

December, 2021



**Dear Bay Area OLOC Sister,**

**HAPPY SOLSTICE AND GOOD WISHES FOR 2022!**

As 2021 draws to a close, the Old Lesbians who are keeping Bay Area OLOC active send you our warmest wishes. We want to bring you up to date on what we have been able to do and ask for your suggestions about future activities.

Due to pandemic restrictions, the only activities we have held in person this year were picnics in July and September. The women who came –some 50 in July and 30 in September- were very glad to see each other and some were even willing to hug!

Since the beginning of the pandemic, Bay Area OLOC has done our best to keep women in touch and give each other support:

- **Tuesday drop-in support group** – Pat Cull keeps a list of women who get together on Zoom Tuesday mornings from 11:00 to 12:30. She sends out a link each week, and 15 or more log in. Women in the group check in and sometimes chat about a topic. A silver lining is seeing each other–virtually– and getting to know each other better than we would have without the pandemic. Participants say it gives them access to valuable community. If you would like to be added to the email list, contact Pat at [patcull70@gmail.com](mailto:patcull70@gmail.com). You can join without computer access by telephone, call 415 637-5002 and Pat will tell you how.
- **Day of the Dead Observance** – On November 1<sup>st</sup>, Bay Area OLOC sponsored a Zoom meeting to remember local OLOC members who have died. We started with women who passed away during the pandemic whom we were not able to mourn in person. Following that, pictures and dates of members who had died longer ago were shown, and those attending shared memories. A compilation of these and other pictures and reminiscences is planned but the Zoom call was not recorded. We would appreciate anyone sending us information on women you remember and who were active in Bay Area OLOC to Eve Goldberg, our new archivist at\_\_\_\_\_.

- **Racial justice awareness** – Following up on work we did in 2020, this year Bay Area OLOC has continued to sponsor activities to deepen awareness and commitment to racial justice. A number of members organized book groups on these topics and one is planning to continue in the new year after a break. Bay Area OLOC participated in the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project film festival again this year as a community partner. We publicized the free movies that were available online and the Saturday night showing included a short introduction to OLOC.
- **The Bay Area OLOC list-serve is still available to organize safe activities** – Would other women be interested in discussing a book you are reading or show that is streaming? You can reach out to Bay Area OLOC members to communicate online, plan socially distanced walks, or share resources. Subscribe to the list-serve called BA-OLOC. It is separate from the “regular” correspondence you receive (and will continue to receive), such as this letter. You can sign up at:  
<http://groups.queernet.org/index.fcgi/subscribe/ba-oloc>.
- **OLOC members have been supporting each other in a decluttering group for almost three years!** During the pandemic, many of us are finding stuff we can let go of. Occasionally there is an opening in the group of OLOC women who have been giving mutual support and making progress on the goal of reducing clutter in their lives. Contact Sharon at [laborforart@gmail.com](mailto:laborforart@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining on Zoom.

We are not soliciting donations this year, our expenses have been minimal. To report on finances, we have spent money on: postage for women who prefer getting “hard copies” of our letters by mail; buying books for members who wanted to participate in the book groups and appreciated help getting the reading material; Zoom fees; and chapter dues to national OLOC. **If you would LIKE to donate to Bay Area OLOC, send a check to Pat Cull at 70 Yosemite, Apt 105, Oakland CA 94611.** We appreciate past support from grants and legacies.

**You most likely received a letter recently, encouraging you to join national OLOC.** Membership in our national umbrella organization is available on an ability to pay basis at [www.OLOC.org](http://www.OLOC.org) . Lesbians 60 and up who join get electronic and snail mail newsletters and notices of on-line events. On the national website you can stream panels and discussions that are held frequently on topics such as women’s bookstores and the women’s music movement.

As we live through this challenging time, the Bay Area OLOC organizing team wants to stay in touch with you. We are planning in-person activities as soon as possible, hopefully in early 2022. We send you our very best wishes for a safe and healthy holiday season, and a peaceful new year!

**Bay Area OLOC Organizing Committee\***

Andre Rivers, Barbara Cleveland, Eve Goldberg, Ginny Garrett, Laura Tow, Michiko Thorne, Pat Cull, Patty Schamus, Susan Chacin, Tara Sterling and Windsor Young

\*The "Organizing Committee" formed from the old Coordinating Council (CoCo) and Social/Program Committee. Let Pat Cull know if you would like to participate.