women's magazines already in existence. Unfortunately, these are mostly East Bay publications and they must rely heavily on volunteer labor for production and distribution. Also, quite frankly, these papers are in the "radical" vein, which serves a need, of course, but again, cannot serve all elements of the Lesbian community. To reach other areas of our community Sisters has been published and will be sent to those who have been receiving The Ladder at a yearly subscription cost of \$5.00, which, by the way, barely covers postage. Hopefully, we will be able to sell individual copies of Sisters on the open market at 50 cents a copy. This way we can reach more people and provide a way for Sisters to support itself.

Regarding the contents of Sisters, we hope to become an open forum for all ideas and responses from the gay women's community (and from the men, if they choose to respond or comment upon the gay woman's scene). This, of course, opens the magazine to political and sociological arguments from any quarter of the community. In this way, we hope to cause discussion of the many different and new directions now opening to gay people in the Bay Area especially, and in the country as a whole  
TIMES ARE CHANGING.

There indeed was a time to be afraid. Now, thank heaven or whatever, gay women need no longer fear quite so much reprisal from society for their life-styles. And the more we help each other realize this, the less we will fear and the more we can present ourselves openly and freely to the "straight" world as human beings.

TIMES ARE CHANGING so that we can see that by helping one another help the gay community, we can feel freer to help the straight community understand us, and perhaps, work together toward the ultimate goal of one community, not gay or straight, but of people working together as fellow human beings, regardless of sexual orientation. SISTERS hopes to be a vehicle in facilitating this goal: to be an agent for self-liberation and, ultimately, society's liberation.

We plan to offer a variety of interesting, and hopefully stimulating articles. Ruth will continue her monthly horoscopes; there will be a calendar of events of both DOB and other organizations. There will be a gay news section devoted to up-to-date changes and directions in and of the gay world; the editors will write a column expressing their particular ideas. SISTERS will publish a list of helpful phone numbers, among which will be staff and officer phone numbers. (DOB now has contact with psychologists, lawyers and a realtor who have offered services to DOB members. Contact an officer.)

We will publish poetry, prose, short stories, etc., given written permission from the author to publish.

Several other possibilities for articles and columns have been suggested; other suggestions for SISTERS from the reader are welcome. This is, or will be, a fluid magazine; every month will probably be different. This depends on you, the readers.

This magazine will only serve the Lesbian community as well as you want it to. Contributions of whatever you choose to give--money, ideas, labor, articles, and most important, criticisms--are the stuff of life and we need them. DOB has changed--we are no longer a national organization; we are independent and free to do our own thing as we see fit. We CAN make a difference as members of society. We WILL be heard, but we need all the help possible. This includes anyone who knows and loves DOB and the Lesbian cause and understands the great needs DOB has filled in the past and must continue to fill. Unlike other Lesbian organizations, DOB has a long history, and a brave one. DOB has fought for years to reach the point where we, as Lesbians, can be accepted and treated as individuals and human beings. We are at that point and we must NOT fail to present ourselves NOW, make our voices heard NOW, in as many ways as we can. We cannot let the victory we have fought so long to achieve slip through our fingers now. We appeal especially to those of you who have in the past worked for DOB and now feel out of touch. DOB lives and needs you NOW, while the iron is hot. Your ideas and energies are essential.

So, come and visit the office on Wednesday nights, send in your ideas and poetry, help us staple and fold, help us distribute the word that Lesbians are alive and well and still fighting.

Through the years (15 of them), our membership has remained about the same, and yet has drastically changed. New faces, new ideas, new enthusiasms. Old faces have disappeared. (Rita Laporte is now living somewhere in the Midwest and is no longer affiliated with DOB San Francisco. Best wishes to her.) And we realize how much we owe to past members who held it together in less open times and made the road easier for us to be where we are. We ask that your past energies be revived and directed in some new ways in our new, emerging gay community. We need your experience. Help us help ourselves.

Take a look at the calendar of events and see how many new ways there are now for us to educate the straight population. We MUST speak out and let our voices be heard. We have the chance now as never before to break down the barriers of ignorance and fear. Throughout our history as a country, barriers have been built and in retaliation, revolutions have been fought to break the barriers down. We are in the midst of a revolution, an education revolution that has enabled us to realize that we cannot live with barriers. The time is now. We either get it together through understanding and accepting one another as people, or we "get it undone" and there will not be anything left to call society, gay or straight.

Do it now, or it will never be done.

(The views expressed by the co-editors are not necessarily those of the staff of SISTERS or of the membership of DOB. We welcome response.)

IF  
If there is no end,  
where can we go?  
Dig a hole  
and  
find the devil,  
or  
climb  
to  
the  
sky  
and find  
God between  
the lousey clouds.

Aaron

#### WILLIE MARTIN ELASTS MEN

Assemblyman Willie Brown, author of twice-defeated California legislation to repeal those laws regulating sexual activity between consenting adults, at the SIR Political Action Dinner at California Hall delivered a message of unity--unity of all oppressed peoples, unity of all minority groups, unity within the homophile community.

The greatest political force to effect change, he said, could come from a coalition of racial and ethnic minorities, the homophile community, the student and women's liberation movements. The occasion followed the closing session of the North American Conference of Homophile Organizations, which had displayed vividly our divisions rather than our unity, and Brown cautioned that whatever differences each of us had within our own communities should be kept within our own families.

It was an unfortunate analogy. Families usually include women, and they usually include youth--both of whom are integral parts of the homophile community, both of whom were ignored in the grand gesture of unity that closed the festivities. Willie's message went unheeded.

After fifteen years of working for the homophile movement--of meditating, counseling, appeasing, of working for coalition and unity--I am facing a very real identity crisis. Like NACHO, I have been torn apart. I am bereft. For I have during this week of struggle between the men and the women, the conservatives and the Gay Liberationists, been forced to the realization that I have no brothers in the homophile movement.

Oh yes, when six of my sisters from the Daughters of Bilitis, Nova and Gay Women's Liberation stood with me to confront the NACHO meeting on August 26th (the day of the National Women's Strike) about the relevance of the homophile movement to the women within it, the delegates passed a resolution in support of the Women's liberation movement. They rationalized that all of their organizations were open to women, but the women didn't join in numbers and they just didn't know what else they could do to relate to their Lesbian sisters. We suggested that their programs and their publications were not inclusive of or relevant to women. They decried the segregationist organizations which we represented, but would not address themselves to the underlying reason for the existence of separate women's organizations--that the female homosexual faces sex discrimination not only in the heterosexual world, but within the homophile community.

## EMPTY RESOLUTIONS

And so, like my sister, Robin Morgan, I have come to the conclusion that I must say, "Good Bye to All That." Goodbye to the wasteful, meaningless verbiage of empty resolutions made by hollow men of self-proclaimed privilege. They neither speak for us nor to us. They acknowledged us on our "day" and then ditched us that very same night in their "male only" sanctuaries. It's the system, and there was not one among them with guts enough to put a stop to it. And, too late, they shall find that the joke is really on them.

Goodbye, my alienated brothers. Goodbye to the male chauvinists of the homophile movement who are so wrapped up in the "cause" they espouse that they have lost sight of the people for whom the cause came into being. Goodbye to the bulwark of the Mattachine grandfathers, self-styled monarchs of a youth cult which is no longer theirs. As they cling to their old ideas and their old values in a time that calls for radical change, I must bid them farewell. There is so much to be done, and I have neither the stomach nor the inclination to stand by and watch them self-destruct.

Goodbye to co-ed organizations like SIR. The Political Action Dinner, we were told was a "community" project. The Society for Individual Rights supposedly had finally learned that politics isn't a loner's game and called out the forces of coalition in the gay community. The Daughters of Bilitis responded, came to the first planning committee meetings and were, as usual, overlooked as plans progressed. Better it should be a SIR blow job. And it was.

Goodbye to all that. The finale at the head table said it all. It was no oversight. It was a demonstration of where the head is at--not just one man's head, for he was representative of the vast majority of those men present. Women are invisible. There is only one credential for acceptance in the homophile "brotherhood"--the handle Mayor Alioto couldn't find on Women's Day.

Goodbye, not just to SIR, but all those homophile organizations across the country with an open door policy for women. It's only window dressing for the public, and in the small towns of suburbia, for mutual protection. It doesn't really mean anything and smacks of paternalism. Goodbye, too, (temporarily, I trust) to my sisters who demean themselves by accepting "women's status" in these groups--making and serving the coffee, doing the secretarial work, soothing the brows of the policy makers who tell them, "We're doing it all for you, too." Don't believe it, sisters, for you are only an afterthought that never took place.

Goodbye to VECTOR. Goodbye to the "Police Beat" - the defense of washroom sex and pornographic movies. That was never my bag anyway. Goodbye to the Women's Page and the NACHC delegate who admitted that's how he regarded my column, professing all the while, of course, that he considered it most worthwhile reading. He meant it as a compliment. Goodbye to my editor, George Mendenhall, who has tried to understand and who is seeking to cement relations between the men and the women of the community. He can't go it alone. So I say, "Go ahead, George. Let it all hang out. It's all they have, and that needs to be exposed.

Goodbye to all the "representative" homophile publications that look more like magazines for male nudist colonies. Goodbye to the biased male point of view. The editors say they have encouraged women to contribute, but that they don't. Nor will they until the format is changed, policy broadened and their material taken seriously.

Goodbye to the gay bars that discriminate against women. Goodbye to those that "allow" them in only if they dress up in skirts, while the men slop around in their "queer" costumes. Gay Liberationists are right when they observe that gay bars ghettoize the homophile community. They are, after all, our chief base for socialization, for meeting people of our own kind. But there is no time or place for forming friendships, for exchanging ideas, for camaraderie--only for dispensing of drinks and sex partners.

Goodbye to the Halloween Balls, the drag shows and parties. It was fun, while it lasted. But the humor has gone out of the game. The exaggerations of the switching (or swishing) of sex roles has become the norm in the public eye. While we were laughing at ourselves we became the laughing stock--and lost the personhood we were seeking. It is time to stop mimicking the heterosexual society we've been trying to escape. It is time to get our heads together to find out who we really are.

Goodbye to NACHC. It never really happened. It was a non-organization consisting only of reams of purple dittoed rules and regulations that no one had the time nor stamina to read and big-mouthed, self-appointed and anointed homophile leaders--the steeple without the people.

Goodbye to Gay Liberation, too. They applauded the Lesbians who wished to establish common cause with them and the other men at the NACHC meeting. But somehow we are left with the feeling their applause was for the disruption of the meeting, not its purpose. There is reason for the splits within their won movement, why there is a women's caucus in GLF in New York and why

there is a Gay Women's Liberation in the San Francisco Bay Area. Like the tired old men they berate they have not come to grips with the gut issues. Until they do, their revolution cannot be ours. Their liberation would only further enslave us.

Goodbye to the various Councils on Religion and the Homosexual. Like the institutions they sprang from they are bastions of male prestige--male evangelists from two disparate worlds. There is no place for women in the Christian and homophile brotherhoods. Be warned, my sisters CRH spells only purgatory for you.

Goodbye to the male homophile community. "Gay is good," but not good enough--so long as it is limited to white males only. We joined with you in what we mistakenly thought was a common cause. A few of you tried, we admit. But you are still too few, and even you fall short of the mark. You, too, are victims of our culture. Fifteen years of masochism is enough. None of us is getting any younger or any closer to where it's really at. So, regretfully, I must say goodbye to you, too. It's been nice and all that, but I have work to do. My friends neither look up to me nor down at me. They face me as equals, and we interact reciprocally.

There is no hate in this goodbye--only the bitter sting of disappointment. Momentarily I am pregnant with rage at your blindness and your deafness--the psychosomatic symptoms of narcissism and egocentricity. But my rage will pass. Most of it has been spent already. For I realize you were programmed by society for your role of supremacy. But somehow I expected more of you. I had hoped that you were my brothers and would grow up to recognize that freedom is not self contained. You cannot be free until you free me--and all women--until you become aware that in all the roles and games you play, you are always "IT".

Believe it or not, there is love, too, in this farewell--just as there has always been. How could anyone hold a grudge against helpless beings who are compelled to grope for their very existence? But I must leave you--for your good as well as mine. I refuse to be your scapegoat. By removing the target, you may no longer mock me. Besides, I must go where the action is--where there is still hope, where there is possibility for personal and collective growth. It is a revelation to find acceptance, equality, love and friendship--everything we sought in the homophile community--not there, but in the women's movement.

DEL MARTIN, cont.

the women's movement.

I will not be your "nigger" any longer. Nor was I ever your mother. Those were stultifying roles you laid on me, and I shall no longer concern myself with your toilet training. You're in the big leagues now, and we're both playing for big stakes. They didn't turn out to be the same.

As I bid you adieu, I leave each of you to your own device. Take care of it, stroke it gently, mouth it and fondle it. As the center of your consciousness, it's really all you have.

(Del Martin is one of the original founders of DOB and has been active in the "movement" for years. Thank you, Del, for being.)

The pressure of a hostile mind tears my composure  
beyond even my recognition  
My mouth remains silent for I can comprehend or  
compose nothing fitting in retaliation  
The proximity to love I once had has been  
transformed into great dislike  
Chained-in hostilities on both our parts have  
festered within us and changed our lives  
for all time ..  
Where once smiles adorned our faces, now are  
frowns of distrust and discord  
When we speak now, it is only to stab with the  
knife of growing disgust we are nurturing  
for each other ..  
Where once sparkling eyes were, now are pits of  
emptiness  
Where once faces lit in the joy of the sight of  
the other, now are two dull masks of cold  
Where once hands were raised in greeting and  
touches of kindness, now are appendages  
tied by an invisible but strong force that  
stifles all caring ...  
Where once passion and caring flowered, now  
there is but a barren void that can  
never be dissolved ...  
For we are no longer lovers, not even friends  
We are two humans with unpredictable reactions.  
We are two lovers gone bad because we drank too  
heavily, too fast of passionate wine  
not meant to touch our lips.

by Barbara

DEAR SAG

Dear Sag is a column with a touch of everything. I will try to answer questions or inquiries on astrology, lesbians, sex, DOB, or personal problems. Replies will be made through the publication, unless otherwise specified.

Dear Sag:

I don't like the word, but I know I'm a lesbian. I love beauty and find it in my own sex. I am 25 and have known that I was gay since my early 20's. People always ask me why I haven't got a boyfriend and why I'm not married. They tell me I don't know what I'm missing. I hear so much about what I'm missing. I tell them to worry about themselves and not to bother me. How can they be so stupid? They must have some hunch I'm not interested. I'm trying to do my part to make everyone understand, but what about me? What incentive do I have? I need a stable kind of lover badly, but yet I don't ever know where to look for such a person. I know no one like myself and wouldn't know where to look for a friend. I am aware that there are many of us, but where? Could you please help me to meet someone.

Lonely

Dear Lonely:

Because the mailing list of our membership is confidential information, it would be impossible to put you in contact with anyone in our organization. However, we realize that often there are "isolated" individuals such as yourself, who can not meet anyone except through the mail, since there are no bars or a chapter in your area. For this reason we are including a personal column in our want ad section. For the ad placement fee of \$2.00 you can specify the type of person you are looking for. However, it is necessary that you furnish the return address and we cannot guarantee that through such an ad you will find who you are looking for.

Dear Sag:

I've been gay for 3 years and every woman I've met claims to be either "butch" or "femme". I'm getting sick of all this role playing. Is there anything I can do?

Disgusted

- Continued after Gay News Page -

SCORPIO: SILENT MATHS RUN DEEP

Scorpios seem to wear their souls on the surface of their bodies. To physically touch a Scorpio is to touch her emotional identity. But being secretive by nature, she will never let you know you have gotten that close to her. (In a society such as ours where we do not do much touching of bodies, it seems quite clever of the Scorpio to hide herself by wearing her soul outside - it will never be touched).

Since astrologers have relegated Scorpio to the farthest planet Pluto, this might indicate the depth and complexity of this personality. Her depth is reflected in general moodiness and seriousness, and she will probably give the impression of a deep and "heavy" personality.

This woman thinks with her emotions rather than with logic, and as a result, often causes herself considerable pain. Tears flow freely, but take such a display of emotion with objectivity for they are often used as a means of manipulating you to her way of thinking. Also you must be careful to watch what you say and do around this woman, for her temper is easily aroused, and there is nothing worse than the biting words of an angry Scorpio. Once her anger has been aroused she is not one to forgive and forget. She can carry a grudge for years, and often does. Because her sexuality is an ingrained part of her nature, she is much more able to express her feelings in bed than with words. And to withdraw from her advances can easily upset her self-confidence and security. Life and love affairs are very serious matters to the Scorpio woman. She would prefer to subject herself to the torture of being alone, rather than submitting herself to the bar scene or to one night stands. However, once she has established herself in a one-to-one relationship, she is able to express herself much more freely. If this woman says "I love you", you can be sure she means it; and to refuse to take her seriously is to refuse to accept her at all. Though the Scorpio woman tends to be overly protective, possessive and jealous, her sincerity and steadfastness make her one of the most sought after women of the zodiac.

by Ruth

BUSINESS MEETING, October 17, 1970.

The following is a brief outline of the business meeting of Oct. 17. Much minor business was discussed, along with: Magazine subscriptions to Sisters will cost, to non-members, \$5.00 per year, or 50 cents a copy.

Memberships in DOB:

Associate Membership will cost \$4.00 and will include:  
library privileges, 1/2 price to social events,  
and an events page, separate from Sisters.  
Active Membership for singles will cost \$7.00 per  
year and will include: library privileges,  
1/2 price to social events, Sisters for one year.  
Active Membership for Couples will cost \$10.00 and  
will include: library privileges for both,  
1/2 price to social events for both, one copy  
of Sisters for one year.

We decided to start a HELP department to include  
names and phones of psychologists, lawyers, realtors,  
apartment managers, stores, bars, restaurants, coffee  
houses, employers, clergymen, churches and other  
businesses that have indicated they do not discriminate  
against gay people. If anyone is aware of any such  
people or establishments, either sympathetic to or  
operated by gay people, call the DOB office, send us a  
card or call JACKIE at 861-6560. We also will provide  
space in SISTERS for ads for your business or whatever.  
See the ads in this issue for information.

We decided to start a DOB softball team, basically to  
challenge S.F. Gay Women's Lib to games. (Hostility  
release is good for all of us.) If interested in the  
team, call Vice Pres. Barbara and volunteer. See Events  
page for our first practice and picnic in November.

We decided to provide car pool service for DOB events.  
For each event, there will be individuals who will drive  
you to the event. Call the phone numbers given with the  
event to get a ride.

We decided to call business meetings for EVERY THIRD  
SATURDAY NIGHT OF EVERY MONTH AT 8:00 p.m. at the office.  
You can mark your calendar, then, in advance, and can  
keep that date always open, if you wish to attend the  
meetings.

We decided to allow non-members to vote at business  
meetings until such time as it appeared that this was  
not working well. We feel that if, for some reason,  
you choose not to belong to an organization, and yet  
feel the need to contribute time and energy to the  
organization, why not vote? We shall see how this works.

November 18- "The Age of Alienation" A panel of teenage  
homosexuals discuss their particular problems of alien-  
ation from their parents, friends, and the homosexual  
community at large. Registration at the door 7:30 p.m.  
Fees: Students \$.50 All Others \$1.00 Newman Center,  
2425 College Ave. Berkeley, Calif.

November 21- DOB Business Meeting at the office 1005  
Market Street Room 208. Here we will discuss and plan  
for events next month, plus bring up any new ideas.  
People who are interested in becoming members should  
definitely attend. Meeting begins at 8:00.

November 22- DCD discussion "Should I tell my parents  
I'm gay?" Anyone that has been thinking about whether  
or not they should tell their parents, or that have  
told their parents are urged to attend. Time 7-9 p.m.  
Place: 545 Kearney El Cerrito, Calif. For info call  
Barbara at 527-3553.

#### WEEKLY

Monday- Women's Liberation 8:00 p.m. 317 Sanchez, S+F  
For More Info call 861-2114

Wednesday- Daughter's of Bilitis office is open house  
7-9 p.m. 1005 Market Room 208 If the door is locked  
call 861-8689 so that we can open the door.

Friday- S.F. Gay Women's Liberation 8:00 p.m. 2620  
Buchanan San Francisco. ( Corner of Broadway and  
Buchanan ) For info call 567-6156

#### SPEAKER'S CORNER

Coming speaking engagements DOB:  
Newman Center.....

November 4--one or two women needed  
November 18--one or two teenage needed  
December 9--as many women as possible needed  
December 16--a woman's marriage and a single  
woman needed

If you are at all interested in either attending or  
helping us present our views to this group of Catholic  
laymen, please call Karen Wells at 843-7301 or drop a  
note to the DOB office. We need your voices or they  
won't hear us at all.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 "Aging Homosexual" and Coming Out Newman Center 8:00 p.m.	5	6	7 Bay Area Gay Organization Meeting 10:00 a.m.
8 Softball practice 2:00 p.m. Margaret Hay- ward Field Picnic after	9	10	11	12	13	14 BACK TO DOB DANCE 8:30 p.m.
15 Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	16	17 KCED Radio: Interview with DOB 9:00 p.m.	18 The Teenage Homo- sexual Newman Center 8:00 p.m.	19	20	21 BUSINESS MEETING DOB 8:00 p.m.
22 DOB Rap Should I tell my parents I'm gay? 7-9:00 pm	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

NOVEMBER CALENDAR OF EVENTS  
1970

CALENDER  
OF  
EVENTS

NOVEMBER 1970

November 4- "Neither Fish Nor Fowl" A panel of homosexuals discuss the agony of arriving at a homosexual commitment and the problems that ensue. This discussion will also treat the problems of the aging homosexual. Registration at the door 7:30 p.m. Students \$.50 All others \$1.00 Newman Center 2425 College Avenue, Berkeley, California.

November 7- Meeting of Bay Area Gay Organizations Any gay organization, new or old, is urged to attend. DOB members interested should call Ruth or Karen at 843-5861. The meeting begins at 10 a.m. at SIR center, 83 Sixth St. San Francisco.

November 8- Baseball Practice at Margaret Hayard field, San Francisco. All those interested in creating a baseball team or just having a fun get together should come. Practice will begin at 2:00 p.m., and will last until late afternoon. Then we will go to the beach for a weiner roast get together. Those wishing to attend only the latter event should be at the field by 5:00 p.m. Rides are available to both events from S.F. and the East Bay.

November 14- Back to DOB dance Open to members, old members, and anyone else interested. Admission \$1.00 Bring your own refreshments. Those wishing to help in preparation or at the dance call any of the officers. Rides are available from both San Francisco and the East Bay. Time: 8:30 p.m. Place: 4290 24th St. San Francisco

November 17- DOB Interview KQED Radio. Four members of DOB will be interviewed by Hall Call of the Mattachine. Discussion will cover various aspects of the organization where we're at and where we're going, plus lesbianism in general. THIS SHOULD NOT BE MISSED. Remember KQED radio 9:00 p.m.

SCANNING THE NEWS

The NACHO (North American Conference of Homophile Organizations) convention, held at S.I.R. Aug. 25-28 made the news on nearly all fronts. If it accomplished nothing else, it served to stir up the already mixed emotions of a great many people. The major problem seems to center in that the participants ended up fighting over what to fight for, Gay Rights, Women's Rights, The New Left, or the Gay Establishment. Actually, its a good question?

The day of Aug. 26, found Gay Lib and Women's Lib well entrenched at NACHO. (Advocate, Sept. 30-Oct. 13) "Gay Lib women and representatives of NOVA and Daughters of Bilitis took over the speaker's table at the convention during the afternoon--more or less by invitation."

"Del Martin, one of the founders of the DOB, told the assemblage that male chauvinism exists among gay males too, and that as a result, 'gay women today are identifying more with heterosexual women than with gay men.' ...."Fen Gregory, of S.F. DOB? said gay women have been unsuccessful in trying to work with gay males. 'All too often, we've been asked to assist, not participate as equals.' "Heleen Niehaus, ...of LA's Society of Anubis, said 'I don't go along with this Women's Lib bit... We should work together just as homosexuals.' Things continued along these lines, with ample shouting on all sides, and the men insisting they were trying to include women. Leo Laurence contributed his thought "that NACHO support pall oppressed people, the Black Panther Party, Women's Lib, chicanos, and others, or dissolve.'" Off and running again.

The hassle eventually ended with a resolution which read in part: "NACHO does affirm our support of and solidarity with the Women's Liberation Movement and their struggle against our common oppressors, a male chauvinist and sexist society, and that NACHO supports the struggle for freedom of all oppressed people."

S.F. Chronicle, Sept. 18, 1970 -- A Challenge to Sex Law

Suit was filed in Federal court here, on Aug. 18, challenging the California Penal Code's Section 288a (a 55-year old law prohibiting oral copulation). It is also designed to attack the 98-year old law prohibiting sodomy (Section 286, C.P.C.). The suit, filed on behalf of six private individuals, including a pair of homosexuals, S.I.R., Sexual Freedom League, and Modern Sex Institute, is intended to challenge the constitutionality of these laws.

ALPINE

"Alpine County Hopes for Gays"  
(San Francisco Chronicle, Thursday, Oct. 22, 1970)

La GLF has announced plans to take political control of Alpine county by establishing legal residency, recall of all elected officials and replacing them with a government of gay officials.

"Alpine County has a population of 430, by far the lowest in the State. Some 384 residents are registered voters. The gays say they already have 479 homosexuals ready to move to the County on January 1 and become the voting majority after 90 days residence."

The residents don't care for the idea. They sent a delegation yesterday to confer with an aide to Governor Reagan but were told that as long as the citizens were law abiding nothing could be done.

Don Kilhefmer, spokesman for LA GLF said, "But we're prepared for hostility and will defend ourselves by any means necessary. We've been pushed around long enough. We're a new breed of homosexuals, gay and proud, and not afraid any more. He said the gay majority would not practice discrimination against the straight minority or "treat them the way we have been treated".

Kilhefmer said the gays are seeking "a place where we are able to develop a homosexual like style, a counter-culture. We see it as a scheme every oppressed minority could latch on to - there's an Alpine County in every state in the union. Oppressed people working within the system could take them over.

GOD BLESS GLF

Black militants oust S+F+ Gay Lib  
(The Advocate Oct. 28 - Nov. 10, 1970)

The Gay Liberation Front of San Francisco lost its headquarters at least temporarily Oct. 2 in a clash with a Black nationalist group.

There were indications that the situation had badly strained the fragile new rapport between the GLF and the Black Panther Party, which reportedly failed to respond to repeated pleas for help from the GLF.

Members of the Black Cultural Institute, some reported armed with chains and tire irons, forcibly evicted commune members of Children of Paradise, the night of Oct. 2, leaving some of them standing in the street half-dressed. Allowed to return the next day for their belongings, the Children of Paradise said they found the rooms they had occupied ransacked and personal possessions missing.

Roger Green, former chairman of the San Francisco GLF said many GLF members were "disappointed" with the

S.F. Gay Lib. cont.

"non-help we got from the Panthers"

He said over a dozen GLF members had joined a 24-vigil at Panther headquarters in the Fillmore and in Oakland when the Panthers were threatened with a raid last year.

However, it appeared several days after the eviction of the commune that the institute might be softening its position toward letting them return.

Dear Sag cont.

Dear Disgusted:

Most women are gay because of psychological reasons, rather than sexual ones. Although I've yet to meet a lesbian who said that she prefers sex with a man over a woman, most who have tried men don't find them that distasteful. No, its the male dominance that irritates us most of all, and unfortunately a large majority of homosexuals have carried over into their lives the heterosexual farce of male superiority and feminine passivity. In my opinion the more equal two partners are in everything they do whether its housework, cooking or sex or the job, the more fulfilling they will find their relationship becoming. Don't give up though. There are plenty of women emerging from the cracks who feel the same way you do..... They are just difficult to discern.

Dear Sag:

What is the difference between a clitoral and vaginal orgasm? Is one more pleasurable than the other?  
Curious

Dear Curious:

Doctors have been arguing for years over the existence of a vaginal orgasm. Its impossible to locate a specific spot where an orgasm occurs or exactly what it is. The question is really useless since its difficult for lesbians to have a vaginal orgasm without a penis substitute. Its quite obvious, though, that a clitoral orgasm does exist and is extremely pleasurable so why worry about a vaginal one.

### Terry's Trip

Since we women have been liberated, RUMOR HAS IT THAT a group of San Francisco Lesbians plan to take over the 21st Street Baths !! Hmm ... This could start a whole new movement !!!

ATTENTION BAR GOERS -- Don't miss the reopening of the SATURNALIA, located at Valencia and Duboce; and if you haven't been to the LOG CABIN on Bayshore near LEONARDS'S you're really missing something; and if you haven't been to MISS MUFFETTS' on Valencia then you really missed something .. faithful patrons were saddened by its closing.. If you can get to Foothill and 65th in Oakland, I highly recommend THE MANHOLE; the crowd is mixed and the band is good.

After giving it a moment's thought, I've come to the conclusion that the trouble with the world today is that there is just too much apathy, but who cares?

One of the greatest comebacks I've heard in a long time has to be about this friend of mine who drives a catering truck. It seems she was at one of her stops when a young man, upon making his purchase, looked at my friend (rather butch) and asked "What are you, a man or a woman?" My friend, without the slightest change of composure placed her hands on her hips, looked him straight (pardon my grammar) in the eye, and replied, "What are you .. the draft board?" ... Well, I guess you had to be there ...

Two old Lesbians in the fashionable Pacific Heights district opened up a cat house. This may not seem so interesting but, in just two weeks, they sold thirty-two cats !! (Ahem .....?)

Philosophically speaking .. It's a great life if you don't weaken; and it's a great life if you do weaken -- it all depends on what you get weak from! Personally, I think if you don't do it too often in a week, you shouldn't get weak, but if you get weak in a week - WOW - what a week! huh?

(Ahem ....)

#### SEMI-BEAUTIFUL THOUGHT OF THE MONTH:

To walk when others are running  
To whisper when others are shouting  
To sleep when others are restless  
To smile when others are angry  
To work when others are idle  
To ause when others are hurrying  
To pray when others are in doubt  
To think when others are in confusion  
To face turmoil yet feel composure  
To know calm in spite of everything -- if you can do

all this - people are bound to think you are crazy ..

The preceding was an excerpt from a letter from a friend now residing at Napa State Hospital ..

In closing, keep in mind: if when the next time you go shopping, the exhorbitant prices get you down, remember that the cost of living isn't nearly as high as the cost of enjoying living.

GAY IS GROOVY GAY IS GROOVY GAY IS GROOVY GAY IS GROOVY

Gay Groups Come Together,  
Sort of.....

In September, the Council on Religion and the Homosexual asked representatives of any and all the Bay Area gay organizations to participate in a rap about our organizations and directions. The purpose, and a good one was to open communication channels so that one group was aware of what other groups were up to. So, on September 12th, we met at the Glide Church to find out what was happening or unappenig. The following organizations were present:

San Francisco Gay Women's Liberation  
The Council on Religion and the Homosexual  
Metropolitan Community Church  
The Hospitality House  
Committee of Concern (Gay Switchboard)  
Macy's Mobilization Corps  
Social Action Research Center  
Berkley women representing themselves  
Mattachine Society  
U+C Berkley Gay Student's Union  
S.F. State Gay Liberation Front  
Gay Raps (Berkley)  
Society for Individual Rights  
Rap Group for women under 21  
Gay Sunshine  
DOB was represented by Karen, Karen Wells, and Ruth Sudul

The first obvious response I had was that there was indeed a growing number of homosexual organizations. (Gay Lib Berkley was not in evidence and NOVA chose not to appear. Two more groups not even there. ) The second response was-- Wow, what are they all up to? Looks like a revolution is indeed happening.

For the first two hours each group representative introduced himself and his or her group's focus and activities. The following is an attempt to briefly explain some of the new groups' things. (SIR, Mattachine, CRH, and Gay Lib are fairly familiar organizations.

S.F. Gay Women's Liberation--a diverse and exciting group of women, primarily interested in individual liberation and political action. See phone page for address and meeting times.

Metropolitan Community Church--a gay people's church, with some strights. Howard Wells, minister. (This church was formed by Troy Perry in L.A. MCC has been in S. F. for about 6 months.)

Hospitality House--run by the Committee of Concern, it is a kind of gay YM-W-CA. Also helps young people in drug trouble.

Macy's Mobilization--appealed for picketing help. Apparently they had trouble getting women to support them.

Gay Rap of S.F.--at first a group rap, this has evolved into a one-to-one counseling thing for gay people. One man and one woman are available so far. For an appointment, call 931-3939.

CRH sponsored rap group for young women under 21--guided by a young woman, this group was organized to reach young women who are confused or unhappy about their homosexuality.

Gay Sunshine--our first completely gay newspaper. To contribute articles, send them to P.O. Box 4089, Berkeley.

For telephone numbers and addresses for these and other organizations, see the phone page.

For another hour or so, we broke the large meeting up into small groups to discuss just what we could do to keep communication open among us all. No one seemed to know what the others were doing most of the time. No one knew any phone numbers or names to contact. Several suggestions were offered: support for the Berkeley Gay Switchboard, so that we could have some sort of centralized information center; frequent meetings of representatives of the gay organizations; lists of all orgs, officers and phone numbers; some kind of central location for information on lawyers, psychologists and other professional help and for events of all the groups, social and political.

All the suggestions were vague and no one volunteered to start doing all this. Typical. Lots of talk and little action. One thing did come clear, however, and that was the desperate need for communication among us gay people in organizations. So, we agreed to meet again on October 3rd, at SIR, to further discuss and ?.

On the 3rd of October, fewer organizations showed up, of course. Those present were: Gay Student's Union of Cal Berkeley; SIR; DOB; MCC; the now dormant Gay Fund representatives, and several women representing themselves. The best thing about this generally useless meeting was that the women outnumbered the men.

Basically, we discussed the Gay Fund, and support for some sort of fund raising drive in the gay community was high. Like, when has the United Fund ever gotten its head(s) together about the gay community? They are just getting around to realizing that there are black people's organizations that need funding. Anyone for a fund raising drive? If not, save your bread for the gay community or give it to minority group divisions of the United Fund.

One interesting thing that was announced at this meeting was that there is a group forming to find some property somewhere and set up a completely gay community, a kind of gay utopia. This group calls itself BAG/FUN, or Bay Area Gays for Unification and Nationalism. You might call Charles Thorp at 931-3939 for info.

We agreed to meet again on the 7th of November, this time having the meeting chaired by (what?) a woman! Me. There will even be child care provided, so all us women should get ourselves together and blow some minds and maybe let our demands for recognition as real homosexuals be known to the men controlling all the--ah, marbles, shall we say? So. That's where it all stands, and, unfortunately, falls, unless we give it support. The feeling is that it sure seems impossible to get the gay community together. Everyone seems to be off doing their own things. Cool, but we need some sort of unity. Could this kind of monthly meeting of gays be it? We shall see about Nov. 7th. See Events Page for details.

(Written up and editorialized by Karen Wells.)

#### THE APRIL OF FOOLS

by Aaron

The April of fools,  
laughter as a drunken queer  
in the middle of sin...  
(Cry your tears, my dear,  
and swear not in vain,  
swear not in vain.)

The jolly blue Italian  
flirting with the  
twentyish Lesbian....  
The maid standing for business,  
after work....

April of fools  
in some closet  
staring at what goes by  
in drag...  
(Nations being bastard  
not in vain,  
but of uncrushed concern...  
Armies marching at Macy's--  
long hairs  
short hairs  
holding this  
holding that  
to show the enemy why...)

April of fools  
the tuesday before tuesday  
echoed the fool's burning silence,  
where the office,  
dense with nicotine mist,  
occupied the minds of SISTERS....

The April of fool,  
one fool,  
who sat through the  
butchery of crime,  
heavy-hearted, disgusted,  
sad, without a chore  
or cause to slave...

(The fool  
cries inside  
very loud  
but no one  
hears,  
no one knows,  
no one cares....)

The April of fools,  
stuffed in a black SIR box,  
not wanting to be pushed  
from the bench  
or  
to be silent or shy...

The April of fools  
are fools indeed,  
but ah,  
dear fools,  
we are all fools,  
wise,  
our windows open  
for words, understanding--what more, dear fools,  
what more?

## KATHY'S CORNER

O.K. Call me a traitor if you wish. But I, for one, am getting slightly weary of hearing the term "male chauvinist"--particularly as applied loosely to any and all male homosexuals. Somehow, there's something about the outcry for "equality" that doesn't quite ring true. At any rate, there's something contradictory about it.

Don't get me wrong. I'm not especially anti-Women's Lib. I'm pro human being liberation, and jobs and pay determined solely by any person's ability to do that job, regardless of who or what he is. No, I'm not trying to upstage Count Marco, either. But, that's about as far as I can identify.

But, I am a homosexual, and therein lies my first loyalty. I don't happen to be in agreement with confusing the two movements. I don't see the Negro splitting into Panthers and Pantherettes. Apparently, they recognize the fact that they need each other, that one will not gain without the other gaining right along with him. So what are we trying to prove? If homosexuals, as a group, fail to achieve their rights, female homosexuals aren't going to get very liberated from anything. And let's be fair. It is, and has been, for the most part, gay men who have done the fighting.

Let's give credit where credit's due. Sure, "the guys have all the activities, bars; look at their organizations compared to what we have." That's right. But what they have was not a gift from the straight community, nor gotten for them through any major Lesbian effort. My guess is that gay guys have exactly what gay guys went out and got.

Activities exist only when people are around to take part in them. Men are participating. Why aren't women? Activities at SIR and MCC (which I attend, and I'm sure there are others) are open to women, but few attend. Events of all-woman DOB are, in comparison, sparsely attended. Why? I don't completely buy the "men don't want us around" bit either. Some don't, granted, but I've met gals who couldn't stand the sight of a male anything, too. That's the individual's problem. On the whole, I've been made to feel quite welcome and comfortable in these groups.

Just as I don't think cracking skulls with clubs makes students more gentle and lovable, attacking the male isn't going to make him more sympathetic. Someone remarked that "people are unhappy because they build walls instead of bridges." Could it be that if gay girls really want an active part, they could darn well get out and take part, instead of throwing up a wall and yelling "male chauvinist!"?

Kathy's Corner

This is an opinion column, yours as well as mine. Your response is welcome, and will be printed as space allows. Or if you have an opinion or question you would like to throw out for reader response, please let me know. Opinions expressed in this column reflect the views of individuals, and are not necessarily those of DOB or any other organization.

POEM

by Barbara

On the back of a black velvet snake  
rising and falling with its every wave of movement  
I see my dreams above and away from me  
White-new and untouched  
But on either side I see slush and mud  
It touches me, not I it  
The melted and ruined dreams seem too harsh and  
                  hit much too hard...  
Why do dreams disintegrate into reality?  
Into slush?  
Into something hard to face?  
They rarely become tangible---  
The velvet force winds close to the most  
                  prized dreams and when almost in my grasp---  
He turns with much haste -- away  
Leaving me cold and with a deep burning hole  
                  in my soul...  
I often look back and hope, just hope, that the  
                  path was for the best...  
But can  
          never  
          be  
          sure.....

ADVERTISEMENTS

APARTMENTS

ROOM FOR RENT in house for quiet, reliable gay  
girl. Share large furnished, 3-bedroom Victorian  
flat with gay guy and gay girl, own bedroom and  
kitchen priv. \$75. + utilities. NOT sex ad.  
Call Daisy or Mike at 431.7196  
Location - Divisadero and 14th.

RIDES

Gay girl and gay guy would like ride to Chicago.  
Willing to share expenses and driving.  
Ready to go after November 1, 1970.  
Write to:

Liane Esstelle  
c/- Mike Cluster  
2029 Pierce Street, Apt.4  
San Francisco 94115

JOBS

Any woman with experience or interest in advertising  
desiring to help formulate an all woman's ad agency,  
please contact .....

326.4130

PERSONAL

Gay Girl - 21

Would like to meet same for lasting relationship.

Sincere and kind, quiet Virgo, preferred.

340 Jones, Box 223, San Francisco 94102

Ads can be placed by members at no charge; for others the cost is \$2.00 per ad per issue. Personal ads can be placed, but DOB can not be used as a clearing house for responses or in any way held responsible.

Frequent Phones

Committee of Concern P.O. Box 4089, Berkeley	841-3557
Council on Religion and Homosexual 330 Ellis, San Francisco	771-6300
Daughters of Bilitis 1005 Market, Room 208, San Francisco	861-8689
Free Clinic Berkeley	548-2570
San Francisco	563-7876
Gay Raps (men and women) Bishops Coffee House - 7:30 p.m. every Wednesday	848-7540
Gay Seminarans	524-0399
Gay Students Union (U.C.-Berkeley)	848-7540
Gay Sunshine P.O. Box 4089, Berkeley	525-7024
Gay Switchboard	845-6982
Gay Womens Liberation (Berkeley)	845-3502

BACK

TO

D.O.B.

8:30 p.m.

4240 - 24<sup>th</sup> STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO

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