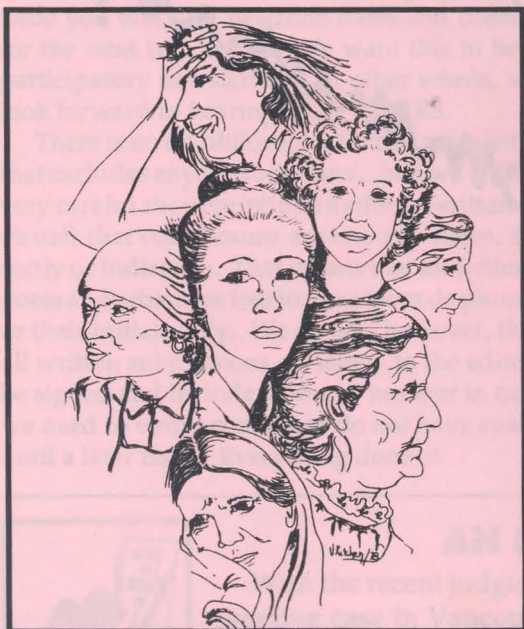


WOMONSPACE NEWS

our voice in the lesbian community



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WOMONSPACE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
OCTOBER 19th, 7:00 P.M. - BASEMENT, 9930 - 106 ST.

September/October, 1992

This Space Is Reserved
For Your Voice In The
Lesbian Community!



WOMONSPACE NEWS is a publication on WOMONSPACE and is published every second month. The opinions expressed in any issue do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Directors or the Editorial Collective. Articles or letters to the editor may be sent to Newsletter/Womonspace, Basement, 9930 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1C7. Graphics courtesy Women's Newsletters. Special thanks to "The Womanist"

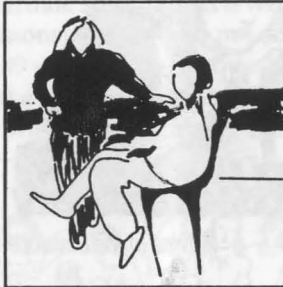
Editorial

by Sheryl McInnes

This newsletter is subtitled, "our voice in the Lesbian community" ... perhaps it should read our VOICE. We, as the editorial collective come close to representing the diversity of viewpoints that can arise in any community of women. To be fair to all of us, and to all of you, we will strive to present articles that will inform or entertain most of us. We

can't do that in every issue, nor can we do it without the help of our readers. Please feel free to respond to anything that you read in Womonspace News. On the back page of this issue you will find deadline dates and themes for the next two issues. We want this to be a participatory newsletter ... in other words, we look forward to hearing OUR VOICES.

There is no set philosophy for this newsletter that excludes anyones opinions ... but, we will be very careful about printing anything (written or visual) that could cause anyone any harm, directly or indirectly. That means that all writers, poets and artists are free to use a 'nom de plume' or their initials only. We do ask, however, that all written submissions or 'letters to the editor' be signed and include a phone number in case we need to verify content or do not have space until a later issue. Everything done at



Womonspace is done with confidentiality in mind ... no lists are ever loaned or sold.

It would appear that I've taken on the title of 'editor' for Womonspace News. This is kind of deceptive because a team of women actually does the work of collecting and writing the material. My 'job' is to make it all hang together and get

it to the printer. Our 'team' is open-ended. If you would like to be a part of it, call and leave your name and phone number.

Several issues ago, I wrote about 'Lesbian Battering' or violence within lesbian relationships. We have the tendency to think of 'domestic violence' as a heterosexual issue. Unfortunately, as "Edge" has written (this issue), violence against women is a part of our society and lesbians are not exempt. We generally only have the heterosexual relationship as our model, and so we bring all the baggage of 'control', 'power', 'abuse' and 'dominance/submission' into our women-loving. We, also are often "battered wives". The police, shelter and judicial response to Lesbians in this situation is an issue that we must pay attention to. Can we be "powerful victors" if we keep ourselves and our violence in the closet'?

AN ISSUE FOR DEBATE

With the recent judgement against Glad Day Books in Toronto and the pending case in Vancouver for Little Sisters, the whole issue of censorship/pornography/erotica has come home to roost in the Lesbian/Gay community. Over the next two issues of Womonspace News, we would like to look at what has happened and what it could mean for all of us. We hope our readers will enter into this discussion by sending us brief (under 200 words if possible) opinions and ideas to compliment the written material.



Lovesick? Girlfriend Problems?

Womonspace Presents . . .

Loretta Love is presently completing a B.A. in Psychology and has extensive experience assisting women with their concerns.



Advice to the Lovelorn

Your questions and letters are welcome! Loretta will try to answer as many letters as possible. Please submit your mail to Loretta Love, c/o Womonspace, 9930 - 106 St. Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1C7

Dear Loretta,

I'm a relative newcomer to the gay scene. I have been involved with the same woman for four months and I care for her very much. Lately, I find myself wanting to approach her with some different ideas concerning our sex life. What do I mean? Don't get me wrong ... our sex life is very good ... but I feel it could be even better. Recently I've read a few issues of a magazine called "On Our Backs". I found myself getting turned on by several lesbian love scenes which might be called 'kinky'. I guess what I mean is, bondage type situations. You know ... leather, handcuffs, blindfolds, etc. A lot of the women I hang out with think that kind of stuff is really weird, even sick. Needless to say, I can't talk to them about this, my problem is that I don't know how to approach my girlfriend about it without completely turning her off. Can you help me.

Anxious

Dear Anxious,

First off, let me say I firmly believe nothing is weird or sick if it is done with full consent between adults. That means no bribery, coercion, or emotional blackmail. Your partner is entitled to say 'NO' without fear of your disappointment, withdrawal or anger. If you feel you cannot extend her this consideration, then per-

haps you should not be in a committed relationship. In that case, you might want to explore your new interests with others of like mind. Keep in mind that trust is the single most important foundation for role playing games in bed, and it is very difficult to trust someone you do not know. Because you have no idea how your partner will react, begin by reinforcing the respect you have for her by exerting 'NO' pressure, bring the subject up gently, allow her to look at the same magazines on her own, in her own time. Then DISCUSS it with honesty and openness. You must be aware that the subject of bondage in sex is a highly charged one, and many women object to it on the grounds that it fosters violence against women. Let her know in no uncertain terms that you do not want anyone to be hurt in any way. Above all, make sure she knows that she is safe and loved. What you do after this point is between you and your partner. If you show her love, respect and honesty, no matter how she feels about the subject, her feelings for you will probably not change.

Loretta

May 27, 1955

The daughters of Bilitis, the first North American organization for lesbians was created by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon.

Survey Says ...

At the June Womonspace and Riverdale solstice dances, a survey regarding Womonspace, was available and from both dances, 89 womyn took the time and effort to fill out the 2 page questionnaire. The aim of the survey was to see if womyn in the community felt that Womonspace should continue and if so, what changes would enhance its existence. Also, we wanted some feedback regarding the dances as well as activities and services that Womonspace should, or could provide.

The first question, "How would you feel if Womonspace was no longer in existence to organize dances and services?", was the hardest to evaluate. Roughly 55% of the answers fell into the category we called "sad & disappointed". About 23% of the respondents felt that a Lesbian organization should exist in the city. Only 7% felt Womonspace should fold, another 7% did not care, and about 9% said that as long as the dances continued they were not concerned about Womonspace folding.

The questions concerning the newsletter had the most positive response. At least 78% of the womyn surveyed read the newsletter. When asked what they liked or disliked about the newsletter the major negative comment was about availability. About 28% really liked the newsletter, 12% have a hard time finding the newsletter and the rest of the womyn would like to see more articles on different aspects of Lesbianism, such as history, politics, relationships as well as more coverage of local activities.

The question about activities overlapped a bit with the question about services. At least,

that is what we think because 67% of the womyn did not answer the question about services and the question about activities had some answers that fell into the service category. The question about activities had a wide range of answers.



54% of the womyn would like more social or recreational activities. Other activities mentioned included, counselling, non-alcohol social events such as coffee

houses, family events and day outings to museums, etc. For services, only 8% mentioned legal aid or referral service to gay positive professionals. However, 12% responded favourably to the baby-sitting co-op.

So, just what is the bottom line of the survey? First, we must take into consideration that 76% of the womyn surveyed did not have a Womonspace membership and yet 78% of the womyn do read the newsletter. The newsletter is the link for all womyn to the Lesbian community in Edmonton. More people need to realize that the Womonspace dances fund the newsletter. Yes, there are other groups willing to put on dances, but without funding from the dances Womonspace will fold and so will the newsletter, the one and only Lesbian newsletter in Edmonton.

The bottom line is this: we need volunteers for the dances so we can make the newsletter bigger and better. We need volunteers so our voice will not be silenced. Don't be sad and disappointed, be active and involved.

NEXT ISSUE: DANCES AND DROP-INS
SURVEY SAYS cont'd

Woman to Woman BOOKS

106, 12404 - 114 Avenue
Edmonton, Alberta T5M 3M5
Telephone: (403) 454-8031

- Mail Order for Lesbians & Feminists •
 - Special order for hard to find titles •
- Write or call to be on our mailing list*



AVAILABLE NOW!

FICTION:

A Flight of Angels - S. Aldridge	\$11.95
A Tigers Heart - L.W. Douglas	\$11.95
Love, Zena Beth - Salvatore (Hard Cover)	\$21.95
Getting Wet: Talks of Lesbian Seduction (Anthology)	\$13.95
Legal Tender - Foster	\$14.95
Riding Desire: Lesbian Erotica - Corrine (Anthology)	\$13.95

NON-FICTION:

Call Me Lesbian: Lesbian Lives:	
Lesbian Theory	\$17.95
Drawing The Line:	
Lesbian Politics on the Wall	\$12.95
Dykes To Watch Out For: The Sequel	\$12.95

Woman To Woman Books will be
at the Chrystos reading.

Poetry Reading With: CHRYSTOS

Monday, September 21, 7:30 p.m.
11019 - 90 Avenue, Edmonton
Women's Program & Resource Centre
Faculty of Extension, University of Alberta
Phone. 492-3093

Chrystos is a Native American, born in San Francisco of a Menominee father and a Lithuanian/Al-sace-Lorraine mother. She is self-educated and an artist as well as a writer. She tours extensively throughout North America as a speaker and as an activist participating in Indigenous Land and Treaty Rights struggles including working for the freedom of Leonard Peltier, the Dine Nation at Big Mountain, and the Mohawk Nation Kanehsatake. She now makes her home in Seattle. She'll be joining the Dreamspeakers Festival, and offers this special poetry reading at the Women's Program, Faculty of Extension.

Co-sponsored by Women's Program and Resource Centre, Dreamspeakers Festival, and Women for Differences Collective.

REVEL

*Soft cat-paw-paws circling
become the lioness' stealthy steps
become muffled drum beats
become your heart
in your breast, in my hand*

*Extinguish the night sky and
you are the forest canopy
skin leaves and vine fingers
impress their forms and impart their warm green*

*Slip deep inside me
come up through my love-limber spine
and rest on the back of my tongue*

*Wordless we melt into
the rhythmic space between sounds*

... Scarlet

How We Name Ourselves?

by Karen Baldwin

This is a personal reflection that I hope will ignite discussion & debate.

I have noticed over the last few issues of WOMONSPACE Newsletter that some of the contributors use the term 'gay woman' others use the word 'lesbian'. Although both these terms describe a woman who creates her intimate and loving relationships with other women, to me they are not the same. They are not interchangeable terms.

How we name ourselves determines how visible we are; to ourselves, to each other and to male stream culture. For me the term 'Gay Woman' makes me invisible. Gay is associated with male homosexuality, and anything that identifies me with men denies my decision to live as a woman-identified-woman. The times I have used 'gay woman' to describe myself have been when I have felt a need to hide; to not offend. In these situations was using male privileges to protect myself from male stream culture's misogyny?

The word 'Lesbian' gives me an identity, separate from men, as a woman who loves women. It makes me feeling more vulnerable to attack, but it also gives a sense of power, independence, that I am not standing behind men, hoping to be protected. Naming myself as Lesbian is one of the most significant steps I take to affirm my integrity to choose honesty over deception, and to become real to myself.

References:

- The Original Coming Out Stories
- Call Me Lesbian: Lesbian Lives, Lesbian Theory



December 15, 1973

The American Psychiatric Association ruled to remove "homosexuality" as a disease entity from its diagnostic manual.

July 30, 1973

Ginny Berson and Meg Christian began plans for what was to become Olivia Records





HOROSCOPE

by Renée Fulsom

For those of you who love to read your horoscope but hate it when it says something like "a member of the opposite sex will find you irresistible", Womonspace offers these very original astrological forecasts written just for gay women.



Although it is the woman who ultimately controls her own destiny, the woman is but a conduit of energy whose inner harmony is governed by the interactive ebb and flow of other life energies around her. Each of these energies is in turn acted upon by other forces, some of which are recognizable through the science of astrology. The purpose of this column is to create an awareness, within the reader, of the astrological forces which affect her destiny.



Virgo (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

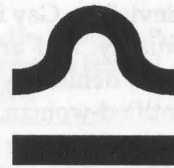
Element - Earth

Ruling Planet - Mercury

Keyword - I Analyse

Feminine

The positive traits of a Virgo can be reliable, considerate and organized. Some of their negative traits are that they can be self-centered, aloof and skeptical. Historically, the mythical role of Virgo was as the goddess of justice during the golden age of Leo. A Virgo is great at getting something organized or put in order because they are careful planners. Virgos usually don't like to get involved too quickly; they would rather take their time. They prefer quality to quantity, and don't like to be rushed. They are believers in true love.



Libra (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)

Element - Air

Ruling Planet - Venus

Keyword - I Balance

Masculine

Positive traits of a Libra are sociable, idealistic and diplomatic. Some of their negative traits are that they can be a little too dependent, lazy and self-indulgent. Historically, in ancient Egypt, weighing of the harvest was done only during a full moon in Libra. A time when the need for an accurate balance is at it's highest. Libras are natural charmers and want to be sure that a sense of peace and fairness will be maintained. They usually do not like to be alone and can have a tendency to be in love with love.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)

You should be feeling quite lucky as of late because all is going well despite any set backs that you might have experienced. These were probably a blessing in disguise. Now is the time to be going out and meeting people; maybe even buying that lotto ticket.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)

A possibility is coming up in regard to your love life, but be careful not to fall for an illusion. Be aware of what you get yourself into before hand. Ask a friend for their opinion of the situation, if you find yourself lost in the fog of "love at first sight".

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 22)

Your situation for the next little while is going to be much along the same lines as for Libra. The main difference is that you won't have any problems in being disillusioned. You'll know what you're getting. Its just going to be difficult in the choosing. There's just so many to choose from!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23 - Dec. 21)

It might be a good idea to try moving things to the back burner for awhile. Don't get too tempted to throw your weight around unless you really have to. It could very well back-fire. Wait until October when things will be more to your benefit.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

If you've been feeling at odds with yourself and others lately, now is a good time to clear the air. Communication will come easily if you take the time and effort to do so. You will feel the need to find a balance in your relationships.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 19)

The social butterfly within you will be emerging from it's cocoon; drawing you to new friends and maybe even a new love. Enjoy the new you, test out your new wings and your renewed sense of freedom. You'll be lifting everyone around up with you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 - Mar. 20)

You could be feeling like you're going through a bit of an identity crisis for the next little while. But thats O.K. Talking about it and questioning why will allow others to help you; see you in a new way.

ARIES (Mar. 21 - Apr. 19)

Don't let a pessimistic attitude get the best of you. Feelings of being unloved and unwanted are simply not true. Get to the real meaning of these feeling and deal with them in a realistic way. Don't look for or become a scapegoat. Take the head on approach that Aries' are so famous for, and deal with it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)

Expression of who you are and where your place in life is, will continue to move in a positive direction as long as you are living or moving in a positive direction. If not, it might be a bit rough at times. But you are not alone. You will find others to keep you encouraged along the way.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20)

You might be your own worst enemy right about now. So start paying more attention to what those who care about you have to say. You've probably been doing too much complaining anyway, and its only those that really know you, that know, you're just blowing a lot of hot air. And like the wind, you could change any minute.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22)

Don't be tempted by the green eyed monster called jealousy, it'll win and you'll lose. No matter how sure of yourself you may be feeling, it won't work, it never does. Let it go, if its real, its yours. If its not, its not. Only games are win or lose.

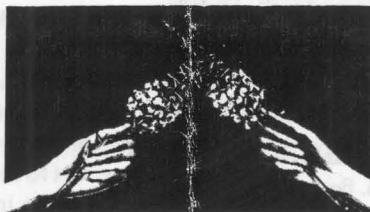
LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)

Your next month or so will be pretty much how you make it, for the good or for the bad. Opportunities will be coming up for you that could test your metal, so to speak. Especially in the area of taking responsibility for your actions. Their repercussions.

... The Natural Way

by Renée Fulsom

Nature has always provided us with the ability to heal ourselves – body, mind, and soul. It is our responsibility to do what we can, keeping what is our Mothers and Father God's gift to us – our bodies – healthy.



Whether we take a walk along the river to clean out the cobwebs of our minds and soothe our souls from the stress of life, or take a cup of herbal tea to relax before bed, the gifts of nature are many and it is up to us to reclaim them. It is up to us to find healthier ways of curing our ills, most of which come from not taking the needed time out for ourselves, our lifestyles, and tending to excessive amounts of stress.

In the up coming newsletters, I hope to share with you what has worked for me, my friends, and family. I hope you will feel encouraged to try the different herb teas I will mention, but also, more importantly, that you will go out and read up on the use of herbs and experiment on your own. Find out what will work the best for you. That is the way nature intended it to be, and that is why we have a seemingly endless variety of healing plants which we can choose from. Nature is truly the best pharmacy. It was the one our Mother/Father God created.

The plant that I have chosen to talk about first is from a bush that grows in a lot of gardens here, and that is the raspberry bush. I have dried and crushed raspberry leaves, along with peppermint or spearmint leaves

for flavour (in a tea) for years now, to stop the pain of cramps during the first days of my menstrual cycle. I have also read that it is good for diarrhoea, and to strengthen the womb. Raspberry leaves can also be bought in bulk at most health food stores quite cheaply. If you do pick your own, do be sure that the bushes are free of chemicals. The egg shaped tea strainers are great for making a full pot of tea, and are available in most kitchenware stores.

Raspberry Tea

2 parts raspberry leaves

1 part peppermint/spearmint

To help relax and quiet the nerves, add 1 part chamomile.

Please feel free to share with us what has worked for you.

WOMONSPACE

It is probably true that most Lesbians in Edmonton know about the WOMONSPACE dances and this newsletter ... however there is more to it than that. Did you know that we have an office in the Womyn's Building, that among other things has an answering machine on the desk. This is our LESBIAN INFORMATION LINE ... events in Edmonton of interest to Lesbian are recorded. You can also leave a message for us ... the machine is cleared about twice a week by volunteers who will contact you about your ideas or concerns. We also have a LIBRARY with some very good fiction and non-fiction ... members may borrow books! Because we have access to the Common Room in the building we can also have drop-ins (we need volunteer hostesses) and discussion groups on any topic of concern to however many women want to be a part of this ... could mean speakers or films.

All of this and more will be discussed at the Annual General Meeting, October 19 ... but let us know if you would like to help start a particular group or be part of one.

Love is ...



... Doing volunteer work.

WOMEN – POWERLESS VICTIMS OR POWERFUL VICTORS?

Part I - Violence Against Women

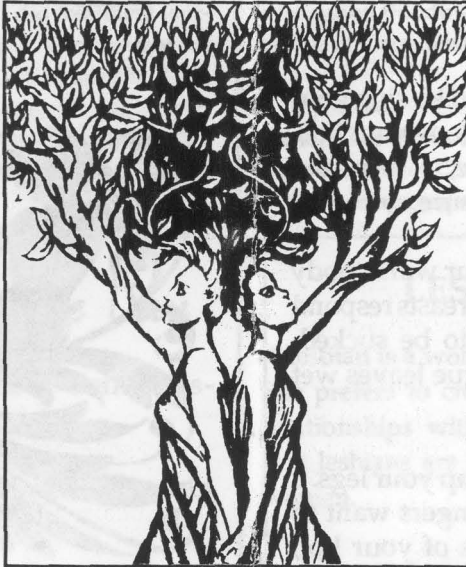
by Edge

Since the dawn of civilization violence has existed. Historically, the perpetrators have been men with women traditionally as the victims. The same is still true today. Whether it is in the form of verbal harassment, physical attacks or sexual assaults, violence is still being perpetrated against women by men.

The Alberta Court of Appeal, in the trilogy of R.v. Brown, R.v. Highway, and R.v. Umpherville, recently dealt with the issue of violence against women in the context of relationships. (Each of the abusers were the male partners of the female victims.) In each case the abuser had committed at least one previous physical assault upon the same victim. In these cases, the injuries inflicted upon the victims ranged from cuts and bruises to deep stab wounds resulting in permanent tendon damage. These men were sentenced to 4 years, 2 1/2 years, and 3 years in jail, respectively. This was quite an increase in their sentences as initially one of them only received a fine of \$500.00. In pronouncing these increased sentences the Court acknowledged that these men must be individually deterred from abusing women, but further, violence in society in general must be denounced. The Court stated that "Men who assault their wives are abusing the power and control which they so often have over the women with whom they live. The vulnerability of many such women is increased by the financial and emotional situation in which they find themselves, which makes it difficult for them to escape. Such women's financial state is frequently one of economic dependence upon the man." Although these statements are right on the mark, at least one of the victims in these cases pleaded with the Court not to put her abuser in jail. She stated that she intends to marry this man and increasing his

sentence was causing her "stress and depression". These pleas for mercy may shock and sicken us, however, it should disturb us more that not only is our gender still living in this cycle of violence, but is tolerating it.

The Supreme Court of Canada in the 1990 case of R.v. Lavallee unequivocally pronounced that "...no man has a right to abuse any women under any circumstances." We, as women, should seriously consider this statement. Women, straight or gay, should not be subjected to violence. It is not a straight or gay issue. Violence is not sensitive to nor daunted by sexual orientation. We as Lesbians cannot turn our backs on women who are "battered wives". We must not further victimizing them nor permit any man to treat any woman as a chattel. The courts are giving us a choice between continuing to be victims of violence or victors over violence. It is time to make our decision.



VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

If you would like to know more, there are two current reports you can send for.

The War against Women:

Sub-Committee on the Status of Women.

Canada Communication Group-Publishing
Supply and Services Canada, Ottawa, Ont., K1A 0S9

Canadian Panel on Violence against Women:

A Progress Report

Ottawa, Ont., K1A 1K4

These reports are available at no charge.

About You

by Dancing Fire

I slowly remove your clothes, gently caressing and kissing your newly exposed skin. Your clothes fall to the floor in anguish that they no longer have the honour of holding your body close to them. I have taken that honour from them and it is me who holds your tender body.

I lie you down upon the bed kissing your eyelids, running my tongue along your lips. You are laid out before me, a beautiful woman who is mine, to pleasure.

My hands move along your warm body and circle your breasts. Your breasts respond to my touch and they beg to be sucked, nibbled and licked. My tongue leaves wet trails across your chest.

My hands slowly wander up your legs. I can feel your heat and my fingers want to explore the mysterious folds of your hot, wet cunt. I am in you and my fingers never want to leave this warm, inviting cave. You writhe under my touch.

Your smell is intoxicating me and I must taste you.

I have been watching your face and I can see ecstasy. You begin to lick my face which is covered in your wetness. We begin to kiss long and deep.

And desire rises, again.



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BREAST CANCER: A CALL TO ACTION

1960: 1 in 20 Canadian women were diagnosed with breast cancer, 1,700 died.

1992: 1 in 9 Canadian women will be diagnosed with breast cancer, 5000 women will die.



During that thirty-two year period, early detection methods (mammography, physical exam and self-exam) remained the same and so did treatment (surgery, radiation and chemotherapy). The best that we have is STILL failing women, and prevention is STILL just a dream. The overall survival rate has not changed in 30 years. 70% of women who are diagnosed with breast cancer have NO known risk factors; we are all at risk.

The House of Commons Sub-Committee on the Status of Women has issued a report documenting the results of its enquiry into breast cancer and has made recommendations for a federal strategy. A copy of this report is available (English or French) from:

Sub-Committee on the Status of Women
Wellington Building, 180 Wellington Street
House of Commons, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0A6

If you would like to ask for support for the recommendations of this report, write a letter to your MP.
c/o House of Commons, Ottawa
(no postage required)

Thoughts for the Day

Learn to disagree without being disagreeable.

Live your life as an exclamation, not an explanation.

Don't be fooled. If something sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

Never waste an opportunity to tell someone you love them.

To explain a romantic break-up, simply say, "It was all my fault."

Judge your success by the degree that you're enjoying peace, health and love.

Don't expect life to be fair.

LESBIANISM

A lesbian is a woman who loves other women. She prefers to create her intimate and loving relationships with other women. Other than that lesbians are as unique and diverse as all women.

Lesbians come from a variety of back-grounds, work in every conceivable occupation, have different political affiliations, religious beliefs and lifestyles. Lesbians are mothers, sisters, daughters, wives, neighbours, co-workers, cousins, aunts, grandmothers . . .

Lesbians are found everywhere. We form a significant percentage of the population. We live full, rich, rewarding, productive lives.

Passages from
"Lesbianism, breaking the silence . . ."

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

Adamant Eve

Feminist Radio on CJSR, 5:00 - 6:00 pm, Thursdays. CJSR wants your input! Feminist volunteers wanted, as little or as much time as you're willing to give. Call Theresa Pires at 479-3778 or Lee Craig at 488-6724.

Melissa Etheridge

At the KAASA Theatre, September 18 at 8 p.m. Ticket information from Ticket Master, Jubilee Box Office, 433-7741.

DREAMSPEAKERS '92

Sponsored by the Association of Aboriginal Film Makers of Alberta. Churchill Square, September 23 - 27. Film and video on historic and contemporary issues of importance to indigenous peoples world-wide. For information contact 439-3456.

Fall Equinox Womyn's Dance

Saturday, September 26, 8 p.m.
Riverdale Community Hall. 9231 - 100 Avenue

New York, January 11, 1929

Summons are served on the publishers of **THE WELL OF LOWLINESS** and hundreds of copies are seized by the police. In its first year, in spite of such censorship, this book with definite lesbian characters sold more than 20,000 copies.

Persons Case Scholarships

For women in post secondary education. Deadline for application is September 30, 1992. Call Alberta Women's Secretariat at 422-1105.

Gay and Lesbian Community Centre GLCCE

GLCCE will be moving into new quarters this Fall, watch for details ... more lesbian programming is scheduled within the new space. GLCCE needs lesbian counsellors ... next training course begins September 30 (10 Wednesday evenings), call 488-3234 and leave a message for Keith, if you are interested.

Florida, April 20, 1973

The Naiad Press was born.

Women's Program & Resource Centre

The Resource Centre has an excellent collection of books by or about lesbianism. Membership is \$5.00 per year for borrowing privileges. Call 492-3093 for the fall open hours (located at 11019 - 90 Avenue).



Aids Awareness Week

"No more fear, no more ignorance"

October 5 - 11. For information or to get involved call 424-4767. (October 4, Sunday - "Walk for Life"; a walk-a-thon in the river valley).

National Coming Out Day

Sunday, October 11. Plan your own event to celebrate!

Paris, September 10, 1910

Alice B. Toklas moved in with Gertrude Stein to continue a love affair that lasted 40 years.

Wellness For Women: Discover & Grow

A Conference on Women's Health Issues, October 16 (evening) and October 17. Keynote speaker, Maude Barlow plus 13 concurrent sessions. For information call, 498-8427.

EVENTS & HAPPENINGS

OUT Rights les droits VISIBLES

Finally ... a chance for lesbians and gay men to meet and exchange information, ideas and strategies for continued activism. The conference will take place in Vancouver, October 9 - 11 (Thanksgiving Weekend). Workshops and small group discussion will be organized in 6 general areas: AIDS/HIV and the Law; Mobilizing for Change; Are We Family?; Rights and Wrongs; Working in the Straight World; Working in Law time will also be available for caucusing. Billeting will be provided ... registration fees on a sliding scale by income. For information: Second Pan-Canadian Conference on Lesbian and Gay Rights, 321 - 1525 Robson Street, Vancouver, B.C. V6G 1C3 (604) 683-4176. Update information sheets available from Sheryl at 454-8031.

A Centre For Women: A Wellness Association

Information and education groups on wellness issues and referrals. Call 423-9922, ext. 7327.

Municipal Elections

October 19, 1992. To vote you must have lived in Alberta for 6 months but residency in the city is as of the day of elections. No registration necessary, just proof (an envelope addressed to you) that you have an address in Edmonton.

In Ward 4 (Edmonton Central and Strathcona) ... for the first time an openly gay man, Michael Phair, will be running for alderman. This is our opportunity to have our interests addressed.

To volunteer for this campaign, call 482-6352.

Take Back The Night

Saturday, October 19, 8 p.m. at Canada Place. Come march with the women of Edmonton to protest the violence against women in the street and our homes.

Ralley: Survivors of Violence Speak Out
March: Jasper Avenue to Beaver Hill Park
Entertainment: Mom's Deli or go on to the Women-space Dance.

IN-SIGHT '92



A FESTIVAL OF
WOMEN'S
FILM & VIDEO

INSIGHT '92

November 20, 21 & 22. A Festival of Women's Film and Video.

A unique venue for the presentation of the alternative vision of women from all backgrounds.

Insight '92 wants your home videos! They are asking that individuals or women's groups pick up a video camera and record a **One Minute** video that reflects their experience of their body(s) in action, reaction, or silence or as "bawdy women" having fun. For more information call 448 - 6412.

Continue The Dialogue ... A Conference

October 23 & 24 Hospitality Inn, Calgary.

Organized by the Calgary Status of Women Action Committee. Keynote speaker: Bell Hooks, author of *Thinking Feminist*, *Thinking Black*; *Yearning: Race, Gender and Cultural Politics*; and most recently *Black Looks: Race and Representation*.

Entertainment: Kate Clinton, Feminist humorist; and Lana Skauge, singer, actor and story teller. (Dance to follow).

Workshops: In three streams; Celebrating Identity (including MADDYKES with Sheila Gilhooey); Moving Toward Alliance; Creating Community. Workshop facilitators from across Canada.

For information and a registration brochure, call 262-1873.

Women's Program & Resource Centre

The Resource Centre has an excellent collection of books by or about lesbianism. Membership is \$5.00 per year for borrowing privileges. Call 492-3093 for the fall open hours (located at 11019 - 90 Avenue).

Lesbian Sexuality

A 2 day, weekend workshop led by Deb Foster.

October 3 and 4, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Fee \$85.00.

Call Women's Program at 492-3093 for more info.

Womonspace Activities

JUST WHO MAKES DECISIONS AROUND HERE ANYWAYS?!

by Meadiocre

YOU DO! That's right - you can help decide the future and direction of WOMONSPACE. WOMONSPACE is dedicated to serving Edmonton's women's community. However, we cannot meet your needs and expectations if we don't know them.

As a registered society, WOMONSPACE must have an Annual General Meeting. On **October 19th at 7:00 p.m.** we will be holding our AGM at our office (#50, 9930 - 106 St.). This will be your opportunity to evaluate the way in which we've operated this past year and, most importantly, to make suggestions and decisions on how we should operate this coming year.

With the recent changes and the renewed commitment to adapting to meet our community's needs, this AGM promises to be very exciting. Don't risk finding yourself asking, "Who on earth decided that?" Be there, be a part of the decision making so that your ideas and opinions can be heard.



**OCTOBER 19th AT 7:00 p.m.
DON'T MISS IT!**

CALL 425-0511 for information on other Womonspace events
or programs during September and October.
Information line updated regularly.

Contributors:

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WOMONSPACE NEWS

Basement, 9930 - 106 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T5K 1C7

Phone: 425-0511

Coming Issues

November/December Issue: All material to Womonspace by Thursday, October 15.

Themes: Coming Out to Family; The Ups & Downs of Celebrating the Holiday Season as a Lesbian Couple; Censorship, How it Impacts on Us as Lesbians. All stories, poems and opinion pieces welcome.

January/February Issue: Material can be submitted at anytime up to December 10, 1992.

Themes: Relationships - Long Term, Short Term, Casual; Lesbian Sexuality.



DIKE (DYKE)

A barrier preventing passage, especially protecting against or excluding something undesirable.

Websters, cited in Websters First New Intergalactic Wickerdary of English Language, Mary Daly and Jane Caputi.

LESBIAN

A female homosexual. A native or resident of Lesbos. The Ancient Greek dialect of Lesbos, belonging to Aeolic, used in the lyric poetry of Sappho.

Tormont Webster's Encyclopedic Dictionary