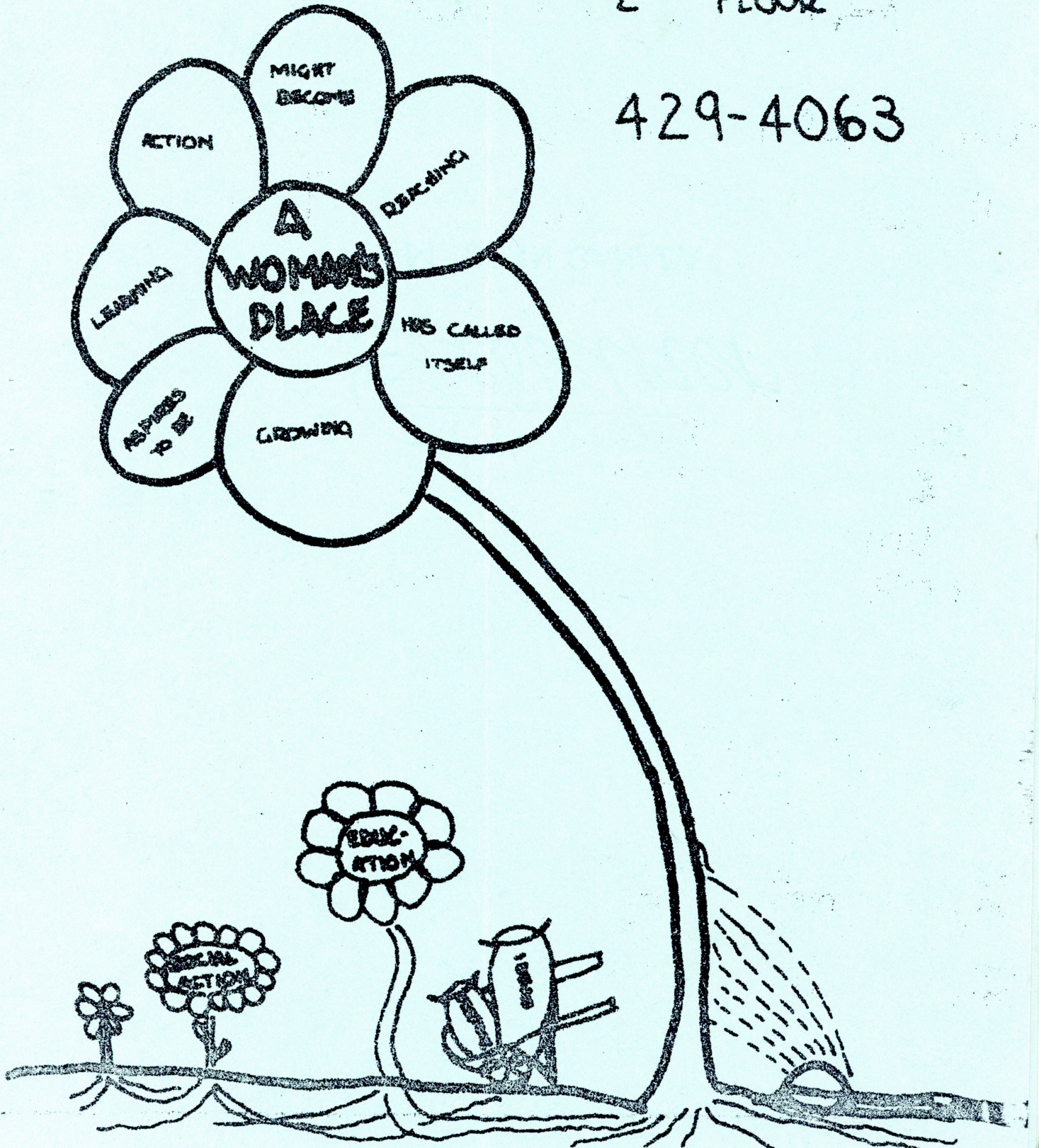


1225 BARRINGTON

2ND FLOOR

429-4063



ATTENTION

IMPORTANT GENERAL MEETING
TUESDAY 27 JUNE 7:30 P.M.

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

- PROJECTS 50 & 80
- DECISION MAKING
- FUNDING
- CORE GROUP FOR PLANNING ORIENTATION

YOU ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE
ON ANY OF THESE ISSUES
IF YOU HAVE ATTENDED ONE
PHILOSOPHY MEETING IN THE
PAST SIX MONTHS

HERSTORY

One of the characteristics of a group which is considered inferior and which has had no power is that it hardly ever appears in history books. Or if it does, it is usually in some stereotype. Consider, for example, the avaricious Jew, the savage Indian, the goggle-eyed and childlike black, the wily Oriental. Now add to that the queen and the helpmate, and you have the female counterparts. For if we are to believe history, women have hardly ever existed - except when they were of such exalted position that it overcame the low status of being female, or when they helped their husbands make history.

One of the main tasks now being carried out in the women's movement is to put together "herstory". For example, many feminists are convinced that there really once was a female pope. That the medieval Pope Joan was not a myth, but a real woman. Or did you know that one of the most courageous "conductors" on the Underground Railroad which brought escaped slaves to Canada was Harriet Tubman, a black woman?

Today Pope Joan is officially accepted to be an established fact. Yet from 855, when she died, to 1601, when she was obliterated from history - through all these centuries, says an early Catholic encyclopedia, "Joanna was a historical personage, whose existence no one doubted." She was officially known as Pope John VIII, under which name, the Encyclopedia continues, she "served as Pope two years, four months, and eight days, when she was discovered to be a woman and was stoned to death."

Much work is now going on to disinter women from history. The only Canadian example is the primer, *She Named It Canada, Because That's What It Was Called*, Published by Vancouver's Corrective Collective. In fact, the primer devotes more space to a Marxist overview of general Canadian history than to revealing the unknown (or known) women achievers and doers of our country. So, unless Marxism is your interest, you'll find it disappointing as a feminist work.

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING PROJECTS 50 and 80

As noted in the April newsletter, in the article What's in a Name?, these projects have been the focus of controversy and many discussions over the last six months. The poster written by Reel Life, "Women's centre hires woman as domestic", a criticism of the projects and the centres' involvement with them was also printed in the newsletter.

We stated that a full evaluation of these projects was underway and would be printed in the forthcoming newsletter. In this regard a meeting was held with several representatives of Halifax Social Planning to discuss these projects.

Since that time an employment committee has been formed to develop an employment philosophy for the centre and to specifically evaluate these projects.

Full evaluations are prepared and general recommendations will be presented to the General Meeting, June 13. It is felt to be important that these recommendations be approved at the general meeting and then they will be printed in the next newsletter along with the philosophy of the centre which will be decided upon at the June 13 General Meeting.

THE PHILOSOPHY DISCUSSION

As all the readers of this newsletter are aware, A Woman's Place has been undergoing considerable discussion about the general philosophy and direction of the house.

Over the last two months committees were set up to discuss eight aspects of A Woman's Place. These eight were health, child care, education, economics/employment, social action, services, decision-making and funding. Any interested women were invited to participate in these discussions and overall there was a high rate of participation.

All the committees have worked very hard to meet the June 13, 1978 general meeting deadline. At this point, all the committees have achieved their objectives which was to prepare recommendations for the general membership.

The committees are to be commended for their hard work in these areas of concern to all of us.

It is vitally important that all the women interested in A Woman's Place attend the June 13, 1978 general meeting since decisions will be made at this meeting concerning the future direction and scope of activities at A Woman's Place.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

- 1) June 14 at 10:00 a.m. come to Coffee and Conversation at A Woman's Place and hear Ms Agnes Burns Director of Para-Legal Information Centre, and Ms. Betty MacDonald counsellor with the Centre talking on para-legal information on uncontested divorce action with which their service is primarily concerned at this time. (Since Para-Legal moved to A Woman's Place, Forrest House their business has more than

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS Cont'd.

doubled so they are expanding service from Tuesday and Thursday nights to include a full day in addition.

- 2) June 20 at 7:30 p.m. An educational kit on Women and Addictions will be presented at A Woman's Place by Maureen MacDonald and Joanne Hanna of UNISON. The kit consists of a 20 minute videotape, a dossier of resource information and a large flip chart presenting all the pertinent facts and issues in alcohol and drug addiction. The videotape, made by an Australian Company features the daily existence of an average Australian housewife at home with small children. She articulates some of her problems and frustrations with her life and her discontent with the medical professions treatment of these frustrations. The kit makes a strong appeal for the necessity of feminist counselling.
- 3) June 21 from 7:30 to 9:30. The introductory session to an eight week course on How To Be More Assertive will be held at A Woman's Place. The group will be conducted by two staff members from Association For Family Life - Marge Shackleton and Marg Bogue. Participants will be shown how to handle uncomfortable situations through skills that help them communicate their feelings to others in a non-aggressive way. The focus will be on practical problem-solving with ample opportunity for participants to work on problems in their own lives. Some of the topics to be discussed are - how to say no and not feel guilty, becoming more expressive, learning to ask for help, and increasing self-confidence.

There is no fee for the course.

PROGRAMS AND EVENTS Cont'd.

- 4) July 14 from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Grand picnic barbecue in Point Pleasant Park for all members of A Woman's Place, friends family and interested public. Everyone is asked to bring their own food, drink, charcoal, blanket. The Barbecue will be held on the waterfront near the fortifications just past the huge anchor. Parking in lot near Black Rock Beach

PROGRAMS!

Public Speaking Course
Film Night
WenDo
Life Management Skills Course
Women In Small Business
Health Courses
Communications Skills Course
Assertiveness Training

PROGRAMS!

PROGRAMS!

Are You interested in any of these?

Would you like to see any of these programs happen at A Woman's Place?

Lets make A Woman's Place really meaningful to its members let us know - by telephone, by mail, in person what programs you want presented here.

A WOMAN'S PLACE NEEDS YOUR HELP

A Woman's Place desperately needs some volunteers for both the remaining weeks until we close for the month of August and for a three month periods next fall.

Do you like to:

- respond on a one to one basis to calls for help
- acquire a knowledge fo the services available for women in

this area.

-become familiar with the operation of a library and resource centre and of course enjoy reading such relevant material as is available

If any of the above appeal to you, then you should be on our 3 hour volunteer staff list.

LET'S GET MORE INVOLVED!

If you have any special expertise,
if you enjoy community service, or
if you want to be more politically involved, and
if you wish to become part of the governmental process,
THIS MAY BE YOUR CHANCE!

The Nova Scotia Women's Action Committee is sponsoring a project whose aim is to compile a data bank of names of competent women in Nova Scotia to be considered by the government when it appoints new members to its various boards and commissions. If you are interested in having your name, or the name of someone you know, added to this list, or if you would like additional information, please write to:

Women's Data Bank Project
c/o Peggy Morrison
Site 20, Box 4, R.R. 4,
Armdale, N.S. B3L 4J4

or call 425-5025.

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The cost of producing A Woman's Place newsletter has risen dramatically due to postage rate, cost of material and mailing list increases.

The newsletter is and will be available at A Woman's Place without charge, however for those of our readers who want the newsletter mailed to them we are again requesting that subscriptions be sent in with the form on the back cover completed.

Your support is needed to keep our newsletter going.

WHAT'S IN A NAME

You've heard a number of terms bandied about when people refer to the feminists. Aside from the obviously pejorative ones, others you may have heard are probably "women's liberation" (shortened sometimes to "women's lib" and derisively, to "women's lip"); "feminist movement"; "women's rights" and so forth. Let me just define a few terms. You'll find these and much more in the excellent history of the modern movement, *Rebirth of Feminism*.

"Women's rights" refers to the branch of women's movement primarily active in bringing about legislative, economic and educational reforms primarily active in bringing about legislative, economic and educational reforms to eradicate sex discrimination in social institutions. The most famous of them is the U.S. National Organization for Women (NOW), founded by Betty Friedan

Women's liberation is frequently used as a catch-all expression to describe the entire current women's movement. More appropriately, its use is restricted to the branch of the

WHAT'S IN A NAME Cont'd.

movement that had its origins in the student activism of the early 1960s. These women, primarily radical feminists, have thus far been primarily concerned with analyzing the origins, nature, and extent of woman's subservient role in society, with an emphasis on the "psychology of oppression." The structure most common to this branch of the movement is the small consciousness - raising groups.

"Women's movement" describes the entire spectrum of women's groups and activities. Its philosophy is feminism; its proponents, feminists.

The above article was reprinted from "Guide to the Women's Movement in Canada" by Bonnie Krups. Do you agree with it?

WHAT DO YOU THINK OF WHEN YOU HEAR THE WORDS FEMINISM OR FEMINIST???????

The newsletter is a forum for all women's views. Can we have your input on the above for the next newsletter for example, your definition of feminism, an appraisal of feminism or a criticism of feminism.

If you have some thoughts on this subject, please submit them in writing to A Woman's Place c/o Jinni Benson, Sandra Mimmo or Gayle Cromwell and they will be included in the July newsletter

ATTENTION

IN THE 1976 REPORT "HERSELF" THE NOVA SCOTIA TASK FORCE ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN RECOMMENDED THAT THE PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT ACT ON IMPROVING THE PORTRAYAL OF WOMEN IN THE MEDIA BY ASKING THE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION TO DEVELOP GUIDELINES ON WHAT CONSTITUTES DEROGATORY, DEMEANING OR DISRESPECTFUL PORTRAYAL OF WOMEN IN THE MEDIA.

THEY HAVE RESPONDED WITH THIS ENCLOSED QUESTIONNAIRE. WE URGE YOUR CO-OPERATION IN DEVELOPING THESE GUIDELINES BY FILLING THE QUESTIONNAIRE IN AND RETURNING IT TO A WOMAN'S PLACE, 1225 BARRINGTON ST. BEFORE JUNE 30.

NEWSLETTER
SUBSCRIPTION

ONLY \$1.50 UNTIL DECEMBER

MAIL IN COUPON NOW FOR
NEXT ISSUE WHICH WILL CONTAIN
PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

A WOMAN'S PLACE
FOREST HOUSE
1225 BARRINGTON
HALIFAX, NS

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE

PEGGY MORRISON
SITE 20 BOX 4
R R 4 ARMDALE
NS B3L 4S4

