

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



Founded
in 1989

The Reporter

A quarterly
publication of OLOC

December 2017

Vol 28 #4

On Classism

By Susan Wiseheart, 1941, and Sally Tatnall, 1937

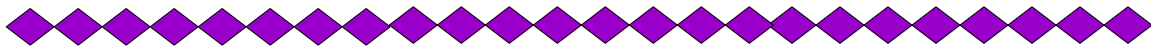
Class—it is such a huge underlying subject in this community: our class backgrounds, where we are coming from, how we relate, and what access we have to resources. Because of the denial of class in our country, most women do not realize what class we are in. An important first step is to figure it out. It is important to recognize that whether we remain in the class into which we were born or not, we retain some of the values and behaviors of our childhood class. It affects how we are in the world and what we do to alleviate classism.

For example, the middle-class concept of sliding fee as an answer to poverty puts the women who cannot afford the standard fee in an “other” category.

Class attitudes are reflected in how we treat each other. College-educated women feel they know more than women who are educated differently. As such, they try to “help” differently educated women fit into their standard of understanding. This is done in the concept of sisterhood because those in the so-called upper classes really do not know they are promoting their own status quo.

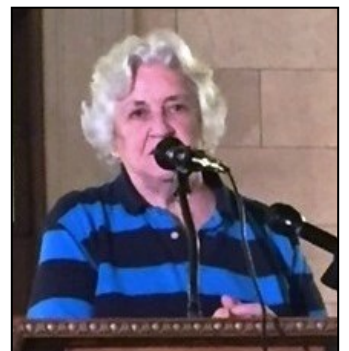
Huge class challenges arise from ideas of what is good and acceptable. “It is good to be quiet.” “It is good to be nice.” “It is good to save money.” “It is good to trust.” “It is good to believe what you are taught.” All of this strengthens the class division. And while Lesbians have challenged this in the patriarchy, they have yet to challenge this internally with other Lesbians.

The most important thing is acknowledging that class privilege is not something you earned on your own. Many structures were/are in place to make sure you keep the class privilege into which you were born. Both good and bad, both up and down, are in place.



Sally Tatnall Receives Award

Sally Tatnall, 1937, Co-Director of the OLOC Steering Committee, was honored for her work in health and wellness by the City of Cleveland (Ohio) at its annual LGBT Heritage Day. The Honorable Representative Nickie J. Antonio nominated her for one of five awards presented at City Hall. In the 1980s, Sally worked to make sure the Community Health Center she directed had providers who were knowledgeable and friendly about LGBT issues, as well as aware of the obstacles of poor and homeless people. Her Community Health Center was also one of the first such centers to be truly bilingual and bicultural for the many Spanish-speaking people in the area.



LGBT Heritage Day is held annually to celebrate NCOD (National Coming Out Day, October 11) and the strength of Cleveland's LGBT community.

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

- www.oloc.org; email: info@oloc.org
- P.O. Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498
- 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 February 1, 2018. 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 or P.O. Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498.

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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 60th year.

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



OLOC Has a New Address

OLOC has a new mailing address. Please use the New York address—POB 834, Woodstock NY 12498—for everything you send to OLOC from now on. Jan Griesinger is no longer in charge of OLOC's mail; Alix Dobkin is now doing that. Jan remains on the Steering Committee and has many things she continues to do; you can still write to her care of the New York address or by using her email.

Save These Dates

OLOC has some exciting events in store for you. Lots of details will follow soon.

April 21, 2018: OLOC Fundraising Event in Athens, Ohio—time available soon! At this very special event, OLOC will be presenting Jan Griesinger (long-time National Steering Committee member and Co-Director for 10 years) with a Lifetime Achievement award. Jan has spent many years not only working with OLOC but also working for peace and justice and social change. Ohio members won't want to miss this event!

August 14–18, 2019: National Gathering at the Embassy Suites in Columbus, Ohio. Wednesday will be a day for Lesbians of Color, following the very successful day in Tampa, Florida. We love this hotel and the rate is \$124/night, which includes a large breakfast buffet and an evening manager's reception with snacks and beverages. Rooms are very spacious and can easily fit 2–4 Lesbians. You'll love this one. Planning is in the early stages, so if you have suggestions, they will be welcomed if you send them to info@oloc.org. Start thinking about workshop proposals.

Next SC meeting

The dates of the next National OLOC Steering Committee in-person meeting are April 19–22, 2018, in Columbus, Ohio. 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 email to info@oloc.org, a note to the PO Box in New York, or a phone call to 888-706-7506. Be sure to say if you want a response.



Chapter News

CROSSING GENERATIONS

Pioneer Valley OLOC

By Emily Greene, 1946

Pioneer Valley OLOC had an interesting and busy summer. In August, 20 of our members went camping on Lake Prospect in Western Massachusetts for our annual Mini-Michfest. We gathered for a week of kayaking, hiking, potlucks, and campfires with lots of great conversations. Mary Ellen led us in a circle as the sun set over the lake.

During our September meeting, we planned our fall activities. JR reported on the OLOC Gathering she attended in Tampa. She enjoyed the festivities, the workshops, and meeting new women. At our September movie day, we signed and sent out post cards asking for Single Payer Health Care in Massachusetts.

In October, we gathered for our second Cross-Gen Conversations, organized by Edie Daly. This was a fascinating exchange with three Smith College students; some Lesbians in their 30s, 40s, and 50s; and, of course, a good number from our OLOC chapter. Using the "fish bowl" process, Edie asked six OLOCers to gather in the center to discuss what the word *Lesbian* means to them. Answers included: "it feels like a box I fit myself into;" "I was born a Lesbian;" and "I love and desire women." Next, she asked six of those under 60 to get in the circle. They identified themselves as "bi," "queer," and "definitely a Lesbian." The younger group felt that *Lesbian* is a loaded word and that *Gay* is easier to commit to.

November offered Improv workshops, and in December there will be a Solstice party potluck. Many members expressed how important OLOC is to us and how much we appreciate the hard work National does to guide us.



Pioneer Valley OLOC

MUSICAL EVENINGS

Hudson Valley (Upstate New York) OLOC

By Retts Scauzillo, 1953

We kicked off the season in September with a sold-out concert by Alix Dobkin. We are so lucky to have Alix as a member of our community. Emerging Artist winners at the National Women's Music Festival, Nia and Ness, opened the show. Again, we are lucky that these two talented Lesbians live in Brooklyn, just a bus ride away from Kingston. Sixty women and some young men joined us and it was a wonderful night of music. Or, as Nedra Johnson would say, "That's women's music, baby!"

In October, we planned a pop-up women's social at a local bar in Woodstock. Twenty women came, as this was the first of the season. This pop-up social has been so successful that we do it once a month and as many as 35 Lesbians have joined us. The atmosphere is electric, and food and drinks all local. It's a fun night for all.

Also in October, we sponsored a Women's Salon at the home of Bonnie and Retts. Four women from our community performed a variety of music. Their instruments were viola, cello, and clarinet. The salon was free, and, of course, refreshments were provided. Thirty women came, and it was a huge success. More salons are in the works for the coming year.

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: OLOC maintains a Media Library and will lend items to :
: members. For a complete list of items available, :
: contact susan@oloc.org, write the PO Box in New :
: York, or look under OLOC PROJECTS at oloc.org. :
:.....



More Chapter News

POLITICAL ACTIVISM

New Mexico OLOC

By Rosemary Busterna, 1949, and Rae Lee Siporin, 1940

Our August meeting featured five female candidates running for political office. Deb Haaland is running for 1st Congressional District (if elected, she will be the first Native American in Congress); Cynthia Borrego and Diane Gibson are running for Albuquerque City Council, Districts 5 and 7; Deborah Armstrong (incumbent) is running for the New Mexico House of Representatives, District 17; and Deanna Archuleta represented Michelle Lujan Grisham, who is running for Governor. The candidates addressed a range of issues, including the need for affordable health care, adequate funding for the judicial system, educating staff to improve the treatment of Lesbians in nursing and care facilities, support for advancement of the ERA, and establishing pay equity/equal pay for equal worth for women in New Mexico. Leadership to address sex trafficking is also needed. All candidates cited support for and willingness to work on these issues. A universal message from the panel was that we need more women running for and winning office. Candidates invited members to engage with them in their races as volunteers and, if possible, with financial support and their vote!

At our potluck in September, we sang some of the Raging Grannies songs from the Women's Pussy Resist rally in January 2017. The lyrics were powerful! Several Old Lesbian Girl Scouts were in the group, so we sang "Peace of the River." We had a great time eating, singing, and getting to know one another a bit better!

In October, we met in small groups to discuss our spirituality and to reflect and share what's important in our lives now, what would be important upon a terminal illness diagnosis, and what might be important just before our death. We got to know one another more deeply because we each shared from our heart and essence. It was a transforming experience!

CELEBRATING AND EDUCATING Northern Colorado OLOC

By Katherine Wood, 1954

Our chapter is in the planning stages for 2018 and the 25th anniversary of Northern Colorado OLOC. With our theme of *Creating Memories Together*, we will celebrate some aspect of our history each month, beginning with the creation of our timeline in January. In May, we will have the BIG celebration, even though we were founded in the fall of 1993. In the fall, we are planning a retreat in Estes Park. Stay tuned for our celebration reports.

Meanwhile, our September program, given by new member Maggie Benton, was about senior financial tips. Our October program was about classism and privilege, with several games to enlighten us about our personal class and privilege. (One was from this year's National Gathering.) We concluded with a discussion on how to use our privilege for the good: we must ask how to be useful and what is wanted, and *not* charge in with any ideas or answers on what we think is right. Our November program, on prison reform, was given by attorney Lisi Owen, the granddaughter of two members, Betsy McConnell and Gillian Edwards. In December, member Trish Bangert's group performed a radio play and we enjoyed a holiday potluck.

OLOC is supported in part by grants from the Carpenter Foundation, the Horizons Foundation, and the Women's Foundation of Minnesota.



Still More Chapter News

WORKING TO KEEP CONNECTED Puget Sound (PS) OLOC

By Margaret Purcell, 1951

Making a chapter of OLOC successful in an area as geographically wide-ranging as the Puget Sound of Washington has been a challenge. By employing several strategies, we think we've managed to keep us all connected. We started with emailing and calling women we knew and making announcements at any events where Lesbians gathered. For the majority of the women, email was the quickest way to keep in touch.

To make sure we could reach women who didn't already know about Puget Sound OLOC,



Puget Sound members Gloria and Donna

OLOC chapters

OLOC chapters and groups as of December 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.

we added a rudimentary website. At a recent lunch in October, a woman joined us who had never even heard of Puget Sound OLOC until the night before when she googled "older lesbians in the Puget Sound" and found us. She saw a lunch listed on our calendar and, on faith, drove 30 minutes to meet us. Now there's a brave soul!

Our most useful internal tool has been our newsletter. We started with a one- or two-page publication, using it to tell everyone what was coming up and to share information on what various members had been involved in. We named it the *PS OLOC miniNEWS*, but the "mini" part of it quickly became a misnomer as issues swelled to routinely having six to eight pages. Our most recent issue was #50! We use the chapter's Yahoo group to distribute the newsletters. A few women don't use email, and for those, we do our best to mail hard copies.

Given the response we've had, there obviously was a need for an organization devoted to Old Lesbians in our area. We believe that utilizing the various methods (an email group, a website, and a newsletter) to facilitate keeping in touch and sharing has made it possible for us to thrive for ten years now.

Member News

Jennifer Abod and **Angela Bowen** just experienced a hospitalization for Angela and then getting her back home again. They are having to hire more help now. For more about their situation, go to jenniferabod.com.

Martha Wheelock is the producer and director of a new live show called *Tea with Alice and Me* about Alice Paul, written and presented by Zoe Nicholson, an Alice Paul scholar. It premieres in West Hollywood (California) on January 7, 2018, and will be filmed for an upcoming full-length documentary for release in 2020, the Centennial Celebration of women's suffrage. Contact Martha for how to help: martha@inezmilholland.org.



Ode to the Female, 2009

By Sandy Tate, 1935

I'm insulted by a chorus
Aimed to tease us and to bore us
With a word that does ignore us
And that single word is guy.

I'm a woman, can't you see?
I'll not take it silently
For what really satisfies
And brings sunshine to my eyes
Is for people of the world
To no longer call us guys!

The excuses cloud my brain
"We don't mean it," they exclaim
"We're just trying to be inclusive"
My retort is "You're intrusive!"

Why the need to erase woman
With misnomers and the like
Why the haste to make me no one
Can't they see that I'm a Dyke?

I'm a woman, not a girl
I once shouted to the world
Now I can't believe the lies
They are calling wimmin guys
And I'll shout it to the skies
I am not a guy in guise

Not a fellow, lad, or chap
Not a brooding kind of bloke
Not a macho mind of pap
Not some kind of backward joke

Little girls are now called guy
By their unsuspecting mother
They'll grow up and wonder why
They're perceived as being other

Old wimmin in their seventies
Who should know better, if you please
Will call us guys with such an ease

I beg them stop on bended knees
I plead, I urge, implore, and scream
They think that I'm a drama queen
They wave me off with such disdain
I leave in anger and in pain

Susan B. would be so mad
And Sappho would be really sad
To have their ears assaulted by
The nerve of some who'd call them guy

I'm sure the goddess, wise old sage
Would fly into a righteous rage
And witches' cauldrons they would boil
Burning guy words in their oil
And howling she-wolves would lament
And wonder where our wimmin went
The heavens crackle lightning bolt
As females everywhere revolt

The earth would open up and swallow
All whose minds are filled with hollow
Who's to blame for all this mess
Ah, but how I do digress

It's a word that's just not us
Hence, my need to make a fuss
What brings a glint to this old eye
Is to ne'er again be called a guy

Somewhere in the nether world
Where black holes live and fires burn
A gorgeous banner will unfurl
And urge females to take our turn
Its rainbow lettering will shout
Wimmin of the world come out
Make a potluck; make a dance
Laugh and sing with every chance
Heed the words from deep inside
Don't let others call you guys

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

Details not online right now.
Soon to be better than ever!

Keep checking oloc.org/market.html.
Don't want to wait? To order or
for questions: write to ruth@oloc.org
or call 760-318-6794.

If you are a member of National OLOC who wants to be on OLOC's National Yahoo email discussion list, you can subscribe by going to groups.yahoo.com/group/NationalOLOC/. If you have any problems, contact susan@oloc.org.

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



Memorials

Miriam Villchur Berg, 1948–2017

Miriam, a member of Hudson Valley OLOC, donated \$600 through the Villchur Foundation for three scooters at the August 2017 Gathering in Tampa, Florida. She was a philanthropist and a benefactor to many.

Miriam graduated from Barnard College with a degree in classics. She was an accomplished singer, musician, writer, and editor. She co-founded the *a cappella* vocal ensemble Woodstock Renaissance, with Ellen Reitemeyer. For more than 15 years, Miriam was editor and program annotator for the classical music programs presented by Maverick Concerts.

She was a strong advocate for women's equality and played a significant role in the size-acceptance movement. She believed in the power of the divine Feminine and created women's and singing circles. In 2013, on the Summer Solstice, she married her long-time partner, Nancy Summer.

Miriam's gentleness, generosity, and kindness made her much loved by a huge circle of friends. She helped to found Family of Woodstock (a charitable organization) and was an active member of the Woodstock Jewish Congregation.

Edith (Edie) Windsor, 1929–2017

Edie Windsor, a long-time supporter of OLOC, had been a member since 2004. In 1999, Edie established a fund for Old Lesbians, which has provided money for OLOC. She also wrote OLOC's last fundraising letter.

Edie Windsor paved the way for the rights of same-sex couples to marry under federal law. Her lawsuit resulted in the 2013 Supreme Court decision to legalize same-sex marriage. Hillary Clinton delivered a stirring eulogy at Edie's funeral, calling her a marriage equality hero.



Edie received a BA from Temple University and a Masters in math from New York University. She was a Senior Systems Programmer at IBM until 1975, when she accepted a severance package so she could focus on activism for LGBT causes. She served on the Board of Directors for SAGE (Services and Advocacy for LGBT Elders) during 1966–1988 and 2005–2007.

She married her long-time partner, Thea Spyer, in 2007 in Toronto, Canada. When Thea died in 2009, Edie sued the IRS to refund the estate tax they collected because they refused to recognize the marriage. In 2013 the Supreme Court ruled that DOMA (the Defense of Marriage Act) was unconstitutional. In 2016, Edie married Judith Kassen. Edie was the recipient of numerous awards for her leadership role in advocating for Lesbian rights.

Kate Millett, 1934–2017

Kate Millett died of cardiac arrest on September 6, 2017, while celebrating her 83rd birthday in Paris.

Her first and most famous book, *Sexual Politics*, exploded the belief that literary criticism and social politics are things apart. Millett explored how women were socialized to accept and even defend their lower status in society, a process she named "interior colonization." She has been called a defining architect of second-wave feminism.

Kate was educated at the University of Minnesota and Oxford University. She wrote *Sexual Politics* as her PhD dissertation and sparked a sexual revolution. She married Sophie Keir, her partner of many years. Kate was an artist as well as a writer and founded an art colony at a farm in LaGrange, New York.



From an Old Lesbian friend of Susan's: *Please tell your OLOC members that I will gladly share my e-book Reversing Memory Loss and my intended first post "Let's Talk About Prevagen" if they will send me an email request to seniormomentsnomore@gmail.com.*



The OLOHP (Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project) and the Houston Floods

The good news from Houston is that everyone from OLOC and OLOHP survived the August floods caused by Hurricane Harvey. Although the waters damaged Arden Eversmeyer and Charlotte Avery's house (Arden is the OLOHP Project Director) where the primary office for OLOHP is located, the community of friends rallied 'round to get the house in habitable shape for Arden and Charlotte to return to after evacuation.

OLOHP was protected because the files and office equipment were housed on the second floor, and the storage unit for the Project is also on a second level of a climate-controlled facility.

Eventually, Arden and Charlotte decided to sell their house and move to a community where they were on a waiting list.

It will take some time to get a working office space up and running in Houston, but everything is continuing to operate through Margaret Purcell (OLOHP Project Manager) in Washington State.

OLOC Mission Statement

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

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.

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

Pam Jackson Trains Swimmers in Columbus Area

OLOC member Pam Jackson, 1941, has helped many people learn how to beat the fear of water in her class of that name at local pools in the Columbus, Ohio, area. She "speaks softly, plays comforting music, and encourages her students—mostly women in their 60s and 70s—to float with relaxed limbs," according to an October article in the *Columbus Dispatch*. She began teaching swimming at age 18 and says she has seen a lot of water phobia during all of those years. She starts her students with a back float and moves on to full-out swimming, paying close attention to specific needs, such as accommodating for arthritic knees or balky shoulders. One student described the achievement of her goal to finally learn to swim as "glorious."

The Reporter Needs More Articles from You

We are always looking for interesting articles from our members and supporters. Our word limit is 300 for *The Reporter*. If you have ideas for things to write about, let us know. We have a revised style guide for *The Reporter* that we will be glad to send you. Think about the issues that affect you as an Old Lesbian or that impact your Old Lesbian family and friends. Did something funny or enjoyable happen because you are old or Lesbian? How about things that cause you stress and ways you have found to alleviate it? The next deadline is February 1, 2018. OLOC is loaded with writers. We would love to hear from more of you!



The Steering Committee's Fall Meeting, October 20–22

By Alix Dobkin, 1940

Following our regular check-in with which we open Steering Committee meetings, each of us expressed what we liked about someone else sitting at the table. The table was in the “Boardroom” of the Columbus Embassy Suites on Corporate Drive in Columbus, Ohio, where the next National Gathering will be held in 2019.

Much time was devoted to long-range planning, with an emphasis on re-dedicating OLOC to activism. We brainstormed on how to encourage chapters and individual members to increase solidarity with other groups and engage in local actions for causes to further social and economic justice.

As in every other meeting, crucial decisions rest on who will be responsible for what. The SC needs more members, a situation prompting a review of our process and reinforcing our commitment to add more Old Lesbians of Color. Revised application forms will be sent to the three Old Lesbians of Color who expressed an interest in joining the SC, and we will invite them to our spring meeting.

Our meetings are open to all Lesbians over 50 but there are limits to participation, so contact info@oloc.org if you want to attend.

Also on the agenda: changing our address from Athens, Ohio, to Woodstock, New York, and how it will affect our bulk mailings. We reviewed candidates to rebuild and maintain our website, set up dates for our SC conference calls, and discussed which conferences we can afford to attend and/or support.

Examining our finances, we know that we lose money on every Gathering. But how much did the 2017 National Gathering in Tampa lose? The answer will be clear soon. We discussed our semiannual fundraising letter, bequests, restricted funds, and began planning a fundraising brunch for spring 2018 to honor Jan Griesinger with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

In conclusion, we met with Ohio chapter members who came to the hotel to help us begin planning the Columbus 2019 National Gathering.

What Is the Role for Old Lesbians Today?

By Sally Tatnall, 1937

- To be seen as Old Lesbians.
- To be visible as activists.
- To speak from a feminist perspective.
- To stand against all oppressions, seeing no hierarchy.
- To work with other social justice organizations in their area (chapters).
- To make phone calls and write letters.
- To write articles for *The Reporter* about what they are doing for change in the chance that someone else may be stimulated to do likewise.

As a political organization, being active for social justice is very important for all OLOC members. We are not too old to make our presence felt.

If you want to know more about what you can do, please ask the OLOC Steering Committee. As we move forward, our focus will be on what OLOC members are doing to further social justice.



Ronnie Sandler and Alix Dobkin

If you now receive *The Reporter* in one format and want to switch to or add the other (print and electronic), please email susan@oloc.org; write to OLOC at POB 834, Woodstock, NY 12498; or phone 888-706-7506.



For Women, For Girls, Forever!

by Bone, 1948

The We Want the Land Coalition (WWTLC), with the support of the women's community at large, is working hard to secure the Land, the 651 acres in western Michigan where the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival was held, and to make it available for events and gatherings that benefit women and girls.

The mission of WWTLC is not to re-create the festival, nor in fact to produce any events of its own on the Land, but to hold and maintain the Land in its nearly pristine condition and rent it for events and gatherings produced by others for the empowerment of women and girls and the advancement of women's culture. In keeping with this intended use of the Land, it is now part of the Land Conservancy of West Michigan, under a conservation easement that will protect it from development while allowing limited improvements that facilitate the anticipated gatherings.

Having formed in the summer of 2016, WWTLC successfully raised \$300,000 for the down payment on a land contract it signed in April 2017. The balance on the contract is \$1.2 million, with annual payments of about \$186,000 to complete the purchase by 2025. WWTLC is enthusiastically raising the funds for its 2018 budget now and making big plans for the future.

Some of us Old Lesbians are pretty sure that many of us will want to be a part of that future. For information about WWTLC and the Land or to contribute to the project, sign up for their mailing list:

We Want the Land Coalition
PO Box 11
Arlington Heights, IL 60006-0011

You can also find a great deal of information on their website at wwtlc.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/WWTLC/.

Lisa Vogel of The Michigan Womyn's Music Festival sent out a letter in mid-October giving her support to the We Want the Land Coalition (WWTLC) and its efforts to buy the Land where the festival was held for so many years. To see her letter, contact Susan at info@oloc.org.

Poverty

By Pelican Lee, 1947

I sure welcomed Pat Gowens' article about classism and poverty and the judgments made by those who haven't been there. The part that is missing in thinking and theory, and which is not taught in college economics classes, is that poverty is *caused* by the corporate capitalist system within which we live. It is designed to funnel wealth to the top, leading to increasing income inequality. Profit is privatized at the top, while loss is socialized to everyone else, allowing a few the benefit of exploding wealth while the incomes of the majority stagnate or collapse. The solution for ending poverty is a complete overhaul of our economic system and an end to corporate capitalism.

I wish I had been able to go to the OLOC Gathering in Tampa and to have attended Pat's workshop. And yes, I have been known to buy sushi with my food stamps.



Bonnie, Ruth, and Susan at Tampa Gathering



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. You will receive issues of our publications, the OLOC *Reporter* (quarterly) and the OLOC E-News (monthly), if you want them. 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 be a member for the coming year.
- ☐ I am sending this amount _____ (suggest \$25–\$50) for 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 _____

Name #2 _____

- ☐ I am not sending money at this time, but I am an Old Lesbian and want to be a member for the coming year.
- ☐ I am sending this amount _____ (suggest \$25–\$50) for 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 _____

Please include demographics (date of birth, race/ethnicity, disability status) here to help us in obtaining grants and achieving diversity (we never give out names of members or supporters to anyone outside OLOC).

Date of birth _____
Race/ethnicity _____
Disability status _____

Date of birth _____
Race/ethnicity _____
Disability status _____

Address _____ City _____ State or _____ Zip or _____
Out of United States? Country _____ province postal
(If needed, write 2nd address on back.)

Telephone _____
Email _____

Telephone _____
Email _____

New to OLOC? Yes ☐ No ☐

New to OLOC? Yes ☐ No ☐

I would like to receive the *Reporter* as (circle one)
print copy / electronic / both / neither

I prefer to receive the *Reporter* as (circle one)
print copy / electronic / both / neither

I would like to receive the monthly E-News by email
and have given my email address above.
Yes ☐ No ☐

I would like to receive the monthly E-News by email
and have given my email address above.
Yes ☐ No ☐

To pay with a credit card or a PayPal account, go to 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 and send to OLOC, PO Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498. All money sent is considered a donation and is tax deductible for those who itemize.

Skills I can offer OLOC _____

Skills I can offer OLOC _____

I already belong to the following OLOC chapter or group _____

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 would love to have an OLOC chapter 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 newsletters and OLOC will have to pay for them to be returned to us.

OLOC
PO Box 834
Woodstock, NY 12498
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Woodstock, NY
PERMIT NO.

*Time to Renew? Check
your label. →*

If it says 2017.12 (meaning
December 2017) or earlier,
your membership or support
has ended and it is time to
renew.

**OLOC's next National Gathering
will be held in August 2019
in Columbus, Ohio.
*Watch for more news!***