

OCTOBER NEWSLETTER

The Women's Place
31 Dupont Street
Toronto, Ontario

Mon. - Thurs. 10:30 a.m. - 9:30 p.m.
Fri. & Sat. 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
Phone: 929-3185

Dear Sisters:

The anxiously awaited letter from the Secretary of State's office arrived last week. We will receive the \$15,000.00 we requested to pay for project Labrys which begins in November. The money will cover the salaries of two organizers and a small percent of the Centre's overhead expenses.

Chris is leaving at the end of September. The Hiring Committee is going to recommend Sharon Pirnak for her position. The Committee has changed the focus of the job from mostly organizing outside the Centre to a more administrative job, with almost regular hours. Sharon has been working at the Centre for almost a year, so many of you may already know her. She will start October 1st.

We desperately need people who will take Saturday shifts at The Women's Place, to answer the phone and do the housecleaning. Saturdays are usually quiet, so one person can be in the office while the other cleans. We also need someone to take the Tuesday and Wednesday afternoon shifts, the Friday morning one, and the Monday evening one. Please call the Centre if you can give some of your time.

The Information Package is finally printed. It has been in the works for at least 7 months. It is composed of 7 pamphlets and all but one were written by women from around The Women's Place especially for this package. Topics discussed are some of the main issues of concern in the Women's Movement: Why women don't "work", Volunteerism and the Status of Women, Lesbian Feminism, Abortion and Birth Control, Pink and Blue Cages, Sex-role stereotyping among children, Women's Place - a brief history, and Are Men the Enemy?. It costs \$2.50, and is available from the bookstore. Please include 50¢ extra if you want it mailed out.

The group working on the "People Box" is starting to meet again after the summer holiday. We are making non-sexist materials for elementary schools. If you are interested in working with us, please call Leah at 929-3185.

Margaret Anderson
Mother Was Not a Person, compiled by

BOOKSTORE NEWS

NON-FICTION

- 1. Notes from the Third Year \$1.50
- 2. Consciousness Raising Kit \$2.50
- 3. Rough Times -- Special Issue: \$.75
Women & Psychology
- 4. Our Bodies Ourselves, by the Boston \$3.50
Women's Health Book Collective
- 5. Male & Female, Margaret Mead. \$.95

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- 1. The Diary of Anais Nin - Vol I & II each \$3.95
- 2. The Price of My Soul, Bernadette Devlin \$1.25
- 3. Memoirs of a Dutiful Daughter, \$1.80
Simone de Beauvoir
- 4. Rebel Girl, by Elizabeth Curly Flynn \$4.95
- 5. Harriet Tubman, by Earl Conrad \$.75

FICTION

- 1. The Golden Notebook, Doris Lessing \$2.95
- 2. Memoirs of an Ex-Prom Queen, \$1.75
Alix Kat Shulman
- 3. The Bell Jar, Sylvia Plath \$2.95
- 4. Orlando, Virginia Woolf \$1.50
- 5. Martha Quest, Doris Lessing \$1.95

CANADIAN BOOKS

POETRY

- 1. Stone, Sharon Stevenson \$2.50
- 2. The Animals in that Country, Margaret Atwood \$3.25
- 3. Driving Home, Miriam Waddington \$2.95
- 4. Mindscapes -- a collection \$2.50
- 5. Power Politics, Margaret Atwood \$2.50

FICTION

- 1. Surfacing, Margaret Atwood \$5.50
- 2. The Book of Small, Emily Carr \$1.75
- 3. The Tomorrow Tamer, Margaret Laurence \$2.50
- 4. Street of Riches, Gabrielle Roy \$1.75
- 5. The Double Hook, Shiela Watson \$1.50

NON-FICTION

- 1. Mother Was Not a Person, compiled by \$3.95
Margaret Anderson

- 2. Women Unite, an anthology of the Canadian Women's Movement \$3.00
- 3. Abortion in Canada, Eleanor Pelrine \$1.50
- 4. The Ojibwa Women, Ruth Landes \$2.85
- 5. Canadian Women and the Law, Marvin Zuker and June Callwood \$2.50

BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY

- 1. Winter Studies and Summer Rambles in Canada, Anna Brownell Jameson \$1.95
- 2. A Gentlewoman in Upper Canada, Anne Langton \$1.75
- 3. Roughing It in the Bush, Susanne Moodie \$1.95
- 4. The Backwoods of Canada, Catharine Parr Trail \$1.75
- 5. Clearing in the West, Nellie McClung \$2.98

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

PICTURE BOOKS

- 1. Fresh Fish and Chips, Jan Andrews, illus. Linda Donnelly \$1.50
- 2. When I Visit Daddy and Daddy Visits Me, text by Susan Wakeling Gustar, illus. Vivian Whatmough \$1.25
- 3. Firegirl, Gibson Rich, illus. Charlotte Purrington Farley \$1.95
- 4. Penelope and the Mussels, Shirley Boccaccio \$2.00
- 5. Nothing But a Dog, Bobbi Katz, illus. Esther Gilman \$1.50

FOR AGES 6 - 9

- 1. I'm Like Me, poems for people who want to grow up equal; Siv Widerberg \$1.50
- 2. Challenge to Become a Doctor, the story of Elizabeth Blackwell; Leah Hiyn, illus. Greta Handschuh \$1.50

FOR AGES 10 - 13

- 1. Harriet the Spy, Louise Fitzleugh \$.95
- 2. Pippi Longstocking, Astrid Lindgren \$.95
- 3. Charlotte's Web, E. B. White \$.95
- 4. Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Mary Ann Oakley \$1.50
- 5. Anne of Green Gables, L. M. Montgomery \$1.50

For all mail orders please include 50¢ for the first book and 20¢ for each thereafter, to cover postage and packing.

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LEGAL CLINIC

The Women's Place Legal Clinic will be staffed this Fall by women law students from the University of Toronto Faculty of Law. These women will be happy to try to help you with any legal problem you happen to have; income tax, separation, divorce, sex discrimination, etc. However, due to the fact that the clinic is staffed by students rather than lawyers, there will be some limits as to what they can do. In the event that your problem is too complicated, you will be referred to an agency or individual capable of handling your problem.

In order to better assist you, it would be helpful if you could bring all documents relevant to the problem along with you. Appointments are necessary and can be made by phoning Women's Place. Fall clinic hours are Wednesday evening 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. and Monday afternoon 5:30 p.m. to 9:30 pm.

The students regret to say that due to the volume of business and the complexity of problems presented, it is not possible to advise by phone. If you are in need of a quick answer to a simple legal problem call 928-6447 (Campus Legal Assistance Centre) daily between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. All services are without charge.

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COUNSELLORS

Professional counselling is available from 6:00 p.m. to 9:30 pm every Wednesday evening at Women's Place. Either phone for an appointment or drop in. Counsellors: Amy Siren & Lynn Eakin

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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.

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LIBERATION SCHOOL

Starting October 16th. Carpentry and auto-mechanics are not being offered as we couldn't find women to teach them. If you are skilled in these areas or know of women who are, call me - Sharon, 690-0816 or 929-3185. We can include these two courses in our next Liberation School.

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CONSCIOUSNESS RAISING GROUPS

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

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VOLUNTEERS

Do you have two hours per month to spare? We need help! It takes alot of womanhours to put out the Newsletter each month.

The last week of every month, we need women to

- type fold
- address staple
- collate stamp

If you can do any of the above, PLEASE call The Women's Place or Judy, at 961-8050.

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INTERVAL HOUSE #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 accommodates 5 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 Charlotte Wall at 766-9794.

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GROUPS ! MEETINGS

High School or College-Age Women: A consciousness-raising group is being formed for women who are in this age group and new to the movement. If interested, phone Lisa - 239-5563; or Ilona - 537-4930.

I'm interested in getting a group of women together to explore personal growth and interpersonal relationships using Gestalt, B.E., movement, etc. If interested call 921-7777.

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Cinema of Solidarity - 2: The Toronto Committee for the Liberation of Portugal's African Colonies (Angola, Guinea, Mozambique) presents A Sunday Night Series of political films

depicting the struggles of people throughout the world for liberation.

- October 7 Fidel! (America, Saul Landau) in colour, 95 min. 1969
- October 14 Emitai (Senegal) 110 min., in colour, 1972
- October 21 End of the Dialogue (South Africa) 45 min., in color
- October 28 Southeast Asia: 3 up-to-the minute short films on Cambodia, North Vietnam, and Laos.
- November 4 Os Fuzis (The Guns) (Brazil), b&w, 110 min., 1963
- November 11 Free People in 'Portuguese' Guinea, in colour, 45 min., 1970.

Med. Sci. Auditorium, University of Toronto, King's College Circle, Subway: St. George. 8:00 p.m. on Sundays. A single entry ticket at the door will be \$1.50 (students and unemployed \$1.25); a series of 8 entries is \$9.00. For more information, telephone 967-5562 during the day; 531-8109 in the evenings or on weekends.

WOMEN UNITE Free lecture series. Women's Studies, U of T. 928-4928.

- Oct. 3: History of Women in Canada
- Oct. 10: Women in the Family
- Oct. 17: Growing up Female
- Oct. 24: Rape
- Oct. 31: The Older the Better
- Nov. 7: Prostitute

Faculty of Education. Spadina & Bloor. 7 pm Wednesdays

We are a group of women who wish to launch an educational campaign against sexist advertising. We are in contact with several feminist groups in the States who have undertaken similar projects with surprising success. These American women have been compiling educational "kits" for advertisers and manufacturers which offer advice on how to eliminate sexist approaches in the promotion of various products. Of course, this is, in a sense, a massive undertaking---but at least it is a start.

We would like to call a general meeting of all who would be interested in this project in the second or third week in Oct. Anyone with advertising experience is very welcome. Topics to be considered at the general meeting: promotional approaches that are offensive and why, what we would like to see changed and how, compiling of a "kit" and should they be for sale? (as in the States), surveys of women's attitudes to advertising in general.

Please phone the Women's Place in order to put your name on a sign-up. Please give both your name and address. We will contact you about the date of the general meeting. Please help!

Woman in Port Credit - Clarkson area very much wants to contact other women concerned with feminism. Call Elenore 278-5606.

Tuesday, October 10th, 8:00 p.m., at St. Lawrence Town Hall - a public forum considering the ineffectiveness of the United Community Fund and its annual fund drive, the United Way - also looking at alternatives to this kind of charity.

The people promoting this are Citizens Concerned About Social Policy, c/o 620 Millwood Rd., Toronto 298. They need your support, by letter, by being at the meeting, and by buying a poster from The Women's Place.

The Founding Meeting of the Ward 5 Sub-Committee of the Mayor's Task Force on the Status of Women will take place October 10th (Wednesday), 8:00 p.m., in the staff room of Huron Street Public School, 541 Huron Street. The purpose of the meeting is to determine the needs of women in the area and to discuss a structure for the Sub-Committee. For more information contact Walker Jones 368-6892, or Helen MacDonald 368-0606.

Rape - Recently many women have called the Women's Place and expressed interest in doing something about the rape situation in Toronto. We are getting together to discuss ways of setting up a crisis centre, including funding, education for women, medical and legal professions and police, and self-defence courses.

If you are interested in being involved and putting energy and ideas into the project, call Lorraine Brown at 921-1338.

Lesbian Meeting: We're organizing a meeting for Fridays, 8:00 p.m., and a discussion group for Tuesdays, 8:00 p.m., The Women's Place. For more information phone Rowena 929-3185 or Ellen 921-6517.

Mayor's Task Force on the Status of Women at the Metro level needs women from all areas of Metro Toronto to work on it. Some areas of discrimination being researched are: social services, communications, housing, and labour. For more information call Dorothy Thomas, Alderwoman, City Hall.

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"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.

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"LETTER FROM ADRIENNE POTTS"

Dear Sisters

Well, it's over. I went to Court (along with 33 sisters - many of whom I hadn't previously known) and made it out in one physical piece.

The courtroom scene was a great educational experience for me and many other women. I was found guilty on very sexist terms, with the biggest term being the prosecutor's decision that "It was just wishful thinking that Miss Potts thought that men would proposition and ogle her"; and then there was the Judge, who maintained that "It was only fantasy on her part" and "I'd like to think that we have one of the finest police forces..."

All in all, it was just another day of oppression directed towards women; the only difference was that it was more blatantly displayed in this case.

The Judge managed to cop out and grant me an "Absolute Discharge". Translation: "We have found you guilty but it won't be on your record, and there will not be a sentence. But remember, we didn't believe your"

I wish to thank the women that showed up in the courtroom for their support (and their hissing and heckling when the Crown became too unbearably sexist); the woman who yelled Shut up when I got carried away reciting my objections; the women who held me, made me laugh, and in general gave me the strength to make it through those four months. I would like to thank those of you who sent donations in order to keep the Committee active; those of you who wore down your index fingers dialing telephones, writing letters, etc.; and finally those of you who sent out those good vibes that made me feel that I wasn't alone. I love all of you, and I know for sure that together we're going to make it.

Love and Struggle.

P.S. Since everyone has been sending the Committee so much money, and since we don't need any more, all cheques made payable to the "Adrienne Potts Defence Committee" shall be turned over to the Women's Place where it is desperately needed.

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WOMEN'S LIFE, THE NEWS

It is available for printing... We will be providing... work - flyers, pamphlets, children's books, newsletters, etc. Movement prices for movement work. Call Women's Place for further information.

We have asked the Feminist Women's Health Centre, from Los Angeles, to include Women's Place on their tour. They offer a self-Help Clinic Presentation including a demonstration of self-examination and information on high quality abortion care. Films will be available on abortion, tubal ligation and natural childbirth. Their topics include an on-going Self-Help Clinic, menopause Self-Help Clinic, a discussion of radical mastectomy, and a woman's right to be fully informed of the options open to her. We haven't received confirmation of the date, but it should be between Nov. 1-3. We have sent a \$50 deposit, therefore must charge admission. Please call the centre at 929-3185 after October 15 to get the exact date and cost.

Exhibit of prints by Susan Herman at Me and My Friends Gallery, 237 Queen Street West opens October 13th at 1:00 pm. It continues through November 8th.

There has been some confusion about the request for a \$2.00 donation for the newsletter. The \$2.00 is for a year's mailing, not a month's. Sorry that we caused this mix-up. All women on the mailing list have not yet responded. Please, if you want the newsletter, let us know; if you want it and can't afford the \$2.00 that's fine - we just want to know that you're receiving the newsletter and that your card is still active and correct.

Messon's Out. WDB 3MA
34 Belfry Dr.
-019-111111

London 21 Outfit
31 Belfry Street
THE WOMEN'S PLACE

I wish to pledge: _____ per month
donate: _____
to the Women's Place.

Here's my \$2.00 for the newsletter:

Name _____

Address _____

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onna Hunter,
34 Pettit Dr.,
Weston, Ont. M9R 2W9

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