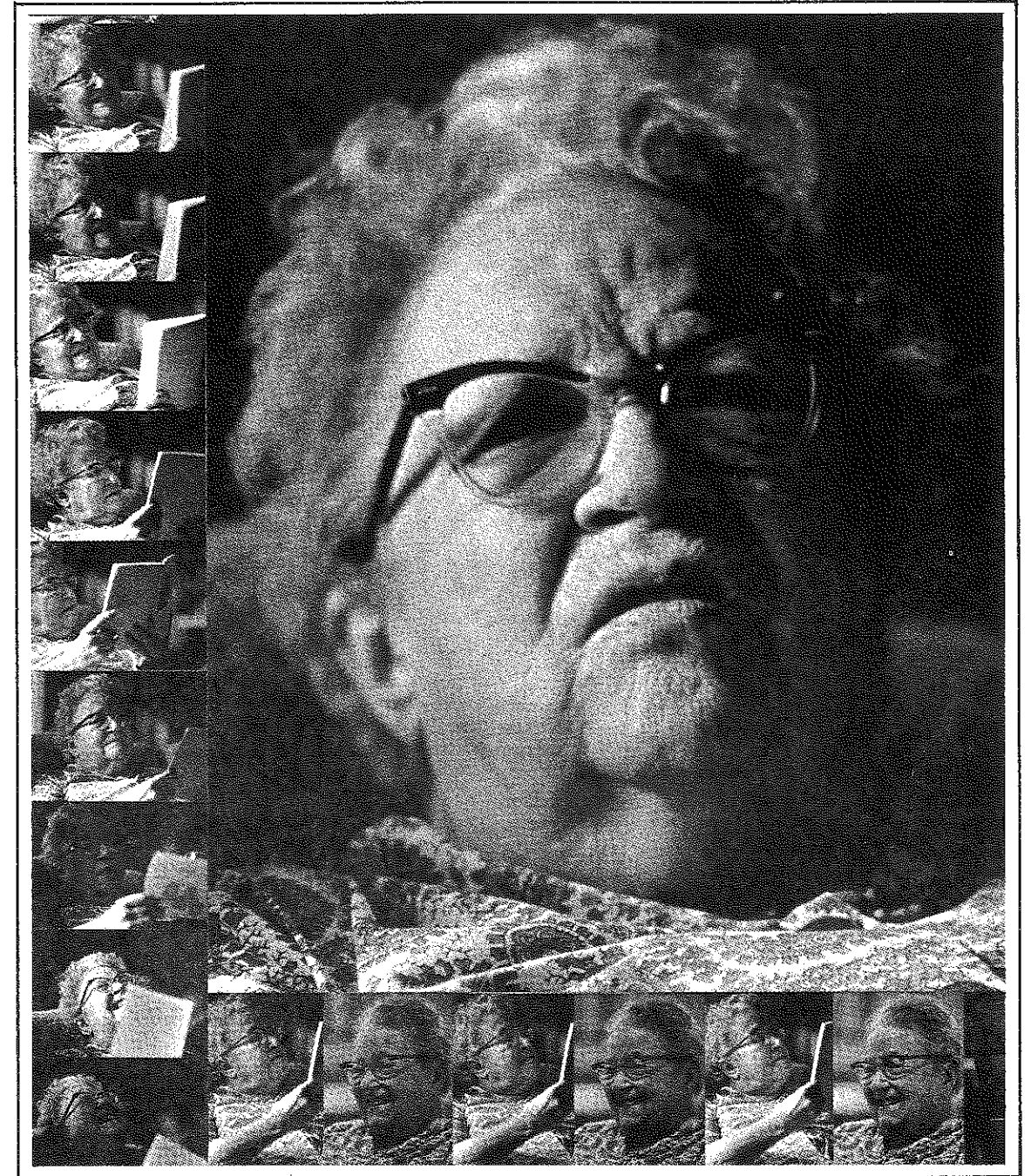


NEWSLETTER

LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES NEWS 7



Jeannette Foster 1894-1981

DECEMBER 1981

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Lesbian Herstory Archives exists to gather and preserve records of Lesbian lives and activities so that future generations of Lesbians will have ready access to materials relevant to their lives. The process of gathering this material will also serve to uncover and collect our herstory denied to us previously by patriarchal historians in the interests of the culture that they serve. The existence of these Archives will enable us to analyze and reevaluate the Lesbian experience.

We anticipate that the existence of these Archives will encourage Lesbians to record their experiences in order to formulate our Living Herstory.

We will collect and preserve ANY materials that are relevant to the lives and experiences of Lesbians: books, magazines, journals, news clippings (from establishment, feminist, and Lesbian media), photos, bibliographies, herstorical information, tapes, films, diaries, oral herstories, poetry and prose, biographies, autobiographies, notices of events, posters, graphics, and other memorabilia and obscure references to our lives.

All Lesbians are welcome to use the Archives. Call or write for a visit.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU

- To Morgan Gwenwald for her hours of typing and pasting, for being part of the Tuesday night work crew, also a thank you to Scarlet Letters, her new friend.
- To Karen Browne for staffing the Archives on long Sunday afternoons and late into the evenings, for being part of the Tuesday night work crew.
- To Nancy Robertson for staffing the Archives, for working Tuesday nights and for the sharing of her resources.
- To last years work crew-Joyce, Peg, Bonnie, Carol, Royann, Nancy, Karen.
- To Judy Reagan for her long distance typing and in house filing, her organizing of the Women's music special collection.
- To our dedicated periodical indexer Suzanne.
- To Terry Collins for undertaking the job of being the Archives archivist.
- To the paperback cataloguer crew-Terry, Debbi, Morgan, Carol, Bonnie, Nancy, Karen.
- To Rota Silverstrini for beginning the job of cataloging the Graphics collection.
- To the Astraea Foundation, the Louis and Pauline Cowan Foundation and the Natalie Barney Fund for their funding support enabling us to carry out special projects.
- To Heidi Beth Korman for cataloging the Frontiers Collection.
- To Brooks for her continuing support.
- And a special thank you to our sister coordinator Judith Schwarz for her continued and complete dedication to the Archives-her spirit, her work, her resources, her sharing of so much. Because she lives in Washington DC she is less visible at the Archives but without her spirit and her work the Archives would not be the special place it is.

COVER PHOTOGRAPH BY TEE CORINNE

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LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES
LESBIAN HERSTORY EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION, INC.

P.O. Box 1258
New York, New York 10016
212-874-7232

Coordinating Committee: Deborah Edell, Joan Nestle, Judith Schwarz

In Memory Of The Voices We Have Lost

The Archives is a place to commemorate lost lovers and friends. As a people we have been deprived of the rituals of communal sorrow. Many Lesbians have already experienced the pain of silent mourning. Often in newspapers, a euphemism for the death of a Lesbian is "there are no known survivors". This is not true. WE ARE EACH OTHER'S SURVIVORS.

A Newspaper clipping sent to the Archives dated San Francisco-October 5, 1976

BOAT RIDERS WITNESS WOMAN'S DEATH

As more than 100 tourists on a pleasure boat watched, a young woman plunged to her death from the Golden Gate Bridge into San Francisco Bay.... Bridge authorities said the unidentified woman carried a box containing the cremated ashes of a former female roommate.

Andy (Annette Comeau)-Moody Garden Club
Anna Maria-died 1980
Anne Lee-died July 23, 1981, Iowa City
Bridget Hoffman- Moody Garden Club
Carolyn Kreem-died 1981, California
Donna Marie DeRosier-1956-1978, Batavia, IL.
Dott Halsey-died July 1975, Greenwich Village, NY
Florence Holland-1915-1981, New York
Haikila-died Feb. 23, 1980, New York, NY
Janet Campbell-1937-1975, Connecticut
Jeannette Foster-1894-1981

Kate-died 1979, New York
Linda Leibman-died 1981, Long Island, NY
Lorraine White-Moody Garden Club
Margo Karle-died Sept 6, 1981 Long Island, NY
Marty Mann-died 1980
Peeches O'Toole-died 1981, California
Sam (Rita Willette) Moody Garden Club
Shirley Roby-died Oct. 1981, Lincoln, Ne.
Taz (Irene Gray) Moody Garden Club
Vinny (Gladys Vincent) Moody Garden Club

THANK YOU!

FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT, CONTRIBUTIONS, WORK, AND DONATIONS.....

J. Lee Lehman, Tracy Moore, Barbara Grier, Tee Corinne, Johnie Staggs and Rosalie Nichols, Lynn Berry, Kitty and the Old Moody Garden Gang, Lee Lynch, Maida Tilchen, Jonathan Katz, Susanna Sturgis, The Lesbian Illness Support Group for helping us get through the year, Gudrun Schwarz, Ilse Kokula, Maaikje Meijer, Mieke van Kasbergen, Michele Causse, Gloria Orenstein, Judith Stein and the women of Fat Liberation, Diane Stein, Sandy Kern, Jul Bruno, Mabel Hampton, Victoria Ramstetter, Allan Berube, Eric Garber, Judith McDaniel and Maureen Brady, Jean Sirius, Pat Califia, Sarah Hoagland, Catherine Nicholson and Harriet DesMoines, Jane Kogan, Jill F., Carol and Joie, Margrethe Krogh-Jacobson, Michelle Cliff, Michiyo Cornell, Wendy Stevens, S. Diane Bogus, Donna Allegra, Estelle Freedman, Jacqueline Lapidus, Ann Allen Shockley, Judith Masur, Peg Johnston, Becky Birta, Robin Leonard, Gloria Fudge and Laddie Hosler, Juana Marie Paz, Rosemary Curb, Adrienne Rich, Bernice Goodman, Rebecca Fine, Rose Katz, Audre Lorde, Katherine McC, Esther Newton, Bert Hansen, Susan J., Marjory H., Linda G., Pokey Anderson, Mary D., Nancy Tooney, Jane D., Margaret B and Cindy Rizzo, Renee Hanover and Dilly, Barbara B., Polly Kellog, Joan Jubela, Ginny Vida, Beth Levine, Frances Doughty, Mary Farmer, and thank you to our anonymous donor from Boston, to the women who attend our At Homes regularly, and to all the Lesbian women who have visited the Archives.

Thank you to Herizon (Binghamton, N.Y.) for encouraging the participants in their National Lesbian Slide Show and Competition (10/24/81) to send copies of their work to the Archives to become part of the special collection documenting the show. Please consider a similar action if you have a cultural event in your community.

PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

If you are coming to New York and hope to visit the Archives please write or call us as far in advance as you possibly can. The Archives schedules visits by appointment; we do not have regular visiting hours. Those of us who give the "tours" work regular full time jobs and have other commitments so it is not always possible to set things up on the spur of the moment. If you are calling long distance don't forget to leave your number if you get our answering machine. We will return your call.

The women who run the Archives do it as a labor of love and a commitment to preserving Lesbian history-Lesbian lives. No one is salaried; no one is reimbursed financially for the many hours of work.

All donations to the Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, Inc. are tax deductible.

What We Have Been Doing Throughout The Year

BESIDES GIVING TOURS TO OVER 600 USERS OF THE ARCHIVES THIS YEAR, DAILY FILING AND CATALOGUING, ANSWERING THE MAIL, AND WORKING OUR FULL-TIME JOBS, WE HAVE ALSO DONE THE FOLLOWING:

"At Home With the Archives"

At home with the Archives is a series of events in which Lesbians share their cultural work while helping to raise funds for the day to day expenses of the Archives. We ask a \$2 donation (more if/less if), half of which is shared with the cultural worker. If you know that you are going to be visiting New York and want to have an event at the Archives please write us several months in advance.

Fall 1980-1981 At Homes:

Nancy Toder, Cindy True, Michelle Cliff, Paula Gunn Allen, Pat Gazemba, Maggie Eyre, Laura Wetzler, Delia D. Greaves, JeriAnn Hilderly, Joan Nestle, Sonny Wainwright, Susan Windle, Karen Kirshner, Sarah Hoagland, Karen Hamilton, Sandy Pianin, Tee Corinne, Jean Sirius
a discussion on Sexuality, S/M, Censorship and Pornography.

As A Resource for Others Work:

When we began the Archives seven years ago, we believed it would help create Lesbian culture as well as preserve it. The following works have used the resources of the Archives:

Fight Back! Feminist Resistance to Male Violence Frederique Delacoste and Felice Neuman, edd. Minneapolis: Cleis Press, 1981
Lesbian Poetry: An Anthology Elly Bulkin and Joan Larkin, edd. Watertown: Persephone Press, 1981. See also Lesbian Fiction Black Lesbians. A bibliography compiled by J.R. Roberts, Tallahassee: Naiad Press, 1981.
Drawing Down the Moon Margaret Adler. New York: Viking Press, 1979.

Women: A bibliography of Bibliographies. Patricia K. Ballau. Boston: G.T. Hall, 1980
Household and Kin. Amy Swerdlow, Renate Bridenthal, Joan Kelly and Phyllis Vine. Old Westbury: The Feminist Press, 1981

Heresies: Sex Issue, 12, 1981
Heresies: Lesbian Art and Artists Issue No. 3, 1977.

Heresies: Third World Women's Issue: The Politics of Being Other. 8, 1979, photographs
The Lesbian in Literature: Barbara Grier Tallahassee: Naiad Press, 1981-photograph
Heresies: Sex Issue, 12, 1981-photographs
Lesbian Studies Peg Cruickshank, Feminist Press, to be released-photographs
Pink Triangle Film Group, Boston-photographs
Womanews-photographs, ongoing

Butch-Fem Relationships: Sexual Courage in the 1950's and 1960's--A Slide Show

Still a work in progress, the slide show was presented at the Berkshire Women's History Conference (June 1981). The slide show was well received and we learned alot about what we still need to do to tighten it ups so it runs a reasonable amount of time. Joan is still looking for images and voices to include so please remember to write us if you want to be included in the slide show or the oral history project.

The Lesbian Herstory Archives Slide Show

The purpose of the slide show is to give a brief herstory of the Lesbian Herstory Archives, to focus on some special ways all Lesbians can be part of the collection, and to end with a celebration of Lesbian faces and music showing the cultural complexity of our people. Since our last newsletter we have presented the slide show to the following groups and conferences:
GAA-N.J. (Hudson County and Morristown); The Gay Synagogue (New York); EEGO (Long Island, NY); The Door (NYC); Moody Garden Gang Reunion (Ma); Herizon (Binghamton, NY); College of New Rochelle (New Rochelle, NY); TC and Co. (West Hempstead, NY); New York State Lesbian Feminist Conference; Queens NOW (NY); SUNY Stony Brook Lesbian Conference (NY); West Coast Lesbian Collection (San Francisco, Ca.); Ms. Atlas Press and Lambda Assoc. (San Jose, Ca.).

Other Activities:

Co-Sponsored the 2nd Gala Lesbian Poetry Reading-Gay Pride Week, NY June 26, 1981
Presented the Mabel Hampton Oral History Video Tape at Herizon, Binghamton, NY April 25, 1981
Joan participated in a WBAI Lesbian Radio Show on old Lesbian paperbacks-Feb 22, 1981
Joan and Deb led a discussion on Lesbian culture for a social work class at Stony Brook (NY) April 1980.
Provided space for Lesbian Activists at Barnard to present a discussion with Robin Tyler on humor.

Awards Received:

We have been the proud recipients of two awards.

From the Committee for the Visibility of the Other Black Woman: The first annual Hatshepsut Award "in acknowledgment of the contribution you have made in support of our affectional preferences."

from Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund a "certificate of appreciation in recognition of distinguished service, dedication and friendship to the community of lesbians and gay men".

JEANNETTE FOSTER 1894-1981

Jeannette Foster has left us the markings of her life: Sex Variant Women in Literature first published in 1956 and reprinted by Diana Press in 1976; Two Women: the Poetry of Jeannette Foster and Valerie Taylor (Chicago: Womanpress, 1976) and a translation of Renee Vivien's A Woman Appeared to Me (Bates City, Miss: Naiad Press, 1976). As she tells us, her life long work was sparked by a mixture of curiosity, anger at an injustice and her own courage: she understood that questions about sexuality and its relation to culture had to be asked in a time when penalties for such questioning were high. In her own voice: From the Foreward to Sex Variant Women in Literature, 1956

The germ from which this book has grown was implanted nearly forty years ago when a student council voted one spring afternoon to dismiss two girls from a college dormitory unless they altered their habits. To one junior council member several features of the council session made it memorable. It was an unscheduled meeting and was convened so quietly as to render it secret. The absence of freshman and sophomore members indicated a "morals case", for in those days the younger students were thus sheltered from evil intelligence. Most striking of all was the utter incomprehensibility of the issue at stake....The bewildered junior was herself younger than her peers and out side the realm of books was ignorant to a degree incredible today....why should locking themselves into their room together lay two students open to rigorous discipline? To her private humiliation everyone else seemed to know....The once perplexed junior is the present writer and what follows is a product of her extended search.

From her poem Leap Year Nights written in 1931

Beloved-
Come, let us live high and gallant days together;
For life has not downed us until we say so
(And it will never down you!)
Side by side to work fiercely till we fall
And in an hour be up again and shout it:
Harder far, to be worn down slowly
Until sun is brass and the air is bitter
And even cardinal's call or faint honeysuckle
Can offer nothing worth the having.
But coming back is quicker with an arm
Over shouldrs,
And lips near whispering
Courage

From Two Women: Poetry of Jeannette Foster and Valerie Taylor. Chicago: Womanpress, 1976.

Damenklub Violetta



Jeden Sonnabend und Sonntag
Damen-Ball
mit Kabarett und Saxophon

im **Nationalhof**
Bülowstraße 37

und ladet hierzu alle unsere Freundinnen herzlichst ein bei
freiem Eintritt (Herren haben keinen Zutritt)

Sonnabend, den 6. Juli

Mondnacht auf der Alster

mit intimer Beleuchtung

Sonntag, den 7. Juli

Autofahrt nach dem Spreewald

Abfahrt: früh 9 Uhr, Dönhofsplatz

Preis Hin- und zurück M. 5.-- Abends Tanz im Nationalhof

Voranzeige!

Sonntag, den 14. Juli

Autofahrt nach Bad Freienwalde

Hin- und Rückfahrt M. 4.--

Alle Freundinnen sind hierzu herzlichst eingeladen. Die Klubleitung Lotte Hahn

"Damenklub Violetta (Ladies club Violetta) was one of the well known Lesbian clubs in the twenties in Berlin. This is an advertisement for it from "Die Freundin" (the Girl Friend), one of the five Lesbian journals we had during those years. The woman who was the owner of the Lesbian bar is still organizing Lesbian dances for older Lesbians; she is now 84 years old."

photo and text sent to LHA by Gudrun Schwarz of the German Lesbian Archives-Berlin. 1981

The Continuing Story of How We Get Funding

We thought it important that we share with the community both how we get our funds and where the money goes. From the beginning funding for the Archives has been based on a belief that we will do the best we can with what we have, that if we show our commitment to preserving Lesbian culture the community will respond by sharing with us what they can and that no one will be denied access to any materials of the Archives or events at the Archives because of costs. This has all proven to be true. In the first few years a good part of the money to keep us going came from a titling of the LHA members as they could give. Over the last few years the balance is shifting so that much of the ongoing expenses are being met by community donations. The Archives does not have to pay rent. It has always been housed in space provided by Joan Nestle and Deborah Edel in their apartment and it is quickly taking it over. It therefore does not have to pay electricity bills either. The telephone bill (the LHA number) is also covered by Joan and Deb. It is only in the last year that the Archives has begun to cover the expense of long distance calls. Except for a few occasions where long distance travel is involved (eg: Boston) and expenses were reimbursed, travel reimbursement monies have always gone directly into the Archives. There is no set fee for our presenting the Archives slide show. We will always show it to Lesbian groups which ask. We ask only for travel expenses if the group has no money. University organizations which can get funds are always asked to pay an honorarium. Financial records have been kept since the beginning of the Archives but the numbers presented here represent those since the incorporation as a tax deductible not-for-profit corporation in April 1979, the time period during which we have received the bulk of our monies. This financial listing does not include the generous donations of books, journals, and printed materials of all sorts from individual women, Archives members and authors. Without these the Archives could not have grown the way it has. We have received money in the following ways:

Donations from individual women in response to the Newsletter, after reading about LHA, after visiting-

1979 \$1175.75	1980 \$3976.65	1981(to date)\$1542.98
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Benefits includes At Home with the Archives evenings, one major benefit in 1980 and small benefits elsewhere in the community as well as co-sponsored events-

1979 \$318.25	1980 \$1191.75	1981(to date)\$330.25
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Honorarium- for speaking engagements, slide show presentations-

1979 \$580.00	1980 \$1126.80	1981(to date)\$567.25
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Donation Can at LHA, at Conferences; and at Womanbooks for Newsletter-

1979 \$233.48	1980 \$307.35	1981(to date)\$195.00
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Specific Donations from Joan and Deb earmarked for specific activities-

1979 \$1445.00(printing/ mailing)	1980 \$1200.00(printing)	1981(to date)\$797.00(Provincetown Special Book Collection)
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Poster donations-

1980 \$452.52	1981(to date) \$533.51
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Grants from within the Lesbian community-

1979 \$45 for slide show development; 1980 \$7000 Cowan Family Foundation for photocopy machine, Provincetown Book Collection, Printing of Newsletter #7; Natalie Barney Fund \$140 for oral history video tape of Mabel Hampton, photoduplication and slides for Butch-Fem Slide show (covered partial costs); 1981 \$1100 from the Astraea Foundation for tape duplication-preservation, resource sharing project. Monies to cover a tape duplicator, mike, tapes and tape recorder.

Other-

1979 \$50 towards start of a building fund; 1980--; 1981 \$858.94 from sale of stock donated, \$300 towards Provincetown Special Collection

And Where the Money Goes

The upkeep and growth of the Archives means that we generally spend the money as we get it in. We usually end the year with only small amounts carried over. The money is spent in the following ways (rounded off amounts)-

1. all printed material we have purchased including pamphlets, posters, out of print works, resource materials, newly published materials and journal and newspaper subscriptions:

1979 \$230	1980 \$1200	1981 (to date)\$1500
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2. Equipment including a coffee pot for at Homes, bookcases, file cabinets,...

1979 \$160	1980 \$300	1981 (to date)\$200
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3. Printing costs run the gamut from printing the Newsletter, printing fliers, handouts and stationery, to photocopying information from the collection in response to letters asking for information and photocopying material such as newspaper articles and one of a kind documents for preservation.-

1979 \$1600	1980 \$2200	1981(to date) \$598
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4. Mailing costs include bulk mail permit and renewals, post office box rentals (increasing yearly, bulk mailings and stamps for on-going correspondence-

1979 \$540	1980 \$900	1981(to date) \$500
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Funding Story (cont)

5. Preservation Materials and Stationery Supplies include such Archival preservation materials as: Mylar sheets and folders, acid free paper, acid free boxes (of varying sizes) mylar book covers, permalife file folders, rust-proof staples and plastic clips... stationery supplies include envelopes (of all sizes) rubber stamps...

1979 \$ 650	1980 \$1050	1981(to date)\$630
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6. Video and Audio supplies include cassette tapes for recording conferences, oral histories, At Homes, duplicating tapes sent to us for the collection to return the originals, video tapes for video projects, film and processing for photo duplication, slide show preparation and snapshot documentation of the community, blow up of posters for the Gay Pride March-

1979 \$ 450	1980 \$ 1300	1981 (to date) \$600
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7. Other expenses include bank service charges; calendar listings, safe deposit box rental; taxes and filing fees; long distance calls, tape transcription and occasional conference registrations and the Provincetown Special Book Collection

1979 \$225	1980 \$540	1981 (to date) \$3000
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NOTICE: THIS DOES NOT INCLUDE THE MANY MANY HOURS OF TIME, ENERGY AND DEVOTION PUT IN BY THE WOMEN COMMITTED TO HELPING THE ARCHIVES CONTINUE TO GROW!! ---Deborah Edel

The Year (cont)

Camp Carysbrook--just the name is magical to the forty or so lucky women who attended the Sept. 25-27, 1981 weekend retreat organized by the Roanoke, Virginia First Friday Club. The fall beauty and charm of the girl's camp, nestled in the bosom of the Blue Ridge Mountains, was more than matched by the marvelously imaginative and energetic Lesbians who planned and attended.

Our logcabin's handmade sign identified our bunkmates as Doves, not to be mistaken for those rowdy Cardinals who stayed at the dance until 2 a.m., when the peaceful, right-thinking Doves were already snuggled in our warm sleeping bags. Those women sure could cook--the food was cellent, and more importantly there was plenty of it. Scheduled events besides the dance were performances by Lori Grigsby's and Pam Corbett on Friday night before everyone gathered around a large outdoor campfire and sang half the night away. On Saturday, workshops on health issues, communication skills, and a showing of the travelling version of the Lesbian Herstory Archives slideshow preceded Judy Reagan's performance of her funniest and most anti-Reagan songs. (As she says, she's from "the far-left branch of the family tree.")

But it was the unscheduled events-- the talks, the hugs, the visible relaxation of city-tensed nerves, the great laughter, and such joys as an early-morning hike through multi-colored woods up into the hills to the nearby river rapids, then racing back to dry my feet by the huge stone fireplace with a hot, delicious mug of coffee and a warm bagel--those are really what made it in every way a real "re-treat." A heart felt thanks to the fine women of the First Friday Club for inviting us. And don't forget to send us the info on the next one in the Spring! ---Judith Schwarz

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW ARCHIVES:
The Florida Collection of Lesbian Herstory
PO Box 5605, Jacksonville, FL 32207
Third World Women's Archives, Box 1235
Yale Station, New Haven, Ct. 06250
West Coast Lesbian Collections, Box 23753
Oakland, Ca. 94623, 415-465-8080

OUT OF PRINT -BACK ISSUES NEEDED
If you don't want to part with originals write to us about our photocopying them.
Lesbian Tide Vol 1, issues 2-5; Vol 2 issues 1,3; Vol 3, issue 5; Vol 7, issue 3.
Echo of Sappho Vol 1, issues 1,2.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:
Send us your own work, photos, letters, diaries, tapes. These are invaluable and there is no way for us to purchase those bits of your lives. Become regional clippers. Scan your local newspaper for coverage of Lesbian activities, lives and articles by Lesbians. Anti-Gay material is also important.

DO YOU REMEMBER THIS BOOK ?
We have had a request for information about a Lesbian novel from the 1950's called Nikki. Does anyone know the author or publisher?

THE LESBIAN PHOTOGRAPHY DIRECTORY IS OUT !!
This is the first edition of statements from Lesbian photographers across the US describing their workcollections, and services available. A list of Lesbian and women's periodicals is also included. The directory is available for \$3.50 from Morgan Gwenwald c/o Lesbian Herstory Archives, PO Box 1258, New York, NY 10116
POETRY LISTING UPDATE
The next issue of the LHA News will include an updating of our poetry collection listing and the cataloging of the Provincetown Special Book Collection poetry.

A WONDERFUL WAY TO HELP THE ARCHIVES GROW:
When Esther Newton celebrated her fortieth birthday she asked her guests to make a tax deductible donation to the Archives instead of buying her a gift--a wonderful idea and we thank her deeply.

**LHA Logo/ T-Shirt
Design Wanted**

Write for further information.

LESBIAN AND GAY MEN'S SLIDE SHOW REGISTRY
a Resource Guide and Historical Record

The Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, Inc. is compiling a registry of Lesbian and Gay Men's Slide Shows to serve both as a resource guide to what is currently available and as an historical record of our cultural work. If you have a slide show or slides to accompany a presentation, or if you have had one in the past, please fill out the form below and return it to us. These forms will be compiled, and then will be available to those who request it. The registry will be ongoing. Please remember to write us if you revise your slide show, take it out of circulation, or prepare a new one.

TITLE: _____

CULTURAL WORKER(S): _____

GROUP AFFILIATION: _____

ADDRESS: _____

ZIP CODE _____

BASIC CONTENT:

HISTORY:
DATE OF PREPARATION: _____ DISMANTLED: _____ DATE _____

VARIED VERSIONS: _____

OTHER INFORMATION: _____

AVAILABILITY:
RENTABLE: _____ FEE: _____ FOR SALE: _____ PRICE: _____
DONE AS PRESENTATION: _____ WITH SPEAKERS FEE: _____

Forms for donating materials to the Archives

We are working on forms for other materials. Feel free to change these to reflect your particular needs. Write if you have any questions.

WILLS

I give and bequeath (sum or property) to the Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation Inc. (L.H.E.F., Inc.) a not-for-profit corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York with headquarters in New York City to be used for such purposes as the Board of Directors may designate.

If you want a restricted bequest simply specify for what purpose you would like the money to be used... If you are leaving us property please add that the property may be sold if the Board of Directors so designates.

PHOTOGRAPHS

I am donating my photographs to the Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, Inc. They may be used in the following ways: (please check all the appropriate boxes)

- For viewing at the Foundation
- For use in slide shows prepared by LHEF
- For publication in materials prepared by LHEF
- For publication in LHEF materials
- For publication in Lesbian and/or Feminist journals
- No slide show or print use without my permission.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

UNPUBLISHED MATERIALS-PAPERS, POEMS

I give the Lesbian Herstory Educational Foundation, Inc. permission to do the following with my paper (title) _____ which I am submitting to them for the viewing files:

- list my paper with my name in bibliographies they may publish.
- photocopy and distribute my paper upon request from researchers
- photocopy and distribute my paper only if I have given my permission

Name: _____

Address: _____

Date: _____

LESBIAN HERSTORY SOURCES

A GUIDE TO THE LESBIAN HERSTORY ARCHIVES COLLECTION

- ~special collections
- ~bibliographies
- ~documents

One of the principles of the Archives is the clarity of the word Lesbian. In many women's and Gay collections, Lesbian material is either buried or euphemistically described. We will use this section of the Newsletter on a regular basis to list our materials; this will be our way of cataloging, so hold on to the newsletter. We will also use this section to reproduce Archival documents.

<thinking about history>

If we ask decorous questions of history, we will get a genteel history. If we assume that because sex was a secret it did not exist, we will get a sexless history. If we assume that in periods of oppression, Lesbians lost their autonomy and acted as victims only, we destroy not only history but lives. For many years the psychologists told us we were both emotionally and physically deviant; they measured our nipples and clitorises to chart our queerness, they talked about how we wanted to be men and how our sexual styles were pathetic imitations of the real thing and all along under this barrage of hatred and fear, we loved. They told us that we should hate ourselves and sometimes we did but we were also angry, resilient and creative. We were part of a community that took care of itself. And most of all we were Lesbian women, revolutionizing each of these terms. We create history as much as we discover it. What we call history becomes history and since this is a naming time, we must be on guard against our own class prejudices and discomforts. If close friends are to be part of Lesbian history, so must be also, and to me even more importantly, the Lesbians of the fifties who left no doubt about their sexuality or their courage.

--Joan Nestle

"The Gutter Letter"

This letter was found by a Gay friend among a stack of papers and boxes lying outside a Greenwich Village apartment house. Attracted by the file folders, he did not realize what they contained until he had lugged the many boxes home. What he found were love letters, general correspondence, leases, copies of wills, and photographs portraying the Lesbian relationships of Eleanor Coit, a labor activist and educator. She had just died and these letters had been thrown out as trash. The discovery became symbolic to us and we refer to the following letter as the gutter letter, emphasizing the reality that the documents testifying to our love are too often considered garbage, and are destroyed by dismissing or frightened families.

circa 1920

This is a "very quiet" letter, Eleanor dear, and you won't read it when you are dashing off somewhere in a hurry, will you---please.

Thursday night

Best Beloved,
I'm writing by the light of the two tall candles on my desk, with the flaming chrysanthemums you arranged, before me. It's such a lovely soft glow and I'm glad because this is a "candle-light" letter. I wish you could know what a wonderful person you are, Eleanor darling and what joy your letter written last night gave me. Not the part about me--that is pitifully wrong and only a standard for me to measure up to--but you make it all so wonderful and are clear about it. You know I feel terribly much the way you do about it all, but I never could say so, even in incoherent fashion, and so many times back of my nobler resolves I am just plain selfish about wanting you to "look at and talk to" especially in the future when I know you won't be there. And that's why you are so wonderful, darling, because now I never can be but I shall have to strive oh so ardently to ever measure up and be worthy at all of you. And I'm not at all afraid, dear, I know our love will help--oh so much--and not hinder, dear, it never does that, not even in my weakest moments....

"High thoughts and noble in all lands

help me: my soul is fed by such.

But ah, the touch of lips and hands--

The human touch!

Warm, vital, close, life's symbols dear--

These need I most, and now, and here."

It is true, isn't it, but the glorious part of it is there can be both....
The candles are burning low, dear heart and the world is very still and beautiful outside.
And I am so, oh so happy that I know you and love you. And may God bless you through all time.

--Alice

A Guide to Current Lesbian Periodicals: deletions *** additions

Newsletter #6 had a bibliography of U.S. Lesbian periodicals reflecting the material known to L.H.A. and the Circle of Lesbian Indexers. It is dedicated to the women who have had the courage to maintain the word Lesbian in title or statement of purpose despite the political, personal, and social risks involved in using this name. The periodicals listed vary greatly in intent, content, method of production, regularity and distribution. We have not included prices because the economic conditions force the prices to change frequently. If we have not included your periodical or if the information listed is inaccurate, please let us know.

OUT OF PRINT:

AUSTINDYKE, Austin, TX; GREEN MOUNTAIN DYKE, Bennington, VT; KLONDYKE KONTACT, Anchorage, AK; LEAPING LESBIAN, Ann Arbor, MI; LESBIAN FEMINIST ORGANIZING COMMITTEE NEWSLETTER, Minneapolis, MN; THE LESBIAN TIDE, Los Angeles, CA; LESBIAN OF COLOR QUARTERLY, Seattle, WA; NLFO NEWS, Los Angeles, CA; PART OF THE PROCESS, Providence, RI; PUCE MONGOOSE, Garwood, NJ; SHE, Opa Locka, FL.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

AZALEA, PO Box 200, Cooper Station, New York, NY, 10003.
LESBIAN INSIDER/INSIGHTER/INCITER, PO Box 7038, Minneapolis, MN, 55407.
SINISTER WISDOM, Box 660, Amherst, MA, 01004.

NEW PUBLICATIONS:

BETTER HOMES AND DYKES an irregular periodical, c/o Lesbian Alliance, WRAC, 130 N. Madison, Iowa City, IA, 52242.
BIG APPLE DYKE NEWS, BAD News, 192 Spring St., New York, NY, 10012.
COMMON LIVES, LESBIAN LIVES, PO Box 1553, Iowa City, IA, 52244.
LAVENDER MORNING: for Lesbians, PO Box 729, Kalamazoo, MI, 49005.
LAVENDER SATSANG, PO Box 2192, Charleston, SC, 29403.
LESBIAN COMMUNITY NEWS, Lincoln Legion of Lesbians, PO Box 3-137, Lincoln, NE, 68503.
MONTHLY CYCLE: A newsletter by and for Lesbians, PO Box 1306, Laurence, KS, 66044.
NEW DAWN, Box 1849, Alexandria, VA, 22313.
SAPHIRE SPEAKS, c/o Leigh Mosley, editor, 1752 U St. NW, Washington, DC, 20009.
SISTERSPACE, 3500 Lancaster Ave., Philadelphia, PA, 19104.
TELEWOMAN, PO Box 2306, Pleasant Hills, CA, 94523.
WOMYNLOVERS, FLO Box 10621, Oakland, CA, 94610.

THE OLD MOODY GARDEN GANG REUNIONS Another Chapter in the Women's Herstory of Lowell, Mass.

When Lynn Berry and Joan Andrea visited the Archives in 1980, Joan told us that Lynn was part of a Lesbian community that dated back to the early fifties. Lynn and her friends had all hung out at a bar called Moody Garden in Lowell, Massachusetts. On May 19, 1979 they held their first reunion in the same town of Lowell and over 175 Lesbians came to celebrate their thirty year old history as a community.

In 1981 Lynn called to ask us if we would do the Archives slide show for the group's second reunion on May 16, 1981 in Millbury, Massachusetts. We were delighted and honored. I will never forget the rainy night we stepped through the doors of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Hall on South Main Street into a huge hall overflowing with celebrating women. A large sign on one wall read "Welcome to the 2nd Reunion-1950-1981". Kitty, as we came to know her, had helped prepare a groaning table of home cooked food and the group had organized a raffle for the Archives. As Deb and I sat at one of the long tables, I looked around in wonder. I had come home; here were the Lesbians of my generation and earlier, over three hundred women who had come together to commemorate a community and in doing so were transforming history.

Since that night, we have joined the Moody Garden Gang in a picnic; stood under towering trees listening to Jean, the favorite singer at Moody's, entertaining her devoted audience, and joined hands in a meadow-wide circle to sing the group's anthem, "United We Stand". Lynn undertook the responsibility of collecting photographs for a slide show documenting the Moody Garden Gang's thirty year history; she also made a tape for the Archives about how the group met. We deeply thank her and the other women who have sent their photographs.

To document the Moody Garden Gang and similar Lesbian communities is one of the major reasons the Archives exists. There was more Lesbian herstory in that room that night than we had ever witnessed anywhere and part of that history is the courage and tenacity of a community to stay together. Before we spoke at the reunion, Lynn read off the names of the women who had died that year, first the names they were known by in the community and then their given names. We stood with our heads bowed, silently repeating their names, unknown to us in one way and part of our deepest selves in another.

We stood in memory of:

Sam (Rita Willette)	Taz (Irene Gray)
Andy (Annette Comeau)	Charlotte Baker
Lorraine White	Bridget Hoffman
Vinny (Gladys Vincent)	

And since that day:

Michelle (Carole Perriello) 1942-1981

- ANNOUNCING -

The 1st Annual Re-Union of the
Old Moody Garden Gang
(and friends - women only)

on Saturday, May 19, 1979 - 7 p. m. to 2 a. m.

PULASKI CLUB

(upstairs Hall)

Central Street - Lowell, Mass.

BUFFET - MUSIC of the 50's & 60's

\$3.00 per person

ADVANCED TICKET SALES ONLY BY CALLING

TRANSCRIPT OF LYNN BERRY'S TAPE, RECEIVED AT THE ARCHIVES NOVEMBER 27, 1981

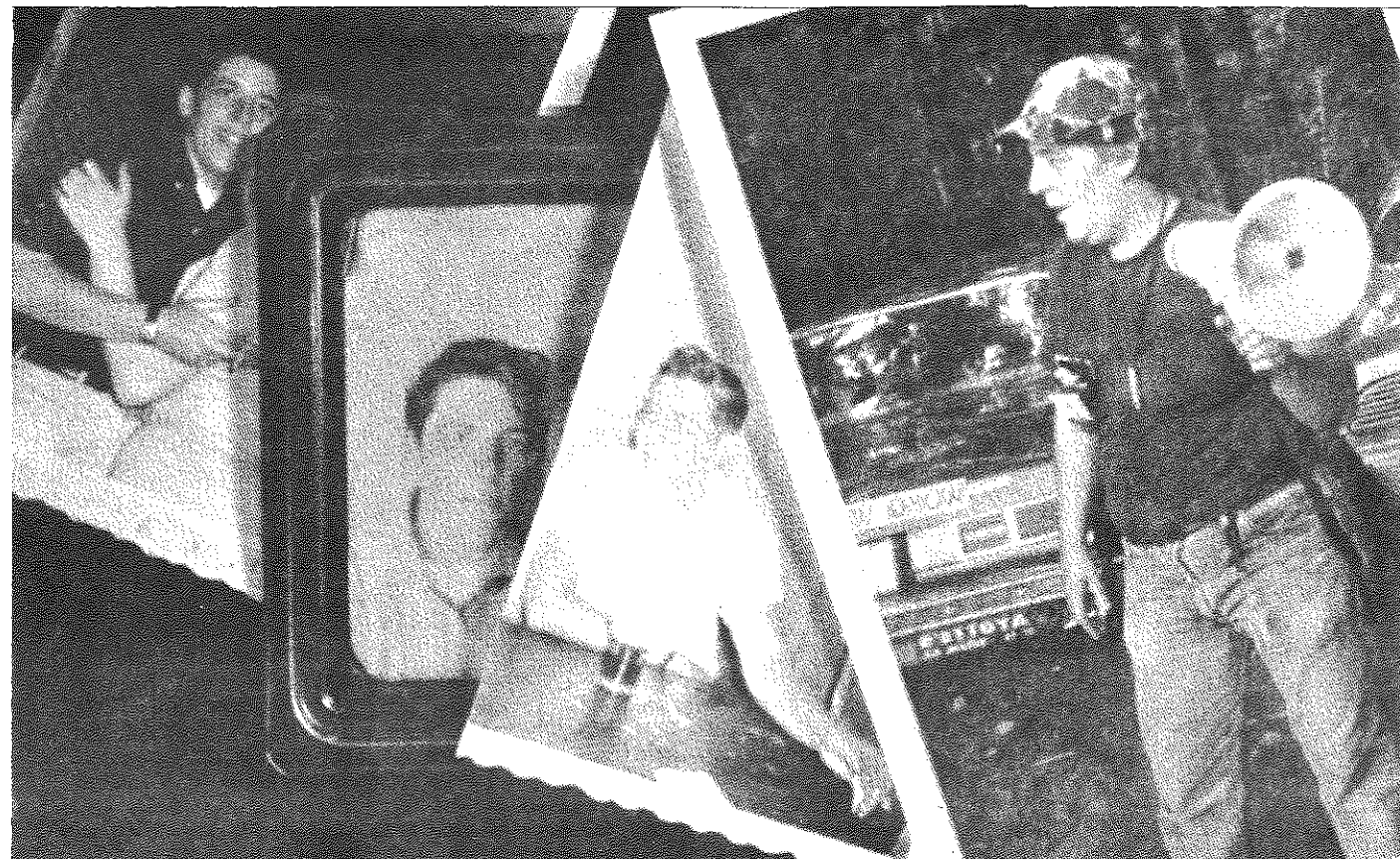
Jean gave me the whole story about the Moody Garden from beginning to end and I will just relate it to you the way she told it to me. There was a woman by the name of Emma back in 1955 who played in a band in a place called the Silver Star on Suffolk Street in Lowell. Emma wanted to start an all girl band and she heard that Jean was a guitar player so she asked Jean if she would help her organize an all woman band and this is what they did. In 1956, right next door there was a place called Moody Garden. Emma and Jean and a woman band played at the Silver Star for about a year (1955-56) and it was at this time (1956) that they were asked to come to play at the Moody Garden which they did. It was around this time that all the Lesbians and some of the gay boys used to come in. That was back when it all started in 1956. Part of that band was Jean, Emma and Vinny. Vinny was the drummer, Emma played the piano and Jean played the guitar and was the lead singer. Around 1961 when Vinny became ill Jacky took over as the drummer. A lot of the girls and guys from towns around Lowell came, some came from as far away as Worcester and Boston to the Moody Garden and it was in operation until 1965 when it was closed. There was a fire and it burned the whole building down so the man who owned it decided to..he had heard about this other place in Tynsboro and this was the only place the Gay kids had to go near Lowell so he decided to move his bar from the Moody Garden in Lowell to the Lantern Club in Tynsboro and of course all the same people went from Moody Garden Club in Lowell to the Lantern Club in Tynsboro, including not only the clientele but the band as well. The band played there and the same people went there as had to the Moody Gardens until 1971 when the Lantern Club was burned down also, right to the ground.

I moved from Willmington, Ma. to Nashua, N.H. in 1967. In the original Moody Garden Club on Moody Street in Lowell was where I first met Kitty and Ev because Kitty, who you met at the reunion was one of the original waitresses from there and so was Ev. They were the only ones I really kept in touch with when I moved to Nashua, Kitty, Al and maybe half a dozen people who used to go to Moody Garden. The rest of the people we all lost contact with. They moved, went to different states. We used to just hear about this one or that one through some one else and we sort of lost contact with all our friends that we used to go to Moody Garden with. About 1977 is when Kitty first mentioned to me (we were having a picnic) that "wouldn't it be nice if we could get a hold of all those people who used to go to the old Moody Garden and have a get together". We sort of fantasized about what we would do and how we could recreate the old Moody Garden. We had a lot of fun talking about it and so each time Kitty would mention it "I would really like to have that, I would really like to do it". Finally I said to her well where do you think you would have it. "At my house". Kitty, I said, do you realize how many people that involves. She said "yes". and I said, how would we ever find them. She said "well you know certain people kept in touch with certain people." "We didn't keep in touch with them, but then I started to think about it and well yes, Mel was still in touch with the kids that used to come from Waltham and I know Carole still keeps in touch with the women here and there and I still keep in touch with the women from Lowell that I knew who moved to Worcester so why don't we try for the heck of it and see how many people we can really get in touch with. We had our first reunion in the very town where the Moody Garden started and we had a hundred and seventyfive women that we were able to get together, some of whom were more difficult than others to get together. We had to take trips on Saturdays and Sundays and look them up through the town halls, city halls and through the telephone company. Some of them we even ran up and down reading off the mailboxes to find. But we were able to find all of them and then of course after we had the first reunion the women who came started telling other women about it, women that they remembered used to come into Moody Garden. They said that the next time you have another let us know and so forth. This is pretty much the whole story as far as how things got started. A lot of it you already know about because I have told you about things at different times. It was at our first reunion that we decided to open our reunion with the song "United We Stand". We just thought it was so great that despite all the years of not seeing each other we could get together and have this reunion every year.

If you want more information about the next reunion write:

The Moody Garden Owl Collective, 10 Piermont Street, Nashua, N.H. 03063

Photographs of Lynn Berry



SEXUALITY

FROM A LETTER SENT TO THE ARCHIVES BY HARRIET LANE, NOVEMBER 1980

...I have been thinking a lot lately about my early days as a Lesbian (I recently celebrated my 39th birthday and with it my 20th year as a dyke) and remembered something I thought you might find interesting... I lived at home in 1960 (age 19). So did my lover. Sometimes we went to cheap hotels in the Times Square area, but often even this was hard to arrange. Somehow we heard of a woman on 14th Street who rented out rooms to Lesbians (by the hour or the night I no longer remember) and despite our terror (we were, after all, 2 very middle-class children) of what we might find there, we went. The downstairs buzzer said Amazons Ltd. on it. We were greeted at the door by a smiling woman who took us into the kitchen, made us some tea and sat and talked with us for a while. Then she left us alone. The kitchen was at one end of the long hallway off of which there were several rooms. I guess these were the rooms she rented out for we could sometimes hear muffled sounds coming from them. I don't remember ever actually seeing anyone else there. We never rented a room (still too afraid to acknowledge to someone else our erotic feelings) but we did go there frequently that cold winter to sit and talk with her in the kitchen or be by ourselves in the parlor room at the other end of the hallway. The woman, whose name I wonder if I ever knew, never asked for money or pressured us in any way. It was, for us, a safe space and now I wonder about that woman and would certainly love to hear of anyone else who ever went there.

~ ~ ~

This is a beginning bibliography, based on the Archives' holdings, on the subject of sexuality. It started as a much shorter listing on the topics of pornography, s/m and censorship. I have undertaken it as an ongoing project because of my concern with the debates now raging in our communities over sexuality in general and these topics specifically. As an archivist, it is crucial to me that all information be made available and be preserved; that personal judgements not be transformed into history because some have a greater access to our presses or to our organizations or to our fears. I have also added works about the history of sexuality to this list and hopefully each decade or historical period will be included as the forces and theories around us change. The things we are beginning to say about our sexuality now are very different from what we said in the early seventies and all of this is different from what was written about us in the thirties and forties. We hope the archives will have as full a collection of sexual documents as possible--both by Lesbians and the statements, images made about us. To help us, we need you to take courageous steps in sharing your sexual lives with the archives in the form of statements, photographs, letters or tapes.

Much of the rest of this newsletter contains other references to our complicated place in sexual history. The Maida Tilchen Lesbian paperback collection, for example, is an excellent source for documenting and understanding the American cultural-sexual mythology created about us. And through this understanding, help us to see what we censor in our own lives because they have already colonized our sexual territory.

Not included in this listing are the hundreds of articles that are appearing weekly and monthly in our journals and newspapers. The Circle of Lesbian indexers is tracking these down in its monumental work and I will keep updating this bibliography in each newsletter. You can help by clipping or sending me a reference to an article you consider important.

As soon as I started the bibliography I realized that in one sense the whole collection is a history of Lesbian sexuality. Much of our poetry, novels, plays, photographs and music gain their power from their sexual content. I also saw how difficult it is to sort out topics in our particular culture. Sociology, psychology, religion all kept intruding. Our sexuality just like the theories of our creation--what made us--is grist for all their mills.

We are caught in a strange web. Our sexuality is an intrinsic part of our culture, but sexuality is in many ways an unknown, uncharted world of dreams, possibilities and hidden actions. All the Lesbians who are now making tapes, taking photographs, writing and living their fantasies are clearing our house of the ghosts of deviancy. You are changing history, and we are grateful.

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FOR LATE ADDITIONS SEE PAGE 44

WHERE HAVE ALL THE LOVE LETTERS GONE ?

--OR ANY OTHER CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN LESBIANS. DON'T DESTROY LETTERS---- SEND THEM TO THE ARCHIVES!

Response To: A Call For Bar Names

Bars have always been special institutions for Lesbians; they were in the past both colonized territory and free space and their patrons bore the brunt of police harassment in the fifties and sixties. In Newsletter #6 we put out a call for names, addresses and data about Lesbian bars from the past. Here is what we received in summary form. We have decided not to list bars still functioning (although we are happy to have that information, as well, for our files) because we do not want to aid the anti-gay forces in their surveillance of the gay community and besides, many in-community guides do exist. We thank the individuals and the Lesbian and Gay History research projects that answered our call. Morgan Gwenwald and Deb Rothberg, we thank especially for their work in gathering the names of NY bars; they are part of the N.Y. Lesbian History Project and are doing an ongoing project about New York bars. It is clear that much more information is needed; please, if you remember these bars or others we have not included, write and tell us about your memories. Such things as addresses, years of operation, physical descriptions, description of patrons (age, class, race, sexual style) memories of raids, music, customs (one woman only allowed in the bathroom at a time, the use of the red light to signal police visit) are vital to understanding the role the bar played in the Lesbian community of its time. And most of all, if you have photographs of the outside, inside of the bars, please allow us to copy them and we will return the originals. In my own experience, the bars were places of theater, sexual adventuring, community bonding, freedoms and oppression. They were escape and confrontation all at the same time.

--Joan Nestle

NEW YORK CITY AREA

ACE OF CLUBS, 2nd Ave (70's)
 ADMIRAL, Harlem
 AFRICAN QUEEN, Harlem
 ANDREWS, Harlem
 BAGATELLE, Village ("the Bag")
 BAR-NUN, Bronx (66-67)
 BIG APPLE, Harlem
 CAFE BOHEMIA, Barrow St. (70's)
 BONNIE AND CLYDE, 82 W 3rd St. (70's)
 CASA MARIA, 53 W. 19th St. (70's)
 LA CHATTE, 232 Park Ave. S. (70's)
 THE CHECKERBOARD, Christopher St.
 CHERCHEZ LA FEMME, 108 W. 43rd St.
 CHEZ ELLE
 CLUB 41, 41 Dey St. (60's)
 CHEZ PAT'S, Volney Hotel
 CHEZ PATI
 CLUB 82
 COME BACK, 185 W. 10th St. (70's)
 DAPPERS, East 81st (70's)
 DEES, Houston St.
 DUG OUT, Harlem
 ERNIES, MacDougal St. (late 30's and 40's)
 LA FEMME, 85 Washington Pl. (70's)
 FOXY LADY, 232 Park Ave So. (70's)
 GERALD/HERS, W. 45th St.
 GIANNI'S, 53 W. 19th St. (70's)
 THE GODDESS, 24 E. 22nd (70's)
 THE GRAPEVINE, 8th St. & 2nd Ave.
 HAYLOFT, Long Island
 HILLTOP, 155th St. (72)
 KITTEN KLUB, 277 Bleecker St. (70's) (also known as THE KLUB)
 KOOKIES, 149 W. 14th St. (60-70's)
 THE LAUREL, Van Dam St.
 THE LIB, E. 45th St.
 LIGHTHOUSE, 113 E. 12th St. (72)
 LITTLE CLUB, (40-50's)
 THE LOVE CAGE, W. 4th/3rd (70's) (or LUV CAGE?)
 LUCKY'S, Harlem (30-40's)
 THE MAGIC TOUCH
 MAHOGONY, Harlem
 MARY ANGELA'S, 7th Ave. S.

MONA'S, (50's)
 NEWS CAFE, 145 & Brdw (65)
 I, 2, 3, University Ave.
 OUTER LIMITS, 1222 Nostrand Ave. Brooklyn (72)
 PAGE 11
 PAM PAM'S, Ice Cream parlor on 6th Ave (60's)
 PAULA'S, 64 Greenwich Ave. (70's)
 PEECHES, Lexington btwn 81 & 82 (late 70's)
 PONYSTABLE
 PURPLE MANOR, Harlem
 RHYTHM, New Utrecht Ave, Brooklyn (70's)
 RONNIES
 RONNIES ROOST, in hotel basement (70's)
 SAHARA, 1234 Second Ave. (70's)
 SAINT NICHOLAS, upper Manhat. (72)
 SEA COLONY, Abingdon Sq. (50-60's)
 SEVEN STEPS DOWN, Village (60's)
 SEVEN WELLS, 7 Well St., Yonkers
 SILHOUETTE, 53 W. 19th St.
 SNOOKIES, Harlem
 SWING RENDEZVOUS, 3rd St.
 TABLE TOP
 TERRITORIAL BAR, 125th (62)
 TONY PASTORS, (30-40's)
 TOWN RENDEZVOUS, Warback Ave. Yonkers (men & women)
 12th OF NEVER
 3 PENNY
 THREE, 72nd St, 3rd Ave. (70's)
 TUBBY'S, 93rd (67-68)
 TUBBY'S II, 123rd & 3rd Ave. (69)

CHICAGO
 CHEZ RON, (73)
 MAXINE'S, 79th & Langley

MIAMI
 JEWEL BOX, (early 40's)

MICHIGAN
 BRA HOUSE, Kalamazoo (closed 65)
 PAPA JOES, Grand Rapids (mid 60's)

BOSTON & MASSACHUSETTS

CAVANA'S, 335 Tremont St. Boston (50's)
 THE EMPTY BARREL, 99 1/2 Broadway, Boston (30's)
 THE PUNCH BOWL, Boston
 THE SAINTS, Boston
 THE ACE OF SPADES, Provincetown (50's)
 GREEN LANTERN TAVERN, Drocot (50-60's)
 THE LIGHTHOUSE, Lynn (50's)
 MOODY GARDENS, Lowell (50-60's)

CLEVELAND

THE BARN (late 30's)
 THE CLUB
 THE FARM
 THE VERDUNE CLUB (40's)

DENVER

CHERRY CREEK TAVERN (prior to 72)

NEW ORLEANS (50's)

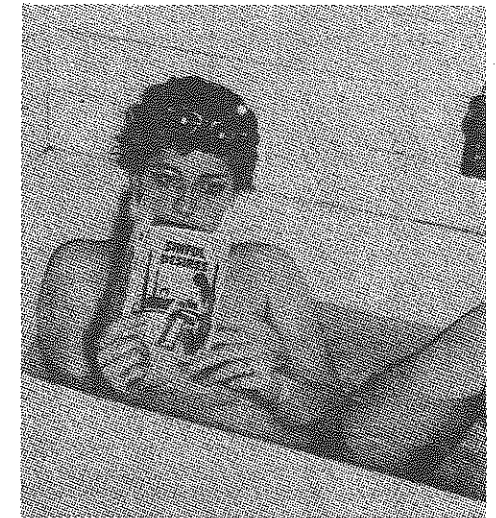
THE COVE
 THE GALLEY HOUSE
 THE GASLIGHT
 GOLDEN ROD INN
 THE KEY CLUB
 THE LAMPPOST
 THE OASIS
 PHIL'S LOUNGE
 SY'S STARLIGHT
 RED'S

SAN FRANCISCO

BRADLEY'S CORNER (60-70's)
 EBB TIDE (early 70's)
 FIN-ALLEY (60's)
 MAUD'S (also called "THE STUDY" 60-70's)
 MISS MUFFET'S (70)
 MONA'S (50's)
 NOVA (60-70's)
 ROMEO'S (early 60's)
 SATURNALIA (70)
 SCOTT'S PITT (60-70's)
 WILD SIDE WEST (70)

LHA Survival Literature Collection an ongoing bibliography

Sandy Kern, NYC circa 1960



- Ann Aldrich Carol in a Thousand Cities. Greenwich, Ct: Gold Medal, 1960. (2 copies)
 Ann Aldrich We, Too, Must Love. Greenwich, Ct: Gold Medal, 1958. (3 cps)
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 Anna Elisabet Weirauch Of Love Forbidden. (Trans. by Whittaker Chambers; former title: The Scorpion) Greenwich, CT: Fawcett Pubs, 1958.
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 Anne Herbert Sexual Twilight. NY: Softcover Library, 1968.
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 Anonymous Dyke Farm. North Hollywood, Calif: Nite Lite Books, 1964.
 Barbara Brooks A Shameless Need. NY: Midwood Books, 1965.
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 Carol Emery Queer Affair. NY: Universal Pub., 1957.
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 Edwina Mark My Sister, My Beloved. NY: Berkley, 1955.
 Edwin West Young and Innocent. Derby, Ct: Monarch Books, 1960.
 Elizabeth Craigin Either is Love. NY: Lion Books, 1952. (c. Harcourt, 1937)
 Emory Paine The Beauty Game. NY: Midwood Book, 1965.
 Evans Wall Wedding Night. NY: Beacon Book, 1960.
 Françoise Mallet The Loving and the Daring. NY: Popular Library, 1953. (c. The Illusionist, NY: Farrar, Straus & Young, 1952)
 Françoise Mallet The Loving and The Daring. NY: Popular Library, 1953. (c. 1952)
 Fletcher Flora Strange Sisters. NY: Lion Books, 1954.
 Fletcher Flora Whisper of Love. NY: Pyramid Books, 1959. (2 copies)
 Gale Wilhelm The Strange Path. NY: Berkley Pub., n.d. (c. 1938, Random House, Inc.) Originally Torchlight to Valhalla.

Special Book Collection

IT IS NOT EASY FOR ANY OF US TO PART WITH BOOK COLLECTIONS THAT WE HAVE BUILT UP OVER THE YEARS TO HELP US SURVIVE. WE WANT TO ESPECIALLY THANK MAIDA TILCHEN, MARGE M. AND JONATHAN KATZ FOR LETTING GO OF THEIR PERSONAL COLLECTIONS SO A LARGER COMMUNITY CAN BENEFIT FROM THEIR MATERIALS. IT IS THIS SPIRIT OF SHARED RESOURCES THAT IS AT THE HEART OF THE ARCHIVES.

We Thank You

Marge M. Collection

An Analysis of the Kinsey Reports, ed. D.P. Geddes. N.Y.: Mentor Books, 1954. pbk.
Aderson, R. Tea and Sympathy. N.Y.: Signet Books, 1953. pbk. 1st ed.
Bannon, Ann. I Am a Woman. Greenwich: Fawcett Gold Medal Book, 1959. pbk.
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Bieber, I. & others. Homosexuality. N.Y.: Basic Books, 1962.
Ellis, H. Studies in the Psychology of Sex. 4 vols. N.Y.: Random House, 1936. boxed
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Objects: Two brushes with women's faces; book ends; book holders.

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Jess Stearn The Grapevine. NY: MacFadden-Bartell Book, 1965.
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Marjorie Lee The Lion House. Greenwich, Ct: Fawcett Pub, 1959.
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Tracy Young Women Who Love Men. NY: Pocket Books, 1977.
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Vin Packer Come Destroy Me. NY: Gold Medal Books (Fawcett), 1954.
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Vin Packer Spring Fire. Greenwich, Ct: Gold Medal Books, 1952. (2 copies)

HAVE YOU EVER PRESENTED A SLIDE SHOW ON LESBIAN HISTORY-ART-POLITICS-CULTURE-MUSIC-COMMUNITY EVENTS-ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES ???
DON'T FORGET TO FILL OUT THE SLIDE SHOW REGISTRY IN THE FIRST SECTION.

PLEASE, PLEASE SEND US SNAPSHOTS OF YOURSELVES, YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR ACTIVITIES. IF YOU DON'T WANT TO PART WITH THE ORIGINALS WE CAN MAKE COPIES AND RETURN THE ORIGINALS TO YOU.

Maida Tilchen Paperback Collection

- Kay Addams Queer Patterns. NY: Beacon Signal, 1959.
 Kay Addams Warped Desire. NY: Beacon Cooks, 1960.
 Arthur Adlon Lesbos is for Lonnie. NY: Beacon-Signal, 1963:
 Arthur Adlon The One Between. NY: Beacon-Signal, 1962.
 Arthur Adlon She Who Strays NY: Beacon-Signal, 1963.
 Ann Aldrich SEE: Marijane Meaker, M.J. Meaker, Vin Packer.
 Curt Aldrich Passion Protege. San Diego, Cal: Nightstand Books/
 Corinth Pubs, 1965.
 Richard Allen Twisted. NY: First Niter Books, 1965.
 Ruth Allison Lesbianism: Its Secrets and Practices. Calif: Medco
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 Kingsley Amis The Green Man. London: Panther Books, Ltd., 1971.
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 Bill Anthony Loose Women. Chicago: Novel Books, 1962.
 Joseph Anthony The Invisible Curtain. NY: Bantam Books, 1958.
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 (Orig. edition: Bridgehead, 1955).
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*This Is a Nother
We can talk and
we don't have to.
We can sing or
listen to the c-records
We can lie very still
but we can fly
Jean Sirius*

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THIS POSTER
AND HOW TO MAKE A DONATION TO THE ARCHIVES
SEE THE BACK PAGE

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THE HETERODOXY CLUB

"No doubt you sometimes think of us as a little band of wilfull women, the most unruly and individualistic females you ever fell among. At such times, perhaps you sympathize with that rash creator, Frankenstein, who would fain unscramble the creature but could not. Probably you feel, in these regretful moments, that this hydra-headed Heterodoxy, with its everlasting eating and smoking, its imperviousness to discipline and its strange incapacity for boredom, is something no prudent woman would ever put her hand to. At such moments you are even capable of a dire and terrible threat--you will not call 'Heterodoxy' this year! But it is not in you, woman, to carry out this threat.

For beneath our obstreperous body you know our soul to be profoundly amenable. The real Heterodoxy is a warm and friendly and staunch spirit, in which our conglomerate personalities all have a share, while yours alone is the spell which always avails to evoke and sustain it. It is easier to experience than to analyze, and perhaps no better definition can be given than the words of Antigone: 'It is the aim of women not to hate, but to love one another.' To realize the spirit of these words is one of the emotional treasures of life which all women desire, many of them fear, some of them seek, and a few of them find. We owe it chiefly to you that we may count ourselves among the fortunate finders. Like Lysistrata, Aspasis and Sapphy, you have 'started something' which, though perhaps less historic, is no less real. . . ."

--from the Preface to the Heterodoxy Club's 1920 gift album to the club's founder and guiding spirit, Marie Jenney Howe. Quite a few of the Heterodoxy's 103 members were Lesbians. This is part of a soon-to-be-published book by Judith Schwarz, The Radical Feminists of Heterodoxy: Greenwich Village, 1912-1940, New Victoria Publishers, Inc.

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Mabel Hampton's Coming Out Story

FROM OUR LESBIAN LIVES TAPE COLLECTION

TAPED AT THE COMING OUT STORIES PANEL---LESBIAN FEMINIST LIBERATION

June 21, 1981

New York, New York

I'm Mabel Hampton and I'm 79 years old. I was an orphan from the time I was a month old--my mother died. I never met my father until I was 19 years old. I didn't meet him then, I heard about him. So, I was brought to New York by an older aunt, and she, naturally, was very strict. I ran away from her when I was eight years old. I didn't have any money at all. I went to school on Eighth Street and in this school there was a girl, a white girl, and she had long, beautiful, curly hair. And I myself, fresh as I was even then, I was stroking the hair, pulling the hair. So she gets mad and tells the teacher and for telling the teacher I slapped her face. So the teacher brought my aunt and uncle in and said "Why did you do it?" I said "Well, I been used to carressing the girls when I was in school, so what about her?" "You can't do that, Mabel, you can't do it." So my uncle says, "All right, I'll fix it." When we got home--he was a minister--he whipped me from amazing grace to floating opportunity. Really whipped me. So I get mad. Next day going to school I ran away. I know they wouldn't find me, at least I hope not. This woman came up to me and said "Who are you? Are you Mrs. Jones' little girl?" I said "Yes." So she said, "Here's a nickel." So I took the nickel and went down in the hole in the ground where I seen somebody else going. That was the subway on Eighth Street. I lived at #52. So I put this nickel in and went on in the train. After I sit there a while I was thinking "I went to school, I know right from wrong."

When the train stopped everybody got out so I followed the crowd. And when I got out I began to walk, walk, walk, walk, I guess I walked about four or five blocks. That was Grove Street, Jersey City. That's where I landed. And I seen the kids swinging and I hadn't had much play because I had to help my uncle. He was a minister and I had to help him go around in back alleys and front alleys and every other alley and sing and the people would throw the money at him. I didn't like it. So when I seen the kids playing I said I'm going on in and get on the swing. I went on the swing, swung around. All of a sudden it began to get dark, see, because it was 3 or 3:30 when I got out of school. These two girls come up to me and said "Where do you live? Who are you?" I said, "Well, my name is Mabel Hampton." They said, "Yes. Where's your mother?" Well, I'll tell you I was old enough to lie so I told a perfect one. I said, "My aunt brought me over here from New York and she told me to sit here and wait until she come back." That stuck with me for more than 14 years, that tale. So she said, "I'll go and see if I can find your aunt." I said, "Very well." The boy went after the cop and the girl went after the aunt. And when she came back, she had a sandwich. She said "You hungry?" I said, "Uh huh." I always was very small. She had a cape, I'll never forget it was a Red Riding Hood's red cape, you know. And she put it around me and gave me the sandwich. I stood there and looked. She said, "My brother's coming with a cop." Now I didn't want to deal with no cops. No, no, no, no. So I turned around. Another girl came around the corner with a woman. She said, "This your aunt?" I said, "No." "Well, it's getting late, Mother said that you should--maybe this lady knows where your aunt is." I said, "She do, maybe she do." So this woman took me home. I looked down the street in the meantime and saw the boy coming with the cop. So you know I got out of there real fast. I was down to Fifth Street, Jersey City. I don't see no more of the girl, I don't see no more of the cop, nobody. This woman had been in the beer garden drinking beer and this girl had found this woman and told her there was a little colored girl lost. They were Italians. So she says, "Well, I'll go and see what I can do. Maybe I'll take her home tonight and find her parents the next day." I knew they would never find anybody at all. So they gave me food, I was hungry, and they gave me a bed. I said to myself, "I'm going to jump at this, I went to school."

They asked me to tell the tale again. Well, I had the tale down perfect by the time they asked me. "My aunt brought me over here and she told me to stay here until she come for me." After a week or so they put me in school. After they put me in school, I went to school year in and year out. I had a grand time with the girls. And I knew then that I liked women because I did not like the men because my uncle was cruel to me. And anytime somebody's cruel to you, you don't care for them. I don't care who it is, man or woman. So I stayed there, they sent me to school and I just had a lovely time. More girls--oh, there was Viola and Ruth and all of us. And I began to like the girls real nice. We would go to different little places, you know. And then it happened I began to grow up then, naturally. For 14 years naturally, you got to grow up. So, I had one special girlfriend and then I meets a woman. See, I began to run to New York and I met a real woman. I mean she was a real woman. She lived in the life for 7-11 years. So I falls hook, line and sinkin for this woman. I didn't know what it was all about but I fell for her anyhow. My girlfriend's mother, she says, "Mabel don't bother with women. The woman is older than you. You nothin but a kid." I said, "I'm 17, 18 years old. You're not talking about a kid."

Her and I was in the show in Coney Island. She danced all over the place. Those days she signed up with the side shows, like different freaks and things and they have girls dancing. So this woman, I never will forget, I was sitting at the middle of the table and she was sitting at the end, all of a sudden it struck me that I loved this woman. And I know now, I got it down pat, I just loved her. And she looked at me and I looked at her. So my girlfriend says, "Mabel, why won't you eat your breakfast?" I said, "I'm not hungry." Look, I forget the lady's name, but I loved her. So later on that day I had a chance to meet this woman. She was from--I think she was from Chicago or something. But she told jokes and she had to sing and like that. I'll tell you the truth I was so crazy over the woman why I couldn't even speak. I'd look at her and she was just like candy, you know. She was a lesbian. And I mean she was one because she knew all the answers and everything else. So that night, I spent the night with her. Then she tells me all the story. She says that she loved me and she was a lesbian. She said, "But you are young and you don't know what it's all about." Well, I didn't want anybody telling me I didn't know what it was all about. I had been going around messing around with so many of the rest of the girls, don't tell me that. So she says "I wouldn't want to ruin your life because I'm years older than you." I didn't want that out of her. Next morning, I told my girlfriend's mother and she went to her and said, "Mabel is a young girl. You aren't here for long, you're going back home." She said, "Don't mess her up." I didn't like that. I didn't like her saying that, but I couldn't say anything because I was going with her daughter. So I couldn't say nothing. Finally, a couple of weeks later, the woman went home. But we got together before she went home. I loved her. I loved her dearly.

After she left the show, I went into a show at the Lafayette Theatre in New York. Well, I would go back and visit my foster parents in Jersey City. One night there was some fellas there and I knew them for years. They were faggots but they didn't want me to know that they were. But I know, and I used to go there and sit. I enjoyed making them feel bad because they couldn't talk their language and I didn't care. They got even with me, though. A couple of girls in Jersey City I knew, we all palled around together. They say, "Mabel, don't do that. Why don't you tell Piggy--his name was Piggy[a gay male friend]." [I didn't want to] tell him nothing, leave him alone. I'd go there and kiss [Piggy's] momma and talk to her, you know. Mother just thought the sun rose and set on me. Mother didn't know nothing about her son being a faggot. I turned around and I says, "Well, this is a good time. We'll fix 'em." So Viola and them says "I'll give you a birthday card and surprise party." I says, "All right."

So she gives the party, invited all these boys, these fellas and here they come and nobody don't know who the person is that the party was given for. When I walked in they hollered Happy Birthday and those fellas looked at me. Piggy shook his fist and the others did like that. "Why didn't you tell me you was in the life." "I didn't need to tell you. You should know." I didn't want to so what are you talking about. So he says "Okay." That was it. I had more fun at that party that night. Everybody was hugging me. Lesbian, lesbian, lesbian, that's all you could hear. "Mabel, why didn't you tell me? Why didn't you tell me? Viola, that your girlfriend?" I said, "no, there's one over there I'm after."

Finally, I left Jersey and I stayed in New York. And I have to go right on down the line of all the nice looking women and everything I had. I just had a ball. And did not regret any of it. In 1932 I was on Lexington Avenue waiting for the streetcar. There were streetcars in those days and a girl says "Are you going..." She was just my height. She said "Are you going uptown?" I said yes. She said "You gonna catch the car?" I said "I'm gonna catch the streetcar." So she says "All right I'm going to too." I looked her up and down and said to myself goodness gracious this is a good looking chick. I said I wonder if she's in my life. Because you see I had danced on the stage and knew all the answers. So she says "What your name?" I said "My name is Mable, Mable Hampton." "What's yours?" She said "Lillian Foster." I said to myself that's a pretty name. So the streetcar came. [Inaudible]...Lafayette Theatre. I said "that's where I'm at." "Oh she said, "all right." So she give me her address and all and I went home. I began thinking about that good looking chick. I decided I'd call. A couple days later I called but she wasn't home. I left word. Two days later I called again and the landlord answered. When I called this time she was there. "I thought you forgot me. I don't like people to forget me." She said, "Oh, no." Because I figured all of us was in the same cahoot together. So I asked her if she would come to my house the next day and have dinner. "Oh, yes." So she came. And you know I put on the Ritz. I knew how. I cooked up a livin' breeze. Because I knew how. So she came that day; went home that night. Nothing fast moving. I said, "Oh, my stars--this is something new." 1932. Two or three days later she came back. My girlfriend says, "Mabel, you're the freshest thing. Every time I looked around you have a different woman." I said, "Me, not me, no." I said maybe its this one. Lillian said she was in the life, she lived with her girlfriend. And naturally she knew about me because Jackie and all the girls I was in cahoot with then, because I was on the stage. They had their girls. And I was all right. She came back a week later and I asked her did she want to stay with me. We got along nice. I won't tell you what happened. We got along perfect. Everything fitted to a tee. I said would she come and live with me. And she said "all right but my niece..." I said "you sure it's your niece?" She said "yes, it's my niece. I have a sister too." I didn't pay no attention because I had no people. I had no one at all but myself. And nobody to tell me anything. And I wouldn't let you tell me anything; I knew all the answers. She came to live with me. And that was in October, 1932. We stayed together until four years ago when she passed away. So you can count how many years we lived together. Of course, tongue and teeth falls out. But we didn't fall off because it takes two to make monogamy. You keep your mouth shut you find you get along much better. I had a good time on the sly you know. When I got home I was the perfect husband. Now, is there anything you all want to ask me?

Q: Were there lesbian clubs that you went to?

A: Oh, plenty of them. I belonged to the Garden of Joys, up on the hill was the Garden of Joys. I danced up there. They had the girls up there. And there were other places I went like Lillie Walker's--Madam Walker's daughter. She had a beautiful place up on the hill and I used to go up there and have a ball up there. But I didn't do anything to my home. My home life was different. Okay.

Q: I wonder if you could tell me more about the dancing. You said at one point you danced with another women at a place where there were freaks and stuff.

A: Wait a minute. What did she say?

Q: She want to know when you were dancing in Coney Island. What kind of dancing did you do there?

A: We danced the two-step. Any old thing, you know. The people would pay their quarters to see you dance. And I had a little costume I had on. And girlfriends. I'll tell you a story about that. I and this girl, was she charming, and I didn't--After I left the show I don't see her no more until about--I think about a year ago, I meets her. And she was surprized to see me and I was surprized to see her. But we never got together.

Q: What year did you discover the lesbian-feminist movement?

A: What year? I guess about five or six years ago, I don't know. I discovered after Lillian passed away. And, naturally, when you haven't got nobody you get around. Ask questions and people will tell you as they know themselves. See, and I went to my girlfriend Joan and her and I got together. We got to talkin. And that's how I got involved in this here.

Q: I want to know if you dressed like a man and dressed like a woman when you were doing your job?

A: When I was doing my job I almost always wore slacks. Sometimes I wore suits. See, I wore suits and ties and like that.

Q: So you were a dancer and you wore suits?

A: I danced in little shorts. But when I go to parties and things I always wore suits. Because at that time you couldn't go out there with too many pants on because the men was ready to see "bbbbbbb"[talk about] and that was no good. See, you had to protect yourself and protect the woman that you was with.

Q: When you were together with, what was her name, Lillian, did you have any other gay friends?

A: Gay friends? Everybody I knew was gay. I didn't go around with none that wasn't gay. You call it gay, but we loved women. I had a good time.

Q: Where did you live?

A: Where did I live? I lived in New York, Jersey City and Brooklyn and around. But I always was with the women. I wasn't with no man. I was with the women. And the woman that I hooked up with, she and I both happened to be both virgin women and therefore we had no contact with men whatever. Why should I run around when I just didn't like men. That's one thing.

Q: Did you ever have trouble finding housing or finding work because you were a lesbian?

A: No. I always got away with murder with everything. I had no trouble. I got apartments. I didn't have no rooms. I didn't care for rooms because you can't do nothing in a room with somebody else next door can hear you.

Q: How did your neighbors where you live react to you and your lover?

A: Nobody paid me any attention. I treated everybody nicely--you know what I mean. They had nothing to do with [inaudible] on the same level as myself. So I didn't have to worry about things.



Mabel Hampton and Denver Dog
June, 1981

(photo - D. Edell)

Q: What type of work did you do?

A: Well, I did a little bit of everything. I did housework and--I did factory work. After I stopped dancing--I stopped dancing because you cannot dance and eat. See. I gave up the stage because unless you go with the men you don't eat. And I loved to eat. So, therefore I went and took care of the kids and this, that and the other. I went on the vacation. And I always had money.

Q: Any more questions?

Q: How old were you when you came out?

A: Well, I must have come out when I was eight years old. To tell the truth I never was in so I must have been out. Thank you very much.

A PLEA FOR COMING OUT

WE NEED WOMEN TO TELL US IF THEY SHOULD BE PART OF THE ARCHIVES. HELP US END SILENCES, IF NOT FOR NOW, AT LEAST FOR THE FUTURE. WE HAVE A CONFIDENTIAL FILE.

The Provincetown Book Collection

The following book collection was purchased for the Archives by a special fund raising campaign undertaken by Joan Nestle, who felt that the collection in its entirety made an important historical statement. More than three quarters of the purchasing price came from the Cowan Family Foundation Grant and a personal donation from Joan Nestle. We want to thank them and the individual women who made donations. Ordinarily, it is not the policy of the Archives to buy book collections, however because of the unique nature of this collection we made an exception and raised the required funds independent of the Archives on going budget and fund raising.

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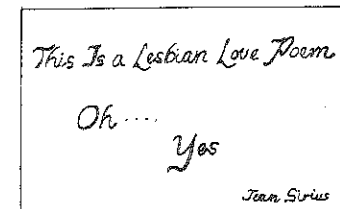
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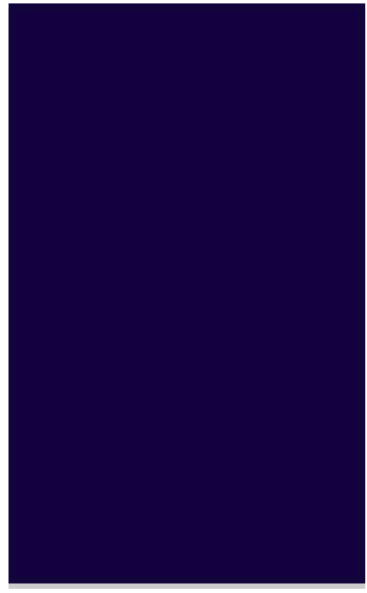
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