

# Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



Founded  
in 1989

# The Reporter

A quarterly  
publication of OLOOC

March 2018

Vol 28 #1

We mistakenly labeled the  
final three 2017 issues as  
Volume 28, but it was  
really 27. Now we are on  
Volume 28.

## A Reader Responds to “On Classism”

I read your opening article on class (December *Reporter*) with great interest but was puzzled by even a brief discussion on class that does not mention race at all.

I think these things are linked inextricably in the United States. As you indicate, the systems are built and maintained for a reason.

—D. Magrini, 1955

## From the author

I wanted to address class by itself because we do so much on race, and class is always the missing piece. I think that feminism has left out class in feminist history except for some casual analysis. As a raised-poor woman, I have had many years of being active in the women’s movement and witnessing the erasure of the classism in our country. You are correct in saying that class and race are inextricably intertwined, as are all the isms that rely on a system of hierarchy that I know women would never have invented. Women know the power of togetherness and have succeeded in ways we would not have achieved without it.

—Sally Tatnall, 1937

## The reader again

Well, thank you for the response, Sally. That level of respect and engagement seem to be ever fading.

I’m not sure I agree that women would not have invented a similar system of hierarchy. Many seem, at the very least, supporters of the status quo and certainly benefit from it.

Yes, the isms are all tied together, but as a Black woman, raised poor, but not poorly, having lived poor for periods of my adult life, I will say that my race is one of the main presenters that can keep me and many Black women poor, can create the assumption by others of class attributes that have nothing to do with me or my sisters.

I’m glad you wrote about class, but I wish you had included race.

—D. Magrini, 1955

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## Memorial Slide Show

We work to keep track of OLOOC members and Old Lesbians submitted by OLOOC members for our Memorial Slide Show. Cristina Vegas, who has produced the slide show for a long time, is retiring from the job. We are looking for someone who wants to take it on. It is a PowerPoint slide show with a music sound track. If you have the interest, willingness, skills, software, and know-how to take it on, contact [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org). We need your help. We will collect the photos and the birth and death years and get them to you.

OLOOC 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); email: [info@oloc.org](mailto: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 May 1, 2018.

Limit general submissions to 300 words, memorials to 200 words, nonmember memorials 100 words. Contact us for the revised style guide. We may edit articles for clarity and/or length. Send articles to OLOC: [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or P.O. Box 834, Woodstock, NY 12498.

### Current Steering Committee Members Contact List

Co-Directors:

- Alix Dobkin, 1940, Woodstock, NY, [alix@oloc.org](mailto:alix@oloc.org), 845-679-7586  
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Steering Committee Members:

- Jan Griesinger, 1942, Athens, OH, [jan@oloc.org](mailto:jan@oloc.org), 740-592-1255  
Ruth Debra, 1944, Operations Coordinator, Palm Springs, CA, [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org), 760-318-6794  
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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 60th year.

## CORRECT DATES for the next Gathering

It is in 2019—not this year but next. There will be an event during the day of August 21 for Lesbians of Color. The full Gathering will begin in the late afternoon of August 21 for all attending. It will end on Sunday, August 25, 2019. All activities will take place in Columbus, Ohio.

## 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 at [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org), a note to the PO Box in Woodstock, New York, or a phone call to 888-706-7506. Be sure to say if you want a response.

## Correction

In the previous issue, when we ran a Memorial about Edie Windsor, we misspelled the name of her wife, Judith Kasen. There is only one s in Judith's last name.

As you most likely know, Edie was instrumental in bringing about the end of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) by filing suit because her marriage to Thea Spyer was not recognized when Thea died. Eventually, the Supreme Court heard the case and decided in our favor. Without Edie's work on this and other aspects of our Lesbian lives, we would be in a very different place legally. Edie was a big supporter of OLOC and we love and miss her. Thank you, Judith, for pointing out our mistake and being so gracious about it.

## Member News

Thank you to Nancy Krody, 1939, who made a \$100 donation in honor of Gerry Woodroffe and in memory of her deceased spouse, Pat Szabo, M.D.

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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](mailto:susan@oloc.org), write the PO Box in New York, or look under OLOC PROJECTS at [oloc.org/oloc-projects/oloc-media-library-as-of-11-11-2016/](http://oloc.org/oloc-projects/oloc-media-library-as-of-11-11-2016/).

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.



## Chapter News

### **OUR 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY Northern Colorado Chapter**

*By Katherine Wood, 1954*

Our December meeting began with a memorial service for our dear member, the Reverend Gladys Lopez (see Memorials), with her family and friends joining us for the service and lunch. Afterward, the Lesbian Thespians of Denver performed a radio play dedicated to Gladys, who loved theater.

We kicked off 2018, our 25th anniversary year as an OLOC Chapter, with a piñata at our January meeting. Members used their canes to break it open. (We skipped the blindfolds and the tradition of spinning the one who was hitting.) Our anniversary committee also led a discussion down memory lane and spelled out the preparation for our big May celebration.

Over half of our membership marched in the Denver Women's March 2018, carrying our OLOC banners.

In the 1990s, the chapter participated in The Goose Project (via the city of Longmont) and painted a papier-mâché goose, which was then donated. To honor this first Goose Project, our February meeting focused on pictures, details, and memories from this project, and then did a second Goose Project where small groups painted blank puzzles with chapter memories on them. The puzzles were broken up and will be put back together at the May celebration.

Speaker Don Johnson, psychologist and gay brother, gave a talk at our March meeting about the challenges and gifts of coming out later in life. Membership also participated in election caucuses.

### **Action Plan for Chapter Meetings Cleveland Chapter News**

*By Sally Tatnall, 1937*

In February, we showed a film and had an open discussion. It occurs to me that it is a good way to continue our education and political activism. We plan to show the movie about Anita Hill. Sexual imposition is a very current topic. From this discussion, we will plot activism. Writing to the press, to our Congress people, and to our state representatives is always good. As Old Lesbians, we have an obligation to remind the current generation how it is done. Stopping is really not an option. Our work is not done. It is not the time to step back and relax in our retirement.

The OLOC Media Library is a huge resource for meeting activities. Showing films, discussing them, and coming up with actions is an important way to stay alive in this current repressive environment.



**Northern Colorado Chapter with a piñata**

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### **OLOC Chapters**

OLOC chapters and groups as of March 1, 2018, 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; 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.

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.



## Chapter News (cont)

### **BUSY AND SUCCESSFUL**

#### **New Mexico Chapter**

By Susan Buchler, 1946

In 2015, Arden Eversmeyer came to Albuquerque to train four of our members (Ann Nihlen, Elizabeth Berrey, Paula Fisher, and Pelican Lee) to be interviewers for the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project. Since then, they have interviewed 54 Old Lesbians for the Project.

In November, our program was “Getting to Know You.” One of our chapter members led us in a “This Is Your Life/Getting to Know You” event. We were asked to write “something not many people know about me.” It seems like every life has a whole book’s worth of adventures and amazing events! In addition to the many entertaining stories about our members, we heard a report from the volunteers who had taken on various service roles and the new people stepping in to help.

In December, we enjoyed our quarterly potluck. The program was a presentation by Marsie Silvestro, one of our chapter members who is also an internationally known author, composer, artist, motivational speaker, counselor, life coach, and consultant. She performed songs from her CDs and read from her books of poetry. The program included sing-alongs, as well as an impromptu kazoo chorus. We were inspired. We laughed. We cried.

In January, we met in our new meeting place (a senior center). It’s free, it’s more central, and we can have food and drink and watch films. Our program included a slide show review of 2017 and a showing of *The Passionate Pursuits of Angela Bowen*—exemplary Black Lesbian activist, dancer, writer, and scholar—directed by Jennifer Abod.

On Sunday, January 22, 2018, the Women’s March one-year-later anniversary was held at Albuquerque’s downtown Civic Plaza. We had a great turnout in spite of the very cold weather.

### **PLANNING AHEAD**

#### **Pioneer Valley Chapter**

By Judy Raphael, 1943

Pioneer Valley OLOC (Northampton, Massachusetts) began 2018 by nominating and choosing topics for our monthly meetings for the rest of the year. January’s National and International Women’s Marches saw Pioneer Valley OLOC members marching in Northampton, Massachusetts, and rallying in Greenfield, Massachusetts.

Topics for the next three months of 2018:

- *February*: Roberta’s slide show of *Lesbian Characters in Film and TV, Pt 2*.
- *March*: Learning about Aging and our Mental Health.
- *April*: Learning about Habitat for Humanity.

Our meetings are held in Northampton, Massachusetts at Roberta’s apartment building’s Community Room. Visiting Lesbians in their 59th year are welcome to attend our meetings. Also, usually on the third Sunday of each month, Roberta shows a Lesbian film in the Community Room. Lesbians of all ages are welcome. These movie events are free, and snacks are graciously provided by Roberta.



**Pioneer Valley OLOC at Women’s March**



## Chapter News (cont)

### **MULTI-TASKING MEMBERS**

#### **Puget Sound OLOC Reporting In**

*By Deirdre Knowles, 1947, and Margaret Purcell, 1951*

How can we be both incredibly busy here in Puget Sound OLOC *and* not have something new and exciting to write about for the OLOC Reporter? Part of the answer lies in all that the holidays entail. But beyond that, women involved in OLOC are way, way beyond one dimensional! Some are employed full or part-time, some are busy transitioning into senior housing, and a few are ailing and busy taking care of themselves and others.

Puget Sound OLOC is also home to women who

- Play leadership roles in several other Lesbian organizations, as well as in various non-Lesbian organizations!
- Are very involved in Unitarian Universalist or other churches.
- Help create newsletters for a chapter of a native plant society.
- Are always acting out and acting up!

- Are deeply immersed in genealogy research.
- Do volunteer work with nonviolent conflict resolution in prisons.
- Work on the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project.
- Are involved in the leadership of La Leche League.
- Gather and distribute hygiene items and warm clothes for homeless people.
- Take care of themselves and others.
- Serve as a speaker to garden clubs on various plant-related topics.
- Teach mahjong at a local senior center.
- Produce house concerts for women/Lesbian artists.
- Are involved in the lives of their grandkids in a big way.
- Are running for Mayor of their town!
- And more, more, more...

And, not surprisingly, many Puget Sound OLOC women could lay claim to several of these bullet points, not just one or two.

### **Impeachment Party**

*By Terry Baum, 1946*

I had a Party to Impeach on Saturday, Feb. 17, in San Francisco, one of the many Parties to Impeach organized all over the country by Tom Steyer, the billionaire who's working to create a grassroots movement to get The First Toddler away from the nuclear football. I had 25 guests—lots of old dykes, but I might have been the only OLOC member.

Nancy Pelosi, our representative, opposes impeachment, and that is a huge obstacle since she leads Democrats in the House. We read aloud the talking points the organizers sent us: why impeach, how it's done, the history, why we should not let the prospect of Pence immobilize us. We wrote 88 postcards to Pelosi and also the Dems who already support impeachment. We also wrote postcards to the 10 senators who receive the most money from the NRA. People were very, very happy to be meeting and doing something, even though we had a great diversity of opinion on what to do.



#### **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/market.html](http://oloc.org/market/market.html).  
Don't want to wait? To order or  
for questions: write to [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org)  
or call 760-318-6794.



## Ageism—A Radical Lesbian Feminist Perspective

By Bev Jo, 1950

Do not name me against my will. Do not call me “elder,” “elderly,” “geriatric,” or “crone.” Similarly, do not call me “cis” or “cunt” or “lady.” (Men also use “young lady” to patronize us, as if they expect us to giggle in gratitude for calling us “young.”)

Do not assume that objectifying me as different from yourself is flattering. Do not assume that I agree to be part of the mainstream ageist and heterosexist separation of females. Ageism is one of the many ways that patriarchy divides women from each other.

Getting old happens to everyone who lives long enough. Therefore, it’s in all women’s interest to treat old women with respect and equality. Ageism includes the fear of becoming old. The media often portrays old women as dangerous and evil, while it is rich old white men who are literally destroying the earth. Sadly, some women even say they want to become men to avoid becoming “old women.”

It’s been a shock to see Old Lesbians desperately trying to look young. Some even have plastic surgery, so I appreciate the handsome, beautiful Old Lesbians who look comfortable in their skin, proud of who they are, happy to be with other Old Lesbians.

I see older Lesbians dismissed with a glance, just as I see class-oppressed Lesbians dismissed. Still, we have a huge, loving community, in spite of having no more spaces of our own.

Barbara Macdonald’s book (with Cynthia Rich), *Look Me in the Eye: Old Women, Aging, and Ageism*, from 1983, is still the best book I’ve read about ageism, with that wonderful, direct Radical Lesbian Feminist politics we so rarely see now.

For the unedited version at my blog:

[bevjoradicallesbian.wordpress.com/2017/07/29/ageism/](http://bevjoradicallesbian.wordpress.com/2017/07/29/ageism/)

My newer blog:

[keepingreallesbianfeminismsimple.wordpress.com/](http://keepingreallesbianfeminismsimple.wordpress.com/)

## The Benefits of Female Friendships

We always thought *human* nature was hard wired for a fight-or-flight response when faced with stress, but thanks to a UCLA research study\* that focused on women instead of men, we know that female responses to stress include tend-and-befriend behavior. Female researchers at UCLA noticed that women, when faced with stress, often sought relief by tending to cleanup chores and discussing their feelings with friends, while men often holed up somewhere alone. Realizing that 90% of stress research was focused on males, the researchers designed a study to focus on female responses to stress. What they found has profoundly altered our notion about *human* nature.

“In fact,” explains Dr. Laura Klein, “it seems that when the hormone oxytocin is released as part of the stress responses in a woman, it buffers the fight-or-flight response and encourages her to tend children and gather with other women instead. When she actually engages in this tending and befriending, studies suggest that more oxytocin is released, which further counters stress and produces a calming effect. This calming response does not occur in men because testosterone, which men produce in high levels when they’re under stress, seems to reduce the effects of oxytocin. Estrogen seems to enhance it.”

This research has thrown more light on the long-term health of women and men. For one thing, it reinforces the information we have about the beneficial health benefits of strong social ties and contributes to our understanding about why women seem to live longer than men.

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\*“Biobehavioral Responses to Stress in Females: Tend-and-Befriend, Not Fight-or-Flight,” by S.E. Taylor, L.C. Klein, B.P. Lewis, T.L. Gruenewald, R.A.R. Gurung, and J.A. Updegraff, *Psychological Review*, 2000.



## A Perennial Question

By Malinda McCain, 1940

I read an article in *The Washington Post* titled “In search of a word that won’t offend ‘old’ people” and written by the director of the Center on Longevity (whatever that means) at Stanford University. The author, Laura L. Carstensen, says that embracing the term “old” is probably a fool’s errand. For years she had believed we should be proud to call ourselves old, but she has never been able to convince anyone. Terms in use she mentions are *senior citizens* (around here I hear just plain *seniors* a lot), *retirees*, the *elderly*, and *elders*; derogatory terms such as *geezers* and *coots*; terms such as *sages* that she says go too far in the opposite direction, “as plenty of old people are a far cry from wise.” Carstensen doesn’t think any of those work. I personally hate being called “young lady” or hearing someone described as “80 years young.”

What does she suggest? *Perennials*, used by Maureen Connors, who works in fashion technology. Carstensen says its symbolism is perfect, showing we’re still here, blossoming again and again in a period of life in which people engage and take breaks. Although perennials don’t necessarily blossom year after year, they can go on for decades if nourished well. She calls the term aspirational.

Do you aspire to be a perennial? Of more interest to me, have you been able to get people outside of OLOC to say *old* proudly? I’ve not had much luck at it, personally. Even our local senior center calls itself “a place for the young at heart” and never describes people as old.

I will continue to refer to myself as old and to state my age (currently 77) clearly. I sometimes add, “I worked hard to get here—and not all of the roads were paved.” What do *you* say when you’re encouraging people to call themselves old proudly or explaining why you do it? Do they get it? Send your thoughts and experiences to [mmccain@sharewords.com](mailto:mmccain@sharewords.com) so I can share them in a future *Reporter*.

*OLD is not a four-letter word—  
what is the choice to getting old?*

## OLOC 2017 FINANCIAL REPORT

INCOME/AVAILABLE FUNDS	Amount
Individual donations	\$19,063
Grants	20,000
Dues from chapters	1,100
National Gathering 2017	23,425
Financial assistance for 2017 Gathering	18,000
Alix concert	1,563
Other	1,055
Transfer for chapter development	5,000
Bequests	<u>19,154</u>
TOTAL	\$108,360

EXPENSES	Amount
Staff	
Administrative Coordination	\$17,157
Program Coordination	2,100
Stipends for Co-Directors	4,200
Outreach (newsletter, conferences, website)	9,635
National Gathering	58,106
Chapter development	5,000
Oral Herstory Project	1,000
Supplies, office, equipment	3,034
Steering Committee meetings	6,699
Alix concert	<u>1,253</u>
TOTAL	\$108,184

## YOUR NAME COULD BE HERE

We’d love to have an article from you to put in a future issue of *The Reporter*. Are folks in your town talking about creating a sanctuary for immigrants? Are you running for public office? Have you seen a racist/ageist/misogynist incident; if so, what happened? What else can you tell us about? Write to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) and ask for the style guide and other article information, and then send your article to [jenn-gt@hotmail.com](mailto:jenn-gt@hotmail.com) with cc to [susan@wiseheart.com](mailto:susan@wiseheart.com) telling us what’s going on with you.

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



## MEMORIALS

### Deborah Kotler, 1951–2018

By Gail Cohen, 1950

Deborah Kotler, known universally as Flash Silvermoon, was “North Florida’s favorite psychic.” She was a flamboyant character with flowing red hair and a penchant for colorful costumes. In fact, drama was a vital part of the essence of Flash’s life.

Flash was a psychic whose readings startled her customers with their accuracy, a mistress of the tarot cards, a musician, a Wiccan, a feminist, an astrologer, and a teacher. She could communicate with animals and heal their ailments.

She lived in Melrose, Florida, in a home and sanctuary that she called Moonhaven. She hosted a weekly Internet radio show, “What the Animals Tell Me.” She taught classes about tarot cards and healing techniques and conducted a number of festivals and conferences in the healing arts.

Flash was the author of many books: *The Wise Woman’s Tarot* describes the mystical power of tarot cards, *The Planetary Handbook* describes the ways astrological signs can help people, and *Lifetime Companions: Love Never Dies* is a book about her healing work with animals.

Music was Flash’s first love, and it had to share space with her more esoteric pursuits. She became an expert on the keyboard and the guitar, and was a “spirited” percussionist. Her singing voice was sometimes compared to that of Janis Joplin.

*I’ve always thought that there was nothing smarter than an old woman...they have some remarkable quality that no other people have.*

—Berenice Abbott, photographer

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](mailto:susan@oloc.org); write to OLOC at POB 834, Woodstock, NY 12498; or phone 888-706-7506.

### Patricia E. Szabo, 1951–2017

By Nancy Krody, 1939

Pat grew up in Clifton, New Jersey, with her grandparents, parents, and younger brother. She was active in the Hungarian Reformed Church in Passaic, studied the organ, and played clarinet in her school marching band. At Wilson College in Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, she was a biology major and medic for the women’s sports teams. Graduating in 1973, she did graduate work in New Jersey and then spent seven years in Budapest for her medical degree. Her residency at Fitzgerald Mercy Hospital in Darby, Pennsylvania, was followed by private practice for many years as a primary care physician. Her final position brought her back to “Fitz” in its primary care practice.

After her father’s and brother’s untimely deaths, her mother, Helen, moved to Drexel Hill, Pennsylvania, to Pat’s home. They joined Collenbrook United Church, where Pat became acquainted with Nancy Krody. They fell in love in 1999 and eventually sold both of their homes to purchase a ranch-style home in nearby Marple Township in 2004, where Helen lived with them until her death in 2010.

Pat loved the ocean, flora and fauna, music, and decorating—especially for Christmas. On December 27, 2014, family, colleagues, and old and new friends celebrated Pat and Nancy’s wedding at Collenbrook.

Unexpected heart and lung problems sent Pat to the hospital in mid-September, culminating in her death a month later. A memorial service in November at Collenbrook brought together many of the same folks who had attended their wedding, to remember Pat and mourn her passing much too early.





## MEMORIALS (cont)

### Margaret Mann, 1945–2018

Margaret Mann was a strong woman who described herself as biracial, a Lesbian, and a Buddhist in a wheelchair. She died in Hawaii, the place she always considered home. She was a member of OLOC for nine years and attended three National Gatherings.

She spent most of her childhood in Hawaii, but moved to California to go to college. Her father was Apache and an oceanographer who worked with the Navy to develop sonar. She joined the Navy, intending to make it a career, but was advised that being a Lesbian would make life in the service difficult.

After leaving the Navy, Margaret moved through many careers, working with the Girl Scouts and various health-related organizations. In 1997, without any warning, a blood vessel burst in her spinal column, leaving her a paraplegic for the rest of her life. Her experiences motivated her to pursue a Master's and PhD. in Rehabilitation Counseling.

Activism always played a significant role in her life. Early on, she was involved with the civil rights movement. Later she was instrumental in designing and starting a breast cancer project in Hawaii. She also joined LACE (The Lesbian Arts and Cultural Exchange). She is the author of *A Dramatically Different Direction*.

Her final words were sent to her friends after her death: "Imagine this...me leaping out of my wheelchair, dancing around, bounding into the air, and floating up out of sight. Be happy that I am no longer in pain, no longer have cancer, no longer disabled, and no longer poor."



### Jackie Anderson, 1942–2018

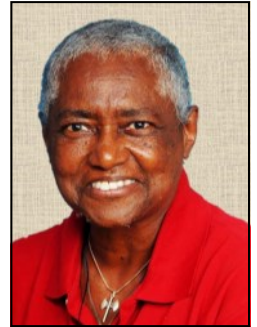
Jackie Anderson was an OLOC member and supporter. One of her favorite shirts was "This Is What an Old Lesbian Looks Like."

Chicago Lesbian pioneer and civil-rights activist Jackie Anderson graduated from Roosevelt University. She retired as an assistant Professor of Humanities and Philosophy at Olive-Harvey College, where she served twice as department chairperson.

A steadfast feminist, she supported African American Lesbian projects on Chicago's South Side, where she helped launch the Lesbian Community Cancer Project. She was also the leader of Yahimba, which held city-wide conferences on African American Lesbians' needs, supported the Institute of Lesbian Studies, the Mountain Moving Coffeehouse, and Gerber/Hart Library.

She was inducted into the Chicago LGBT Hall of Fame in 1996. She was an active supporter, not only of groups but also of individual women. She mentored and empowered many creative women. She was published in many journals, including *Signs: Journal of Women in Culture and Society*.

Jackie Anderson will be missed by her many friends. She is survived by her daughter, Tracey Anderson, and her grandson, Torrence "Doc" Gardner.



If you are a member of National OLOC who wants to be on OLOC's National Yahoo email discussion list, you can subscribe at [groups.yahoo.com/group/NationalOLOC/](https://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](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC).



## MEMORIALS (cont)

### Gladys Lopez, 1945–2017

By Katherine Wood, 1954

The Reverend Gladys Lopez was born on February 7, 1945, and she made her transition on November 18, 2017. Gladys joined the Northern Colorado Chapter of OLOC in 2012, where she served on the Steering Committee and performed chapter memorial services.

Gladys grew up in San Francisco, where she lived (minus two years in Oregon) until moving to Colorado to be near her son, Eric, his wife, Leslie, and her grandson, Drake. In addition to being an ordained minister for the Centers for Spiritual Living, Gladys had careers as a dental assistant, computer programmer, massage therapist, Hospice

volunteer, and pastoral caregiver during the AIDS crisis in San Francisco.

She was an avid 49ers fan, a photographer, reader, writer, cat fanatic, and facilitator of several groups after moving to Colorado: a book discussion, a coffee klatch for Boulder County Agency on Aging, and the Colorado Ministers group.

At the end of her interview for OLOHP (Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project), she said, “I don’t have a bucket list because I’ve been in a hot air balloon and have parasailed. I’ve had a really good life. I don’t regret a thing.”

Gladys, your gentle presence will be missed!



*Aging is not lost youth but a new stage of opportunity and strength.*

—Betty Friedan

*Age is no issue to me. There are no rules that say you have to dress a certain way or be a certain way.*

—Tina Turner

*No one can avoid aging, but aging productively is something else.*

—Katherine Graham



Bay Area OLOC at Women’s March in Oakland

#### 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 Say Her Name! movements

#### 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 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   
 I would like 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

New to OLOC? Yes  No   
 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

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** 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 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 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 \_\_\_\_\_

Skills I can offer OLOC \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 I already belong to the following OLOC chapter or group \_\_\_\_\_  
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*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

*Time to Renew? Check  
your label. →*

If it says 2018.03 (meaning  
March 2018) or earlier, your  
membership or support has  
ended and it is time to  
renew.

**OLOC's next National Gathering will be held  
in Columbus, Ohio, August 21–25, 2019. It  
will be preceded by an LOC event all day  
on the 21st, with the opening of the full  
Gathering in the late afternoon or  
early evening of Wednesday the 21st.**