

FOCUS

a journal for gay women



Sept. '72

50¢

FOCUS: A JOURNAL FOR GAY WOMEN

Focus is published monthly by Boston Daughters of Bilitis, Room 406, 419 Boylston St., Boston, Mass. 02116. Phone 617-262-1592. Subscriptions are \$5/year.

FOCUS staff for this issue: Geri, Laura, Lois H., and Ann.

Articles in Focus reflect the views of the individual authors, and may not represent D.O.B. as an organization.

BOSTON D.O.B. OFFICERS:

- President..... Phyllis Carroll
Vice-President..... Peggy
Recording Secretary... Margaret Andree
Treasurer..... Rose Tuttle
Corresponding Secretary Laura Robin

ABOUT BOSTON D.O.B.

Because of prejudices and fears passed down for centuries, our society has treated homosexuals as lepers, perverts, and fools. Both women and men with homosexual feelings have been made to feel worthless.

Kinsey reported that 13% of women have had some homosexual experience by age 45. Boston D.O.B. is one of many gay groups formed in the last few years to give gay women a chance to talk with one another, support one another, and help create a better life for all gay people.

Women of all ages and political persuasions participate in Boston D.O.B. Because many gay women are not in a position to make their gayness known publically, D.O.B. provides safeguards for those wishing to work quietly within the organization, planning the social program, writing, typing, organizing the library, and so on. For those able to be more open, there is public speaking, political activism, etc.

IN THIS ISSUE

Calendar of events.....1
What's Up Politically in Boston.....2
"God & Gay are Compatible".....4
High school gays united.....5
More high school gays.....6
Candidates for state legislature....8
Business meeting minutes.....7
Poems.....7,12
Feminist Fair.....9
Classifies ads.....9,10
Boston Gay Scene.....10
National gay scene.....10
Letters to Focus.....11

CALENDAR OF COMING EVENTS

- Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 pm. RAP SESSIONS ON BEING GAY, where all women are invited to share feelings about being gay. At the D.O.B. office.
Sundays, 7:30 pm. GAY CHURCH ORGANIZING MEETINGS. For those interested in helping form a Boston community gay church. See Letters to Focus.
September 9, Saturday, 12noon-5pm. AUCTION-RUMMAGE SALE. See announcement on back of this issue. Old West Church, 131 Cambridge St., Boston. Men welcome.
September 17, Sunday, 7:30 pm. CANDIDATES' NIGHT. Candidates for office in D.O.B. will answer questions and discuss their ideas. A get-together, rap-together about D.O.B. At the D.O.B. office.
September 24, Sunday, 7:30 pm. ELECTION NIGHT AND BUSINESS MEETING. Officers will be elected. At the D.O.B. office.

* NOTICE TO CANDIDATES FOR D.O.B. OFFICE: *
* *
* If you send in a statement of your candidacy and platform or whatever, *
* we will try to send a bulletin to members containing same before the *
** elections. If you don't, we won't. *
* *

This election year has been a good consciousness-raising one for many of the heterosexually oriented members of our society. The national level of politics saw such candidates as George McGovern making large appeals for the gay vote. Full page ads were taken out in such gay papers as the Los Angeles Advocate; picturing McGovern, tie undone, shirt slightly open, looking concerned below captions saying, "Has Anyone Done Anything For You Lately?". Only some straight dude from McGovern headquarters could be oblivious to the humor in the ad.

However, the real humor in the McGovern campaign surfaced when the Gays worked actively, openly in Albany, New York for McGovern. To every straight person's horror in the McGovern headquarters, the gays did a magnificent job of advertising McGovern's stand. Everyone knew about George McGovern and the gays in Albany!!! When the opinions were polled, it became apparent that such publicity hurt George's pre-primary chances. The only ones horrified were McGovern people. When campaign headquarters were established in Boston, gays were not actively recruited to help.

The Boston Committee to Elect George McGovern does not try to hedge the issue, but states blatantly, that "What happened in Albany should not happen in Boston". They feel they are being honest. Perhaps they are, since it is their brand of politics under which the two-party conventions and primary elections function.

Since the McGovern folks have taken a stand on gay issues, but must be bound to their "closet-case" poli-

tics; the politically active gays in Boston have taken to applying pressure on a local level, leaving McGovern to the straights.

The politically active gays are made up of representatives from D.O.B., H.U.B., H.C.H.S., G.M.L. The major focus has been on state representatives who are running for office in Wards 21, 22, and 5. These wards included the gay bar areas, as well as Bay Village, The Fenway, Back Bay, and, of course, "The Block area."

The Block area, for those of you not familiar with it, is the area of Arlington Street from Beacon to Boylston, up Beacon to Berkeley, and back down Boylston Street, forming a block of streets on which male homosexuals cruise either on foot or drive slowly by in a car.

The Block has been used for fifty years as a "cruising" area. In the past year, especially the last six months, police harassment and arrests have increased. Therefore, the politically-active gays have begun to focus on The Block when dealing with police commissioner, city lawyers as well as politicians.

The Block is a blaring affirmation of how underground the social life of a gay person can be. Perhaps if we had a community center of our own; activity on the block would cease to exist.

In dealing with Deputy Commissioner Blaire and Assistant District Attorney John Glass, the political activists have stressed that the Block reflects (can't next pg.)

* * * * *
*
* FCCUS needs writers,
* artists
* putters-together
* humorists
* - - - - -
* * * * *

* * * * *
* subscribe to Focus *
* * * * *
* * * * *
* * * * *
* * * * *
* * * * *

a social community which will only arise in another area if police arrests continue. Both men have finally agreed that the problem will not be solved by harassing homosexuals, or arresting them. The activists' position is that we as homosexuals and lesbians share the same discrimination from society as do the men on the block. Their approach has been that someday the Block will be cleared, but not by police arrest, but by gays themselves who will no longer have a need to cruise on the streets if a viable option is provided.

The only option open to gays who have a few or no gay friends is to go to one of the bars and compete with the din of loud music, the stench of toilets, and a frenetic feeling in general. We all know how difficult it is to talk in a gay bar. So, many men take to The Block. At least, the Block is free from that kind of insane stimuli. The Block is, at least, quiet most of the time, quite contrary to what the voyeuristic neighbors say; the activity on the Block is quiet.

But even the quiet has its drawbacks. When a homosexual is robbed, beaten on or near the Block, the victim remains quiet with the thought that he must have deserved it for being out trying to solicit a "trick!". He never reports the robbery to the police, nor the assaults. Therefore, such crimes against the male homosexual continue. The homosexual is subjected to second-class citizen treatment from police officers in plain clothes apparel. There are two officers who seem to get their "rocks off" by harrassing gays who may or may not be soliciting near or around The Block. Yet, their "kick-a-Queer" humor may be shoved out the other side of their mouths, for Deputy Commissioner Blaire has agreed that, if homosexuals make con-

sistent, positive identification of the officers, such police will be fired from the department, or, at the very least, transferred to another area not unlike Mongolia.

Blaire is a hard, tough cop who is Deputy Commissioner because of his ability to play as well as see things from two sides. He is well aware that the Block which he himself had to patrol as a foot policeman is still in operation twenty years later for the very same reasons. Thus, Blaire has agreed to put only uniformed police around the Block. It is a gesture on his part to make identification of a cop easier and to stop the various men impersonating plain clothes men in order to intimidate and rip off the homosexual on the Block.

John Fiske, corporation lawyer for the city of Boston, has been supportive. He would like to see us have a center of our own. He is in a position to help us get first bid on prime property that the city may want to unload.

Assistant District Attorney John Glass handles the Police Academy. He has formally agreed to have representatives from each gay organization speak to each police class that is being trained at the Academy. Before each candidate is dubbed an official cop, he will have had the opportunity of talking with gay people about gay problems in relationship to law enforcement. Of course, the police-main-in-training may not want to listen. But this time, he will be forced to face honest-to-God Queers as part of his curriculum.

The local politicians have fallen into two categories on the Gay Rights Issue. The first is obvious, no cooperation category; the second is made up of the politically aggressive up and comers who want the gay vote and will work hard to get it.

WHAT'S UP POLITICALLY (con't)

There are only two candidates who fall into this latter category, and who have been cooperative enough to write a position paper to all the local news-media, or go with us to see the police commissioner, city lawyer. These two are Robin Taylor running for state representative in Wards 21,22, (Brighton) and Barney Frank running for State Representative in Ward 5 (Boston).

Robin is a committed Feminist who has worked closely with D.O.B. members for at least two years. Her lobbying efforts to repeal all sexual conduct laws, especially abortion, has caused even the Speaker of the House Bartley to get crazy with anger towards her. Robin has been a true sister, and deserves any help we can give her. A copy of her position paper on private sexual conduct can be obtained from the D.O.B. office.

Barney Frank is the only other candidate openly supportive of gays. He has set up meetings with the police commissioner, city lawyers and attended all of them with us to argue for gay rights. On many occasions, Barney stepped in when we were verbally being taken, putting his political muscle very strongly behind his rhetoric. Barney Frank has done a great deal for us. Many of us know he has courage to make the gay issue a major part of his campaign especially when he is thirty two years old and single. Barney Frank has done a great deal for us and will be in a position to do more for us and with us if elected as State Rep from Ward Five.

Both Robin Taylor and Barney Frank are the only two candidates out of approximately twenty who are aware of their gay constituency in Wards 21,22, and 5. The other candidates view homosexuality as a contagious disease that they themselves wish not to catch.

"GOD AND GAY ARE COMPATIBLE"

by Linda Marshall

"We're the only minority in America that you can still hate publicly," said the Reverend Troy Perry on the Paul Benzaquin show recently. The words of a caller had just been blipped out, being apparently too strong for early morning viewing.

The Reverend Perry was forced to leave his family and his church in the early 50's when his homosexuality became known. This and the events that followed are reported in his book: The Lord Is My Shepherd and He Knows I'm Gay. In almost any form of religion at that time, homosexuality was anathema--accursed--according to Mr. Perry. Now there is considerably less prejudice, although most denominations continue to believe that homosexuality is unacceptable.

According to Mr. Perry, who remains in many respects a fundamentalist Christian, "Sin is just lust; if love is there, then it has to be right." Believing this, Mr. Perry preaches to a large congregation, 80% of which is homosexual.

Although one can be grateful for the existence of a few clergymen such as Mr. Perry, and for the few gay congregations in this country, it is absurd that one's sexual preference alone should have to determine one's choice of a church, or indeed one's choice of whether to continue in one's religion at all.

The Reverend Perry made several analogies between the gay movement: As Martin Luther King said, "Why should Sunday morning be the most segregated time of the week?"

coming up:
costume party around
Halloween

HSGU (HIGH SCHOOL GAYS UNITED) is an organization for the purpose of bringing together all homosexual high school students, and gay people under 18 years of age, female and male.

A separate segment of the gay movement is being formed because, although there are several people in the gay community who can be contacted by phone or mail, many of these do not want to become involved in any way with people under 18 for fear of being charged with "contributing to the delinquency of a minor." The mere fact that they cannot give us the help we seek IS contributing to our delinquency and possible self-destruction by leading us into reinforced depression and loneliness, hostility for the society that forces us to hide, and in some instances excessive drinking, drug abuse--and maybe even suicide for others.

Being gay and in high school presents many problems, the worst of which, in my opinion, is having to hide our sexual identity. We cannot reveal ourselves without running the risk of harassment and rejection by peers and teachers, the first of which hurts more deeply. We cannot walk arm in arm with our lovers as heterosexuals do without being ostracized. A generally quiet, non-joining type of person's loneliness is augmented because of the "front" he or she has to build. The outgoing class officer or member of the Student Council is forced into a "role" --a code of behavior dictated and reinforced by the heterosexual student body. Many popular students who do not want their homosexuality discovered may "go steady" with members of the opposite sex who are in the same limelight simply to limit suspicion and maintain a "straight" reputation; and they are miserable because they must hide their natural

preference and portray a different person. Many become ashamed of their homosexuality and think it is a sickness; but, on the other hand, there are many who are proud and want it to be recognized as a lifestyle --a way of expressing love for a person.

During adolescence and early teen years, some people experience a phase of homosexuality which usually consists of a "crush" on or admiration for a member of the same sex. HSGU is not suggesting that everyone with a degree of homosexuality restrict himself or herself to a homosexual pattern; but being able to discuss one's feelings can eliminate some of the guilt and fear that may prevail at the time of coming out. Perhaps some people will discover that the heterosexual life suits them better. That is fine. But, perhaps if a group like HSGU is not within reach, a lot of confusion will still remain.

Many young gay women and men get caught in the "Butch-fem(me)" syndrome in which a person is either ultra-masculine (tough, aggressive, domineering) or super-feminine (submissive, fearful, quiet). Some people are this way from a very early age and to them, it is natural; yet others groping for security choose this as a means--and it usually does not work out. A person simply cannot be something he or she is not.

HSGU, then, is functioning for several reasons: to give homosexuals under the age of 18 a way to socialize with people their own ages, to give them a phone and/or address to contact where they know they will not be turned away because of their ages, and most of all to give them the security they need and the assurance that there ARE others like themselves who are fighting the same battles. June 1972

 * 6 6 *
 * APPLICATION FOR D.O.B. *
 * return this or a copy of it to the DOB office. *
 * Enclosed is \$_____ for the following: *
 * /7 Membership in Boston D.O.B. (\$10 per year for a single, \$15 *
 * for a couple (joint membership). Includes one FOCUS *
 * subscription and all voting privileges. Can be paid by \$5 *
 * down, the balance within 2 months. If the balance is not *
 * paid then, the \$5 becomes a donation to the organization.) *
 * Members receive calendars. Membership is open to all women *
 * 18 years old or over. *
 * /7 FOCUS subscription. (\$5/12 issues). Anyone may subscribe. *
 * /7 Calendar subscription (\$1 for 6 months. Calendar of *
 * DOB events.) Anyone. *
 * NAME _____ PHONE (MEMBERS) _____ *
 * Second NAME if joint membership _____ *
 * ADDRESS _____ *
 * SIGNATURE (for members only) I am a woman 18 years of age or ^{ZIP!}older *
 * _____ date _____ *
 * _____ date _____ *
 * (second name if joint) *
 * Send to: DOB, Room 406, 419 Boylston St., Boston, Mass. 02116 *

HIGH SCHOOL STATEMENT UPDATED,
 Aug '72 by Nadel
 HSGU (High School Gays United)
 was formed in June to bring
 together all gay high school
 students - male and female - for
 two reasons: to meet and get to
 know each other without being
 hassled about our ages, and
 because we believe that gay men
 and women must work together to
 end all discriminatory laws
 concerning homosexuality.

My only disappointment is that
 many women avoid us because we
 are a mixed group. This is wrong
 because we are all fighting the
 same battles and certainly not
 out to hate each other.

As a h.s. gay woman, I know
 there are more gay high school
 women out there, so please write
 me. NADEL, HSGU, c/o HUB, Box 217,
 Dorchester, Center Station,
 Boston, Mass. 02124

At present, we are having
 weekly meetings, rap sessions,
 dances, and other activities.

Those who are interested in High School gays can call 354-1555 or
 354-1556 anytime; or Saturday, 1-4, or evenings 282-9181
 or Write: HSGU, c/o P.O.Box 217, Dorchester Station, Boston 02124

JOIN DOB! JOIN DOB! JOIN DOB! JOIN DOB! JOIN DOB! JOIN DOB! JOIN DOB!

HSGU (HIGH SCHOOL GAYS UNITED) is an organization for the purpose of bringing together all homosexual high school students, and gay people under 18 years of age, female and male.

A separate segment of the gay movement is being formed because, although there are several people in the gay community who can be contacted by phone or mail, many of these do not want to become involved in any way with people under 18 for fear of being charged with "contributing to the delinquency of a minor." The mere fact that they cannot give us the help we seek IS contributing to our delinquency and possible self-destruction by leading us into reinforced depression and loneliness, hostility for the society that forces us to hide, and in some instances excessive drinking, drug abuse--and maybe even suicide for others.

Being gay and in high school presents many problems, the worst of which, in my opinion, is having to hide our sexual identity. We cannot reveal ourselves without running the risk of harassment and rejection by peers and teachers, the first of which hurts more deeply. We cannot walk arm in arm with our lovers as heterosexuals do without being ostracized. A generally quiet, non-joining type of person's loneliness is augmented because of the "front" he or she has to build. The outgoing class officer or member of the Student Council is forced into a "role" --a code of behavior dictated and reinforced by the heterosexual student body. Many popular students who do not want their homosexuality discovered may "go steady" with members of the opposite sex who are in the same limelight simply to limit suspicion and maintain a "straight" reputation; and they are miserable because they must hide their natural

preference and portray a different person. Many become ashamed of their homosexuality and think it is a sickness; but, on the other hand, there are many who are proud and want it to be recognized as a lifestyle --a way of expressing love for a person.

During adolescence and early teen years, some people experience a phase of homosexuality which usually consists of a "crush" on or admiration for a member of the same sex. HSGU is not suggesting that everyone with a degree of homosexuality restrict himself or herself to a homosexual pattern; but being able to discuss one's feelings can eliminate some of the guilt and fear that may prevail at the time of coming out. Perhaps some people will discover that the heterosexual life suits them better. That is fine. But, perhaps if a group like HSGU is not within reach, a lot of confusion will still remain.

Many young gay women and men get caught in the "Butch-fem(me)" syndrome in which a person is either ultra-masculine (tough, aggressive, domineering) or super-feminine (submissive, fearful, quiet). Some people are this way from a very early age and to them, it is natural; yet others groping for security choose this as a means--and it usually does not work out. A person simply cannot be something he or she is not.

HSGU, then, is functioning for several reasons: to give homosexuals under the age of 18 a way to socialize with people their own ages, to give them a phone and/or address to contact where they know they will not be turned away because of their ages, and most of all to give them the security they need and the assurance that there ARE others like themselves who are fighting the same battles. June 1972

THEY WOULD NEVER BELIEVE

What a handsome couple we are
if only they could see
The world would never believe
That you're in love with me.

They see you at your job
you have the office in a whirl
Wouldn't they be surprised to know
Their sweetie is really my girl.

I wonder what they would say
how jealous they would be
If they could see our warm embrace
When we're alone and free.

If only they could know
how passionate your love can be
Wouldn't it raise their hair
To know that love is for me.

We sure could give them a shock
And wouldn't it be fun
Cause they would never believe
That I'm the lucky one.

-Ann Vernon

In cherished darkness
you come.
A dusky silhouette
but for your eyes,
blue lanterns in the night.
A bouquet of kisses,
and then, impatient,
You are off
to face the impotent day.

--P.M.

Title: No Roles, Just Love

Dedicated to: Solura

Written by: Lana Mavro
(copyright applied for)

I love your cat
I love your cooking
I love to watch you
When you aren't looking

I love your records
I love your books
And I love your
Sensuous, musky looks

I love your choice
Of movie or place
Your sense of humor
Your passionate face

I love making the bed
And washing the dishes
As your lovemaking is exquisite
And my response feels delicious

I love your individuality
I applaud your initiative
I love your sensuality
Where nothing is prohibitive

I love your heart
I admire your mind
I adore your pussy
And your ample behind

I love you hungry
And I love you sated
But I especially love you
Lubricated.

BUSINESS MEETING AUG. 20

1. The Treasurer was retained in office.
2. A subscription to the DOB calendar of \$1 for 6 months was created.
3. \$5 appropriated to get Guild Guide to gay bars.
4. Voted that only members shall hold office. or lead raps.

KUDOS OF THE MONTH to the rap committee for developing the rap sessions into one of DOB's most successful endeavors.

Focus is done by mimco and not offset this month, and probably for several more months, to bring the*cost of production more in line with subscription rates. We expect to go back to offset in the near future. We trust the content has not been affected.

*yearly

CANDIDATES FOR STATE LEGISLATURE ARE ASKED ABOUT GAY RIGHTS

by Laura McMurry

Where do the candidates for the Massachusetts legislature stand on gay rights issues?

What about those in your area?

The Gay Rights Alliance, an informally organized group of Boston area gay men and women, has been asking the candidates.

"Gay rights? What's that?", asked one.

"I have no stand. I have no comment," said Mrs. Agnes E. Moore, a black woman running from Roxbury, wards 8,9, and 12, and whose slogan is "Moore for More".

"I don't think it's an issue in my district," said Christine Bullen (Groton). Many candidates don't think there are any gay people in their area.

"I myself am a mother of 8 children, so I don't think it applies to me", was the first response of Ruth M. Fitzgerald (13th Middlesex, wards 4,5,6,8 in Newton).

On the other hand, Doreen Blanc (Cambridge Wards 1,2,3,4) said as she was handing out her leaflets in Central Square, "I'm all for it. I would introduce legislation into the State House if elected."

And Barney Frank (Boston, ward 5) has actively solicited the gay vote. "I am glad to see that gay groups in Massachusetts intend to mobilize to fight to end the oppression of gay people," he announced.

On August 15 the Gay Rights Alliance sent a questionnaire on gay rights to 300 Boston area candidates for the state legislature. The questionnaire asks if they would, if elected, support antidiscrimination laws for gays for employment, housing, insurance, and public accommodation, and if they would support repeal of the state sodomy and unnatural acts laws.

About 20 questionnaires have been returned, mostly favorable. The Alliance is attending "Meet the Candidate" nights, phoning candidates, and meeting with them. The goal is to publicize the stated stands of each candidate in the candidate's area before the primary election September 19. Similar work will be done for the general election in November. Some individuals are working for particular candidates who have taken positive stands on gay rights.

If you want to know where the candidates running in your area stand, or if you want to help (or give stamps for postage), contact G.R.A. through the D.O.B. mail or talk with me.

*SPECIAL OFFER -- 30 % OFF TILL OCT.1

*LESBIAN/WOMAN, by Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon

* This book has been acclaimed by all as one of the first really good books on lesbians. It was written by two of the founders of D.O.B. out of their two decades of experience in the lesbian movement. Chapters on LIFESTYLES, MYTH & REALITY, SELF IMAGE, GROWING UP GAY, LESBIANS ARE MOTHERS TOO, SEXUALITY AND SEX ROLES, and others.

* Boston D.O.B. wants as many people as possible to read and own this book and to give it to their friends and local libraries...So we have a special offer. We get a discount on bulk orders, and are willing to pass most of this on to you so you can afford the book.

* RETAIL PRICE \$7.95
* DOB PRICE \$5.80 (this includes mailing).

* TIME LIMIT!! All orders must be received by OCTOBER 1, 1972. Our order to the publisher goes out then. Make checks payable to DOB. Include your name, address, and ZIP!!!

"A REAL NEED FOR D.O.B. IN THE OUTSIDE WORLD"-FEMINIST FAIR VISITORS

by Chris and Jane

In spite of the bad location, intolerable heat and dust, the Feminist Fair received a generous number of visitors. The Fair commemorated the 52nd Anniversary of women's suffrage and was held Saturday, August 26 in the Cambridge Common. DOB, invited by the National Organization for Women who organized the fair, was present, even though the newscameramen carefully avoided our booth. It was our first official involvement with DOB and we were rather surprised by the reactions of some of the visitors, who, after furtively reading the posters, looked at us with puzzled eyes, expecting maybe to see something different on our faces. But on the whole, the people who came to ask for information, buy FOCUS, or talk about their experiences were quite interested. Several women expressed delight and surprise at the sight of the booth. Some were more timid and just took information from the table

without a word, and perhaps with just a hint of guilt on their faces. We were impressed by the number of mothers with children who stopped and talked freely about their problems as lesbians, women, and mothers. Obviously these women were in need of informative help and were waiting anxiously for some kind of answer. In fact, everybody who stopped at the booth impressed upon us the necessity of further involvement of an organization like DOB in the outside world. There is a real need for it-- that's the deepest impression left on us by the Feminist Fair. Aside from a few disdainful stares and a few cutting remarks, fully expected though reprehensible, from a few superstuds milling about (whenever more than two women are gathered they do tend to show up), the interest expressed by the women there made it more than worthwhile.

CLASSIFIEDS

1973 Calendar "Anonymous" was often a woman", with dates important historically to women. \$1. Women's Commission, Viking Union, Western Washington State College, Bellingham, Wash. 98225

Available in Sept... 2 Furnished Bedrooms and bath in private home w/kitchen privileges. Parking free, & 20 min. from Boston via train or bus. 2 working persons preferred Call or write D.O.B. Office.

FOR RENT: 2 beautiful rooms plus bath, 2 closets, stove, refrigerator, 1st floor, pets allowed, parking, near Ashmont Station. \$125/mo. Other gays in bldg. 287-0307 after 6pm.

THE LESBIAN TIDE. A monthly lesbian publication, written by and for the rising tide of gay women today; it will speak of their numbers, their lives, their ideas, and their pride. \$5 in Calif., \$6 elsewhere. 50¢ sample. Tide Collective, 1124½ N. Ogden, Los Angeles, Calif. 90046

WOMEN IN LITERATURE. An annotated bibliography covering prose and poetry by women, and works about women in literature. Summary checklists of works by black women and books dealing with lesbianism. 50¢ plus 25¢ for mailing from Cambridge - Goddard Feminist Studies, 1878 Mass. Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02140. (Checks payable to Gill Gene).

CLASSIFIED RATES 5¢/word

Gay Community Center. People planning for a Boston gay community center are meeting every Tuesday. So far few women have been involved but they are more than welcome. Call 354-1555 or 282-9181 (eves) for information

Fag Rag #3 came out in June, prepared by gay male liberation, and is available for 25¢ (call 354-1555, 354-1556).

Gay Teachers. Anyone interested in forming a gay teachers group call Charles at 536-9826.

Gay bars. 1270 Boylston St., Boston on Wednesday is Women's night. The Hiway Inn, Byfield, on Route 95 north, has a bar, swimming pool, and motel. We'd like a comprehensive article on the bar scene for women.

Lesbian Mothers. The summer 1972 issue of Mother Lode is devoted to lesbian mothers. It's 35¢ from Mother Lode, Box 40213, San Francisco, Calif. 94140. Boston DOB has a copy in the office.

Mattachine gets \$10,000. One of Mattachine Society New York's members died, leaving them \$10,000.

MORE CLASSIFIEDS

PSYCHOLOGY AND WOMEN

An annotated bibliography. 25¢ plus mailing. Checks payable to Sheli Wortis, Cambridge-Goddard Feminist Studies, address above.

Sidney Abbott & Barbara Love wish to invite you to a CELEBRATION of the Positive Attitudes & Beautiful Feelings that made

Sappho Was a Right-on Woman possible

Thursday, Sept. 7, '72 8-12 p.m. Aboard the WAVER TREE, South St. Seaport, Fulton & South Sts, NYC music, poetry & song

Discrimination barred

Ann Arbor, Michigan (population 100,000) became the first place in the nation to prohibit discrimination against homosexuals in employment, housing, and public accommodations within the city. The city council on July 10 amended the city's human rights code to include homosexuals.

Similar laws in East Lansing, Michigan and San Francisco apply only to employment by the city or contractors.

The Ann Arbor ban does not apply to transvestities.

Democratic Convention. Two days later, July 12, the gay rights minority platform was defeated at the Democratic National Convention in Miami.

S.I.R. fire. A fire, confessed arson, caused \$25,000 damage at the Society for Individual Rights' Community Center in San Francisco July 9. The center was not insured.

AMAZON QUARTERLY

A new lesbian-feminist arts journal coming out this Fall with stories, plays, essays, reviews, poetry, black-and-white drawings and prints.

Send manuscripts and graphics to: 554 Valle Vista Oakland, Ca. 94610

1 yr. sub \$4

Bulk order rates

Women's Video Festival, Sept. 14 thru Sept 30, at The Kitchen, Mercer Arts Center, 240 Mercer St., N.Y.C. Write there for info, or call 212-673-3457.

SUBSCRIBE TO FOCUS AND GET MANY FOCI!!!

Dear friends,

As gay people in this city of Boston, we have much for which we can be thankful. One great blessing in particular is that there are so many of us; our community is relatively large here, and meeting people and making new friends isn't too difficult.

...I am writing this letter to share with you yet another good thing (in addition to existing groups) planned for our people here in Boston; to let you know that provisions are being made with regards to the spiritual well-being of our people, an aspect of our lives which has for too long been neglected.

A community church group is now being formed. Its main purpose is to provide a comfortable, meaningful, and satisfying spiritual life for gay men and women in this city.

There is now a small group of us working on this project. Once a week, on Sunday evening at 7:30, we have an informal "rap session" over coffee and/or tea to discuss these matters; to exchange ideas and comments; to ask questions and to generally do all the planning and groundwork necessary for a successful venture come autumn.

The location of the meetings can be obtained by calling me at 723-3418. We want to extend a most warm welcome to anyone who would like to attend. TELL YOUR FRIENDS!...

If you have any questions or would like to talk with me, please call.

I hope to see some of you soon.

Yours in God,

Rev. Lawrence G. Bernier

NOTE: The Homophile Community Health Service received a letter from a woman in Yorkshire, England who wants a correspondent in the U.S.A. She is 35, gay, and a freelance photographer with many interests, and would like to write to a homosexual, female or male. Write first letter to DENISE, c/o DOB.

Dear Editor,

Both Diana and myself would like to thank the support we have been receiving from D.O.B. members. The telephone calls are great, even the ones at 2 am.

We do need a more solid flow of cards and letters. PLEASE. The President of Boston University thinks GAYWAY should go (it is on B.U. radio). Everyone at the station has put themselves on the line for the show. Such a show of solidarity has bought us little time. Please help us stay on the air. We need, need, need your support.

Please tune in the show if you have not heard it. It's on every Friday evening 90.0 FM on the dial, from 8:30 to 9:00 pm. Early enough so that you're not out to the bars or whatever yet.

Do listen and give us your opinion. Just write. We need to hear from you, or else you may not be hearing from us.

Write: WBUR Radio, GAYWAY
c/o Boston University
School of Public Communications
640 Commonwealth Ave.
Boston, Mass.

Yours,

Elaine Noble
Diana Travis

Dear members of D.O.B.,

I am a candidate for re-election as corresponding secretary. I would be glad to answer questions and accept suggestions at any time.

Sincerely yours,

Laura Robin

JOIN DOB JOIN DOB JOIN DOB JOIN D

ON MIRRORS

The poem is about that years-long struggle some of us went through to try to be "butch", forgetting that what we really were was women. The younger kids, thank God, are not going through it as much, but I most certainly did.

They have watched me in my bathroom,
carefully altering the figure within them
with brylcreem, bronzing gel, and Eau Sauvage.
They have seen me in the johns of raucous gaybars,
hopefully rearranging postures,
Ace-combing reflected hair,
so that the result might impress some nameless
pretty brunette.

They have watched me approve the reflected parade
on dance floors,
Strutting Jagger-like in blazer, jeans and boots,
trying hard to look as in-control as the macho
bartenders,
as cool and smooth as the reflection in the john.

And once when I wasn't looking,
they watched me light the jasmine candle near my bed,
watched me smile tensely down at the softness on my
pillow,
and watched the liquid warmth in her brown eyes
solidify
as she reached up to kiss another woman and touched
nothing but a cold, frightened form
trapped in a piece of glass

Maryann Gorski

POEM

You travel far
In realms of thought
You find peace.

Now you return
Come home once more,
You are changed.

Yet they are not
Those about you
are the same.

The world for you
Is not the same,
Yet they are.

You have learned much,
Your scope is broad,
theirs is narrow.

All the beauty
is spoiled now---
you are crushed.

They don't know
They cannot see
Ignorance

WHY?????

Geri

NEXT MONTH IN FOCUS: "Over the Fence"
with Diane O'Keefe.

TO THE D.O.B.

OLD WEST CHURCH

FUN FOR ALL

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER
9TH
12:00 PM
to
5:PM



Let us help you CLEAN OUT your closet.

BRING EVERYTHING
\$ \$ \$

WE DO ALL THE WORK!

you get 80% - we get 20% - OR you can donate the whole thing.

BRING YOUR ITEMS TO THE AUCTION

OR... DROP THEM OFF AT THE D.O.B. OFFICE, Friday the 8th 11:5:00
*** TAG EVERYTHING WITH YOUR NAME AND ESTIMATED VALUE!
COME FOR LUNCH - HOME MADE SUBS - YUMMIE!!

TELL YOUR FRIENDS



The History Project
<http://www.historyproject.org/>
info@historyproject.org

Thank you for using the manuscript collections of The History Project. Copyright restrictions may apply. If you have questions or wish to request removal of a document in this collection from our digital repository, please contact The History Project.

This PDF file contains images of an issue of the publication Maiden Voyage, produced by the Boston chapter of the Daughters of Bilitis from

The Daughters of Bilitis (Boston chapter) records Collection #0011

Recommended Citation:

[Item description including title, author, and date if known], Daughters of Bilitis (Boston chapter) records, The History Project: Documenting LGBTQ Boston.