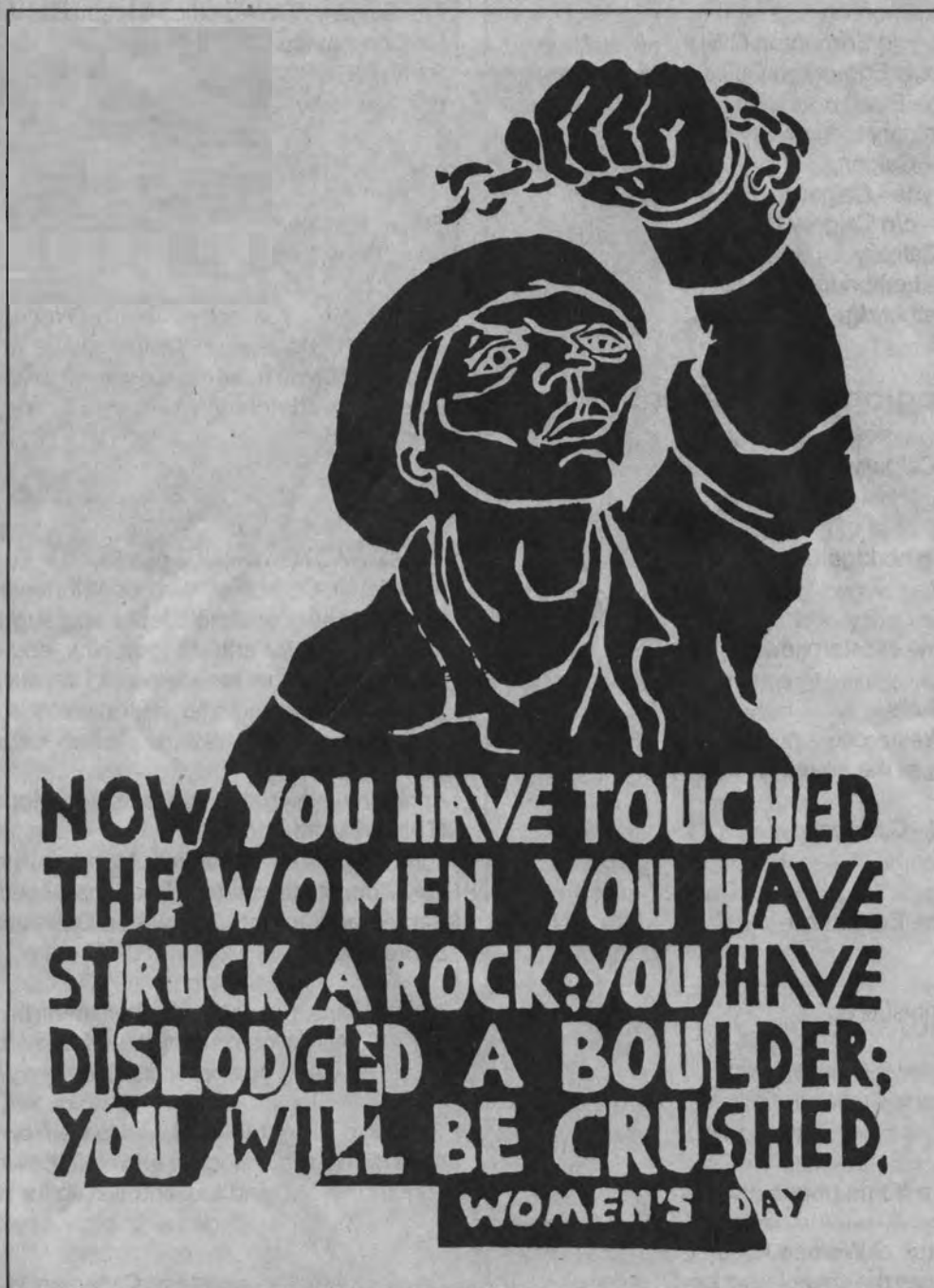


ASWAC

Alberta Status of Women Action Committee

MARCH NEWSLETTER 1989

Volume 10, Number 2



INSIDE: International Women's Day '89



1988/89 Board Members

Annette Aarbo - Edmonton
Noreen Bell-Geekie - Edmonton
Maria Seeber - Edmonton
Jane Haslett - Edmonton
Helen Greaves - c/o Edmonton Office
Shelley Scott - c/o Edmonton Office
Phyllis Jackson - Bawlf
Jean Munn - Calgary
Marilyn Seelye - Calgary
Jacqueline Preyde - Calgary
Anne McGrath - c/o Calgary Office
Nancy Miller - Calgary
Debbie Foster - Lethbridge
Rita Kolpak - Lethbridge

1988/89 Regional Representatives

Elaine Peters - Calgary
285-1214

Addie Miron - Lethbridge
327-4396

Lois Soderstrom - Westeros
586-2091

Gerry Bailey - Westeros
(temporarily out of the country)

Joan White Calf - Camrose
672-2210

Kathleen Davies - Edmonton
452-8722

Lori Crocker - Innisfail
227-1141

Elin Harley Barlem - Innisfail
227-2927

*All numbers are home phone numbers.

The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee gratefully acknowledges the financial support it receives from the Secretary of State Women's Program.

ASWAC's mailing address is: Box 1573, Edmonton, T5J 2N7. The Edmonton office is located at 9930 - 106 Street, on the lower floor with the rest of the Edmonton Women's Building. Phone 421-0306. Office hours are Monday to Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

ASWAC Lethbridge is located in the Women's Resource Centre on top of Woolworths, at #202, 325 - 6 Street South, T1J 2C7. Phone 329-8338.

The Calgary ASWAC office is located in the Old Y Centre for Community Organizations, #303, 223 - 12 Avenue S.W., T2R 0G9. Phone 233-0731 for recorded information and to leave messages.

Since January, ASWAC has gratefully received donations from the following wonderful people: Mary-Ann Warunkiw, Lorna Keating, Barbara Janzen, Gloria Chalmers, Inga Jesswein, Jennifer Wolfe, Leslie Stewart, Elaine Roberts, Sharon Yasinski. Also, we'd like to send a big thank-you to all the women who volunteered their time for the Edmonton Women's Building Fundraiser on January 28.

The ASWAC Newsletter is produced in Edmonton by the Newsletter Collective, with contributions from across the province. Feedback, input and suggestions in the form of ideas for articles, graphics, and especially notices of events that are happening in your area would be very much appreciated. Here are the deadlines for upcoming newsletters:

April/May Newsletter - Deadline: Monday, April 17
(Theme: Motherhood)

June Newsletter - Deadline: Monday, June 5

July/August Newsletter - Deadline: Monday, July 24

September/October Newsletter - Deadline: Wednesday, September 13

The deadline means that the item must be in the Edmonton ASWAC office on that day; if items can be sent in earlier, it would be appreciated.

Thanks to all contributors, and to the *Newsmagazine* by Alberta Women collective and Nola Erhardt for typesetting and layout, and to Central Web for printing.

Cover illustration courtesy Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW)

Seminar Held On "Exploding The Myths"

by Shelley Scott

On Saturday, February 11, a day-long seminar entitled *Feminism: Exploding the Myths* was held in Lethbridge at the Women's Resource Centre. Co-sponsored by ASWAC-Lethbridge and the New Democrat Women's Section, the seminar consisted of four workshops and was attended by about 25 women.

candidate for Lethbridge-West, spoke next about the subject of *Women and Politics*. She pointed out that it was not until 1920 that white women in Canada got the vote, and not until 1960 for native women; as a result, the political system has been developed by and for men, and women have had neither a long history of political involvement, nor an

featured excerpts from various popular songs, which she used to illustrate the ideas about love and sex which are prevalent in our society. Debbie's discussion covered a wide range of topics, including birth control, sexually transmitted diseases, sexual assault and abuse and pornography. Debbie told us that while 25 per cent of Grade 9 and 50 per cent of Grade 11 students are sexually active, less than one-third of them are using contraceptives regularly, and she discussed the realities in Alberta's health care system that allow this situation to continue.

The final workshop of the day was entitled *Whose Language?* and was led by former ASWAC Board member Terri Ann Marco. Terri Ann stated that language not only reflects reality but also provides a framework and a back-up for everything we do, so it is important to examine it.

Her discussion included topics such as: who gets to talk more, who interrupts who and who gets to select the topic of conversation; the differences in the way that men and women speak; and the way words have had their original meanings obscured and degraded -- words such as hag, crone and spinster, that were once positive and are now being reclaimed.

The seminar was an excellent and comprehensive introduction and exploration of feminism and a real learning experience for all the women in attendance.



Seminar Participants (Photo by Shelley Scott)

Pat Chuchryk of the University of Lethbridge Sociology Department began the day with a workshop entitled *No, I Don't Hate Men*. Pat talked about the anxieties and fears some women feel about calling themselves feminists, and how the statement, "No, I don't hate men" sums up many hidden assumptions about how they fear they will be perceived. "I don't hate men" is also a way of saying, "I'm not a lesbian", "I'm not aggressive", "I like children" and all the other things that women may feel a need to defend themselves against.

Pat took the participants through a very thorough exploration of the feelings of anger and hatred and what women can do with those feelings, and ended with a definition of feminism that is about loving and accepting ourselves and each other as women.

Joyce Green, the New Democrat

opportunity to have our experience represented. Joyce strongly encouraged all women to get more involved in the political process because, she suggested, if we do not, we are "writing the powers that be a blank cheque".

After lunch, Debbie Foster led a workshop entitled *It's My Body*. Debbie is an ASWAC Board member and sexuality counsellor and her highly innovative and informative workshop



Rita J. Kolpak (Photo by Shelley Scott)

Co-ordinator Hired

ASWAC-Lethbridge has hired Rita J. Kolpak as office co-ordinator for the Lethbridge Women's Resource Centre. Office hours are: Monday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Regular meetings are held every Wednesday night. Call 329-8338 for more information.

FROM CALGARY:

LEAF Extravaganza Gets A Mixed Review

by N. Sophie Sticate

I wanted to go so badly. It was billed as the Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) Roadshow; I had imagined it as the political/feminist extravaganza of the year. The cheapest tickets, however, were \$30 and I could not possibly put a concert that high on my priority list. Then, on a cold and stormy morning, a friend called. She had complimentary tickets; I was ecstatic.

I went to the show full of expectations: great music, a little comedy, friends and a political message with which I was almost certain to agree. My expectations were not borne of experience -- I had never attended a concert like this before.

The concert was long; it lasted two and a half hours and it was a mixed revue: singing, comedy, dance, dramatic monologue and even a rock and roll band.

Connie Kaldor hosted the evening and performed the opening numbers. Her music and lyrics were very moving and I thought, "Here I go, I'm going to cry all night." Her songs reminded me of how it feels to be female in 1989... a little joy, a little laughter, a little love, a little tragedy.

A terrific comedy group, the Clichettes, performed twice. They are a "lip sync" group and they satirized two songs: *Walk Like A Man* and Paul Anka's *Having My Baby*.

Their mime against the background music was hilarious; it was the most entertaining political response to sexist music I have ever seen.

A dramatic monologue was presented by Aritha van Herk, a Calgary writer. She was the Grim Reaper: dressed in black, scythe in hand. At first, I was not impressed. She talked about women and art. I thought it was dramatic, but in a pretentious fashion; it was certainly all too morbid.

I did not immediately understand the message, but my distaste for the presentation did make me think. She talked of women, art and poverty. She asked us if we knew how many women artists die at a young age, and die in poverty -- as we sat there, celebrating culture with a feminist bent, did we remember reality? At first I was very annoyed; afterwards, I felt the performance to have been the most compelling political message of the evening.

Buffy Ste. Marie was billed as one of the main attractions of the show. She came on stage in a hot pink, sequined, mini, mini dress. I didn't mind that; I figure liberation is largely about choice and she can wear what she wants.

Her voice is powerful and moving. I do appreciate the odd love song, but some of her music was disturbing. I do not like songs about "goin' up to Whipple Creek to have a little fun" when the protagonist is male and the fun is his "little girl".

On the other hand, she did sing two political songs: one was about the urban native, the other about rape and pillage of native lands. The messages were profound, but in the context of the overall performance, they were not emphasized. Many people might have thought, "What a soulful little ballad"; they should, however, have been inspired with anger at the conditions.

Buffy Ste. Marie's performance was not inspiring, and her cynicism, perhaps only a misunderstanding on my part, came through all too strongly.

There were other performances: a bilingual rock and roll band from Saskatchewan; a Japanese drum ensemble from Vancouver; and an amazing dub poet, Lillian Allen, originally from Jamaica. Much could be said about these performances but this "short" review is getting out of hand.

The Roadshow was an inspired idea. Cultural presentation of political views, and especially of feminist issues, is a terrific way to inspire and motivate. Unfortunately, the promotion of LEAF and other issues was under-emphasized. I did not feel particularly inspired to become more involved. One of my biggest regrets of the evening was the lack of passion for "the cause": it was not presented, it was not received.

A Woman's Place Bookstore
and Circle Productions present:

**Heather Bishop
in Concert**

Friday, March 31

and

**Lucie Blue Tremblay
in Concert**

Friday, April 21

**Both concerts held at Orpheus
Theatre, SAIT, at 7:30 p.m.**

**Tickets available at a Woman's
Place Bookstore (1412 Centre St S)
and Holomagic (917 17th Ave SW)**

ASWAC BOARD MEETS IN CALGARY

Please note: Members are reminded that they are welcome to attend board meetings in their area. Upcoming meetings are: April 1-2, Edmonton; May 27-28, Lethbridge; July 8-9, Pigeon Lake; September 9-10, Edmonton. Don't forget the ASWAC Annual Assembly (AGM), October 14-15 in Lethbridge.

In attendance: Nancy, Maria, Jean, Annette, Shelley, Helen, Jackie, Anne, Debbie, Rita (board); Elaine (regional rep); Frances Adams (social development officer, Secretary of State Women's Program). *Missing:* Jane, Noreen, Marilyn, Phyllis.

1) **ROUND** - Some of the things discussed during the round: Nancy will be moving to Calgary in early March and Jackie will be moving to Lethbridge. Maria reported on organizational and funding problems at Changing Together (A Centre for Immigrant Women).

2) **BOARD POSITIONS** - Jean and Anne will review all board categories and bylaws and will report at the next meeting.

Rita will be a full board member.

3) COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) *Women Against Poverty (WAP)* - A provincial WAP meeting took place February 11; the committee reviewed its role and its recommendations regarding the hearings co-ordinator.

Concern was expressed about the time-line of the hearings falling during the provincial election campaign. It was decided to go ahead as planned, with possible adjustments when the election is called.

b) *Hiring Committee* - An ad was sent out for the hearings co-ordinator position, applications came in, a short list was prepared and two women were interviewed. The committee made its recommendations, which were approved by the board. The position was offered to Diane Wazny, and she accepted February 21.

c) *Membership Committee* - Debbie asked to be moved from a full member to a peripheral member.

Anne will write a letter asking those people whose membership has lapsed to renew, and also mention fundraising (this task later completed by Jane). Shelley will have labels made of all lapsed members and have the letter photocopied, and Jane will do the envelope stuffing. Maria and Shelley will go through old index files of old members and make a list, then throw out cards. Shelley will send a copy of the letter to Rita, so she can use it for a letter to encourage all ASWAC-Lethbridge members to also become provincial members.

Annette reported that the Edmonton Telephone Tree is doing extremely well.

d) *More Than A Label Campaign* - The membership committee needs to review and reactivate this campaign.

Since Nancy is leaving Lethbridge, we need to pay the TV station for our commercial (\$800 invoice will be forthcoming to the Edmonton office). Nancy will make some master copies to take with her. She will be advanced \$40 to buy VHS tapes so she can make copies of the commercial; these will be taken to TV stations to convince them to run the ad as a public service announcement and the master copies will be used to actually air the commercial. Master copies can also be purchased by other women's groups to use; the Manitoba Action Committee on the Status of Women (MACSW) has expressed interest. Nancy will be sure to copyright the material.

e) *Policy Portfolio* - Phyllis was not present, but she has reported that she has been in contact with MACSW, and requested old policy and procedures materials from the Edmonton office.

Jean will inform Phyllis of what happens in the Bylaw Review and Personnel Committee meetings.

f) *Assembly Committee* - This committee will involve Rita, and meet sometime before the next board meeting.

4) **NATIONAL ACTION COMMITTEE REPORT** - Anne reported that NAC has had an increase in demands placed on them, but no increase in funding or fundraising.

An Organizational Review Committee is looking at feminist process and efficiency, how NAC committees work (there are about 20) and the relations of member groups to NAC and whether or not they should move to individual members too. They have regions and regional reps, but no structure within the regions.

Recommendations on constitutional amendments will take place at the next meeting (March 11-12 in Montreal).

Anne gave a brief summary of what some of the NAC committees are currently working on: *Employment and the Economy* - preparing a women's budget, forming coalitions on economic equality. *Women and Technology* - preparing a brief on clerical work. *Education and Training* - monitoring re-entry programs. *Free Trade* - monitoring the effect on women and preparing a brief on women as entrepreneurs. *Child Care Committee* - Instead of fighting Bill C144, they are demanding new legislation based on what child care lobby advocacy groups and the National Council on Welfare have advocated. They are lobbying the new minister, Perrin Beatty, and want to hold regional conferences and a national conference. They want to hear from women interested in becoming corresponding members, and want a letter of support from ASWAC for their funding application. *Reproductive Rights* - working with the Canadian Abortion Rights Action League to lobby new MPs and women MPs.

The NAC AGM is May 12-15 in Ottawa and the theme

is *Women For Social Solidarity*.

NAC is also working with other groups on a program called *Naming The Moment*, an exploration of how diverse groups can work in coalition.

ASWAC-Lethbridge will look into becoming a member group of NAC.

Questions were asked of Anne regarding a national employment equity group, the possibility of NAC moving to multi-year funding and more regional organization.

Anne wants to continue as an Alberta representative of NAC next year; ASWAC will endorse her self-nomination.

5) **PERSONNEL** - Helen is finding that she accumulates a lot of overtime but finds it hard to take time off; part of this will be solved when her position becomes full time in the fall. In the meantime, she must be very clear about her priorities and must demand that her decisions about what she can take on be respected. She was encouraged to take off chunks of time during slow periods, and to consider only attending part of each board meeting.

ASWAC will be providing complete employment benefits, including full salary during maternity leave, since this was the original intent of the Personnel Policy.

Anne has a short-fall of around \$2,924, which will be paid to her as a back-to-work bonus.

Staff have applied for certification in the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Local 3249 (which is made up of about 13 people from the Edmonton Learner Centre, Unisphere in Medicine Hat and the Development Education Co-ordinating Council of Alberta in Calgary.) The three staff will form a bargaining unit, and the collective agreement with the rest of the board will be the Personnel Policy (once it is revised and agreed upon). The idea of unionizing has been discussed since the Shoptalk Weekend in May of 1986, when the Saskatchewan Action Committee women talked about their experience with unionizing. The main reasons for it are: as a protective measure, to give the Personnel Policy a more binding nature; and as a gesture of solidarity with organized workers and the labor union movement. Nancy will contact the Saskatchewan Action Committee for information about their experience and have it sent to the Edmonton office; Shelley will forward it to Jean. The Personnel Committee will remain the same (with the possibility that board members not present at this meeting may still wish to join). The board will work toward a feminist model of union involvement and this, and collective process, will be discussed at the next board meeting.

6) **BUDGET** - The proposed budget for Secretary of State was presented and accepted. We will apply for \$6,000 from the SEED program to hire two students this summer, one each in the Edmonton and Calgary offices.

Although Helen's position becomes full time as of April 1, she can't start working full time hours until at least October, so we will save about \$7,000 over six months; this money can be used to top up SEED staff wages to \$8 an hour. This may also be done with the STEP staff person

the WAP-Edmonton group wants to hire.

- The new hearings co-ordinator will apply for a grant from Oxfam for hearing expenses; \$2,500 will also come from the general account for her travel expenses.

- Helen is looking at the possibility of holding workshops on equal pay as a way to raise money.

- Cash advances can be provided to those who request it; a special form will be developed for this purpose.

- Board meeting expenses can be reimbursed at board meetings; all other expense claims must come through the Edmonton office.

\$1,000 is left over from last year's Shoptalk Weekend. Shelley will contact other western Status of Women groups to see if they want to organize another one and if they need any financial help. The rest of the money can be used for board education -- bringing in speakers to board meetings and paying for conference fees.

7) **ALBERTA ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WOMEN'S ISSUES UPDATE** - Helen reported on the Advisory Council Action Project's meeting with Minister Responsible for Women's Issues Elaine McCoy and their intention to meet with Premier Don Getty. They are also maintaining contact with a network of women's groups. Board members have identified and will approach women to submit their resumes to the Edmonton office; the Project will then submit them as our nominees to the Advisory Council.

8) **REGIONAL REPS** - There is a budget of \$3,663 for regional rep expenses; Shelley will write to the reps, asking if they'd like that money divided between them or left as a lump sum they can all submit claims against. The letter will also encourage reps to attend board meetings.

Elaine Peters and Kathy Davies will organize the first regional rep meeting.

9) **MAIL/OFFICE ITEMS** - Fiona (our bookkeeper) will receive \$15 per hour for any hours she works over her maximum of 20 per month; this will retroactively cover the hours she put in for the Budget Committee. Any future overtime must be approved by Annette and Shelley.

We have a pile of outdated resumes in the Edmonton office; Annette will have them shredded.

Shelley reported on an *Unlearning Racism* workshop to be held April 28-30. A notice will appear in the newsletter and members encouraged to attend. Some members could be sponsored by ASWAC. (Fee is \$20.)

Jackie and Debbie reported on recent developments in the struggle for reproductive rights in Alberta.

10) **CONFERENCES** - There are a number of conferences coming up: *Let's Stop Kidding Around* in Edmonton, February 22-25 -- Cathy Reininger will attend; *National Child Care Day Care Conference* in Winnipeg, April 5-8 -- Noreen Bell-Geekie will attend; *Women and Mental Health* in Banff, May 11-13; *NAC AGM* in Ottawa, May 12-14 -- Anne will be attending and Shelley, Helen and Jean have also expressed interest; *Women's Centres Conference* in Blairmore, June 2-4 -- the entire board expressed interest in attending.

LETHBRIDGE:

IWD Celebrations Varied In "Deep South"

by Rita J. Kolpak

International Women's Day activities in the deep south (Lethbridge) encompassed many women's groups, issues and ideas. We had a National Film Board (NFB) Studio D film festival in light of their 50th anniversary, and workshops, poetry, theatre, wine and song. All women who attended the events came out feeling a solidarity which often goes unnoticed in the everyday struggle.

We began Friday, March 3 with an NFB film titled *Holding Our Ground*, which was about women in the Philippines. The general consensus of women who viewed the film was that it had depressed us. We discussed women in developing countries in order to figure out what we could do about the atrocities practised against women all over the world, and then we went through a debriefing process -- we had a reception in our office.

Later in the evening, we invited some French-Canadian women to join us and were suddenly swept away with French-Canadian folk

music sung to the tapping of spoons. A delightful surprise event in our activities.

Day 2 began with coffee and muffins early in the morning, along with displays of all the organizations who sponsored IWD. Our first workshop was *Women and Poverty*, during which a film, *For Richer For Poorer*, was shown. About 30 women participated in the workshop and a great discussion was led by Terri Ann Marco. The result of this first workshop was a list of names for a Women Against Poverty group.

We took a lunch break then and were treated to an International buffet lunch sponsored by the Multicultural Women's Centre. The lunch was a raging success.

Our next workshop was titled *South African Women Working for Social Change*, and was led by a woman from South Africa (whose name must not be published due to the South African consulate's watchful eye). She spoke about what it is like being a woman in South Africa,

the dual discrimination and struggles to form a women's group during a "national crisis" -- the government does not allow a group of more than four people to meet. Nevertheless, women there are still communicating, which is an inspiring thing to hear.

The woman from South Africa was quite surprised to hear how much we actually know about South Africa -- the government censors them so much they have no idea what the rest of the world knows unless, of course, they leave the country. She did state that boycotting South African goods will certainly not make blacks more impoverished, as they have very little wealth as it is. A powerful workshop.

Our third and final workshop was on *Native Women*. A large group of native and non-native women exchanged thoughts, feelings and stories. Many of the same issues which came out of the workshop on South Africa also came into play in this workshop. Dual discrimination and poverty were key exchanges.

Concurrent with workshops was a Studio D film festival, which included *The Legacy of Mary McEwan*, *A Woman's Place*, *Women Want...* and *Doctor, Lawyer, Indian Chief*.

The workshops and films were all proof that women must come together and share information to pass on knowledge, be it of South Africa, the native community, or our own particular community. The workshops and films were attended by women from all walks of life, and we shared for a moment our own experiences. This is the stuff of which optimism is made.

Saturday night, we had a celebration. The first half of the evening was filled with women's culture: we enjoyed theatre, poetry and song. I opened the evening with a piece I wrote about a woman being alienated by her husband, then Linda Harvey and Ann Houlton sang to the beat of a



Lethbridge Women Show Where They Are (Photo by Terri Ann Marco)

drum and the strum of a guitar. Teresa Hartley, an 84-year-old Columbian poet shared her poetry, in Spanish, after which an Interpreter read her work in English.

We presented ASWAC-Lethbridge "founding mother" plaques to Addie Miron, Ida Horn, Terri Ann Marco and Kathy Willis, and Nancy Miller was presented with an "out-standing activist" plaque in appreciation of her hard work in Lethbridge, and in mourning because she's leaving the city.

The final event of the evening was Louise Odeland, performing for the first time in two years. She performed her own written work, and was given such support that she came out again for an encore, singing a song she had written in Grade 6 titled *Why Was I Born A Tree?* The crowd went wild!

After the entertainment, the evening continued with wine and dance.

Sponsors of IWD events were: the NFB, ASWAC-Lethbridge, World Citizen's Centre, Multicultural Women's Centre, Canadian Federation of University Women, Alberta Native Women's Association, Four Worlds Development Project, Sexual Assault Crisis Centre, New Democrat Women's Caucus, YWCA, Uniform and Country Women of the World and A Woman's Place Bookstore.

The final event for International Women's Week was an all candidates forum March 8. Questions asked of the politicians dealt with child care, violence against women, the wage gap, reproductive health, the Meech Lake Accord and tax fairness. All but one candidate came out for it, and we had an audience of 44 people. This "lack of attendance" was cited in the local paper as indicating that women are content with their "place". Letters to the editor have been sent out.

(ASWAC-Lethbridge is proud that the two constituencies in Lethbridge have gender parity in this election. Two of the three women are even ASWAC members -- Joyce Green and Sylvia Campbell. Congratulations to you two, and to Rhonda Rustin as well!)

EDMONTON:

Group Braves Cold To March

by Jane Haslett

Chanting slogans and singing *Bread and Roses* into the snowy air, a large, energetic and very vocal group of women, with families and friends, paraded in the streets of downtown Edmonton Saturday afternoon, March 11.

The bright side of International Women's Day: "Women united will never be defeated", balloons and colorful placards, images of women singing, hugging, speaking out and working together, contrasted with the dark side of: "No new abortion law", "Pay equity", "Not the church, not the state, women must control their fate" and images of women living in poverty, abuse and ridicule -- uneducated, uncelebrated, ignored and badly disadvantaged by the current political agenda in our country.

The struggles and the reasons for the march go on.

A speech by Muriel Stanley-Venne set the tone for this *March Against Racism* and sent us all out into the cold with lots of vim and

vigor. She spoke of the experiences and concerns of Metis women, their culture, history and traditions, and how these women are working to find their own answers to their problems.

The large audience in the YWCA gym responded with clapping and cheers, and the march began.

Following the march was a pot-luck supper, and later there were events sponsored by different women's groups and individual women. These included a candle dance, Chilean and East Indian dancing, singing of women's songs, native drumming and last, but definitely not least, belly-dancing!

International Women's Week festivities also included a Third World Film Festival, various socials and speakers and women's music with women deejays on CJSR radio all day March 8.

There were also concerts by Faith Nolan and Ferron, a public forum on the dangers of privatization and workshops on *Immigrant Women*, *How to Unlearn Racism*, *Women and Development* and *Native Women*.

Maintenance And Mothering Discussed On International Women's Day In Innisfail

by Lori Crocker

International Women's Day was celebrated in Innisfail March 8 with an enlightening discussion about the maintenance enforcement program. In the evening, women focused on

single mothering, with a talk by a Red Deer lawyer and single mother who spoke about trying to get some action on the issue. The assembled group sang feminist songs, supported one another and had a good evening.

Medicine Hat Holds IWD Conference To Discuss Visions For A Better World

by Jane Haslett

A very successful one-day conference took place in Medicine Hat on Saturday, March 11 to celebrate International Women's Day. The theme was Visions For A Better World.

There were three workshops,

each given twice, on *The Feminization of Poverty*, *Women of the World (A Global View of Women)* and *Women and Health Care*.

They were very well attended, and were followed by a banquet with a story-teller and a singer to end the celebrations.

CALGARY:

More Than Ever Before Take To The Streets

by Jane Haslett

A march took place in Calgary on March 8, but unlike their counterparts in other parts of the province, these lucky marchers basked in warm and sunny weather!

Greater numbers than ever before and many "new faces" turned out to march for International Women's Day, then enjoyed celebrations, a

supper, several women singers and an a capella group singing very exciting African music.

The rest of the week (March 1 to 11) featured a very full calendar of events, involving many women's groups.

Several film series took place, as well as workshops on *Sexuality Education, Resolving Conflict and*

Self-esteem, Support Systems for Battered Women, Immigrant Women, AIDS, Information as Power, Feminist Therapy and Legal Services for Battered women.

International Women's Week events ended with a Rock Against Racism, featuring many bands and musicians, held both Friday and Saturday night.

Newsletter Group Appreciates Input And Wants More!

IWD has come and gone, and once again it has brightened our days with thoughts of all the women who have worked in sisterhood to change the world for women, children and also men.

We have an important heritage as women, and it is a proud day for us when we remember it and celebrate it.



Congratulations to all the women organizing around the province, and thanks to those who wrote in about different and exciting International Women's Day activities.

The ASWAC Newsletter Collective welcomes news of your activities; sharing our experiences is a very important part of creating our her-story.

(See page two of this newsletter for more information.)



group plans a pot-luck supper, followed by a film and discussion on matters relating to women's issues. (One of our members plans to change the sign on a lavatory door in our local mall from *Girls to Women*, all for IWD.)

Our group has felt pressures of "having to do" jobs in the community, and has done so in the past. However, there was a need expressed from several members to meet for

IWD Pot-Luck In Peace River Is Part Of Ongoing Activities

For International Women's Day in Peace River the women's

group plans a pot-luck supper, followed by a film and discussion on matters relating to women's issues. (One of our members plans to change the sign on a lavatory door in our local mall from *Girls to Women*, all for IWD.)

purely personal reasons. This we have done on a monthly basis; we bring supper (pot-luck) to a member's home and the month's hostess provides a topic of discussion for the evening.

For me, being the senior member of the group, this has met a real need in my personal life, as I am very active in our community, giving much of my time and energies to society, and often feeling there are too many demands all around.

All good wishes!

Sincerely,
Marie Plaizier

Edmonton YWCA Announces Plans To Provide More Affordable Housing

The Edmonton YWCA has announced plans for providing housing alternatives in two downtown locations. Paula MacLean, director of New Program Development explains, "The YWCA of Edmonton has been providing housing since 1907. It's something we've always done, and done well. We're aware of the pressing need for affordable housing in the downtown area and we have the expertise to do something about it. The two projects are a three-floor, walk-up apartment building and a nine-storey highrise. The walk-up units will be home to 17 single moth-

ers requiring affordable housing and eight women in need of counselling and support services. The highrise

YWCA
EDMONTON

project will accommodate 90 lower-income adults in 63 suites. Rental rates will be based on 25 per cent of the occupants' combined gross annual income."

IN DRUMHELLER:

Newspaper Must Print Apology Following Offensive Comment

by Shelley Scott

On December 14, 1988, ASWAC was sent a copy of a comment which was printed in the November 16 edition of the *Drumheller Mail* weekly newspaper. The writer of a column called *Roundabout* had written: "Did you know that November is Family Violence Prevention Month, so don't beat up on your old lady in November -- wait for December or January."

Several letters of complaint were sent to the *Drumheller Mail* from residents of Drumheller; in response, the editor wrote that *Roundabout* is a "fun" column and "no apology will be forthcoming".

ASWAC, along with about nine individuals, filed a written complaint with the Alberta Press Council. The Council forwarded our letters of complaint to the *Drumheller Mail* and sent us copies of the paper's reply (it was not the apology we demanded).

The Alberta Press Council met in Calgary February 17, 1989, and found in favor of our complaints. The Council faulted the newspaper on three levels: for allowing the offensive comment to be put into print in the first place; for its unprofessional approach in dealing with the complaints; and for its unfortunate portrayal of the scope and nature of family violence.

A statement released by the Council states:

"If the intent of the Drumheller Mail's Roundabout column was for humor only, it missed its mark. If the intent was to poke fun at the organizers of Family Violence Month, the joke was lame. If the intent was to mock the victims of family violence, the joke was indefensible."

All member papers of the Alberta Press Council, including the *Drumheller Mail*, are bound to print the Council's statement.

Open Letter To Getty

There are few words that can describe the deep sense of sorrow, outrage and horror that we collectively felt when you deemed it appropriate to joke about beating women and children. Ironically, your joke was made on the very day you proposed be designated as Family Day (the third Monday of February).

The many Albertan women who have experienced broken bones, cracked ribs and concussions have a right to expect more from their Premier. A government leader joking about this serious problem causes us to wonder if the words about families and violence are just words. We require leaders who have a real depth of understanding, commitment and caring.

In May of 1982, federal MP Margaret Mitchell rose to ask a question about wife battering in the House of Commons. She was answered with snickering and laughter by male MPs from all sides of the House. Following this display the MPs were compelled to publicly apologize to the women of Canada.

Almost seven years later, our Premier has shown a complete lack of regard for the victims of wife and child assault. We demand much more than a half-hearted apology riddled with excuses that only serve to prop up the idea that it may be acceptable to occasionally joke about these matters.

We sincerely hope that the Premier will take some time out from his campaign schedule to educate himself about this issue, consider the depth of the insult he has leveled and apologize fully for adding to the hurt and sorrow experienced by victims of violence against women and children.

Signed,

ASWAC, National Action Committee on the Status of Women (NAC), Canadian Abortion Rights Action League (CARAL), Legal Education and Action Fund (LEAF) and the Calgary Women's Health Collective.

Letter written by Anne McGrath

ASWAC And Alberta Women Were Involved In Provincial Election

ASWAC's strategy for the provincial election included:

- * a phone-around to all Edmonton members, informing them of any upcoming forums in their ridings.
- * ASWAC-Edmonton participated in a forum on women's issues sponsored by the Business and Professional Women's Club on March 7; ASWAC-Lethbridge sponsored an all candidates forum on March 8; ASWAC-Calgary co-sponsored a forum on Alberta women and the family in the Forest Lawn riding on March 15.
- * a mail-out to all members, including a fact sheet on women and poverty and suggested questions to ask the candidates.

* media work, including a press conference March 17.

Women's Involvement in the Parties

New Democrat -- There are 19 women candidates, constituting 23 per cent of all ND candidates.

Liberal -- There are 16 women candidates, constituting 20 per cent of the total.

Progressive Conservative -- There are 12 women candidates, representing 14 per cent of the total.

ASWAC extends thanks to Catherine Reininger, who prepared the fact sheet and to the women in every community who worked to put women's issues on the election agenda.

No Support From PCs For Gays, Lesbians

The Civil Rights Committee of the Gay and Lesbian Awareness (GALA) Society of Edmonton found no support for sexual orientation legislation from Progressive Conservative (PC) candidates in the provincial election. GALA did find significant support among Liberal candidates, and overwhelming support from New Demo-

The failure of the PC candidates to interest themselves in protecting gay men and lesbians stands in contrast with their federal counterparts, who supported sexual orientation legislation in the majority during the recent federal election. They also stand considerably more to the right of average Albertans, who in several polls in the

Alberta's *Individual Rights Protection Act* to include sexual orientation as a prohibited grounds of discrimination. Both times, the Conservative Government allowed the bills to die.

The responses of the Liberal candidates to the poll varied. Although party leader Laurence Decore favored sexual orientation legislation,



crat candidates.

"We are disappointed," said GALA spokesperson Maureen Irwin. "When the political party in power refuses to accept the responsibility for protecting all Albertans from discrimination, how secure can the rights of any Albertan be? Refusing to protect society's minorities does not make a very just campaign platform."

last few years have shown themselves to be supportive of protection for lesbians and gay men.

The New Democrats, in opposition, responded with support for gay and lesbian rights. This is in keeping with party policy, and with the history of the New Democrats in the legislature, who have twice introduced private member's bills to amend

the rest of the candidates were split almost equally between those in favor, and those against, undecided or who did not respond.

Still, GALA members are not without hope. GALA continues to work on several initiatives, both on the federal and provincial levels, as well as general educational work on gay and lesbian issues.

Betkowski Encouraged To Do More Yet

March 17, 1989

Nancy Betkowski
Minister of Health
103 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Ms Betkowski,

The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee (ASWAC) applauds your recent stand on women's right to control their bodies and reproductive capacities. We too believe that whether or not to seek an abortion is matter of personal choice. We agree with the Supreme Court of Canada that safeguarding this right to choose is fundamental to protecting the basic freedom of the person

guaranteed all Canadians by the *Charter of Rights and Freedoms*.

However, what is important about any such right is that it be equally distributed. Currently, the women of rural Alberta have no choice; because of limited access to abortion services, they cannot exercise their fundamental right to determine when and under what conditions to have children.

All Albertan women should have access to safe, medically-insured abortions within their own communities. Women should not be forced to deal with the added stress of having to raise money and travel long distances to Calgary or Edmonton, or to the United States in search of abortion services.

Here, however, we should not

lose sight of the fact that no one favors abortion as a means of contraception.

In addition to insuring equal access to first trimester abortions throughout Alberta, the province must also strive to provide women with the means for avoiding unwanted pregnancies in the first place.

More specifically, we think that the province should work to improve sex education in the schools, as well as promote contraceptive counselling for women outside the school system.

We would like more information about provincial initiatives in this direction.

Jackie Preyde
For ASWAC

AGT AGREES:

Letter About Dial-A-Porn Gets Positive Response

January 4, 1989

Alberta Government Telephones
Pierre Lacroix, Product Manager
Switched Voices Service
20D - 100 Street
Edmonton, Alberta
T5J 0N5

Dear Mr. Lacroix,

The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee (ASWAC) is a provincial organization dedicated to improving the status of women in Alberta. We would like to voice our opinion on the Dial-A-Porn service provided to Albertans by Alberta Government Telephones (AGT) through your 900 service, previously available from the United States.

We understand this service was discontinued in March of 1988, due to changes in U.S. legislation. We further understand that AGT is planning to introduce its own 900 services, and has not yet decided whether or not to allow locally made Dial-A-Porn messages to be a part of this service.

The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee would like to make it known that we strongly oppose the provision of any such service on any basis whatsoever.

Dial-A-Porn messages are akin to hate literature about women and propagate untrue and dangerous misinformation about human sexuality.

We are sure that AGT does not wish to be associated with material that degrades their customers and

contributes to the unequal position of women in our society. As a gesture of support and respect for its female employees and customers, we ask that AGT reply to our letter and guarantee in writing that no such Dial-A-Porn services will be made available.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to receiving your reply.

*Shelley Scott
For ASWAC*

February 27, 1989

Dear Ms Scott:

RE: "900 - ADULT MESSAGE" SERVICE

Thank-you for your recent letter regarding "900 Adult Message" service. The government and Alberta Government Telephones (AGT) share your concerns on this issue.

I have been advised by AGT, and I am pleased to inform you that there are no plans to introduce "adult message" service in either a "900" or "976" format.

Further, United States-based "adult message" lines, previously accessible in Alberta through American Telephone and Telegraph (AT&T), have been removed from service. This is as a result of recent changes to AT&T information service policies.

By copy of this letter, I have asked the president of AGT, Mr. Hal Neldner, to respond in further detail to your concerns.

Again, thank-you for advising your government of your views on this matter.

*Yours truly,
Leslie G. Young
Minister, Technology, Research
and Telecommunications*

Response Requested On Women's Petition

March 6, 1989

Elaine J. McCoy, Minister Responsible for Women's Issues
104 Legislature Building
Edmonton, Alberta
T5K 2B6

Dear Ms McCoy,

We are writing in support of a petition addressed to you from immigrant women of Alberta, dated February 24, 1989. This petition is in response to the throne speech of



February 17, 1989. While the throne speech covered many important areas of concern to women, the specific concerns of immigrant women were not addressed.

Immigrant women have identified three priority issues: access to language training; support for immigrant women's groups and centres; and counselling and orientation programming to address the long-term settlement needs of immigrant women.

The Alberta Status of Women Action Committee fully supports immigrant women in their demand to have these priority issues addressed.

We trust that you will be responding to this petition shortly and will be contacting immigrant women's groups in order to communicate what steps will be taken to meet their demands.

ASWAC would also appreciate being informed of your response, and we look forward to hearing from you.

*Shelley Scott
For ASWAC*



Working Together To Transform The Planet

"As a society, we have the people, the resources and the skills required to develop an alternative economic and social future. What is required is the social imagination, moral courage and political will to chart a new course. To move in this direction, however, it is essential that people coalesce together around a common social and economic vision. The merging public debate over Canada's social policy future provides an occasion to begin this coalition building process."

From *A Time To Stand Together - A Time For Social Solidarity* (A Declaration on Social and Economic Policy Directions for Canada by Members of Popular Sector Groups) hereinafter referred to as the *Social Solidarity Document*.

by Anne McGrath

The women's movement is one of the largest and most significant social forces in this country. We have organized and struggled for social and economic change to improve the status of women. Our organizing has taken a variety of forms. Some of our groups have focused on a single issue such as reproductive choice, ending violence, child care and others. Some groups have organized around multi-issue agendas. ASWAC is one of those groups. Although we tend to concentrate on priority issues we take into account and make connections between and among the multiplicity of issues facing women.

As women organizing for change we have experienced successes and defeats. Some of our hard-won victories are under renewed attack. The New Right and their allies have stepped up their campaign to reverse women's rights. We must analyze our history and decide on new courses of action that build on our strengths as a movement.

Part of that lesson, I believe, is that we are strong and successful when we are united on issues, committed to action and willing to find allies and work with them. Our ability to make changes in society that reflect women's interests will be determined by our ability to be a strong, united force in coalition with other groups.

We have witnessed a growth in the phenomenon of "coalition politics" in

the past few years and we have many lessons to learn from our experiences in these coalitions. Since this method of organizing is fairly recent, successful coalitions are not necessarily judged so because they "won" something. In some cases coalitions can be successful because of the contribution they have made to the politicization of large numbers of people and the impact they make in educating one popular sector about another. For instance, women's groups and labor groups have a great deal to learn from and about each other. Much of this education is taking place in coalition work. Some of the more influential examples of coalitions in recent Canadian history

have been Operation Solidarity in British Columbia, the Alberta Coalition for Universal Health Care and the Pro-Canada Network. There have been many more attempts at coalitions that have failed in some respects, but succeeded in laying the groundwork for the future. As well, there are many other thriving coalitions on specific issues that are operating now.

Coalition work, for all its rewards and potential for significant social change, has several difficulties which must be overcome. As women, we often find it difficult to work with representatives of groups that are opposed to particularly important aspects of our program. For instance, some churches take a very different position on reproductive choice than women's groups. It may also be difficult to work with groups whose structures are more hierarchical than our own and whose representatives may be insensitive to women's perspectives on inclusive language, the value placed on women's work, etc. These divisions can exist not only between women's and other groups but also among all the other groups (church,



labor, student, aboriginal, environmental, farm, disabled, immigrant, people of color, seniors, lesbians and gays, poor, unemployed and others who are not part of the top ten per cent of our society that controls the wealth and power). Our society is developed in such a way as to promote and strengthen these divisions. Our job is to learn how to overcome them. The *Social Solidarity Document* points out that government and

ing similarities between red-baiting and homophobia and analyze the impact of homophobia in fostering disunity within our movement.

ASWAC is clearly committed to working in coalitions to promote action in our Women Against Poverty campaign. In doing this we are not only taking action on important social and economic issues, we are also politicizing ourselves and others. We are building a "culture of

tion item on the agenda first. Then deal with the structure, terms of reference, etc.

7. Structure can be pretty loose if people are like-minded.

8. Use the coalition as a chance to make issues relevant to all sectors (i.e. women can speak on labor issues, labor can speak on poverty).

9. Coalitions have to operate on consensus (learned from the women's movement).

10. If there's a contentious issue that splits the coalition, throw it back to the member groups to act on individually.

11. Don't be afraid of losing control or being forced into doing something you don't want to do. Only the group can implement the actions of the coalition.

12. Do things for each other.

13. Make participation in coalition events, decisions and fundraising occasions accessible to all. This means physically accessible, it means provision of child care and transportation money, and setting admission fees at a certain amount "or whatever you can afford".

Our experience over the next few years will help us develop this list further and strengthen our ability to make change that will benefit women. The *Social Solidarity Document* states:

"We believe this is a time to stand together! It is a time for the victims of the current socio-economic crisis to unite together in a common struggle for social and economic justice in this country. For an injury to one is an injury to all!"

Our vision of a just, caring and equal society will only be realized if we can develop our own movement and work together to transform our world for human needs.



corporations have strategized to accentuate the differences between these popular groups:

"These divisive strategies, in turn, have been reinforced by ideologies that promote selfishness, greed, individualism, racism, sexism and anti-union sentiments. In the midst of all this many voluntary organizations and people of good will have been manipulated and co-opted by these divisive strategies."

Another recurring divisive strategy is "red-baiting" (McCarthyism, anti-communism). Despite the fact that McCarthyism almost destroyed most active social and political organizations in the 1950s, it can still be an effective tool to dismantle contemporary groups. Accusations of hidden left-wing agendas can arouse suspicion, mistrust and hinder efforts to appeal to the government and corporations at the expense of our own legitimate demands. We have a great deal to learn in this country about the legacy of red-baiting and its role in immobilizing important forces for change.

We can also take note of the strik-

resistance". Jean Swanson from the B.C. coalition, End Legislated Poverty, spoke about the importance of coalition building at ASWAC's annual assembly. Here is the list of rules she presented for successful coalitions:

1. Delegates should have a clear idea of their responsibilities and report both ways.

2. Groups should make their expectations about the coalitions clear and share them.

3. There should be discussion and recognition of the basic structural differences between unions and community groups.

4. We need to recognize and respect the different ways member groups have of operating.

5. Coalition members shouldn't get so absorbed in the excitement of coalition activities that they ignore their own groups.

6. Do things together. Put the ac-

happeningshappeningshappenings

March 17 - Edmonton Women's Music Collective presents a **Spring Equinox Women's Dance**, 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Riverdale Community Hall (9231 - 100 Avenue). Cost is \$7, with a sliding scale. All women are welcome. (Dances are also planned for June 10, September 3 and December 9.)

March 30 - Mark your calendars! **DES: An Uncertain Legacy**, a National Film Board, Studio D documentary will air Thursday, March 30 on CBC. Check your newspaper for time.

March 31, April 1-3 - A national conference titled **Beyond Survival: Women, Addiction and Identity** is being held in Toronto. The conference will explore the intersecting dimensions of early childhood trauma, violence against women and addictive coping mechanisms. Call (416) 658-1752 for more information.

April 1 - Women Unlimited presents **Heather Bishop In Concert** at the Edmonton Provincial Museum at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 low income) and are available at the Bagel Tree Deli (10347 - 82 Avenue) and Common Woman Books (8724 - 109 Street).

April 4 - The Calgary Women's Health Collective is sending out a call to any women interested in working on a **Directory of Physicians** in the city; this will be the first working meeting. Phone Rhonda at 290-6677 (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.) for more details about this exciting project.

April 5 - The Edmonton Local Council of Women is holding their **Annual Meeting and Lunch** at the Chateau Lacombe. Registration is \$2, lunch is \$10. Call June Carter at 434-1340 or Florence Romanchuk at 483-5309 for more information.

April 8 - A **Feminist Isolation Brunch** will be held at the home of Eunice Olsen, 5335 - 37A Street in Innisfail. Women are invited to come and talk about any good feminist books they have read lately; lunch will be provided. Phone Eunice at 227-4453 or Lori Crocker at 227-1141 for further details.

April 21-22 - The seventh annual **InterAction: Women in the 80s** conference will be held at Sir Winston Churchill High School, Calgary. Conference includes 22 mini-workshops discussing topics such as: current women's issues; business and financial management; personal development; and communication skills. Call Arlene McKay or Pat Hansen at 229-3327, Local 420 or 428.

April 28-30 - A workshop titled **Unlearning Racism and Alliance Building - Leadership Training** is being held for people of color and allies at St. Stephen's College on the University of Alberta campus in Edmonton. Workshop leader is Celeste George from the Alliance of Women Against Racism (AWARE) in Vancouver. The workshop will last about 12 hours, spread over three days, and registration fee is \$20. For more information, contact Don Smith at 424-2475 or Dale Taylor at 482-7942.

May 11-14 - A conference titled **Women and Mental Health: A social, Economic and Political Perspective** is being held at the Banff Springs Hotel. The conference will deal with the issue of women and mental health from a variety of perspectives. Keynote speakers are: Dr. Susan Penfold, Dr. Paula J. Caplan,

Dr. Phyllis Chesler, Freda Paltiel and Dr. Jeffrey Moussaieff Masson. There will be approximately 35 workshops as well as six study groups. For more information, contact: The Canadian Mental Health Association, Attention: Karen McFarlane, 9th floor, 10050 - 112 Street, Edmonton, T5K 2J1 or call 482-6091.

June 2-4 - The **Third Women's Centres Conference** will be held at the Pass Powderkeg Ski Lodge in the Crowsnest Pass. The Crowsnest Pass Women's Resource Centre is planning a stimulating weekend of workshops, entertainment and a chance to get together with other women from Alberta, the Northwest Territories and the Kootenays to talk about common interests. Objectives are: to try to clarify the role of women's centres in the community, to discuss their relationship with the women's movement and to affirm our belief in ourselves. For more information, phone Linda (collect) at 562-8000.

June 11-July 1 - Maenad Productions Theatre Society begins their 1989/90 season with **13th God, By Rose Scollard**, at the Pumphouse Theatre in Calgary. Maenad (pronounced My-Nad) promotes the orgiastic and visionary concerns of women through exciting and original theatre. Long-range plans include a Goddess Festival for the summer of 1990; Maenad is seeking goddess experts, dancers, mask workers, writers, etc. For more information about Maenad, or to support their work by buying a membership, call 245-2491.

June 15-18 - A conference titled **Mental Wellness: Making it a Reality** is being held at the Palliser Hotel in Calgary. Fee is \$150, with a sliding scale. Call Barb Ferguson at 283-7591 for more information.

The Alberta Status of Women
Action Committee
Box 1573
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 2N7

Fashionable Feminist T-Shirts Available

Thanks to the creative efforts of Valda Roberts, the Edmonton office presently has three beautiful T-shirt designs available for sale.

- * *Feminist More Than A Label* - Red and black lettering on light brown T-shirt (a nice shade of brown!) Available in medium, large and extra large.



- * *Women Against Poverty/Femmes Contre La Pouvreté* - Black and red bilingual design, created especially for the 1988 Assembly by Suli Williams. White T-shirt with design on front and "ASWAC" on back. Available in medium, large and extra large (in limited quantities).

- * *I'm Sick and Tired of Being Sick and Tired!* - Shocking pink lettering and graphic of a woman's face, on a bright blue T-shirt. Available in medium, large and extra large.

All T-shirts are 50 per cent cotton/50 per cent polyester. Cost is \$10 if you are low income, and \$15 if you are not, plus \$1 postage. Phone the Edmonton office at 421-0306 or write Box 1573, Edmonton, T5J 2N7, and specify which design you want, how many and what size. Limited quantities are also available from the Lethbridge office; phone 329-8338.

Those people who had not renewed their membership since 1987 or earlier were taken off the membership list as of March 1, 1989. They have since been sent a letter, asking them to renew their membership. If someone you know has not received their usual copy of this newsletter, please have them phone the Edmonton office -- it may be due to the fact that their membership has expired.

For those of you with an "88" on your mailing label, it is past time to renew for 1989. Please remember that your membership fees and donations are an important part of ASWAC's income.

Name: _____

Address: _____

Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ (home) _____ (work)

Membership: \$ _____

New ☐ Renewal ☐

Donation: \$ _____

Legal Defence

Fund: \$ _____

**Suggested membership fee is \$10, but we will accept whatever you can afford.*

Please make cheques out to: ASWAC, Box 1573, Edmonton, Alberta, T5J 2N7