

March 1993



lesbian uprisings



Two Dollars

LUI Calendar/ Newsletter
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\$20 per year (11 issues)
 Make checks to LESBIAN UPRISINGS!

♣ LU! Events ♣

Wednesday, March 10 - Book group considers Gathering Rage: The Failure of 20th Century Revolutions to Develop a Feminist Agenda, by Margaret Randall. 6:30 socializing; 7:00 discussion, at Gail's, 1835 Clay #302 (ring buzzer #19) in SF. Call 441-6238.

Tuesday, March 30 - Join the LU! political group as we discuss the issues facing Old Lesbians. Come hear from the Crones in our community about their perspectives and concerns. Meet at 7:00 pm at Bev's house. Call 661-3886 for location.

Wednesday, April 14 - Book group will read The Issue is Power: Essays on Women, Jews, Violence and Resistance by Melanie Kaye/Kantrowitz. For details on meeting place call Rochelle at 664-3240 or check next month's newsletter.

♣ Also of Interest ♣

Addresses and phone numbers of many calendar resources are listed at the end of this section.

Thru Sunday, March 7 - "Dark Cowgirls & Prairie Queens," by Linda Parris-Bailey. Carpetbag Theater Ensemble presents the lives of African-American women in the Old West (1830-90). Thurs-Sat 8 pm; Sat 2 pm; Sun 3 pm. Tickets \$11-20. Alice Arts Center, 1428 Alice (near 14th) in Oakland. 510/763-7774.

Thru Sunday, March 14 - Photographs by Annie Leibovitz at Ansel Adams Center for Photography, 250

Fourth Street in SF. 11-5 Tues-Sun. For other info, call 979-4888.

Thru Friday, March 26 (with reception March 11 from 5-8 pm) - Myth and Reality, A Woman's Perspective at SF Women Artists' Gallery, 370 Hayes in SF. 552-7392

Thru Sunday, March 28 - The Magic Theater presents the world premiere of "Unquestioned Integrity: The Hill/Thomas Hearings," a dramatic adaptation of the transcripts of the Senate confirmation hearings of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas. Written by Magic's Associate Artistic Director, Mame Hunt, and directed by Ellen Sebastian (the first African-American woman to direct at the Magic Theater in its 25 year history). Wed thru Sat at 8:30; Sundays at 2 and 7 pm. Tickets \$17-21. Call 441-8822 for reservation. (Reviewed here next month.)

Wednesday, March 3 - Marion Gerlind, Lesbian feminist writer and fighter from Germany, will read out of the book Sprachgewaltige Frauen Wimmon of Powerful Expressions. This new hand/workbook challenges and changes the sexist and racist GerMAN language, while claiming a wimmin-identified GerWOMON language of which she is coauthor. Special attention will be given to the present situation in Germany, where wimmin's resistance is essential. Presentation in English at Mama Bears; 7 pm; \$5; reservations suggested.

Thursday, March 4 - Enoe Uranga will speak about current efforts to organize a Lesbian human rights organization in Mexico City. Amy Bank, who works with the feminist office Puntos de Encuentro in Managua, will talk about the unprecedented coalition of feminists and queer activists who are now fighting Nicaragua's new sodomy law. Co-sponsored by Modern Times, La Red, the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission and FOX. Modern Times; 7:30 pm; donations requested.

Thursday, March 4 - Stories and slides from the Middle East Children's Alliance Women's delegation to Palestine and Israel with six Bay Area women who visited there from December 14-30. Also delicious middle eastern food. At La Peña; 7:30 pm. \$5-8 benefits Middle East Children's Alliance. 510/548-0542.

Thursday, March 4 - Join author Dorothy Allison in celebrating release of the paperback of her best seller, Bastard Out of Carolina, at Alexander Books, 50 Second Street in SF. Reading begins at 6 pm.

Friday, March 5 - "Women of the First Nations" on Concord TV, cable Channel 19 from 8:30 - 9 pm. Native

American women have historically been objectified and stereotyped in popular culture. This program celebrates the new generation of these women who are reclaiming the image, ability and power to define their own identities in the world.

Friday, March 5 - Judi Bari, activist and organizer for Earth First! is at Black Oak Books to discuss her efforts to save California's old growth redwoods. Bari has gathered a collection of her essays in Timber Wars and Other Writings. Free at 7:30 (but come early to get a number; the place will be packed!).

Friday, March 5 and Saturday, March 6 - "Fairy Tales Can Come True" - the Lesbian/Gay Chorus of San Francisco is performing its first concert of the season, a fully choreographed production exploring fantasies from childhood to adulthood. Musical selections include songs from "Beauty and the Beast," "Oliver," "Peter Pan," and other shows. Opening Night Fantasy Dessert Reception for Sponsor ticket holders only in the lobby following the show. 8:00 pm in Cowell Theater at Ft. Mason. \$25 Sponsor (Friday night only); \$15 general.

Friday, March 5 thru Sunday, March 7 - "Speech, Equality and Harm: Feminist Legal Perspectives on Pornography and Hate Propaganda," a conference at the University of Chicago Law School, with speakers such as Andrea Dworkin, Catherine A. Mackinnon, Evelina Giobbe, Nikki Craft and Kathleen Barry. We'll have a reportback next month from members this group of high-powered feminist agitators.

Friday, March 5 thru Sunday, March 7 - (Also on March 12-14) "Big Butt Girls, Hard-Headed Women," starring Rhodessa Jones with direction and music by Idris Ackamoor. A one-woman show that gives voice to the forgotten lives of incarcerated women, taken from experiences when Rhodessa taught aerobics in the SF county jails. At the Central YMCA Theater, 220 Golden Gate Avenue at Leavenworth in SF (2 blocks from Civic Center BART). Tickets from Central YMCA Mon-Fri 1-5. Fri-Sat 8 pm \$15; Sun 2 pm, \$10.

Saturday, March 6 - Gwen Avery concert at Mama Bears. The Sugar Mama of Soul finally has a tape out and that is cause for celebration. 8 pm; women only; \$8-10; reservations suggested.

Saturday, March 6 - Celebrate International Women's Day with the San Francisco Women's Building, tenants and sponsored projects. An evening of multi-cultural dance performances. 8 pm; \$7-20. (See flier enclosed.)

Saturday March 6 and Sunday, March 7 - June Millington and her Institute for Musical Arts produce an album production workshop. From 12-6 pm each day; \$125 for both (scholarships available). Call 707/876-3004.

Saturday March 6 and Sunday, March 7 - Menopausal Goddesses, a workshop with Susun S. Weed. Spend time with this wise woman/herbalist/story teller and discover how you can be a hale-hearted, strong-boned, sexy old lady. Simple inexpensive remedies for hot flashes, PMS, osteoporosis, headaches, sore joints. At Ft. Mason's Fire Room from 10-4 both days. For more info call 510/444-7724.

Saturday March 6 and Sunday, March 7 - "Goddess in the Office" an experiential workshop for women with Z Budapest using improvisation, art, movement, story telling, trance, ritual and playing together to access our collective wisdom. Come one or both days. 5 pm - 10 pm. \$50 per day; at Ft. Mason. Call 510/444-7724 for info.

Saturday, March 6 - Oregon Women's Land Trust meeting at OWL Farm. The meeting will begin at 11 am and break for potluck lunch. All women are welcome. For directions and other info write PO Box 1692, Roseburg OR 97404.

Saturday March 6 and Sunday, March 7 - Terry Sendgraff and friends present the premier of "Conference" a dance/theater piece with stilt-dancing, by a culturally diverse group of women who create an artistic roundtable to address social, political and spiritual concerns. Also featuring Kitka Eastern European Women's Chorus and other outstanding performers. Part of Bay Area Dance Theater and Talking Dance Project's "Body Politics" at Laney College Theater, 9th and Fallon in Oakland (near Lake Merritt BART). Saturday at 8 pm; Sunday at 3 and 7 pm. Tickets \$10-14 by calling 510/889-9500.

Sunday, March 7 - Celebrate publication of Susun Weed's new book, Menopausal Years, compendium of herbal remedies, free at Mama Bears from 5-7 pm.

Sunday, March 7 - Judy, Fjell, Crystal Reeves and friends will perform at 2 pm at the Clubhouse (behind the Diner on Washington Street) in Yountville. They're preparing to record a new album, due out this fall, and want a friendly audience with whom to share their new material. Benefit for Julie McConnell's legal fees in a custody battle with ex-husband in which her Lesbianism was a major issue. (She won but the bill is enormous!) Tickets at the door for \$8-12.

Sunday, March 7 - Whiptail Lizard Woymn's Collective general interest meeting at 5 pm; at Bearded Lady Cafe.



All interested women are welcome -- help create a Lesbian community center in SF. They need your support!

Monday, March 8 - 1993 International Women's Day Luncheon featuring Ysabel Duron, Dr. Laina Farhat, Eva Paterson and Mary Tallmountain. Hyatt Regency Hotel, 5 Embarcadero Center at noon. Cost \$30. (This is put on by an ad hoc committee; proceeds go to next year's luncheon.)

Monday, March 8 - Women's Council of Sacramento State University sponsors a discussion group on Backlash: Undeclared War Against American Women by Susan Faludi. CSUS Multicultural Center from noon to 1:30 pm. (Also on April 5.)

Monday, March 8 - International Women's Day 1993 Demonstration "Stop the War on Women." Gather at 4:30 at Justin Herman Plaza (near Embarcadero BART) in SF. Share the enclosed flier with a friend.

Tuesday, March 9 - Mystery Writers' Panel at Clairelight, 7 pm. Jaqueline Girdner, Margaret Lucke, Shelley Singer and Gloria White talk and answer questions. Free.

Tuesday, March 9 - Renowned feminist, author Margaret Randall will speak on her new book, Gathering Rage: The Failure of Twentieth Century Revolutions to Develop a Feminist Agenda. Co-sponsored by Modern Times, Women Against Imperialism and Break the Silence Mural Project. 7:30 pm at Modern Times; \$3-5 sliding scale. This coincides nicely with LU! reading and discussion the next evening.

Tuesday, March 9 - An Evening of Poetry with Adrienne Rich at Herbst Theater, 8 pm. Benefits the Women's Foundation. Tickets for \$14 at City Box Office, 141 Kearny or call 392-4400.

Wednesday, March 10 - Join guest speaker Tamar Raphael of the Feminist Majority Foundation for a discussion of RU-486 at La Peña, 7 pm. Sponsored by Women's Cancer Resource Center in celebration of International Women's Day.

Wednesday, March 10 - Poets and Writers featuring East Bay women's writers groups reading from their work. Free at the Tea Spot Cafe. Light supper available at 6 pm; open mike 6:30; reading at 7:30.

Wednesday, March 10 - Judith Masur: Greatest Hits and Unexpected Pleasures. Author of the Lesbian Supremacist song, artist, poet, cartoonist, clown, Judith Masur has been moving and delighting West Coast audiences for the past

15 years. Maybe you've seen her perform with Mothertongue or Fat Lip, bought her Big Woman notecards, or met her clown, Prosciutto. 7 pm at Mama Bears. Reservations suggested; wimmin only; \$5; no scents or perfumes; wheelchair accessible.

Thursday, March 11 - Environmental historian Gray Brechin will present a talk and slide show on the contribution of Lesbian and gay architects, artists and patrons to the urban environment of the Bay Area. Co-sponsored by Modern Times and the Gay and Lesbian Historical Society. 7:30 at Modern Times. \$5/3.

Thursday, March 11 - Clairelight shows The Burning Times, a one hour documentary exploring the often misunderstood witch craze that swept through Europe several hundred years ago. 7 pm; donations accepted.

Thursday, March 11 - Photographer Laurie Edison and writer Debbie Notkin celebrate their book in progress, Women En Large, photographs of fat nudes, with an evening of slides, conversation and song. 8pm; \$3-10 at Old Wives Tales.

Friday, March 12 - Carol Tavris discusses her new work, The Mismeasure of Woman: Why Women Are Not the Better Sex, the Inferior Sex, or the Opposite Sex. (Treating men as the "norm" or standard; women as "abnormal.") At Black Oak Books, 7:30 pm.

Saturday, March 13 - "Skin Talk: Heartbeat of the Ancestors," a new production conceived and created by Carolyn Brandy and commissioned by Redwood Cultural Work. Featuring Native American poet Joy Harjo (also on saxophone); drummers Carolyn Brandy, Edwina Lee Tyler; Harpbeat (Nydia "Liberty" Mata and Ellen Uryevick); Susan Williams, Susu Pampanin, Daria Schwarzchild, vocalist Faye Carol, and many others. Don't miss this hot date at 8 pm at Calvin Simmons Theater, 10th and Fallon in Oakland. Tickets \$22, 17 and 14 through Redwood (Box 10408, Oakland 94610), Mama Bears, GAIA, Modern Times. 510/835-1445.

Saturday, March 13 - AIDS Dance-A-Thon at Fort Mason Center from 5 pm til midnight. For more info, to volunteer, or register (get sponsors early) call 392-9255.

Saturday, March 13 - "All Passion Unspent," a L.O.L.A. production, at Mama Bears. Stunning dramatic work, an extraordinary piece of Lesbian herstory. The League of Lesbian Actors, directed by Carolyn Gage, will feature Jan Marks as Violet Trefusis and Debra Wright as Vita Sackville-West. 8 pm; women only; \$10-12; reservations highly suggested.



Saturday, March 13 - Bay Area Career Women cordially invites you to attend the first annual LAVA Awards (Lesbians of Achievement, Vision and Action) a benefit dinner/dance at Miyako Hotel, 1625 Post in SF. 5:30 pm to 11:30 pm. The keynote speaker is Dr. Margarethe Cammermeyer (the former Colonel who was discharged because she answered a question honestly). Honored will be Gwenn Craig, Adele Prandini and Barbara Cameron. MC Carmen Vazquez, special entertainment by Menage of the Gay & Lesbian Chorus. Tickets are \$75 and will be held at the door. BACW is at 55 New Montgomery, Suite 606, SF CA 94105.

Sunday, March 14 - Editor Rakesh Ratti will be joined by several contributors in a reading from the new anthology Lotus of Another Color: An Unfolding of the South Asian Lesbian and Gay Experience. Free at Modern Times, 7:30 pm.

Sunday, March 14 - Susanna Valadez discusses Huichol Indian Sacred Rituals, a beautiful book about the 5,000-member Huichol tribe living in the Sierra Madre in Mexico. Valadez is married to one of the artists featured in the book and founder of the Huichol Cultural Center in Nayarit Mexico. Her talk will be accompanied by a slide presentation. 7:30 at Black Oak Books.

Sunday, March 14 - All-day drumming workshops featuring the Skin Talk Workshop (Carolyn Brandy, PJ Hirabayashi of San Jose Taiko, Jackeline Rago of Altazor and Mango Jam, and many others). Call Redwood Cultural Work for more details on this impressive event. The prices are very affordable (an all day pass is only \$35; individual events \$8-9). 510/835-1445.

Monday, March 15 - Diane Middlebrook reads from her book Anne Sexton: A Biography which was nominated for a National Book Award. 7:30 at Black Oak Books.

Monday, March 15 - Naomi Wolf, author of The Beauty Myth in conversation with Susie Bright at Herbst to benefit The Women's Foundation. Tickets \$14 from City Box Office, 141 Kearny in SF. 392-4400.

Monday, March 15 - Women's Voices of Old Wives Tales co-sponsors a benefit performance of Maria Irene Fornes' play, "Fefu and Her Friends," which explores women's internal struggles, interpersonal dynamics and relationships to society at large. Performed by In Focus Theater Company, a multicultural troupe dedicated to innovative works. Benefits Women's Cancer Resource Center and SF Women's AIDS Network. 8 pm. At Mission Cultural Center, 2868 Mission in SF. Admission \$12. 821-1155 for info and reservations.

Tuesday, March 16 - Victoria Nelson, a novelist and travel writer who conducts workshops on writer's block, will discuss On Writer's Block: Removing the Barriers to Creativity. 7:30 pm at Black Oak Books.

Tuesday, March 16 thru Sunday, March 21 - Marga Gomez makes a last stop at Josie's Juice Joint before her Off-Broadway run. Catch "Memory Tracks" at 8 pm. \$10 (March 19 for one show only, "Pretty, Witty & Gay.")

Wednesday, March 17 - Kay Mills discusses her biography This Little Light of Mine: The Life of Fannie Lou Hamer. 7:30 pm at Black Oak Books. [Ed note: Just glancing at the photographs in this book provided a thrilling trip back through history. Fannie Lou Hamer, a Mississippi sharecropper, was a fearless activist in the move to register African-American voters during the 50s.]

Wednesday, March 17 - Susanna Valadez will discuss her book Huichol Indian Sacred Rituals and will be joined by Huichol artist Mariano Valadez. 7:30 pm at Modern Times. Free.

Wednesday, March 17 - A Celebration of Lesbian Community. The Lavender LEAF (Lesbian Emergency Action Fund) announces its one year anniversary with a Lesbian raffle, music, food and fun. Join Lavender LEAF and find out how Lesbian money is being effectively redistributed in the Bay Area and how you can be a part of it. 7 pm at Mama Bears; women only; \$2; reservations suggested.

Thursday, March 18 thru Saturday, March 27 - "Runaways" with words and music by Elizabeth Swodas. Hard hitting and socially relevant musical about a group of young people who have run away from home and are living on the street. New Conservatory Theater, 25 Van Ness. Thurs-Sat 8 pm; Sun 3 pm. Tickets \$10. 861-8972.

Thursday, March 18 - Darien Taylor, co-editor of Positive Women: Voices of Women Living with AIDS, reads from and discusses this first-ever international collection of writing by women living with AIDS. \$3-10 benefits Women's Voices. 8 pm at Old Wives Tales.

Thursday, March 18 - Texas author Pat LittleDog will read from her book of fiction, In Search of the Holy Mother of Jobs along with Chicano poet Francisco X Alarcon. Free at Modern Times, 7:30 pm.

Friday, March 19 thru Sunday, March 21 - Della Davidson Dance Company performs as part of the Bay Area Dance Series. Including two world premieres: "Monster Dolls," and "Shrine." At Laney College

Theater, 9th and Fallon in Oakland. Fri-Sat at 8 pm; Sun at 3 pm. Tickets \$14 at the door. 510/464-3540.

Friday, March 19 thru Sunday, March 21 - "Weaving the Cloth of Resistance," 3rd biennial gathering of women organizing for economic and social justice. At New College, 766 Valencia Street in SF. Initiated by Center for Third World Organizing (CTWO). \$35 individual registration but scholarships are available. Deadline is March 6. For more info call Miriam Louie or Rinku Sen at 510/533-7583.

Saturday, March 20 - Robin Flower, Libby McClaren of the Wild Hearts and Michelle Sell, concert harpist perform at the Institute for Musical Arts. 8 pm; \$12. Call 707/876-3004 for info and reservations.

Saturday, March 20 - Over Our Heads -- Improv Comedy and Music at Mama Bears with those irrepressible, wild and witty women. 8 pm; women only; \$8-10; reservations suggested.

Saturday, March 20 - Push Back the Poison: Night of Solidarity with the People of Kettleman City and Bay Area communities of color fighting environmental racism. Dinner and multicultural "infotainment" at the Women's Building beginning at 7 pm. Tickets from \$7-50. Advance tickets: send checks by March 12 to Political Ecology Group/Tides, 519 Castro, Box 111 SF CA 94114.



Sunday, March 21 - String Instrument Workshop for all string instruments with Robin Flower and Libby McClaren. Fiddle, mandolin, guitar, piano, Robin and Libby will teach tunes with a focus on folk, bluegrass and pop. At Institute for the Musical Arts from 11-2 pm. \$35. Call 707/876-3004.

Sunday, March 21 - Tea Spot hosts the opening of Diane Woods' photography at the restaurant. Call them for details.

Sunday, March 21 - Kate Clinton in "Open Up: Out is In" at the Palace of Fine Arts, 3301 Lyon Street in SF. 7 pm. Tickets \$17/15 from BASS or SASE to JR Productions, 2 Buccaneer Ct. Corte Madera CA 94925 (no service charge).

Tuesday, March 23 - Carol Muske-Duke will read from her powerful second novel Saving St. Germ and a new collection of poems Red Trousseau. 7:30 at Black Oak Books.

Tuesday, March 23 - Z. Budapest will read from her new book The Goddess in the Office. Clairelight Books; 7 pm; free.

Wednesday, March 24 - Modern Times hosts monthly open prose and poetry readings for authors from the Lesbian and gay community. Free at 7:30.

Thursday, March 25 - SF Lesbian and Gay Film Festival presents "Twin Bracelets" an Audience Award Winner from last year's festival. 6:30 and 8:45 pm at the Roxie, 16th and Valencia in SF. \$6/5. [Ed note: This might be your only opportunity to see this excellent film from China if you missed it last year.]

Thursday, March 25 - Filmmaker Sheila Ganz discusses and shows clips from her documentary in progress, "Sealed Records, Sealed Lives" about the lifelong psychological and emotional effects of adoption on the 30 million people in the adoption triad in the US today: birth parents, adoptees, and adoptive parents. The goal of the film is to create greater understanding and communication among people and to advocate for open adoption records. \$3-10 benefits Women's Voices. 8 pm at Old Wives Tales.

Friday, March 26 - Stories and slides from the Middle East Children's Alliance Women's Delegation to Palestine and Israel with six Bay area women who visited there from December 14-30. Also delicious middle eastern food. 7:30 pm. at The Women's Building. \$5-8 benefits Middle East Children's Alliance.

Friday, March 26 thru Sunday, March 28 - Kulintang Arts performs as part of the Talking Dance Project and Bay Area Dance Series "Body Politics." The kulintang gongs, drums, mouth harp, lute and Mindanao dance of the Filipino living in the US today fuse traditional with modern. At Laney College Theater, 9th and Fallon in Oakland. Fri-Sat at 8 pm; Sun at 3 pm. Tickets \$14 at the door. 510/464-3540.

Saturday, March 27 - L'Chaim ("to life" in Hebrew) is an ensemble which has come together to share both the love and the joy of the finest chamber music and also the memories of those who have passed away. Co-founders Randy Israel, oboe and Janis Lieberman, french horn, with LU!'s own Anne Pagliarulo on piano, perform. Mama Bears; 8 pm; women only; \$8-10; reservations suggested.

Saturday, March 27 and Sunday, March 28 - Annual pre-inventory sale at Old Wives Tales. Fifteen percent off all merchandise. Volunteers are needed for OWT annual inventory on April 1. Lend them a hand and meet new women from the community. They'll provide pizza, snacks and soft drinks. Call them if you can help.

Sunday, March 28 - The ABCs of Making an Album with Deidre McCalla, who has three solo albums to her credit. A must for anyone considering putting out an album. From 1-4 pm. at Institute for Musical Arts. \$35. Call 707/876-3004.

Sunday, March 28 - Reading by the women writer's group Indigena as Scribe, led by Cherrie Moraga and sponsored by Brava! for Women in the Arts. Readers include Lisa Hall, Lea E. Arellano, Kristy Flanagan, Fabiola Zepeda, Myrtha Chabran, Cathy Arellano, Reid Gomez and Sandra Calvo. \$3-5 at Modern Times. 7:00 pm.

Tuesday, March 30 - Former Rodale Press editor Deborah Grandinetti will host a discussion of ideas on writing and the creative process. Ms. Grandinetti is currently working on The Delicate Balance: Toward a New Science of the Sex Hormones and Women's Health. 6:30 pm at Clairelight Books; no charge.

Wednesday, March 31 - Lavender LEAF (Lesbian Emergency Action Fund) sponsors a second evening of discussion on Lesbians, class and community (see March 17). A diverse panel of women from all classes will share how class influences and defines their lives. Audience participation will be encouraged as will donations to a Lesbian food drive. At Mama Bears; 7 pm; women only; \$2; reservations suggested.

Wednesday, March 31 - Sandra Sturdevant and Brenda Stoltzfus discuss the lives of women in areas surrounding US military bases in Okinawa, South Korea and the Philippines from their book Let the Good Times Roll: Prostitution and the US Military in Asia. Free at Modern Times, 7:30. A selection of the 200 powerful b/w photos from the book will also be on display at Modern Times from March 6 - April 1.

Wednesday, March 31 - Deidre McCalla plays at Freight & Salvage on Addison near San Pablo in Berkeley. Call 510/548-7603.

Thursday, April 1 - the CFIDS Foundation will hold its First Annual CFIDS Courage Awards Dinner at the St. Francis Hotel in SF. Awards will be given to a few of the courageous people and organizations who risked reputations by fighting to legitimize CFIDS as a serious disease of the

immune system. For more info call Marya Grambs at 882-9986.

Friday evening, April 2 thru Monday afternoon, April 5 - Women Making Music Retreat at Bishop Ranch near Healdsburg CA. Join Judy Fjell, Crystal Reeves and 60 women for a weekend of making music together. Bring your acoustic instruments, favorite songs, dancing shoes for 3 days and 3 nights at this beautiful location. All women, including absolute beginners, are welcome to join in creating this weekend musical community. \$150-250. Info from Sue Dolf and Lynne Pethel, 160 Church Street, Ashland OR 97520; 503/482-9122.

Friday, April 2 thru Sunday, April 4 - Shakiri (well known to many of us as the nutcracker in the Dance Brigade's "Revolutionary Nutcracker Sweetie") and Rootworkers, local artists, actors, dancers and writers involved in their communities' experiences perform as part of Talking Dance Project and Bay Area Dance Series "Body Politics." Laney College Theater, 9th and Fallon in Oakland. Fri-Sat at 8 pm; Sun at 3 pm. Tickets \$14 at the door. 510/464-3540.

Saturday, April 3 - Monica Grant sings at Mama Bears. 8 pm; women only; \$7-9; reservations suggested.

Saturday, April 3 - Victoria Bond, one of America's most exciting conductors conducts a dazzling concert of treasures with the Women's Philharmonic, including her own composition for saxophone and a gem from folk scholar Ruth Crawford Seeger. At First Congregational Church, Post and Mason Streets in SF. 8 pm. Tickets from Women's Philharmonic (543-2297) or at the door.

Sunday, April 4 - Linda Tillery in concert for an African American Folk Perspective. 4pm. Tickets \$6 general, \$4 seniors and students at First Presbyterian Church, 27th and Broadway, Oakland. 510/644-0116 for tickets and information.

Sunday, April 4 - Cruise into Spring at the Old Lesbians Dance. Come as your fantasy lover! 3-6 pm at Lake Merritt Sailboat Clubhouse in Oakland with DJ Lori Z. 3-6 pm. Tickets \$7.50 in advance; \$10 at the door. Women of all ages welcome; wheelchair accessible; no scents please. Sponsored by GLOE. 626-7000 for details.

Sunday, April 4 - Suzanne Sherman book party. The author of Lesbian and Gay Marriage: Private Commitments, Public Ceremonies discusses the issue, pro and con, at Mama Bears. 3-5 pm; free.



SAVE THE DATE!
Saturday, May 8

3rd Annual
All Women Are At Risk
Mothers' Day Rally at the Capitol
in Sacramento

Breast Cancer Prevention

Bay Area

♣ **Women's Resources** ♣

WA: wheelchair accessible; NS: no smoking. (*Caution: you may be exposed to incense or other scents.)

Black Oak Books, 1491 Shattuck at Vine in Berkeley. 510/486-0698. WA, NS

Boadecia's Books, 398 Colusa Avenue, Kensington CA 94707. 510/559-9184. WA, NS

ClaireLight Bookstore, 519 Mendocino Avenue, Santa Rosa. 707/575-8879?. WA, NS

Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro Street, SF. 431-0891. Restricted interior, front entrance accessible. NS

The Eye Gallery, 1151 Mission, SF. 431-6911. WA but someone must get attendant to activate rear elevator, NS

Gaia Bookstore, 1400 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. 510/549-4172 or 848-4242. Wheelchair accessible through back (let store know so they can unlock door); NS;*

Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint, 3583 16th (near Market), SF. 861-7933. WA, NS

Lesbian and Gay Switchboard at Pacific Center, 2712 Telegraph in Berkeley. 510/841-6224. WA, NS

Mama Bears Bookstore and Coffeehouse, 6536 Telegraph Avenue, Oakland. 510/428-9684. WA, NS

Modern Times, 888 Valencia, SF. 282-9246. WA, NS

Old Wives Tales, 1009 Valencia Street (at 21st) in SF. 821-4675. WA, NS

La Peña Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Avenue (near Ashby BART), Berkeley. 510/849-2568/2572. WA, NS (except area in cafe)

Red Dora's, The Bearded Lady, dyke cabaret and coffee house, 485 14th Street (near Guerrero), SF. 626-2805.

Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo at Addison in Berkeley. 510/848-7376. WA, NS

The Women's Building, 3543 18th Street (between Guerrero and Valencia) in SF. 431-1180. WA, NS

Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley. 510/548-9272.



♀♀♀**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.

If the front of your newsletter is stamped "Time to Renew Your SUBSCRIPTION," and/or the date beside your name is a year ago or longer (e.g. 12/91), that means please renew right now by using the form herein. If we haven't heard from you after three months, we'll regretfully drop your name from the mailing list. Your renewal is crucial, because without your backing, we cannot continue to publish this newsletter. The ONLY financial support we have is from you, our readers, so please give generously.

We do very little editing, except for length. 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 thoughts set forth therein. This is a forum for our community, so send us your articles, poems, analysis, thoughts and especially **calendar listings**. Join us for about an hour at the monthly mailout party, Thursday, April 1 at 5 pm. Call Gail for details.

► Some back issues are available for \$3.00 each. If you've missed a few months, contact me and we'll see if we can fill the gaps. We are now accepting advertisements for your business or service. Since we're still working on a rate schedule and policy, call Gail at 441-6238.

The clothing, furniture and household items you no longer want may be just what somebody else is looking for. Next time you clean out your closet, take the items to **Community Thrift**, allocate the money to **Lesbian Uprising!** (Account No. 159), and we'll get part of the proceeds. They're at 625 Valencia in SF; 861-4910.

The following bookstores carry LU!: Boadecia's Books, Kensington; Bookshop Santa Cruz; Clairelight, Santa Rosa; Different Light, SF Castro; Lioness, Sacramento; Mama Bears, Oakland; Modern Times, SF; Old Wives Tales, SF; Paradigm, San Diego; and Sisterhood, Los Angeles,

♣ **Letters** ♣

The Women of Saguario Sisterland write: The land next to us is for sale and we'd like Lesbians for neighbors! It's two acres with two double-wide mobiles and a smaller

trailer, fenced, with lush desert vegetation giving some privacy. Rural/suburban, 20 miles from Tucson AZ. Address: 12151 West Calle Madero. Asking price \$64,900 with 20 percent down. Realtor is Judie Martin, 602/883-8170 or 578-9672. (We're not associated with her, and she doesn't know we're putting this out.) To contact us, write Saguario Sisterland, 12101 West Calle Madero, Tucson AZ 85743. We're a land-trust community for disabled Lesbians and our allies. Thanks for publishing this.



And from Oregon: *Cabbage Lane* is still struggling to survive! At the last Cabbage Lane meeting, we decided to go ahead and try to save her. This was not an easy decision, mainly because we don't know where the money is coming from. However, some money did come through, at the last minute, so we have just enough for the \$10,000 downpayment. We're quite excited at the prospect of saving Cabbage Lane for future generations of lesbians and children, and we need your help!!! We've had many ideas of what Cabbage Lane can ultimately be and we would very much like your input. We need to raise at least \$10,000 more within the next two years to insure keeping Cabbage in wimmin's hands. We are trusting that some wonderful wimmin will come forth to help Cabbage evolve into what she will become by doing fundraising, attending Cabbage Lane meetings, visiting and living on the land.

For those of you interested in living at Cabbage, one woman still lives there and there are two cabins at Cabbage with dry wood and stoves. We hope that more wimmin will come to live at Cabbage and help her realize her full potential. The future very much depends on what kind of energy and financial support we can receive from our communities. Cabbage Lane is the oldest wimmin's land in Southern Oregon, she has spotted owls, and Pacific Yew trees. Please help us save this land!! Write to us!!! Cabbage Lane P.O. 143, Wolf Creek, Oregon 97497 (please send SASE).



Hazel Payne sends this: My partner and I recently had a union ceremony. While my two sons said they planned to attend the ceremony, they were not going to allow their children to attend, saying they didn't want children exposed to a "gay wedding." If that's the case, I said, I don't want you (the sons) there either. I had, however, already bought tickets for an event to which I was planning to take the eldest son's daughter. The eldest son agreed to let his child attend the event and brought her to my house. As long as he was going to be there, however, the eldest son wanted to "have a little talk" with me. What follows is a letter to my two sons in response to the conversation

between the eldest son and me that afternoon, a couple of hours before we were to leave for the event described below:

Last night Linda and I went to a memorial service celebrating the lives of two African-American poets, Pat Parker and Audre Lorde. These women were also teachers activists who dedicated their lives to overcoming prejudice in all its ugly forms, to issues involving freedom of choice and social justice. They both died of breast cancer, one in 1989 and the other last November. The lives of these incomparable women were celebrated last night by other African Americans, by Asian Americans, by Hispanic Americans, by Native Americans and by White Americans, by men and women both gay and straight. The many children at this event reflected all colors of the rainbow. The celebration was grand and the music rocked and shook the church; people clapped, shouted, danced and cried. There was Native American and African dancing, poetry, song, drumming and ritual. The four-hour event was a most moving tribute to two women who had the courage of their convictions. They were both Lesbians.

To paraphrase the words spoken in my house [a couple of hours before the memorial service], [my son] said that if I took [my granddaughter] to any "gay events" he would not allow his child to go anywhere with me again. I told him that if he truly felt that way, he may as well take [my granddaughter] home now. He did.

Thirty-seven years ago I married a black man - your father. My biological family crawled out of the woodwork to condemn my choice. My mother took legal action to try and annul the marriage, to take away my baby, for I was pregnant with [my oldest daughter]. My father instituted proceedings against your father for statutory rape. My Uncle Erroll came to the office of the apartment complex where we lived and said terrible things to me, shouting about the sin I had committed, of what I was doing to "the family," that the blood of my unborn child was "tainted," and that I was bound straight for hell. I have had rocks and shit thrown on my front door. I've been called a "nigger lover" while walking down the street with my husband. I could not hold my husband's hand in public for fear of reprisal. I was turned away from my grandmother's funeral because my aunts and uncles would not allow my biracial daughters to enter the cemetery. I've been refused employment because of the color of both my husband and my children. I've been spit on, stared at, talked about, cursed at and rejected because of my marriage to a black man. This marriage lasted for 18 years. Do you think I will now bow to prejudice, to bigotry, to someone else's "family values"? [Signed] Mom



Mary Ann Vorasky says: I went with my lover to see "The Crying Game." I thought that the film was very misogynist. The soldier is lured to his eventual death because he is attracted to a woman, and that woman has no heart, as the male characters see her -- they even say so. She is perhaps the shallowest character of the lot. And the one woman that is portrayed more in depth, a sensitive living soul with heart, is actually a man. Hmmm.

A heterosexual acquaintance recommended the film to me. When I told her what I saw in it, she disagreed completely, saying that the film really challenges conventional roles and relationships. When I asked her about the portrayal of the IRA woman, she said that she thought the IRA thing was just a backdrop for the real story between the transsexual and the heterosexual male. And now that I've been thinking about it further, I do find all of the IRA stuff to be very confusing. The "challenges" to convention some people seem to see in the film elude me, other than that love develops between Dil and a heterosexual male. The rest of the film doesn't add up to much at all, and I've been wondering what the filmmaker had in mind. Race, class, culture, and sexuality, as well as sex roles, and the spiritual state of humanity could have been addressed in the film, explored, commented on. But, as you said, instead the film was shallow. Too bad.

As for film's popularity...is it very big with the Lesbian and gay community? And what about the feminists? I would think it's probably most popular with transsexuals and the straight, artsy types, you know, "true liberals.!"

Before I go, I want to tell you that I was watching the news on Channel 4 last night at 10 pm and they did a blurb on the new attorney general, a woman. They ended the short report with "She's 54, single and childless." What do you think of that? I called in to complain that I thought it was sexist to close the piece with that summing up, but the guy who answered the phone defended the public's right to know! I wrote a letter to the station telling them what it is I objected to. I really do have more trouble talking about feminism with people than about being a Lesbian -- I mean, I run into more defensiveness in people, women and men.



[We often get requests for free copies of LU. Here's a sample letter from Susan White in Ontario]: I'm a "Lesbian Uprising" in a tiny rural community 100 km west of Ottawa, Ontario. My partner of 10 years and I subscribe to Deneuve which is where I saw your ad. I would like a free sample of your newsletter/calendar to read and decide if I want to subscribe. We live too far from Ottawa to visit our women's bookstore often so I'm not sure if it's available there. I am open to all new ideas and ideals so

I try to read all literature available to me as a Lesbian. Thanks.

♣ Announcements ♣

CARAL-North (California Abortion Rights Action League) is hiring pro-choice activists for a membership renewal campaign. CARAL is the only nonprofit, nonpartisan statewide organization dedicated to defending the right to safe and legal abortion. Call 546-7211. 300 Brannan, Suite 501, SF CA 94107.

Feminists for Animal Rights is a group of feminist, vegetarian women, with a vegan orientation, who are dedicated to ending all forms of animals abuse. FAR welcomes the support of any women interested in working to abolish the exploitation of animals and women, and in promoting the ideas of the group. There are branches in California, New York, Georgia, Minnesota, and Texas. For info on newsletters, teeshirts and extensive bibliography, call 212-866-6422, or write Box 694, Cathedral Station, New York, NY 10025. For local info call Jill at 776-9460.

Lavender L.E.A.F. celebrates its first anniversary. In operation in the San Francisco Bay Area since January, 1992, L.E.A.F. is an organization started by Lesbians to give financial aid to Lesbians with emergency survival needs. The LEAF already has a 1993 waiting list for Lesbians in need of help with food, electricity, rent/evictions to emergency health care bills. Their first year (1992) ended with donations given to nine Lesbians totalling over \$6500. In addition to giving money, and in response to the continued needs of Lesbians who are discriminated against by social service agencies, the LEAF has also begun a Lesbian food drive. The fund now offers both free food and money grants anonymously to any female-born Lesbian of poverty or working class background with current emergency needs. Although anyone can give to the fund, Lesbians of middle and upper class backgrounds are encouraged to contribute as an effort to reach the LEAF's long-term goal of diminishing the economic disparities among Lesbians. Response and inquiries to the LEAF have been overwhelmingly positive. Many Lesbians are glad to see a place to donate money where they know Lesbians will benefit. For more information about LEAF write to P.O. Box 20921, Oakland, CA 94620 or call 510/869-2531.

She Said is a woman-run business that produces feminist promotional materials such as bumperstickers, buttons, bookmarks, etc. For more info and sample designs write: She Said, 133 North Spring Street, Bellefonte PA 16823. 814/353-8389.



Tribad Productions announces an upcoming musical production, "Cinderella - The Real True Story," beginning a five-week run on April 9 at the Five Corners Theater in Petaluma. Playwright Cheryl Moch takes back the fairy tale for Lesbians everywhere by giving us ugly stepbrothers, queer courtiers, and an androgenous Cinderella who finds herself enchanted with...you guessed it!...the princess. Get in on the fun. There's still time to sign up for work behind the scenes (set building, lighting and sound tech, concessions, grips -- no experience necessary). Call 707-545-9806.

Last call for help with the G.L.O.E. show! If it's going to happen this year, they need a director or co-directors, writers, performers, stagehands, pianist and other musicians and other people with energy. Call Pat at 616-7000 by March 15 if you are willing to help make this a reality.

The San Francisco Women's Building is planning to paint a mural on the building's exterior to deliver a constant reminder of women's history and represent our contributions, community and coalitions. They want to hear women's ideas for the mural (should the women represented be only from the US? the world? who?) and request monetary support to complement the two grants already received. Write or call "Break the Silence Mural Project," c/o Miranda Bergman, SF Women's Building, 3543 18th Street #8, SF CA 94110. 431-1180.

Desi del Valle, a filmmaker associated with the Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, seeks financial contributions for CRUEL, now in production. If you are interested in and committed to supporting the voices of new artists, artists of color, women and independent filmmakers and want to see films done by individuals of color as opposed to films about communities of color, please contact her at Chula Pictures, 346 Ninth Street, SF CA 94103; phone 703-8654. (Checks to "Frameline/Cruel" are tax deductible as permitted by law.)

Nominations are open for the fifth annual Lambda Literary Awards which will be presented in Miami at a banquet on Friday, May 28 during the American Booksellers' Convention. Anyone can nominate books in 15 categories which include Lesbian fiction, nonfiction, mystery and poetry. Books must have been published in the US and have a 1992 copyright date. Info from Lambda Book Report, 1625 Connecticut Avenue NW Washington DC 20009. 202/462-7924.

Lesbian Seminar Series Topics: A two part Lesbian Seminar Series, focusing on Parenting (March 14) and Positive Sex and Sexuality (March 28) is being produced by the Pacific Center for Human Growth to provide timely

information and social opportunities for Lesbians in a safe, women-only space. Seminars were planned by Lesbians and will be facilitated by Bay area experts such as Isadora Alman, MFCC; Akaya Windwood; Cynthia W. Lubow, MFCC; Staci Haines; Janet Linder, LCSW; and Marni Hall, Ph.D. The events will be held from 4 to 7 pm at the Tea Spot Cafe, 2072 San Pablo Avenue in Berkeley. This series has been made possible, in part, by a grant from the Horizons Foundation - BACW Fund and the Tea Spot Cafe. The seminar location is accessible; donations are requested, but no woman turned away for lack of funds. No reservations are required except for child care. Call Jane Buerger at 510/548-8283 or Margaret Walker at 510/939-7711 for info.

Lesbians living with HIV: Your participation is needed in an interview study about how you deal with things day to day and what it has been like getting health care and other services you need. Participants receive \$30 for a two-hour interview with Pat Stevens, RN, Ph.D, a Lesbian nurse who is doing post-doctoral research. Confidentiality and anonymity assured. Lesbians of color especially welcome. 664-6823.

Lesbians of Color Recovering from Alcohol Problems: Were you sexually abused as a child? Your participation is needed in an interview study about your experiences in dealing with trauma and getting health services to meet your needs. Participants must be at least 21, self-identified as Lesbian, off drugs/alcohol for at least one year; aware for at least six months of having been sexually abused in childhood. The study involves three 90-minute interviews with Joanna Hall, RN, Ph.D., a Euro-American Lesbian nurse. Participants will receive \$20 per interview and confidentiality and anonymity are assured. Call Joanne Hall and leave first name and number: 664-6823.

A monthly newsletter, Women and Recovery is being published for women in all aspects of recovery and for professionals providing services to these women. Sample for \$1; 12 issues for \$24. Women to Women Communications, PO Box 161775, Cupertino CA 95016.

Women of Power, the high-quality magazine of feminism, spirituality and politics, is putting out a crucial appeal for help to meet their enormous financial burdens. The costs of paper, printing, postage, etc. have risen astronomically making further publication nearly impossible without our help. If you would like to support this extremely worthwhile women's publication, subscribe for yourself or a friend, send support in any amount to Women of Power, PO Box 2785, Orleans MA 02653.

Submissions are being sought for Giri Power: Young Women Speak Out Through Writing. Young women

ages 13-19 are being asked to submit journal entries, poetry and nonfiction about their lives. Write Hillary Carlip, PO Box 2635, Hollywood CA 90078. 213/465-6104.

Community United Against Violence (CUAV) announces an opening for the position of Executive Director. Full-time senior management position in this Lesbian/gay nonprofit agency. College degree in public or nonprofit administration, business, public health and/or social work with minimum of four years responsibility with a nonprofit organization is also required. Salary \$32,000-38,000 with full benefits. Resume and cover letter to Search, CUAV, 973 Market, Suite 500, SF CA 94103. Deadline March 15, 1993.

Sisters are getting pissed! Street Patrol is looking for a few sisters to stop queer-bashing, verbal abuse and attacks as they patrol the Castro late at night. Street Patrol is not a gang, not cops, not vigilantes. They deter and de-escalate violence and intervene in gay bashings. They train together every week in self-defense, street fighting, de-escalation techniques and first aid. Call for information 985-7423.

Friends, colleagues and former clients of E. Kitch Childs will gather for a celebration of her life on Saturday, March 27. Kitch, a Black Lesbian feminist psychotherapist practiced in Oakland from 1972-90. The last three years were spent almost exclusively with women and men of color who had AIDS. She relocated to Amsterdam. On January 10, at age 55, she died unexpectedly in her sleep. The gathering will be at the West Berkeley Public Library, 1125 University Avenue from noon - 2:30.

♣ Articles ♣

Women Pay More Tax (Janet, a tax preparer) If you randomly selected 100 women and 100 men, single with no dependents, each earning \$25,000 per year, and examined their tax returns, you would discover the women pay about 30 percent more tax. Why? Because we're raised to be rule-followers, afraid of being naughty and doing something wrong. Have you ever cheated on your taxes? No, you say? Think again. Have you ever broken the tax law by failing to report some of your income? Remember the summer of 1991 when you replaced the washers in a friend's leaky faucet? Then she lent you her sleeping bag for a camping trip. Did you report the fair market value (FMV) of the sleeping bag rental on your 1991 tax return as bartering income? Did she report the FMV of your plumbing work on her tax return? No? Ah, partners in crime, according to US tax law. Of course this example is too petty and widespread for the IRS to investigate, but the tax law is full of absurd, complicated rules like this.

That's why, for most people, "cheating on taxes" means "doing something I might get caught at."

Tax planning: Your 1993 federal refund could be hundreds or even thousands of dollars larger. (With a little "tax hindsight" your 1992 refund could be bigger than you expect.) Look at your W-2 form -- FIT or federal withholding. Probably thousands of dollars were withheld. Wouldn't you like to decide what social projects to fund with that money? The easiest way for most wage earners to increase their tax refunds is to start a small business on the side. What do you spend most of your free time doing anyway? Reading, dancing, protesting, meeting, meditating, bicycling? Maybe you're already in the business of writing, painting signs, giving dance lessons, doing home repair, or healing. What do you spend most of your money on? Travel, dining out, books, rent, sports equipment, your car or computer? All of these are valid business expenses if they are connected with your new business. The secret is to figure out how you already spend your money and then turn this into business expenses.

How do you "start a business" for tax purposes? For a sole proprietor with no employees, it's easy. Just open a separate checking account, and write checks from this account for all your business expenses. Start with a few hundred dollars and then put in more money as needed. You can use your check register as your entire business bookkeeping system if you always write down the date, the purpose of the expense and to whom the check was written. Deposit all your "business receipts" into this account and also make a note of the FMV of any bartering income you receive. At the end of the year, you'll have the records necessary to fill out the Schedule C "Profit or Loss from Business" which you'll attach to your Form 1040.

Say you earned \$25,000 at your office job in 1992. In your free time you started a sign painting business. You opened a business checking account and put in \$5,000 of your own money over the year. You have \$200 of business receipts (reasonable for the first year) and you wrote checks for \$4,900 of business expenses. Your Schedule C would show a loss of \$4,700 which would reduce your tax bill by \$705. If you're single with no dependents and took the standard deduction of \$3,600 (for under 65 and not blind), your taxable income would have been \$19,100 for a tax bill of \$2,869. You probably had around \$3,000 of federal tax withheld. So, if you had not started the business, your refund would have been only \$131. Because of filing the Schedule C, you'll get \$836 back. Hey, maybe you'll do better planning for 1993 and have \$10,000 worth of business expenses and get a refund of over \$1,500.

Food and rent: But how can you spend that much on your business when most of your money goes for food and rent? Easy, first make sure all your meals out are for making business contacts. Your grocery receipts for entertaining clients at home are a business expense. When you're out of town overnight on business in a high-cost area like Sacramento, Cleveland or New York, you can take a \$34 a day standard meal allowance, even if you eat only yoghurt and bananas. In other areas, \$26 is the standard meal allowance. (You can deduct only 80 percent of your actual expenses, or of the standard meal allowance.) For lodging, at your friend's bed and breakfast, a campground, or a hotel, you need a receipt or a cancelled check. If you're renting a two-room apartment and using one room exclusively for business, you can take half your rent and utilities as a Schedule C expense as long as more than half your work is done in that office. (Attach Form 8829 to your return.) Just remember, the IRS cares very little about reality; they care a lot about receipts and records. Even the simplest records will do. Reconstructing records at the end of the year is acceptable.

Warning: If you start a business to save on your taxes, there are two things to watch out for. (1) If you show a loss on any particular Schedule C for more than two out of five years, the IRS could question whether you are genuinely trying to make a profit. So, after two years of big losses, start showing a small profit for three years -- or else close down that business: Then start a new, different business to show a loss. (Just be sure to pick a different business code number from the back of the Schedule C for each new business. It's best to open separate checking accounts.) (2) After two years, you'll probably be thinking like a businessperson and you might actually start to make a profit.

Itinerant political activists: Common wisdom says you can't itemize deductions unless you're buying a home. Actually, job hunting expenses and temporary living expenses when you're away from your tax home can add up fast. Maybe you went to Oregon for six months to work against Amendment 9 and had a temporary job while there. Your meals (six months x \$26/day x 80% = \$3,380), your rent (six months x \$400 = \$2400), and your driving (2,000 miles x .28 = \$460) give you temporary job expenses of \$6,240. Already you've beat the \$3,600 Standard Deduction. Charitable contributions of \$500 for copying, phone and postage, noted on your calendar, plus \$500 for clothes donated to Community Thrift. Add four "job hunting" flights at \$300 each to see your sweetie and make a few job-hunting phone calls. List the raingear, gloves and steel-toed boots bought for \$400 for your Oregon tree-planting job. Don't forget the \$500 state income tax withheld, \$100 ad valorem tax on your car, and \$200 tax preparation fee. Suddenly these Form 2106

"Employee Business Expenses" and other Schedule A itemized deductions give the \$25,000 wage earner a \$756 larger refund check.

Your patriotic duty: Getting a large tax refund and using it for a worthy cause is the socially-responsible thing to do. The tax collection process is an adversary system in the US. Congress makes the tax laws. The job of the IRS is to collect as much tax as possible without breaking the law. They do it mostly by intimidating and confusing people. Your job as a citizen is to be sure you pay only your fair share. Which you do by planning your expenses to be legitimate deductions.

What about an audit: Under two percent of federal tax returns get audited every year, so chances are you'll be audited once in your working life, no matter what you do. You'll probably pay around \$2,500 in extra taxes when you're audited. On a \$25,000 income audit, IRS is going to either write to you or call you into the office. They're not going to come out to see if that sign-painting shop in your second room is actually sometimes used as a dining room. In an office audit, your auditor is likely to be a friendly, fair-minded female. Why worry if your aggressive tax planning doubles your chances for an audit? Are you willing to pay \$50,000 or more over the next 25 years in unnecessary taxes just to avoid one unpleasant day with the IRS? If your answer is yes, then the IRS has you right where they want you. Cowering in a corner, paying extra tax, and unfortunately most of the people in that corner are women.

[Note: Check the Bay Times for Enrolled Agents or accountants to help you. Or call the IRS at 1-800-829-3676 to ask for the free publication 17, full of tax-saving ideas.]



Another Day, Another 69 Cents (excerpted by Gail de Rita from information in Los Angeles Times) - I was oh, so surprised to learn that working women in California earn only 69 cents for every dollar their male colleagues bring in, reflecting a chronic disparity that touches every corner of the labor force. The statistics came from a Los Angeles Times computer analysis of newly released US Census Bureau figures for 1989.

Particularly glaring is the pay gap in high-profile professions (medicine, dentistry) where women make just over half as much as men. Even in female dominated-fields, it's a man's world when it comes to pay. In elementary school teaching, women have outnumbered men for generations. But while the average female grade school teacher earned \$29,299 in 1989, the average male teacher

took home \$35,273. This state gap is roughly in line with national figures which show American women earning 70 cents on the dollar.



Say It! Women Get Aids (Melissa Bernstein and Patty Tompkins, reprinted with permission from December 1992 *La Gazette*) - *How many people are infected with HIV worldwide and how many are women?* Ten million people are infected worldwide and one-third (or 3,333,333) are women; 19,796 have been diagnosed.

From what segment of the population is the burden of AIDS moving to? From white men toward women of color (74 percent of HIV-infected women are of color and 26 percent are white...so approximately a three-to-one ratio).

How long does the average Latina have from time of diagnosis to death? 45 days, or a little over one menstrual cycle!

Which bodily fluids contain enough HIV for transmission? Blood, semen, vaginal secretions, and breast milk.

What are the best barrier methods for safe Lesbian sex? For oral sex on a vagina use plastic wrap over labia and anus; Fisting or finger play use latex surgical or veterinary glove; Mouth-anus contact use plastic wrap; condoms on dildos and do not share sex toys. Clean sex toys with hydrogen peroxide or bleach between uses.

What are different methods for keeping drug injection safe from HIV infection? Cleaning needles and equipment twice with bleach and then twice with water, or call San Francisco Prevention Point for needle exchange information at 861-6710

If a woman tests positive, are there treatments or is AIDS a death sentence? At present AIDS virus can be deadly without early intervention which is the key to treatment. Being tested is in a woman's best interest. The treatments for AIDS are diverse. There are nutritional therapies, Chinese medicines, monitoring CD4 or T-cell counts, up-to-date vaccinations, prophylactic therapies, emotional support, and mind/body medicine practices.

Does AIDS kill women or men more quickly? AIDS kills women twice as quickly as men due to many factors.

If I am monogamous for seven years, am I at risk? Yes because HIV can live in the body for up to ten years and show no symptoms. The latency period is an important consideration in determining your risk.

Why do 63 percent of women die of HIV complications without being diagnosed? An AIDS diagnosis is determined by the presence of certain opportunistic infections, cancers, and t-cell count based on the symptoms of men. Without an AIDS diagnosis, HIV-infected women are denied housing, drug trials, treatment, services, insurance, and disability benefits.

What are women's symptoms? Persistent yeast infection, vaginal sores and ulcers, cervical cancer, recurrent pelvic inflammatory disease, abnormal pap smear, extreme weight loss over a short period of time, chronic headaches, and/or severe fatigue.

Why question the Center for Disease Control? Because their studies exclude women. For example, the CDC study "Adult/Adolescent AIDS Cases by Sex, Exposure Category, and Race/Ethnicity" list women's AIDS cases as: Injection Drug User 12,113 (50 percent); Hemophilia/Coagulation Disorder 41 (0 percent); Heterosexual 8,524 (35 percent); Receipt of Blood Transfusion 1,829 (7 percent); Other/Undetermined 1,829 (8 percent). So who are the other/undetermined? Perhaps bisexuals and Lesbians. Maybe that is why lesbians have "no risk" or "low risk." In the same survey for men the first category is "men having sex with men"...hmm.

If a pregnant woman tests positive should she terminate the pregnancy? AIDS is a health issue, not a moral issue. Studies on likelihood of transmission through pregnancy are inadequate and inconclusive. According to some statistics there is a 30 percent chance the baby will be born HIV infected, but education is the key! A woman has the right to be educated on all her options, and then it is her choice and her right to decide.

Where can I call to get questions answered? San Francisco AIDS Hotline at 863-2437 for information between 9 am and 9 pm weekdays, 11 am to 5 pm weekends; or the San Francisco AIDS Nightline at 668-2437 for information, referrals, and emotional support between the hours of 5 pm and 5 am.

How much more likely is a woman to get HIV from a man than a man from a woman? Eighteen times more likely. The CDC says that "by the year 2000 the number of women with HIV infection in the United States will equal that of men." It doesn't have to happen; educating women is the key!



Women and AIDS Update (info from Herland Resources) - Finally, after years of protest by activists that the official definition of AIDS discriminated against women

by excluding the opportunistic diseases which affect only women, the CDC has agreed to adopt an expanded definition of AIDS. This definition is particularly important because persons living with HIV are not eligible for many medical, financial and other services until they have a diagnosis of AIDS. With the previously limited AIDS definition, many women with HIV never met the criteria for AIDS and never became eligible for many needed services even though the disease ultimately took their lives.

The expanded definition adopted January 1 of this year added an estimated 40,000 Americans infected with HIV to the status of fullblown AIDS. The broader definition, which includes cervical cancer, pulmonary tuberculosis and recurrent pneumonia, will bring AIDS services to many more women than were previously eligible. Additionally, a large boost in the number of cases will come from the addition of a fourth indicator -- a lowered level of the CD4 immune cells (or T-cells) to 200 per cubic milliliter of blood. The CDC expects the policy will increase the national caseload by about 75 percent in 1993, from an average of about 50,000 annually to 90,000 new cases in 1993.



Time for a New Time (Jennifer Rycenga) - A wise friend once told me that, while the news media is horribly biased, inaccurate and incomplete in its coverage of authentic human life, joy, and suffering...even so, the newspapers and print media in general do give us an insight into our historic moment, and what the issues are. Therefore, I knew that when I opened Time magazine to read their cover story on "The Chemistry of Love" (2/15/93), that they would feel obliged at least to mention Lesbians and gays. I was not disappointed, but I was infuriated.

The article did not get off to a good start with me, since it prominently features a National Geographic-style photo spread which exoticizes "foreign" "others" with big glossy pictures of people from distant cultures dressing in "strange" costumes for the sake of love. This racism, orientalism and exoticism is simply tasteless and inexcusable, even setting aside the fact that it implied universal heterosex. But to proceed to the treatment of heterosexuals, which is even more complex, it follows a paragraph on Oxytocin, a chemical that plays a lead role in labor contractions and that is not "implicated in love." The authors of the article then finally acknowledge Lesbian and gay existence in this give-and-take paragraph:

One mystery is the prevalence of homosexual love. Although it would seem to have no evolutionary purpose, since no children are produced, there is no

denying that gays and Lesbians can be as romantic as anyone else. Some researchers speculate that homosexuality results from a biochemical anomaly that occurs during fetal development. But that doesn't make romance among gays any less real. "That they direct this love toward their own sex," says Walsh, "does not diminish the value of that love one iota." (p.51)

What nonsense is this? Having said that Lesbians and gays are a "mystery" with "no evolutionary purpose" who have resulted from "a bio-chemical anomaly," (conveniently unmarked) scientists (who have now marked our people) generously concede that we have worthy human feelings. It is gestures like this that reaffirm my rather violent distaste for assimilation. Apparently, if Lesbians and gays are to be found acceptable, it will be on the terms of heterosexuals and heterosexism. Yuck! One should also notice that the "speculation" that we result from "bio-chemical anomalies" serves no function in the argument. It is just placed there as a touch of gratuitous homophobia.

Furthermore, they have reduced the material world to cause and effect throughout the article, which now results in their viewing evolution as strictly cellular. Intelligence, creativity and the creation of human culture -- as evolutionary determinants, as biological, as dynamic -- are elided unconsidered. Whatever Lesbian and gay love means to these scientists, it does not have the species-significance of the truly important matter -- matter which can be directly traced genetically. Philosophically, there are few ideas that rankle me more than the idea of biology being immutable, especially when everything living is marked by constant change on an immediate physical level. It seems worth remembering that "creativity generally, rather than procreation exclusively" (Z Budapest, The Holy Book of Women's Mysteries, Vol. II, 77) is the trait that has carried us to where we are, as a species. And, Lesbians have given the world its Life, its Energy, some of its Children, and a great deal of Love.

What to do about articles like this? I'm tired of writing pointless letters to the editor, especially when only one of five that I write gets published. I've taken to e-mail, to openly laughing at these things in public forums, to damning with horror and anger, to boycotting, to activism. It is up to us to create the new world or, as Adrienne Rich says, to be among those "who age after age, perversely/with no extraordinary power/reconstitute the world." ("Natural Resources")



Activist's Report (Ann Menasche) - One hundred pro-choice supporters, over half from the Bay Area attended a rally in Redding on January 30 to celebrate the re-opening of the Feminist Women's Health Center there. The Center had been firebombed and burned to the ground in June, 1992. In response to an increase in terrorist attacks against abortion clinics in Northern California and southern Oregon, (eight attacks during 1992 alone) the San Francisco Area Pro-Choice Coalition has launched a petition drive to demand a serious government investigation into these crimes. The petition states, "We call upon the proper authorities to recognize these acts as part of a concerted campaign of terrorism, to conduct thorough investigations into these crimes, and to bring the perpetrators to justice." If you wish to get involved in this petition campaign, contact the Coalition at 255-1989 or call Therese Wilson at Planned Parenthood 441-7858.

Meanwhile, CFIDs (Chronic Fatigue Immune Dysfunction Syndrome) patients are becoming increasingly organized around the state. On February 6, 1993, seventy-five people, over 90 percent women, held a CFIDs rally in front of a hotel in Sacramento where an infectious disease medical conference was meeting. Organized by grassroots CFIDs support groups, the demonstrators were demanding public recognition, research and treatment for this devastating disease. The gathering got good coverage on the local Sacramento television station, and a reporter from the Sacramento Bee attended the press conference that occurred following the rally. Three representatives of the new Bay Area group, CAN (the CFIDs Action Network) were also in attendance. CAN is beginning to make plans for a CFIDs Awareness Month, including a local rally that could draw in a number of groups concerned about women's health issues. If you'd like to help, call Pamela at 386-2663.



Artichokes -- Just for Fun! (Jennifer Rycenga) - I would like to give my Lesbian-feminist analysis of the artichoke. The artichoke is not only a Lesbian food, it is the only irrefutable proof of the existence of goddess(es), and of the Lesbian orientation of the universe.

The Artichoke: Point One - This vegetable is not intuitively a food product (compared to apples, for instance). The artichoke takes some perseverance to choose and eat.

The Artichoke: Point Two - The artichoke is able to attack invaders and defend itself against those who would be overhasty and take liberties with her. One must take care around artichokes, not because they are too delicate or fragile, but because they are autonomous and strong.

The Artichoke: Point Three - Eating an artichoke calls for immediate physical involvement. It is a finger food par excellence. Eating an artichoke also calls for intense concentration. It is an all-consuming pleasure.

The Artichoke: Point Four - An artichoke opens up to you as you eat it. It already looks like a flower, and we all know what flowers look like as they open up. Yes?

The Artichoke: Point Five - When you have taken pleasure with each individual leaf surface, you have reached her heart. And she gives that with joy.

The Artichoke: Point Six (the Clincher) - The artichoke tastes like nothing else; it is a unique taste sensation. This correlates perfectly with Lesbian love making.

The Artichoke - Related Angles - They grow near San Francisco, in Castroville, the "Artichoke Capital of the World." They taste best when they are all steamed up. They have a nest of something that looks like hair right when you are getting down into the heart of them. Enjoy your artichokes, gyny! Another food that must be entered on the list is the MANGO. This is another finger food: very juicy, sticky, and sweet - a luscious treat. Now wanting a snack, I sign off.



Women Under Attack from the Far Right (Sky) - My life as a Lesbian is profoundly affected by the christian extreme right's attempt to gain religious domination over the political and social life of my state [Oregon] and country. As women declare the month of March "Women's History Month," I carefully look at the challenges the right poses to women's existence regardless of labels of "straight," "bi," or "Lesbian."

Why do non-Lesbians care about what is happening to Lesbians? Because "Lesbian" is what straight and bi women are called when they do not conform to the standards set by the male dominant society. I think it is important to remind ourselves the vision the right holds is of a nation ruled by a god who is literally defined as male and white. The right would have us turn back the clocks to early twentieth century where women, people of color, and people who practice religions other than christianity "knew their place" as defined by a narrow interpretation of the bible. Gay and Lesbian people would be set apart as non-human in the eyes of society. Women's choice over their own bodies would be denied. Women would lose control over their economic life. Women could once again become "property" of men.

The most recent attacks, such as Measure Nine in Oregon, directed at Lesbians and gays are highly charged, passionate attempts to focus on the "morality" of being gay. Behind the flare of emotionalism is a larger motive to gain control of the public agenda by the religious right. The dismantling of civil rights and the halting of the women rights movement are at the base line of the extreme right's strategy.

As a woman-identified-woman, I have lived through a year of fear unlike any other year in my life I can remember. As a woman, I live constantly aware of the danger posed by the dominant society, but Measure Nine took me far beyond "normal" fears. Lesbians live daily with death threats, fear of loss of job, fear of injury to loved ones and anxiety about our futures. Our meeting places are vandalized, our bodies attacked, grotesque male voices leave telephone messages telling us "OCA is number one, you are going to die, queer!" Some of us have been killed. Many of us are ill with stress disorders. Do we wonder why?

Women's resources and finances are drained as a result of this attack. We poured money and time into defeating Measure Nine -- and rightly so -- but at the expense of compelling social issues such as violence against women, breast cancer research, joblessness, children's issues, homelessness and women with AIDS. Our society is experiencing massive social change with women in the position to take leadership if we so choose to use our power. The recovery of our battered selves and the rebuilding of our resources needs to begin now.

March is a good month for growth. Let's take nature's cue, and spring forth rejoicing in our strength and abilities. Let us women come together and establish an inclusive society created to further the well-being of all of its members, not a selected few with limited vision.



The Joys of Sappho and Other E-Mail Adventures (Sue Van Hattum) - If you have a computer and a modem (about \$60 these days), you can be part of an international community of women, talking about Lesbian issues. It's called Sappho, and it's a Lesbian-oriented, women-only electronic mailing list (more explanation coming...). Some of the women on Sappho live in small towns where they know of no other Lesbians. Many are in college, many work at high-tech companies, some are disabled, a few are straight or married, most are Lesbian or bi, a few are transsexual, most are progressive. Conversations on Sappho include women from Denmark, Finland, England, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand. We argue, gossip (I heard on Sappho that Janis Ian wrote 'Jessie' for a

woman), lobby each other to take action for Lesbian and feminist causes, talk (write) about our joys and heartbreaks, ask for advice, and make friends. Some of us even find lovers on Sappho.

I do phone support for IGC (Institute for Global Communications), which runs PeaceNet and EcoNet, a computer network that people can call into (making a local call) from all over the country. They can read information on environmental and peace and social justice issues, post their own information, discuss, ask questions, whatever. That all happens in what we call conferences (on other systems, they may be called forums, boards or newgroups). Each user also has her own private mail. So I can write electronic mail messages (email) to anyone on our system, or on any other computer network that connects up with ours.

Most computer networks are connected to the Internet, which began as a network of university computer systems. IGC is part of the Internet, so our users can send email to most people who use email. Many systems don't have anything like our conferences, so "mailing lists" developed as a way for a group of people to discuss some common interests. Once you join an electronic mailing list, any email sent to the list address is sent on to your email account. (Picture a journal that anyone in the group can write in, and which you can read at any time.)

Six years ago, a woman started a mailing list called Sappho to discuss Lesbianism. It quickly became women-only. Now over 500 women from numerous countries participate. Each time someone sends a message to the list, it goes to a computer at MIT, which sends it on to the 500 subscribers. It takes from a few minutes to a number of hours for a message to be delivered from the original computer system it was sent from to its recipients around the world. I'd been on Sappho for almost six months when the The Great Bi Debate brewed up again. Someone I'd admired was making anti-bi comments that made it clear to me she didn't understand. I was taking the day off from work for my birthday, and sat down and wrote ten pages of impassioned response. I wanted to respond to everything, the way I would with a letter from a good friend. Well, after all that effort, I got almost no response. I was hurt at first, but I learned that it works better to write short notes, focusing on one or two points, as in conversation. During the next Great Bi Debate, I did that, and participated in a conversation that felt very healing to me.

Sappho is one of the most accepting Lesbian communities I've ever been a part of. Some women are outrageous flirts on Sappho, some are tireless political organizers, some are thought-provoking philosophers, some are

particularly kind (and unfortunately, some like to start a fight). Whatever the reason, after I'd read the comments back and forth for just a few weeks, some of the names began to stand out. Some of the women writing on Sappho began to be people I wanted to meet. When one of those women has travelled to SF from far away, we (the Bay Area sapphites) have arranged a dinner or a brunch and gotten together to meet her - and each other. And even though many of us are meeting for the first time, we often feel like old friends. One of the discussions currently happening on Sappho is about being mistaken for a man: what it feels like, how people ignore the largest breasts if your hair's short enough, wild stories, hassles, and the humor of it all.

If you'd like to connect, join any online service that exchanges email for free with Internet systems. (See below for information on joining IGC.)

To join IGC, call 442-0220.

Rates: \$15 signup fee, \$10 monthly fee (includes one hour online time), \$3 hourly fee for local users, \$10/hour peak, \$5/hour off peak for nonlocal users. You can also use your IGC account to send faxes (within the US, faxes are \$.30 for the first page, \$.23/page after that). And there are conferences and mailing lists on every topic imaginable.

"Claire of the Moon" (Review by Ann Menasche) - There was no way I would have missed "Claire of the Moon," the first Lesbian feature film to come out since "Desert Hearts." So, despite the negative reviews and dire warnings I had received from Lesbians I respect, three of us - my partner, a friend, and I - caught a Sunday matinee.

Without question, this is a mediocre film. Much of the dialogue is stilted and character development is essentially nil. Claire seemed to me to be the only character who was somewhat believable; the other straight women were total caricatures. One wonders why a Lesbian film-maker (yes, Nicole Conn is one of us) would wish to trivialize and mock other women, especially other women writers, like that. It is hard to imagine a group of male writers receiving such treatment.

As for the main Lesbian character, Noel, she is the stereotypical uptight, sexually repressed, lonely, tragic figure, so stiff that it is hard, at first, to imagine her being sexual with anybody. She is, in some ways, similar to the disturbed Lesbians that frequent the pages of turn-of-the-century sexologists' texts, but she is like no real Lesbians that I know. Rather than exuding Lesbian pride, Noel is

apologetic, defensive, almost haunted -- her Lesbianism is a "turn of the dice." It is certainly not the joy of loving a woman that draws her to such a life. There is no joy; everybody in this film, gay or straight, is miserable, boozing heavily throughout. And despite the occasional psycho-babble about disturbed childhoods and some quasi-"political" rhetoric, we have no idea why, since we never get to know these characters as human beings.

The problem was not, as some reviewers have stated, that this was a "coming out" story, but rather its superficial and stereotyped treatment of the subject. Claire's "coming out," if that's what it is, does not involve any meaningful confrontation with the issues that we all, at one time or another, must face -- disapproval from parents, employers, friends, etc., and our own fears of being different. Rather, this complex process is presented in exclusively sexual terms.

Though the intimacy possible between two women is talked about, we don't see any demonstration of it here. What we are shown instead is superficial contact, mostly while intoxicated, and lots of sex, most of which is heterosexual. The straight sex scenes, especially the sheer number of them, appeared to me to be totally superfluous, adding nothing to the story. I can only conclude that they were put in there for titillation purposes and to make this movie somewhat more acceptable to the mainstream.

Having said all that, however, I must acknowledge that the sexual tension between Claire and Noel toward the end of the movie culminating in the Lesbian love scene was very, very nice. All three of us found it highly erotic. (We were also relieved that the movie ended there, since we didn't really want to see what Claire would do in the morning.) We are all starved for Lesbian images. What a shame that a deeply moving film like "Fried Green Tomatoes," whose characters were real people, could not have been explicitly Lesbian, and contained love scenes such as these.

It should also be recognized that most movies out today are equally mediocre. That this movie was so badly panned by the Chronicle, for example (the reviewer even giving it a less favorable review than "Basic Instinct," the "Lesbian as axe-murderer" movie), may reflect somewhat of a double standard. Yet, we Lesbians expect more from our sister Lesbian authors and filmmakers than this. We are starved, it is true, but instead of crumbs, why aren't we being offered a whole meal? Our Lesbian lives are often rich and joyous; they are always multi-dimensional, even when we are suffering the pain and disappointment that is exacerbated by our oppression but is ultimately part of the human condition. Wouldn't it be wonderful if, for once,

the truth of our lives -- sexual and emotional, political and spiritual -- were presented on the silver screen?



Bay Area Dance Series (Gail de Rita) - At times when I especially despair of ever "fitting in," of always being an "outsider," an "other," along comes something that I can relate to, that validates my experiences, that makes me truly enthusiastic and delighted.

Such a thing is the 1993 Bay Area Dance Series, "to, from and with the community." The small but well-organized and creative staff of this event, now in its 8th year, has put together two months of "body politics" at Laney College that you will most certainly want to experience. Supporting and participating in women's art and culture, especially Lesbian-identified, is extremely important to me. It is one of the "glues" of my life. The Dance Series has gathered performers who are all exceptional, a large percentage are women. How fortunate we are to live in the Bay Area and be immersed in rich cultural diversity of this quality. We cannot take these artists for granted. As funding falls victim to economic realities, these small companies need our support -- just as our souls need their vision and beauty. I urge you to be a part of this socially and politically relevant art at Laney College Theater every weekend through April 11. To make it even more accessible, children accompanied by adults get in free. For further program or ticket information, call 510/889-9500.

Reflections of a Taiko Fan (San Jose Taiko, Bay Area Dance Series, February 14, by Gail de Rita) - San Jose Taiko (Japanese for "drum") was formed in 1973 by Asian-Americans searching for artistic expression of their unique experiences. Many of the members are *sansei* (third generation Japanese-Americans). Their Japanese roots are artfully intertwined with western and African influences. The profound respect for, and harmony with, each member of the group is apparent at all times while the performers are on stage.

To me, taiko is one of the consummate artforms: powerful, energetic, graceful, respectful, encompassing the entire spectrum of music and theater. In fact, much more than an artform, taiko constitutes a way of life for this group of mostly women. (Before the performance, I was amused to overhear a young boy exclaiming to his father, "There are only a coupla guys up there, Dad!") They adhere to a lifestyle of strenuous workouts in addition to practice on a myriad shapes, sizes and timbres of drums and other Japanese instruments.

Space constraints prevent going into great detail about each individual piece. The climate ranged from the surreal,

almost stark "Insight through Sound," to flashy during "Kisha" (simulating a train complete with whistles). Wearing "starship enterprise" outfits, there were at least three especially vibrant, dynamic and talented women drummers at the forefront for a number of selections. Their dexterity in endless combinations of drumming, dancing, running, jumping -- and smiling -- was indeed a joy to see. I left imbued with the elation they had shared, energized by the vigor of their performance, and much richer for the whole experience.

Axis Dance Troupe (part of Bay Area Dance Series, February 20, by Gail de Rita) - Axis is an Oakland-based dance company, comprised of people both with disabilities and non-disabled people. They push traditional concepts about dance and bridge the worlds between disabled and non-disabled.

When do you shed your tears?
I hope they are as healing as mine.
Telling the story of the world,
dancing the story of the world,
changing the story of the world.

These eight dancers (four in wheelchairs) will completely overturn any preconceived notions you have about "disability." And with finesse, creativity, and a sense of fun...no maudlin outlooks for them. They combine important messages with original live music, excellent costumes and lighting with an overall professionalism which can sometimes be lacking in smaller, more overworked companies.

Far and away, the most stirring number of the afternoon was "Tellings," the dance/poetry of how the dancers' disabilities occurred. Very poignant and very powerful. It was followed, after intermission, by the lighthearted "Navigational Nightmares," describing the perils of getting around in the city, at an airport, and in the supermarket by wheelchair. Maneuvering city streets adroitly was choreographed to "Mission Impossible" music, and the three dancers had a lot of fun with it. The last skit of the trio was a spoof pitting women with shopping carts against a woman in a wheelchair to the strains of "Blue Danube."

Laney College Theater has seating for at least 20 chairs. These places were all filled by people eager to have their lives validated, to see people like themselves on stage doing and being in celebration of life. Would that there were more opportunities such as this and a larger accessible venue for them.



European Feminists (Darca Morgan) - The fall of 1992 was one of the most incredible experiences of my life. Traveling usually is. I went to Europe for four months on a Women's Studies semester abroad through Antioch College in Ohio. We covered four countries: England, Germany, Poland, and Holland, moving locations approximately every two weeks.

There were lectures to go to, discussions scheduled with local activists, officials and academics. Battered women's shelters in Berlin, women speakers from Pakistan and Bangladesh, a Turkish cultural center in Berlin, Croat and Serb group for peace in Amsterdam, Lesbian separatists in Tübingen, Germany, women's bookstores, discos, Polish Farmers' Wives Union near Warsaw, female ex-inmates in London, the only women's studies department in the United Kingdom in Lancaster...the list goes on. Contacts came primarily from previous contacts made by trips that have gone in the past from Antioch. The program has been functioning for about ten years. There were 23 women students on the trip, a dedicated, high-energy program director, and her assistant. The joy of sister love and learning I felt could more easily be related in a dance or painting.

Poland: I visited an urban women's center in Warsaw. The organization is two years old and provides job training, social activities and support groups for women. It allows men to visit and talk with employees, but they are not welcome to any of the social services the organization provides. I was very curious about the response from the community to a women-only service. The two full-time employees said their community's reaction has been mixed. Many urban working class use the facilities, but no one has ever come in seeking help for alcohol, domestic violence or coming-out problems/support. Women mainly come to receive financial advice or job training. Some men in the community are outraged at being turned away from the door. The organization has continued to help increasing numbers of women since it opened.

The two full-time employees admittedly protest identifying as feminists. They see feminists as westernized first-world women in places like the US, Sweden, and England who are exclusive and cut off from most women. One of the employees remarked about feminism: "It seems like a club not everyone can be a member of -- not everyone can be good at it." But the Warsaw women's center says that Polish feminism is different. Polish feminists, says one employee are "...a good friend to other women and recognize their needs in the culture and in their lives."

Although the women did not identify themselves as feminists, I found that my definition of a feminist and these women's definition of a rare but acceptable feminist were

quite similar. For various reasons, there are great divides between women who basically hold the same values about the need for global women's networking and women's action and support within local communities. What keeps us apart? I think much has to do with privilege and what U.S. feminists choose to do with theirs. Attitudes similar to mine at the beginning of the trip about Polish people as backwards or less advanced in living, speaking, or thinking prevent women from learning what there is to learn from Polish feminists. Strong women are our greatest resource and inspiration. It was liberating for me to be able to see past my cultural prejudice and make connections with such familiar but different women.

Men's Place in Women's Space: I found out one week before I left that a male student had been chosen to go on the trip. Here is my response to traveling, eating, living, and learning about women with a man on the trip. It is possible for some men to study and comprehend women's oppression in academic and personal settings. They can even learn how to change this oppression. But they have no place in sisterhood groups of women designed to collect personal experience and transform it into a women's voice. Men may follow the direction of this voice, read the theories behind this voice, recognize examples of oppression and the righteous anger of women, but they have no place in women's space.

I would hope men do not burden women's space by questioning it, invading it or accusing it of something it is not -- manhating. Women's space exists for women's purpose and has little to do with men. Also I would hope that men recognize the importance of giving outside support to women's strength through political activity. This involves men confronting other men about how they oppress women. It also includes women's groups making political alliances with mens groups. We all have a common enemy -- white men's monopoly over money and power.

Conclusions: Originally, I set out to write about other countries. To draw conclusions about other countries. But I look at Europe through the eyes of an American. Somehow I had hoped I could be the "eye-witness unbiased reporter" in this paper. It's OK now that I'm not. I am more aware of my cultural biases in looking at different women's experience in their own cultures. The trip also helped to sharpen my ability to recognize sexism worldwide -- its different manifestations in women's lives according to class, race, sexual preference and other human oppressions. I noticed the extent to which US capitalism has made enough power (money) to rule the world, to buy governments, and arms in other wars far away from our own country. How corporations thrive off of the newly-free market in eastern bloc countries like eastern Germany

and Poland. McDonald's, Pizza Hut, Playboy. I'm aware of more positive US/European influences now too. I learned that Audre Lorde spent a significant amount of time in Berlin teaching about her experience as a African-American Lesbian. At the Shoko Cafe in Berlin, several African-American Lesbians I spoke with were familiar with Oakland for its large African-American population and history of community oriented politics introduced by the Black Panthers.

With new connections and new knowledge of fresh tactics of organization and tactics implemented by other feminists in other countries I have a new vitality and inspiration to do action here, knowing some of my European sisters are working toward similar victories over patriarchy, monarchy and white supremacy.

More than I had thought, what I do in my own back yard does affect the rest of the world. Given the global networks that exist, I can also direct women's strength and power to shine on me, to fuel my fight at home. I've read theories, written a lot in my journal, talked a lot, and now I'm impatient. I've drawn an enormous long-winded breath of theory for four months, my lungs are full, and I'm about to breathe fire. I've confirmed all my suspicions about myself on this trip. I'm a guerilla activist at heart. A civil disobedient. Perhaps a budding arsonist!

♣ Lesbi-End Notes ♣

by Gail de Rita

The Oakland Museum, often the home of excellent exhibitions of interest to women and people of color, has done it again. "Songs of My People" is a stunning show of b/w photos documenting the experiences and lives of African Americans, as seen through the eyes of at least 40 photographers. Images include an enormous poster-size shot of three African-American women doctors in their scrubs and a delightful photo of an old woman mastering the hula hoop. Until March 7 and it's free.

I felt very honored to hear, and especially to meet, Rosa Parks on Saturday, February 13 when she appeared in the South Bay to help celebrate Black History month -- and her 80th birthday (February 4). This long-time political activist, whose refusal to surrender her seat on a Montgomery bus in the 50s, redirected the course of American history. She continues an active life in Detroit working with kids.

I loved that a study of 37 San Francisco Bay Area families focusing on children whose parents were openly Lesbian when they were born or adopted showed that the children were "quite average" (I doubt that!) and "did not suffer in social competence" as compared to children in a 1983

study of children in het families. The kids were also more likely to report feelings of both stress and well-being than other children, possibly because of having to deal with prejudice or having parents who encouraged them to share their feelings. (Assoc. Prof. Charlotte Patterson at University of Virginia)

And this tidbit from Baton Rouge: The leader of the Louisiana chapter of Operation Rescue, Kim Carmouche, is expected to resign (may have already) following a revelation that he owes more than \$13,000 in back child support. He could face up to three months in jail as well.

Despite a much-celebrated victory over guardianship in December of 1991, Karen Thompson and Sharon Kowalski still need help in order to live together. Kowalski remains in a long-term rehabilitation facility for people with brain injuries because there has not been enough money to pay for therapy and additional disability equipment for her. To date, legal fees exceed \$200,000 and the equipment will cost another \$41,000. To send a contribution, write to the Karen Thompson Legal Fund, 3070 Fulton Circle, Clearwater MN 55320.

Have you heard about Dolly Downs, a pigtailed blonde doll resembling a child with Down's syndrome, which went on the market in December for about \$25. Dr. John Lukens and Kathleen Lukens hope the doll will not only affirm the identities of children with Down's Syndrome but will also teach children without severe disabilities to be more tolerant of those who are disabled.

According to the Animals' Agenda, a survey of shelters for battered women around Vermont revealed a rise in battering complaints during the hunting season.

Lambda Legal Defense, the national Lesbian and gay rights legal advocates, plans to open a second regional office in Chicago in May. The national office is in New York; the first regional office was opened in Los Angeles in 1990.

Here women's newspaper for the Binghamton NY women's community regularly prints a "consumer guide to men," a compilation drawn from published reports of violence toward women and children by men which is reprinted as a "public service and a reminder of the violence that is done to us in this community."

California Assemblywoman Barbara Friedman is sponsoring AB 3410 which would add two cents to the price of a pack of cigarettes to fund breast cancer research and programs.



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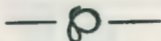
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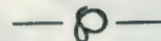
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 BAY AREA CAREER WOMEN


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From San Jose to Sonoma, San Francisco to Modesto - every Friday of the year there's a BACW Thank Goodness It's Friday gathering. Ask about best restaurants, must-see sights and ways to get around the Bay in a safe, festive setting.

You don't have to be a member to 'TGIF'. But you'll want to consider it when you experience the world's largest lesbian organization. More than 45 events monthly. Something for everyone.

Membership provides discounts to events, the monthly activity list *Coming Attractions* and our high quality newsletter *Uncommon Voices*. All are welcome. Discounts for seniors and students. Information sent to you in confidence. Call the number below to ask the location of the TGIF in your area.

55 New Montgomery • San Francisco, CA 94105
 415/495-5393 




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Playful, safe, nurturing, creative multi-media (paint, clay, ect.) explorations into your Inner Child. Goddess Wild Woman, Creative Spirit. . . No art experience necessary. Materials provided. Lodging possible.

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 Artist/Therapist/
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 for Women

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WRITE FOR A FULL CATALOGUE
 G.I.A.
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M 001 111 389

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 1993

STOP THE WAR ON WOMEN!

WOMEN DEMONSTRATE

MONDAY, MARCH 8

GATHER AT 4:30 PM
JUSTIN HERMAN PLAZA
EMBARCADERO BART, SAN FRANCISCO

SPONSORED BY: THE INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ORGANIZING COMMITTEE '93, WOMEN'S ACTION COALITION (WAC), WOMEN AGAINST IMPERIALISM (WAI), PRAIRIE FIRE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE, AND WOMEN'S CHOICE CLINIC, OAKLAND.

ENDORSERS: ACT-UP SAN FRANCISCO WOMEN'S CAUCUS, BAY AREA CISPES, BACORR (BAY AREA COALITION FOR OUR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS), BAY AREA PLEDGE OF RESISTANCE, BERKELEY WOMEN IN BLACK, BREAK THE SILENCE MURAL PROJECT & ARTISTS' NETWORK, CENSA WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE, CLEARINGHOUSE ON FEMICIDE, COMMITTEE TO DEFEND REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS, FREEDOM NOW NETWORK, GABRIELA NETWORK (SOLIDARITY WITH WOMEN IN THE PHILIPPINES), IMMIGRANT WOMEN'S TASK FORCE, LESBIAN UPRISING!, MIDDLE EAST CHILDREN'S ALLIANCE, MOTHERTONGUE FEMINIST THEATER COLLECTIVE, MUIMBRAS, NATIONAL CLEARINGHOUSE ON MARITAL AND DATE RAPE, NATIONAL COMMITTEE TO FREE PUERTO RICAN POLITICAL PRISONERS AND P.O.W.S, NEWS AND LETTERS, NORMA JEAN CROY DEFENSE COMMITTEE, POLITICAL ECOLOGY GROUP, SFWAR (SAN FRANCISCO WOMEN AGAINST RAPE), SLUTS (SEMINARY LESBIANS UNDER THEOLOGICAL STRESS), UNITED COMMUNITIES FOR HUMAN RIGHTS, WOMEN'S HISTORY LIBRARY, THE WOMEN'S BUILDING, AND WOMEN'S NEEDS CENTER. (PARTIAL LIST)

Women, bring signs, banners, noisemakers, and bring your friends.
Come to a Prop Party! Childcare is available with 3 days advance notice.
For Disabled Access, Childcare, Prop Party dates and more info call 415-995-4735.

WOMEN CONTINUE TO RESIST



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

Herland TR
2312 NW 39th Street
Oklahoma City OK 73112

