

FOCUS

**A JOURNAL FOR
GAY WOMEN**

BOSTON DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS



DEC. '73

\$.50

December 1973

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FOCUS STAFF this issue: Judi (writing); Janine (editing); Laura Robin (writing, layout, typing); Geri Bidwell (production) Terry, Cathy, Jan, Wendy Bauman, Ginny. Authors of signed articles are credited below.

DEADLINE for January issue: Dec. 17

FOCUS welcomes contributions from everyone. If you want back whatever you send us, please include a stamped, self-addressed envelope. Let us know possible titles and how you want to sign your name. All letters must be signed, but name will be withheld for publication if requested.

ARTICLES in FOCUS reflect the views of the individual authors.

COVER: Cherry and Diano. Photo by Schel.

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MEMBERSHIP IN DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS is open to all women 18 years old and older. It is \$10 a year, or \$15 for a couple. This includes one subscription to FOCUS.

I COULD CALL THIS "NEW FRIENDS" OR "THE WATERFALL" OR "ISN'T IT FINE IN THE COUNTRY ON WEEKENDS" OR "CAN THREE BE?" AND IT IS AN EXCERPT FROM "A WHOLE LONG STORY ABOUT SOME WOMEN"

by schel

overalls best for this weekend. giant sweater as the things go into the pack kell is excited thinking about bets and rhoda and being in a fresh environment with fresh people suddenly the world is spinning over kell somersaults and as she finishes she is not where she first was not where her head first bent into the motion as she comes up she is foreigner and citizen simultaneously. the grass is a few feet high green kell sails through it in her red 1961 vw on a rutty dirt driveway approaching the little farm house. some nervousness in knowing she is there for the first time as she slides out of the car the front door of the house opens and two friends say hello. bets puts her arm over kell's shoulders. "come and see our place." it is small and has everything, a place where bets paints, a workshop for anything, a kitchen with a fine table this room is yellow and has a back door which reveals a hill lined with a stone wall and the border of some woods and the bedroom is certainly very special floor ceiling and walls all painted pale sky blue a tint away from cloud white blue so that the feeling of the room is cloud and sun and peaceful most peaceful. the opening ceremony is a beer on the front porch late afternoon a relaxing with light talk. the sun warms the skin of the three faces as the day becomes over and they know about being comfortable together splash they met and became good friends like brooks joining on the way to the sea. slow scrambling in the kitchen in dinner preparation is a communal event and the warm feelings flow into a lot of putting arms around waists when talking to one or the other and sometimes a fuzzy brush on the back of the head. bets goes into an incredible crying act over the onions rhoda and kell stand in good audience smiling kell moves to bets and holds her "there, there, there, bets, it'll be all right the world isn't ending just because that onion was once alive and had feelings like you and me and was torn away from all its friends in onion land and kidnapped into the grocery store and you are destroying

its beauty with this ruthless knife it still tastes great, it'll be all right." "i can't stand the guilt...it's the guilt that's killing me...it's knowing what i'm doing that's eating at me." laughter out of the three energies explodes all over the room bounces off the walls and then hits the refrigerator and table and bounces again until it touches all again and soothes them into silence. the feast is set spaghetti and bread and wine the electricity is removed and three candles arrive in rhoda's hands one is square but scrunched and leaning light blue and white and one is cylindrical red and one is a baby yellow and together they make some love light. Kelley says "this is an incredible meal" and "mmmmmmmm" and "aahhhh" and the conversation throughout the meal pretty much sticks to those lines really the best kind of eating conversation as it does not divert any attention from the flavors and elegance of the eating pleasure. "we have s surprise for you after dinner, kell." says rhoda. "oh yeah? are you really not going to tell me what it is ya worm?" "nope absolutely nope." "alright, i'll wait. say you don't have a rainbow tree in the back yard do you?" "not tellin." says rhoda, sorta smuggy and beautiful. "oh god i'm going to pass out i'm so full i'm dying i'm sick bbbbbblllllll oooooo aaattted groans bets and bursting into the room from her direction comes a tonally perfect hollow bubble which pops a foot away from her mouth and becomes a roaring burp. several yards into the wet grass three pairs of sneakers reach dampness and proceed to soaking wet as the expedition to the great surprise moves out with safari night time moon shine overtones or is it just a strangely lit dream they all had one night in the dar,. "i'm glad you know where you're going because i can't see much." kell is last behing bets. and when she finishes speaking her sneak desperately grabs a fallen tree and won't let go so kells whole front self proceeds to pretty damp as she lies in the wet grass and twigs and

wire weeds "yyyyaaaaahhhh!!!!!! YYYYYYAA-
 AAAHHHHHHHH!!!!!!." two voices madly
 scream in high pitched frenzy attack
 kelley with the appropriately attached
 rhoda and bets. "RRRRRRROOOOOAAAARRRR!!
 Rhoda is a leo. hands dig into kell's
 ribs, claw at her stomach then clutch her
 wrists and ankles with legitimate tight-
 ness and suddenly kell is flying across
 the field at an unsteady rocky pace but
 nevertheless flying zooming fffaarooooming
 in a whizzy spacey way over the not too
 far below territory and just when kell
 is getting a taste for flying her right
 and left engines give out and she heads
 for a crash landing. "oh my god the left
 one is out oh my god the right one is out!"
 yells kell she can see the earth getting
 closer totally out of control there is
 nothing she can do to prevent the collision,
 all the events of her life the way they a
 always said it would flash before her eyes
 she sees herself coming through a dark
 tunnel into light being born she sees the
 first time she sat on a toilet without
 falling in she sees the little girl she
 was in love with in third grade she sees
 beaches and mountains and her grandmother
 getting pissed because her elbows are on
 the table and she sees herself putting
 her elbows on a lot of tables and sudden-
 ly she is rolling on the ground laughing
 at the moon with her friends and she sees
 her elbow has been scraped and is being
 joined by blood and she sees the blood
 and laughs forever about her flight and
 the moon and her elbows. "come on!"
 shouts rhoda. she is gone in the darkness
 and mist while bets and kell fumble to
 their feet and break into a following
 run in one motion. "let's get her." says
 bets and their running takes on a serious
 goal becoming hard and forcefully fast in
 a few extra effort leaps they reach her
 and tackle her and smash for the second
 time it is a tickle marathon with a
 different victim. rhoda goes into "stops"
 and assorted screams of agony and delight.
 "but we haven't gotten bets yet!" "yeah"
 "nooooo!" bets tries for a get away but
 makes it only to the pñece of ground next
 to the one she was already on. in the
 woods there is almost no light only spots
 here and there of moon shadow it is nearly
 blind they walk with their arms stretched
 out before them to be saved from poked out
 eyes or scratched faces. when kell feels
 very lost she inquires of her guides
 whether or not they are sure if they know
 where they are going. "what? oh no.
 we've never been in this part of the woods

before. this is your surprise we're
 going to run away in a few minutes real
 real fast and leave you over night maybe
 lose you forever. it's your initiation."
 rhoda announces. and kell answers "hey
 do you think i could apply for some
 alternate initiation like doing the
 dishes?" kell is sitting in a clearing
 in the dark night getting cold and wet
 and crying a little bit at the bears
 surrounding her. bears you know you
 don't want to hurt me it would be a
 waste of energy to hurt me when you
 know we could be campfire buddies. yeah
 say the bears as they walk into the
 clearing we just want to keep you company
 until morning know any good stories you
 could tell us? sure, once there was a
 beautiful woman who lived on a comet
 she sat on this comet and the sound of
 rushing water became first attention
 and kell guessed at her surprise. louder
 and louder the sound and then they stood
 at the edge of the woods and from
 somewhere just about half way to the
 sky a river was falling off the top of
 a rocky hill and landing near them
 white sheets of foam lighting up the
 night. coming up behind rhoda and
 bets and kell gives a hand to each of
 thàir shoulders and places her head in
 between theirs. they stay silent and
 feel to be with each other and alive.
 "happy surprise." says bets.

#####

ADS (5¢/word)

WICCE
 a lesbian/feminist newspaper
 1 year \$3.50 (\$1 extra for brown
 wrapper)
 WICCE, P.O. Box 15833
 Philadelphia, Pa. 19103

TERRY--For you are the music of
 the seasons of my soul. Miss you.
 Peg.

D.O.B. CHRISTMAS PARTY & DANCE
 will be Friday December 14 at
 8:30 pm at ye olde office. A
 mere \$1.25 for free buffet &
 admission. Drinks for sale.
 Women only.

by Ginger

It all started about a year ago -- my guilty conscience got the best of me. I was still a member of Boston DOB, but after moving so far away, up in New Hampshire, I found it impossible to be active in any way. The distance was just too great. I phoned Laura to tell her how I felt, and how much it was bothering me. She bluntly asked: "Why don't you start a chapter in New Hampshire?" At the time I just didn't see how it could be done, with no way to contact people here... But we started!

Focus magazine gave us a big lift by publishing our meeting dates. A generous donation enabled us to advertise in the Real Paper. We hired a post office box for our famous "occupant", bought stamps, and paid for phone calls out of donations requested at our meetings.

Things are much different in the country than in the city. With very little way to advertise here, we were discouraged by the long waits between contacts. We had to use the word "get-togethers", because "meetings" scared those who thought it was only business or coming out into the open. "Raps" scared older women who didn't even know what it meant.

Slowly but surely, letters, some only one line long, arrived from Vermont, Maine, northern Mass., and even a few from New Hampshire! Laura at Boston DOB referred all her northern contacts to us too.

We have met in various homes, each one bringing something for the table. We have made wonderful new friends! For example, at Christmas time we drove to Maine to visit two women who had never talked to other gay people in their lives. We changed their whole lives--from being full of guilt and self-denial to finding a way to have a full and happy life.

Another couple came to stay with us--from Maine also--attended a meeting, and went back home knowing there were others who cared. In February we were contacted by a woman who shortly thereafter suffered a tragedy in her life, and we were all glad she could come here where her grief was understood.

Our aim is to reach out, to help those who had nothing or nobody, those who need an understanding ear and a place to let true, basic feelings be at last honestly expressed. Some of the women are married and have children. They followed the role they were taught to play, and didn't know there was any other way of life. I think they are the most unhappy of all.

We receive a call or letter almost every day now. We get wonderful letters from Julie Lee of New Jersey DOB and from the Dallas chapter, too. We keep in touch with Donald of "Gay in Vermont". Our home is crowded and cluttered, full of people, cats and dogs and fish, and piles of letters to answer (secretary or typist anywhere nearby?)

Some have said that moving to the country was a "cop-out". Miriam and I are more involved now than we ever were. This is a 24 hour deal all year long, and we love it.

Maybe to a city person our life here in the boonies is dull. Believe me, it isn't. So many people have come by to see us.

Two college girls came while we were painting. They said it was just their thing and joined in. Another chain sawed some logs, another fixed the mess on the shed porch, another loves

to walk long walks with the dogs. Everyone loves the quiet serenity of our woods. Another came with her health foods and pills, we did a little yoga together, and she went on her way next day. No, we wouldn't trade what we have here for any old city!

Many gay women own land here now, as this is a summer resort. Only six live here permanently, but more look forward to the future when they can join us for what's really living!

We have no dues, just donations of money, stamps, and books. We've started a small lending library, and do receive gay papers, etc.

Write us at "Occupant", Box 137, Northwood, New Hampshire 03261.

And happy birthday to us! We were one year old in October.

GAY ACADEMIC CONFERENCE SPURS BOSTON ACTION

"The Universities and the Gay Experience Conference" held in New York City November 23-24 and sponsored by the newly-formed Gay Academic Union was attended by over 310 gay women and men representing colleges and universities all over the country--including Boston College, Boston University, M.I.T., Smith, and Wellesley.

The conference addressed itself to three issues: 1) homosexual scholarship and research (including the establishment and teaching of Gay Studies programs) 2) professional and legal discrimination against homosexual teachers, and 3) the organization, structuring, and financing of the Gay Academic Union. As a result of the conference, Boston area people in academia are starting a local GAU group.

Gay Scholarship. Professionals from the sciences, social sciences, and humanities talked about their researches into homosexuality and society. Smaller workshops pooled information about available gay readings and materials while some participants decided to work on critical, annotated bibliographies in their various disciplines. Others will be involved with identifying unknown gay artists, drawing up lists of homo-

erotic motifs in the arts, writing a consumers' guide to gay therapists, evolving a methodology for the teaching of Gay Studies, and investigating the receptiveness of publishing firms to gay material.

Job Discrimination. Participants shared their experiences on finding and keeping jobs. The question of coming out professionally was well discussed, as was the possibility of GAU in combating discrimination, providing legal contacts, widespread news coverage, and pooling strength to act as a united force in the university scene.

Organizing GAU. A steering committee of three women and three men was elected. There will be a women's and a men's caucus, each having equal voice. Provision was made for a student caucus extending support to the establishment of Women's Studies and to women in academia, the formation of a GAU newsletter and of local chapters in all major university centers.

Boston area organizing. For information of the planned Boston chapter of GAU write GAU, c/o DOB, Room 323, 419 Boylston St., Boston Mass. 02116. FOCUS readers outside Boston should contact GAU, Prof. K.S. Sherrill, Dept. Political Science, Box 1479, Hunter Coll. CUNY, New York, 10021.

BOSTON. Over a hundred women and half a dozen children attended the second annual DOB Thanksgiving supper Sunday November 18 at St. John's Church in Boston.

MICHIGAN. Two lesbian mothers won a three year court fight to retain custody of their 8 children and live together as a couple. (Gay Liberator, Nov. '73).

BOSTON. "The Invisible Minority: the Homosexuals in Our Society", produced by the Unitarian Universalist Association of Boston, has received first place for the best filmstrip-record educational program of 1973. The award was given by the National Council of Family Relations in October. Gay men and women from Boston and other areas are featured in the filmstrip, which covers the history of society's attitudes and which answers commonly-asked questions.

GREENFIELD, MASS. A board of review decision allowed a woman separated from her husband to get a dependency allowance for her child from unemployment compensation. The relevant fact was that the father was not supporting the child, and the mother was; that the mother had not brought criminal complaint of nonsupport was immaterial. DOB office has more details.

SAN FRANCISCO. Sapphire, a magazine started by women who left S.F.D.O.B. after the dissension over transsexuals, has expired after its second issue.

BOSTON. Edward Rastellini, a prisoner since 1968 on sodomy charges, was stabbed to death in the Mass. Correctional Institution at Bridgewater on November 6. He was convicted of an "unnatural act with a child of 16", although the child reportedly was a male hustler and the act consented to by both parties. He was denied parole this spring. An investigation into the murder is underway. (Gay Community News, Nov. 17, '73)

NEW ORLEANS. A man in Sacramento reportedly confessed to setting the fire which killed 32 people in a gay bar here last June. Raymond Wallender said he is a homosexual. (Advocate, Nov. 21, '73).

TORONTO. The Toronto City Council passed a resolution which prevents discrimination in employment in city jobs on the basis of sexual preference. The vote on October 10 was 15 to 1. (Advocate Nov. 21, '73)

NEW JERSEY. After a long court fight, a gay father has been granted visitation rights of sorts with his two sons ages 5 and 3 after divorcing his wife. He must have a court-appointed third party along for the 4-hours a-week visits. If all goes well, in January he can begin to select the third party himself. The father, Jerry Purpura, is a former president of the New Jersey Gay Activists Alliance and a founder of the Hold Hands Project. (Advocate, Nov. 21, '73).

WORCESTER. There is a gay group here now which meets at 7:30 pm Sundays at Trinity Lutheran Church, Lancaster and Salisbury Streets, Worcester. The address is Worcester Gay Union, P.O. Box 359, Federal Station, Worcester, Mass. 01601.

VISITATION RIGHTS. Boston DOB has copies of letters written by famous authorities in support of Bruce Voeller's right to have visitation rights with his sons after his divorce. Voeller is the past president of Gay Activists Alliance, NY. The letters are in the DOB office library.

PROVINCETOWN. The Lower Cape Women's Center, Gifford House, 9 Carver St., Provincetown, Mass. 02657, opened its winter quarters on November 15. The center will be open several days a week and act as a referral and educational agency. Phone is 487-3075.

POEMS TO A FRIEND

#1

How does this happen?
 For seventeen years
 gone straight--
 a crazy kid
 with staring eyes
 knocks me
 from my perch
 and I
 must start again.

#2

Slippery and moist
 the body arches
 the wet flank
 and warm inside
 the strange taste
 now my familiar
 haunts me
 as I write.

#3

Like ocean tides
 our feelings rise and fall
 pulled by the magic
 of hidden
 and incalculable moons.

#4

I have seen you
 in the morning
 cold and sober
 and thrown myself
 in desperation
 on the hard edge
 of your guilt.

#5

Nothing's left, my friend.
 Like beads from a broken string
 our emotions spill to the floor.
 Time and time again we trip
 trying to walk over them.

#6

Our words are brittle twigs,
 hopes shared, now dessicated.
 We live in the habit of affection,
 unwilling to admit the green is gone.

#7

Your hair freshly washed
 frames your head
 your body draped
 in the printed gown
 I gave you
 curls beside the dog.
 I run my nail
 over the lines
 of your dark
 and angled face
 across your breasts
 and feel your skin
 through the slick surface
 of the unresponding
 photograph.

#8

Waterbugs skip on the surface of the
 pond,
 shadows move within the ripples,
 two months since you are gone,
 this longing is woman's madness,
 by staring, I will turn to stone.

Note: Because of the number and length of letters, most were shortened for publication this month.

Note: Starting with the January 1974 issue, all letters to Focus must be signed, although the name will be withheld from publication if requested.

Dear Focus:

As you know the elections for DOB offices were held 10/14/73, and it seems the power struggle is still on . . . I thought the elections and procedure in which they were held were in poor taste. . . . How can a business meeting and an election go on at the same time? The evening proved to be very discouraging and frustrating, and we never heard from the candidates for Recording Secretary, Treasurer, or Corresponding Secretary because time ran out. It was decided to vote and then if anyone wanted to stay and hear the last three candidates they were welcome to. That seemed inappropriate to me.

People seemed hesitant and nervous about speaking up. And I wonder if, members really knew the candidates' platforms. People were cut off or made to feel uncomfortable if questions seemed threatening to candidates or the organization! Can we work together, or will a few people continue their power struggle?

Sincerely,
"Susan Winters"-DOB
Member

Aye- To a Saddened DOB Member!

One of the reasons some DOB members, who voted the now president to office by proxy, may not have been to more than one DOB function could be the same reason I have no interest in being a member at all--the past and present restriction of DOB meetings to "raps and social events."

I am, in my own way, a "Lesbian activist..". I long to become active in a gay organization that is growing and expanding to further the awakening of public consciousness. To those who declared themselves openly gay so that present organizations and activities might be born and grow, I am deeply grateful

Officers should represent the active in an organization . . . Rap sessions and

dances are fun and necessary, in their place. But with so much to do, we cannot afford to limit the purpose of a homosexual organization to such activities. With well-planned, outgoing leadership DOB could be a mighty force of enlightenment in Boston. So, I say "aye" to a saddened DOB member. With "limited" leadership, DOB could stand still and its members fall away to form new groups. Could this be an answer?

A Concerned Focus Reader

Dear Saddened DOB Member (Nov. Focus),

Indeed it might be nice if all our officers were completely open about their gayness. But the elections are over, the membership made its choices, and there is no point now in arguing the merits of the candidates. (I should point out that neither candidate for president was completely openly gay--Sheri said she could not go on T.V. Andrea said it would depend on the circumstances--though both were open in ways like lobbying--and both have since agreed to be in the Catch 44 T.V. show.)

Also, everyone I talked with who had read your letter remarked on the fact that you say "we must stand up and say, Yes, we are lesbians..." and yet you don't sign your name! Was that "we" for the rest of us?

I also believe that all letters written to Focus ought to be signed, even though the names could be withheld for actual publication. I think it is going to be destructive to the organization to have people using Focus as a vehicle to air feelings they will not express personally with one another.

Peace & love,
Laura Robin

Dear Focus:

I do not find anything "tragically unfortunate" as the "Saddened DOB member" did in her Nov. 73 letter to Focus. This Sad One "needs exposure", "must be recognized", stand up and say she is a lesbian", must "state her name" and yet she writes a letter to Focus signed "Saddened DOB Member". Come on now.

As far as I am concerned, Focus should not publish unsigned letters of political import. It simply is not fair to those who do the work and, very fortunately for us all, have broad enough shoulders to bear the burden of attack.

Other DOB groups have folded under the hopeless weight of the everpresent social-political split. Don't let it happen in Boston. DOB's primary function is to help the lesbian. Leave the drumbeating conversion and education of heterosexual society to GAA and other groups that are so inclined...DOB can accomplish much more and do far more basic good by operating quietly. Nothing is more important than giving life back to a sister who is about to throw it all away simply because she doesn't understand her true worth. DOB knows how to teach this understanding.

S. Watt

Dear DOB,

I wish to thank all the members who helped organize the Thanksgiving Dinner. It was ever so pleasant to be with the women attending, a truly great time with lots of "esprit de corps". My sincere thanks.

A sister, Lee

Dear sisters,

It was said that at the election there were faces that some of you had never seen before. I am saddened that you didn't know and now will not get to know one of those women, as she passed away on November 7th.

She had been with the organization before and left for personal reasons. The first

time she came to a rap she asked what she could do for DOB. What she did was done without fanfare, without words because she wished it that way. Perhaps only the treasurer and a few others knew...

Those of us who knew her knew of her love for all humankind. She saw good in every person where perhaps some of us were blind...

Somehow I hope you will all understand why I have not mentioned her name in print, but I do that for her friend and because of her job. She had "come out" as much as she could... She believed in DOB and in each one of us.

Sheri

Dear sisters,

I read with interest and some concern the article by Penny Perrault about lesbian mothers (Nov.73)...I had heard once that a lesbian mother was treated with a lack of sympathy by someone from your chapter. Penny's letter seems to say this is not unusual there.

First, may I disagree with Penny when she says lesbian mothers are a forgotten minority...In the New York and New Jersey chapters, lesbian mothers comprise from 1/3 to 1/2 of the members--certainly not a minority...

Lesbian mothers are not forgotten today. There are lesbian mothers' organizations in a number of large cities. Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon are in the process of writing a sequel to their Lesbian/Woman about lesbian mothers; Barbara Bryant of California State University is also writing a book; and a group of therapists in New York are making a study of lesbian mothers...

At the N.Y. and N.J.DOB, children are welcome to all outdoor social functions. At the summer '71 Lesbian/Feminist Conference at Kent, Conn., there seemed to be more children than women, and I saw no one who resented the children...

I understand that Boston DOB is mostly composed of young women, which MIGHT

account for the fact that mothers and their children feel left out. This is not an excuse--it MIGHT be an explanation. I cannot understand how any true SISTER could resent another sister who has children...several years ago, I visited a "colony" of several hundred lesbians in Rock Island, Illinois. Most of the women were mothers and felt sorry for the few who did not have at least one child. So you see, Penny, it depends on where you are!

I feel strongly that child care should be provided. However, children at regular meetings could pose a legal problem, so consult a lawyer before you try it.

Most lesbians are with you, Penny. We are sisters, mothers or not.

In sisterhood,
Julie Lee
lesbian counsellor, DOB New Jersey

Dear friends,

Please be sure to refer to p.28 of the December Sisters (San Francisco DOB). S.F. has a Lesbian Basketball League this year, and boy are we having fun! ...why don't you think about starting something like it in Boston?

Love and Peace,
Wendy Hayes.

Focus note: see calendar.

Dear Sisters,

I am a graduate student in the School of Social Work at California State U. I am working on my masters thesis on lesbian mothers. My hope for this thesis is that it can be used to strengthen arguments and dispel the negative stereotypes of lesbian motherhood, as well as to increase society's acceptance of lesbians and lesbian child-raising, particularly in custody cases.

I have a questionnaire developed in conjunction with Del Martin, Phyllis Lyon, and others. My population of subjects can include any woman who considers herself to be a lesbian who is raising or has raised a child whether or not they are now living together.

Obtaining a large number of lesbian mothers for my sample is crucial to the effectiveness of my thesis. All replies will be held strictly confidential and responses are anonymous. Women willing to complete a questionnaire can drop me a card.(Also see note below). Any publicity you can give to this effort will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,
Barbara Bryant
School of Social Work
California State University
Sacramento, Calif. 95819.

NOTE: Boston DOB has voted to support this study. Questionnaires are in the office along with a return envelope, right on the table by the door.

ADS (5¢/word)

TERRY,
When first we met,
I was just a stone.
The tide of life kept sending
me back to the sea.
Then out of nowhere you appeared,
You knelt down, cupped your hands,
to save that stone from the
pounding waves.
If not for you the tide
of life would still be unbearable.
Love you always,
Your Peg

HI--If you share a love of music and animals I would like very much to hear from you. Please write--Nancy Bates, Box 33, Mt. Ranier, Maryland 20822.

HANDWRITING ANALYZED BY SISTER, not by computer. \$5 each analysis, 2 for \$8.50. K. Feinberg, Dept. F, Box 24172, Cincinnati, Ohio 45224.

December 1973

- MONDAYS 8 pm through Dec. 17 COMING OUT! Jonathan Katz' documentary play about gay history, with a cast of 5 women, 5 men. \$2 donation. Charles Street Meeting House, 70 Charles St., Boston.
- TUESDAYS 7:30 pm RAP SESSIONS ON BEING GAY, FOR WOMEN ONLY. (Will not be held Dec.25 but will be held every other Tuesday including Jan.1) Share feelings about being gay, everyone welcome, new people come all the time. Child care will be provided. At the DOB office, 419 Boylston St., Room 323, Boston, between Arlington and Berkeley Streets, near the Arlington MBTA stop.
- WEDNESDAYS 7:30 pm RAP SESSION FOR LESBIAN MOTHERS, at the office.
- THURSDAYS 9-10 pm GAY WAY RADIO PROGRAM, WBUR-FM 90.9 mc.
- SUNDAYS 2-4 pm WOMEN'S BASKETBALL, Cambridge YWCA, Temple St., Cambridge, near Central Square. Swimming afterwards (bring a suit). 75¢ basketball, 25¢ swim.
- December 6, Thursday TRANVESTITES DISCUSSION, MEN & WOMEN, 7:30 pm, 419 Boylston St., 4th floor.
- December 7, Friday, 9pm COMING OUT! Granite State Room, University of New Hampshire, Durham, New Hampshire. The Gay Student Organization can't meet but they're allowed to present this "non-social event".
SPECIAL
- December 9, Sunday, 7:30 pm DOB/BUSINESS MEETING. On the agenda: whether to buy Christmas trees to sell to make money, whether to sponsor certain gay rights bills. Ellen Ratner of the Association of Paraprofessional Therapists will also talk.
- December 14, Friday, 8:30 pm DOB CHRISTMAS PARTY/DANCE. Free buffet, drinks for sale. \$1.25 donation. Women only. At the DOB office.
- December 15, Saturday, 11 am-4 pm WOMEN'S CENTER SCHOOL AUCTION/RUMMAGE SALE, First Congregational Church, 11 Garden St., Cambridge (near Harvard Square). If you have offerings for the sale call 492-4845. The sale will benefit the School's new offices, 639 Mass. Av., Room 340, Cambridge.
ALSO, DOB MAY BE SELLING XMAS TREES AT THE CHARLES STREET MEETING HOUSE ALL DAY.
- December 17, Monday, 7:30 pm FOCUS STAFF MEETING. At the office.
- December 20, Thursday, 8:30 pm DOB CATCH 44 TELEVISION PROGRAM, Channel 44.
- December 22, 23, Saturday, Sunday DOB MAY BE SELLING XMAS TREES AGAIN (see Dec.15)
- January 5, Saturday, NEW ENGLAND GAY CONFERENCE PLANNING MEETING, in Worcester, Mass. for details read Gay Community News or call DOB office.

COMMITTEE TO ELECT ELAINE NOBLE is collecting items to auction off. If you have any call Sarah Wenig, 277-4776 or Joe Martin 696-8457 and they will pick it up.

DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS
Room 323
419 Boylston St.
Boston, Mass. 02116

HOURS: Monday	Evenings	617-262-1592
Tuesday	"	
Wednesday	"	
Thursday	"	

by JS

ACROSS

- 1. a right-on woman
- 5. desire
- 8. greeting
- 9. queer
- 10. what lesbian love is often forced to be
- 13. recount
- 14. what you are when you stop being latent
- 15. scheme, program, project
- 17. long period of time
- 18. gynecological test
- 21. with regard to
- 22. sometimes double
- 23. it's good
- 25. what Radclyffe Hall's well was
- 26. conscious arrangement of colors, sounds, forms, etc., for esthetic ends
- 27. a kind of lesbian often misunderstood
- 28. Egyptian Sun God
- 29. et _____, Brute
- 31. organization working for women's rights
- 32. kind of woman not often met with
- 35. indicates a god or gods
- 36. rescuers of motorists in distress
- 38. Old English
- 39. turn _____, tune in, drop out
- 40. Railway Post Office
- 43. Connecticut (abbr.)
- 44. half of one is better than none
- 45. E.M. Forster's gay hero
- 47. symbol for element erbium
- 48. Louisiana (abbr)
- 49. German (abbr.)
- 51. Sarah's friend
- 52. overcome, overpower

DOWN

- 1. what one woman tries to be to another
- 2. homo _____
- 3. apparatus for punishment of witches and other offenders
- 4. state which was prominent in news headlines in 1970
- 5. America's Good Gay Poet
- 6. negation
- 7. a dyke of literary renown forced to undergo psychiatric "cure"
- 11. aspect of a culture to which people generally defer
- 12. squirt
- 16. New England
- 19. to deprive of strength or vitality
- 20. two-time loser
- 22. to delay, require much time
- 23. lesbian-feminist poet (associated with Women's Press Collective in Oakland, Calif.)
- 24. where you are is where you're _____
- 27. Missouri (abbr.)
- * 29. symbol for element titanium
- 31. lesbian heroine in Nightwood
- 33. stereotypical behavior pattern
- 34. the Killing of Sister _____
- 35. measure of weight
- 37. account (abbr.)
- 41. unadulterated
- 42. conjunction used to indicate an alternative
- 45. pad for wiping feet
- 46. Interstate Commerce Commission
- 48. symbol for element lanthanum
- 50. elevation (abbr.)
- * 30. Mudchen in _____

ANSWERS NEXT MONTH

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LESBIAN LAW STUDENT SEEKS HELP

Lesbian law student Rose Basile is writing the first legal article on cases of lesbian mothers, child custody, and other cases where lesbianism was an issue. Her article will appear in the Women's Rights Law Reporter. She needs the following information on the cases: names of lawyers, court papers, briefs, opinions, custody orders.

If you can help her write Rose Basile, Women's Rights Law Reporter, 180 University Ave., Newark, New Jersey 07102.

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SEE ALL YOUR FRIENDS

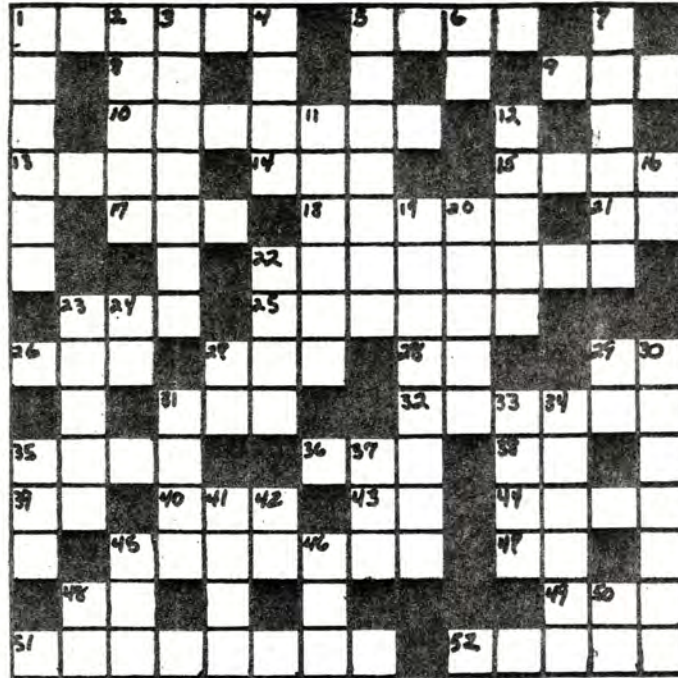
ON CATCH 44

She will pay for postage and xerox costs. Material will be kept confidential if requested, she writes. DOB will get a copy of the article.

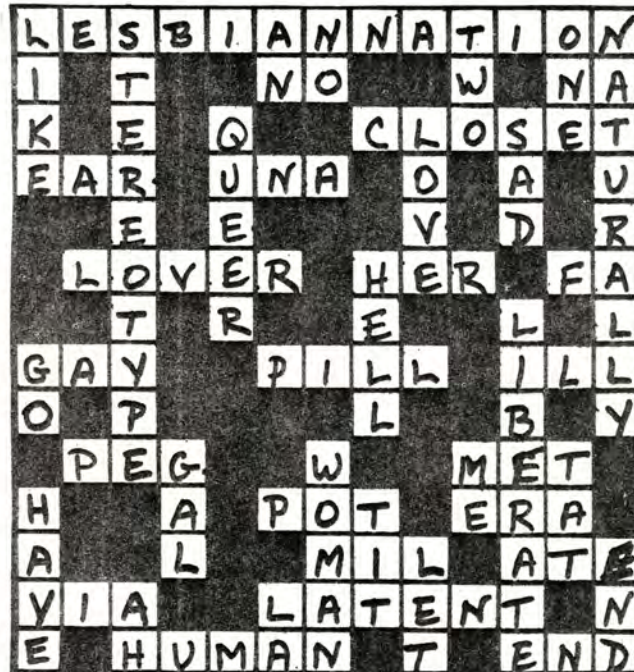
December 20, Thursday, 8:30 pm
Channel 44

THE DOB PROGRAM

DECEMBER PUZZLE



ANSWERS TO NOVEMBER PUZZLE





The History Project
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