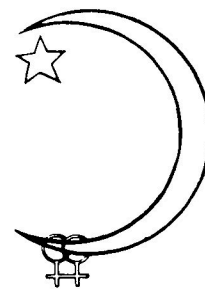


WOMONSPACE

our voice in the lesbian community



NEWS

Dec. 84
Vol. 2
No. 12



Editorial ~

"Tis the season to be jolly..." but for many womyn it's a time for mixed emotions. This issue of WOMONSPACE NEWS focuses on how Lesbians feel about the holiday season. This includes going home for family get togethers, staff Christmas parties and finding a celebration to bring in the New Year.

Whether we are heterosexual or homosexual, this time of year may add stress in our lives. Living a gay lifestyle seems to add a different twist to the situation.

How about family dinners, where grandfather asks if you are seeing any men lately. Or you wish to have your girlfriend join the festivities but you are unsure of your family's reaction.



Have you noticed how heterosexuals emphasize THE STAFF CHRISTMAS PARTY? Just my luck I work for a company that makes our social fund a condition of employment which includes a prepaid Christmas party. Every time I attend these functions with a good male friend, I usually get asked about my involvement with that particular person.

Then there's bringing in the New Year; how was your old one? In many instances lovers during the holiday season must part, travelling to different provinces to be with their families. As many do, I've spent this part of the year away from my family and/or lover. Fortunately, I have special friends that in their caring way have made these occasions memorable for me.

This year Womonspace is providing the Lesbians in Edmonton and surrounding area a womyn-only New Year's Eve dinner and dance. There, whether you are single or coupled, our community will ring in the New Year together.

Every person will enter the holiday season with different expectations. For us to be more aware and supportive of each other will help us and our community to grow.

"Tis the season to be giving..."

L.K.R.



ELECTIONS: NEW SECRETARY

We regret to see Laura step down from the position of secretary on the board of Womonspace. Nominations are open for a new secretary. The election will be held at the December general meeting, Dec. 11. All nominees must be present at the meeting.

The secretary's duties: take and keep minutes of all meetings, keep records, handle and organize all correspondence and pick up messages on the answering machine regularly.

HOLIDAY GIFTS FOR LESBIANS

When buying for someone special, the following places are recommended:

- Common Woman Books, 8208-104 St. (books, records, tapes, handmade cards, sweatshirts, sculptures, calendars, ...many records are now on sale.)
- Greenwood's Bookshoppe, 10355 Whyte Ave. (They have a selection of gay and lesbian books plus a large variety of cards.)
- Weinlos Books, 2nd floor, 10022-103 St. (They also have a selection of gay and lesbian books.)
- Different Strokes, 10244-106 St. (Gifts, cards; everything is now on sale as the store will be closing on December 1st.)
- Under Attack, 12418-102 Ave. (Excellent selection of cards, various gift items.)
- E.W.P., 9926-112 St. (Posters, t-shirts?, cards depicting the building that houses E.W.P. and Womospace (25¢); come down in the evenings and see. Phone 488-2748 to make sure someone will be there.)

I feel that it's important for lesbians to support businesses that support us. When Christmas shopping, consider stopping into some of the places mentioned.

Elaine K.

*Teryn
Graphics*

design & layout

429-4287

- logos
 - posters
 - business cards
 - pamphlets
 - letterheads
 - newsletters
 - 20% DISCOUNT FOR ACTIVE WOMONSPACE MEMBERS
-



CHOOSE SOME RECORDS!

Send for some catalogs and let those on your gift list pick out their favorite musicians.

Resource Guide & Catalog of Records & Tapes by Women. Free annual catalog.

Ladyslipper, Inc.

P.O. Box 3124

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Free catalog of records, tapes, songbooks and t-shirts:

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Oakland, CA 94609

Free catalog from Olivia:

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Women's Music Plus : Directory of Resources. US\$4ppd.

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fine clothing custom-made
classic tailoring for womyn

Jude Major, tailor
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specialist in
silk, wool, linen, cotton

"anything in cloth"

FOR SALE

MAYTAG AUTOMATIC WASHER. Used 8 months, in top condition. \$400.

BERNINA INDUSTRIAL SEWING MACHINE, w/20 decorative stitches including stretch, blind-hem and button hole. Has 1/3 hp motor, thread stand, heavy duty table, & gooseneck lamp. Also includes 10 presser feet for many types of work. In excellent shape, barely used. \$1000. Jude; 429-2355.

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Ardelle L. Dudley

Telephone:
(403) 998-1740



Women's Counselling Services of Edmonton

R.R. 1, Fort Saskatchewan,
Alberta, Canada T8L 2N7

WOMYN IN HISTORY

RADCLYFFE HALL UNA LADY TROUBRIDGE

Hall and Troubridge, both British, lived and traveled together from the time they met until Hall's death 27 years later. Her second book, Adam's Breed, became an instant best seller in 1927 and established her literary reputation. It was a sensitive and unique story of a prosperous headwaiter who became so weary of rich foods that he starved himself to death. Success spurred Hall to what she considered her duty in writing The Well of Loneliness a semiautobiographical novel of "inversion" calculated to enlist public understanding. The first British edition was instantly seized by the Home Office and tried in the Magistrates Court. The publicity led to enormous sales and favorable reviews in other countries, but the proceedings took a heavy toll on Hall's spirits and health. Una Troubridge supported all her efforts, and became her biographer soon after she died. Both women were well known in the Italian and French cultural salons of the time, including that of Romaine Brooks, the American-born Parisian portraitist who painted Lady Troubridge.

The WOMEN FROM HISTORY series by Helaine Victoria Enterprises, 1975.

Radclyffe Hall (1883*-1943)
and Una Lady Troubridge (1892*-1963)

*Birth dates approximate; exact dates not known.



B O O K S

Fiction is important. And it's nice to pick up something written for us!

1) There is such a thing as the Homosexuality - Fiction - Bibliography. It's put out by the Gay Interest Group of the Canadian Library Association in 1982. The reference number in the library is 808.63 but I ran into a problem and had to ask for it! I never did obtain a copy.

2) Rubyfruit Jungle by Rita Mae Brown. Fun. Light fiction that is great after a lot of heavy stuff.

3) Hey, Dollface by Deborah Hautzig. Very good for teens.

4) Anything by Jane Rule. She has four novels and several anthologies of short stories. Her style is sparse, but makes wonderful reading.

The list of fiction is fairly long now. Any womyn's bookstore will help you choose something of interest.

J.B.

"BOOKS" is a regular feature in WOMONSPACE NEWS. Anyone who has read a book or article they wish to recommend reading, or avoiding, is invited to submit its name, source, and a short review.

Elizabeth MASSIAH, M.S.W. - Feminist Therapist

*Individuals, Couples, Groups

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Edmonton: (bus.) 422-3022 (home) 481-5973

PROTECTING OUR DANCES

Our monthly dances are an absolutely vital part of our lives as lesbians. They provide an important and unfortunately rare opportunity to come together collectively and share our energy--to experience ourselves as a majority group for a few precious hours each month.

The November 17 dance was marred by a physical fight between two women. Eventually one woman was forcibly ejected from the hall, forcing us to be physically aggressive with a woman in a most distasteful way. The other woman was also ejected from the hall. Both women will be told they are not welcome at the next dance, whether or not they are Womospace members. We all have stress and personal issues in our lives but we at Womospace are absolutely clear that fighting will not be tolerated at the dances. The police were called to help remove the offenders--the call was cancelled when the women left but we did not hesitate to call for

police help in protecting ourselves and the other women present.

Also, a six-pack of empty beer cans was discovered during the clean up. Those 6 cans of beer could easily have cost us our licence if an ALCB inspector had been present--which can happen at any time, at any dance. So to whoever brought the beer, we hope you realize the chance you took on behalf of the other two hundred plus women who were present. We follow the liquor regulations so that we can have dances for us all to enjoy.

Final point--please, at the end of the dances, remember the volunteers who have been working, perhaps since early afternoon, and who also want to go home or on to a party. Please, finish your drinks and be on your way by 1:30 am, so we can join you at the party too. We know the dances are terrific--but all good things end eventually and so does each dance--by 1:30 am.

So, please enjoy the dances with us--we think they're terrific and we're proud of Womospace.

The Board



PLEASE NOTE:

Articles published in Womospace News do not necessarily reflect the policies and opinions of Womospace.

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WOMONSPACE NEWS is published monthly by Womospace Social and Recreational society of Edmonton. Womospace is a non-profit, social, recreational and educational organization for lesbians in edmonton. Mailing address:

 **488-2918**

"WOMONSPACE NEWS"

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9926 - 112 Street
Edmonton, Alberta, T5K 1L7

WOMONSPACE DANCE

HAZELDEAN HALL ~

9630-66 AVENUE

Dec. 15

8pm to 1:30am

Adm.- Members \$5
Non — \$6



1ST Annual New Year's Eve Dinner and Dance

SAXONY MOTOR INN 8 p.m.-1:30 a.m.

- DOORS OPEN — 7:30 p.m.
- CASH BAR

- SMORGASBORD — 8:30 p.m.

\$20 per person