

# Transformation

Vol. 10 Issue 5  
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## In Our Right Minds

Lynn Frost

**L**ately, I find myself alternately suffering from fear, paranoia, depression and free-floating anxiety. I'm tired of placing all the blame on menopause and am beginning to believe I should hand my estrogen pills out to the men in Congress, the White House, corporate board rooms, on the street, for that matter!

I look up from reading a story about Disney buying out ABC, to the TV, where I hear a reporter announcing that Westinghouse has just bought out CBS. Republicans are pushing for big cuts in PBS and public radio. The House has voted to cut all funding to the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Humanities in two years.

Nearly 250 companies, including Wal-Mart, Rockwell International, and Frito-Lay, as well as the United Auto Workers-GM Human Resource Center, have established Family Resource Centers for their employees, complete with audiocassettes, videos, and publications from Focus on the Family.

I learn that feminist bookstores all over the country are going out of business. If I take a trip to New York City, I will not be able to visit a feminist bookstore.

These are **not** symptoms of menopause!

### Reading the Right

I am often asked why I don't start a feminist bookstore here in Little Rock, since I have the experience and connections as a result of selling books on a small scale through the Women's Project. There are many reasons why such a store could not be supported in this area, but I also knew the superstores would eventually come to Little Rock, and come they have. Books-A-Million has opened two stores and Barnes & Noble will open one any day.

These superstores can give customers substantial discounts which small, independent bookstores cannot, and all over the country, service-oriented independent bookstores are being squeezed out of the market by corporate chains and superstores.

With their "Alternative Lifestyles" sections, there's no question that the superstores are bringing gay and lesbian books to places that once might have been completely closed to any queer literature at all. So why isn't this cause for unqualified celebration? For one thing, small, independent bookstores, which were once the sole source of gay and lesbian, feminist and progressive books, are finding their very existence challenged by the success of the superstores.

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When these alternative bookstores go out of business, we lose a community resource and a forum for social change. Many feminist bookstores, for example, provide community bulletin boards, a venue for local writers to read their work, and are centers for networking, organizing and cultural work. As much as the superstores have to offer, they are not agents of social and political activism.

Another reason not to celebrate has to do with **which** alternative books are carried by the chain and superstores. They may be carrying a few books published by small presses today, but they don't have a commitment to diversity. They primarily offer books published by the mainstream publishing houses. The fear for many independent booksellers is not just that they will eventually be forced out of business, but also that the current diversity in publishing, found primarily among the smaller presses, will be lost.

There are practices in the publishing industry which give superstores an unfair advantage. According to the Federal Trade Commission, these stores have arranged unfair (and illegal) discounts and benefits from publishers that make them "favored retailers." Industry experts estimate that most small bookstores are paying fifteen percent more to publishers than most chain stores. The American Booksellers Association has brought suit against five publishers for just such practices. (for more information see *Publishers Weekly*, June 6, June 13, and July 4, 1994)

Certain superstores seal such deals with publishers before some "bestseller" titles are even published. What does this mean about how books are marketed to the public? The more corporate bookstores control the market, the less likely it will be that they and the publishing industry will take risks



on new or controversial authors. The next generation of authors with important ideas might never be found.

According to the *Chain Store Age Executive* trade journal, the chairman of Bookstop (a superstore in Texas and Florida) says that if a new release does not do well in his stores in its first few weeks, it is replaced. If we can only buy books at chain stores owned by huge corporations, then we can only buy the ideas that they ultimately approve of.

"In the 1970s we used to say 'Freedom of the press belongs to those who own the presses.' In the 1990s freedom of the press means

the freedom to publish and circulate ideas—including books. Whose ideas will be selected for mass distribution—and whose ideas will be excluded as too marginal? What books and ideas will not be published because there may cease to be a way to sell them?" (Carol Seajay, *Women's Review of Books*, Dec. 1994)

### Public (?) Libraries

There were a total of 760 challenges to school, school library, and public library materials reported to the Office for Intellectual Freedom of the American Library Association in 1994. This represents an 8% increase over 1993. The most challenged book for the second year in a row was *Daddy's Roommate* by Michael Willhoite, a picture book designed to help children understand that nontraditional families are loving too. Other most challenged titles reflect a continuing concern with gay materials, witchcraft and the occult, and sex.

The hub of censorship seems to be Fairfax County, Virginia. The furor in Fairfax began early in 1994, with a one-woman campaign, waged by Christian housewife Karen Jo Gounaud, to get the *Blade*, a Washington gay paper, removed from the public library system. Gounaud also checked out all the gay books she could identify in the Fairfax system, invited the press to take pictures of the pile, refused to return the books and campaigned for an adults-only section of the library. Although the Board of Supervisors voted against her adults-only proposal, the library bought \$1,100 worth of anti-gay books (more than 100 volumes) to match those termed "pro-gay." Many of them discuss

how to "cure" homosexuality. This spring the library director nixed what would have been the 11th annual gay-pride exhibit at one of the branches.

Gounaud, along with Phil Burress, President of Cincinnati's Citizens for Community Values (sponsor of that city's 1993 anti-gay ballot initiative) have formed the "America Needs Family Friendly Libraries" organization. Their first national meeting, scheduled for October 21st in Cincinnati, will discuss: 1) "the lack of local control over public library systems"; 2) the "takeover by the left-wing policies and politics of the American Library Association"; and 3) left-leaning library boards shutting out parental concerns (*Culture Watch*, July/August 1995).

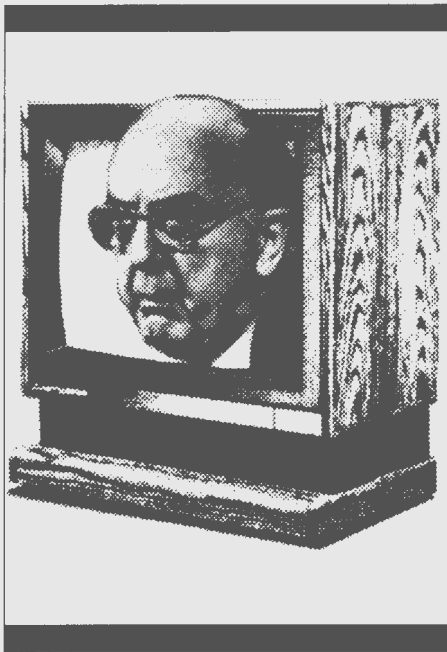
### Control of the Media

There is growing concern that the distinction between right-wing and mainstream media is eroding due to the growing alliance between powerful media corporations and powerful conservative politicians. Newt Gingrich has declared that his goal is "reshaping the entire nation through the news media" (*New York Times*, 12/14/94).

My concern grew to paranoia when I learned about a poorly-reported series of closed-door meetings held in Washington, D.C. in January of this year. Sponsored by the right-wing Heritage Foundation, they involved the Republican members of the House Commerce Committee (Democrats were plainly excluded) and the chief executives of virtually every leading media and telecommunications firm in the country.

In another closed-door meeting

in Washington on March 6, Newt Gingrich told corporate leaders that they should consider an advertising boycott of newspapers that oppose their views. Gingrich then told the trade magazine, *Broadcasting & Cable* (3/20/95), that media editorials ought to match the business interests of



media owners.

If advertisers only supported pro-business views, and media commentators and newsmen always reflected the interests of their bosses, those who occasionally question corporate power would be silenced. That's how Newt Gingrich hopes to reshape the nation.

As if we don't get enough of him on the network news and information programs, Gingrich has his own call-in show, *The Progress Report*, on National Empowerment Television (NET), a right-wing cable channel founded by Paul Weyrich, that describes itself as "C-SPAN with an attitude." The Progress and Freedom Founda-

tion, founded in 1993, underwrites both Gingrich's weekly call-in program on NET and raises money for his controversial video college course, "Renewing American Civilization." The foundation, which has collected nearly \$1.7 million, has been supported by corporations with interests in deregulation like AT&T, BellSouth, Turner Broadcasting and Cox Cable Communications.

The conservatives have constructed a truly intimidating media machine, ranging from nationwide radio talkshows by Limbaugh and his wannabes, to dozens of attack magazines, newspapers, newsletters and right-wing opinion columns, to national cable television networks, to documentary producers who specialize in slick character assassination, to mega-buck publishing houses. In the past two years alone, through constant repetition, the machine has focused public anger on welfare recipients, ghetto residents, immigrant populations and, most notably, on Bill and Hillary Clinton.

For years the conservative independent press has been systematically subsidized with millions of dollars in foundation grants from the John M. Olin Foundation, the Carthage Foundation, the Sarah Scaife Foundation, the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation, the Smith-Richardson Fund, the Adolph Coors Foundation and several others. A search through foundation grant reports and other sources of information revealed that more than \$2.7 million in grants went to four magazines from 1990 through 1992: *The American Spectator*, *The National Interest*, *The New Criterion*, and *The Public Interest*. During the same

period, only \$269,500 in private foundation grants was identified as going to the four leading progressive publications: *The Nation*, *Mother Jones*, *The Progressive*, and *In These Times* (as reported in *Extra!*, March/April 1995).

And what about the current attack on PBS and public radio stations? Could this be about expanding corporate media power by extending its control over these valuable frequencies? These frequencies will be put on the auction block and sold to the highest bidder. Meetings have already been held involving Gingrich and Sen. Larry Pressler with Rupert Murdoch of the Fox Network, John Malone of TCI and executives from Bell Atlantic to discuss the carving up of the public airways (*Z Magazine*, April 1995).

Then there's the proliferation of Christian radio and television stations on the air. We might only stumble over them, cursing, while we channel surf, but their influence is obvious. In 1992, Pat Robertson told *Christianity Today* (6/22/92), "I believe that [Jesus] is lord of the government, and the church and business and education, and, hopefully, one day, lord of the press." Today his media domain includes his flagship the Christian Broadcasting Network (CBN), the popular Family Channel on cable TV (reaching nearly 60 million homes), a radio news service called Standard News, and Zap News, a fax-based news service. Recently he tried to buy the *Houston Post*.

Even without all the media exposure, mass membership organizations like the Christian Coalition and Focus on the Family are

able to mobilize efficiently-managed networks for "saturation" appeals to politicians and advertisers. They use some of the most sophisticated technology, media strategies and telecommunications available. Prior to last November's election, the Christian Coalition sent out one of the largest direct mail appeals ever posted. Many believe it was that mailing, combined with appeals from radio talk shows and pulpits across the country, that helped influence the outcome of the election.

And what is the left doing to

balance this bombardment from the right? Are we linked by a national strategy? Does each of us feel we are part of a movement? Is there a movement organized to fight this movement to the right?

I am afraid that mass mobilization on a national scale is needed to turn things around now. There is no time to start from scratch. Existing groups must work in coalition as they never have before. We need spirited and insightful leadership. I need an antidepressant! ■

## Organizations Which Monitor the Right:

### DataCenter

Publishers of *Culture Watch*  
464 19th St.  
Oakland, CA 94612  
510/835-4692 Fax 510/835-3017

### Americans United for the Separation of Church and State

1816 Jefferson Place, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
202/466-3234 Fax 202/466-2587

### Center for Democratic Renewal

P.O. Box 50469  
Atlanta, GA 30302  
404/221-0025 Fax 404/221-0045

### Institute for First Amendment Studies

P.O. Box 589  
Great Barrington, MA 01230  
413/528-3800 Fax 413/528-4466

### National Gay & Lesbian Task Force Fight the Right Project

2320 17th St., NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
202/332-6483 Fax 202/332-0207

### People For The American Way

2000 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20036  
202/467-4999 Fax 202/293-2672

### Political Research Associates

678 Massachusetts Ave., #205  
Cambridge, MA 02139  
617/661-9313 Fax 617/661-0059

### Fairness & Accuracy in Reporting (FAIR)

Publishers of *Extra!*  
130 West 25th St.  
New York, NY 10001  
212/633-6700 Fax 212/727-7668

### Nat'l. Coalition Against Censorship

275 Seventh Avenue  
New York, NY 10001  
212/807-6222

### The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)

150 W. 26th St. Suite 503  
New York, NY 10001  
212/807-1700 Fax 212/807-1806  
Local Chapter: 666-4009



LYNN FROST

# Betty Cole To Receive Evangeline K. Brown Award

Janet Perkins

**T**he 1995 recipient of the Evangeline K. Brown Award is Betty Cole of Colt, Arkansas. Betty is a Women's Project board member and has been involved with the Women's Project since the organization located in Little Rock.

In 1983 Betty Cole became a Vista Volunteer with ACTION. She was assigned to the Women's Project where her responsibilities included organizing women in the Delta around issues related to domestic violence, teenage pregnancy and identifying other issues that needed to be addressed in rural communities.

Betty is from a large family, eight sisters and four brothers who grew up on a farm, which might explain Betty's understanding and desire to work in rural communities. Betty has seen first hand the needs of people who live in rural communities and for a long time she has had a vision to make changes occur. In the early 70's Betty began working with the Community Economic Action Agency, where she says "her lifelong goals fell into place." Through this agency Betty developed the skills to work on rural community economic development which she has continued to do throughout her career.

Betty has participated in many projects, seminars, committees and boards which have enhanced her skills and abilities to work in her community and other communities throughout the state of Arkansas. Betty participated in the

Winthrop Rockefeller Fellows intern program and views the training and support she received through this program as the fertile ground out of which the Eldercare Program she currently directs grew. The Eldercare program is a non-profit, community-based organization which provides advocacy and support for older citizens in Forrest City, Arkansas. Betty is the founder and executive director. The program operates a community center for the elderly, provides home healthcare, and they are certified as an elder choice provider.

Betty and the Eldercare Program were nominated for the Presidential Ten Points of Light Volunteer of the Year Award in 1994. Betty was elected as Arkansas' representative for the Southwest Society on Aging Board of Directors from 1990-1993. Betty co-chaired the East Arkansas Enterprise Zone from 1994-1995. Recently the East Arkansas Enterprise Community was awarded 3 million dollars through the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Betty Cole is being honored by the Women's Project because of her history of being committed to changing the status quo. She's being honored because she will not take "no" for an answer when it comes to growth in her community. Betty has been determined to make significant changes on behalf of low-income and elderly residents in her community, both being the most vulnerable in our world. Betty is also courageous. She's accomplished a lot of her

work in her community without support, and many times with opposition, but this did not deter or diminish her efforts.

The Women's Project presents the Evangeline K. Brown Award each year to an individual or organization who has worked to make social changes in their communities. The award is named after Mrs. E.K. Brown of Dermott, Arkansas, who for over 80 years has believed in breaking down the barriers of oppression so that others can have a better life. Mrs. Brown has struggled in Dermott with all kinds of obstacles; winning some battles, losing some, but never giving up.

The same is true of Betty Cole, and the Women's Project is proud to present her with the 1995 Evangeline K. Brown Award. ■

## Transformation

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Letters to the editor are welcome.

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\* Printed on recycled paper. \*

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## Susan and James DeVito of Eureka Springs To Be Honored As Volunteers Of The Year

**D**ear Women's Project, Founder of Aryan Nations, Richard Butler, Grand Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, Stanley McCallum, then Chaplain of the KKK, Thom Robb—names that would send shock waves through us and our community. We learned that in 36 hours they would be holding a Memorial Day Conference at the American Legion Hall in Harrison, Arkansas. My husband James and I knew we had to speak out against their hate.

I had read something about the work of the Women's Project and called them. From my first conversation with staff, I felt we had support for our convictions. Facing the hatred was frightening, and, not only did I receive good, solid advice on a protest, I was made to feel confident. We successfully organized a peaceful protest where over 75 people stood in silent vigil, shoulder to shoulder, holding signs saying, "Stop the Hate."

That was the beginning of our networking with the Women's Project. They were most helpful in providing material to distribute throughout the community to show people how to fight racism in their home town.

The following year the Christian Patriots Convention was meeting in Eureka Springs. These people, who are neither Christians nor Patriots, were in Eureka Springs to honor the people who had harbored Gordon Kahl, a Posse Comitatus member who had

killed two Federal Marshals and then fled to Arkansas. Once again the close contact with the Women's Project provided the support necessary to organize another peaceful vigil.

Our move to Eureka Springs in 1987, to operate the restaurant, placed us in a community with a

**It seems no matter  
where you live you  
can't escape the  
problems of today's  
society.**

large gay and lesbian population. Aware of homophobic sentiments in the area, we became more involved with the Women's Watchcare Network. Our focus over the next few years was geared more to speaking up for gay and lesbian rights than speaking out against white supremacy.

In 1990, however, less than one block from our restaurant, Thom Robb (now Grand Wizard of the KKK) and Ralph Forbes (former head of the Nazi Party in California and a Republican candidate for Attorney General in Arkansas) were holding an election-eve

rally in Basin Park. Under the guise of a "pro-life" rally, they were trying to recruit people to their cause—mainly the young people who frequent the park.

James and I have called in our support to various cities in the state where other people are opposing racism. It is very encouraging to know that more and more people are becoming aware of the threat hate groups pose and are speaking up. They need the support from all of us.

By 1994 we were feeling good about the problems Thom Robb was having keeping the KKK together. Unfortunately, this year we were shocked to learn that many former Klan members had found a new home in the many militia groups forming around the country.

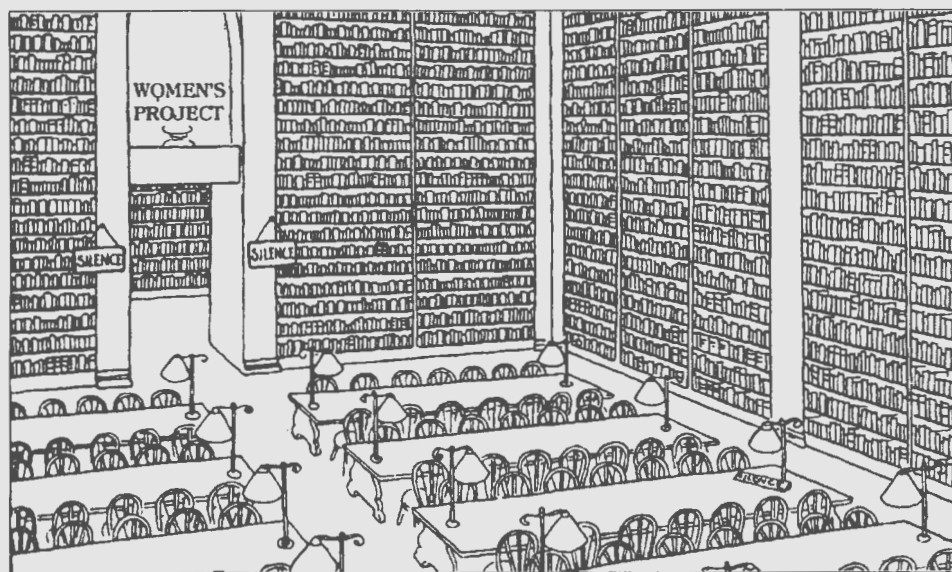
A radical militia group has located in the remote valley where James and I own a home outside Eureka Springs. The sounds of gunfire can be heard from our house as they target practice in the valley below.

It seems no matter where you live you can't escape the problems of today's society. Events like these make it important to remember the words of Niemoller: "...then they came for me and by that time no one was left to speak up".

We are now living in the community of Eureka Springs with a great network of caring people. We are deeply grateful for the Women's Project's efforts for "the transformation of the world." It gives us the strength to carry on.

Thank you!  
Susan DeVito

## BOOKNOTES



## NEW BOOKS IN THE LIBRARY

Lynn Frost

***Juba To Jive: A Dictionary Of African-American Slang***, edited by Clarence Major, is Major's update of his 1970 classic, *Dictionary Of Afro-American Slang*, expanded to include the latest entries from the soul and hip hop generations. "Black speech isn't just a linguistic variation, it's a way of being and seeing, and this books is a coded history of black life in America." ...Voice Literary Supplement, June 1994

***Living In Secret*** by Christina Salat is one of the first books to be published for middle-grade readers about having a lesbian parent. It examines the dilemma of eleven-year-old Amelia who is not al-

lowed-by her father and by the court-to live with her mother simply because her mother is a lesbian. Allowed no other real options, Amelia, her mother, and her mother's lover run away together to start new lives, choosing to live in secret rather than to continue to be separated. Lambda Literary Award Winner.

***Unnatural Mothers*** by Renate Dorrestein, "is a heart-breaking novel about a gifted child's unmet need for protection from the narcissism, violence and neglect of her own wounded parents. Renate Dorrestein's evocation of the savagery lurking just beneath the orderly, placid surface of a small Dutch town is powerful and chilling." ...Lisa Alther. This is the

eighth novel by one of the Netherlands' leading feminist authors.

***Fist Stick Knife Gun: A Personal History of Violence in America*** by Geoffrey Canada, one of this country's most powerful and talented advocates for children. At a time in America when violence is reaching a peak, Canada's literary debut brings us an understanding of how we got to this point and what can be done to curb the violence in every city and town. "A dose of strong medicine for a society locked into death on the installment plan." ...Kirkus Reviews, June 9, 1995.

***In These Girls, Hope Is A Muscle*** by Madeleine Blais follows a girls' basketball team, the Lady Hurricanes of Amherst, Mass., through one season and shows us how amazing a role sports can play in a girl's life-not just as a hobby but as a passion. "...a book that truly celebrates and honors girls as athletes." ...Feminist Bookstore News, May/June 1995.

***What Parents Need To Know About Dating Violence*** by Barrie Levy & Patricia Occhiuzzo Giggans gives straightforward advice on how to recognize the warning signs of dating violence, understand the dynamics of abuse, strengthen communication and minimize power struggles with your teen, and develop safety plans with your teen to avoid potentially dangerous situations. A

chapter offering support to parents of gay and lesbian teens in abusive relationships is also included.

**No Disrespect by Sister Souljah -**

The personal and intimate interactions between Sister Souljah and the seven characters whose names function as chapter titles in her book provide the impetus for her phenomenal growth into a very intelligent, successful young woman. These interactions are not without both pain and joy, two "musts" for personal growth and development. ...Liz Witherspoon, Women's Project board member

**Joining The Tribe: Growing Up Gay & Lesbian In The '90s by Linnea Due**

is a moving portrait of an endangered community whose resilience and courage will inspire gay and straight readers alike. "Adults have much to learn from this complex look at a group of young people, who, despite the gains of gay liberation, still grow up very much on their own." ...Kirkus Reviews

**Some new magazines available, but not in our library, are:**

**DAWN**, a newsletter from the Divorced & Widowed Women's Network, which helps women take charge of their lives. It offers medical, legal & financial advice along with ways to deal constructively with grief & loneliness. (\$22.50/yr., 6 issues, Suite G, 455 De Vargas Center, Santa Fe, NM 87501)

**SingleMOTHER**, is for the approximately 10 million single mothers heading households in the U.S. Promising to be a publication that all single mothers can benefit from, it provides articles on health, finances, child psychology, and a section for reader participation. (\$11/yr., 6 issues, Just You & Me Kid Publishing, 11111 Jim Sossoman Rd., Midland, NC 28107)

**Ungrateful!**, a new zine/newsletter for poor and working class lesbians. It is free to lesbians making less than \$7500 a year and costs up to \$3 for lesbians making more. For information write to Ungrateful, P.O. Box 7471, Minneapolis, MN 55407.

The library would love for you to donate a subscription to these or any other magazines, journals or newspapers. Give us a call to find out what we need.

**More new books in the library:**

**Sister Safety Pin** by Lorrie Sprecher (Lesbian Novel)

**Daughter Of The Goddess: The Sacred Priestess** by Naomi Ozaniec (Spirituality)

**Gal: A True Life** by Ruthie Bolton (African-American Biography)

**Nun In The Closet** by Joanna Michaels (Lesbian Mystery)

**Trouble And Her Friends** by Melissa Scott (N. Little Rock native) (Lesbian Sci-Fi)

**In Mad Love And War** by Joy Harjo (Native American Poetry) ■

## Women's Project Needs Volunteers!

FRANCES W. PRITCHETT

**E**arly in 1991, when my retirement was approaching, I began to consider how I was going to spend my free time. I knew that bridge parties and what I'll call "senior citizen frivolities" were out. I not only wanted to exercise my talents and interests, but I wanted to do so in the company of people who were dedicating their very lives to worthwhile goals. I found such people at the Women's Project, and they were fun-loving to boot! Their statement of purpose, "Our Mission," which is printed on the last page of every newsletter, says it all.

I now spend a few hours each week helping with library tasks, preparing mailings, clipping articles from the newspaper or filing. It gives me so much satisfaction to know that I am contributing to the goals of the Women's Project, which have long been mine as well. I urge all potential volunteers to "come on in" and get to work! ■

# Women's Project CALENDAR

*for September and October 1995*



**Friday, September 8**  
**Women's Project 14th Anniversary**

**Open House & Awards Presentation**

The Evangeline K. Brown Award will be presented to Betty Cole, community organizer from Colt, AR. The Volunteers of the Year Award will be presented to Susan & James DeVito, Women's Watchcare Network volunteers from Eureka Springs. 5-7 p.m. - light refreshments.

**Saturday, September 9**

You are cordially invited for **Drinks & Light Refreshments to Welcome Kerry Lobel**, Deputy Director of the Nat'l. Gay & Lesbian Task Force, at the home of Deb Halter, #9 Gunpowder Court, Little Rock. 7-9 p.m. Dress Casual. No charge to attend, but this is a fundraiser for NGLTF.

**Tuesday, September 12**

**Lesbian Network** - 7 p.m. - 2224 Main St., Little Rock - Topic: "Butch-Femme" Followup - a continuation of the lively discussion held last month on the same topic.

**Wednesday, September 20**

**Women's Coffeehouse** - 8 p.m. - Vino's in Little Rock  
**The Belle Curves**, one of the hot-

test new groups in Memphis. Two women performing acoustic rock which will include original songs as well as favorites from Melissa Etheridge, The Indigo Girls, k.d. lang and others. \$5 at the door.

**Monday, September 25**

6-9 p.m. - Little Rock Adult Center - 6401 West 12th Street.

The Women's Project is sponsoring the **Arkansas Foundation for Medical Care, Inc.** from Fort Smith, Arkansas who will provide a seminar on breast cancer. Breast cancer claims the lives of over 400 Arkansas women each year. Women age 65 and older are at greater risk, and African-American women, young and old, are at greater risk of dying from breast cancer.

**Tuesday, September 26**

**Lesbian Network** - 7 p.m. - 2224 Main St., Little Rock - Topic: Summer Reflections. Special guests will talk about their experiences at various women's festivals and gatherings. Bring your photos and share your stories with us, too.

**Saturday, September 30**

**2nd Annual Book Swap & Sale** - 2224 Main St., Little Rock - 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

You can rent space for \$5 to swap & sell your own books, come to shop for used books outside, or shop inside at the Women's Project Bookstore with a 15% discount special on selected books and on 1996 calendars & datebooks.

**Tuesday, October 10**

**Lesbian Network** - 7 p.m. - 2224 Main St., Little Rock - Topic: Arts & Crafts Night - Bring your own creations to show and sell. Exhibitors come to set up at 6:30 p.m.

**Saturday, October 14**

**Alix Dobkin in Concert** at UALR - 8 p.m. - Stella Boyle Smith Auditorium. "Alix Dobkin has been a thunderbolt in feminist circles since she entered them in the early seventies." -*The Washington Blade*. Alix will present one or two workshops the following week, on campus at UALR.

**Tuesday, October 24**

**Lesbian Network** - 7 p.m. - 2224 Main St., Little Rock - Topic: Lesbians & HIV/AIDS - A discussion of safe sex for lesbians will be included.

**For information on any of these events, call 372-5113.**



# Our Mission...

Our goal is social change or, as the poet Adrienne Rich writes, "the transformation of the world." We believe this world can be changed to become a place of peace and justice for all women.

We take risks in our work; we take unpopular stands. We work for all women and against all forms of discrimination and oppression. We believe that we cannot work for all women and against sexism unless we also work against racism, classism, ageism, anti-Semitism, heterosexism and homophobia. We see the connection among these oppressions as the context for violence against women in this society.

We are concerned in particular about issues of

importance to traditionally underrepresented women: poor women, aged women, women of color, teenage mothers, lesbians, women in prisons, etc. All are women who experience discrimination and violence against their lives.

We are committed to working multi-culturally, multi- racially, and to making our work and cultural events accessible to low income women. We believe that women will not know equality until they know economic justice.

We believe that a few committed women working in coalition and in consensus with other women can make significant change in the quality of life for all women.

**Transformation** is published six times every year.

In each issue, members and volunteers receive analysis of contemporary issues, information about Women's Project upcoming events and activities, book reviews, and more.

If you are not a Women's Project member or volunteer and would like to continue receiving the newsletter, please fill out the membership form on this page.

## Current Projects

### ■ Prison Project

A support and advocacy project for women in prison that provides support groups for battered women in prison, a prisoner-led AIDS program and a transportation program for the children of incarcerated mothers.

### ■ Women's Watchcare Network

A project to monitor and respond to incidents of racial, religious, sexual, and anti-gay violence; and to provide education and strategies to counter the activities of hate groups and the Radical Right.

### ■ The Social Justice Project

Workshops on understanding racism and homophobia and developing methods to eliminate them; women's economic issues; organizational development for social change organizations.

### ■ Women and AIDS

A project to develop strategies for working with women and caregivers around AIDS issues.

### ■ African-American Women's Institute for Social Justice

A project which creates strategies for overcoming the barriers that hinder African-American women's efforts toward power and self-determination.

### ■ Communications and Events

A newsletter, a lending library, statewide and regional conferences, and production of women singers, poets and novelists.



**Yes, I would like to join the Women's Project.**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/day \_\_\_\_\_

Phone/evening \_\_\_\_\_

\$ 7.50     \$ 20     \$ 50  
(low income)     \$ 25     \$100

**Make checks payable to:**

Women's Project  
2224 Main Street  
Little Rock, AR 72206

# OUR MISSION

## Women's Project

2224 Main Street  
Little Rock, AR 72206

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
Little Rock, Arkansas  
Permit No. 448

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

HERLAND SISTER RES.  
2312 NW 39TH  
OKLAHOMA CITY OK 73112