

# Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



Founded  
in 1989

# The Reporter

A quarterly  
publication of OLOC

June 2017

Vol 28 #2

## Lesbians of Color Intensive Wednesday, August 2, 2017

OLOC will host a Lesbians of Color daytime Intensive on Wednesday, August 2, before the OLOC National Gathering in Tampa, Florida. With facilitator Olga Orraca-Paredes, Old Lesbians of Color will talk about their needs, politics, and activism. Olga is a champion of LGBT rights in Puerto Rico and South and Central America. We warmly invite Old Lesbians of Color, both current OLOC members and those not yet familiar with OLOC, to attend this special day.



Olga Orraca-Paredes

Steering Committee member Ali Marrero is producing the Intensive. The whole SC supports Ali's intention to form an OLOC chapter for Lesbians of Color. There is no registration fee for the one-day event. Tuesday night's hotel room (for out-of-towners) and Wednesday lunch (for all attendees) will be provided. The full Gathering begins that evening with the Opening Reception.



Ali Marrero

See registration information for the Gathering and the Intensive on pages 8 and 9. Questions? Contact Ali at 510-365-6745 or [ali@oloc.org](mailto:ali@oloc.org).

And please spread the word!

## Notes from the OLOC Steering Committee Meeting, April 20–23, 2017

By *Alix Dobkin, 1940*

The OLOC Steering Committee held our semiannual meeting, this time at the Tampa, Florida, Holiday Inn Westshore Hotel, site of our upcoming August National Gathering.

Besides regular topics such as chapter development, financial reports, outreach, the website, *The Reporter* and E-News, our fundraising letter, and conferences, we reviewed plans for the Gathering program, the workshops, and the program book. We looked at soliciting ads and sponsors, financial and disability aid, and access services. We want the Gathering to be as accessible as possible.

Again we reviewed the age limit, perennially under question but remaining at 60. Several of us toured the hotel to check out the spaces we will be using in August. Some of us attended (and loved!) the Black Women Rise conference in March, and we decided to financially support it because we want to see it continue.

The entire SC attended my sold-out Saturday night concert in Gulfport, home to many Old Lesbians who populate the town and are visible wherever your glance may fall.

On Sunday, at a wonderful potluck, we talked about our plans for August, answered questions, and solicited volunteers from the dozens of Lesbians who joined us there.

## Great Banner

By *Jan Griesinger, 1942*

OLOC thanks Donna Voelkel from Rockbridge, Ohio, for creating a wonderful large purple banner that says (of course) "Old Lesbians Organizing for Change." The Central Ohio chapter has used it in pride marches for years. The National OLOC Steering Committee used it in Tampa, Florida, in April, when we sponsored Alix Dobkin's concert there: Yes, it says who we are—loud and proud!



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

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

[www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org); e-mail: [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org)  
PO Box 5853, Athens, OH 45701;  
888-706-7506

This Newsletter Brought to You By:  
Co-Editors: Jennice Thomas, 1940, and Susan Wiseheart, 1941.

Proofreader and Copy-editor: Nancy Krody, 1939. Content Review: Alix Dobkin, 1940, Sally Tatnall, 1937, and Jan Griesinger, 1942. Design/Layout: Malinda McCain, 1940.

The mailing crew and all of the writers and photographers.

Deadline for the next issue is August 1, 2017. Limit general submissions to 300 words, memorials to 200 words. Contact us for a style guide. We may edit articles for clarity and/or length. Send articles to OLOC: [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or PO Box 5853, Athens, OH 45701.

#### Current Steering Committee Members Contact List

Co-Directors:

Alix Dobkin, 1940, Woodstock, NY,  
[alix@oloc.org](mailto:alix@oloc.org), 845-679-7586  
Sally Tatnall, 1937, Lyndhurst, OH,  
[sally@oloc.org](mailto:sally@oloc.org), 216-862-0598

Steering Committee Members:

Jan Griesinger, 1942, Athens, OH,  
[jan@oloc.org](mailto:jan@oloc.org), 740-448-6424  
Ruth Debra, Operations Coordinator,  
1944, Palm Springs, CA,  
[ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org), 760-318-6794  
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  
Ali Marrero-Calderon, 1948, Oakland, CA,  
and Bayamon, Puerto Rico, [ali@oloc.org](mailto:ali@oloc.org),  
510-365-6745

**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 Membership** (as of 10-23-2015): National OLOC welcomes as members Old Lesbians who have reached their 60<sup>th</sup> year.

OLOC's Steering Committee welcomes constructive feedback and suggestions from members by way of mail, phone, or e-mail. Please let us know if you would like a response.

## The 2017 Del Martin Award

The 2017 Del Martin Old Lesbian Pride Award goes to Carol Anne Douglas, 1946, who received more nominations than anyone else since we established the Award in 2008. It will be presented on Wednesday, August 2, the opening night of the National Gathering. Here are some excerpts from the nominations:

*I can't think of a Lesbian more deserving of this award than Carol Anne . . . [off our backs was] a testament to Carol Anne. . . yes, I know it was a collective, but Lesbian collectives with a political bent that last that long usually have one member who provides stability and continuity, dedication, and inspiration . . . and Carol Anne was that for off our backs [oob was a feminist newspaper published in Washington, DC, from 1973 to 2008]. —Carolyn Gage, 1952*

*As a member of DC Area OLOC, I join wholeheartedly in supporting the nomination of Carol Anne for the Del Martin Award. Carol Anne truly deserves the Award because of the nonstop efforts supporting writers in the Lesbian feminist movement while sustaining the amazing writing of her own books. In addition, Carol Anne organizes in the DC community and teaches others at every opportunity. —Judith K. Witherow, 1944*

*Carol Anne is a gifted writer, editor, political analyst, teacher, Lesbian feminist activist, and friend. She is deeply committed to exposing and correcting injustice while politicizing other Lesbians and potential feminists. Her influence through oob was felt locally, nationally, and internationally, especially through the women whose lives and consciousnesses she helped transform. —Sue Lenaerts, 1950*

## Next SC meeting

The date of the next National OLOC Steering Committee in-person meeting is October 20–22, 2017, in St. Louis, Missouri. The Committee also meets regularly by conference call between the semiannual in-person meetings. If there are topics you want the Committee to address, contact the Steering Committee by e-mail to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org), a note to the PO Box in Ohio, or a phone call to 888-706-7506. Be sure to say if you want a response.

**Thanks to Retts Scauzillo, 1953, for creating a Facebook event page for the Gathering; check it out:**  
[www.facebook.com/pg/NationalOLOC/events/](http://www.facebook.com/pg/NationalOLOC/events/)



# Chapter News

## Pioneer Valley OLOC

By Emily Greene, 1946

Our OLOC group has carried on with strength and courage these beginning months of 2017. We started the year by going to Women's Marches in Washington, DC; New York City; and Boston and Greenfield, Massachusetts. Greenfield is a town of only 18,000, and 2,500 demonstrators gathered on the Greenfield Common, including several of our Pioneer Valley OLOC members with our sign.

Six of us joined the Massachusetts Senior Action Council for Senior Lobby Day in Boston. We divided into pairs and visited our reps and senators to lobby for a single-payer health care bill, for spouses being paid to be home health care providers, for cuing (guiding) to be covered under home health care for memory disorders, and for a living wage for home health care workers.

In addition, we established a new committee, Lesbian Sister Support, to help us meet the needs of each other as we age, and we elected our new Co-coordinator, Lynne Lennon, who will serve a two-year term with JR. We also made plans for the big Northampton Pride Parade in May. Roberta continues to show Lesbian movies every month.



Pioneer Valley OLOC at Senior Lobby Day in Boston

OLOC is supported in part by grants from the Carpenter Foundation and the Horizons Foundation.

## New Mexico Chapter

By Rosemary Busterna, 1949

This quarter, we witnessed our numbers grow and set agendas for the year with programs that meet our need for community and getting to know each other better.

The featured highlight of our potluck in March was poet Mary Oishi, who shared her journey of coming out and speaking her truth as a Lesbian of Color. Mary came out 35 years ago in rural Pennsylvania, surrounded by extreme right-wing fundamentalists and white supremacists. She tells her stories through poetry and provided a template for us to tell our own stories, which many of us shared that day. I felt transformed in the process by remembering what I had forgotten and by declaring my own truth on paper.

Our Lesbian Book Group read and discussed books of prominent women and Lesbians, such as *The Disappearing L: Erasure of Lesbian Spaces and Culture* by Bonnie Morris, *Outlaw Marriages and the Hidden Histories of Fifteen Extraordinary Same-Sex Couples* by Rodger Streitmatter, and *My Life on the Road* by Gloria Steinem.

We formed a monthly OLOC dinner group to join our breakfast and lunch groups, and we also started a hiking group.

We participated in a number of activities to express our resistance. Some of us attended a Women's History Month Celebration at the New Mexico State Capital in Santa Fe, where speakers highlighted the ongoing work to protect women's rights and honored several feminists for their role in developing our democracy and building our state. On March 15, we mailed "Ides of Trump Day" postcards to the White House to express our numerous concerns. At our April gathering, we were provided a Political Directory and maps so we could find our representatives and focus our resistance where it counts. Resistance is not futile!



## Northern Colorado Chapter

By Katherine Wood, 1954

Our intention for 2017 is to find intersections by listening to what other women are really saying about who they are and understanding where we are all coming from so we can move forward together on our common goal of working against oppressions that affect Old Lesbians. To that end, in February, one of our transgender Lesbian members gave a program sharing her life path with us. Everyone felt like our mission to understand and find intersections was greatly furthered by this program.

In March, we met with the GLBTQIA youth for lunch and a lengthy discussion. OLOC members shared their individual histories (past and present) in the feminist, anti-war, civil rights, environmental, and GLBT movements, and our involvement in the AIDS epidemic. The youth had many questions for us, including what advice we could give them for ways they can be more involved in what is happening now. Also in March, we had a phone conference with the office of one of our senators to express our views on issues impacting our group.

The International Lesbian Community of Japan was the April program presented by three of our members who were involved in it for over 20 years. This inspired us to begin plans for a retreat weekend.

Since the previous issue of *The Reporter*, we have lost two of our members, Angela Scala (see obituary) and Evelyn Knudson. In May, an LGBT attorney talked to us about making final preparations, especially the importance of leaving a will. We also began an individual photo file of all members and plans for leaving instructions for next of kin to contact our OLOC chapter.

We are still working as an Indivisible group, rallying, marching, contacting our representatives, and getting involved in upcoming elections.

*OLOC would love to have more chapters/groups. Please contact [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org) if you are west of the Mississippi and [bonnie@oloc.org](mailto:bonnie@oloc.org) if you are east of the Mississippi.*

## Ruth Ellis Film Available

By Jan Griesinger, 1942

*Living with Pride: Ruth Ellis at 100* is an excellent film about Ruth's life as a Lesbian in Springfield, Illinois, and Detroit, Michigan. Born in 1899, Ruth was at one time the oldest "out" African American Lesbian. Her life spanned three centuries. You can borrow the film for home use from the OLOC Media Library.

## A Book Not To Be Missed

By Jan Griesinger, 1942

*The Disappearing L: Erasure of Lesbian Spaces and Culture*, published in 2016, is a very wonderful book by Bonnie J. Morris. Of course, you'll find many references to OLOC women—Alix Dobkin, Cherrie Moraga, Carol Seajay, and probably other OLOC members I may not know.

Here is a good quote by Del Martin at the very beginning: "We came up in the 1950s at zero. And look what we have now: the freedom to be in your face! Just keep hope. Just keep going; don't let it get to you. When we first wrote *Lesbian/Woman*, an editor rejected it by telling us, 'You act as though your lifestyle is good, and that's impossible.'"

OLOC maintains a Media Library and will lend items to members. For a complete list of items available, contact [susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org), write the PO Box in Ohio, or look under OLOC PROJECTS at [oloc.org](http://oloc.org).

## OLOC Chapters

OLOC chapters and groups as of June 1, 2017, are Arizona (meeting in Central Arizona); Coachella Valley/Palm Springs, California; San Francisco Bay Area, California; Radical Lesbian Crones (also Bay Area), California; Long Beach, California; Northern Colorado; Washington, DC Area; Boston Area, Massachusetts; Northampton/Pioneer Valley, Massachusetts; St. Louis, Missouri; Albuquerque, New Mexico; Hudson Valley, New York; Cleveland, Ohio; Central Ohio; Champlain Region of Vermont and New York; and Puget Sound Area, Washington. Others are forming.



## Black Women Rise Conference

By *Alix Dobkin, 1940*

Good humor and inspired energy permeated the Embassy Suites Hotel in West Palm Beach, Florida, on March 17 and 18, as hundreds of happy women of all races, ages, classes, and cultures convened to celebrate the first annual Black Women Rise Conference, and I was happy to be there with them. This unique convention offered workshops, panels, breakout sessions, brilliant entertainment, and a rare opportunity to strengthen our determination to resist injustice.

Workshop topics ranged from podcasting to drumming to Black women in mainstream politics. Dr. Delores Walters, 1944, demonstrated tracing genealogy and encouraged us to track our own ancestry. Judge Helen Whitener shared her experience and observations of law and justice systems, and Karen Williams used humor as a basis to explain the importance of self-care.

A rare sense of intimacy and commonality when women of color are central provided a particularly appreciative audience for Dr. Yvonne Welbon, whose “Sisters in Cinema” proved a great hit. Angela Davis departed from her usual format and highlighted personal stories and insights. Ubaka Hill showcased her “Drumsong Orchestra,” made up of enthusiastic workshop participants.

Universal recognition of the intersections of oppression and injustice is now a given among progressive activists. Women have unearthed new determination to unite for our rights. Black Lives Matter, Pink Hat demonstrations, and a new phase of activism such as Indivisible have solidified connections among people of all colors and creeds, old and young, newcomers and veterans alike. At Black Women Rise, a deep solidarity among Women of Color was evident and infectious. We look forward to strengthening and deepening our relationships with progressive movements and especially with Lesbians of Color.

Hats off to conveners Danielle Allen, Denise Walker, Paulette Armstead, Toni Armstrong Jr., and all the awesome women who volunteered to make this such a magnificent event!

## OLOC Represented at Facing Race

Facing Race, a national conference, happens every two years. Organized by Race Forward (Colorlines), it is “the largest multiracial, intergenerational gathering for organizers, educators, creators, and other leaders.” National OLOC Steering Committee members Ruth Debra, 1944, and Ali Marrero-Calderon, 1948, attended the November 2016 Facing Race in Atlanta. Since it was immediately after the election, everyone was reeling, and they were very glad they went. Here are a couple of their thoughts: Ali said, “My experience at this conference was so amazing!” and Ruth said, “The message we heard there is that we are all in this together.”

For a more complete report, see the January 2017 OLOC E-News or contact Susan by phone or e-mail.

## Workshop at Ohio Lesbian Festival

By *Deborah Ratliff, 1949*

In September 2016, Betty Howard, 1946, and I held a workshop regarding overcoming “isms” at the Ohio Lesbian Festival. Our group was very special in that the women were more than willing to share their own experiences and interact with each other. Betty, a Woman of Color and an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, shared her experiences with coming out to her church. She fights many battles, using her spirituality to confront these issues. While Betty confronts her “isms” with spirituality, I confront “isms” through personal—which is also political—action. These actions include everything from displaying bumper stickers, having one-on-one conversations, ushering at our city’s LGBTQ wedding officiated by our mayor, and participating in rallies and protests. We got good feedback from participants, who expressed interest in the topic as well as in OLOC.

### OLOC works for change by supporting:

- comprehensive immigration reform
- elimination of violence against women
- enactment of universal single-payer healthcare for all
- an end to corporate “personhood”
- an end to any curtailment of voting rights
- the Black Lives Matter and Black Women’s Lives Matter movements



## MEMORIALS

### Angela Scala, 1941–2017

Angela, with her wife, Cindy Bear, was Co-coordinator of the Northern Colorado OLOC Chapter from April 2006 to April 2016.



Angela was an elementary teacher on Long Island for more than 30 years before retiring and moving to Colorado in 1997. She was an avid bird-watcher and was active in her church and in OLOC.

Memorial services were held on March 16, 2017, at her church and on April 8, 2017, at her OLOC chapter. OLOC members talked about Angela's ability to really listen to others and to make them feel heard. She is remembered for her friendliness, her positive attitude, her courage in facing her illness with dignity and grace, her sense of humor and her smile, her honesty, her activism, and her amazing skills in coordinating chapter activities. Many shared that Angela was the one who either brought her to OLOC or made her feel very welcome in the group. All agreed her presence will be greatly missed.

She leaves behind her wife Cindy, her sister Sarah Kuyper, her brother Anthony, and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

### OLOC Receives Major Bequest

OLOC is proud and grateful to announce a generous bequest of \$9,144.67 from the estate of former member Sally Taft Duplaix, who died in Chatham, Massachusetts, on July 19, 2012.

Born in 1936 in New Jersey, Sally attended Smith College. While she was there, according to Lillian Faderman in *The Gay Revolution: The Story of the Struggle*, Sally was one of numerous people throughout the 1900s who were incarcerated or committed to state hospitals for the supposed affliction of being Lesbian or gay. The book states that Sally was sent to the Elmcrest Psychiatric Institute in Portland, Connecticut, where she was "heavily medicated and received insulin-shock and electroshock treatments."



She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Massachusetts at Boston and her master's degree in Library Science from Simmons College. She was a great lover of books and read voraciously throughout her life. She started a collection of Lesbian pulp fiction in the 1950s.

Sally also enjoyed the arts: music, theater, visual arts, and crafts; and she loved to travel, as evidenced by her early stint as a stewardess for PanAm flights into South America.

With her then partner Deedy Breed, Sally was active in OLOC starting from her 60th birthday in 1996, when she was excited to discover a community of her peers and joined the Steering Committee. She and Deedy were also active in many other Lesbian projects, such as organizing the New England Women's Musical Retreat (NEWMR). Sally was interviewed by OLOHP in 2001 and 2008, and her story is included in *A Gift of Age: Old Lesbian Life Stories*.

If you would like to know more about making a bequest or other planned gift to OLOC, please contact us at 888-706-7506, [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org), or the PO Box in Ohio. We deeply appreciate your support!

### Life Lessons Learned

*By Jackie Grover, 1943*

Having spent much of my life trying to hide who I really was as a Lesbian, in my 14 years since retirement I have learned what keeps me going at my age/ability level now:

Bend over every chance you get! If you drop something, pick it up, but NOT with a "reacher." Move every muscle in your body every day. Find out what movement your body enjoys—Zumba, Samba, Salsa, or whatever—and do it daily.

Set your own time based on your internal clock. I've been known all my life as a morning person. When I retired, I thought I'd sleep in as I didn't "have to be" up early. Turns out I LIKE being up early!

Avoid "woulda, coulda, shoulda" thought traps. Nothing wrong with looking back over the choices you made, but leave the past there. Grieve your losses, refocus your mental energy, and move on!

Watch how you spend your time, energy, and money. Figure out what still gets you up in the morning and pursue that. Your body, mind, and spirit will thank you. For me it's OLOC, First Church, my local Gray Panthers group, and my home community.

Develop a working relationship with your doctor(s). This can be online, by telephone, or in person. S/he can help you learn your best food/fluid ratios as you age. I track my progress on a chart I created and tweak it as necessary.

Find something/someone outside yourself to care about. While attending the UN Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, in 1985, I heard Betty Freidan speak on this very point. Her research had found that people who nurtured interests outside of themselves lived longer and happier lives than those who didn't. Works for me!



## Notes from England

By Jan Griesinger, 1942

These items are from the Older Feminist Network newsletter (February/March 2017). This wonderful newsletter comes from London, England.

1) In London, there is now an “Older Women’s Cohousing Project,” which is a self-managing co-operative community, based partly on similar projects in Denmark and the Netherlands.

2) Also in England, there is a Women’s Equality Party (WE). Their work includes efforts toward equal representation in politics, equal pay and opportunity, equal education, equal media treatment, and an end to violence against women. Details are available at [www.womensequality.org.uk/objectives](http://www.womensequality.org.uk/objectives).

Maybe it’s time for such projects to exist in America?

## From Detour-Spotting for White Anti-racists

By jona olsson, 1947

*Detour: The white knight or white missionary:*

“We (white people) know just where to build your new community center” or “Your young people (read “youth of color”) would be better served by traveling to our suburban training center.”

*Reality Check and Consequence:*

It is a racist, paternalistic assumption that well-meaning white people know what’s best for People of Color. Decisions by white people are made on behalf of People of Color, as though they are incapable of making their own. This is another version of “blame the victim” and “white is right.” It places the problems at the feet of People of Color, and the only “appropriate” solutions with white people. Once more, the power of self-determination is taken from People of Color. Regardless of motive, it is still about white control.

### 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.

## Overcoming Barriers: Examining Our Internalized Sexism and Misogyny

By Chloe Karl, 1945, and Pnina Tobin, 1942

This all-day workshop, held in San Francisco in November 2016, was attended by about 40 Lesbians and organized by Bay Area OLOC’s Vision Committee.

National OLOC Steering Committee member Ruth Debra, 1944, addressed internalized misogyny. Facilitated discussion in small groups from the perspectives of a child in school, a working adult, and an old person addressed: “Do you doubt your own competence? Your worth? Do you doubt other women’s competence? Their motives?” The small-group focus gave us a chance to look at our self-images. We were able to see how sexism and misogyny had an influence on our self-worth, especially when we weren’t accepted for our Lesbianism by family and the outside community while growing up in the 1940s and 1950s.

The afternoon featured a fishbowl group answering the questions: “How can we as Old Lesbians improve our self-worth as we age? Given our experience confronting sexism and patriarchy, how can we treat others with respect, affection, and dignity when we have so many reasons to be angry and grumpy?” We talked about the need for community where members could share resources and, more importantly, support each other as we age and face dying.

(For a copy of jona olsson’s checklist on internalized sexism, recently revised, contact [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or phone 888-706-7506.)

**Lesbian Authors:** During the National Gathering in Tampa, Florida, the living area of an executive suite in the hotel will be provided free of charge to OLOC-member authors registered for the Gathering. It will be a perfect space for selling books, signing books, doing readings, and discussing your work. Notify [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org) if you want to participate in this opportunity.

### OLOC Mission Statement

To eliminate the oppression of ageism and to stand in solidarity against all oppressions.



## What Old Tradeswomen Talk About

By Molly Martin, 1949

My friend Marg decided to build a coffin for her friend Bob. Because she is a carpenter, Marg was happy and excited that she could give back in this way. But her project plans had to take into account her disability, a persistent back pain that had put an end to her career as a building inspector.

At lunch with our retired carpenter friend Pat, Marg described her plan—a rectangular box rather than the typical hexagonal coffin shape. She used one four-by-eight sheet of plywood ripped lengthwise for the sides and ends. Another ripped sheet made the bottom and top. She made the handles with rope. She explained, “To save my back I had the lumberyard rip the plywood for me.”

Marg says there have been great strides made lately in screw technology. Construction is easier with hex head screws that go in easily and don't need to be pre-drilled.



“Oh My Goddess!” I said. “Remember when we didn't have battery-operated drills? And you had to reach into your tool belt for a hammer and awl to start the hole, and then drive in the screw with an old-fashioned slotted-head screwdriver. I had awesome forearms. People noticed my forearms.”



“Yeah,” Marg said, “I had an awesome back till I fell off that ladder.”

“And my knees were once awesome,” said Pat, who was recovering slowly from a recent knee replacement.

Yes, we were just generally awesome.

---

Jessie Gallan's 109th birthday was January 2, 2016. The Scotland resident left home at 13 to become a milkmaid and never married. On her birthday, she said: “My secret to a long life has been staying away from men. They're just more trouble than they're worth. . . I also made sure that I got plenty of exercise, ate a nice warm bowl of porridge every morning, and have never gotten married.” [Ed: She died in March 2016.] DailyMail.com, online from United Kingdom.

If you now receive *The Reporter* in one format and want to switch to or add the other (print and electronic), please e-mail [susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org), write the Ohio office, or phone 888-706-7506.

**OLOC T-Shirts Denim Shirts  
Sweatshirts Cloisonné Lapel Pins  
Buttons And More!**

Not online right now. Soon to be better than ever!

Keep checking [www.oloc.org/market/market.html](http://www.oloc.org/market/market.html).

Don't want to wait? To order or for questions: [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org) or 760-318-6794

If you are a member of National OLOC who wants to be on OLOC's National Yahoo e-mail discussion list, you can 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)





**OLD LESBIANS ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE  
2017 NATIONAL GATHERING  
August 2–6, 2017**



**OLD LESBIANS MOBILIZE FOR THE FUTURE**

Keynote Speakers, Panels, Workshops, Entertainment, Food, Dancing, and Live Auction.  
Lesbians 60 and older (and female partners/female caregivers of any age) are invited.

**August 2, 10 a.m.–4 p.m., programming will be specifically for Lesbians of Color, 60 and older.  
The full Gathering will officially begin at the Welcoming on the evening of August 2.**

**THE HOTEL**

Holiday Inn Tampa Westshore – Airport Area  
700 N. Westshore Blvd., Tampa, FL 33609, (813) 289-8200  
Per night room rate is approx. \$130 (\$115 + 12% tax)  
Suites available for approx. \$152 (\$135 + 12% tax)  
Fees include breakfast for two people and wi-fi.

The hotel recommends calling them directly to be sure to get the discounted rate: (813) 289-8200

Be sure to tell them you are coming to OLOC.

To book your hotel reservations online, use this link [tinyurl.com/zyxwacz](http://tinyurl.com/zyxwacz) and click on More Options in the middle of the page.

Our code is already there for you: OLD

To register online: [www.eventbrite.com/e/oloc-2017-national-gathering-tickets-28344116014](http://www.eventbrite.com/e/oloc-2017-national-gathering-tickets-28344116014)

**Be Kind to Yourself and Your Sisters**

In addition to sensitivity and awareness of all disabilities, we request that you make every effort to help us create a space that is free of the chemicals used to make scented products. They affect the health of all of us, some more severely than others. Please come with fragrance-free body care products and clothing.



Photos by Sandy Morris  
Gathering 2014



**REGISTRATION FORM**  
**OLOC 2017 National Gathering**  
**August 2–6, 2017, Tampa, Florida**



**STEP 1:** Tell us about you. Please *print* exactly as you want to be listed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Age as of 8/2/17: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State or Province: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP or postal: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Primary phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this event? \_\_\_\_\_

Do you need any specific services to assist with disabilities? If yes, please describe what you would like: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you plan to attend the session *Lesbians of Color 60 and Older*, on August 2? \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact (in case you become ill or need assistance):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Food preferences:

Meals with meat \_\_\_ fish \_\_\_ vegetarian \_\_\_ vegan \_\_\_

other (describe) \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like to volunteer to assist during the Gathering? \_\_\_\_\_

**STEP 2:** Registration fee covers programs, entertainment, and three lunches. It does not cover housing, transportation, or meals other than Thursday, Friday, and Saturday lunches.

REGISTRATION FEE POSTMARKED AFTER JUNE 1	\$300.00
REGISTRATION FEE POSTMARKED AFTER JULY 15	\$325.00

**STEP 3: PAYMENT**

Registration fee (see schedule above)	\$ _____
OLOC Membership \$25–50 (optional, includes newsletters)	\$ _____
Contribution for financial assistance (optional)	\$ _____
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Mail a check and this form to OLOC, PO Box 5853, Athens, OH 45701 or use PayPal at [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org).

## 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. Anyone who is not an Old Lesbian is welcome as a supporter. Membership or support is for one year. We need to hear from you each year to keep you active. Both members of a couple may use this form.

**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 sending this amount \_\_\_\_\_ (suggest between \$25 and \$50) for my membership (more if you can, less if you can't).

I am not qualified for OLOC membership but would like to be a supporter. Suggested donation for supporters is \$30-\$60 for one year (more if you can, less if you can't). 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 sending this amount \_\_\_\_\_ (suggest between \$25 and \$50) for my membership (more if you can, less if you can't).

I am not qualified for OLOC membership but would like to be a supporter. Suggested donation for supporters is \$30-\$60 for one year (more if you can, less if you can't). Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Prefer (circle one) print copy / electronic / both

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

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ethnicity \_\_\_\_\_  
 Disability status \_\_\_\_\_

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 monthly E-News by e-mail?  
 Yes  No

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 monthly E-News by e-mail?  
 Yes  No

To pay with a credit card or a PayPal account, go to [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org) and click Donate. You do not need a PayPal account to use a credit card there. If a couple is paying, please include both names in the purpose/comments section. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO OLOC. All money sent is considered a donation, which is tax deductible for those who itemize.

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

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

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

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

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

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. \_\_\_\_\_*

OLOC  
PO Box 5853  
Athens, OH 45701

NONPROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
ATHENS, OH  
PERMIT NO. 82

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Time to Renew?*  
If your label says 2017.06  
(meaning 2017 June) or  
earlier, your membership  
or support has ended and  
it is time to renew.

