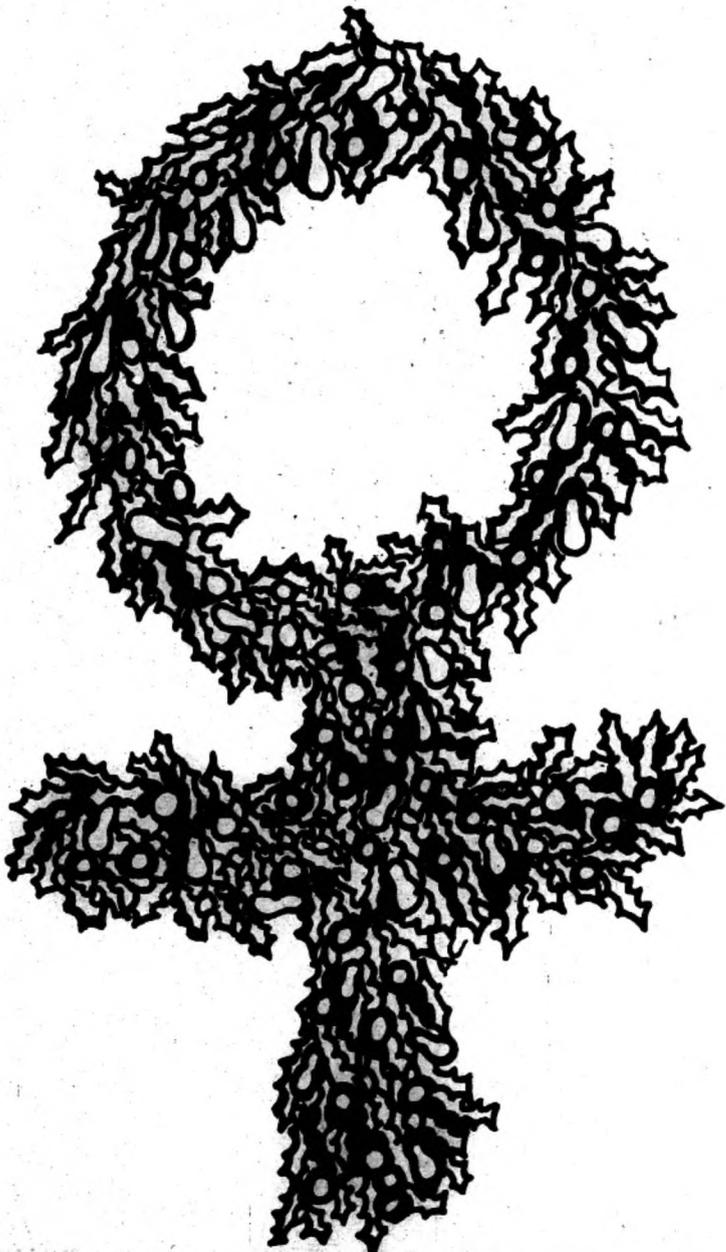


50¢

*Sisters*  
*by and for Gay Women*

December 1973



# SAN FRANCISCO DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS

## Statement of Purpose

...a women's organization to aid the Lesbian in discovering her place in society and to educate 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 and building a library on the themes of homosexuality and women; by providing social functions where she can communicate with others and expand her social world outside the bar scene; and by providing an organized structure through which she can work to change society's limitations upon her lifestyles; by providing a forum for the interchange of ideas and constructive solutions to women's problems.

2. To educate the public to accept and understand the Lesbian as an individual, thereby leading to the breakdown of taboos, prejudices, and limitations on her lifestyle by sponsoring public discussions; by providing individuals as speakers and participants in various forums designed to educate the public; by disseminating educational and rational literature on the Lesbian.

3. To encourage, support and participate in responsible research dealing with homosexuality.

4. To investigate the penal code and to promote changes, in order to provide equitable handling of cases involving homosexuals, with due process of law and without prejudice.

TO SAY AND BELIEVE THAT GAY IS GOOD

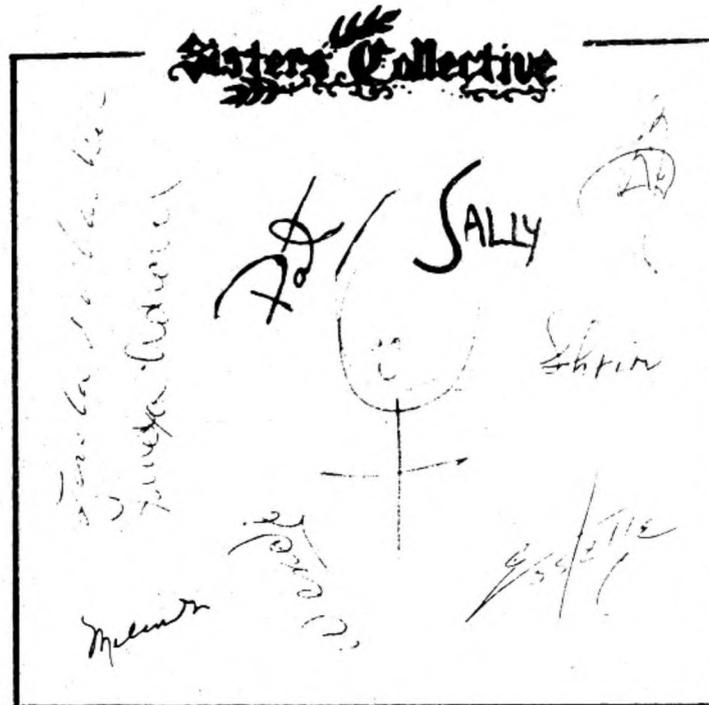
SAN FRANCISCO DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, AN AFFILIATE OF

SAN FRANCISCO WOMEN'S CENTERS  
1026 MASONIC STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94117



vol. 4 no. 12

President.....Liane  
Vice-President.....Millie  
Correspondence.....Pat & Lois  
Treasurer.....Melinda  
Volunteer Coordinator.....Linda  
Secretary.....Paula





## CONTENTS

A Note to the Lesbian Intellectual Elite.....	3
Helen Reddy in Person.....	7
Censorship Exists.....	8
Quotations.....	9
Poetry Section.....	10-15
CALENDAR.....	16&17
Sisters it should be noted.....	18
Ellen Swallow.....	18
The Lesbian and God-the-Father or All the Church Needs is a Good Lay--on Its Side.....	19
Gay Nurses' Alliance.....	24
Task Force on Gay Liberation.....	26
Thank you for Lesbian Woman.....	27
Local Lesbian News by a Local Lesbian.....	28
A Sisterly Season's Greetings.....	31
INFORMATION PAGE.....	32



**SISTERS MAGAZINE** © December, 1973  
by Daughters of Bilitis, San Francisco  
Reproduction by permission of SF DOB  
Staff Members

## A NOTE TO THE "LESBIAN INTELLECTUAL ELITE"

Dear Gang:

I hate to resort to lowlevel bardyke rhetoric, but, in a word, your Founding Charter sucks. ("Sucks" as even lowlevel bardykes know, is a quaint Elizabethan euphemism for a more obvious, though less classical descriptive epithet). Actually, it's not that I object to coexisting with intellectuals (that is, "individuals having unusual mental capacity") but when they come on like rejects from MENSA\*, I get to feeling a bit nervous. It didn't help much, either, that you defined "elite" as a "select group" and left out the more salient part of the definition having to do with elitists being "a group considered or treated as socially superior". I mean, isn't that where it's really at?

On the other hand, maybe what made me so sad was the Charter's statement that you Intellectuals are so fed up with us Anesthetized, Non-creative Masses fucking up your head trips that you're planning to turn your backs on us, wash your hands of us, and laugh as we go down the tubes. Some heavy rejection!

And, since this is an all-out-frank communique, your plan of being a "gadfly" on my ass didn't set too well either. I honestly don't think that my consciousness will be raised one whit by a bug whose only claim to fame is its prediliction for stinging "domesticated cattle."

What I'm really trying to say, I suppose, is that while I readily acknowledge your right to form a group based on shared interests, I don't for a minute accept your right, in the absence of my participation or permission, to impose your trip

on me. Arrogance really isn't such a hot thing, but if you have a need to exclude your less well-endowed Sisters, do remember that your influence for contributing to the welfare of all Lesbian Women will be diminished accordingly.

*Donna Martin*

Donna Martin

\*MENSA, for you LBs who don't know any better, is that funny heterosexual bunch of insecure intellectuals who join the Organization as a way of publicly validating the fact that they have an I.Q. in excess of 10 points and, thereby, are Truly Something Else!

*(Donna Martin is a Psychotherapist in Hayward, California.)*

WOMEN'S WEEKEND WORKSHOP ON ANGER

December 14, 15 & 16

We believe that anger is a difficult feeling for many women to express. The Holiday Season is the time of year when anger centers around religion, family, friends, loneliness, etc. We want to provide a place where anger is a valid feeling and help women express it in a healthy safe and constructive way.

STARTS Friday at 7pm. \$25.00 10 Women maximum

CALL Jill at 647-4391 or leave message at 864-8205 ex. 29 and she will return your call.

4

# Sisters

Please send me SISTERS for \_\_\_ year or years at \$5.00 per year. . . \$7.00 for Canada and \$10.00 for overseas, effective as of September 1973.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

Mail order form to

DOB Rm. #402  
1005 Market Street  
San Francisco, Calif. 94103



5



IT IS NOT IN THE DIFFERENCE  
WE FIND THE ESSENCE OF  
LIFE ... IT IS RATHER, IN  
ITS SAMENESS.

LJ

6

## HELEN REDDY IN PERSON

Whenever I think of a superstar I think of talent which reaches off the stage and pulls the listener onto and into the performance wrapping viewer and artist together. Talent is to the artist what charisma is to the politician. . . indispensable. One can have artistic ability, a good voice filled with emotion thrilling to a beautiful song on a record, or, a personality which comes off well on T.V. but is lost without the gadgetry and techniques, so much a part of our contemporary electronic magik.

Unfortunately, it was the latter which occurred when Helen Reddy performed for the Bay Area at the Circle Star Theatre. Indeed the beautiful voice was there, when it could transcend the thunder of the musical accomplishment. But the true talent, that which makes an artist a superstar, was not.

I got the impression that the audience sincerely desired to be pulled onto the stage and wrapped up in that potentially beautiful personality; it was as though a shield separated us from her. It saddened me to think that all any of us wanted to hear really was THE song. It being the last in the act made me aware that had it been the first many people may have been tempted to leave without seeing the remainder of the show.

Nevertheless, the show was good...not great. If Ms. Reddy depends upon "I Am Woman" to help her ascend to superstardom and hold her there, I believe we will all find it just doesn't happen that way. If she doesn't discover that indescribable combination of artistry and personality which will help her break through the barrier between her and the audience, we will all have missed the opportunity of meeting and enjoying a truly great superstar.

by Lois

7

### Censorship Exists

It seems our sisters and brothers at Mississippi State University are having a difficult time of it with the editor of "The Reflector", the University's newspaper. Apparently the Mississippi Gay Alliance wanted to place an ad in the paper to let gay sisters and brothers know about their counselling and legal assistance. NO DICE was the response from The Reflector.

At last report the MGA was preparing a law suit against the newspaper for discrimination. Aside from the lawsuit we might all like to send the editor a copy of the U.S. Constitution and underline Amendment I. Do what you can!

## AMAZON QUARTERLY

A JOURNAL OF LESBIAN - FEMINISM



72 Pages of:

VISUAL ART

FICTION

POETRY

REVIEWS

EXPLORATION

\$4 per year (inside U.S.)  
\$5 per year (plain brown wrapper, outside U.S.)  
\$1 for sample issue

Amazon Quarterly, 554 Valle Vista, Oakland, California, 94610

8

## QUOTATIONS

I will not give to a woman an instrument to procure abortion.

Hippocrates:  
Hippocratic oath.

Woman may be said to be an inferior man.

Aristotle

Despite my 30 years of research into the feminine soul, I have not yet been able to answer . . . the great question that has never been answered: What does a woman want?

Sigmund Freud:  
quoted by Dr. Ernest Jones, The Life and Works of Sigmund Freud.

Do you know that each of you women is an Eve? The sentence of God on this sex of yours lives in this age: the guilt must necessarily live too. You are the gate of Hell, you are the temptress of the forbidden tree; you are the first deserter of the divine law.

Tertullian:  
De Cultu Feminarum.  
Women's Dress, c. 220

There are two kinds of moral law, two kinds of consciences, in men and women, and they are altogether different. The two sexes do not understand each other. But in practical life, the woman is judged by man's law, as if she were a man, not a woman.

Henrik Ibsen

*These quotations are taken from the book, THE GREAT QUOTATIONS ". . . a collection of man's best thinking. . ." from the Introduction by J. Donald and compiled by George Seldes*

9

### Censorship Exists

It seems our sisters and brothers at Mississippi State University are having a difficult time of it with the editor of "The Reflector", the University's newspaper. Apparently the Mississippi Gay Alliance wanted to place an ad in the paper to let gay sisters and brothers know about their counselling and legal assistance. NO DICE was the response from The Reflector.

At last report the MGA was preparing a law suit against the newspaper for discrimination. Aside from the lawsuit we might all like to send the editor a copy of the U.S. Constitution and underline Amendment I. Do what you can!

## AMAZON QUARTERLY

A JOURNAL OF LESBIAN - FEMINISM



72 Pages of:

VISUAL ART

FICTION

POETRY

REVIEWS

EXPLORATION

\$4 per year (inside U.S.)

\$5 per year (plain brown wrapper, outside U.S.)

\$1 for sample issue

Amazon Quarterly, 554 Valle Vista, Oakland, California, 94610

8

## QUOTATIONS

I will not give to a woman an instrument to procure abortion.

Hippocrates:  
Hippocratic oath.

Woman may be said to be an inferior man.

Aristotle

Despite my 30 years of research into the feminine soul, I have not yet been able to answer . . . the great question that has never been answered: What does a woman want?

Sigmund Freud:  
quoted by Dr. Ernest Jones, *The Life and Works of Sigmund Freud.*

Do you know that each of you women is an Eve? The sentence of God on this sex of yours lives in this age: the guilt must necessarily live too. You are the gate of Hell, you are the temptress of the forbidden tree; you are the first deserter of the divine law.

Tertullian:  
*De Cultu Feminarum.*  
Women's Dress, c. 220

There are two kinds of moral law, two kinds of consciences, in men and women, and they are altogether different. The two sexes do not understand each other. But in practical life, the woman is judged by man's law, as if she were a man, not a woman.

Henrik Ibsen

*These quotations are taken from the book, THE GREAT QUOTATIONS ". . . a collection of man's best thinking. . ." from the Introduction by J. Donald and compiled by George Seldes*

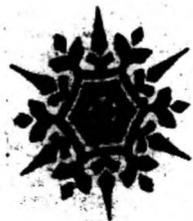
9



DIALOGUE WITH MYSELF - 1965

So, there you are  
hiding in the closet.  
Why  
are you afraid of me,  
or I of you?  
Why are you  
hiding there  
in the lonely dark  
of the closet?  
What made you  
think to look  
in here for me?

Linda Rothacker



TO Sandra

Glances from dark eyes  
Peering out from under kinky black bangs  
Looks lost to cave-dwelling gypsies

G

l

i

d

e

through those silent eyes.

Briefly our paths crossed: yours and mine  
Mine seems emptier for having lost you,  
Brought was I by you  
To new frontiers of Understanding

Feelings  
Permeated my being  
Taking me from self-satisfied awareness  
To new Dawning horizons unknown.

You brought me,  
showed me, left me.

Standing at the entrance of discovery-  
NEVER

before felt  
NEVER yet to be felt-  
By your confusion and self-soul searching

Your  
search left me  
aware

Though you still grasp at the myriad  
Of mind's through swirling Time  
Ungraspable-untenable,  
Always m o v i n g

Your  
soul and mine  
searched the night

E A C H  
seeking its own star.

Mine glowed bright

Yours  
shown lost in clouded nebulae

Yet somehow

I miss you, my partner

On youth's search of Life's meanings I long again  
for a dark glance  
from those silent gypsy eyes.

by Shirin



### LOVEGASM

OK, So you're in love with her  
and she's in love with another her  
and I'm hungry for more;  
you know, this bed can't hold  
all our ghosts. And  
you're afraid of my ravishings:  
don't be. --  
God, you've such a lovely moan; let it out,  
unfold...  
come.

Deborah

BLESS YOU, MR, TOOTH DECAY  
December 29, 1972

Your toothache evoking my kiss  
And that was the dawn of our love.

Tender meeting of our lips,  
It's earthquake concussion  
Rending our marrow.

I feared you as I wanted you.  
And you, like the Fox, pursued.

Now joy blankets our life  
In the harmony of destined beings.

Judy, thank you for our year together--  
we've only just begun!

Barbara - December 1973

Can You Spare a Dime?

No, brother, I have no dime  
My sisters are dying in their chains  
For you I haven't a dime.  
My sisters are out in the streets  
For you I haven't the time.  
My sisters are Fighting throughout the land  
Against you and all your kind.  
My sisters are Fighting for their lives,  
AND you ask if I have a dime.

Linda Rothacker

Lesbian Birth

I'm with her - and in love with her  
With you - and in love with you

Torn  
split  
divided  
screaming

It's not possible  
There are two of me.

Sureness and certainty whichever I'm with.

My lifestyle is sterile -  
yet I've reproduced.

I've made two of me.

Sandy

for WonderWoman

Eyes' lite to hushed  
rapture

nothing same turned to  
different anything  
upside down you  
vessels floowing  
downside me up pretty  
pretty Fine. fine & pretty

sight anythingoutof  
mind into mind  
crimson cranium cataclysm  
sucking cells  
MIND (youme) FUCKING

Else something how be love  
ration  
al?  
minutiae integrate 2  
entities  
nothing seem  
SomeThing IS!

by FLASH



SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

## DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				HAPPY BIRTHDAY ↓ Jodi		1
② ♀ POOL TOURNAMENT at Scott's \$20.00 for winner starts 6:30pm	③ ♀ EVERY OTHER MONDAY at DOB Counseling 6-8pm Jill	4	⑤ ♀ MAGGIE RUBENSTEIN Sex	⑥ ♀ L.M.U.'s Toy Happening at Scott's 8pm bring toy or door charge	⑦ ♀ EVERY FRIDAY Gay Women's Rap Nite 8pm in Oakland call Jackie 865-1449	8
⑨ ♀ Women's Art Center OPEN HOUSE at Scott's 2-6pm Exhibit & Introduction	⑩ ♀ DEADLINE SISTERS COLLECTIVE Meeting at 8pm Bert be on time!	⑪ ♀ N.O.W. Meeting 7pm Franklin & Geary Open to ALL women!	⑫ ♀ WELCOME TO DOB KATIE & SCOTTI	⑬ ♀ Berkeley 7:30 Rap on "What is Feminist Therapy?" FREE info. 548-4343	⑭ ♀ Weekend Workshop on Anger starts 7pm Page Four	⑮ ♀ S.O.L. PARTY 6pm in Pacifica call ahead at 359-4094
16 DEADLINE COLLATE SISTERS 2pm	⑰ ♀ COUNSELING 6-8pm Jill	18	⑱ ♀ OPEN JAM SESSION with GLORIA bring instruments	20	⑳ ♀ L.M.U. Meeting 7:30pm call 285-0392	22
23	㉔ ♀ Christmas Caroling Party at Scott's 5-7pm	25  CHRISTMAS DAY	㉒ ♀ CLOSED SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!	27	28	29

NOW at DOB  
RAPS  
7pm  
Every  
Wednesday  
\$1.00 for  
Non-members  
\$.50 for  
Members or  
FOOD  
STAMPS

You've come  
a long way  
baby.

SCOTT'S BAR  
10 Sanchez St.  
or 626-9534  
L.M.U.  
(Lesbian Mothers  
Union)  
S.O.L.  
(Slightly Older  
Lesbians 30+)

HOUSE FUND

\$3,310.15

16

17

---

SISTERS,

IT SHOULD BE NOTED:

THE AVERAGE MALE HAS ABOUT 66 POUNDS  
OF MUSCLE AND 3.2 POUNDS OF BRAINS,

THAT EXPLAINS ALOT OF THINGS,

ANONYMOUS

---

**ELLEN SWALLOW: The Woman  
Who Founded Ecology.** Robert Clarke.  
Follett, \$7.95

This fascinating book should appeal to all who are interested in the ecological movement and who also seek the advancement of women. Ellen Swallow was the first woman to be admitted to M.I.T. and to earn a degree in chemistry, the first female faculty member of that institution. One hundred years ago, this New England girl was aware of basic needs: for clean air and water and nourishing foods. All her life she fought for the education of women and for the protection of the environment—a standard which she called "oekology." Readers will be absorbed as they learn what one woman can accomplish and what we owe to her pioneering. Probably they will be inspired to read books by Ellen Swallow herself, all listed in Mr. Clarke's bibliography, as are books by others on related subjects. [October]

184

PUBLISHERS WEEKLY

**ELLEN SWALLOW**

(Born, December 3, 1842,  
Dunstable, Mass.

Died, March 30, 1911  
Jamaica Plain, Mass.

Educated

at home to age 16  
Westford Academy in  
Westford, Mass.,  
Vassar College

FIRST Woman to enter  
MIT 1871, B.S. 1873;  
Denied graduate study  
there but became first  
woman faculty; Honorary  
Doctor of Science,  
Smith College, 1910)

THE LESBIAN AND GOD-THE-FATHER

OR

ALL THE CHURCH NEEDS IS A GOOD LAY—ON ITS SIDE

by Sally Gearhart

*Ms. Gearhart is a professor of speech communications at California State University, San Francisco. She made these remarks in February 1972 at a pastors' conference at the Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley. This article is reprinted here by permission of the author.*

Copyrighted, 1973, by Sally Gearhart.

Of the host of things I'd like to share with you, a few at least bear mention:

I could speak with you about the twelve specific references to "homosexuality" in the Bible, about the misinterpretations that have been put upon them, about the fact that only one of those references includes any suggestion of female homosexuality.

Or, I might use a feature-article approach on "Lesbians I Have Known in the Church" (and still know). I doubt that many of you would be shocked at personal or experiential estimates of the number of lesbians in your congregations. I would, though, assure you that you don't find lesbians just among the single women in the church; nor, of course, are all single women lesbians. What may come as a bit of surprise is that lesbians are to be found in significant numbers among heterosexually married women, women trapped by their commitment to families and to husbands, women who know deep in themselves that their most authentic love relationships have been and perhaps even now are with women.

Perhaps more important might be a recounting of the hundreds of lesbians I have met in the past year who have left the church. I could

relate hair-raising stories of how the church attempted to dehumanize them, of how much pain they have suffered at its hands. I could tell you of the rage that erupts in some of them at the suggestion of anything Christian and of the tolerant laughter that springs from others at the mention of such devitalized concepts as "sin" or "salvation".

Or I could fall into the old trap of trying to define a lesbian by male standards, by the same philosophy that says "All the lesbian needs is a good lay with a real man to make her normal." The male notion of the lesbian is the sexual one: she is a lesbian simply because she "has sex" with women. Nothing could be farther from the truth. But if we were talking in man-language about lesbianism, I'd want to point out that what lesbians and gay men do in bed is technically no different from what many of you do in bed with your wives or husbands (assuming you have a healthy and vivid sexual relationship). The pain is that although heterosexual couples do "it" and marriage manuals even recommend "it" to buck up an otherwise tired and dull sexual life, still you give lip service to the notion that the "missionary position" is the only proper mode of sexual expression. You support a hypocritical morality that sanctions only the sex act that is potentially progenerative. By your silence on any other mode of sexual expression you continue to oppress gay people every minute of every day.

But the main thing I want to share with you is twofold.

First, I cannot separate the lesbian from the woman. This is not only because my oppression has been more as a woman than as a lesbian (though that of course is true), but also because to me being a lesbian is what really being a woman means. I like to think that the way politically conscious lesbians "are" in the world.

today is the way all women were before the tyranny of the patriarchy. To be a lesbian is to be identified not by men or by a society made by men, but by me, by a woman. And the more I am identified by/for me, by/for my own experience, by/for my own values, the more a full woman I feel I become.

More and more woman-identified women are emerging every day. More and more lesbians. It's not that more and more women are leaping into bed with each other. That may be your fantasy--certainly it is a common male fantasy--as to what lesbianism is all about. And indeed, my understanding is that astounding numbers of women are extending their love relationships with other women into sexual dimensions. But that's not the distinguishing characteristic of a lesbian. Lesbianism is a lifestyle, a mind-set, a body of experiences. I would like to call any woman-identified woman a lesbian, and if she's really woman-identified, she'll feel good about being called a lesbian, whether or not she's had any sexual relationship with another woman.

The woman-identified women who are being reborn every day are those who are shaking off the chains forged by thousands of years of ecclesiastical propaganda. Shaking off their definition as male property, as male's helpmate, as the pure and empedestaled virtue-vessels that need chivalrous male protection. They are the unladylike women, the angry women, the ones who make you feel a little uneasy with their freedom of body, with the way they cross their legs or open their own car doors, or the way they look as though they'll give you a karate chop if you hassle them. They are the ones who reach a deep and threatening place inside every man's gut, the ones who can make your stomach turn over because they represent a truth that your own stomach has always secretly known. Particularly if you are a man, you both hate and admire their independence, their strength.

The women being reborn today (that's the real meaning of resurrection) are the ones marching for the rights to their own bodies at abortion demonstrations. Often they are women of witch-like appearance, women in jeans and boots who have laid away the girdles and garters that bound them into the profiteering system. They are women whose faces are honest, whose hair flies free, whose minds and bodies are growing supple and steady and sure in their self-possession, whose love is growing deep and wide in the realities of newly discovered relationships with other women.

They don't need the church. The last thing they think about now is the church. They have within themselves what the church has claimed as its own and distorted so ironically for its own economic and psychological purposes these thousands of years.

Second, being a lesbian involves for me some growing political consciousness. That means I am committed to assessing institutions like the church, which, as far as women are concerned, takes the prize as the most insidiously oppressive institution in Western society. The matter of its influence needs no elaborating. Its insidiousness lies most obviously in the fact that it has made women (particularly white women) not only victims but murderers in a complex and exploitative economic system. One of the greatest marks of women's oppression is our conviction that we are not oppressed.

I look forward with great anticipation to the death of the church. The sooner it dies, the sooner we can be about the business of living the gospel. That living cannot take place in the church, and I suspect that most of us here have known that for a long time. But if we count on "renewal" or "reform," then we understand neither the depth of the church's crime nor the nature of the women's movement. If we count on "renewal" or "reform," then clearly we have not heard the voices of Third World peoples here and abroad.

Renewal and reform are not enough. Renewal and reform are more often sops, liberal cop-outs and

tokenism in the face of real and harder tasks. For example, with gritted teeth some denominations offer to ordain women. They then expect me to rejoice in this, light bonfires on the hillside, and dance around the sacred flame. Far from rejoicing, I really feel sick, sick that woman energy shall now officially be made captive to the institutions, sick that in the very act of ordination a woman has separated herself from me and from others. She has played the church's game for good reason--in order to secure her survival. But in doing so, she hasn't challenged the church. She has only mounted another pedestal.

.....to be continued,  
Sisters, January 1974



**THE  
LESBIAN  
TIDE**

A VOICE OF THE  
LESBIAN/FEMINIST  
COMMUNITY

sisters subscribe now!

\$5.00 in california  
\$6.00 elsewhere  
\$.50 sample copy

send to: tide collective  
1124 1/2 n. ogden  
los angeles. ca 90046

bulk rates available upon  
request

## GAY NURSES' ALLIANCE

Dear Sisters:

We are nurses in the Philadelphia area who are active in the American Nurses' Association and who have recently formed a group called the Gay Nurses' Alliance (G.N.A.). Current objectives of the Alliance are: to provide a forum where gay nurses can talk together; to raise the consciousness of all nurses to the existence of discrimination against peers and patients who are gay; and to make information and current literature that refute the homophobic, middle class, stereotypic, Judeo-Christian views of homosexuality which continue to cause such discrimination and oppression. G.N.A. is a very young organization and its membership quite small at present. Membership is comprised of gay and straight Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses and Student Nurses. Most G.N.A. members are already active in their respective professional organizations and those who are not are encouraged to become so.

We feel that a group like the Gay Nurses' Alliance is long overdue within professional nursing. All too often nurses tend to make erroneous and unfair value judgements about gay people. The prevailing myth that gay people exist only outside the profession is oppressive and prohibits gay nurses from achieving their full human potential in their professional and private lives. Just as oppressive is society's unwarranted but continued reference to gay people as sexual beings rather than human beings. Failure by the nursing profession to recognize the depth and true meaning of gay love relationships continues to antagonize and distress gay patients. Nurses should not deny any group of people the support they find necessary to combat the devastating loneliness and terror of hospitalization! It is

(24)

the firm conviction of G.N.A. that nurses have a professional and human responsibility to emerge from the darkness of prejudicial psychiatric theories, oppressive myths and vindictive stereotypes into the light of responsible truths and freer expressions of human potential without regard for sexual preference. We further feel that being in the vanguard of any responsible effort aimed at liberating human potential is most appropriate for nursing.

We will be recruiting members and making plans for workshops and conferences during the coming year to amass support for our effort to gain national recognition by the American Nurses' Association at its Annual Convention in San Francisco in June 1974.

As stated earlier, G.N.A. is very young and very small and the legitimate reasons for the reluctance of many nurses to become visible active members should be obvious to you. Just as obvious are the financial realities of organizing and the severe limitations on the work of the Alliance due to a small number of people being unable to shoulder the entire financial burden. This letter, then, is an announcement of our existence and is also an appeal for help and financial support from interested individuals and groups in both the gay and straight communities. The Alliance must have money now if it is to successfully meet its objectives. In addition to financial support, there is a need for volunteers to assist with preparing exhibits, answering letters and general office work. We also welcome and encourage letters of enquiry, support, suggestions or other responsible commentary.

Gay Nurses' Alliance                      P.O. Box 5687  
Philadelphia, Pa. 19129

(25)

## TASK FORCE ON GAY LIBERATION

If you are interested in uncovering what literature exists on the topic of homosexuality, POSITIVE literature, that is ... the Task Force on Gay Liberation of the American Library Association has composed a bibliography "to raise and help resolve issues of discrimination against gays as librarians and as library clients."

The bibliography is being updated and will contain some information on gay periodicals as well as books.

To obtain a copy of the updated bibliography when it is released write to:

Task Force on Gay Liberation  
P. O. Box 2383  
Philadelphia, PA 19103

To let the Task Force know that they are reaching gay people, tell them you found out about the bibliography in "Sisters".

To help keep their costs down you may also send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Pat Hardman



(26)

October 26, 1973

Hi:

Thank you both for Lesbian/Woman. The compassion and intelligence of your book makes me feel a great pride in humanity, and in my womanhood. It's a rare book that makes me feel a bigger person.

I've been scanning the gay literature for two months, since the coming out of my brother-in-law. In the '60's his parents were rather cruelly treated by several misbegotten analysts, not to mention the fellow himself. I've been hoping to help undo some of the misconceptions. So far I've excerpted several books for them, Freedman, Weinberg, Altman, etc., but yours is the first book I've found of sufficient warmth and tact to reach them in an unthreatening way. Too much of what I've read lacks compassion both for straights and for varying styles of gayness. Understandable, of course, but hardly suitable for parents whose self esteem has been so needlessly diminished. So--thanks again.

The contribution enclosed is about all I can afford right now, since I'm living on a fellowship, but I did want to express my respect for what you're doing. If you ever need a member of the straight world to pass out propaganda, take part in a letter campaign, etc., feel free to add me to your list of volunteers.

Sincerely,

*Madeline Denman*

Madeline Denman

**SFSI** Sexual ignorance is not bliss  
SAN FRANCISCO SEX INFORMATION

A Non-Profit Community Phone Service

(415) 665-7300 Phone hours: 3 to 9 p.m. Mon. through Fri.

(27)

LOCAL LESBIAN NEWS BY A

*Local  
Lesbian*

This year for the first time the Bay Area has a Lesbian Basketball League. It is called the Bay Area Women's Basketball League, BAWBL, pronounced "Bobble". It's being sponsored by Scott from Scott's Pit; Rickey from Maud's Study and Kelly from Kelly's Saloon.

League games began Nov. 23rd and will continue every Friday evening at 7:45 pm at Everett Gymnasium, Church Street between 16th and 17th Streets.

If you want to play, or just watch, call one of the bars for more information. It should be a classical gas! Do plan to attend at least one game. . .

Please note: Since Basketball is an indoor game the floors must be protected. NO SMOKING and NO DRINKING are permitted in the gym.

Since this is our first indoor Lesbian League, the Department of Education, whose facilities we are using, will be watching our behavior closely. If this comes off as well as expected we should be able to secure facilities for lots of other indoor sports, such as volleyball, badminton, or whatever your sweet hearts desire!

28



### CRISIS CENTER FOR MINORS WHO NEED HELP

ARE YOU A MINOR AND A RUNAWAY? DO YOU HAVE PROBLEMS WITH DRUG ABUSE?

HUCKLEBERRY HOUSE CAN HELP,  
HAS 24 HR. ANSWERING SERVICE

731-3921

HAS FACILITIES FOR:

CRASHING  
COUNSELING  
MEDICAL HELP

DRUG ABUSE  
REFERRALS  
GENERAL INFORMATION ETC.

HUCKLEBERRY HOUSE 3830 JUDAH  
STREET, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. 94122

29

L.L. NEWS (CONTINUED)

We have been working collectively for almost a year to publish this portfolio. It is a result of a small women's artist discussion group. We hope you will be as excited to own and display the variety of drawings and prints in the portfolio, as we are to make women's art available to you. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION write or call us.

Women's Portfolio  
P.O. BOX 40596  
S.F. California 94140

Our phone no. (415) 824-7239

\* \* \* \* \*

A sister in Canada has recently donated \$25.00 for the House Fund. We, DOB want to thank Mary for her donation.

\* \* \* \* \*

David Goodstein, legal director of SIR is forming a coop group of lawyers who will work with the Society to offer Gay Community the finest & broadest range of legal services possible. Phone no. 781-1570

\* \* \* \* \*

Musicians needed for gay night at Bishop's Coffee-house. Contact East Bay Gay, leave message for Tony at 893-1019

\* \* \* \* \*

Ministry of Concern, special Greek Orthodox ministry to all Gay men and women, prisoners, hospitalized persons and military  
Phone no. 864-8205

FOR YOU

A SISTERLY

SEASON'S GREETINGS

FROM THE DOB STAFF,

THE SISTERS COLLECTIVE  
AND



**THE  
GROUP**

## INFORMATION PAGE

### Suggestions for Reading or Possible Christmas Gifts

#### ON GAY WOMEN

Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon, Lesbian/Woman  
(Bantam Paper)  
Sidney Abbott & Barbara Love, Sappho Was a Fight-On  
Woman (Avon Paper)  
"The Lesbian" in Simone de Beauvoir, The Second Sex  
(Bantam Paper)

#### PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY & GAY PEOPLE

George Weinberg, Society and the Healthy Homosexual  
(St. Martin's)  
Mark Freedman, Homosexuality and Psychological  
Functioning (Brooks/Cole Paper)

#### GAY PEOPLE & THE LAW

Walter Barnett, Sexual Freedom and the Constitution  
(University of New Mexico Press)  
The Challenge and Progress of Homosexual Law Reform  
(Council on Religion and the Homosexual, CRH)  
The Armed Forces and Homosexuality  
(Society for Individual Rights)

#### RELIGION & HOMOSEXUALITY

Barbara Gittings, "The Church and the Homosexual,"  
in Ralph Weltge, ed., The Same Sex  
(United Church of Christ Paper)  
Troy Perry, The Lord is My Shepherd and He Knows  
I'm Gay (Nash)

#### OTHERS

Jill Johnston, Lesbian Nation  
(Simon and Schuster)  
Isabel Miller, Patience and Sarah  
(McGraw-Hill)

INFORMATION PAGE

Suggestions for Reading or Possible Christmas Gifts

OF GAY WOMEN

Del Martin & Phyllis Lyon, Lesbian/Woman  
(Bantam Paper)  
Sidney Abbott & Barbara Love, Sappho Was a Right-On  
Woman (Avon Paper)  
"The Lesbian" in Simone de Beauvoir, The Second Sex  
(Bantam Paper)

PSYCHOLOGY, PSYCHIATRY & GAY PEOPLE

George Weinberg, Society and the Healthy Homosexual.  
(St. Martin's)  
Mark Freedman, Homosexuality and Psychological  
Functioning (Brooks/Cole Paper)

GAY PEOPLE & THE LAW

Walter Barnett, Sexual Freedom and the Constitution  
(University of New Mexico Press)  
The Challenge and Progress of Homosexual Law Reform  
(Council on Religion and the Homosexual, CRH)  
The Armed Forces and Homosexuality  
(Society for Individual Rights)

RELIGION & HOMOSEXUALITY

Barbara Gittings, "The Church and the Homosexual,"  
in Ralph Wilton, ed., The Same Sex  
(United Church of Christ Paper)  
Troy Perry, The Lord is My Shepherd and He Knows  
I'm Gay (Nash)

OTHERS

Jill Johnston, Lesbian Nation  
(Simon and Schuster)  
Isabel Miller, Patience and Sarah  
(McGraw-Hill)

DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS

- *DOB San Francisco*  
1005 Market Street, #402  
San Francisco, California  
94103  
(415) 861-8689
- *DOB Boston*  
419 Boylston Street, #406  
Boston, Massachusetts  
02116  
(617) 262-1592
- *DOB New Jersey*  
P.O. Box 62  
Fanwood, New Jersey  
07023  
(201) 674-1111
- *DOB Dallas*  
c/o Rob Shivers  
Box 5944  
Dallas, Texas  
75222

\* \* \*

*Membership in San Francisco  
Daughters of Bilitis*

*Single membership: \$7.00 (\$9.00 Canada and  
overseas)*

*Couple membership: \$10.00 (\$12.00 Canada and  
overseas)*

*- Membership includes half-price to social  
functions, library privileges and one year  
(12 issues) of Sisters magazine.*

\* \* \*