

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



Founded
in 1989

www.oloc.org

The Reporter

A quarterly publication
of OLOC

December 2020

Vol 30 #4



OLOC in the Time of COVID-19

By Alix Dobkin, 1940

My work for OLOC is now conducted via Zoom. It's also how I connect with local comrades. Because OLOC focuses on practicing anti-racism and doing our part to end white dominance, the white Steering Committee (SC) members have been Zooming to consider actions that will move OLOC closer to a more perfectly diverse organization.

We are going to work on strategic planning and are investigating an OLOC Zoom group—especially for white Lesbians—to raise consciousness to develop actions that promote equality and equity for People of Color, and we will be conducting SC evaluations of ourselves and each other. We will also collect resources and make them available for white women to participate in Black Lives Matter, Say Her Name, and other justice movements.

During this COVID-19 era, Zoom is proving to be a handy tool for OLOC. We use it for our monthly SC meetings and for specialized confabs, such as those organized by our new Tech Team. The first in this groundbreaking series was a meet-and-greet, and the second focused on women's bookstores. A third program, on women's music, drew over 300 Lesbians, and the feedback spoke to a great success. I am always happy to hear personal stories, and there were plenty of them from performers as we shared snippets of our adventures. It was so well received that all of us look forward to the next one.

Finally, our next Gathering is on our minds, however it might look. It seems clear that an organization of The Most Vulnerable won't be jetting around the country for a while, and in our unpredictable world, planning at this point is fruitless. But we haven't given up and are brainstorming ideas (**including yours, so send them in, please!**). We will decide the fate of our next Gathering after the first of the year.

Have You Donated Materials to Archives?

OLOC wants you to be aware of the value of archiving and the necessity of documenting our Lesbian lives. Our website has some archives listed at oloc.org/more-resources-for-old-lesbians/#archives. All of the archives on that list have the materials of at least one current or past member of OLOC. If you have placed, pledged, or planned to leave your papers to an archive not on the list, please let us know so we can add it to our website. Your name will not appear there. Please support these groups by donating your papers and other Lesbian materials, and in whatever additional ways you can. It is critical that our lives and our stories be preserved so no one can ever again say, "There were no Lesbians there."

OLOC is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization



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

- oloc.org; email: info@oloc.org
- PO Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498
- 888-706-7506 (toll-free)

This newsletter is brought to you by:

Editor: Sheryl, 1954.

Guest Proofreader and Copy-editor:

Eleanor Batchelder, 1940.

Content Review: Alix Dobkin, 1940, Sally Tatnall, 1937, Jan Griesinger, 1942, and Susan Wiseheart, 1941.

Design/Layout: Malinda McCain, 1940.

All of the writers and photographers.

Deadline for the next issue is February 1, 2021. Limit contributions to 300 words. The opinions expressed in OLOC's newsletters do not necessarily reflect the views held by all members. We may edit articles for clarity and/or length. Send articles to OLOC at reporter@oloc.org or PO Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498.

Memorial announcements only: Send in birth and death years, city, and state of the Lesbian who died. See E-News for life stories.

The mission of OLOC is to eliminate the oppression of ageism and to stand in solidarity against all oppressions.

Who We Are: 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 and threatens to erase it.

OLOC's Steering Committee welcomes feedback and suggestions from members by way of mail, phone, or email.

Steering Committee Meetings

The National Steering Committee is meeting regularly by Zoom (online video conferencing) at this time. If there are topics you want the Steering Committee to address, contact the Committee by email at info@oloc.org, a note to PO Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498, or a phone call to 888-706-7506 (toll-free). Be sure to say if you want a response.

The Reporter is available both electronically (PDF) and in print. To switch or add formats, please email susan@oloc.org; write to OLOC at PO Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498; or phone 888-706-7506 (toll-free).

Check Out OLOC's Great Website!

Have you been to our website lately? We have been hard at work updating the home page to reflect our recent programs and other current goings on in Old Lesbian Land. Our webweaver, Barbara Gottlieb, 1950, does a super job of making our site look beautiful. We hope you like it, too!

We have loads of information there, such as statements about what we stand for, the [long](#) and [short](#) versions of our herstory (and a photo of the [founders](#)), a list of feminist [bookstores](#), our t-shirt [shop](#), photos of beautiful Old Lesbians, past copies of the *Reporter* newsletter, the [videos](#) from the bookstore and musicians' Zoom panels, a complete list of all the movies in our [Media Library](#) for you to borrow for just a donation for postage, a directory of our [Chapters](#), the [memorial slide show](#), all the Martin-Lyon Old Lesbian Pride Award [winners](#), and so much more! If there are other resources you would like to see on our site, please write or call us and we will consider them!



SAVE the DATE A Winter Holidays Zoom Chat

Dec. 20, 4:00–5:30 PM ET 3:00 CT/2:00 MT/1:00 PT
It will be 90 minutes long.

Gather with us as winter closes in! After a brief communal opening, we will break out into small Zoom groups of Old Lesbians to share memories of past winter holidays and plans for this year.

During advance registration, we will ask each Old Lesbian to select from a list of discussion topics, and on the event day, we'll place you in a group with others who have the same interest.

This event is open to all Old Lesbians regardless of their affiliation with OLOC. It's a good opportunity to informally meet other Old Lesbians!

Registration details coming soon. Watch for the special Zoom email.

By Mev, 1955, for the The Zoom Crew



Attention! Did You Order the Romance Novels?

Martha E. Bellinger, 1950, very generously sent members and supporters two Old Lesbian romance novels that she wrote, for free, with a donation to OLOC suggested. For those of you who requested and received the books about Ruth and Ruthie, it is not too late to send in your donation if



you have not done so yet. Donations are not required but greatly appreciated, especially if you had agreed to make one. They help support OLOC's work, including the new Zoom programs.

If you contribute, please identify your donation as being for the books. When giving through PayPal, where it is not possible to indicate the purpose of the money, please write to info@oloc.org and tell us that your funds are for the books.

The fundraiser was very successful, raising over \$2,000 for OLOC and bringing in new members and donors. **Thank you to everyone who donated and ordered books for yourselves and your friends!** Your support has been a boost for OLOC.

And most especially, thank you and deep appreciation to Martha for her creativity in coming up with this fundraiser, her work in mailing the books out, and her generosity in giving all these books away and paying for shipping. (You are awesome!)

Martha is currently writing the third and final book on Ruth and Ruthie! *Sappho in Shining Armor* is getting close to completion. We will let you know when it is out.

If you have a great idea for a fundraiser you would like to implement to benefit OLOC, please contact us to discuss it. We would be delighted to work with you to make it happen. Thank you!

PASSINGS

Mary Rosetta Sassatelli, 1946–2020, Lakewood, Colorado

Joan Drury, 1944-2020, Grand Marais, Minnesota

See the E-News for more about these Lesbians.

Jean Ventures Out (with a Mask On, Of Course)

By Jean Taylor, 1944

With the infection and death rate from COVID-19 in Melbourne [Australia] down to almost zero, it still took a couple of days after the easing of Stage 4 restrictions before I ventured out. I went to shop for light globes [bulbs], with my mask firmly in place, on my way to visit the grandchildren, who were all now back at school after home-schooling for weeks. I settled on their front veranda and greeted all three of them, as they separately arrived home, with elbow bumps, and enjoyed the cup of coffee my granddaughter made as we all chatted and caught up in a way we hadn't been able to do for far too long.

The following day, I caught the tram to the next suburb and went first to Readings Bookshop, sanitised my hands at the door, and noted that three of my books, *Brazen Hussies*, *Lesbians Ignite!*, and *What Are Dykes Doing?*, were still on the shelf. Then I went to the jeweller to get a battery for my watch which stopped a couple of weeks ago, to a stationary shop to buy a spiral-bound 2021 diary, and then negotiated the complicated system at a restaurant to register my name for contact tracing before I could order a flat white coffee and a round chocolate cake of gooey goodness to enjoy, revelling in the whole experience of being there.

Ardy [Tibby, 1941] booked us a sit-down meal at the local Indian restaurant and it felt safe sitting at one of the two tables for two set up far enough apart inside and we only took our masks off when we started eating. I felt we had achieved a great deal these past few days and look forward to more of the same when the opportunity arises and we feel it's safe enough.



Some Thoughts on Our New 6-3 Supreme Court

By Martha Bellinger, 1950

I am new to OLOC this year and the author of *The Two Ruths* and *She Who Is Without Sin*, which some of you purchased in exchange for a donation to OLOC. Before I retired from the bench, I spent 35 years as an attorney and was privileged to serve on the Los Angeles Superior Court for 20 years. My footnote in history is being the first “out” Lesbian in California to be appointed to the Superior Court by a Republican governor. I also spent 30 years as an adjunct professor of law, teaching various aspects of Constitutional law.

So I am very much aware of the well-founded dread and worry Lesbian feminists have about our High Court’s new justice, Amy Coney Barrett, a woman mired in the patriarchal views of the religious right. Along with ending abortion, she is sure to join forces with Justices Thomas and Alito in beginning a war to eradicate LGBTQ rights. We despair at the deceit and hypocrisy utilized in lifting a 48-year-old ideologue from obscurity to a seat on the Supreme Court.

What can we do? Since Biden won, we must press him to expand the High Court quickly. We cannot wait for some commission, as candidate Biden was proposing, to decide what to do about the lack of fairness in High Court appointments. A President has the power to add four additional justices to the court. FDR threatened to do just that in 1935 when he inherited a Court which kept striking down his New Deal programs as unconstitutional. When Social Security and the National Labor Relations Board came before the High Court, three of the conservative judges saw the wisdom of approving these programs, and FDR had no more problems with the Court!

Members: Are you in National OLOC’s online group? It is a great place to have discussions with other members. To subscribe, go to groups.io/g/nationalOLOC. If you have any problems, contact susan@oloc.org.

[The following article continues a thread in our email discussion forum at groups.io/g/nationalOLOC.]

My Work History

By Jenny Wrenn, 1949

I can only say that my career path or job history was a jumble of trades. I started off as a motel maid in San Diego, 1969, perhaps. I thought being a maid was a good job because I could always get a job at that later in life. Jobs that followed included Camera girl in San Francisco’s Mark Hopkins Hotel, which I did as I got my BA in Philosophy. Through my father (a well-known news photographer), I took a job as a photographer for *La Jolla Light and Journal*.

While I worked on an MA in Art, I worked as a technical writer for Naval Ocean Systems Center in Point Loma, then as a production artist for San Diego Silkscreen. I moved to LA and through a friend got a short-term job as a graphic camera operator for Midocean Motion Pictures (Hollywood). Finding myself unemployed, I went out on temp typing jobs through an agency. That agency landed my next six-year job as a secretary for *TV Guide* magazine (Los Angeles bureau). When I left the typing job, I thought I would always be able to get a job typing later.

But I found myself in the direction of Library Science—Savage Information Services (Palos Verdes, California), public librarian at various locations for the next 20 years with a few jobs in between—Camera girl in Chinatown (Los Angeles), Co-owner of Clothespin Fever Press (Lesbian publishing company in Los Angeles and San Diego), and driver for Diamond Taxi Cab in San Diego.

In 2010, I took a volunteer English teaching job with United Planet in Kathmandu, Nepal, for a week. After I retired from librarianship, I moved to China for four years to travel, soak up the culture, and teach Art to Chinese elementary students and English to college students.



To find OLOC on Facebook, go to www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC.



Chapter News

Pioneer Valley Chapter

By Emily Greene, 1946

Fall has arrived, with all its splendid colors of red, orange, and yellow. As I hike in Greenfield, Massachusetts, it lifts my spirits in the midst of one of the most trying times for our country in my 74 years. Our OLOC Chapter has been a great support for members, with monthly Zoom programs, Zoom check-in, and our wonderful Roberta Pato, 1946, who brings us a Lesbian movie weekly on Zoom, so that every week we have a “gathering” for those who want it. We did have a picnic in August, and all tried to honor wearing masks and social distancing. It was agreed that it was wonderful to just be in each others’ presence.

In Greenfield and other towns in the Pioneer Valley, we continue to gather every Saturday at 10:00 A.M. for a Black Lives Matter (BLM) vigil. It is organized by my local Racial Justice Rising (RJR) group, and our picture for this month shows Laura Kaye, 1945, with her homemade sign at the vigil. Our local BLM group has moved to work with the School Committee on the changes that will bring racial and social justice to Students of Color. Several Pioneer Valley OLOC members are working with these groups.



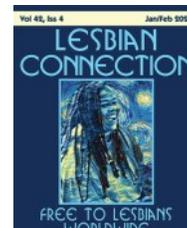
For the September meeting, we were able to show the film *Harvest* (which my RJR group brought to the wider community) on “Who brings the food to your table.” We had the migrant farmworkers’ lawyer for Massachusetts join us for a discussion and Q & A. For October, we had Rebekah Shardy, 1956, from New Mexico OLOC, present “Wild and Soulful Aging,” about the real benefits and epiphanies available within the challenges of growing older. She is a retired geriatric social worker with experience in hospice and care of the disabled. She brought poetry, laughter, and some surprising insights.

OLOCatHOME Chapter

By Amie Bluestone (aka Rankin), 1955

Four of 28 members of our OLOCatHOME (Facebook Private Group) were available on Tuesday, October 27, at 2:00 PM Central Time for our online gathering. We focused on getting to know one another: sharing individually why we joined OLOC and how we came to join OLOC, and, of course, how we are coping with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ellen shared that she is taking this time to clean out and re-home her collection of LCs (*Lesbian Connection* newsletter) dating back to the late 1970s (staple holes included) until the present. Please contact Ellen at ehfjeze@gmail.com if you’d like to become the new caretaker of this collection.



I’m looking forward to more gatherings and meeting the other 24 members. If you’d like to join our chapter, you must have a Facebook account. Search for OLOCatHOME in groups.

OLOC Chapters

OLOC Chapters and groups as of December 1, 2020, are Arizona (meeting in greater Phoenix); Coachella Valley/Palm Springs, California; San Francisco Bay Area, California; Radical Lesbian Crones (also Bay Area), California; Long Beach, California; Colorado; Washington, DC, Area; Boston Area, Massachusetts; Northampton/Pioneer Valley, Massachusetts; St. Louis, Missouri; New Mexico; Hudson Valley, New York; Cleveland, Ohio; Central Ohio; Rhode Island; Vermont; Puget Sound Area, Washington; and OLOCatHOME (internet only). Others are forming.

Want to start an OLOC Chapter or group in your area? Contact bonnie@oloc.org if you are east of the Mississippi and ruth@oloc.org if you are west of the Mississippi.

Donate



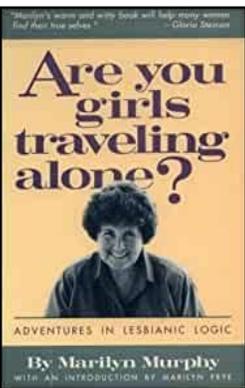
More Chapter News

New Mexico Chapter

By Susan Buchler, 1946

August 15—Lesbian Women Writers, presented by **Carole Eagleheart, 1944**. Writers shared how they started writing, subjects of interest, and the importance of writing. **Margaret Randall's** newest published book is *I Never Left Home*, and she read one of her poems reflecting on Albuquerque. **Kayt Peck's** new book is *Broken*, and she read an excerpt. **Dodici Azpadu** described herself as a "Sicilian-Arab queer" and she is currently working on poetry and read three poems. She also writes fiction. **Susan Turner, 1946**, told us she has published in her professional field but not yet in her personal life field. She read from her memoir. **Nat Burns, 1958**, has 15 novels out now. She read an excerpt from *Nether Regions*.

September 19—"Female Fury: We Have



Our Reasons," Elizabeth Berrey, 1945. We read and discussed this excerpt from 1989 from the book of columns, *Are You Girls Traveling Alone?* by Marilyn Murphy. The fury is how men can walk around without their shirts on and we have to cover up so we don't sexually entice the men!!!

October 17—Social Activism, presented by **Hari Sheppard, 1950**. Our guest was Ilse Biel, program manager for the new Tiny House Village in Albuquerque. Ilse has been active in dealing with the needs and issues of unhoused persons around Albuquerque and difficulties posed by COVID-19. The Tiny Villages will get a certificate of occupancy on December 9 and will have 30 living units with occupancy of up to 40 people, homeless and doing better who need a small amount of help. They will then train to be peer leaders for other residents. There will be a need for trained persons to deal with behavioral issues and de-escalating violent behaviors onsite.

Vermont Chapter

By Stevie Spaulding, 1944

On June 15, Vermont OLOC gave an online Zoom presentation: "Are Pandemics an Environmental Correction?" The discussion offered an alternative to the narrowly defined perspective of COVID-19, with connections to the 14th century plague. It illustrated implications for modern pandemics, our relationship to the earth, and the trade-offs we are making with a globalized planet. Naomi Winterfalcon, 1955, a teacher at the college level in the humanities, presented. The primary text for the discussion was *The Great Mortality: An Intimate History of the Black Death, the Most Devastating Plague of All Time*, by John Kelly. Here is a link to our presentation: youtu.be/sfEzeDRExUI.

Colorado Chapter

By Katherine Wood, 1954

Colorado OLOC has been busy on Zoom, where we've been meeting since March. In September, we discussed what we've been doing, learning, reading, watching, and hearing around the issue of racism. In the September E-News, our combined reading list was posted.

In October, we went over all of the Colorado ballot amendments and discussed what we knew about them, focusing on the pros and cons of each. In Colorado, there was an amendment to prohibit abortions after 22 weeks and one to adopt agreement to elect the US President by National Popular Vote, so we watched both with interest. The lawyers in our group shared what they knew about working with the judges on the ballot. We also had a memorial service for member Mary Sassatelli, 1946–2020.

In November, we hoped to celebrate election results. I also showed Mev's photography project, "At Home with Old Lesbians in Rhode Island," and Cindy Bear, 1947, talked about Martha Bellinger's novels on Ruth and Ruthie, which she has read and corresponded with the author about.

In December, we will share in our annual holiday luncheon on Zoom.



Thank You, Malinda

Malinda McCain, 1940, OLOC's Layout Lesbian, who designed the *Reporter* for more than eight years, has announced her retirement from the position, effective immediately. After 35 issues, she decided to move on to greener pastures. This is her last issue. In addition to the newsletter, Malinda designed the membership form, the OLOC brochure, and other documents, and maintained our style guide, based on her Grammar Guru status from her copy-editor day job.



She told Susan and Sheryl: "I'm glad I've had this experience and the opportunity to contribute to OLOC. Working with the two of you (as well as Jennice [former editor]) has been a pleasure. I appreciate the support you both have given me through this time. This is one of the most fun jobs I've ever done, with each issue like working a new puzzle to fit all of the pieces in as attractive and interesting an arrangement as possible."

Susan said: "It has been a joy to work with Malinda on the *Reporter*. She made constant improvement over the years, was always open to suggestions, and tried new things that enhanced its look. We will miss her steady presence." [To Malinda: "It has been wonderful to work with you."]

Ruth (from the Steering Committee) said: "I would like to personally thank you for doing such a splendid job for so long. I deeply appreciate all that you have done to make the *Reporter* as good as it is. Thank you so much."

Happy Trails to You, Malinda! Thank you for all your time, effort, and energy (aka blood, sweat, and tears) on our behalf over all these years. We hope you won't be going too far away! We wish you the best in whatever you do and know we will still be hearing your cat stories around OLOC.



The Reporter Needs a New Layout Designer—Is That You?

As mentioned in the previous article, the *Reporter's* beloved layout designer is retiring. Therefore, OLOC is now looking for another Old Lesbian to take on this important job. The primary role of the position is designing the newsletter; secondarily, some forms and other documents will need to be created and/or updated from time to time, such as the membership form. You need to have and know how to use Word and Publisher (ideal so you can use the existing templates) or other publishing software; be able to create PDFs and to crop, resize, and otherwise edit photos; and to check email regularly during production.

The design basically consists of ten pages. You can see samples of past issues at oloc.org/the-reporter/. We can also email a PDF version to you upon request.

The *Reporter* is published the first week of March, June, September, and December, with layout taking place in February, May, August, and November. You would have ten days or so after receiving the copy to get a PDF ready to send to the printer. That time also includes collaborating with others who review and do the final proofreading of the file, incorporating their requested revisions. Multiple drafts of the laid-out version are usually involved.

This is an independent contractor position with no benefits. Work is on your own equipment at your own location. OLOC pays an hourly rate, which will be negotiated. The job will begin with the March 2021 issue, and we hope to have someone in place by February 1.

If you have any questions or would like to apply, please contact info@OLOC.org by December 20.

Old Lesbians of Color
are especially
encouraged to apply.



Me and White Supremacy: How to Recognise our Privilege, Combat Racism and Change the World, by Layla F. Saad

By Jean Taylor, 1944

The recent Black Lives Matter protests have sparked a resurgence of interest in anti-racism work, and several books to facilitate awareness and action have been published recently. The Moreland Reconciliation Network here in Melbourne, Australia, chose this book as an anti-racism workbook.

The book covers the topics of White Privilege, White Fragility, and Tone Policing; Anti-Blackness, Racial Stereotypes, and Cultural Appropriation; and White Apathy, White Centering, and Optical Allyship. The Circle Way guidelines, as recommended by Layla (pictured), meant there was a different Host, Guardian, and Harvester in the Book Circle each week and a set of agreements we were willing to adhere to, with everyone taking responsibility for being committed to the process.



However, as the book is more about racism towards Black people and People of Colour and doesn't really address the quite different and specific racism towards Indigenous people—although there was obviously some overlap—I found the book not all that useful in terms of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander situation here in Australia.

Even so, ten of us met via Zoom every second Saturday morning for six two-hour sessions. This enabled us to have an introductory session, followed by four weeks of reading and practical journal-writing work, amounting to 28 days' worth of reflection on our own white supremacy, how that manifests itself in various situations, and what we need to do to make the necessary changes in ourselves. In the final, sixth session, we talked about what we'd learned and made some firm commitments to truly support Indigenous and Black people and other People of Colour.

While I had reservations, the exchange of views every fortnight did give me a renewed commitment to challenging racism in myself and our racist society.

Did You Know Phyllis Lyon?

If you did, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Deborah Svoboda, 1971, a friend of Phyllis, 1924–2020, and one of her caregivers the last couple of years, is looking for you! She is working on a heart project, telling the story of Phyllis's very unique caregiving team and her final years. She will dip into Phyllis's herstory as well.



Phyllis and her partner, Del Martin, 1921–2008, were long-time OLOC members. Deb shared with us: "I stayed at least one 24-hour shift a week with Phyllis. Her memory faded; she had Alzheimer's; but she always remembered OLOC and still got the newsletter every month and would read and re-read it. She also wore shirts with OLOC on them. :)"

Deb would love to include a couple of people who knew Phyllis back in the day, particularly anyone who was a part of the Daughters of Bilitis. If you fit that criteria or know someone who does, she wants to talk with you! Call 510-529-9411 or send email to outoftheshadowsmedia@gmail.com.

OLOC Is Having Our First-Ever Sale! Don't Miss This One!

OLOC is having a BIG sale! Buy one OLOC t-shirt of any style and get the second one at 50% off PLUS a free OLOC button. Buy two shirts at full price and get two at half price. Get three at the regular price and three for half off. And so on.



Go to oloc.org/shop/, where you can get shirts in women's style and unisex, crew neck and V-neck, sleeveless and tank tops. We have three different designs of shirts, loads of colors, and sizes from S to 4XL. You don't want to be the only one around without our most popular shirt (worn by lovely models Jacqui and Bernie). You can order directly online! Jump on over to oloc.org/shop/ to support your favorite Old Lesbian organization and be a cool fashionista!

Shop to your heart's content, but before ordering, call Ruth at 760-318-6794 or email her at ruth@oloc.org to find out what colors, styles, and sizes we have now, and how to get your discount. This is the ideal time to stock up on your wardrobe for your stay-at-home pandemic holiday and to send as gifts to other proud Old Lesbians!



Home Movies for the Holidays

By Sharon Thompson, 1942

A little over a decade ago, 8mm and 16mm evidence surfaced that Lesbians might have made a lot more home and amateur movies and tapes than anyone realized. Intrigued, three old Lesbian friends—Kate Horsfield, B. Ruby Rich, and I—combined skills and friendship networks to seek, salvage, digitize, and document as many Lesbian home movies and amateur films and tapes as we could. Within a year, we had located enough footage secreted on Lesbian media shelves, closets, and barns (not to mention a few Lesbian beds) to merit founding a nonprofit project to find and preserve these moving image treasures. That's Lesbian Home Movie Project (LHMP).

To date, we've found, preserved, digitized, and documented well over 400 Lesbian home movies and tapes, a good many shot by OLOC members. We don't think there are millions more out there, but we do think there are enough to keep us looking. If you made some films or tapes yourself, inherited some, or know someone who knows of some, we'd love to be in touch. And if you come across a title on our website that we aren't streaming or think we might just have something that isn't on the website that you'd really like to view, just send a request. We'll get in touch with you and then ask the maker if it's ok to stream it just for you. It's best to use my personal email address, sharonthompson12@gmail.com.

Although many LHMP moving images are held under lock and key, you can get a sense of our collections at www.lesbianhomemovieproject.org. We also sometimes share clips on our FB page, [Lesbian Home Movie Project \(LHMP\)](#). They're both great ways to spend this pandemic holiday season in company that seems—and may actually be—family. And that's what home movies are for.

Media Library

To borrow films (documentaries, drama, activism, and comedy), music, audio, National Gathering presentations, and other herstorical videos of interest to Old Lesbians, contact susan@oloc.org, phone 888-706-7506 (toll-free), or look at our website under OLOC PROJECTS: Media Library (oloc.org/media-library/).

Book Review: So You Want to Talk about Race, by Ijeoma Oluo

By Linda Jupiter, 1944

I have always wanted to talk about race but did not know how. Although I have had People of Color (POC) in my life, race was never something we discussed. We might mention a racist incident that happened and agree it was awful, but that usually ended the conversation. We were familiar with systemic institutionalized racism, but what could be done? From the very beginning of this country, our forefathers (no foremothers allowed) set up this country's institutions to further the enslavement of African heritage and indigenous people. And racist policies have continued to work very well to line the pockets of the wealthy for hundreds of years.

And then the tipping point materialized: 1. The COVID-19 pandemic began and many of us were staying at home; 2. George Floyd was murdered before our very eyes. For the first time in my lifetime, white people came together en masse with our Black sisters and brothers to fight for equal rights and justice, and to dismantle the system that has hurt us all, especially POC.

The author is a thoughtful writer who shares how racism affects her. The book addresses questions such as: *Is what just happened racist? What is racism? What is intersectionality? Is police brutality really about race? What is cultural appropriation? Why can't I touch your hair? What if I hate Al Sharpton? What are microaggressions? And, most importantly, what can white folks do to stop racism?* A discussion guide is included.

This is an excellent book that helped me understand how deep and institutionalized my own racism is. We have to remember: if we challenge ourselves to do this work, we will make mistakes, but it doesn't mean that we are mistakes. It means we're working to eliminate racism and make the world a better place for us all.

Donate



Study on Cancer and Cancer Care – Reminder

The Out with Cancer study would like to hear about your experiences of cancer and cancer care. This international study—the world’s largest—is being run by Western Sydney University (Australia) with six partner organizations.

If you are an Old Lesbian and have ever had cancer, or medical intervention to reduce cancer risk, they would like to hear from you. They would also like to hear from your partner(s), family members, and friends who supported you during cancer, as well as from Old Lesbians and other LGBTQI+ people who have ever cared for someone with cancer.

Our communities are described as an *invisible diversity* in cancer care and often have unique needs during and after cancer. The researchers would like to hear how this was for you, including about your wellbeing, social support, relationships, and experiences with the healthcare system. They will use this information to develop better information and support for LGBTQI+ people with cancer and their carers [caregivers].

To take part, go to www.westernsydney.edu.au/outwithcancer. You can either complete the confidential online survey, sign up to be interviewed, or both. If you take part in an interview, you also have the option of a further photo-interview, using photos taken by you to guide the discussion.

Participation is open through December 2020. If you would like to speak to one of the researchers, please email outwithcancer@westernsydney.edu.au. Social media information is at www.facebook.com/OutwithCancer1/posts/911332325979188 and twitter.com/OutWithCancer1/status/1268437331523989505?s=20.



OLOC's participation in this study has been approved by Sharon Raphael, 1941,

Aging with Pride: IDEA

IDEA = Innovations in Dementia Empowerment and Action

Free Memory Loss Study (Compensation Involved)

Aging with Pride: IDEA (Innovations in Dementia Empowerment and Action) is a free University of Washington School of Social Work program for LGB people with memory loss and their caregivers.

The LGB community has been underserved when addressing caregiving and dementia. This study seeks to determine if a program developed by leading experts in Alzheimer's disease is effective in helping people in the community who are either experiencing memory loss or caregiving for someone with memory loss.

The program includes nine sessions with a trained coach, and focuses on problem solving, skill building, and low-impact exercise. If you are interested in participating, call 1-888-655-6646, email ageIDEA@uw.edu, or visit age-pride.org/ to complete the initial screening. (If you do it on the website, the staff will contact you after it is completed to provide more information about the study.) Either the person with memory loss or the care partner must be LGB.

The program is completely online using the easy, confidential video chatting platform [Doxy.me](https://doxy.me) (similar to Zoom). You will follow a link that you receive via email. You do not have to download or purchase any software. Participants are paid \$125 for completing five phone interviews. Past participants have praised and recommended Aging with Pride: IDEA. It is currently available throughout the US.

Follow the link to support OLOC as you shop.





Old Lesbians Organizing for Change

To join us in promoting the well-being of all Old Lesbians, send us this form. If you are an Old Lesbian, let us know and you will be considered a member as well as a supporter. This form makes you active for one year. Each form is valid for one person. For couples, send a form for each, but you can join together as a unit and therefore pay as if for one person, not two. If you need a second copy, write to info@oloc.org, call 888-706-7506, or download one from the page at oloc.org/join-support/. Although we rely on your financial support, if you can't send money now, you can still be a supporter and, if eligible, a member.

Name _____ Date _____

Street/PO Box _____

City _____ State or province _____ Zip or postal _____

Out of United States? Country _____

Telephone _____ Email _____

New to OLOC? Yes No

If you have a different address during different seasons of the year, please give us details as the post office will not forward your newsletters and OLOC will have to pay to have them returned to us.

- I am a supporter. I am a supporter and member.
- I am not sending money at this time.
- I am sending _____ for support (suggested donation is \$35 to \$100 per year).

Your demographic information (not ever used with names attached) will help us with grant eligibility and maintaining our diversity. We never give out names of supporters to anyone outside OLOC.

Birthdate Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

Race and Ethnicity _____

Any disability? If so, describe. Grantmakers sometimes request this information. _____

I would like to receive the quarterly Reporter as print copy electronic both neither.

I would like to receive the monthly E-News by email (see my email address above). Yes No

Skills I could donate to OLOC _____

I already belong to the following OLOC chapter or group _____

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

I found out about OLOC from _____

To make a payment

By check Make check out to OLOC. Send to POB 834, Woodstock, NY 12498.

By PayPal Use the Donate button at oloc.org on right side near top of the page.

By credit card through PayPal Use the Donate button at oloc.org on right near top of the page.

If you want to pay with a credit card but not go through PayPal Send a message to Ruth Debra at ruth@oloc.org or phone her at 760-318-6794. If you get a recording, give her a way to contact you.

OLOC, INC. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation may be tax deductible.

OLOC • PO Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498
www.oloc.org • email info@oloc.org • toll free 888-706-7506

OLOC

PO Box 834

Woodstock, NY 12498

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OLOC stands with #BlackLivesMatter, #SayHerName, and all involved in the work for racial, economic, and social justice, including protesters all over the world calling for accountability in every country.

**OLOC is having a
BIG sale! See page 8.**