

# Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



Founded  
in 1989

## The Reporter

A quarterly  
publication of OLOC

December 2014

Vol 24, #4

### **WE ARE EXCITED!**

By Alix Dobkin, 1940

OLOC's last Gathering was less than six months ago, so, of course, it's time for the national Steering Committee to begin work on 2016, and that's what we've been doing. After Oakland, we figure it's time for our next Gathering to be held in the southeast, so on October 15th we headed to Atlanta for our fall meeting.

Twice a year the Steering Committee meets for four intensive days from 9 to 5 to do OLOC business. During our fall meeting in October, we invited four members of ZAMI

NOBLA (National Organization of Black Lesbians on Aging), "Atlanta's Premiere Organization for Lesbians of African Descent," to join us for an afternoon.

*Kathryn Royal Wilson, who attended the ZAMI NOBLA meeting with the Steering Committee, was a major researcher for The Warmth of Other Suns, a brilliant book that painstakingly documents three sagas taken from the Great Migration from Mississippi to the north and west in the early 20th century by hundreds of thousands of Black people. Some of us read and loved and can strongly recommend the book, so we were a bit star-struck when we found out Kathryn's role.*

ZAMI NOBLA conducts a list serve and holds meetings twice monthly. They described their work on health issues for aging Lesbians and their plans for a "national Hotline to provide a listening ear, information, and

assistance with resources available to aging Black Lesbians," as well as "Care Teams to support Black Lesbians, their partners, children, and caregivers needing assistance around health and social challenges."

The happy result of

our meeting is a partnership and the beginning of plans for the 2016 OLOC National Gathering in Atlanta and for a concert to be held April 25, 2015, to promote the next Gathering.

Every one of us on the OLOC Steering Committee agreed we are a good fit with ZAMI NOBLA, and we all left the meeting in the room at the Atlanta airport Holiday Inn North elated and eager to work together.



Zami Nobla Board and OLOC Steering Committee  
plus Susan

#### *Ageist:*

*Age is really just a state of mind.*

*You may be 72 but you still act young.*

*You aren't old. You're young at heart.*

Unattributed ageist remarks throughout the issue  
were collected by Mary Morgan.

**The OLOC Reporter is published by Old Lesbians Organizing for Change:**

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**This Newsletter Brought to You By:**

Co-Editors: Jennice Thomas, 1940, and Susan Wiseheart, 1941.

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Design/Layout: Malinda McCain, 1940.

Mailing crew and all writers and photographers.

Deadline for the next issue: February 1, 2015. Limit submissions to 300 words. Contact us for a style guide.

We may edit articles for clarity and length. Send articles to OLOC at [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or OLOC, PO Box 5853, Athens OH 45701.

If you are a member of national OLOC who wants to be on OLOC's national yahoo e-mail list, subscribe by going to [groups.yahoo.com/group/NationalOLOC/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NationalOLOC/). If you have any problems, contact [susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org).

To find OLOC on Facebook, go to [www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC](http://www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC)

OLOC maintains a video library and will lend items to members. For a complete list of items available, check the website: [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org)

OLOC is supported in part by grants from the Carpenter Foundation and the Open Meadows Foundation. Thank you.

**To find out about OLOC chapters and groups**, presently in California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Utah, Vermont, Washington State, and Washington DC, look here: [www.oloc.org/about/chapters.php](http://www.oloc.org/about/chapters.php). Or call us: 888-706-7506.

**As of September 2013, Membership Statement:** OLOC is an organization of Old Lesbians. We are dedicated to preserving and enhancing the Lesbian voice as well as increasing Lesbian visibility in a world that stifles it. National OLOC supports the right of all people to be treated fairly and respectfully and with equal justice under the law. National OLOC is an ally to all who struggle for justice. In the LGBTQIA\* community, we are the L. Therefore, National OLOC welcomes as members only those women who have reached their 60th year and who are Old Lesbians.

\*Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Transsexual Two-Spirit Queer Questioning Intersex Asexual and Ally.

**The next National Steering Committee meeting will be held April 23–26, 2015, in Atlanta, GA.**

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## **Hotel Survey from the OLOC 2014 Gathering in Oakland, CA**

By Ruth Debra, 1944

Thank you to all who attended the Oakland Gathering and responded to the hotel survey. I was hoping this would provide guidance in our hotel search (now underway) for the National Gathering in Atlanta in 2016. One thing was made extremely clear: even though a few liked the choice of Marriott, many more did not like Marriott because of Mormon politics. So it is a very clear message from you—no Marriott for 2016.

The other thing that was clear was that breakfast inclusion is very important. While we may not be able to match the quality of breakfast, we are listening to your requests to have it included in the hotel room rate.

Some of the other questions had more mixed answers. While most of you liked the downtown location and closeness to

restaurants, many wanted things that just don't exist in downtown hotels in major cities, such as free airport shuttle, free parking, large rooms, low-cost rooms, and inexpensive food in the hotel. We will try to meet your wishes, but please understand that we can't find everything we would like.

Thank you for so many compliments. Many of you were very happy for accessibility for Lesbians with disabilities. Many loved the hospitality room, though there were complaints of its being too small. I do want to tell you that the Presidential Suite was the largest suite in the hotel. Also the larger public rooms do not allow outside food to be brought in. So, we may not be able to have a larger hospitality room.

We hear you and will try very hard to keep the costs to a minimum. Thanks again for your participation in the Gathering and in the survey.



## Contact List for Current Steering Committee Members

### Co-Directors:

Jan Griesinger, 1942, Athens, OH, [jan@oloc.org](mailto:jan@oloc.org)  
740-448-6424  
Alix Dobkin, 1940, Woodstock, NY, [alix@oloc.org](mailto:alix@oloc.org)  
845-679-7586

### Steering Committee Members:

Ruth Debra, Program Director, 1944, Palm Springs, CA, [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org)  
760-318-6794  
Sally Tatnall, 1937, Cleveland Heights, OH, [sally@oloc.org](mailto:sally@oloc.org), 216-862-0598  
Bonnie Wagner, 1942, Woodstock, NY, [bonnie@oloc.org](mailto:bonnie@oloc.org)  
845-679-7710 or 845-417-1481  
Pat Cull, 1942, Oakland, CA, [pat@oloc.org](mailto:pat@oloc.org)  
415-637-5002

*OLOC's Steering Committee welcomes constructive feedback and suggestions from members by way of mail, phone, or e-mail.*

OLOC has received a generous donation of shares of stock that a member inherited from her family. If you are privileged to be able to donate stock, let us know—the system to do it is very easy.

## OLOC Vision Statement

OLOC will be a cooperative community of Old Lesbian feminist activists from many backgrounds working for justice and the well-being of all Old Lesbians.

## Mission Statement for OLOC

### We are committed to:

- ♦ addressing what it means to be Old and to be Lesbian
- ♦ finding ways to gather Old Lesbians for ongoing support
- ♦ working against all oppressions that affect Old Lesbians
- ♦ standing in solidarity with allies for racial, economic, and social justice

### OLOC works for change by supporting:

- ♦ comprehensive immigration reform
- ♦ elimination of violence against women
- ♦ enactment of universal single-payer healthcare for all
- ♦ all efforts to challenge/overturn racism, classism, sexism, ableism, and ageism
- ♦ an end to corporate "personhood"
- ♦ an end to any curtailment of voting rights

## A Place Worth Going

Arden Eversmeyer, 1931

Beverly Sills once said, "There are no shortcuts to any place worth going." For the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project, the place worth going is usually a mission we are striving to fulfill, not a physical place. The mission of the OLOHP is to gather and preserve the unique life stories of Old Lesbians, concentrating on those 70 years of age and older. But this summer, the place worth going was also a physical place, the 2014 OLOC Gathering in Oakland.



Ann Bannon/Weldy, born 1932

Striving toward our mission has led to our developing strong persistence muscles—after fifteen years of the OLOHP, the term *shortcut* is no longer even in our vocabulary! If it's worth doing, it's worth doing well, and worth working around any obstacles found in the pathway. Getting to Oakland definitely presented the Project some interesting challenges, but we made it, and it was worth it!

The Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project presented on Sunday morning, and despite being first on deck after what was a rockin' Saturday night dance that went late into the night, we had a good crowd. Best of all, those attending were a wonderful mix of women who knew almost nothing about the Project, women who were familiar with it but not yet involved, and women who are currently involved in the Herstory Project, actively conducting interviews and transcribing. The presentation must have hit the right note, because we came away with a long list of women interested in being interviewed, becoming interviewers, and asking to receive our newsletter. While there in the Oakland area, we were also able to conduct nine interviews!

The Oakland Gathering: absolutely a place worth going.





## Oakland Gathering Exciting But Expensive

By Alix Dobkin, 1940

Everyone is curious as to the financial outcome of OLOC's Oakland Gathering, and, although we may receive more information or move things around in categories, we can tell you that we lost money—a little over \$24,000. The Oakland Marriott charged us \$40,000 for two meals for two hundred Lesbians. I know, we gagged at that number, too, but we had no choice, and Ruth negotiated the best prices possible. Anyway, between hotel meals, disability services, and financial assistance, we paid out quite a bit more than we took in. The table shows the figures we have now.

We've been talking a lot about Financial Assistance and it's clear that we need to change our policy of giving every Old Lesbian what she asks for to be able to attend the Gathering. The Steering Committee has read the feedback and comments about Financial Assistance from those who attended and filled out the form. We are interested in any constructive ideas you may have. So send us your thoughts and reasoning. Of course, our budget is limited and entirely dependent on donations.

The OLOC Steering Committee appreciates your interest and contributions of any kind.



Photos by Sandy Morris

Income:	
- registration fees	\$ 68,085.90
- financial assistance	23,270.00
- program book ads	6,830.00
- dinner/dance/ speaker auction, raffle/reception	10,434.00
- <u>other</u>	<u>5,372.67</u>
Total Income	\$113,992.57
Expense:	
- financial assistance	\$ 24,986.48
- disability access	11,369.94
- speakers	3,240.00
- dance band	1,600.00
- hotel/food, AV	64,238.57
- administration	25,594.02
- <u>other</u>	<u>7,150.33</u>
Total Expense	\$138,179.34

## More on OLOC's Cost for Gathering

By Jan Griesinger, 1942

Our wonderful National Gathering provided financial assistance to many Lesbians who would not otherwise have been able to attend. We spent almost \$25,000 toward travel, hotel stays, and the two meals provided to all as part of the registration fees. We actually received a bit over \$12,000 from donors (largely you wonderful OLOC members) to support this program, and we also received \$9,700 from grants to help pay for it.

Our cost to provide disability services was over \$11,000—for scooters, closed captioning, assisted listening devices and hotel rooms as needed for access. Overall, the event cost us more than it brought in, which is not what we had hoped would happen, but we are so glad all women who wanted to attend could do so. We will survive and thrive and keep on moving forward, never turning back.



## Cleveland OLOC Goes All Out for GG9

By Judy Benson, 1946

This summer proved to be a busy one for OLOC with one of the largest National Gatherings. Women from Cleveland made Steering Committee member Sally Tatnall proud with their contributions and participation in this huge and diverse event. In addition Cleveland OLOC was a major part of the PRIDE Prime Time Senior area, and the end of the summer saw OLOC members involved in Gay Games 9, which was hosted in Cleveland.



Several OLOC members proudly marched with the OLOC banner in the Gay Games 9 Opening Ceremony.

Scholarships were provided for targeted groups, and OLOC was on hand to help with the process and make sure no senior was left behind. This opening ceremony featured many speakers, entertainers, and participants from all over the world and included for the first time ever a video welcome from President Barack Obama. It was one of the largest and finest efforts of the Cleveland LGBT community.

OLOC contributed to the discussion of ageism and Old Pride during the educational Game Change day held at the University of Akron. Sally Tatnall and Judy Benson held a workshop that helped participants define ageism and identify examples of it in everyday advertising. The workshop was primarily for those involved in social

services and included straight, gay, and transgender participants.

Sally and Judy were also interviewed by the local PBS affiliate from Kent State University. The interview was part of the feature story "Like any family, the Gay Games has its generation gaps," which was broadcast the next day on the Morning Edition segment. The interview is also on the station website at [www.wksu.org/news/story/40133](http://www.wksu.org/news/story/40133).

*(Note that the interview is on the 2014 Radio Shows CD in the Media Library, too, if you want to borrow it.)*

## St. Louis Chapter

By Charlotte Ellis, 1943

The St. Louis Chapter did not meet for several months because the LGBT center where we were meeting closed. The building that the LGBT Center was renting was sold, but the Center is looking for a new location, and, hopefully, our chapter will meet there again.

On October 5th we met at the Santa's Helpers warehouse. One of our members, Rita Swiener, founded Santa's Helpers many years ago. During the holidays, Santa's Helpers distribute gifts to more than 700 families. Rita always needs help and can rarely come to our meetings because she is always working at the warehouse on Sundays, so we decided to go there and help wrap packages and meet while we were wrapping.

I think we will try meeting at different local coffeehouses until the LGBT Center reopens.



OLOC is a Wolfe Video affiliate. Use this link to order from Wolfe, and OLOC will receive cash to support our work.

[wolfevideo.com/default.asp?R=1344](http://wolfevideo.com/default.asp?R=1344)

Wolfe Video is Lesbian-owned-and-operated.



## OLOC Marches In Burlington Pride

The theme of this year's Burlington Pride March was "Generations of Pride." That idea resonated with a group of teens that traveled from Manchester to be there, and it was also an important idea for the group Old Lesbians Organizing for Change, who marched in the parade.



Some members of Champlain OLOC (Vermont & northern New York) at the start of the Pride March in Burlington, Vermont, Sept 14, 2014. Photo by Louise Brill

## New Chapter: Radical Lesbian Crones

Dear OLOC National Steering Committee,

We, the Radical Lesbian Crones, are a new autonomous grassroots chapter of OLOC. For the moment we are a San Francisco Bay Area closed group of no more than thirteen, meaning participation is by invitation. We are a multiracial group committed to having at least one third of our sisterhood be Lesbians of color.

We have a firm commitment to the preservation of space for female-born-and-raised Lesbians due to the continued and more virulent misogynous attacks against Lesbians and women. We are committed to initiating and divesting ourselves of internalized oppressions: racism, homophobia, white privilege, ageism, classism, sexism, and misogyny.

We are committed to cultivating and maintaining sensitivity to economic inequality and disparities of power and privilege.

We are committed to communicating and treating each other with respect and dignity

at all times. We are committed to feminist praxis, doing what we know and knowing what we do—in other words, values made visible through actions.

We are committed to leaving a legacy for the Lesbian community and the world. Our Principles of Solidarity will be available soon. We will forward a copy to you as soon as possible.

In sisterhood and solidarity,  
Joan Margaret, 1942, Lenn Keller, 1951,  
and Pacifica, 1941

## Steering Committee News

At the October meeting the National Steering Committee decided that on January 1st, 2015, Jan Griesinger, after completing two five-year terms as OLOC co-director, will step down. Sally Tatnall will step up to fill that position, along with Alix Dobkin, who is serving her first term.

Jan will continue with many tasks she has taken on over the years, such as doing the books, writing financial reports, picking up mail from the OLOC PO Box and responding to much of it, sending out other OLOC mail, including the semi-annual fundraising letter and *The Reporter*, and many other crucial tasks she has performed so ably in the past. Thank you, Jan!

## Media Library

We have no budget item for the library. Our Media Library items are all donated. If you know of additional movies we should have, either they must be donated to us or we must raise money to purchase them. Right now, we would like to buy *Lesbiana* with full closed-captioning. The one we have (donated by the producer/director, Myriam Fougère) does not have closed-captioning on the English, so people with hearing loss or deafness can't follow it.

Myriam has offered us an all-rights copy for \$100.00 so we can show it anytime, anywhere. If we get enough money donated specifically for it, we will buy it. (Let Susan know if you are donating money to buy the film and how much. Use e-mail [susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org) or call 888-706-7506.)





## MEMORIALS

### Katharine "Kittu" Parker Riddle, 1919–2014

In 1990 Kittu was one of the visionaries for the creation of OLOC, and she served on the Steering Committee during the early years. Her autobiography, *A Nourishing Life* (1999), recounts her life of service helping to create spaces that nourish women, including Nourishing Space for Women, 156 acres in Arizona, which served over 1000 women between 1975 and 1978 and was the site for the first formal gathering in the U.S. of Lesbians over 50. Some of her story also appears in the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project book *Without Apology: Old Lesbian Life Stories*.

Kittu was born in the Himalayan Mountains of northern India, the oldest daughter of Presbyterian missionaries. She earned an M.Sc. in nutrition from the University of Chicago and, in 1975, completed a Ph.D. on the nourishment of living systems through Union Graduate School. During her life she created many networks for women across geographic, age, and lifestyle differences who shared common concerns of world hunger.



Kittu is held in loving memory by her daughters Dorothy and Patty, her son Bill, her brother Don, and her life partner Margot Kostenbader, as well as a multitude of family and friends.

### Beverly (Bev) Hickok 1919–2014

Bev Hickok, our oldest Bay Area OLOC member, passed away peacefully in October after participating in the Oakland Gathering, which celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

Bev was an alumna of UCLA. She returned to UC Berkeley as a librarian in 1948, built their Transportation Library from scratch, and served as its head librarian for 32 years.

During the Second World War she was a riveter in the Douglas Aircraft defense plant, where she met other women she identified as Lesbians like herself. In 1944, she joined the US Navy WAVES and served until 1946. In 2004 she published her book *Against the Current: Coming Out in the 1940s*. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her.



Photo by Sandy Morris

### Feminist Party Member Elected

The European Parliament has its first member elected from a feminist party—Sweden's Feminist Initiative Party. Soraya Post, age 57, is also the first Romani (Gypsy) in Swedish history chosen as a political candidate.

### Annual Feminist Conference Held in London

The largest feminist conference in the UK, *Feminism in London*, took place in October. Over a thousand attendees enjoyed a wide range of panels and workshops and visited stalls offering feminist merchandise, including books, t-shirts, and feminist art.

#### Ageist:

*You must be very lonely at your age.*

*Have you thought of including our group in your will?*

*I'm so glad you spoke up at the meeting. I like a feisty woman.*

*Learning new things is more difficult for us as we get older.*

*When you were in your prime, it was probably done differently.*

*Now that we are getting older, we need to be more safety minded.*



## OLOC Anti-Sexism Statement

Men run the world, and women are supposed to serve, according to the belief that men are superior to women, which is patriarchy. Patriarchy is the system by which men's universal power is maintained and enforced. OLOC works toward the end of patriarchy and the liberation of all women.

## OLOC's July 2012 Statement on Anti-Racism and Anti-Classism:

## Herstory

From its beginning, OLOC's vision included working for justice and the empowerment of Old Lesbians by confronting and eliminating the effects of sexism and ageism.

At the 2010 National Gathering, OLOC resolved to bring race and class to the forefront of our political analysis. We want to understand how these oppressions intersect, connect, and affect Old Lesbians so we can more effectively advocate for change and bring about a just society.

## Vision Statement

OLOC will be a cooperative community of Old Lesbian feminist activists from many backgrounds working for justice and the well-being of all Old Lesbians.

**Ageist:**

*Good afternoon, young lady, I'm Dr Brown. You are in pretty good health for your age. You don't still drive your car, do you? You certainly don't look like you are 68 years old.*

*There is no excuse for gray hair these days. Clairol does an excellent job.*

*Blonde is the new gray.*

*Here's an exercise that will keep you young. First, raise your arms...*

***Are you still swimming/dancing/  
climbing/cooking/gardening/writing  
poetry/politicking/giving blood/  
organizing/etc?***

### **Goals: Internal**

1. The OLOC Steering Committee will analyze the intersection of race and class as it affects Old Lesbians and incorporate the knowledge into our activities.
2. The Steering Committee will work with an organization or individual to determine the best actions for challenging racism and classism.
3. OLOC will allocate significant time at each national steering committee meeting for this work and consciously incorporate it in what we do.
4. The OLOC Steering Committee will publish position papers indicating our priorities, how we see all oppressions linked, and what work we will undertake.

### Goals: External

1. OLOC will build bridges with groups doing social justice and develop actions together to support issues of justice.
2. OLOC will collaborate with existing groups who deal with aging.

Note that the following list has been revised since the statement was first written:

OLOC works for change by supporting:

- ◆ comprehensive immigration reform
- ◆ elimination of violence against women
- ◆ enactment of universal single-payer healthcare for all
- ◆ all efforts to challenge/overturn racism, classism, sexism, ableism, and ageism
- ◆ an end to corporate “personhood”
- ◆ an end to any curtailment of voting rights

**Congratulations** to OLOC members Kathy Prezbindowski, Jean Taylor, rainbow williams, Charlotte Ellis, and Pat Hill, whose stories were included in the Nov/Dec 2014 issue of *Lesbian Connection* among the stories reflecting on 1974 (their founding year). In the same issue Christine Pattee had a letter to the editor describing the herstory of Lesbian publications.





**Ageism:** Selections from the *Older Feminists Network* newsletter, Aug/Sept 2014, London, England

“One of the obvious consequences of our current culture, namely the pressure on women to look younger, led to the huge growth of the anti-ageing industry. Eyebrow lifts are up 17%, neck lifts 14%. 2013 saw an increase of 109% in inquiries about labiaplasty. . . .”

To paraphrase Baba Copper, author of *Over the Hill: Reflections on Ageism Between Women*: “Patriarchal attitudes are shaped in childhood. Older women are seen as powerless, less important than the fathers and the children, only there to serve and, like those who serve, soon to be invisible.” Copper demands that younger women share with the old the respect and power generated among women. She says, “Ageism screens communication between young and old like a one-way mirror—the old can see the younger, aided as they are by memories of their own youth, but the young cannot or will not see their future in the old. Sensing that vital information may be hidden on the other side of the mirror, the young press their faces against it, to scan their reflection nervously for the imperfections of age; the old on the other side watch with sadness recognizing their own denial of aging in the young women’s faces.”

## Ageism in Action

We are reinstating the Ageism in Action feature Margaret Purcell and Mary Henry started and maintained for a few issues in the late 2000s. If you experience or witness ageism in your daily life or see it in action in or on the media, send it to us. Here is one for this issue: “55 year old Ellen looks 25.”



If you see examples of ageism anywhere, send them to us at [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or mail them to OLOC, POB 5853, Athens OH 45701.

OLOC T-Shirts Denim Shirts Sweatshirts  
Cloisonné Lapel Pins Buttons And More!  
e-mail, phone, write, or go to  
[www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org) and click on OLOC Market.

## Ban the Word *Feminist*?

By Malinda McCain, 1940

In November, *Time* magazine published its annual list of words they think deserve and/or need to be banned. On the list? *Feminist*. *Time* correspondent Katy Steinmetz asked, “When did it become a thing that every celebrity had to state their position on whether this word applies to them...?” And 45 percent of *TIME* readers voted for the word, according to E! Online Writer/Reporter/Editor Jenna Mullins.

Reaction was instant. Freelance journalist Susan Rohwer, for one, said in an *LA Times* opinion piece, “Considering the state of things

for women all over the world, shouldn’t we be fighting tooth and nail to spread the ideas of feminism far and wide...?”

Within a week, *Time* managing editor Nancy Gibbs added this apology to the website: “The word ‘feminist’ should not have been included in a list of words to ban....” Saying they “meant to invite debate about some ways the word was used this year,” they were sorry it had instead “become a distraction from the important debate over equality and justice.”

That’s fine, but the word was solidly in the middle of the list in Steinmetz’s original article. I don’t wonder people took it seriously.

Read the *Time* article at [time.com/3576870/worst-words-poll-2014/](http://time.com/3576870/worst-words-poll-2014/)



## One Spirit (In regard to the letter from Elana Dykewomon in the last issue)

By Alix Doblin.1940

Dear Elana.

I can understand why the Ohlone people were unable to give our Gathering their blessing. I respectfully accept their decision as consistent with Ohlone values and traditions, which I also respect.

I am glad that we had their permission to be on Ohlone land, and I feel no guilt for my and our role in not having their blessing because we didn't want a male voice in our opening. But I am curious as to better ways to meet future questions like the Ohlone response to our Opening Night invitation.

The feminist Second Wave sought to be universally female-inclusive by, among other things, expanding the definition of "woman." I honor my tradition and the sacred distinction I have learned to identify as "woman" among human beings. This, along with a belief in women-only space as truly sacred, truly unique, and life-affirming, often likens us believers to members of a species threatened with extinction.

Ever since the Gathering, I think of myself as a Single-Spirit woman increasing my capacity to understand, respect, and possibly even admire Two—and even Three—Spirit humans. The question is, can we honor our differences and work together for universal justice with no certainty as to outcome? I believe that mutually respectful discussion can only move us forward and strengthen our alliances.

Love & gold,  
XXA

## Thought on White Privilege

Pastor Jeremy Dowsett on his blog, "A Little More Sauce," Aug. 20, 2014

Nice, non-aggressive white people can move in the world without thinking about the "potholes" or the "gravel" that people of color have to navigate, or how things that they do—not intending to hurt or endanger anyone—might actually be making life more difficult or more dangerous for a person of color.

Find this on the Internet at [alittle-moresauce.com/2014/08/20/what-my-bike-has-taught-me-about-white-privilege/](http://alittle-moresauce.com/2014/08/20/what-my-bike-has-taught-me-about-white-privilege/)



Photos by Sandy Morris





## OLOC Membership/Supporter Form

We welcome everyone as either a member or a supporter, whether or not you can send money now. To be a member, you must be in your 60th year or older and be a Lesbian. To be a supporter, you may be anyone else. As either a member or a supporter, you will receive four issues of the OLOC Reporter before you have to renew. Couples may both use the form below.

**Name #1** \_\_\_\_\_

I am not sending money at this time, but I am an Old Lesbian and want to become/continue as a member for the coming year ☐

I am choosing to send (suggest between \$25.00 and \$50.00) for my membership. Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ (less if you can't, more if you can)

I am not qualified for OLOC membership but would like to be a supporter and receive 4 issues of *The Reporter*. Suggested donation for supporters is \$30-\$60 for one year. Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Prefer (circle one) print copy / electronic / both

**Name #2** \_\_\_\_\_

I am not sending money at this time, but I am an Old Lesbian and want to become/continue as a member for the coming year ☐

I am choosing to send (suggest between \$25.00 and \$50.00) for my membership. Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ (less if you can't, more if you can)

I am not qualified for OLOC membership but would like to be a supporter and receive 4 issues of *The Reporter*. Suggested donation for supporters is \$30-\$60 for one year. Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Prefer (circle one) print copy / electronic / both

Please include demographics (date of birth, ethnicity, disability status) below to help us in achieving grants and diversity. No names will be associated with any of the information.

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_

Disability status \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State or province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip or postal \_\_\_\_\_

Out of United States? Country \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

New to OLOC? Yes ☐ No ☐

Okay to send occasional E-News by e-mail?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_

Disability status \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State or province \_\_\_\_\_

Zip or postal \_\_\_\_\_

Out of United States? Country \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred telephone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

New to OLOC? Yes ☐ No ☐

Okay to send occasional E-News by e-mail?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

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Skills I can offer OLOC: \_\_\_\_\_

I already belong to the following OLOC group: \_\_\_\_\_

I would love to have an OLOC group near me and could help work toward establishing one. Yes ☐ No ☐

I found out about OLOC from \_\_\_\_\_

Skills I can offer OLOC: \_\_\_\_\_

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I would love to have an OLOC group near me and could help work toward establishing one. Yes ☐ No ☐

I found out about OLOC from \_\_\_\_\_

If you have a different address during different seasons of the year, please give us details as the post office will not forward your newsletter and OLOC will have to pay for it to be returned to us. \_\_\_\_\_



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(meaning 2014 December) or  
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supportership has ended  
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***Ageist:***

*To feel young again try these products/  
exercises/ recipes/meditation/whatever.  
To stay young, keep thinking young and  
associate with young people.  
You're only as old as you feel.  
You shouldn't call yourself old; it's so  
depressing.*

**2016 National Gathering, Atlanta, Georgia**  
**Exact date and place set soon.**