

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES

P. O. Box 1258 • NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10001

June 1975

Dear Sisters:

We are a group of women who met initially at the first conference of the Gay Academic Union in the Fall of 1973. Some of us formed a C-R group, and, as we grew closer to each other, we began to focus on our need to collect and preserve our own voices, the voices of our Lesbian community. As our contribution to our community, we decided to undertake the collecting, preserving, and making available to our sisters all the prints of our existence. We undertook the Archives, not as a short-term project, but as a commitment to rediscovering our past, controlling our present, and speaking to our future. We seek to preserve for the future all expressions of our identity--written, spoken, drawn, filmed, photographed, recorded.

We are just in the beginning stages. A lot of material is coming in and we are in the process of sorting and cataloging it. This is our first newsletter. We hope that the Archives will serve as a center for all women who want to get a sense of their Lesbian Herstory, through tangible expressions of the lives we have lived. Our collection is small but growing, and we will do our best to insure that it will never be misused. For us, there is excitement and joy in sharing the records of our lives, and our Archives will be as living as the material we can collect and you can send us. We want to encompass the happenings of the whole Lesbian community, and for this we need your help. Future newsletters will contain listings of our holdings as the cataloging and sorting and collecting progresses, and suggested topics for research as we become aware of them.

Enclosed you will find a more formal statement of our structure and purpose.

FOR THE ARCHIVES: Sahli Cavallaro Deborah Edel Joan Nestle
Pamela Oline Julia Stanley

#####

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

SAHLI CAVALLARO is a founding member of the Women's Caucus in the Gay Academic Union, was briefly affiliated with Identity House as a peer counselor, and is a graduate student in psychology and a poet. She is currently interested in exploring ways of creating an intellectual and agrarian Amazon lifestyle on the periphery of "the system" with other Lesbians.

DEBORAH EDEL is a Lesbian/Feminist working toward a community of Woman. More traditionally, she functions as an Educational Psychologist working with children who have learning problems.

JOAN NESTLE is a lecturer in English, SEEK Program, Queens College, CUNY. A Lesbian activist who is old enough to remember the darkness of weekend bars and young enough to joyously believe in the liberation of our future, she is a cherisher and wishful creator of Lesbian literature.

IF YOU HAVE LESBIAN MATERIALS that you would like to donate, please send them to the Lesbian Herstory Archives, P. O. Box 1258, New York, New York 10001. If you have confidential material, please write to us, describing the kind of agreement you would require prior to donating your material.

***** ***** ***** ***** ***** *****

SERIAL MEDIA WITH LESBIAN CONTENT

The compilers of the following list have tried to be comprehensive and accurate, but we may have missed a Lesbian journal or newsletter. For example, publications such as CRIES FROM CASSANDRA, ECHO OF SAPPHO, ONE-TO-ONE, PORTCULLIS, and TRES FEMMES were deleted from an earlier list because the post office returned our letters to them as "unforwardable." Since we compiled this list for the purposes of Archives subscriptions, we would appreciate hearing from you if you know of new publications, changes of address, or serials that have definitely stopped publishing. Any definite information will help us provide complete and accurate records of Lesbian media for the future.

Where possible, we have included the price of journals in the hopes that readers will subscribe to those journals and newsletters they can afford. We believe it is necessary to support Lesbian publications in order to promote and maintain a Lesbian information network. While not all of the publications listed here are strictly Lesbian, such as 13TH MOON, MAJORITY REPORT, GAY LIBERATOR, and COUNTRY WOMEN, we have included them because they often contain news, poetry, and/or articles of interest to Lesbians.

♀♀

Ain't I A Woman?
P. O. Box 1169
Iowa City, Iowa 52240
\$5/yr
(has stopped publishing
for awhile)

Albatross
82 S. Harrison Street
E. Orange, N. J. 07017
\$4/yr

ALFA Newsletter
Box 7684
Atlanta, GA 30309
\$2/yr

Amazon Quarterly
Box 434
W. Somerville, MA 02144
\$4/yr

Aphra
Box 893, Ansonia Station
New York, N. Y. 10023
\$4.50/yr

Big Mama Rag
1724 Graylord
Denver, Colorado 80210
\$5/yr regular
\$3/fem. inst.

Circle
Box 427
Waterloo Quay
Wellington, New Zealand
\$2/6 mos.
\$4/yr

Coming Out
P. O. Box A-22
Oberlin College
Oberlin Ohio
15¢ each

Country Women
Box 51
Albion, CA 95410
\$7/yr

NYRF Newsletter
Jean Grove
80 Thompson
New York, N. Y. 10012
\$3/yr

New Women's Times
P. O. Box 1471
Rochester, N. Y. 14603
\$3/yr

The Other Woman
Box 928
Station Q
Toronto, CANADA
\$3/yr

Pointblank Times
1241 W. Bell, #4
Houston, TX 77019
25¢ sample issue

Quest: A Feminist Quarterly
P. O. Box 8843
Washington, D. C. 20003
\$7/yr

Secret Storm
CWLU Lesbian Group
2748 N. Lincoln
Chicago, ILL 60614

Sisters
1005 Market Street, Suite 402
San Francisco, CA 94101
\$5/yr

So's Your Old Lady
Lesbian Resource Center
2104 Stevens Avenue, So.
Minneapolis, MINN 55404
\$4.50/yr

The Second Wave
Box 303
Kenmore Square Station
Boston, MA 02215

Uva Ursi
RFD
Robbinston, Maine 04671

Wicce
P. O. Box 15833
Philadelphia, PA 19103
\$3.50/yr

Womanspirit
Box 263
Wolf Creek, OR 97497
\$6/yr

Women in Sunlight
6 R of W
713 Monroe Avenue
Rochester, N. Y. 14607
\$2/yr

////////////////////////////////////

//

GEOGRAPHY

//

//

// One of the projects of the Ar-
// chives Collective will be a
// large map of the United States
// on which we will represent the
// Lesbian network by marking the
// small towns and villages where
// Lesbians are establishing them-
// selves on farms and in communes.
// We would also like to maintain
// a mailing list of rural lesbians.
// This project is an effort to keep
// all of us in touch with each
// other and to provide records of
// our lives. Please send names and
// addresses to--

//

//

Julia Stanley
Rte. #1
Dowelltown, TN 37059

//

//

////////////////////////////////////

LESBIAN HISTORY EXPLORATION was
##held in Los Angeles May 2-4, 1975.
##Pamela Oline from the Archives
##attended and conducted a workshop
##on the activities and holdings of
##of the Lesbian Herstory Archives.
#####

26. Study programs, curricula, teachers, students, etc.
27. Feminism, personal experience, organizations, relation to our lives
28. Heros, the brave women we are
29. Mothers, experiences, court cases, litigation
30. Communes, experiences, geographical distribution, ideologies
31. Love, our experiences of it, our definitions
32. Ideology, part of our self-defining process
33. Economics, in relation to the larger society, our own economic self-help system
34. Enterprises, bookstores, restaurants, jewelers, potters
35. Aesthetics, lesbian sensibility, criticism
36. Hand-crafts, what we make for ourselves
37. Religion, where we are in the old, creating our own, what do we want or need
38. Bars and bartenders, where are our bars, recording the lives of the women who work in them
39. Conferences, posters, tape the proceedings, interview the speakers, film the events
40. Songs, songwriters, collect our songs, preserve the lives of the women who write them
41. Folklore, tales and legends of our lives, our deeds
42. Third World Lesbians, herstories, autobiographies, writing
43. Europe, establishing stronger bonds with our sisters, could be broken down into countries
44. Prisoners, experiences, lives, legal herstories
45. Armed Forces, experiences, careers, purges
46. Cultural Herstory, where we've been, what we've done, what we wish to create for ourselves
47. Drama, playwrights, actresses, our experiences in theatre
48. Therapy, therapists, directions
49. Witches, witchcraft, the Old religion
50. FBI Harassment, the Susan Saxe case
51. Class analysis, social classes and Lesbians
52. Fashions, what we wear, what we'd like to wear
53. Artifacts
54. Translations, articles, chapters, books from English into Spanish, French, Italian, German, Dutch, Russian, and from these languages into English
55. Editions, collecting ALL editions of our works, e. g., The Well of Loneliness, Nightwood
56. Past Communities, the Bloomsbury Group, the Charmed Circle, Renee Vivien, Colette, Romaine Brooks

+++

TAPINGS

One of our members, Pamela Oline, has already taped interviews with three women, discussing their lives, their work, their ideas. We would also like to ask lesbians to tape record their lives, whatever they would like to have preserved about themselves, cassettes or reels are fine. We have both types of tape recorder, so we can make them available to those who wish to use the Archives. When you have the time and the impulse, sit down and tell us something about yourself and send it to us. It's important!

+++

Our thanks and appreciation to the many women who have supported us, encouraged us, sent us their manuscripts, allowed us to interview them, the women whose lives are important, to all of us, and to Beth Hodges, Elsa Gidlow, Chocolate Waters, J. R. Roberts, our journals and newsletters!