

lesbian uprisings!

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1993 March on Washington - Lila
 McCarthy

My reasons for wanting to go to the March were intensely personal. Having been so long in coming to terms with my sexuality I wanted to feel the exhilaration of being in our nation's capitol, yelling, chanting, waving flags and signs with hundreds of thousands of other Lesbians and Gays. I had also made plans to see my mother's youngest brother whom I had not seen since his days at West Point and in a sense that represented a homecoming.

I believe I am not very different from many who were at the March. I want, many want, acknowledged inclusion in the mainstream. Many do not want to have to drop out or hide. We were saying, "We are a part of America, whether you like it or not, and we will not be shut out or denied our civil rights." Many were chanting, "We will not go back." The speakers were clear about whose problem this is. The message was, "Homophobia? Get over it."

My mind is full of images of the journey to Washington, the city taken over and the many moods of the March. The steward on the plane giving Nancy, my partner, and me a

bottle of champagne and saying he wished he could be at the March...smiles on the faces of lesbian we pass on the street, in the Metro...a lesbian from Rhode Island saying she puts together a newsletter for her group but they won't use the word, lesbian...walking in the rain around the capitol the day before and the day after the March...beautiful sunny day for the March...Dr. Ruth getting on our plane...Two men in tuxedos at their wedding...Anna Eschoo having a breakfast to encourage us. Anna saying, "I'm glad you had this high because there will be hard days ahead." Anna saying she learned early in life to appreciate diversity as her mother told her, "God doesn't make junk."...

The moods of the March were celebration, sadness, anger, love, freedom. The overwhelming feeling was gentleness. There was no violence...At the open air wedding we saw a thin man with a blanket wrapped around him sitting in a wheel chair while his lover knelt beside him, his arm around him. Both men held little rainbow flags and seeing the lovers we were crying...

Senator Nunn's staff person told us that straight soldiers have a "mental disconnect" with homosexuals. Apparently the hearings are to determine the extent of the prejudice and if it is strong enough, Lesbians and Gays will not be allowed in the military. They insisted, "The Senator is not bigoted." A gay man from Georgia said he would like to believe his Senator is not a bigot. "If the Senator honestly believes the military is some sort of special case, what Gay and Lesbian Rights legislation does Senator

Nunn support?" The Staff people assigned to the meeting we attended said the Senator had not seen the details of the proposed legislation. A lesbian in the audience then asked, "Does Senator Nunn support Gay and Lesbian rights in concept?" They answered again that the Senator had not seen the details of the legislation. In the million faces we saw Ginny from our coming out group...

And more images...My uncle, the colonel, and his wife, two of the least likely people in America to be having dinner with two lesbians, having dinner with Nancy and me and staying for over three hours...Inviting us to stay with them when we return and hugging both of us goodbye...Our Metro tickets that were printed, "Welcome Lesbian, Gay, Bi March on Washington." Cherry blossoms at Arlington...John Kennedy's grave...my grandfather's grave...Women dancing, crying on the Mall...Jessie Jackson saying, "We are all precious to God." Jessie Jackson and Terry Osborn speaking, "Go home. Come out." Terry Osborn saying, "This will be resolved at the Thanksgiving tables of America."

For me it was my own personal journey to Washington, coming out, going home, millions of faces, one face, politics-as-usual and a loving and gentle community of which we can all be proud.

Old Lesbians in the Lead: the 1993 March on Washington - Kate Rosenblatt

I can go to the movies three weekends in a row in the East Bay or the City and never run into anyone I know, yet in D.C., I ran into a long time friend from San Diego at the Capitol Building, a woman from The Pagoda in Florida

sitting around waiting for the march to begin, and I saw an Oakland friend on the sidewalk just as we Old Lesbians stepped off for the beginning of the March.

The Cherry blossoms along the Potomac were mostly gone, but there were flowering trees and tulips in bloom throughout the city, accenting the white buildings and adding to the festivity and gayness of Washington, D.C.

Dupont Circle, the Castro of D.C., was so crowded that we had to stand in line on Friday and again on Monday to get into the book store. An everyone was so friendly...there was no pushing or sneaking ahead in line. People shared information about places to eat, how to get from here to there on the Metro, and what was going on in other parts of the city. I certainly never felt or witnessed any signs of oppression either there or riding the subway or walking the streets, although I've heard that this was not true for everyone.

On Saturday afternoon, Joyce and I rode out to Laurel. Luckily we met some other old dykes as we detoured and were able to share the \$25 cab ride to the Holiday Inn where OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change) was having an open house. It was great to have a chance to visit with Elizabeth from North Carolina, Elaine who lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico now, Pat who moved from Southern California to Texas, and Muriel, my theater buddy from San Diego.

In spite of the companionship of peers, I was still very happy that we were in S.W. Washington, staying with the woman who brought me out 20 years ago and her lover and close to all the excitement. Saturday night was rainy and after dinner at a Latino restaurant, the five of us sharing the house together decided that we'd go home, hang out, and relax so that we were in shape for the next day's March.

Sunday morning was warm and sunny, exactly what we had all ordered. People were to gather near the Washington Monument by 9 A.M. The Old Dykes were coming in from Laurel by bus and I had checked to see if we could meet them at the gathering place around 11. By the time we arrived, they had been moved ahead. Joyce and I walked across the Mall, trying to observe the variety of groups--some in military attire, uniformed bands, leather types, groups carrying state banners, and groups with rainbow flags--and keep our eyes open for our cohorts. Sure enough we found them ensconced under a large tree, dressed in white pants with white OLOC T-shirts crossed by lavender sashes.

Soon we were told by the marshals to assemble in the street behind our pick-up truck in which I and any others who could not walk the distance were to ride. The truck was moved toward the front of the line behind the People With AIDS and the handicapped. However, in these maneuvers, we were separated from our marchers by two big trucks of media people. We finally got under way a little after noon and were greeted with cheers, thumbs up, and love signals all along the route. A group lining the sidewalk would be standing mute until our red pick-up came alongside them, then they would see us and would break into cheers, wave, clap, and shout greetings. It was a wonderful sensation to respond to the smiles and cheers and we waved back and smiled until my cheeks ached. At the end of the ride, our marchers caught up with us and we walked through the far end of the Mall to the space reserved for the PWA, the handicapped, and we very alert and alive Old Lesbians.

The program which followed for over five hours saluted the people in the March. Men and women, straight, gay, lesbian, and Bi, all greeted us--congratulated us, entertained us and urged us to

continue this on-going civil rights struggle. Martina Natralova asked those not out to begin to take that step. Nancy Pelosi read Clinton's greeting after having been bombarded with "Where's Bill" cries. Leah de Liria was Master of Ceremonies and Holly Near brought the crowd to its feet singing "we are gay and straight together and we are singing for our lives."

We were sitting fairly close to the stage and turned several times to look behind us where we could see only this sea of people spreading all the way back to the Washington Monument--a view which I will recall for a long time--people on a mission, joyful in their togetherness and their political endeavor.

Interview with Janet Baus of the New York Lesbian Avengers - Ann Menasche

LU!: Tell me about the Lesbian Avengers. As I hear it, you've already made quite a name for yourselves. How and why was your group formed?

Janet: We formed last summer because a lot of Lesbians who had been working in Lesbian and gay activist groups like ACT-UP had felt that Lesbian issues are really invisible and not in the forefront. It was formed by women who had a lot of experience with activism.

LU!: Why did you feel it was important to form a specifically Lesbian group?

Janet: Lesbians have been in every single movement there's been and have never been recognized as being leaders of movements, for being activists and workers. The way we approach issues in the Lesbian Avengers - even those that are not narrowly defined as Lesbian issues - is to make sure that we're visible as Lesbians.

LU!: Many of us in LU! feel the same way. So what kind of activities has your group engaged in?

Janet: We're a direct action group. What we do best are actions that don't take a whole lot of organizing that you can put together fairly quickly and are effective in a really specific sort of way. Our first action was in District 24 in Queens where the President of the School Board there, Mary Cummons, led a really ugly fight against the children of the Rainbow Curriculum in New York City.

LU!: What is the Children of the Rainbow Curriculum?

Janet: It's a multi-cultural curriculum that was going to be introduced into all of the school districts in New York City. It was developed by a commission that was appointed by the school Chancellor, Joseph Fernandez. The writers of the curriculum included sections on trying to foster acceptance of children of Lesbian and gay parents. They also included examples of Lesbian and gay families, so that children of Lesbian and gay parents and children who might feel they are homosexual would not feel completely excluded. So there was this enormous controversy.

LU!: So what did the Avengers do?

Janet: It was the first day of school and at least 100 protesters showed up. It was a wonderful action. We had these balloons that said "Teach about Lesbian lives: and we handed them to the First Graders going to school while we marched to the tune of "When the Dykes Come Marching In."

LU!: What other kinds of actions have you engaged in?

Janet: When Amendment 2 passed in Colorado, the Mayor of Denver,

Wellington Webb, came to New York City to drum up business for the state. Six Avengers followed him around all day with signs that said "Boycott Colorado." So that every time he was interviewed by the newspapers or the radio, they'd ask him what about Amendment 2. So it was incredibly successful.

Another good one that we just put together on a weekend was we heard the Self magazine was still going to Colorado despite the boycott. And so about ten of us snuck into the building and went up to the Self office with our signs screaming and yelling "Boycott Colorado" and harassing the editor. Our action was covered in Newsday. The next day Self announced they were not going to Colorado but that it had nothing to do with our protest.

And on Valentine's day, we had one of our best events. There's a statue of Gertrude Stein in a park in mid-town Manhattan, so some members of our group built a statue of Alice B. Toklas. We took it there on Sunday and 200 women showed up. A lot of people spoke and read poetry and performed Gertrude Stein's work and reunited Alice B. Toklas with the statue. Alice had her hand on Gertrude's shoulder and then there was music and everybody started waltzing. It was snowing in the park and we were waltzing.

LU!: I understand the Avengers were behind the Dyke march in Washington, D.C. Why don't you tell me about that?

Janet: We were the main organizers. We worked really hard on it and did a lot of outreach and there ended up being 20,000 Lesbians there. A lot of people said that this was the most powerful part of the weekend. It was really incredible. Different groups brought different things to the March. Someone brought a huge puppet; the Avengers from

Minneapolis had made flags, and the Avengers from New York ate fire - actually twice. Eating fire has become our trademark. We had printed thousands of palm cards for the Dyke March and handed them out.

LU!: So how big is the Lesbian Avengers?

Janet: In New York, our mailing list is about 400 and at least 60 or 70 women attend meetings every week...We now have a video about our group and also sell teeshirts, buttons, and stickers...There's new Avengers groups forming. There is one in Australia; groups in Minneapolis and Austin and one in Reilly, North Carolina. We're now in the process of forming a national network...there's a group of Avengers prepared to go to Tampa where an HIV-positive Lesbian had her house firebombed recently...Our point is to address serious issues but also to have fun and be creative; to do courageous direct action that is uncompromising.

About Lesbians in Germany - Marion Goetz

I am a German Lesbian, working for three months as a law clerk at a law office in San Francisco. Like most of the gays around the world, I too had the wish to visit the "gay capital". I want to tell you something about Lesbians in Germany, especially in Frankfurt/Main (western Germany) where I am from. Naturally this will be only a survey, influenced by my personal attitude and knowledge. Unfortunately I can't tell you anything about the current situation of Lesbians in the eastern part of Germany, although this would be a very interesting topic. All I know is that gay life has been oppressed a lot in the former DDR, and that there never has been something like the women's and gay movement which took place in the western part of Europe and in the USA during the seventies.

The legal situation of Lesbians in Germany is a little bit different from the situation in California. For example, in Germany only married couples are allowed to adopt children, or to use alternative insemination, which means that only heterosexual couples have these possibilities., This is one of the reasons why gays and Lesbians in Germany emphasize the demand for the right to marry. Of course, this is not the only reason for this demand - gays and Lesbians in Germany want to have the possibility of getting all these rights which only married couples get, like tax breaks, the right to refuse to testify against their partner before court, the right to visit the partner in the hospital, and so on. There is also the hope to become more accepted by society.

Last August, gays and Lesbians all over Germany organized a great "marriage action" by trying to get married all on one day. This was one of the very rare occasions when the media reported about gays and Lesbians (normally the media reports only about gay men and only in connection with AIDS). Afterwards, a public discussion about gays and Lesbians rights started. But this discussion did not last very long. (Actually this is one of the most obvious differences between the USA and Germany: In the USA nearly every day there is something in the newspaper or on TV about gay and Lesbians rights; there is a discussion about gays in the military which has already lasted five months; there are discussions about Lesbians becoming politicians - all that indicates that there is a much bigger awareness about homosexuals in the USA than in Germany.)

But back to the "marriage action": Some of these couples went to court all over Germany to demand their right to marry, and three judges in Frankfurt actually decided that

they should be allowed to marry. But the City of Frankfurt appealed the decisions to a higher court, and this court surely won't confirm these decisions. And there is a very famous Lesbian actress who went to court to demand the right to marry her lover, and she is willing to go all the way to the highest court in Germany.

Another point about the legal situation is that in Germany we don't have a special anti-discrimination law for homosexual people, like employment discrimination laws in some states and cities in the USA.

In Frankfurt, we have two places for Lesbians which are supported by the city. (But since government money is being cut nationwide, these institutions get less money every year and have to struggle to survive.) One of them is called "the lesbian and gay culture house". It is a big house with one floor for lesbians, one floor for gay men, and one common floor for shared activities. Two clubs (one lesbian and one gay) get the money from the city and manage and distribute these funds. The money is spent for several projects (like a film group, a group for women with sexual abuse history, a group for lesbian mothers, etc.) for a lesbian library, and for a "Homo-solidarity week" which takes place every year around the Christopher Street Day (during this week there are lesbian and gay cultural events every evening, there is a great demonstration and a big party.) The rooms of this house can be used for private activities too, like for a Sunday breakfast which was organized once a month. The other institution which is supported by the city is called "LIBS", and it is also organized by a lesbian club. "LIBS" is an information and counselling center for lesbians, where also several groups (like coming-out groups, groups for lesbians over 40, etc.) are organized.

Besides these places, there are two exclusively lesbian bars, and some gay and lesbian cafes and bars. In some hetero discos, once a week or once a month a lesbian disco takes place (these events are increasing). Private activities range from all kinds of sports clubs, game evenings, regular discussion meetings, to the organization of great celebrations. We don't have a special lesbian newspaper. We only had a calendar for lesbian events, but unfortunately it doesn't exist any more.

So much for Frankfurt. The biggest lesbian "community" in Germany and the greatest lesbian cultural life is in Berlin. there are a lot more lesbian bars, cultural events, much bigger demonstrations, there is even a call-girl ring especially for women. And in Berlin there is a municipal institution for gay and lesbian rights.

Lesbian interests are represented nationwide by the largest Germany lesbian club. This club organized, for example, the "marriage action" and is trying to establish an old people's home for lesbians. Unfortunately, this club is very mainstream.

The scariest thing happening at the moment in Germany are these neo-Nazis who do not only attack immigrants but also homosexual people. They still focus mostly on gay men but there have been several cases where these Nazis waited outside lesbian bars and attacked lesbians when they left the bars.

I want to make a comparison between Germany and San Francisco. I think that altogether German lesbians are very similar to the lesbians here: there are all kinds of different women, traditional and conservative, radical, feminists and women who would use the word feminist as a swear-word, women living in monogamous relationships and women who would define

themselves as singles, and so on. In Germany too, like in the United States, lesbians used to be more political, more interested and engaged in feminist matters than they are now. The "SM thing" (whatever different people understand as SM) is also increasing and becoming more and more important in lesbian behavior. The terms "butch and Femme" are very often used here in the United States; these categories seem to be important. In Germany, these expressions are not so relevant, they belong to "lesbian history".

The great difference is that in San Francisco there are such a lot of lesbians. In the United States, especially here in San Francisco, there was a real gay and lesbian movement and the results of it are visible nearly every day in the media and everywhere else. The most important impression I have from San Francisco is that as a lesbian you can feel much more free than in Germany. I was very often surprised at how "normal" people treat homosexuality here. Lesbians here are very visible, and people seem to be very aware of them. I feel extremely comfortable in this city, and I will miss being here.

Out at UC - Cheryl Christensen

Lesbians, gay men, and bisexuals are getting organized on the University of California, San Francisco campus. It all started last October when the clerical union, AFSCME Local 3218, held a forum to find out the concerns of its lesbian, gay, bi, and transgender members. The people who showed up for the forum were not only union members, but faculty, nurses, students, post-docs, and other staff members. This forum led to the formation of Out at UC, a coalition of people who want to actively address issues of importance to lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders on campus.

Out at UC has decided to focus on obtaining domestic partner benefits for UC employees; another goal for the near future is getting the UC administration to offer sensitivity training classes for the homophobes on campus.

The coalition's first event was a domestic partners forum, held on April 8th. Nancy Stoller, a professor at UC Santa Cruz, presented a domestic partners proposal that she co-wrote as a member of the Committee on Faculty Welfare. The proposal, if accepted by the UC administration, would affect all nine campuses and would be for both gay and straight UC employees.

Charlie Seltzer, a consultant who specializes in cultural diversity issues in the workplace, talked about the seven most common arguments against domestic partner benefits--and then proceeded to knock down each one with logical arguments based on the experiences of other universities. This will be important ammunition for when the employees negotiate domestic partner benefits with the UC administration.

Nancy believes that the faculty will vote in favor of the proposal. The next step would be for the UC president, Jack Peltason, to accept it; then, finally (probably sometime in the Fall), it would go to the Board of Regents for approval.

When Peltason was the chancellor of UC Irvine, he allowed domestic partner student housing on his campus (but had to end that program under orders of the then UC president.) Everyone is hopeful that this is an indication that Peltason will support the proposal. Just to be certain, Out at UC has started a postcard campaign. Employees on all campuses and their friends and families are being given postcards to send to Peltason's office; the cards state

that the sender is in favor of domestic partner benefits for employees in the UC system.

The biggest roadblock will probably be the Board of Regents, who are mostly white, rich, conservative males. If need be, Out at UC will ask other campus and community organizations for help, possible in the form of a demonstration, to force the Regents into the twenty-first century.

One of the points Charlie made was that many other universities are now offering domestic partner benefits (Stanford, Harvard, MIT, U of Iowa) and so, UC is losing its competitive edge. It is this kind of argument, rather than the welfare of the employees, that will appeal to the UC Regents.

Everyone in Out at UC is cautiously optimistic about pushing through the domestic partner proposal before the end of the year, and determined to make all concerns of lesbians, gays, bisexuals, and transgenders more visible on campus. For more information, call Cheryl at 648-1519.

Letter to the SF Examiner in response to a six-part series entitled "Buried Memories/Broken Families" running 4/4/93 to 4/10/93 - Lara Michelle

I am appalled by the sensationalist, slanted journalistic approach San Francisco Examiner writers Stephanie Slater and Carol Ness have taken in their six-day series "Buried Memories/Broken Families". This series is written with little to no balance and resembles an Enquirer U.F.O. story more than a piece of truthful journalism. After reading Sunday's three-page cover story, which glorifies the False Memory Syndrome Foundation, I was left to ask where is the information about sexual abuse survivors? Where is the six-day cover story about the

courageous women and men who have come forward to speak the truth about childhood rape and abuse?

This article stated that 3,000 families have come forward to document stories of being falsely accused of sexual abuse by their children. You forgot to mention that roughly 25 percent of American women have experienced sexual violence in their home of origin, which amounts to somewhere around 25 million American families. This information leads me to believe that only one in every 8,000 families where incest occurred or allegedly occurred has denied the claim and documented their story with the FMSF. So ladies, where is the story of the other millions of American families?

Why are we, as readers, to believe the credibility of an organization whose entire membership is made up of accused child rapists? After all, don't most people accused of horrendous crimes deny they're guilty? Most mass murderers, rapists, bank robbers, and the rest of criminals plead their innocence, why shouldn't the men and women of the FMSF also try to convince the greater society that they're innocent? The only difference here is that usually a major newspaper doesn't produce a six-day series on the innocence of criminals with no evidence to support they're not guilty.

Why am I to believe these families and not the accusing adult children? Why would anyone lie about abuse? What does anyone have to gain by accusing their own family of vicious crimes they did not commit? This article tried to show that falsely accusing family members is about money, yet less than 1/6 of all the FMSF families are actually being sued. So how can you imply that there is anything to gain from lying? With the rate at which incest is occurring in our society it appears that incest is no longer taboo,

the taboo is victims coming forward and telling their horrific experiences of sexual abuse.

This article is yet another example of the violent backlash women face when we speak out against abuse. We witnessed this backlash with the Anita Hill trial, the Kennedy rape case, every time a woman is asked what she was wearing the night of the rape, and we are seeing it here with the glorification of an organization of accused child perpetrators. When you applaud the criminal and blame the victim you are raping the assault survivors all over again. Can't you see there is nothing to gain by speaking out untruthfully?

Why not give the millions of child rape victims the credit we deserve for surviving our abuse. Obviously Slater and Ness do not understand the strength it takes to speak out against a family member who had abused and terrorized you for years. There is nothing more painful than staying silent about sexual abuse. Speaking out is liberating; it helps to release the self blame and self hatred that was embedded in you as a child.

As a society we don't want to believe that American children are being repeatedly raped by adults. Surely no family wants to believe such horrendous acts happened in their own home. Many people will deny that incest ever happened, they will stand up for the perpetrators, and blame the child victims. This societal disbelief and denial of child rape is what allows it to occur in epidemic proportions. When you systematically blame the victim and side with the perpetrator, you become an accessory through your complaisance.

"Buried Memories/Broken Families" is not journalism, but rather a six-day free advertisement for perpetrators of incest. This piece is FMSF propaganda. Slater and

Ness with their unprofessional, sensationalized article are setting back the healing process of incest survivors. By dedicating six days to perpetrators and nothing to the many millions of survivors you are contributing to the self blame and self hating that sexual abuse survivors battle daily. This article re-establishes the guilt and silence that sexual abuse survivors felt as children. It is the victim's fault, the victims are the dirty and sinful ones and even if you do speak out no one will listen, but rather write a six-day series embracing your rapist.

Enraged by your ignorance,
Lara Michelle
San Francisco

Fleeting is an ancient practice of "poetic dueling" said Max Dashu at an evening showing of her slides I attended last year. Since I learned of this, I have been wanting to do this with other feminist Lesbians. LU! News provides us the opportunity. I contribute this poem I wrote last week to start off the Fleeting. - Genny la Morgan

As Long As Every Colour of Womon
Stands By Her Man
We'll Never Get Back To The Center!
To the Birthing Of Clans!
When There Was No Word
For hunger Or rape Or homeless Or
curse
When Matri Science Ruled The World
All Life Was Of Worth!

As Long As Every Colour of Womon
Stands By Her Man
We'll Never Get Back To The Center!
To the Birthing Of Clans!
Every Colour Of man Took Over
Womon Centered Tribes, That Is Why
Wimmin + Children, All
Nature/Everywhere Cry
For Food, And for Rest/And for
Intimate Relations
For Peace And Not war/Pray We
Wimmin Of All Nations

We Wimmin Cry, We Are Wounded
 And man Should Take Heed!
 Womun As Center Is What/She Earth
 Now Needs!
 So Womun Of Every Colour
 Stand By Your Mother/ Your Sister,
 Your Self!
 Walk On Fire! Circle the Moon!
 She Earth Needs Our Womun Help!

Women's History vs. Lesbian History
 - Carolyn Gage

Sometimes I feel like the bad fairy godmother, who shows up for the princess' christening with a curse on her lips. Well, it can't be helped.

The christening party is the celebration of a women's history curriculum being introduced into the schools. Here I come, Lesbian godmother, and because I was not invited to the party, I pronounce the curse: I hereby declare that the princess (or any of the school girls who are deceived by sins of omission on the part of their elders into believing that all famous women were heterosexual) are liable to get pricked at puberty and fall asleep for a hundred year.

What am I talking about? I am talking about the fact that these "women's history" materials do not identify the Lesbians among their famous women. They do not identify Virginia Woolf, they do not identify Willa Cather, they do not identify Jane Addams, they do not identify Carson McCullers, they do not identify Gertrude Stein, they do not identify Collette, they do not identify Anais Nin, they do not identify Isadora Duncan, George Sand, Lorraine Hansberry, Emily Dickinson, Amy Lowell, Edna St. Vincent Millay, May Sarton, Rosa Bonheur, Eleanor Roosevelt, Babe Didriksen, Harriet Hosmer, Madame De Stael, etc., etc.

The unofficial reason this information is excluded is simple: It's radical enough to get any

women's curriculum into the schools at all. Try to include the word "lesbian" and we'll all get the gate. And, of course, after there is more acceptance for straight women, then we'll be able to bring the Lesbians in without so much fuss. (Shades of the disastrous suffrage strategy that advocated white women's suffrage in the name of expediency. And the, of course, after we get the vote, we can bring our Black sisters in...)

The official reasons are more creative. Let's look at them:

1) How can you really tell if a woman from history was Lesbian or not, since the word wasn't even coined until the twentieth century?

Good question, and an excellent opportunity to introduce the richness and complexity of Lesbian history into the classroom. What are the historical forces that changed intimacy and romance between women from a natural phenomenon to an act of depravity? How did these forces shape the style and content of Lesbian literature, as it was increasingly forced underground? Which brings us to the next reason for excluding us:

2) What criteria do you use to determine whether or not a woman was Lesbian? Cross-dressing? Deviant lifestyle? Love poems to women? References to kissing the corner of a woman's mouth (Eleanor Roosevelt), to the weight of a woman on one's breast at night (Emily Dickinson)? A lifelong commitment to women's rights (Susan B. Anthony)? Spinsterhood? Or do we have to have evidence that they participated in Lesbian organizations - and if this participation was anonymous, does it count (Lorraine Hansberry)?

And if the only really positive identification test is that the woman had sex with other women, what do we admit as evidence? Jane

Addams would insist on a double bed when she made reservations with her traveling companion. But then, maybe it was only a case of twenty years of cold feet. What about being buried together - that's kind of like sleeping together, isn't it? (Rosa Bonheur and Nathalie Micas).

Or do we go by the testimony of a woman who claims to have had sex with the famous woman? And if this is the case, how reliable is a witness who says she was lovers with Isadora Duncan, Marlene Dietrich, Alice B. Toklas (!), Marie Laurencin, Eva Le Gallienne, Malvina Hoffman, and Greta Garbo? (Yes, one Mercedes de Acosta has told all in Here Lies The Heart - although perhaps she identifies the wrong organ in the title.)

But seriously, is it necessary to catch the famous woman "in flagrante delicto" in order to prove she is a Lesbian? To me, that seems like a homophobic reductionist definition of an identity which has so many political, artistic, and spiritual dimension.

3) And, finally - my favorite reason: If a woman chose to be closeted in her lifetime, who are we to "out" her now?

This is my favorite, because it sounds so ethical, so respectful of the dead- until you realize that the foundations of this scrupulosity is the underlying assumption there is still something wrong with being Lesbian. The dead are beyond harm, believe me, but the living - especially in Oregon - are in great jeopardy.

I would flip the question: Is it ethical to omit evidence of a woman's Lesbianism so that she passes for heterosexual at a time and place in history where Lesbian lives are in danger? Is it feminist? Is it progressive? And does the introduction of this so-

called "women's curriculum" actually increase our invisibility, immorally appropriate for heterosexual purposes our leaders and artists who reflected a uniquely Lesbian perspective - which more often than not was at odds with the heterosexual agenda, and give tacit validation to the policy in so many states which allows a Lesbian teacher to be fired for who she is?

And finally, doesn't the erasure of a woman's Lesbian identity also erase a provocative statistic: Lesbian writers represent far more than ten percent of the canon of famous women writers. What is it about being Lesbian which lends itself to our finding powerful and original voices in such high numbers - and for surviving the distortions and erasures of history? Could there be something in the Lesbian lifestyle that promotes women making ourselves a priority, and could there be something in Lesbian community which cherishes and preserves our art from the ravages of male scholars and historians? Perhaps a young girl considering a career in writing might find it helpful to consider the answers to these questions. Certainly she has a right to the information.

Let's write Lesbians back into Women's History!

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Lesbian Uprising! is a feminist political, educational, and cultural group of Bay Area Lesbians who envision a return to the radical ideals of women's liberation. We work to build cooperation and community among all women by educating and encouraging ourselves, other Lesbians, and other women in this vision and strive to be a group through which Lesbians may work in coalition with other feminist and peace organizations.

Addams would insist on a double bed when she made reservations with her traveling companion. But then, maybe it was only a case of twenty years of cold feet. What about being buried together - that's kind of like sleeping together, isn't it? (Rosa Bonheur and Nathalie Micas).

Or do we go by the testimony of a woman who claims to have had sex with the famous woman? And if this is the case, how reliable is a witness who says she was lovers with Isadora Duncan, Marlene Dietrich, Alice B. Toklas (!), Marie Laurencin, Eva Le Gallienne, Malvina Hoffman, and Greta Garbo? (Yes, one Mercedes de Acosta has told all in Here Lies The Heart - although perhaps she identifies the wrong organ in the title.)

But seriously, is it necessary to catch the famous woman "in flagrante delicto" in order to prove she is a Lesbian? To me, that seems like a homophobic reductionist definition of an identity which has so many political, artistic, and spiritual dimension.

3) And, finally - my favorite reason: If a woman chose to be closeted in her lifetime, who are we to "out" her now?

This is my favorite, because it sounds so ethical, so respectful of the dead- until you realize that the foundations of this scrupulosity is the underlying assumption there is still something wrong with being Lesbian. The dead are beyond harm, believe me, but the living - especially in Oregon - are in great jeopardy.

I would flip the question: Is it ethical to omit evidence of a woman's Lesbianism so that she passes for heterosexual at a time and place in history where Lesbian lives are in danger? Is it feminist? Is it progressive? And does the introduction of this so-

called "women's curriculum" actually increase our invisibility, immorally appropriate for heterosexual purposes our leaders and artists who reflected a uniquely Lesbian perspective - which more often than not was at odds with the heterosexual agenda, and give tacit validation to the policy in so many states which allows a Lesbian teacher to be fired for who she is?

And finally, doesn't the erasure of a woman's Lesbian identity also erase a provocative statistic: Lesbian writers represent far more than ten percent of the canon of famous women writers. What is it about being Lesbian which lends itself to our finding powerful and original voices in such high numbers - and for surviving the distortions and erasures of history? Could there be something in the Lesbian lifestyle that promotes women making ourselves a priority, and could there be something in Lesbian community which cherishes and preserves our art from the ravages of male scholars and historians? Perhaps a young girl considering a career in writing might find it helpful to consider the answers to these questions. Certainly she has a right to the information.

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We encourage debate and discussion, but we do not print articles we consider oppressive or demeaning toward ourselves or other women; and just because we run a piece does not mean that we all, or any of us, agree with the thought set forth therein. This is a forum for our community, so send us your articles, poems, analysis, thoughts, and especially calendar listings. Average length for articles submitted is between 250 and 300 words, with a maximum of 500 words - we will edit for length and clarity unless you request otherwise. When submitting an article, please include your telephone number.

HELP! HELP! HELP! The LU! Newsletter needs your help! We need your ideas, time writing, typing, fundraising, etc. And, of course, your generous donations to LU! We are the only Lesbian newsletter in the Bay Area. Please help us survive! Come to the LU! planning meeting on June 8 (see the calendar listing), or call Anne or Lisa at 661-3886.

We hope to continue publishing and to get back to a monthly schedule as soon as possible.

Lesbian Uprisings is in transition. This month, for the first time, the newsletter is being published by a collective. While we are not sure at this point how often it will be mailed, if you paid for a subscription, you will still get 11 issues. Thank you for being patient with us during this very difficult time.

LETTERS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jewish Lesbian Writers Group So, you're a writer? So let's write! The Jewish Lesbian Writers Group is open for new members. All levels of serious writers are welcome. Jewish Lesbians of all ages. Poor or working class, Sephardic, Mizrahi, and Jewish Women of Color especially welcome. We meet in the

East Bay every other Monday night, do public readings two to three times a year, and occasionally have writing retreats. Childcare costs paid. We are chemical-free and strive for accessible meeting spaces. We don't wear scented products to meetings. We do write and talk about writing. Call (510) 540-5564 or (510) 465-1294.

L.I.P.S Work on an installation concerning Sapho, together with other L.I.P.S (Lesbian Installation Projects) artists. Artists in all media and musicians welcome. Organizer Pamela Barnes is a qualified practicing artist. Lunch time potluck and exchange of ideas on June 12 at 11:00, bring food/drinks to share. Call (510) 222-7989 for directions.

Dear Editor:

We are designing a new newsletter for hard of hearing, "hearing impaired", deaf, and deafened Lesbians and gay men who do not consider themselves part of mainstream deaf culture.

We are doing a call for submissions to our first issue. We are looking for life stories, coming out stories, cartoons, poems, art, both in terms of being Lesbian, Gay, Queer, transgendered, and bi; also coming out about not being able to hear...

What!!!Quears!!!

831 Scott Street
San Francisco, CA 94117
(415) 922-5191 voice or tty

Dyke couple needs home for RV: needs electricity, water, and sewer hookups and room for two dogs. Will barter for rent. I am a carpenter, she's a mechanic. Prefer Western U.S. Also trying to hook up with "RV Women". Contact Teresa Connery, 1636 74th Avenue, Apt. C, Oakland, CA 94521 (510) 638-8543.

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU
TO GAIL DE RITA

who did, virtually single-handed, this LU! newsletter for more than five years! A Lesbian of incredible energy and capacity, she made it the sparkling, vital monthly newspaper that it is. We love you, Gail, and appreciate more than we can ever tell you the thousands of hours you spent on Lesbian Uprisings!, your perseverance, and your verve and imagination.

Gail is stepping down and we will keep going on as a collective effort. If anyone out there would like to work on the newsletter -- i.e., writing, coordinating, etc. -- let us know!

LU! EVENTS

Tuesday, June 8 - LU! Planning Meeting. Let's talk about and evaluate our work of the past year and make plans for the new year. We need good ideas and lots of good dyke energy. Join us! Everyone welcome!!! 7 p.m. call Lisa 661-3886

Sunday, July 11 - Set aside this day for our LU! picnic! We'll socialize, frolic, stuff ourselves, etc. 11 a.m. East Bay location. For details call Ruth 510-644-0480

CALENDAR

Thru Sunday, June 20 extended. One-woman play Why We Have A Body by Claire Chafee. "Everything you always wanted to know about: the lesbian brain, paleontology, directing traffic, Scarlatti, Doritos." Magic Theater - Fort Mason Center-Building D 441-8822

Wednesday, June 2 thru Sunday, June 13 - Holly Hughes in "Clit Notes." Hughes returns to Josie's with step two in her ten point plan to advance lesbianism globally through song, dance, and monologue. 8 p.m. Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. at Market. Call 861-7933.

Wednesday, June 2 - Friday, July 2 - Forbidden Images Gallery. "Participatory Price: A Community Conversation" An audience participating performance art. Unpredictable, evolving, unique. Billy Defrank Lesbian and Gay Community Center. 175 Stockton Ave., San Jose. Mon-Fri 6-9 p.m. except Wed 3-9 p.m. Sat-Sun 12 noon-6 p.m. No attendant on duty.

Thursday, June 3rd - Co-Ownership of Property Workshop. To buy together or not to buy together? That is a question too many lesbian and gay couples answer in the affirmative without researching the consequences. 8 p.m. Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia at 21st St. Admission \$3-10 to benefit Women's Voices (no one turned away) Call 821-4676.

Thursday, June 3rd - "On Women Turning Fifty: Celebrating Mid-Life Discoveries." Cathleen Roundtree. Book Discussion. Celebrate the new face of middle year women. This book of profiles features women such as Isabelle Allende and Gloria Steinem who are transforming the aging process. Free with featured book; \$3 without book purchase. GAIA, 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

Thursday, June 3 - Elizabeth Pincus, author of "The Two-Bit Tango" will read from her new Nell Fury mystery "The Solitary Twist." Nell Fury is a hard-edged San Francisco lesbian sleuth. Ex-private eye Pincus is a film critic for the SF Weekly. Free. Modern Times, 888 Valencia

Friday, June 4 - An Evening of Poetry and Art with Leah Korican at Mama Bears, 8 p.m., women only, \$5, res sug

Friday, June 4 - Lesbian comics Karen Ripley and Carol Steinel. One of the Bay Area's pioneering lesbian comics, Karen Ripley, joins forces with Portland's acclaimed dyke comic, Carol Steinel. One show only. 10 p.m., Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. at Market. Call 861-7933.

Friday, June 4 and Saturday, June 5 - The Women and Desire - dyke variety show. Performance, readings etc. Red Dora the Bearded Lady, 485 14th St. at Guerrero. \$5 8 p.m.

Saturday, June 5 - A Bridge To Die For - an interactive murder mystery with a reunion of Lilith Women's Theater. 6 p.m. - includes dinner. The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Call Roma Guy at 431-1181 for information.

Saturday, June 5 - Judy Fjell, Crystal Reeves, Linda Hirschhorn, Alternative Measures & The Napa Valley Women's Chorus. Freight & Salvage, 1111 Addison St., Berkeley, 8:30 p.m. \$10.50-\$12.50. Call 510-548-1761

Saturday, June 5 - Katherine Warner's folksy vocals and acoustic guitar at Mama Bears, 6536 Telegraph, Berkeley 8 p.m. \$8-10 call 510-428-9684

Saturday, June 5 thru Saturday, June 26 - Coconut by Adele Prandini (World Premiere) - musical fable - at Cowell Theater at Fort Mason (previews June 3 and 4) Performances 8 p.m. Wednesday thru Sunday; 3 p.m. on Sunday, June 13. Call 861-5079; tickets \$10-\$17.

Sunday, June 6 - Phyllis Burke, author of "Family Values: Two Moms and Their Son," discusses the politics and joys of lesbian parenthood. 7:30 p.m. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro.

Tuesday, June 8 - 8 p.m. Madeline Moore. Book party to celebrate the release of "As You Desire," winner of Spinsters Ink 1993 Lesbian Fiction Contest. A story of personal healing set in Paris during the student revolutions of the late '60s. Old Wives' Tales, 1009 Valencia at 21st St. Call 821-4676

Wednesday, June 9 - Tea Spot Poets and Writers Salon featuring Flash Fiction. Open mike 6:30 p.m., readings at 7:15 p.m. Sign ups and dinner service begin at 6 p.m. Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley (1 block s. of University Ave.) 510-848-0107

Wednesday, June 9 - Mary Wings will read from and discuss her new book, "Divine Victim," a lesbian nun gothic mystery. Performing a special Book Blessing will be Sister Vicious and Sister Barely Cerebral. 7 p.m. women only. Mama Bears.

Wednesday, June 9 - Cancerbodies: Women Speaking the Unspeakable Benefit for Women's Cancer Resource Center. A play adapted by Victoria Rue from Cancer in Two Voices by Sandra Butler and Barbara Rosenblum. 8 p.m. Live Oak Theatre, 1301 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Tickets \$12-\$25. Call 510-548-9272

Friday, June 11 thru Thursday, July 8 - Breaking the Silence The Women's Building presents a powerful exhibition of masks, sculpture and watercolors to raise awareness about child sexual abuse by Katheryn Trenshaw. Opening reception with the Artist: Thursday, June 10 7:30-9:30 p.m. \$45-100 The Women's Building, 3543 18th St. Call 431-1180 Exhibit hours: Wednesday-Friday 12 noon-8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday 12 noon-5 p.m.

Thursday, June 10th - Ronnie Gilbert on Mother Jones: Face to Face with the Most Dangerous Woman in America. Using the script of her one-woman musical, The Most Dangerous Woman in America, Gilbert takes a critical look at Mother Jones's life in the light of ongoing feminist, labor and class struggles and explains why it is time we take another look at this legendary woman. 8 p.m. Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia at 21st St. 821-4676

Friday, June 11 - Gay & Lesbian Comedy with Karen Ripley, Maureen Brownsey and Scott Silverman with MC Lisa Geduldig. \$7. 9 p.m. Come early for dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and get a good seat and \$2 off the show price. Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley (1 block s. of University Ave.) 510-848-0107

Friday, June 11 - Naomi Epel "Writers Dreaming/Dreaming Writers." Book Discussion: "Writers Dreaming" is about writing and the effects of dreams on our creative lives. Free with featured book; \$3 without book purchase. GAIA, 1400 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 7:30 p.m.

Friday, June 11 thru Sunday, June 13 (and again Thursday, June 17 thru Sunday, June 20) - Cinderella, A Tale of Survival - a dance performed by members of the Dance Brigade's multi-racial dance troupe, accompanied by feminist composer Ferron. Explores child abuse and domestic violence through movement, music, and text. Laney College Theater, 900 Fallon at 9th St., Oakland 8 p.m. \$10-17 510-465-3686

Friday, June 11 - Hot Lips Join Fat Lip Readers Theatre in this sizzling, sensual and sexually explicit performance. New College, 777 Valencia 8 p.m. \$7-12 Sign language interpreted. Reserve free child care by June 9. 334-3326

Saturday, June 12 - Hot Lips - Join Fat Lip Readers Theatre 2nd performance at Saint Paul Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall, 1658 Excelsior Ave. (1 block north of MacArthur between Park and Fruitvale) Oakland. 334-3326

Saturday, June 12 - Gay Comedy Night with comics Karen Ripley, Suzy Berger and Lisa Geduldig. 10 p.m. \$10 Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th Street at Market 861-7933

Saturday, June 12 - Gayle Marie is singing at Mama Bears, 8 p.m. women only \$8-10 res sug Alice says, "Wonderful voice, great songs and just a delight!"

Saturday, June 12 thru Saturday, June 19 - Her Voice, Our Voices - A Women's Summer Camp. The theme this year is "Creating Patterns of Respect." Cam is near Nevada City, CA \$650 tuition. Some work exchange partial trades available. Diversity scholarships available for low-income women, particularly women of color. For info: Women's Alliance 510-658-2949, P.O.Box 21454, Oakland 94620

Sunday, June 13 - CHOICE In this presentation, women speak out relating an oral herstory of the politics, personal circumstance, options, and social pressures surrounding their experiences and decisions on abortion 7:30 p.m. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro

Sunday, June 13 - Ronnie Gilbert at Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck Ave. Berkeley 8 p.m. (see June 10)

Sunday, June 13 - Mary Wings at Modern Times, 888 Valencia 7 p.m. (see June 9)

Monday, June 14 - Marj Plumb, the Exec. Director of the Lyon-Martin Women's Health Services in San Francisco will discuss homophobia in the medical establishment and other lesbian health care issues. Donation requested. Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 94705

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June 15, July 1, July 15 - Don't forget to write your checks to Lavender Leaf and the DK Fund (Dyke Fund). These two funds provide emergency money to Lesbians from poverty and working class backgrounds. Lavender Leaf, P. O. Box 20921, Oakland, CA 94620 and DK Fund, 4432 Telegraph, Box 13, Oakland 94609. For further information call Elizabeth 510-652-7729

Tuesday, June 15 - "Sisters, Sexperts, Queers: Beyond the Lesbian Nation" Contributors to this groundbreaking anthology read from their work. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 15 - Susanna Kaysen, author of "Asa, As I Knew Him" and "Far Afield," will read from her profoundly moving new book "Girl Interrupted." In 1967, at the age of 18, Kaysen was seen by a psychiatrist she'd never met before and found herself admitted to McLean Psychiatric Hospital outside Boston. She spent the next 18 months there. This haunting work is Kaysen's attempt to write of the jumble within her head and the routines, the staff, and the patients in the ward for disturbed teenaged girls. 7:30 p.m. Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

Wednesday, June 16 - Jennifer DiMarco, 19-year-old Seattle author of the science fiction novel "Escape to the Wind," reads from her work. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro

Thursday, June 17 - 8 p.m. Kate Brandt. "Happy Endings: Lesbian Writers Talk About Their Lives & Work" Appearing tonight with Kate will be Katherine Forrest, Willyce Kim, Carol Seajay, S. Diane Bogus, Lisbet Tellefsen. Old Wives' Tales Bookstore, 1009 Valencia at 21st St. 821-4676

Thursday, June 17 - "Women On Women 2" Contributors to this collection of lesbian fiction read from their work. 7:30 p.m. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro

Thursday, June 17 - 7:30 p.m. Anthropologist Ellen Lewin will discuss her new book "Lesbian Mothers: Accounts of Gender in American Culture." Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia

Friday, June 18 - Heart of Relating, a lesbian relationship weekend training in healthy patterns for relating, with Sonika Tinker & Debra Rein of LoveWorks, call 572-1999 - other workshops July 9, 16, 30.

Friday, June 18 - Open Mike - Musicians. Room for 6 performs. Call to get on list. Mama Bears, 8 p.m. \$2. Women only. For reservations 510-428-9684

Friday, June 18 - Kate Beck from San Diego's infamous Original Open Mike Night Show hosts a music and comedy revue. 9 p.m. \$6 Come early for dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and get a good seat and \$2 off the show price. Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley (1 block s. of University Ave.) 510-848-0107

Saturday, June 19 - Comedy night with Marilyn Pittman and Amy Boyd. 9 p.m. \$8. Come early for dinner beginning at 6 p.m. and get a good seat and \$2 off the show price. Tea Spot Cafe (see above) 510-848-0107

Saturday, June 19 to Sunday, June 27 - The world's largest lesbian and gay film festival once again rolls into the Roxie for nine big days: Special programs include "Pout," a giddy safe sex guide from England; "Sistah Action," an evening of movies by lesbians of color; two programs of new experimental Asian work; and the world premier of Ceclila Dougherty and Leslie Singer's "Joe-Joe," a hilarious, dykey re-make of the Joe Orton story. For full details, pick up a free festival catalog. For more information, call 703-8650

Saturday, June 19 - Workshop by Lesbian Installation Projects (L.I.P.S.) Work on a community based installation together with other Lesbian artists. Professionals and novices with commitment are welcome and all media considered. Laney College, Oakland Registration is necessary. Call Pamela 510-222-4552

Saturday, June 19 - Over Our Heads - improv comedy and music - Karen Ripley, Teresa Chandler, Annie Larson, Marion Damon. Mama Bears, Berkeley. 8 p.m., \$8-10 Reservations 510-428-9684 Women only.

Starting Sunday, June 20 - "Fire in the Rain . . . A Life Story With Music" performed by Holly Near; written by Holly and Timothy Near-Stage Door Theatre, 420 Mason 433-9500

Tuesday, June 22 - Mothertongue Feminist Theater Collective presents "Did You Come or Fake It?" The Collective presents its groundbreaking and ever-popular sex script -- shocking daring, thoughtful, sexy, and, most of all, safe. 8 p.m. \$8-15 sliding scale. Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th St. (at Market) Call 861-2975.

Wednesday, June 23 - "Hobnail Boots to Stiletto Heels" An exciting panel on lesbian sensibilities in the visual arts. Lesbian Visual Artists. 7 p.m. Spectrum Gallery, 511 Harrison St. (nr 1st) \$10-25 (no one turned away) ASL with 48 hr notice. Wheelchair access. For info/reservations: 821-2975

Wednesday, June 23 - GLAAD East Bay Division benefit screening of "To Support and Defend." The video features gay and lesbian soldiers and heterosexuals who served with them. A benefit to buy air time to broadcast the tape in major districts of key Senators in the battle to Life the Ban. Special guest Lt. Maria Zoe Dunning is featured in the video. Suggested minimum donation: \$10. Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo (1 block s. of University), Berkeley (510) 848-0107

Wednesday, June 23 - 7:30 p.m. Open Lesbian and Gay Reading. Celebrate Lesbian and Gay Literature Month by sharing your poetry and prose, or coming to listen, in the Bay Area's only monthly reading for the queer community. Free. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia

Thursday, June 24 - 7:30 p.m. Agnes Bushell will read from her new mystery novel "Death By Crystal," which features the Portland, Maine-based lesbian detective team of Wilder and Wilson. Free. Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia

Thursday, June 24 - 7 p.m. Lesbians and Gays in the Military. Sergeant Jose Zuniga, who recently came out as a gay man after having been named Soldier of the Year, and WWII vet Sarah Davis will speak about their experiences. Toland Hall, 533 Parnassus, UCSF Medical Center campus. Selected books on this topic will be available for purchase. Free.

Friday, June 25 - Midlife Crisis - Cynthia McQuillin and Jane Robinson singing very melodic, very funny, very clever songs of lesbian love! Mama Bears, 8 p.m., Women only \$8-10. Call for reservations (510) 428-9684.

Friday, June 25 - Lynell George, former staff journalist with the LA Times, discusses "No Crystal Stair: African-Americans in the City of Angels." Joining her will be Jill Nelson author of "Volunteer Slavery: My Authentic Negro Experience," her account of her four turbulent years as a reporter at the Washington Post at Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, June 27 - 3 p.m. Agnes Bushell will read from her new mystery novel "Death By Crystal," which features the Portland, Maine-based lesbian detective team of Wilder and Wilson. Free. Mama Bears, Berkeley

Tuesday, June 29 - 7:30 p.m. Carole Gallagher, a photographer whose work has been shown in galleries and museums around the world, will discuss "American Ground Zero: The Secret Nuclear War." One of the most important books to be published this season, this decade-long project is a gripping, courageous collection of portraits and interviews of those whose lives were crossed by radioactive fallout. Black Oak Books (see above)

Wednesday, June 30 - 7:30 p.m. Cathleen Roundtree, author of "Coming into Our Fullness: On Women Turning 40," celebrates the publication of "On Women Turning 50: Celebrating the Mid-Life Discoveries." Roundtree profiles eighteen very different women including Gloria Steinem, Ellen Burstyn, Isabel Allende and others in this intimate look at women representing a new force in all areas of our society. Joining her will be filmmaker Allie Light, teacher Deanne Burke, and jewelry designer and social activist Tabra Tunoa, all of whom are featured in this inspiring book. Black Oak Books (see above)

Friday thru Sunday, June 25-27 - GOLDEN THREADS, the worldwide network for Lesbian women over 50, and their younger women friends, will celebrate what they are and their age (whatever it is), in Provincetown, Mass. This Seventh Annual GOLDEN THREADS Celebration will be limited to 250 women. Entertainment, banquet, dancing, feminist videos, raps, sing-a-longs, etc. For more information write: Christine Burton, GOLDEN THREADS, P. O. Box 60475, Northampton, MA 01060-0475 (413) 247-9936

Saturday, June 26 - Judy Fjell and Crystal Reeves. Fabulous show by two favorites. 8 p.m. women only. \$8-10. Mama Bears. For reservations (510) 428-9684

Saturday, June 26 - **LESBIAN PRIDE MARCH** - LU! will have a contingent with the banner. 7:30 p.m. Meet at Castro and Market

Sunday, June 27 - LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE DAY!

Sunday, June 27 - GAY DAY PARADE

GLOE (Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders) will have a cable car available for men and women who want to ride. Meet at the GLOE office 9:30 a.m. 1853 Market Street, 626-7000

Friday, July 2 and Saturday, July 3 - Kris Kovick and friends are putting together a dyke variety show. Heard to be fabulous! 8 p.m. Red Dora the Bearded Lady, 485 14th St. at Guerrero

Friday, July 2 - Lynette Prucha, Los Angeles author, will read from her latest mystery "Smokescreen" 7:30 p.m. A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro

Monday, July 26 - 7 p.m. Susan Shea, Chair of the Calif. Nurses Association's Health Access Committee, will give an update on the status of President Clinton's health care reform initiatives, as well as on any health care legislation pending in California. Donation requested. Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley 94705

Thursday, July 27 - GLOE (women and men 60 years old and over and their partners of any age) will have an all-day bus trip to Santa Cruz. For info call GLOE 626-7000

Tuesday, August 10 thru Sunday, August 15 - 18th annual Michigan Womyn's Music Festival. This 6-day all-womyn camping event is the oldest and largest of the womyn's music festivals held in the U.S., and is attended annually by 7-8000 womyn from all across the U.S. and Canada, as well as over 20 countries throughout the world. Special accommodations for differently-abled womyn, womyn of colors, womyn over 50, womyn in recovery, and womyn with children. For info, write to P. O. Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458 or call 616-757-4766



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Property of the Center

Friday, June 25 - GOLFERS PARADE, the worldwide network for lesbians, gays, and their friends will celebrate what they are and their fun (whatever it is), in Provincetown, Mass. This Seventh Annual GOLFERS PARADE Celebration will be limited to 250 women. Entertainment, beverages, dancing, feminist videos, rope, sing-a-longs, etc. For more information write: Christine Burton, GOLFERS PARADE, P. O. Box 60475, Northampton, MA 01069-2475 (413) 247-2116

Saturday, June 26 - Judy Fjell and Crystal Hoover. Fabulous show by two favorites. 8 p.m. women only. 88-10. Mass. Bears. For reservations (610) 838-9681

Saturday, June 26 - LESBIAN PRIDE MARCH - LU! will have a contingent with the banner. 7:30 p.m. Meet at Casino and Parke

Sunday, June 27 - LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE DAY

Sunday, June 27 - GAY DAY PARADE

Give Judy and Lesliann O'Leary to riders, will have a table car available for you and women who want to ride. Meet at the GOLFERS office 8:30 a.m. 1433 Market Street, 415-7429

Sunday, July 2 - LESBIAN PRIDE MARCH - This is a special day for friends and family. Celebrate a Gay Pride parade. Meet at the GOLFERS office 8:30 a.m. 1433 Market Street, 415-7429

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LU! Calendar/Newsletter
Post Office Box 423555
San Francisco CA 94142



Herland TR
2312 NW 39th Street
Oklahoma City OK 73112

Herland is a special weekend camping event in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. It is held in the heart of the city and is open to all women. The event is held throughout the world. Special accommodations for differently-abled women, women of color, women over 50, women in recovery, and women with children. For info, write to P. O. Box 21, Bethel, MI 49618 or call 616-787-4788