

AUGUST NEWSLETTER
No. 15

The Women's Place
31 Dupond Street
Toronto 5, Ont.

Mon-Thurs: 10:30-9:30 PM
Fri and Sat: 10:30AM-8:30 PM

August 1973

As you all know one of Women's Place's more important functions is to provide resources and space for groups organizing around a women's issue. At this time there are many groups forming. They need women, women with ideas, commitment, and time. If you feel the need to get involved but haven't yet found your niche you might be interested:

GROUPS NEEDING VOLUNTEERS? AND MEMBERS

Women's Place Volunteer Co-Ordination Committee:

The volunteer book has been updated. If you want to help in running the centre you should ask for job descriptions for volunteers needed and decide the area in which you would like to work. If none of the jobs listed is suitable or you want to volunteer only for occasional jobs, you should enter your name and phone number in the Reserve Volunteer Section of the Volunteer Book. When you pick a job contact the co-ordinator listed and arrange to begin. For job descriptions phone Women's Place.

High School Women's Course:

A group is being formed to prepare a women's course to submit to high schools. We hope to include women's history, biographies of great women, sex role stereotyping, etc. We still need to set up content and structure and find support. A meeting date will be set. If you are interested phone Elaine, 929-3185 or 537-8544.

Newsletters Collective:

The newsletter requires a considerable organizational campaign once a month. The responsibility has rested on one set of shoulders (mine). I'm looking for volunteers to form a newsletter collective to take over the responsibility. No skills are needed. Phone me if you are interested. Elaine, 929-3185, or 537-8544.

Interval House No. 2:

Interval House is a co-operative house where sole support mothers can stay for a month or more while adjusting to a new and independent life. It was set-up last winter and accomodates five women and their children. Of course it is not adequate to meet the needs of women in distress in Toronto. The waiting list is growing and we would like to meet women with interest in the idea of setting up a collective to work on plans for a second house. If you are interested phone Marianne or Val at 929-3185.

Police Pamphlet on "Self-Defence" for Women

A pamphlet is being circulated in Toronto apartment buildings and public places by the Metro Police Department called "Woman Alone" and its purpose seems to be to terrify women who are living in the city to stay home. Some of its typical bits of advice are: "Avoid feminine home identification; change mailbox tag from 'Mary Smith' to 'M. Smith'. Avoid hanging lingerie outside. Look inside car before entering--intruder may be crouching on floor in rear. Be wary of strangers in conversation; avoid giving your name, residence or work location". The pamphlet puts the whole burden of avoiding rape and other attacks on the woman. Nowhere does it mention anything about the penalties for rape and assault, or warn men against hounding women on the street. Nowhere does it say anything about women learning to defend themselves.

Mayor Philip White of York, who sits on the Police Commission, has said what with a show of "organizational backing" he could allow a group of women to address the Police Commission about the pamphlet and about police attitude towards women. Alderwomen Anne Johnston, Elizabeth Eayrs and North York Controller Barbara Greene have raised objections to the pamphlet too. This would be a good opportunity to raise a strong women's issue at City Hall. Anyone who is interested in following these things up, please contact Kathy McDonnell at 924-3871.

Ransac...ZAP! Action

We at Women's Place have fidgeted a lot at the mention of Beauty contests, Bikini nights at taverns and other beauties that men dream up. Many of us have planned zap actions at such functions and often ended up ~~in~~ wishfully thinking "If only there had been more demonstrators...If only we'd been more organized."

We want to get organized! Do you want to join us. We call our collective RANSAC. If you're interested phone Rowena at 929-3185 or Judith at 537-8544 or 9293185.

Single mothers Group:

If you are interested in getting together weekly for a conscious raising group with other single mothers get in touch with Elaine: 929-3185 or 537-8544.

Women's Place Services

Legal Clinic:

There is a legal clinic at Women's Place every Wednesday evening from 5:30-9:30 pm and every Friday afternoon from 1:30 to 5:30. During these times, some student women lawyers will be here to handle any problems you may have in connection with immigration, unemployment insurance, taxes, wills, consumer law and family law (custody, adoption, separation and divorce). It is recommended that you phone Women's Place and make an appointment for the clinic, if you have any specific problem to discuss. However if you need some general questions answered concerning "women and the law" during the week, phone 929-3185 and ask for Judith or leave a message.

Medical Clinic:

There is now a medical clinic at Women's Place every Saturday with a woman doctor in attendance. Kids can also be brought to the clinic. For an appointment phone Women's Place.

Bookstore News:

The Lettuce Out Bookstore is trying to establish a mail-order service for women who cannot visit the Women's Place. We must ask, however, that you include 50 cents plus the price of the books to cover mailing costs.

Non Fiction Books

1. The Boston Women's Health Book Collective: Our Bodies, Ourselves, a book by and for women. \$3.25.
2. Devlin, Bernadette, The Price of my Soul, \$1.25.
3. Diner, Helen, Mothers and Amazons, \$2.75
4. Gould Davis, The First Sex, \$1.50
5. Martin, Del and Phyllis Lyon, Lesbian Woman, \$1.50
6. Firestone, Shulamith, The Dialectic of Sex, \$1.25
7. McClung, Nellie, IntTimes Like These, \$2.95
8. Atwood, Margaret, Survival, \$3.25
9. Callwood, June and Marvin A. Zucker, Canadian Women and the Law, \$2.50
10. Landes, Ruth, Ojibiwa Woman, \$2.85

Fiction and Poetry

1. Atwood, Margaret, Surfacing \$5.50
The Edible Woman \$2.75
Power Politics, \$2.50
2. Engel, Marian, The HoneyMan Festival, \$2.95
3. Plath, Sylvia, Ariel, \$1.95
The Bell Jar, \$2.95
- 4, Laurence, Margaret, Jest of God, \$1.95
The Stone Angel, \$2.80
5. Lessing, Doris, Martha Quest, \$1.95
A Proper Marriage, \$1.95
A Ripple from the Storm \$1.95
Landlocked, \$1.95
Four-Gated City, \$2.50

Children's Books

1. Widerberg, Sir, I'm Like Me. Poems for People who want to grow up equal, \$1.50
2. Katz, Bobbi, Nothing But a Dog, illus. by Esther Gilman, \$1.50
3. Montgomery, L.M.? Anne of Green Gables, \$1.50
4. Heyn, Leah Lurie, Challenge to Become a Doctor, the story of Elizabeth Blackwell, Illustrated by Greta Handschub, \$1.50
5. Kahims, Jane, MJ's View, Illus. by Judy Garcia, \$1.00

Conscious Raising Groups

Women interested in C.R. Groups, please call Renate at 929-3185 or 239-1305 and leave your name, phone number and times you have free. She will notify you as soon as a suitable group forms.

The North York YMCA at Bayview and Sheppard is offering the Following Liberation School Courses.....Fall Program

1) A Woman's Guide to Practical Political Campaigning:

All the Basics of campaigning, from getting the nomination to election day. Organizing resource person is Eleanor O'Connor (Ellen Adam's campaign manager) Thurs Even. Oct 11 to Dec 13, \$15.

2) Women and the Law:

Gloria Montero: will include family law, labour law and criminal law. Mon Eve's Oct. 15. to Nov 19 \$15.

3) Our Bodies, Our Selves:

A course on Health care for women with Mary Stern, contributing editor and research assistant for the book, Our Bodies, Ourselves. Thurs afternoons, Oct 4 to Dec. 6 \$20. fee includes copy of the book

4) What is the Women's Movement?

A group for women just becoming interested in the whole area of the women's liberation movement. Resource person-Sandy Stienecker, Thurs. afternoons. Oct. 4 to Nov. 22 \$15.00

For more information call: Babbara McGuigan 225-7773

"Women's Lib." Type Press

Is available for printing jobs. We will do Movement and personal work-flyers, pamphlets, letterheads, children's books, reprints, etc., Movement prices for movement work. Call women's place for further information.

Acte

Anyone knowing anything (positive or negative) about ACTE (the office workers union) call Sonia (x) 922-2426 (after 7pm)

Rent Control in Ward 6:

Anyone working for better housing and more especially Rent Control in Ward 6 call Sonia 922-2426 (after 7 pm)

OUT OF TOWN CENTRES

Vancouver contacts

Vancouver Women's Bookstore

Women's Centre

Pedestal

804 Richards st

(Richards and Robson)

Announcements

Lesbian Meeting:

What happened to the Lesbian Drop-In? What's happening now that the conference is over? When are Lesbians going to organize around our own oppression? Why can't we get a place of our own to meet in, relax and have a good time? Meeting for Lesbians

Friday Aug 10, to get together again and discuss these things,

I am deserate. For more information call Rowena 368-4381, 929-3185

Liberation School Courses..... Fall Program
1) A woman's guide to practical political organizing: All the basics of campaigning, from getting the nomination to election day. Organizing resource person is Eleanor O'Connor (Ellen Adams' campaign manager) Thurs Even. Oct 11 to Dec 13. \$15.
2) Women and the Law: Gloria Lehrer: Will include family law, labour law and criminal law. Thurs Even. Oct. 12 to Nov 19. \$15.
3) Our Bodies, Our Lives: A course on health care for women with Larry Pereg, contributing editor and research assistant for the book, Our Bodies, Ourselves. Thurs afternoons, Oct 6 to Dec 6. \$20. fee includes copy of the book.
4) What is the Women's Movement? A group for women just becoming interested in the whole area of the women's liberation movement. Resource person-Gandy Stenecker. Thurs. afternoons. Oct. 4 to Nov. 22. \$15.00
For more information call: Barbara Holman 222-7777