



# Lavender Sheets

Lesbian Organization of Toronto

342 Jarvis St., Toronto, Ont.

960-3249

Drop-Ins Tuesday and Friday Evenings

April 1980

## A CALL FOR ACTION

For the past six months, a small core group of 8 to 12 wimmin have been doing all the work of running LOOT. These wimmin are currently committed to managing the legal and financial affairs of LOOT; carrying responsibility for physical maintenance of the house; arranging for various LOOT evenings e.g. Coffeehouses, Brunches and Benefits; and especially, regularly attending general meetings where the decisions are made to coordinate all these energies. Over this period of months, we have come to realize:

1. That the size and expense of the house are too great for the amount of regularly committed womon-energy.
2. That the current group of wimmin can continue doing what we're doing in a smaller space with lower expenses, but cannot also regularly do fund-raising dances.
3. That we need a new group of wimmin to do fund-raising, and only fund-raising, *right now!*

4. That we will be broke as of the end of May unless we make a lot of money before then.

At the March 30 general meeting we decided to start looking for new premises. We would prefer, of course, to have space donated: — so, if anyone knows of a space that could be given to us please call Jeanne at 489-3506 right away. Jeanne, Rose and Libby will all be looking at apartment-over-a-store and cheap office-type places. Again, if you know of anything, call Jeanne.

HOWEVER: we will not be moving anywhere, or *being* anywhere as of the end of May if we don't have money for expenses. That's where YOU come in. If you've never organized a dance before, now is the time to learn. If you have, please contribute your experience. There will be a meeting at 7:30 pm, Tuesday April 22 at 342 Jarvis St for wimmin to generate DANCE energies. Be there!

## LOOT Open House

Open House this year is Saturday, April 19 from 1 to 5 pm. There will be tables set up representing various wimmin's groups in the city, and also LOOT collectives. Wimmin with crafts or jewellery to sell, or with other ideas for a table, please call Jeanne at 489-3506. So far we have invited: Toronto Women's Bookstore  
Feminist Party of Canada  
Women's Credit Union  
Women's Healthsharing  
Rape Crisis Centre  
WCREC  
Gay Community Appeal  
LOOT Newsletter

And...there will be a BAKE SALE table!

Refreshments will be served on a donation basis: i.e. if you are not bringing refreshments for others, then we ask for a small money donation if you take some while you're here. Several wimmin are bringing goodies...bring along one of your favourites if you'd like to.

Finally, we'll be featuring a LOTO-LESBIAN, with half the ticket price going to prize money, and half going to LOOT.

After supper, come back to the Coffeehouse at 8 pm. Poetry, music and refreshments.

**The Newsletter Collective:**  
Mary, Kari, Judy, Mimi, Pink,  
Marg and Lynn.

**The Deadline** for the May newsletter is April 27. To submit a classified ad (please enclose \$2), announcement, or article, leave it at the LOOT office. Only material which is typed and double spaced will be published.

## GENERAL MEETING MARCH 11

Ten wimmin attended. Highlights include:

**Toike Oike:** Molson's has pulled their ad out of the Toike. A victory for lesbians and for Women Against Sexism at U of T.

**The House:** Beth has met the lawyer to discuss the house. The owner wants to get it fixed up.

**Open House:** This year is April 19. Booths will be set up by any wimmin or wimmin's groups wishing to participate. Open house is in the afternoon, and in the evening there will be a coffeehouse.

**Phoneline:** The tape recorder will be installed this week, at a charge of \$15 per month.

**Newsletter:** Heather-Anne resigned from the collective. Mary will report to the next general meeting on the status of the newsletter collective.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mama Quilla has paid us \$175. Rose, our treasurer reports that we have a balance of \$1300 after the Feb. rent is paid.

**Secretary:** Heather-Anne has volunteered to act as secretary for LOOT, keeping LOOT correspondence and records and answering certain correspondence.

## Are You Ever Lucky!

Seven new women turned up at what could have been the last Newsletter Collective meeting. Last month the readers of the LOOT newsletter were informed of the newsletter collective's resignation (minus one). The collective now consists of seven women who are committed to putting out an energetic, informative, and entertaining community newsletter.

We would like to thank the former collective members for their hard work and dedication. It is unfortunate that their resignation, and the very real possibility of losing the paper became the catalyst for the formation of a new collective.

We hope that you enjoy and continue to support the LOOT newsletter. Please don't wait for us to quit before you join.

## A BAR CATERING TO WOMEN

**FEATURING:** pool table, munchies, dance floor, big TV screen, backgammon.

**ENTERTAINMENT: Saturday matinee - 3:30 - 7:00.**

**Available now: good food at reasonable prices. Noon to closing.**

**OPEN: Mon. to Sat.: noon to 1 a.m.**

**On George just above Dundas in Stage 212 Hotel (enter off George St.)**

## Bio of the Month

Judith Punquer is a punk rock collector and holds a degree in anti-nuke terrorism (1979 University of Greenpeace). In her spare time she enjoys master baiting, espousing on the topic of disorganized anarchism (on which she's a noted authority) and refining her sniping and bombing techniques (a book on this subject will appear in the popular Punquin series this fall).

She owes every major book club and magazine at least \$17.95 for bill-me-later subscriptions.

## GENERAL MEETING MARCH 30

Seven wimmin attended.

1. General discussion on the house, and our financial situation. See "A Call To Action" in this issue. At the rate things are going, we will be broke and on the street by the end of May. The deadline for averting this catastrophe is the general meeting April 27. Our goal is to be able at that time to plan a smooth transition to new quarters.

2. Fridge: Resolved to use ice in the old fridge, rather than buy a new one.

3. Gail Bezaire Benefit: They made no money, and the house was left in a mess.

4. Tape recorder: Gay Community Appeal will likely give us money for a tape recorder.

5. Newsletter: Mary reported for the new newsletter collective of 8 wimmin.

6. Open House: See "Open House" item in this issue.

7. Coffeehouse: We will provide seed money for the coffeehouse, knowing that we will get it back, but will not subsidize a money-losing operation.



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## Butchford/Bulldyke

# REPORT!

### Room at the Top by Bulldyke

Well Butchford, I've finally been to the top of 342. For all who have wondered what lies beyond the door and the stairs leading to the 3rd floor, read on.

My opportunity to ascend came after months of careful cultivation of the friendship of "K." (the occupant of the top). I gradually gained her trust by bringing offerings of food and flowers to the foot of the stairs. Finally she noticed me (lying among the offerings) and invited me to dinner.

For months I had fantasized about the rooms at the top. I had imagined a colour scheme of lavender, tastefully furnished rooms, womyn's art and books everywhere and of course, the most luxurious lesbian love loft on the continent.

Breathlessly (and out of breath) I ascended. K. was waiting for me at the top, wrapped comfortably in an old sally ann robe. As we exchanged hugs and kisses I felt a twinge of disappointment, not because K. isn't a great hugger or kisser, but because behind her I caught a glimpse of the abode.

We began our tour. No lavender in sight. We entered a large white room. Knick knacks and memorabilia flowed from cardboard boxes, an unfinished painting leaned against a wall, a mattress leaned against another. In the middle of the room something wrapped in garbage bags sat on a narrow table. K. must have sensed my disappointment for she took my hand and said, "Would you like to see my bust?"

I was shocked and embarrassed, I didn't know what to do. Finally I let her decide. "Only if you want to," I said.

"I really don't show it to many womyn but those who have seen it like it quite a bit. It's been a month since I last worked on it but its still soft and pliable. Why don't you come here and judge for yourself."

I opened my eyes and saw K. fully clothed, standing beside a clay sculpture of a womyn's head and shoulders. Realizing my mistake I became totally speechless again and just nodded my approval. She seemed satisfied with that response and

went out into the hall. I followed.

We went to the kitchen, a small room with table and chairs. Pictures and posters covered one wall. There was also a hot plate and a small fridge. As she made tea she talked of her life at the top. There were some hassles like noise from the street and hauling water from the second floor. She also spoke of the pleasures, not having to travel for meetings, private concerts when the band practised, and of course the womyn. I perked up at that statement.

"What about the womyn?" I asked.

She smiled "They're wonderful, friendly and kind, although sometimes they forget to clean up or lock the door."

"Oh, do you know very many?" I asked.

"Hundreds," she assured me, "do you prefer legs or breasts?"

Once again I was shocked at her directness. How did she know? or was I misinterpreting again? I decided to take a chance, swallowing and looking her straight in the eye I replied, "I prefer breasts."

"Oh goody," she said "I got some really delicious ones."

My shock once again turned to embarrassment as she pulled a plate of fried chicken from the fridge.

We had a swell dinner and watched the sunset over the gardens (Maple Leaf that is) from her 4 by 4 foot fire escape balcony.

As I rode the streetcar home that night I thought about K. and her rooms at the top. They were nothing like I had expected and neither was K., but at least now I know.



# News: NO HOPE FOR PORT HOPE

The recent Port Hope flood has left radioactive waste in its wake. Eldorado Nuclear, the company responsible for dumping the 150,000 tons of uranium refinement waste near the town, has said the waste is low level and the residents should have no "cause for concern".

Port Hope is situated on Lake Ontario, the source of Torontonians drinking water supply. When questioned "authorities" said that "the radioactivity will sink to the bottom of the lake" therefore, we are to infer, rendering it harmless.

This, of course, is questionable. The reported low level radioactivity is anything but, since this kind is present in colour TVs and florescent lights. But people will believe anything and I would too if I lived in Port Hope. I also find fascinating the kind of logic these authorities use, because as it is very, very true that this radioactivity will sink to the bottom of the lake it is *equally* true it will float on top, *and* be suspended in the middle, *and* be absorbed by fishes, and.....J.P.

# The Big A (NY, NY)

The first thing I do when I visit a city is get out the phone and look under 'L'. New York was no exception. Disappointed at not finding the key 'L' word I flipped over to the W's and struck gold! Among the many listings of women's organizations and establishments, was the NY Women's Bar Referral Ass. Excitedly I dialed the number and asked for some bar referrals; to my embarrassment I discovered they referred attorneys, not taverns.

I then called Woman Books and had much better luck at getting some real bar referrals.

My friends and I were in the Big A a week and we tried to go to as many places and spaces as possible. Galleries by day, shows and bars by night. We trudged up and down the avenues and only skimmed the surface of the big big city. The following is a list and short description of some of the places we visited:

### Lesbian Switchboard 741-2610

open from 6-9 pm, a friendly dyke will tell you what's happening around town.

### Woman Books Amsterdam Ave.

— comfy couches, coffee in the back

— lots of books and buttons, plus a great bulletin board loaded with info on current women's events.

### The Dutchess a bar on Grove St.

Our favourite, we went several times. Not fancy, always full, we expected to meet someone we knew. It was described as the only feminist bar in the city but we'll never know why.



### Womanart Gallery

What a thrill, two rooms of wonderful women's art. There was a six women show that week and it consisted of everything — humour, politics, strength and beauty. Of the 'million' galleries we saw that one still stands out.

### Bonnie & Clydes

We were there on a quiet night and didn't stay long. Upstairs is a restaurant which a friend of mine tells me is a good place to eat.

### Peeches Lexington Ave.

small and cute 'private club'. all the gals wore snazzy clothes and make up — it was fun.

### Djuna Books

in the village, small but packed with books and stuff.

We went to two plays, one was a feminist revue and the other a musical about seven women in an assertiveness training class. There were at least a dozen others that sounded great. The Village newspaper has a good theatre section.

Well, that's my review of the Big A, a great spot for any woman on vacation (next to Michigan, of course). I didn't list any addresses because things are subject to change, so if you happen to be in NYC call and make sure that they still exist before going. For us in TO, who may never go to NY or may never go again, we have a few places of our own and our community is growing so look us up next month when we begin the Great Toronto Lesbian Places to Go Revue.

by Peache E. Keene who went with the Pink Flamingo

## WARNING:



# —ANNOUNCEMENTS—

**Coffeehouse** is April 19, at 8 pm, 342 Jarvis St. There will be poetry by Gwen and Pam, and music by Lynn.

**For a sane energy future**  
Rally and demonstration SAT  
APRIL 26 1 PM at City Hall. March  
to Queen's Park.

## **Feminist Film Festival**

April 19 & 20 at the Funnel, 507  
King St. E.

Opening night party featuring  
Java Jive at the Fly.

Tickets at the Women's  
Bookstore. For more info call  
Jacqueline at 978-2738 or  
964-8196.

**Daycare forums** sponsored by  
Action Daycare.

April 21 — Background to Issues  
and Movements

April 28 — Action Daycare's  
Political Platform

May 5 — Strategy Proposals for  
Concrete Action  
All at OISE, 252 Bloor St W at 7:30  
pm

books for, by and about women  
non-sexist children's books  
women's records, posters, buttons

## TORONTO WOMEN'S BOOKSTORE

85 Harbord Street  
west of Spadina  
922-8744

1. *Lesbian Path*, edited by Margaret Cruikshank. \$7.95.
2. *The Coming Out Stories*, edited by Susan J. Wolfe & Julia P. Stanley. \$7.25.

### **RECORDS**

New Cris Williamson record,  
*Strange Paradise*, 8.49  
New Margie Adams record,  
*Naked Keys*, 8.49

## Classifieds

**WANTED:** sensibly insane lesbian with stable income for relaxed east end co-op. \$175/m everything included. Washer and dryer. Call: Natalie, Mona 463-4322 or Erving 262-5465.

**PRECISION** Style Haircuts at reasonable rates by Erving. Call 463-4322.

**PROFESSIONAL** Hair Styling done by Karen \$5. Call 961-1768, a 24-hour answering service.

**WOMEN VAN** available for moving, etc. at good rates. Call Karen at 961-1768, a 24-hour answering service.



### **BEST OF THE YEAR YARD SALE.**

May 10, 12 pm, 15 Washington.  
Refreshments available.

# Calendar April/May 1980

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
6	7	8 Gen. Mtg. 7:30 * Drop-in*	9	10	11 Drop-in*	12
13	14	15 Newsletter mtg. 8 pm * Drop-in*	16	17 Phone-Line mtg. 8:00*	18 Drop-in*	19 Open House 1-5 pm Coffeehouse 8 pm
20	21 Daycare Forum at OISE 7:30 pm (See Ad.)	22 7:30 pm * Dance committee Drop-in*	23	24	25 Drop-in*	26 DEMO. Anti-Nuke Demo 1 pm at City Hall
27 General mtg. 2 pm	28 Daycare Forum at OISE 7:30 pm Newsletter mtg. 8 pm	29 Drop-in*	30	1	2 Drop-in*	3
4	5 Daycare forum at OISE	6 Drop-in*	7	8	9 Drop-in*	10

\* events taking place at 342 Jarvis

## YES!!

Subscribe me to the best 12 months of my life.  
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**Lavender Sheets**

available for \$5.00

LOOT, 342 Jarvis St,

Toronto, Ont.

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