

Personally

Yours

March/April 1984

Volume II: Issue 1

Anniversary Issue





615 Fargo
Houston, Texas 77006
(713) 529-4975

EDITOR

Carol Beverage

CONTRIBUTORS

G. G.

TK



Joey Flier



Audrey Lippel

Sally H.

Joanna G.

Nancy H.



GRAPHICS/LAYOUT
MANAGING EDITOR



This newsletter is a publication of CHOICES UNLIMITED, a social, educational, organization for womyn. Inclusion of womyns names within this publication does not reflect the affectional preferences of those mentioned. We accept signed articles from our readers. Opinions expressed here do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of CHOICES.

Choices little publication finally has it's one year anniversary! Did you think we'd make it? Well, neither did I. We've survived months without volunteers for committees, abandoned plans, leaders that didn't lead, activities that weren't started at the designated times and times when no one showed at all. We've also had times when the crowd was almost too big to fit into the room. We've had womyn who have donated time and money above and beyond the call of duty. We've had sparks of genius so exhilarating, we've almost floated home after meetings. Through it all we've grown.

When I started as chairperson of the newsletter, we had seventy or so womyn on our mailing list. On this our first year anniversary we will be mailing in excess of 350 newsletters. Any new organization will experience growing pains. We have struggled through our first year. We've made progress and it's time to press on. As of this edition of the newsletter we have had membership application forms and ID's donated. Members who have paid in full will receive their ID's with this newsletter. We'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. We are starting a contest for members. If you have your ID card you may stop by our office which is located at 615 Fargo, and pick up membership application forms. By writing the number of your ID card in the lower right corner, you may be eligible for a \$25.00 prize. Every issue of the newsletter will announce

the womyn who has recruited the most new members and she will receive the cash. Remember, you can pay your membership dues by doing volunteer work. If you'd like to volunteer call Carol at 529-4975.

Carol Beverage

JOEY

Speaks

As you probably know, Choices has been holding informal Rap sessions, 7:30, every other Friday at Joey's home. Over the past six months, anywhere from six to twenty womyn come over with covered dishes, appetites and loads of good cheer to socialize, converse, kid around, bitch and just generally let their hair down. Together we've ventilated our feelings on whatever was on our minds, pin-pointed if not solved, the problems of the planet. We had the chance to say all those marvelously witty things we'd always planned to say at the bars-but somehow never got the chance to. But most importantly, we all got to meet some really neat, sweet and unique women.

Now the location of these bi-weekly confabs is about to change, because I am moving to the Heights in March. The new place is a one bedroom flat in the Memorial Way apartments at Wescott and Washington. The actual move should be on March 10th, a Saturday, Goddess knows I need help with the actual move. All woman power would be grate-

fully appreciated. On the following Friday, March 16, we'll officially open the home with a womyn's Circle and House Warming Ceremony. Pot luck, of course.

Then we'll do what we do every other Friday. Rap, snack, and just have a good time in general. We might even have music and dancing! As I said, I will need help. If you'd like to lend a hand or moral support give me a call at 840-8041. After 9 p.m. most weekdays or anytime weekends. If you'd like the new address so you can attend our Rap sessions, call 840-8041 for the information.

Patricia Anne O'Kane
Attorney at Law

Patricia Anne O'Kane
Attorney at Law

Patricia Anne O'Kane
Attorney at Law

Patricia Anne O'Kane
Attorney at Law

Patricia Anne O'Kane
Attorney at Law

3212 Smith, Suite 102
526-7911 Houston

DONT MISS YOUR NEXT
ISSUE OF CHOICES UN-
LIMITED!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR



Dear Choices:

We are four women who receive the newsletter. We want to discuss some of the things we like and offer some suggestions. The January-February issue is not put together as well as the November-December issue. The information was good and it didn't have all those small ads scattered around for filler. The movie review by Nancy Hardy was excellent. The "Dear Sharon" column is OK. Carol Burk's Health Watcher column misses the boat. Instead of talking about smokers insulating themselves from their addiction, she should be teaching them how harmful it is not only to themselves, but to the non-smokers who suffer. Where in the world did the word WOMYN originate? It is so illiterate to use such a word when it doesn't exist. I don't understand why lesbians want to change everything. Go back to woman/women and upgrade the newsletter. Add letters to the editor column and print some of the ones you receive. Cut the Sapphist Erotica to one page and put more news in. Let members write about their lesbian experiences or do a documentary on lesbians. We would prefer to receive

the newsletter once a month. We are assuming that this letter will reach you since there was no return address for Choices. The only address we could find was the Fargo Street. If you've moved, why not mention it?

Thank You
Your Readers

Readers,
Thank you for your letter. It is from correspondence such as this, that our newsletter learns and grows. It's true the January-February issue wasn't put together as well as the November-December issue. Herbie and Carol Burk put that newsletter together. Obviously they know more about this than I. However, this requires many hours of work and most people who know what they are doing don't want to put in that much time and effort without recompense. Fortunately, "Sherlock Holmes" has been enlisted to aid in laying out this newsletter and I'm hoping to become HER apprentice. Our community paper should continue to improve. We had to go to a two month format, because of the time required to put it together and the lack of volunteers to help. Sapphist Erotica will continue to be two pages. We are

striving to reflect those talented womyn who compose our community. In the November-December issue we asked for stories about womyn who have influenced our lives in some way. Unless it is exceptionally inspiring and well written, we are not looking for romantic encounters. We are interested in strong womyn who are influencing society, religion, work, etc. We are sorry you didn't like the ads in the newsletter. They are not fillers but, what we depend on to make this paper financially sound. We accept feed back from our readers and try to incorporate your ideas. Keep the letters to the editor, poetry and art coming in. In defense of our Health Watcher column, nonsmokers do live in a world full of smokers. That is a fact that isn't going to change. Carol was trying to give advice to help cope with this situation. For your question, "Where in the world did the word WOMYN originate?" That required such a long answer that a whole article had to be written. You can find that elsewhere in this paper. Suffice to say here that we want to join the ranks of womyn who are trying to change our male dominated language. Last but not least. My sincere apologies for not announcing a change of address for Choices. As Choices budget does not allow us to have an office we are using my address. As you can see your letter made it. Our new address is:



615 Fargo
Hou. Tx. 77006
Sincerely

Carol

WHY WOMYN?

According to anthropologist and linguist Edward Sapir and too many others to name, "Language is a guide to 'social reality'" which affects both human interpretation and human behavior. This sounds serious because it is. If I'm constantly told I'm beautiful, I will begin to believe it. But what happens if I'm told I'm mean or ugly? I will believe that too, and behave accordingly.

Everytime we say women we declare ourselves a subspecies of man. Our language (like religion) is full of sex-based inequities. Womyn affirms our lack of autonomy from men because our label (identity; self-image) is male determined. The list of language protests is endless -- from Webster's inaccuracy to grammatical form. Language forces us into being gender-objects by semantics, and the way we see ourselves affects the way we touch others.

Changing woman to womyn is an aggressive act of protest against past cultural assumptions which allows us to free our own identity and power. Besides, changing the spelling of our universe is a lot easier than running for office or moving to an island. Or is it? Try writing womyn -- feel the form of "Y," justify re-spelling the past. Think about your own autonomy and identity, then party with other womyn and have a good time!

by: Scizzors

IN THE NEAR FUTURE THERE WILL BE ANOTHER MOTHERS GROUP STARTING UP. SPECIFICATIONS WILL BE FOR PREGNANT AND NEW MOTHERS WITH CHILDREN UP TO SIX YEARS OF AGE. THOSE WITH OLDER CHILDREN ARE WELCOME. OUR PURPOSE WILL BE, A SELF HELP AND SHARING GROUP TO INTERACT THE CHILDREN AND THE UPDATED JOYS AND PROBLEMS WE ARE FACING BEING GAY MOMS. A PAD WITH INFORMATION WILL BE ON THE BULLETIN BOARD AT 615 FARGO. THERE WILL ALSO BE A LIST FOR VOLUNTEER BABYSITTING.

LESBIAN TEACHERS

I think that with all of us teaching out there, in our four walled classrooms, what better way to spend our vacations than with each other.

It seems as though teacher's vacations arrive while other friends or lovers are working. I myself have experienced this year after year.

The time is overdue to get a group of teachers together for professional growth as well as social growth. Please call: 461-5701

HAVE YOU READ A GOOD BOOK LATELY?

WOMYN'S LIBRARY OPEN FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

Herstory

You might say that the Russian Revolution was started by American women- in 1857! On March 8 of that year, garment workers from New York's Lower East Side sweat shops (many of them daughters of Russian Jewish immigrants) demonstrated against unsafe work places, brutal hours and quotas. They also sought childcare and other basic needs. When, in an effort to "shame the rich" they marched into a wealthy neighborhood, police violently dispersed them, trampling some under horses, arresting others. Fifty years later, conditions were no better. So a similar march was held - again on March 8. Larger than the first, it too was brutally dispersed.

A few years after that, an international socialist meeting inaugurated an annual day to honor working women. The date of March 8 was chosen to express solidarity with the New York garment workers.

On 8/March/1918 Europe was in the final, terrible year of World War I. In Saint Petersburg, Russia's capital, it was Feb. 23 on the old Julian calendar. The labor union women there wanted to use Women's Day to voice their demands that

Russia get out of the war, bring home the troops, lower prices and release food to the people. They called for a general strike. The men leading unions and political parties didn't think it could be pulled off. So the women put together committees and got workers to walk out and housewives to join demonstrations. At least 90,000 people participated. This so encouraged progressive forces that the strike blossomed into what is now called "The February Revolution", and which led - 8 months later - to The October Revolution, which did end the war for Russia (and helped end it elsewhere), as well as totally changing the lives of all her people.

Many times since then, women have chosen this date to act for human rights, as in:

1936, Madrid: 80,000 women marched (at the height of the Spanish Civil War) demanding "progress & liberty".

1961, Vietnam: the Union of Women for the Liberation of South Vietnam was founded - to defend & advance women's rights & to encourage women to join in the armed struggle which freed their country from foreign control.

1970 New York City: the women of Youth Against War & Facism restored the U. S. celebration of International Women's Day with a rally at Union Square & march to the Women's House of Detention, to show support for sisters imprisoned there.

1971, Uruguay: Tupamaros guerillas, dressed as police, freed 50 women political prisoners all without firing a shot!

1975, Cuba: The Family Code, the most progressive legislation of its kind in the world, became effective. Provisions include equal responsibility of men and women for child-rearing & household tasks, equal access to divorce & protection of children's rights.

And that is how "The shirtwaist makers of New York/Marched 60 years to St. Petersburg/To make the general strike/That gave jobs to the people of Oriente Province.

(How you like THEM "Ripples"?)

(joanne gavin)

WOMYN HAVE MADE A
"DIFFERENCE"

Are You Guilty?

Dear Sisters,

By way of introduction, I have worked and lived in this community for over 15 years. During this time I have come to Love Montrose, my sisters and brothers (Gay and Straight), and the city itself. As a member of The National Organization of Women, I have worked diligently for equal rights. As the Executive Director of Testing Research and Counseling Service I have counseled with hundreds of our gay brothers and sisters to help live happier and healthier emotional lives. As a concerned individual I fought for and earned the court system respect--becoming the first open Lesbian to gain custody of foster children in Texas. In 1970, I was arrested thirteen times in a period of eleven months testing an archaic city ordinance which limited freedom of personal expression and dress. I ended this fight in the U.S. Supreme Court in 1974. I, along with many of our gay sisters and brothers, was a founding member of the Texas Gay Task Force and later the Texas Gay Conference. I recently acted as the President of the Board of Directors of the Montrose patrol and spent nearly every Friday, Saturday and Sunday night for a year on the streets of Montrose to help keep our community safe. I was the prime founder and first president of the MSA pool league.

What I am trying to say here is this, I have spent 15 years in service to our gay community. I have battled injustice and discrimination sometimes at great personal sacrifice. I am not the only one to do so. Hundreds of Thousands of our Gay Sisters and Brothers throughout the world have fought the same battle. We've suffered under the same myths and rumors. We have all, at one time or another, been the subject of misunderstanding and ridicule at the hands of our Non-Gay citizens.

Tonight I find myself wondering what we've learned in the past few hundred years of Gay Sufferage.

We have been discriminated against.

Have we learned not to discriminate?

We have suffered the pains of rumors and slander based on untrue mythology of homosexuality. Have we learned open-mindedness and acceptance of others regardless of their beliefs?

Have we not learned that all people are of unique worth and dignity by virtue of their simply being human beings?

In the past five weeks I have met three marvelous womyn. I have enjoyed the pleasure of their companionship and an intimacy that only we as womyn seem to fully comprehend and appreciate. But, alas these encounters were not destined to become lasting friendships.

WHY?

Some of our sisters have not learned that each one of us is special. Some of our sisters have set themselves up as judges of others.

Today, as we work to dispell the myths of lesbianism spread by our heterosexual counterparts, some gay womyn are perpetuating myths of their own about another class of people. Some of our sisters (perhaps those enjoying the freedom I helped to earn for them) are destroying my freedom and happiness with their thoughtless lack of understanding and compassion for other sisters.

As womyn we know we are special. We like to envision ourselves even more special because we are womyn loving womyn. We like to believe we have a deep understanding of other womyn because we have common bonds emotionally and physically in a world long under the domain of the opposite sex. Are we special?

Tonight I met another woman. Almost, the first words out of her mouth were, "I know all about you!"

How could she?

We had never met. We had never discussed life, politics, religion, love or anything for that matter. We had never shared time together to get to know each other. And yet, she knew all about me? How could she? She did not know what causes me to laugh, cry, love or (heaven forbid) hate.

She did not know my wants, needs, likes and dislikes-but she knew all about me because a "Friend" had told her!

Let me share with you what she did know. She "Heard" that before 1972 I was a male, that I had sex reassignment surgery. Even with that knowledge she still referred to me as-"He."

This woman will never know that I too am a woman. She will never know what's in my head. She will never understand that I suffer the same discrimination (and more) that she does as a woman. She will never know that I can understand her emotions and quest for life, liberty, love and the pursuit of personal freedom and happiness.

Ladies, I've paid my dues. I have done my share of suffering and some of yours as well.

You don't know your sisters until you meet them with open hearts and minds. Let us not fall into the trap that many of the heterosexual folks fall into by judging other people with labels. Let us not judge at all. Do take the time to get to know your sisters-you may be surprised and like what you find. If you take the time to get to know me, you may learn that, in spite of getting off to a bad start at birth, I too am a special woman of unique dignity and worth.

With Love

Anne
Anne

24 Sally

WHAT CONSTITUTES A GOOD PAINTING JOB?

YOUR APPROVAL IS OUR REPUTATION



HOME AND OFFICE FURNISHING

2250 S GESSNER HOUSTON TX 77063

*If the job is worth doing
It's worth doing right !!!*

Know How? This is the most important ingredient of all. If you have the knowledge to determine which material is best suited for a particular job and the capability of applying that material properly, you are going to get the greatest durability.

EXPERIENCED IN ALL PHASES
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL
PAINTING

INTERIOR • EXTERIOR

BRUSH • ROLL • SPRAY

WALLPAPER

REMOVAL • INSTALLATION

SHEETROCK

MYLAR • FOILS • MURALS

HANGING • FINISHING

FABRIC INSTALLATION

BLOWN ACOUSTICS

CABINET AND WOODWORK

STRIPING • STAINING • FINISHING

COMPETITIVE PRICES AND FULLY GUARANTEED

LICENSED • INSURED

FIRE DAMAGE • WATER DAMAGE

Sally Havensbrich
7-713-266-9451

TOTAL HOME AND OFFICE CARE

" ALSO INTRODUCING "
PERSONALIZED

MADE-A-DAY

Home and Apartment Cleaning

CALL TODAY

ADAMCEK SERVICES, INC.

Commercial Exterminators

7129 Chimney Rock
Houston, Texas 77081
713/660-9152

Bob Alexander
Branch Manager

Dear Sharon

Dear Sharon;

I am in need of help!
A woman that I've considered only a friend has just told me she's very much in love with me. I've told her all I feel is friendship. She is also very possessive. How can I tell her she can ruin a good friendship without hurting her feelings?

signed
Desperate

Dear Desperate;
Speak from your heart. Be honest, kind and firm. You can't avoid hurting her feelings. Console yourself by realizing that in being honest you are hurting her less than by trying to avoid hurting her feelings.

Dear Sharon;

How do you get someone to fall in love with you?

signed
L. Red

Dear L. Red;
Quit trying! Become concerned with improving yourself and concentrate on being friends. You will discover much more about people by becoming concerned about their character and personality. This will help you in selecting a partner and your new relaxed attitude will draw people to you!

Dear Sharon;
I have been separately intimate with five different womyn in a one year span. At one time or another I wanted a rela-

tionship with three of them. (The others I must admit, were flings.) It seems that sex was the focal point of each of our associations. Is this why the lights went out so quickly? Any suggestions for my future, other than zip-ping myself up in a sleeping bag?

signed
Sexerted

Dear Sexerted
Slow down, true love takes time and effort. If you involve yourself too easily you can't expect anything more than a sexual liason. Love is the most important investment in a persons life. You expect it to work out because you were attracted and went to bed? If you want something more meaningful you must take the time to know and understand the persons character and personality. Otherwise you just have a sophisticated method of masturbating going for you. No wonder the lights go out quickly!

Dear Sharon;
Please explain the meaning of or give me definitions for the following; Love, in love, lust! I'm certain of being in one of these predicaments, but confused as to which. I need your assistance.

signed
S.O.S.

Dear S.O.S.;
Our "Dear Sharon" committee sat around knocking your letter around for a while. None of us could agree on what love, in love, and lust are. No wonder the world is in

such a mess! Here are some of our answers, hope you will be able to relate to some of them. Good Luck!

- - - - -

Lust- usually a spontaneous attraction to another person which may or may not develop into a close bond between both people involved.

Lust- Can we eat!

"Lust" is using the patch between your legs to determine your behavior instead of using your brain or heart.

"Love" is the feeling of joy that comes from caring and giving which may or may not involve "Lust", "In Love" or even another person. A reasonable balance of these three (lust, love, in love) makes a happy womyn, anything else is usually a predicament.

"Love" is when a bond develops between two people. The intensity of this bond depends on both people involved.

"In Love" is something that happens between two people when they give each other the same caring and respect they give themselves 'in love' usually involves acts of sharing lust.

"In Love" is when the bond between two people is very intense. If your lucky it will be intense for both parties involved.

"Love," many times in our community is a cop-out used synonymously with "In Love". "Love" is the care and interest one has for the well being of another person. If you are involved in a sexual relationship with someone and find yourself saying that you "love" them. But aren't "In Love" with them, you can be positive that it comes under the classification of "Lust". If you find these terms confusing and you are not sure which of these you are experiencing, it is probably "Lust". If you have no doubts about what you are experiencing and are genuinely concerned with the other persons well being equal to or more than your own interest, then and only then are you "in love"

Kathy "Freddy" Greives

SPEEDY
PRINTING SERVICE

5400 BELLAIRE BLVD.
BELLAIRE, TEXAS 77401

BUS. 713/667-7417
RES. 713/783-2354

SPRING **SPECIAL**

KATHLEEN

MONTROSE
hair design

1004 california 522-2822

1/2 PRICE
with this coupon

Sapphist

SUNDAY MORNING CONTENTMENT

Two women drink orange juice in the bedroom,
Where morning goes stale to a rising sun.
Hot-buttered toast leaves crumbs,
Between the sheets over the folds of the women,
As sunrays romp against a wire mesh screen to the outside.

How long does it take two women to make breakfast,
When they salute the day with sweet Texas orange juice,
Fresh eggs, toast and carefully preserved jams.
On a Sunday morning too hot to hug or release,
Yet too close to not touch on simmering sheets?
The sky simply glows a familiar radiant blue.

"Build Me Your Life from Matches"

Build me your life from matches,
Place the wooden sticks firmly,
One on top of another.

Striving upward to an infinite degree of height,
Letting the grain in the wood show out,
Piercing people with warm conquering energy.

Make spaces in between some of the matches,
to let the air of emotion pass through your soul.
Or maybe . . . set them close together so the
strong wind of feelings won't knock you down.

Mona

PICKED-UP

So you think
you may want my body
to curl over
suck and moan.

You can have it.
I need to give
myself away
just now
to somebody.
Anybody.
Just to prove
I can.

I dreamed that I was a Beach on a Lonely Paradise.
And you - You were the waves crashing against me.
Pounding, thrashing my every grain with your cool spray.
Breaking away bits and pieces of my existence in my Dream.
I rejoiced at every high tide.
At every chance I got to experience the Pleasure of You.

N. L. Harty

Erotica

Sometimes I ask myself,
Where and who I was,
Before I sold my soul to Her for a few kind words.
Before I was wrapped so tightly,
In the chains of Her love,
That I could only breathe when she permitted Me to.
And what was it that made me ever Vow,
To be so convenient to Her every whim,
So submissive to Her will.
Yes, sometimes I ask myself why,
And then remember its because I love Her;

N. L. Harty

Seperate Ways

In the beginning
You were like a bolt of lighting.
As though the storm calmed
My heart.
The thunder touched my soul!

Seperate Ways.

Act two not quite the same
Though so much love
Both felt a game.
Caring, Sharing,
Melting to your touch;
Still!

Seperate Ways.

We Made our love just as
God Made the earth,
With blood, sweat and tears!

Earthquake.

Separate Ways.

As you sleep, I
watch with pride,
the beauty that
shows through.

I long to touch the
soft red glow, that
grows on your cheeks
through the night.

Your face so serene,
peace that shows.
I long to know what
you dream.

My friend, wake up!
I need to see, you're
not all that I
believe.

I hope, with love,
that life treats you
well. I know my loves
forbidden.

Yes, yes, don't fear.
It will remain as
always, always hidden.

As the sun rise be-
gins, I know it is
over. My fantasies
put to rest.

But in my heart, I
will know. That you,
you are the best.

j.j.

CALENDER OF EVENTS

CHOICES MARCH 1984 CALENDER

Friday - 2nd
Light Work Course
615 Fargo 7:30p.m.

Tuesday - 6th
Preperation for
Life Training
977-4035

Friday - 9th
Joeys' Rap Session
904 Westcott # 282

Saturday - 10th
Life Training
First Weekend

Sunday - 11th
Life Training

Wednesday - 14th
Life Training
Mid - Session

Saturday - 17th
Life Training
Last Weekend

Sunday - 18th
Life Training

Monday - 19th
Pot Luck Dinner
615 Fargo 7:30p.m.

Wednesday - 21st
Life Training
Completion

Friday - 23rd
Joeys' Rap Session
904 Westcott # 282

Saturday - 24th
CHOICES plays
Softball
Dunlavy & Fairview

Sunday - 25th
GARAGE & BAKE SALE
529-4975

CHOICES APRIL 1984 CALENDER

Sunday - 1st
Aerobics & Jogging
3:00p.m. 615 Fargo
by: Terri Howell

Friday - 6th
Joeys' Rap Session
904 Westcott #282
7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.

Saturday -
Kens' Decoupage
Class 4:00p.m.
615 Fargo

Sunday - 8th
Potluck Dinner
615 Fargo

Thursday - 12th
Bacchus Steak Night
for info call
Joey 840-8041

Saturday - 14th
Kens' Decoupage
Class 4:00p.m.

Sunday - 15th
SOFTBALL 12:00 noon
615 Fargo

Friday - 20th
Joeys' Rap Session
904 Westcott # 282
7:00p.m. - 9:00p.m.

Saturday - 21st
BUSINESS MEETING
1:30p.m. 615 Fargo

Sunday - 22nd
Easter Egg Hunt
1:00p.m. meet @ Fargo

A THOUGHT FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Rosa Parks was the catalyst that set off the Montgomery, Alabama bus boycott of 1956. That, in turn was the action that thrust Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr. into national prominence and it was one of the major preludes to the massive Civil Rights campaign of the 1960's.

Sister Parks is often portrayed as simply a tired domestic worker who refused to comply with Montgomery's Jim Crow Ordinance and give up her seat to a white man. At the time she was the Secretary of the local National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). She had recently returned from a seminar for community leaders at Highlander Folkschool in Knoxville.

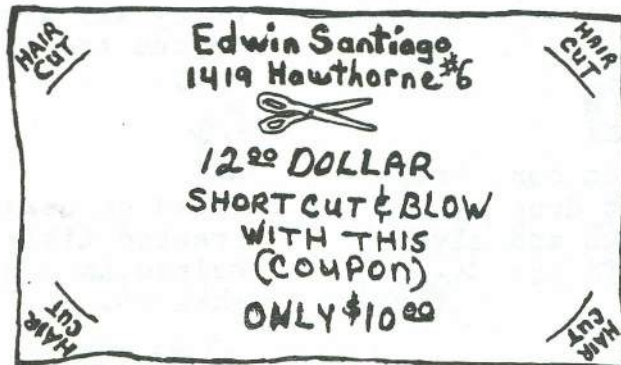
She was a womyn formed in the struggles of her people, aware that she needed to learn organizing skills and fresh from an experience which reinforced her instinctual knowledge that she was worthy of respect and had to assert her rights.

There are multitudes of Rosa Parks' all over the world. Groups, institutions, and individuals like Highlander are the catalyst needed to cause the chemical reaction--to leaven the dough--to make liberation happen. There are more "Dr. Kings" out

there to respond to the
 "Rosa Parks' " and to
 catapult her aspira-
 tions. As I once said
 in a poem:

"When Rosa Parks kept
 her seat,
 She pushed Rev. King to
 his feet.
 Thousands followed into
 the street."

---Joanne Gavin



Hazelwitch Productions is proud
 to announce our Spring season:

1. Teresa Trull & Barbara Higbie
 fine new duo with music ranging from rock to
 classical to hot jazz; new album - Unexpected

SAT. MARCH 17
 8 p.m.

First Unitarian Church
 5210 Fannin

2. Cris Williamson
 superb ballad singer, perhaps the most popular singer in
 women's music; accompaniment includes Tret Fure.

WED. APRIL 11
 8 p.m.

Cullen Auditorium, Univ. of Houston
 co-sponsor: U.H. N.O.W.

3. Pat Bond - Dinner & Show
 lesbian comedian, discussed military underwear in "The Word is Out,"
 has portrayed Gertrude Stein; now presenting her new one-woman show
 portraying Lorena Hickok, friend of Eleanor Roosevelt.

SAT. MAY 5
 6:30 - dinner, 8:30 - show

Treebeard's Restaurant
 315 Travis

4. Gayle Marie
 sensitive vocalist/pianist/composer has appeared in clubs in Houston like
 Kindred Spirits, Baja's; has a new album - Night Rainbow.

FRI. JUNE 1
 8 p.m.

First Unitarian Church
 5210 Fannin

Hazelwitch Season Passes now available: call us at 864-4534.
 Individual tickets will be available at Wilde & Stein Books, 802 Westheimer, 529-7014.

Birthday Wishes

To all our readers who have a birthday in March or April here is a birthday wish, JUST FOR YOU! From CHOICES, HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

TK

Sally H.

M.L.



To get on our birthday list drop by 615 Fargo and give your info to:



Cleaned yard, hung and stained bookshelves, painted kitchen, filed for newsletter, made titles, helped in every way above and beyond the call of duty!



Typed on newsletter, created titles, helped hang bookshelves.



THE THINGS I DO FOR CHOICES!

A.L.

Volunteer Corps

We would like to thank our B team volunteers for keeping CHOICES alive and making MOTHER MANTIS-OPEN HOUSE, possible!

TERRI HOWELL

Stained bookshelves, helped paint kitchen, helped hang bookshelves.



Inventoried books, filed for newsletter wrote articles, helped above and beyond the call of duty!

STRAY CAT

Kept membership files updated. Typed above and beyond the call of duty. Good right arm and trouble-shooter.

D.M.

For the FEMINIST books, tapes and albums, donated to the MOTHER MANTIS OPEN HOUSE.

VERA

Cleaned yard, PR.

G.G.

Cleaned yard, PR, and typing.



Our deepest gratitude for coming to our rescue with the newsletter. We know now, that we will continue to improve and grow with every edition, WELCOME ABOARD!

FOR ALL OUR FRIENDS WHO WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS, WE THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Movie Review

LIANNA

This is a one in a million movie. It will touch you. You'll laugh one minute and cry the next. This is a movie for all sisters and anyone who would appreciate a beautiful love store between two womyn. It's about a college psychology professor and a beautiful, naive student. Some of you can fill in the store from personal experience, others in unlivd fantasy. Come see this outstanding movie either for the memory or for the dream.

G.G.

Open

House

Have you ever felt lonely, scared, or trapped? Have you experienced crisis and felt there was no one you could turn to? Been beaten by a lover or roommate and kicked out on the streets? A group of ambitious amazons have decided that Houston need not be a cold, lonely city. They are joining together to create a warm caring community. Houston now has it's first Lesbian Open House. This is a home in which women gather together to help each other cope with problems which confront us in our community. Many, and varied projects are carried out under the roof of this home. Choices Unlimited is located here. It houses Houston's first Lesbian Reading Room. We are aiming for a strong feminist outlook, but can only become this with your donations of money and your favorite Women's Books. We invite you to come and browse, read or simply have coffee and chat. If you find yourself in crisis and need temporary shelter, arrangements can be made on a very limited basis. No freeloaders, please! We maintain a non-discriminatory policy and would like to actively reach out to our sisters. We don't have a sign on the premises, however we do have paper and pencil and a willingness to communicate! We have straight sisters who drop in to enjoy and share our library. We would like to thank those brave souls

who are helping us to fight against discrimination and prejudice. We offer a down home, comforting, relaxed atmosphere. Like they say about the peanut: "Bet, you can't eat just one!" Drop by for a visit. Bet, you'll come back for more!

Can We Relate ?

The person who said,
try it you'll like it
never met my lover!

Tell all those so
called psychosomatics
or hypochondriacs you
know, that the problem
is all up there in
their ass.

You think I'm stupid,
but I'm not so smart!

Have people told you
how bad you are? My
suggestion is to tell
them, "I'm so bad I'm
good!

With 200 lovely ladies
in a bar why do I get
the one less tread upon?

You've heard of a voy-
eur well, I'm a voy-
ager I like to travel.

I'm ambidextrous, I
use both my hands.

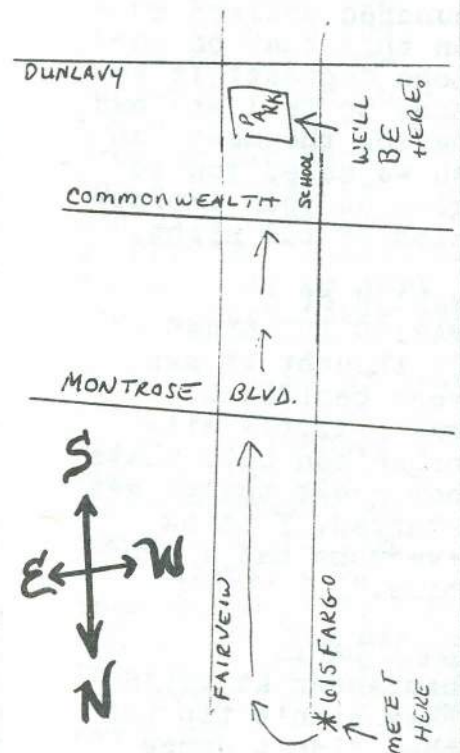
I'm bi-lingual, I use
my lips and my tongue.

Don't ever start a pro-
position with a prepo-
sition, because you mi-
ght end up with a dan-
gling participle.

AUDREY LIPPEL

CHOICES Plays Ball

Spring is in the air and it's great! Everyone around here has been talking about going to the park and playing softball. We thought our readers might feel the same way. Everyone out there reading this article is invited to come join us. Bring your own equipment and wear whatever you feel comfortable in. Hopefully we will have enough womyn for two whole teams! It will be a great way to meet new friends. After being snug and warm all winter it's time we all come out and enjoy the sun and take a breath of fresh air. Meet us at 615 Fargo on March 24th at 12 noon.



Sadie Hawkins

A WINNER!

Incredible as it seems this group of WOMYN with diverse backgrounds and differing interest in life came together to produce the SADIE HAWKINS Dance. This was the best event CHOICES has ever organized! It was also our biggest fund raiser! Don't get me wrong, I'm not saying we were perfect. We made a couple of OOPS - mistakes... well BLUNDERS but we won't tell, if you don't! Seems the CHOICES A team has been preoccupied for a while, but the B team never skipped a beat! Congratulations, team we cleared over a hundred dollars more on this than on our Logo Contest! It was hard to tell who was having the most fun so we asked you to give us your impression of the night.

MARION of
MARION AND LYNN'S
"I thought it was very benifical. It was a little disorganized but, thats how great things get started. I think everyone had a good time."

LORA DAVIS
bartender at M&L'S
They didn't tip and they didn't dance enough. I thought the "OFF BROADWAY SHOW" was great!"

LISA
waitress at M&L'S
"I thought the decorating was wonderful, the show was real nice, especially the red head! Everyone seemed like they were having a great time!"



"Feb. 25th was great! All the womyn at MARION and LYNN'S got a chance to feel the comraderie and friendliness I personally feel working with CHOICES. The entertainment was terrific! All in all everyone had a blast. As for me, if you know me at all you know I had a great time. (Dancing my feet off!)"

L. red

GREAT, I hope we can get together again, soon.

RC

"Sat. night Feb. 25 went to a real good party at Marion and Lynn's. Had a real good time. The DJ was outstanding! Everyone danced and really enjoyed themselves. There was a lot of pretty ladies too!

T.K.

"The CHOICES UNLIMITED party at MARION AND LYNN'S was great! Personally I had a very good time. The entertaining was great. I think everyone got into the spirit of the party."

Rae

"The people who performed at MARION AND LYNN'S for the CHOICES benefit on Feb. 25th really reached out and touched everyone. They were talented, friendly and warm to the crowd at MARION'S. I, not knowing anyone felt the friendliness and the feeling that this was a worthwhile organization. That night was like you were at a bar and at a Broadway play all in one. Which made the night more fun for everyone.

L. PARK

I just joined CHOICES, a week ago, so the Sadie Hawkins dance was my first CHOICES activity I attended. I only knew a few women from CHOICES but it didn't matter because everyone was there to have fun. The entertainers were good and the crowd was eager to show their appreciation with applause and laughter. The Hostess of games really enjoyed putting on the games and keeping the program moving. She was fun to watch. It was obvious, a lot of work was put in by everyone involved. Overall, it was a good evening out for me. I'm glad I was a part of a successful benifit for CHOICES.



"It was a great dance! Everyone had a real nice time. Heck! It was just GREAT!"

N.L. Hartley

"If you weren't at 817 Fairview on Saturday Feb. 25th for CHOICES "Sadie Hawkins" night then you were in the wrong place. It was a very enjoyable evening with just the right mixture of music to satisfy a diverse and highly festive crowd. Most of the performers were very entertaining. The whole affair was proof that CHOICES is finally pulling together and organizing itself toward different changes in our community."

G G

"Well, ladies I'd like to represent the wilder side of CHOICES UNLIMITED. In my opinion, the "Sadie Hawkins" dance was a tremendous success. Besides the personal satisfaction I got from seeing something that we worked on succeed, I had a festive time! The games, entertainment and atmosphere were great! From all appearances everyone was enjoying themselves!"

Scizzors

"CHOICES, SADIE HAWKINS party at MARION AND LYNNS last Saturday was a growing, comical and exciting filled night for all. John Day's appearance, The kissing booth, door and game prizes were enjoyed by all." Thanks CHOICES

YES, WE HAD SOME BAD REVIEWS, HERE IT IS.

ANONOMOUS

I felt a lot of the womyn were very male identified. With macho and sexist attitudes against womyn. The games were sexist.

JOYCE

I was pretty disappointed with parts of the entertainment. I found myself being turned off with the excessive use of sexuality. In my perception it was not a womyn type event. It was too male identified.

WE ASKED THE ENTERTAINERS TO RESPOND.

A.L.

"All I can say is I was proud to finally be affiliated with an organization like CHOICES. Not only because of the wonderful, down to earth people that make up their membership but, because of the honesty and sincerity they portray in the never ending help they give in the community. As far as I am concerned folks, this is only the beginning of future spectacular events to come."

D. COUVILLON

"The CHOICES Sadie Hawkins Benefit I felt was a lot of fun! The enthusiasm of the sponsors carried over to the entire crowd! The decorations and costumes were great! A great time was had by all."

NANCY FORD

"I enjoyed doing it because it gave Dana and myself exposure to a new audience. I'm sorry not everyone could accept the contents of the entire evening in the spirit of good will and fun that it was intended for."

CHOICES would like to extend an open invitation to the womyn of the community to join in the spirit of things, drop by 615 Fargo to help organize and give direction to CHOICES UNLIMITED. We can only be what your effort makes us.

We would like to take this opportunity to THANK our sponsors, who donated prizes, our performers who donated their time and talent, our B team volunteers, and MARION for the use of her bar, "JUST MARION AND LYNNS, for a fine evening!

Easter Egg Hunt

It's that time again! When rabbits and chickens get together for a holy event. They've done this for many decades. The story behind this blessed event is very moving. One day the Goddess of Easter decided she wanted another holiday for her people to get together and bring joy into their hearts. She put a lot of thought into this holiday. She wanted her creatures of the world to participate so she thought, "What creature of the world provides for her people, but doesn't get much recognition." Then she thought of the children. "Let's have a game where they will search for treasures. She wandered what creature could provide something big enough for the children to see but, not too big. Searching her mind, she finally decided on chickens. Hens lay eggs and eggs would be just the right size. Since the chickens had done all the work of laying the eggs, the Goddess didn't think they should have to hide the eggs too! About that time the Goddess noticed a rabbit grazing in a field. She thought, "Rabbits don't do much besides eat and have babies---So hiding the eggs for Easter would be the rabbits job. This is how the tradition of the chickens and rabbits getting together for a big event every year!

On April 22nd CHOICES will be getting together with the rabbits and chickens for Easter. We are inviting you to join us. Our rabbits and chickens always have a special GOLDEN EGG. Join us to find out about it! 615 Fargo.

Health Seekers

BY
AUDREY LIPPEL

Selecting and preparing wholesome foods is only one part of proper eating habits. Nobody ever really tells us how to eat them properly. The word for today is masticate now, do it slowly! 'It's essential for good health. If you're in a hurry, you'll end up gobbling your food, wait for a better time. Better to be a little hungry than have the burpees and indigestion later. Living on Alka-Seltzer chasers only makes matters worse. Believe me, you're listening to an ex-Alka-Seltzer-aholic. Good chewing increases assimilation of nutrients in the intestinal tract and makes you feel satisfied with a smaller amount of food. This information may help you dieters. Saliva contains digestive enzymes, therefore, well-chewed and generously salivated food is practically half-digested before it enters the stomach. Here are three rules on

what foods you can and can not mix together if you want proper digestion:

1. Never eat raw fruits and vegetables at the same meal.
2. When protein-rich foods are eaten with other foods, eat the protein foods first.
3. Eat as few different foods as possible at one meal. Now for the scientific reasons behind these rules:

1. Raw fruits and vegetables have a total different enzyme combination, if you mix them it will "confuse" your enzyme producing glands causing poor digestion and gas.
2. Proteins produce Hydrochloric acid for a proper assimilation, carbohydrates do not, because it is not needed for the digestion process.
3. Good health is to adopt a mono-diet for the correct enzyme production. All natural foods contain all the food elements: Carbohydrates, fats and proteins.

So it's impossible to eat one without the other. As long as you abide by these three simple rules, you should not have to worry too much. So, Wimmyn, take heed, only the foods eaten in pleasurable surroundings, both peaceful and unhurried will do you any good.

SUPPORT BUSINESSES THAT

SUPPORT "WOMYN"

Do you sometimes feel
you are looking for
answers...but aren't
sure you understand
the questions?

offers:

Light Work is an esoteric approach to reaching the higher consciousness and filling ones life with positivity. The student learns to relate, activate, and direct specific color and light frequencies through a unique meditation technique for the purpose of clearing negatives which block one from growth. The light worker becomes a cleanser and healer of self, and then others.

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED

If you (or someone you know) would like to have a performance listing in our next month's Highly Recommended please write:

Club engagements welcomed.

If the address is not correct on your mailing label, fill out the membership form on the reverse side and mail it to the address above. We will make sure you don't miss your issue of CHOICES newsletter. You may also give us that information by calling: 529-4975



coming out, relationships, coping in a
straight world
Sliding Scale and Insurance Accepted
For details call Joyce Gayles, Ph.D.
461-5701 (after 6 p.m.)
or Jo Stewart, MSW, 790-2720

615 Fargo
Houston, Texas 77006

B/C or Logo	\$3.00
-------------	--------

1/4 Page - \$14.00

1/2 Page \$26.00

Full Page \$50.00

CHOICES UNLIMITED
MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____ DATE _____
ADDRESS _____ APT. # _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NO. _____ OCCUPATION _____

TRANSPORTATION _____ YES _____ NO _____

HOBBIES & OTHER INTERESTS:

<input type="checkbox"/> PHOTOGRAPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> ART GALLERIES	<input type="checkbox"/> ROLLER SKATE
<input type="checkbox"/> READING	<input type="checkbox"/> BOWLING	<input type="checkbox"/> CAMPING
<input type="checkbox"/> THEATRE	<input type="checkbox"/> BILLIARDS	<input type="checkbox"/> GOLF
<input type="checkbox"/> POETRY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOFTBALL	<input type="checkbox"/> FISHING
<input type="checkbox"/> CARDS	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCCER	<input type="checkbox"/> HORSES
<input type="checkbox"/> OPERA	<input type="checkbox"/> TENNIS	<input type="checkbox"/> ICE SKATE
<input type="checkbox"/> MOVIES	<input type="checkbox"/> JOGGING	<input type="checkbox"/> MOTORCYCLE
<input type="checkbox"/> DINING OUT	<input type="checkbox"/> RACQUETBALL	<input type="checkbox"/> CRAFTS
<input type="checkbox"/> SYMPHONY	<input type="checkbox"/> VOLLEYBALL	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER _____
<input type="checkbox"/> DANCES	<input type="checkbox"/> HIKING	_____
<input type="checkbox"/> BALLET	<input type="checkbox"/> SWIMMING	_____

FULL YEAR MEMBERSHIP DUES (20.00) _____ ½ YEAR (10.00) _____ QUARTER (5.00) _____

I WOULD LIKE TO DO VOLUNTEER WORK _____ YES _____ NO _____

DO YOU WISH TO NETWORK WITHIN THE COMMUNITY? _____ YES _____ NO _____

CHOICES UNLIMITED
615 FARGO
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77006

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED