



the **Honey**pot

December 1992 The Newsletter of Womyn for Womyn, the Lesbian Resource Centre Vol. 3, No. 11

A Few Words . . .

Lesbians, Domestic Violence, the Family Place, & the LRC

by Christine Jarosz,
Director/Coordinator



For many years, as long as the Centre has been in existence, LRC has had strong ties to the Family Place, the first Battered Woman's Shelter in Dallas. Some of us helped get it started and some of us have worked hard to keep it going. LRC gives a lot of our excess donations to

the Family Place...clothes, usually, but, recently 21 gallons of shampoo, soap, and anti-perspirant concentrate. (This is actually over 100 gallons of product..a very nice donation.) Now the trick about this donation is that the Shelter needs bottles to dispense this stuff. So.....instead of throwing out your old empty shampoo or lotion bottles...please rinse and bring them to LRC. Now this is what is called grass roots support of women and their needs....everyone can participate and at no cost. (We are all recycling, too!) So, please bring these empty bottles to the Centre...S O O N.

Along with the Family Place, the LRC is working with all the other Battered Women's Shelters in Dallas. The Domestic Violence (Battered/Battering Lesbian) Project is educating those organizations about the special needs of Lesbians and the Resources available to them. Special training sessions with the Shelters are being planned and scheduled. So far, the Project is being met with interest, support, and enthusiasm. In the meantime, Referrals to professional therapists and the Peer Counseling Program of Womyn for Womyn continue.

Violence in Lesbian relationships is a difficult issue for us to face. But, it must be done. Womyn

in these situations must receive aid, education, and support. In a community of womyn, it is important that we take care of our own. In this world, when the emphasis is on AIDS/HIV, the other physical and mental health issues of womyn are usually ignored. Womyn and all their health issues must be addressed by us...no one else concerns themselves with our needs. This Domestic Violence Project will expand beyond what is normally in our daily lives..the program will help womyn we may never know or see..but it will impact greatly. It will help educate the Domestic Violence Support Community to the specific needs of Lesbians: it will help eliminate Lesbophobia in that community of Mental Health workers: it will provide a safer environment for Lesbian Victims of Violence: it will educate the Lesbian and Gay Communities about the prevalence of violence in our communities and the need to stop it: it will educate Lesbians about Resources and Services available to both Batterers and the Battered: it will help reduce the stigma associated with battering therefore increasing the number of womyn seeking relief: and, it will empower womyn to move out of these damaging situations. This is crime and abuse we do to one another. And we are the only ones who can stop it. If you can help on this project, please call Christine Jarosz at 821-3999. This program will require great energy and great cost. When you consider making donations to charitable organizations, remember this and other Centre projects. We are a tax deductible, tax exempt corporation. WOMYN'S MONEY FOR WOMYN'S NEEDS !

REEL NEWS

Saturday Night at the Movies had a great opening night. Upcoming movies will include "The Butcher's Wife", "Entre Nous", "Witness for the Prosecution", "Shame", "Fried Green Tomatoes". "Lianna", "Desert Hearts" plus contemporary films. If you have any suggestions or great ideas, call Terese at 821-3999.

SPEND THE HOLIDAYS WITH US AT THE LRC THIS YEAR!

A Bright New Year for the LRC

This year's Annual Meeting was held on October 30 at the Centre. It was a very exciting and refreshing meeting. For those of you who don't know, this Meeting is the time when new Board and Committee Chairs (read: those women who are willing to assume the responsibility, with long hours and no pay, to keep the Centre open for all womyn) are selected. Ideas for the coming year are discussed and policy is set on important issues. LRC welcomes to the Board, as Secretary: Vicki Harris and as Fund-raiser: Dawynn Edwards. Continuing on the Board are Lisa Mashigian, in a new position as Membership Coordinator, Vicki Cantrell as Education/Political Coordinator, Ann Brown as Special Events Coordinator, Lurese Terrell as the money womyn-the Treasurer, and Christine Jarosz as Director. A new Newspaper Editor will start in January and Cay Olson will remain as Advertising Director for the Newsletter. Diana Griffith is Coordinator of the Under Thirties Work & Support Group; Terese Palmer & Star Eddy are Co-coordinators of Saturday Night at the Movies; Deb Floyd maintains our Membership and Mailing Lists; Tammy Shirley is co directing the Battered/Battering Lesbian Program; Kim Worthington continues to facilitate & direct RISKIT; Josi Mata facilitates the Womyn of Color Poetry & Short Story Sessions; Lori Strong is co-coordinating the Tuesday Night Discussion Group; & Teri Rosario is working

on special events. With this group of di-verse womyn doing what they do best, LRC can continue as a positive resource for the womyn of Dallas.

Facilities Committee Works Hard

This very important committee is responsible for the upkeep of the Centre building itself, as well as the gardens and surrounding area. Mowing, gardening, weeding are some of the outside activities. Inside, the Committee is responsible for: keeping the kitchen and bathrooms stocked with supplies; cleaning; sweeping; protecting pipes from freezing; maintaining the heating and air conditioning systems; emptying trash; defrosting the refrigerators; replacing window panes; keeping up the office machines; making sure everything is protected from possible rain damage (yes, we have leaks); preparing the facility for events; painting and making repairs; locating donations for the Centre. This is not the glamour committee-there is very little praise and recognition for the work done by these faithful & I might say, highly responsible womyn. It is like taking care of your house, no one notices how good it looks only how bad it looks. Sometimes it is drudgery..just ask Lisa Mashigian. It is never ending, but it is totally necessary. Nothing else can get done if this committee does not do its task. Interested? Uh, huh. Thought so! Well, if you are please call Christine who will be glad to show you around.

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Private Investigations

Lisa R. Mashigian
President

The Lesbian Resource Centre exists to create physical space where lesbians are valued for themselves. This space, committed to a feminist philosophy, will provide resources to all lesbians. The LRC Newsletter is published monthly and is distributed to over 650 womyn by the LRC, P.O. Box 180446, Dallas, TX 75218-0446. (214) 821-3999. We welcome your comments, news, suggestions, and contributions. Call for ad rates. All material is due in the LRC by the second Friday of the month.

Board of Directors

| | |
|----------------|----------------|
| Lisa Mashigian | Ann Brown |
| Vicki Cantrell | Lurese Terrell |
| Dawynn Edwards | Vicki Harris |

Christine Jarosz, Director

Letter to the Centre

Dear Christine:

You were absolutely right when you said, "We are saving womyn's lives and sanity," in last month's "Honeypot" regarding the importance of our phone line. Today I was at the Centre when not one, but two womyn needed the services of the LRC. It was an incredible experience knowing I was helping other womyn get the information and support they needed when they needed it. I would encourage all who are able to volunteer their knowledge and experience to our community to do so. Thanks to Vicki and Lyn who answered the phone on Sunday, and Christine, who answers the phone EVERYDAY!

-Dawynn

Under 30 Group Makes Seasonal Plans

The Under 30 Group which meets every Saturday from 10-12 is going to be sponsoring two exciting events during the next two months. On Sunday, December 13th, from 2-4, we will have a tree-trimming party complete with carols, hot cider, and supplies to make your own ornaments and cards for the holiday season. Suggested donation is \$2. A Winter Dance is planned for Saturday, January 23rd, at 8:00 p.m. Come celebrate the season with all of us at the Centre. Suggested donation: \$4 for members, \$5 for non-members. Womyn of all ages are encouraged to come support the Centre and have a good time this Christmas!

Spend Your Holidays With Us

The Holidays are upon us. They are difficult times for many. If it is for you, please do not try to get through them on your own. The Centre remains open during these times-there are many activities to attend-there are many womyn to share this time with. Don't feel alone. There is a community of womyn who care about you. If we didn't, we would never have opened the Centre. Come be with your friends..new and old. Since this a time of giving (\$\$\$), remember the Centre. Your generous donations keep our doors open. (That sounds like a pitch for the Salvation Army.) Anyway, you know what I mean. The Centre has been a great gift for me this year. I hope it has been for you.



Film Festival News

The Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance brings Marusia Bociurkiw, a Montreal-based filmmaker/critic and producer to Dallas, Saturday, December 5 to the 1992 Lesbian and Gay Film Festival at 5:00 p.m. Ms. Bociurkiw will present her muliti-media program, "Cross-sexing the Narrative: Lesbian Subtext in Music Videos." This provocative, subversive, funny and informative 90-minute presentation invites the audience to discover and uncover lesbian subtexts (and not so "sub" texts) in the music videos of k.d. lang, Joan Armatrading, Michelle Shocked, Annie Lennox, Salt 'n Pepa, Madonna and more. "Cross-sexing the Narrative..." is a wildly amusing presentation that tours lesbo-eroticism, androgyny, cross-dressing and vegetarianism. Discover fantasy space, hidden meaning and imagined identities that have a special allure for lesbians, but will be a treat for all sexes.

The 1992 Lesbian and Gay Film Festival runs December 2-6 at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. The festival will also feature such films as "Camp for Boys and Girls," a hilarious collection of Hollywood's "canpiest" trailers, TV clips, commercials, and educational film excerpts. "Novembermoon," a passionate and poignant love story and romantic drana set in World War II, is one of the most famous lesbian films of all time. It will play Friday, December 4, at 7:00 p.m. Lesbian sci-fi drama rules Saturday, December 5, at 10:30 with "Flaming Ears," a futuristic, sur-realistic comic horror tale of urban lesbians who inhabit the decaying post-apocalyptic town of Asche in the year 2700. The festival features a broad cross section of over 40 feature films, shorts, video projects and slide presentations selected to entertain, educate and challenge filmgoers of all ages, races and sexes regardless of sexual orientation. A five-day Festival Pass is available for \$25 at the Gay & Lesbian Community Center, Crossroads Market and Curious Times. Individual admission will be available, ranging from \$3.50 to \$5 at the door. For more information, call the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance at (214) 528-4233.

Womyn of Color

We are a group of womyn meeting monthly to share our experiences about racist teachings in our past & race-related issues in our present. We know that womyn of color are not responsible for edu-cating white womyn about these issues. Past discussion topics have been: racism in our work-places, purchasing products and services in the black community, and the connections between racism and sexism. Upcoming discussion topics are Kwanzaa and Third World Development (Dec. 15) and Palestin-ian Womyn (Jan. 19). Join us as we meet the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the LRC. Call the Rainbow Now Hotline at (214) 235-6914.

Alternative Visions Offers New Options

by Wendi Phoenix

Three years ago, an idea was conceived and now that it has matured, destiny will see it to become one of the hottest institutions to hit our community. The young woman to give life to this



concept, Trudi Stinson, is a petite, native born firecracker who will stop at nothing to ensure that Dallas' first lesbian/gay video dating service is a reputable option for meeting potential life mates. When asked what made her believe she could start a business of this sort, Trudi responded by proclaiming a confidence in her abilities to be persistent, intuitive, and to care deeply about relationships between people. In addition, after spending her earlier dating years being frustrated by the tunnel visioned attitudes of cliques, drugs and unsafe sex coupled with the realization of the risks involved in personal ads, she decided that there was a void - a need in our community and that she possessed the resources to help fill the void and nurture the need. In fact, one of these resources, a gift to perceive human chemistry, was called upon by her friends who wanted to meet others with whom they could share their time,

energy, and interests. These are a few of the foundational components integrated into the entity known as Alternative Visions. As an interested consumer, all of your questions will be addressed during a free consultation which will familiarize you with the staff and services offered. Once a member, a meeting will be scheduled so that you can complete an interest/personality profile to be housed in a confidential file. Next, an appointment will be set at your convenience and at your location of choice so that a videotape can be created. This will be your time to shine, so talk about whatever feels comfortable for you. Incidentally, the videotape will not be ready for viewing until you are satisfied with the end result. The written profile plus your personally approved video will be used to match you with four other members chosen by the staff, and with your permission, offered for private viewing. Alternative Visions offers its members a guarantee of four dates within six months, or your membership is extended up to a year. Disclaimer: No liability is assumed by Alternative Visions for the health status of its members. This information will be the responsibility of the individual. So, what are you waiting for? If you're tired of the bar scenes, bored by the personals and you are ready for a serious relationship, call Alternative Visions at (214) 823-8392 so you can see that "love doesn't have to be just a vision in your dreams."

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Holiday Wish List

Needed at the Centre are: more books for the library; another computer, with monitor, that is compatible with 5 1/4 disks...this is very important...we have so many projects underway we need a computer in two locations; office supplies to include hundreds of manila folders, staples...(our staplers seem to be returning to us...we now have three and Lisa French from Kansas City is sending us more), markers, construction paper, push pins, thumb tacks, fluorescent light bulbs, scotch tape, duct tape, 11 x 17 paper, 5 1/4 disks, electrical tape, pencil sharpener, ink cartridges for Hewlett Packard Desk Jet; more hand weights for our workout room (used to be the storage room); garden tools including a watering can; hair spray for a few of our special members; other bathroom supplies; MONEY; ideas for fundraisers (call Dawynn at 821-3999); a van; womyn, womyn and more womyn; items for next year's auction.

Triangle Found at LRC

LRC is a distribution point for the Texas Triangle, a weekly Lesbian/Gay publication out of Austin. Owned by two womyn, the paper accepts no sexually explicit advertising and is very interested in promoting our events. LRC needs someone who is willing to keep this newspaper, the Voice, Dimensions, & other Lesbian publications aware of our events. Please call Christine at 821-3999.

News and Notes

Look for: Therapy Sisters Concert in January, Performance Art by Diana Rivers, author of Journey to Zelindar, in February, a Musical Fest with Jennifer Bryan and Janet Thorp coming soon, Winter Solstice Celebration December 20, Talent Show in the Spring, Lesbian Community Auction in the Spring, Volleyball Tournament in the Spring.

Under 30 Group Growing

The Under 30 Group is growing! We meet every Saturday from 10-12, at the Centre for fun and fellowship. Our members so far include: Diana, Becky, Karla, Jennifer, Kathy, Amanda, Jenny, Maria, & Shannon. We still have lots of room, so if you're under 30 and would like to get involved with the LRC, then come on down next Saturday! Our schedule for December: Sat., Dec. 5, 10-12: Planning music, etc. for dance Sat., Dec. 12, 10-12: Regular Meeting

12-?: Group trip to Christmas Tree farm to cut down tree for Centre, Hayride, Cider, and Caroling included

Sun., Dec. 13, 2-4: Tree trimming/Xmas Craft Party

Sat., Dec. 19, 10-12: Regular Meeting

Sat., Dec. 26: No meeting due to Holidays

WE'RE LOOKING FORWARD TO MEETING YOU!!!

On Our Shelves . . .

Interesting Facts about the Library: Catalogues of women's books, womyn's music, Lesbian art, political paraphernalia (like bumper stickers), womyn's products (these make good holiday gifts) are available to Library users; the Library is being catalogued and rearranged; the Library will probably outgrow its space in three months; a Librarian is on duty Sunday afternoons; there are an equal number of fiction and non fiction books; over 400 children's books were recently donated to the Centre by Christine (where does she get this stuff?); Off Our Backs, Sojourner, Lilith (donated by Sharon Kaplan), Lesbian Connection, Transformation (donated by Judith Cannon), Ms, Woman of Power, Lesbian Ethics, Common Lives, Lesbian Lives, Hot Wire...all these journals are available; almost every single book has been donated; there are 1500+ books in the Library including travel guides like Places of Interest to Women. We need womyn to help organize and keep the library up to date.

Womyn for Womyn Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Womyn for Womyn, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your donations are tax deductible.

All information provided to

Womyn for Womyn is kept strictly confidential.

For more information, please call: (214) 821-3999.

Mail your completed form along with your payment to:
LRC, P.O.Box 180446, Dallas, Texas, 75218.

PLEASE CHECK
A MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

FOUNDING MOTHER _____
(10\$ PER MONTH)

CONTRIBUTING MEMBER _____
(40\$ per year)

VOTING MEMBER _____
(\$40 per year)

BENEFACTOR _____
(\$250 - \$500 per year)
Please indicate
amount: \$ _____

CORPORATE MEMBER _____
(\$200 per year)

More News About the Dallas Police

A community meeting (meaning Lesbian and Gay community) with Police Chief Marvin Bullard was held a few weeks ago. Representatives from the Police Department, the Parks and Recreation Department, the Dallas Gay and Lesbian Alliance, Gays and Lesbians Allied Against Defamation, and the Lesbian Resource Centre attended this meeting. Under discussion were the recent arrests of Gay, and other, men for public lewdness in City Parks. (Yes, this is one issue not exactly related to our lives!) LRC was there, basically, to listen to the conversation. The Chief said his job was to eliminate crime...all kinds...muggings, theft, assault, and public lewdness (overt sexual activity). Gay leaders were upset that men performing public sex were being arrested. They thought the Police should be concentrating on those criminals who came to the Parks to rob, assault, and mug those having sex. They were concerned that the Police would not have arrested heterosexual couples having sex in the Park. So this became an issue of discrimination against Gays. They were also concerned that Police Officers were entrapping their victims by wearing "enticing clothes". The Police had warned the Gay Community several months ago that there would be a campaign to reduce Crime in the Parks. Although this is not a Lesbian problem, LRC was advised by DGLA and asked to put a warning in our newsletter (which we did). The Gay Community had plenty of time to get the word out. Although most Gay leaders said that they agreed with the policy against Public Lewdness, they were still upset that these men were being arrested. They claimed that the men who came to the Park were probably not part of the organized community which knew about the pending raids in the Park...that these men probably had psychological problems ...that these men were probably heterosexuals. A lot of time was spent defending these men for their actions. A lot of time and effort went into determining how to protect these men from arrest. It was suggested that to stop the activities in the Parks would require a major cooperative action between the Police, the Gay Community, the Parks and Recreation Department, the local citizens, and the local Media. From a woman's point of view, the whole thing seemed fairly convoluted. The Gay leaders kept referring to this as a Lesbian/Gay issue...which it is not. Defending men who break the law because they are not informed about possible arrest or who have psychological problems or who are heterosexual is avoiding the issue. Blaming the Police Department for entrapment implies that men have no minds or wills of their own. If these men were forced to have sex...that's another issue. Gay leaders want the Park to be safe..but for whom? If Police are unduly

harassing people in the Park, okay, that's a problem. If they are arresting people in the Park who are having sex, that's not a problem. Maybe, people are not considering the entire community (meaning the people of the City of Dallas...women, men, and children). Public Sex is bad behavior...it insults, embarrasses, and causes bad feelings for those people whose homes border on these Parks. Children should not be exposed to this. And women do not want to be. Sensible men avoid the Park. This is not right. The activities of these few men give Gays a bad reputation. It is not right to defend them. Criminals do come to these areas to prey on these easy victims. This intrusion of muggers, thieves, and robbers makes the Parks unsafe for everyone. It must be understood that the Parks are for everyone. Protecting men guilty of Public Lewdness seems like misdirected loyalty. It denies the rights of others to freely use the Parks. The Lesbian Community and Lesbian Leaders want to work with others to make sure that the rights of Lesbians & Gays, as well as Women, are protected & insured. Defending those who have no concern for the rights, safety, & well being of others is not an issue we support.

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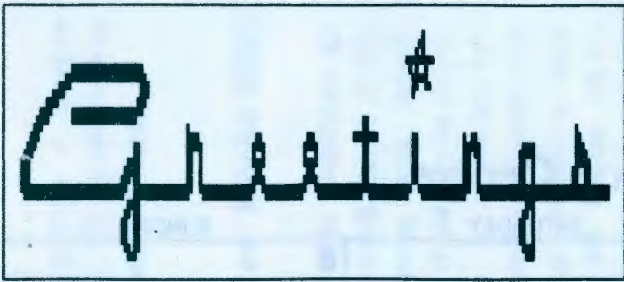



December 1992

Womyn for Womyn, a Lesbian Resource Centre

| MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---|--|---|---|--|---|--|
| | 1 1:00pm 7:00PM Director's Open House | 2 ● FQ 7:00pm TNDG- Creating Lesbian Families | 3 | 4 7:30pm Friday Night Dinner | 5 10:00am Under Thirties Support and Work Group 7:00pm Saturday Night at the Movies | 6 10:30am Womyn's Recovery Group** * 1:00pm 5:00PM Librarian's Open House |
| 7 7:00pm Riskit | 8 1:00pm 7:00PM Director's Open House | 9 ○ FM | 10 | 11 6:00pm LRC Board/ Business Meeting 7:30pm Friday Night Dinner 8:00pm Newsletter Deadline | 12 Deb Floyd's Birthday*** 10:00am Under Thirties Support and Work Group 12:00pm UTWSG Pre Holiday Festivities 6:30pm Umoja Hermanas | 13 10:30am Womyn's Recovery Group** * 1:00pm 5:00PM Librarian's Open House 2:00pm Tree Trimming/Craft Party |
| 14 7:00pm Riskit | 15 1:00pm 7:00PM Director's Open House 7:00pm Womyn Overcoming Racism* | 16 ● LQ 7:00pm Tuesday Night Discussion Group | 17 | 18 7:30pm Friday Night Dinner | 19 10:00am Under Thirties Support and Work Group 10:00pm 02:00AM Private Party Night | 20 Hanukkah 10:30am Womyn's Recovery Group*** 1:00pm 5:00PM Librarian's Open House 2:00pm Winter Solstice Celebration 5:00pm Lesbian/Womyn of Color Poetry-Short Story Session |
| 21 <i>Winter begins</i> 7:00pm Riskit | 22 1:00pm 7:00PM Director's Open House | 23 ● NM | 24 | 25 <i>Christmas</i> 2:00pm Holiday Dinner 7:30pm Friday Night Dinner | 26 10:00am Under Thirties Support and Work Group 10:00am no meeting due to holidays | 27 10:30am Womyn's Recovery Group** * 1:00pm 5:00PM Librarian's Open House |
| 28 6:00pm Newsletter Mailing 7:00pm Riskit | 29 1:00pm 7:00PM Director's Open House | 30 | 31 ● FQ <i>New Year's Eve</i> 7:30pm Book Study | | | |





**YOU'RE INVITED
TO A
PEA FEST**

FRIDAY, JAN. 1, 1993

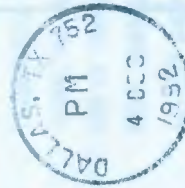
6:00 P.M. AT THE LRC

**COME OUT OF YOUR POD &
START THE NEW YEAR.**

OFF RIGHT !!

*Do you know that if you place blackeyed peas
in your wallet, you will have money all year
round? Join us at the LRC for the 1993
Pea Fest! We will supply the peas, a sumptuous
feast, interesting personalities, champagne, door
prizes, raffle drawing, and Loteria! So, come on
out of your pod & start 1993 right with the LRC!*

Happy New Year



—l.r.c.—
P.O. BOX 180446
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