

Lesbian Pride Newsletter

Good news and positive reminders
by, for and about Lesbians

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Random Acts of Lesbian Kindness

Some time ago, when I was young and cocky and full of myself – and newly out and very proud – a buddy and I spotted a maiden in distress on the mean streets of Oklahoma City. It was late, it was dark and cold, and we were feeling gallant...so we stopped to offer assistance.

The young woman had a dead car and was ready to walk back to her apartment, some miles away. We offered to give her a lift since neither of us were skilled enough with cars to figure out how to get hers running again. She gratefully got into the back seat of my Plymouth Duster.

Today, this kind of thing might be considered a random act of kindness; back then it was just a nice and neighborly thing that Okies did for one another. But even back then, I wanted to make it an act of neighborly *lesbian* kindness.

As we reached our passenger's destination, and as my buddy blushed and slumped and tried to slide onto the floorboards of my car, I turned to the woman and announced to her that I wanted her to know she had just been helped by two lesbians. I actually heard her swallow, and I saw her eyes frantically search the outside of her apartment building for help, but undaunted, I went on. I told her to be sure and tell her friends that she'd been rescued by two gay people and to remember to tell them that we were just normal people.

She mumbled something like "sure" and practically broke her nose trying to get out of the car to hightail it to her apartment building. My buddy suggested we leave as quickly as possible – which we did – and we laughed all the way to

the gay bar we'd been heading for before getting sidetracked to do the good deed. *I can't believe you said that! Did you see the look on her face? Think we changed her mind about anything? Think we made a friend? Think she peed in her pants?*

I don't know if I made my point with that woman or not – it was 1973, it was in the heart of the bible belt, and the gal was obviously scared to death by the time I finished my speech. But maybe I *did*. Maybe someone in her life has come out to her since then and she remembers back to a winter night when a couple of cheerful dykes saved her from a long, cold, scary walk home.

We don't always know if or when we make a difference in someone's life, in the way they think about things: sometimes the difference we make is not immediately apparent; sometimes we never know about it at all.

But there's nothing wrong with giving it the ol' college try. Random acts of kindness – doing something nice for someone for no reason other than that it feels good – are in style everywhere these days, for everyone. There's nothing wrong with making the acts of kindness that you do ones of lesbian kindness.

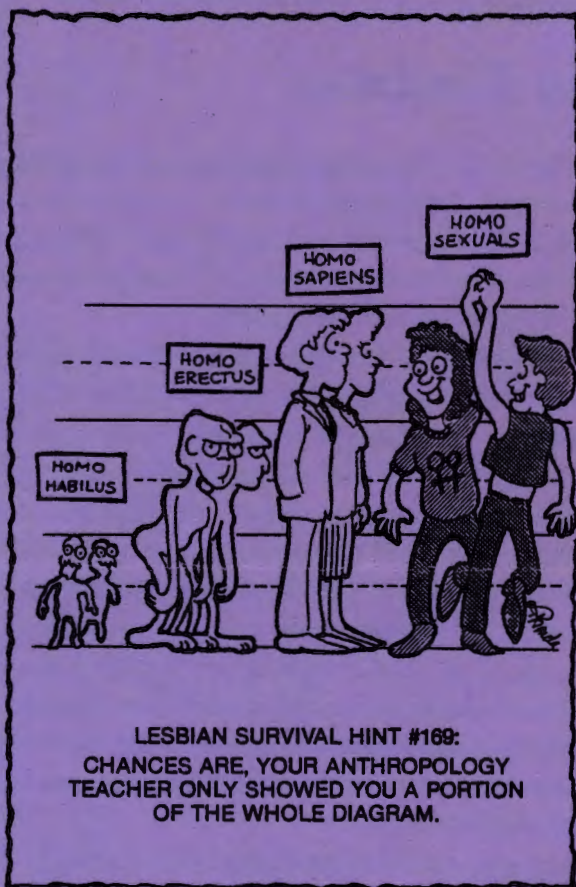
Performing anonymous random acts of kindness will make you feel good about yourself; performing random, *lesbian* acts of kindness – letting the beneficiary of your kindness know you are a lesbian, anonymously or not – will make you feel even better.

Don't delay – do something kind today, and do it in a lesbian way!

- Mel White

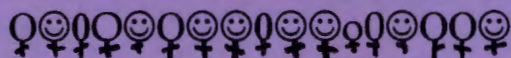


Feed the meter for a stranger today,
and then leave a note on the
windshield that says
"A lesbian saved you from
getting a parking ticket."



Rhonda Dicksion in *Stay Tooned*
© 1993 Rhonda Dicksion, Used by permission
Published by The Niaid Press, Inc.
PO Box 10543
Tallahassee, FL 32302

Do something nice for the woman you live with.
If you don't usually wash the dishes
or make the bed, do that today.
Wash her car, brush her dog,
take her to **her** favorite place for dinner.



Don't Forget to VOTE!



If you are in a state that has a primary election this spring, don't forget to make your voice heard by voting. (And then don't forget to vote again in November!)

As this is being written, Pat Buchanan and his platform of intolerance and exclusion are the front-runners of the Republican party. Many of us seem to think it's impossible that a guy like that with those beliefs could really be elected President of the United States.

But remember the lessons we've learned in the last few years, especially in the state of Colorado: no one thought that bizarre, backwards Amendment Two could really pass in this state, but it did. And the reason it did is not that more people were in favor of it than opposed, but rather because more people in favor of it *voted* than did the people who opposed it.

Just knowing and believing that an amendment is wrong – or that a candidate is dangerous – is not enough. You must make your voice (and what you know to be true) *heard*, and one of the most positive, easiest, safest and most-time honored ways you can do that is by *voting*.

– mkw



If you know someone who needs
help getting to the polls,
give them a lift.

Help someone else's vote get counted
while you make your own
choices known.





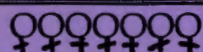
March Affirmations:

**I am kind and giving.
I enjoy sharing my skills and abilities with others;
I enjoy sharing my good fortune with others.**

**I am always learning;
I am open to knowing new things.**

Send us your favorite affirmations and we'll share them with everyone.

Enjoy who you are. Share who you are.



Every Day is a Day of Opportunity

Every day we have an opportunity to make a difference
in someone else's life.

Every day we have an opportunity to make a difference
in our own lives.

Every day we have an opportunity to share
what we have,

whether it is something material
or some skill or knowledge we have
that someone else might lack.

Every day we have an opportunity to share
what and who we are,

and to make the world a bit better
for ourselves
and for everyone.

– Mel White

Be kind to others, but always remember to be kind to yourself first.

For Lucky Lesbians
 born under the sign of
PISCES – February 19 - March 20 ☽
 Astrology by Stacy Chandler

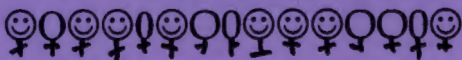


*You have never been
 one of the little fishies in the sea.
 You are ever alert,
 scanning your waterways
 like a barracuda in heat.
 You do not need calm waters,
 as you easily negotiate
 the oceans in your life.
 Like a marlin
 you leap towards the sun at will,
 breaking the water barrier that tries
 to keep you aquatically bound.
 Neptune only dares
 to murmur your name.
 You are
 the essence of legends...*

* Be warned: The views expressed above do not
 necessarily reflect the aura of the cosmos!



If you donate clothes to Goodwill
 or some other similar organization
 or to your church,
 put notes in the pockets that say
*"This piece of clothing
 was donated by a Lesbian"*



REAL LIFE RESTROOM DRAMA!!

A Service of Our "Quick Comebacks to
 Memorize Ahead of Time" Department

Like so many lesbians, do you wrestle over
 the ever-present problem of being mistaken
 for a man in a public restroom? Have you
 always wanted to answer with a smart retort
 but have never known what to say?

As a public service, two fearless lesbians,
 Glenna Tallman and Laura Antoniou, share
 their experiences and wisdom with us:

– Bald from radiation treatments, I was
 in an airport restroom when a very foxy
 and pert woman asked me if I was in the
 wrong bathroom. I simply pulled down
 the top of my sweat pants and said, "I
 sure don't think so, but you'd be very
 welcome to check it out!"

– While I was in the bathroom at work, a
 co-worker decided to embarrass me and
 a friend of mine by mentioning loudly (to
 no one in particular), "I thought this was
 the *women's* room."

My friend replied, "No, it's the lesbian
 steal-a-woman meeting center! And
 we're so glad you could make it!"

Ellen Orleans in *Who Cares if It's a Choice?*

© 1994 Ellen Orleans

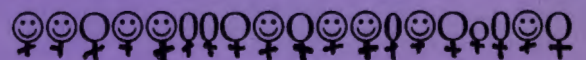
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 or to some other Lesbian or Gay publication.*





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CHOICES!



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Stacy Chandler

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8TH Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival, April 4-7 - Hurry and register! Camp Sister Spirit, PO Box 12, Ovett, MS 39464.

The Dyke Daily Companion is a pocket sized booklet of *Positive Reminders for Lesbians* by Mel White. \$5 postpaid to Makaw, PO Box 18561, Denver, CO 80218.

Someone you know should be certified! Certificates for anything imaginable: you tell us who and what for, we'll do the rest. \$3 (ppd) for 8.5X11; \$2.50 (ppd.) for half-size. SASE for more info. Makaw, Box 18561, Denver, CO 80218.

Announcement: Lesbian Separatist Celebration, June 22, 1996 (in San Francisco East Bay Area). SASE for more info to **SEPZ** (Separatists Eliminating Patriarchy with Zeal), Box 1180, Sebastopol, CA 95473-1180.

Donations Welcome! Ohio Lesbian Archives, Room 304, Women's Bldg., 4039 Hamilton Ave., Cincinnati, OH 45223.

Cooking Impaired?

Get **Granny Dyke's Guide to Potluck Cuisine**

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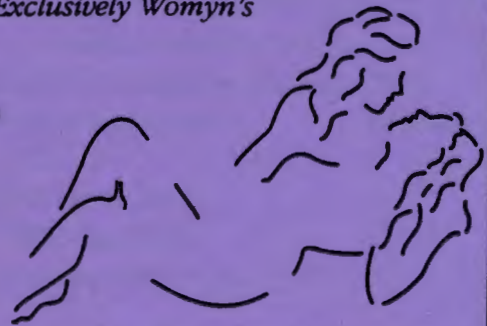
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Do you know about...?

THE 8th GULF COAST WOMYN'S FESTIVAL

If you haven't heard of the Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival, maybe you *have* heard of Wanda and Brenda Henson, the two Lesbians who received national media attention when they successfully defended themselves against a local lawsuit filed to keep them from holding women's festivals on their land near Ovet, Mississippi.

The Hensons won the lawsuit* (Hallelujah Sister!) and are still on the land they love. They remain committed to keeping their land - Camp Sister Spirit - a safe, sober, peaceful haven in the Deep South for Lesbians and Feminists (from everywhere!) to gather and share a variety of cultural and educational opportunities.

During all the lawsuit hub-bub, other Southern Lesbians in the area loaned money to Sister Spirit, Inc. (some \$44,000) to pay off the amount owed on the land to the original owner. Now the Hensons owe their first year's payment - an amount of \$10,000 - to the sisters who helped them buy the land.

The 8th Annual Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival at Camp Sister Spirit near Ovet will be the major fundraising effort to raise the money to make the payment. This year's festival dates are April 4-7.

Attend if you can. If you can't, please consider making a donation (your donations are tax-deductible - Sister Spirit Incorporated is a 501 [c][3] recognized organization).

For more information or to order tickets, call or write:

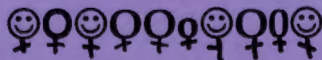
Camp Sister Spirit

PO Box 12

Ovet, MS 39464

601-344-1411

E-mail: Sisterspir@AOL.COM.



* The judge ruled "...The court cannot set a precedent of issuing injunctions against persons who invite a reasonable number of people to come to their property for an infrequent event - whether that event is a 'Womyn's Festival,' a family reunion; a private party; a church meeting; a gathering of hunters at a deer camp; or a political rally..."

You go, Judge!

*I am an apprentice
human being
and the world
is my wizard.*



- Mary Bruce Reid, © 1978, 1996

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