

THE WOMEN'S PLACE
31 DUPONT STREET.
929-3185

HOURS
MON.-THURS. 9:30a.m.- 9p.m.
FRI. - SAT. 9:30a.m.-5 p.m.

Dear Sisters,

The Women's Place staff will take a breather during the next few weeks. Due to preparations for the fall Liberation School, September has been our busiest month so far. Finding instructors and co-ordinators was the most difficult task. One course almost had to be cancelled at the last minute and another instructor was found on the day before registration.

Telephone calls and visitors poured into the office after an article about The Women's Place in the Toronto Star. We spent that week running between phones and added several hundred names to our mailing list.

Several television and radio stations contacted us about giving interviews, and we decided that we will only participate in interviews if the interviewers and photographers or technicians are women. We based that decision on the principle that women should be given every opportunity to earn money using their skills. Although none of the stations have women photographers on staff, we have a list of skilled women photographers who could be hired on a free-lance basis. Each of the male interviewers we spoke to made it very clear that he was not prepared to surrender his position to a mere woman, nor was anyone willing to hire a woman free-lancer.

We hope that our continued demands will put pressure on the stations and programs concerned to hire women technicians; in one case there appears to be some chance of success. More names of skilled women are needed. Any suggestions?

The lesbian drop-in held at the Women's Place every third Friday has been very successful. Come and bring your friends.

The circulation rate in our library has been good. Please come and visit or borrow. All books are loaned on a weekly basis. We also have a wide variety of books, articles, magazines and newspapers in the Lettuce Out bookstore. You can buy basic readings on the women's movement, fiction by female authors, or get into heavier political readings. We also have some excellent poetry. Posters are a big but inexpensive attraction and we have buttons, bumper stickers and other useful little stickers, and a record written and sung by a feminist.

A woman has installed a Gestetner offset press in the back porch of the Women's Place. She will have it in working order soon and needs both supplies and business.

Our Opportunities for Youth grant expired at the end of August and we are operating strictly on a volunteer basis. Now that vacations are over and people have settled down somewhat, perhaps you can give time to the Women's Place. We need volunteers who can come on a regular basis and who will be committed to staying here for a while. There is plenty of work for all. Please call and specify a time when you are free.

The Film Festival has been delayed again, and if you are beginning to think that it never really existed, please note the time and dates later in the newsletter. So far the films look really good, and we need the money badly, so please come.

Which brings us neatly into the money question. We are finding it difficult to keep in operation under the present financial pressures we now bear. The Centre is now running strictly on donations and pledges. Money of any amount is welcome, or if you can afford to pledge a certain amount each month. you may send a series of post-dated checks. Expenses for The Place include \$350 a month rent, \$50 a month utilities, \$200 a month newsletter, \$40 a month office supplies, \$20 a month telephone and \$50 a month for miscellaneous.

Some expenses such as the newsletter are too high. Therefore we must cut down our mailing list to those who are interested in getting it. If you wish to keep receiving the newsletter and have not responded in some way already, please call or send in the clipping at the end of this issue. Any of you who can afford to or would like to, please send stamps.

We have been asked many times by women who use the Centre how it is run and how control is exercised. As of the first week in September, there are 19 individual women eligible to participate in centre decisions. They are eligible because they have demonstrated their involvement in the women's movement, because they are dedicated and valuable to the centre and what it stands for.

In addition, every recognized work collective affiliated with the Women's Place has a right to representation.

Process of decision making is highly unstructured. Meetings of the Centre Collective are held periodically, usually on Thursdays; everyone eligible can come; agenda is open. While most of the time is normally spent in day to day routine business, this is where plans and policy for the Women's Place has to be determined.

Women's Place as such has no membership, so there is no formal way of "joining". Every woman is by definition a "member". Those who make the most contribution have the most say. Virtually any woman can become eligible to make Centre decisions. The group is fluid and is dedicated not to become a closed elite. As an example, there were 13 original founders, nine are still among the 19 currently in the Centre collective which is merely a formalization of the de facto situation.

So that's it. If you want to help run the Centre there is only one way to do it--help run the Centre! You will be welcome.

PROJECTS AT THE PLACE

The Newsletter

As you may have noticed, the newsletter has been mailed after some listed events had already taken place, on the last two occasions. This is mainly due to the lack of volunteers to help write, collate and mail it. There will be a meeting on Monday, October 16 at 8 p.m. for those who wish to participate. We will also be electing a representative to the Central Collective at this time.

Non-Sexist Children's Literature Bibliography

The bibliography of non-sexist children's literature has finally been completed. It should be printed and put together by the middle of October. Anyone wishing to obtain a copy may get one for a small donation (going to the cost of printing) at the Place.

The Print Shop

Holly has managed by hook or by crook to get hold of a Gestetner offset press. She will print things at low cost with

her first priority being feminist stuff and then other leftist literature. Donations of supplies or money appreciated. Thanks go to Herzig-Summerville Ltd. Lithe Company of 253 Niagara St. for their donations of ink and supplies.

The Legal Handbook

"Seize the Reins", our completed legal handbook is now available. It deals mainly with welfare problems but also contains legal advice on divorce, custody of children and financial rights of women. You may obtain one at the centre for a small donation.

The Distress Centre

The collective involved with setting up a distress centre in Toronto is now preparing briefs so that they can apply for a grant to get the centre started. If you would like to work with this project please call Lynn Zimmer at the Place or at 767-2849.

Volunteers for the Women's Place

Areas in which we especially need volunteers:

- 1) Tuesday nights, 5.:30 to 9:30. for office work;
- 2) Friday mornings, 10:30 to 1:30, for office work;
- 3) Book store duties including selling, ordering, bookkeeping, coding and inventory. Any time.

The FILM FESTIVAL

Place: Don Vale Community Centre
80 Winchester St.

Time: Friday October 20th and Saturday October 21st at 7:30 p.m.

Admissions: A donation of \$1.50 per person is asked on those who can afford it. All proceeds go to keeping the Women's Place going.

Films: Kate Millet's Three Lives
Susan Bauman's The Cabinet
It Happens to Us
Women on the March (Part 1)
Its Gonna be all Right

All films are tentative at this time and there will be more added to the list later. Times when the individual films will be shown are not yet known. Contact us for further information at 929-3185.

GOODS AND SERVICES AVAILABLE TO WOMEN IN TORONTO

The Open Door

All Saints Church at Sherbourne at Dundas 366-4319

Open Monday to Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The Open Door is a drop-in centre for women providing coffee, companionship, television and advice and information on community services. It also runs a free rooms registry service, with a list of clean rooms and apartments in the Ward 7 area.

The Other Woman

31 Dupont Street 929-3185

The Other Woman is a revolutionary feminist newspaper put put by volunteers. It has no grants. It needs subscriptions (\$2/yr. for six issues) photographers, artists, poets, writers, researchers to contribute.

Package for High School Women

306 Glen Road 923-2271 (after 5)

Pam McLeod has been funded by the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education to produce a package of materials about women for use in High Schools. It will include filmstrips, records, slides, printed materials, photographs, etc. She would like to hear from women, teachers, and high school students who have ideas to contribute.

Parkdale Single Parents Association

1267 Queen Street West 532-2977

This is an association of single parents, separated, divorced, unwed, widowed, regardless of custody, male or female. Members discuss mutual problems-- money, daycare, welfare, etc. Free day care is available possibly through the summer. Two students of law are available. General meetings are held the first Wednesdays of every month at 7:30

Women's Bureau

400 University Avenue, 10th Floor 365-1537

The Women's Bureau was established to conduct research for the improvement of the status of women employees, promote expansion of employment opportunities for women, receive and investigate complaints of acts contrary to the Equal Employment Opportunities Act. This Act prohibits discrimination because of sex or marital status in hiring, training, promotion or dismissal. Discriminatory advertising or referral agencies is prohibited. All employers with more than 25 employees must provide 12 weeks maternity leave for women who have worked at least one year. Dismissal for pregnancy is prohibited. Anyone wishing to file a complaint should contact the Bureau.

Lesbian Drop-In

31 Dupont Street 929-3185

One Friday evening a month the Centre will be open for a Lesbian Drop-In evening. NO SOCIOLOGY STUDENTS OR SURVEYS, please.

Women's Liberation Movement

The Centre office is closed but several collectives are still in operation.

W.L.M. Legal Collective

363-9621

Has an advisory bureau on legal problems. Puts out fact sheets on women's rights in marriage, divorce, custody, etc.

W.L.M. Working Women's Collective

923-8531

Contact Karon Webster

W.L.M. WELL BABY CLINIC

64 Augusta 920-1793

Open Saturdays. Doctors, dentists, nurses available. Women from the collective help patients, explain problems, give advice.

W.L.M. Abortion and Birth Control Collective

925-7721

Contact Ruth Miller

Woodgreen Community Centre

635 Queen Street East 461-1168 and 467-9088

Trains people on welfare about welfare rights. Any ten people on welfare can apply for free instruction.

Abortion Coalition

863-9973

An organization set up to fight for the repeal of all abortion laws. It is a nation-wide coalition of women and women's groups.

Childbirth Information

228 McCaul Street 489-6350

Contact Sharon Auerbach for information on free childbirth preparation classes using the LaMaze Method. Also information on breast feeding, birth control and doctors and hospitals which are helpful.

Community Hostel

191 Spadina Road 925-4613

Overnight accommodation for women or couples and children. Open 6 p.m. (registration) till 10 p.m. with a three day limit. Breakfast and supper for 25¢ each.

The Centre

25 Sheppard Avenue (at Bayview) 225-6542

For information and counselling and medical referral on birth control, venereal disease and unwanted pregnancy. Staff is trained by the York Student Clinic.

York Women's Caucus

493-5835

A women's group in the suburb of York primarily organized around the abortion issue.

New Feminists

Box 597, Station A, Toronto.

Children's Liberation Workshop

Box 207, Ancaster, Ontario.

Women's Involvement Project

921-6591

A group involved in video taping programmes about women for cable T.V. Brochures are available for the 12 programmes already completed. Shows to be completed by the end of August are: "Women in Welfare", "Patriarchy and Sour Grapes", "Women in Institutions" "Pornography".

Anyone interested in a cooperative course on Women and their bodies come to a planning meeting at the Women's place on October 17 at 7:30. For information call 789-4541.

The Alternative Press Centre

Room 604, 341 Bloor Street West 921-9588

The Alternative Press Centre publishes an index to underground and alternative papers, including several women's papers. We have copies of the Index covering July-December 1969 and all of 1970. The Index and the copies of the papers are available for reference use in our office. We also have some information on women's groups in other areas (most pamphlets from women's groups in the States.) Please call before coming over as we keep somewhat irregular hours.

Operation Family Rights

310 Danforth Avenue 461-3801 and 461-0666

Gives free advice for people on Welfare. Has part time jobs for volunteers and offers training programs on welfare rights. Contact Linda Parker at above numbers or 767-9089. She is also willing to give training programs at the centre if enough women are interested. Call 929-3185 if you would like to be involved.

Share

65 Dufferin Park Avenue 537-4764

Offers free programs for women in the Bloor-Dufferin area who would like to get out of the house for a few hours a week and perhaps learn new skills or practice up on old ones. They already have sewing on weekday afternoons, crafts two days a week and a single mother's coffee hour on Wednesday mornings. Exercise classes, swimming, card nights and bowling are in the planning stages. Coffee and conversation always available.

Login House

33 Dalton Street, Toronto 179 964-2664

Residential treatment for drug related problems of kids 15-19. Three girls and three boys.

ADVERTISEMENTS

The Women's Place has an oversize bulletin board on which are posted jobs, shared accommodations, happenings, in various places in Toronto, and other miscellaneous information. In addition to the bulletin board, we will place ads in the newsletter on almost anything.

A woman needs help in her writing, especially punctuation. Will exchange for other work. Call Iris at 535-8439 or 677-9699.

There are several ads on the board for women wanting to start women's communes. Call 929-3185 for further information.

Women interested in starting or helping with a day care centre call Joan at 782-0469.

Janet C. is interested in getting a women's rock group together for playing at women's functions, etc. Call 481-6251.

We have several names of women interested in starting a theatre group. Call 929-3185 if interested.

The Sussex and Devonshire Daycare Centres need volunteers on Wednesdays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Mornings and afternoons. Call 925-7495.

Women who are interested in helping gather information about the women of ethnic minorities in Toronto for a book to be published by the Women's Press call Margot at 465-9589.

The U. of T. is sponsoring a series of lectures on women. For information call 929-3815. They are free and open to the public. The Place is also sponsoring a monthly series of discussions with assorted speakers. The nights don't conflict so you can come to both.

The Womens Liberation Abortion and Birth Control Collective needs women to volunteer if you are prepared to work at least three months. Help women get good legal abortions, birth control information and press for legal and social change. Connie Hubbs: 767-7169.

Women interested in working on an International Women's Film Festival to be held in Toronto during the Spring, please contact Sylvia Spring at 925-3311, Ext. 2321 or Heather Beyer at the Women's Place.

Anyone interested in forming a group to combat the harmful effects of modern advertising call Lorna Foreman at 920-0614.

Women who know men interested in forming a consciousness raising group for discussion and personal growth please contact Greg at 698-1255 (usually after 5 p.m.) Tentative meeting time will be Sunday afternoons.

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NAME _____
ADDRESS _____
PHONE _____

_____ I wish to pledge \$ _____ a month to the Women's Place and I enclose a series of post-dated checks.

_____ I enclose a donation of \$ _____ to the Women's Place.

_____ I wish to stay on the mailing list and receive the newsletter.
