

# Old Lesbians Organizing for Change

Founded in 1989



## 25 Years of Old Lesbians

By Alix Dobkin, 1940

When I began to write this cover story about the 25th Anniversary OLOC National Gathering, I remembered the great feedback we have been getting about it and thought, why not let the Lesbians who attended write it? I couldn't say it better than they did.

First, for a general rundown we turn to our own Elana Dykewomon, who wrote this for the (SF) *Bay Times*:

"More than 300 Lesbians over 60 came together to plot the end of patriarchy in joyful and cranky (how not?) reunions.



Writers Canyon Sam, Elana Dykewomon, Dorothy Allison, Jewelle Gomez, Cherrie Moraga. Photo by Diane Sabin.

Keynoters Dorothy Allison, Cherrie Moraga, and Chrystos moved hearts and challenged minds. The Writers' Night, featuring a Tribute to Pat Parker and 10 outstanding writer-activists, kept the full house riveted all Thursday night—rivaled only by the kick-ass energy of Saturday's Bay Area Lesbian Legends/Women's Liberation Boogie Dance Band. Over 50 workshops, a

day-long intensive, plenaries on class, Lesbians of Color, inter-generational communication/community, and OLOC's founding rounded out a very full weekend.

### And, just a few comments from the attendees:

*"What a treat that was. . . . It was like a dream. . ."*

*"There were so many highlights and intense, thoughtful offerings over the five days. . . . Many, many women have told me how absorbing and inspiring it was, and how much they learned."*

*"(M)y very deep appreciation for the very enjoyable and politically inspiring OLOC Gathering, we had the best time and are still feeling the aftermath of all the discussions, the speakers, the dance, the readings, the workshops, the hospitality room, the Lesbian energy and the undeniably inspiring companionship of Old Lesbians."*

*"I had a wonderfully positive and affirming time at OLOC . . . I thank you for all of your efforts in making the gathering a welcoming and comfortable space for Lesbians of color."*

*". . . i can't remember a time that i attended an event that was so open and welcoming—the info in the registration packet was brilliant and i had no access problems at all—and as an ill and disabled woman i have had far more experiences where i have had to educate and fight for access—there was a lot of care and energy put into it and it showed."*

*"You all must be 'kvelling' on having pulled off a really fabulous event! Great job!"*

Well, we are kvelling and feeling pretty good about all the Old Lesbians we saw having the time of their lives together, just as we did.

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

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### This Newsletter Brought to You By:

Co-Editors: Jennice Thomas, 1940, and Susan Wiseheart, 1941.

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Mailing crew and all writers and photographers.

Deadline for the next issue: November 1, 2014. Limit submissions to 300 words. Contact us for a style guide. We may edit articles for clarity and length. Send articles to OLOC at [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or OLOC, PO Box 5853, Athens OH 45701.

If you are a member of national OLOC who wants to be on OLOC's national yahoo e-mail list, 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)

OLOC maintains a video library and will lend items to members. For a complete list of items available, check the website: [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org)

OLOC is supported in part by a grant from the Carpenter Foundation. OLOC thanks them.

**To find out about OLOC chapters and groups**, presently in California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Utah, Vermont, Washington State, and Washington DC, look here: [www.oloc.org/about/chapters.php](http://www.oloc.org/about/chapters.php). Or call us: 888-706-7506.

**As of September 2013, Membership Statement:** 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. National OLOC supports the right of all people to be treated fairly and respectfully and with equal justice under the law. National OLOC is an ally to all who struggle for justice. In the LGBTQIA\* community, we are the L. Therefore, National OLOC welcomes as members only those women who have reached their 60th year and who are Old Lesbians.

\*Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Transsexual Two-Spirit Queer Questioning Intersex Asexual and Ally.

**The next National Steering Committee meeting will be in Atlanta, GA, October 16–19, 2014.**

### WOW! Seems So Inadequate

*By Arden Eversmeyer, 1931, and Margaret Purcell, 1951*

Can we get an “amen”? The recent Oakland Gathering afforded us a wonderful opportunity to reach out and spread the gospel—the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project gospel, that is. It all started with Arden's gratefully receiving a Del Martin Award (along with the much-deserving Joan Emerson) on opening night. Arden then spent the next few days either moving from plenary to workshop or working on interviews. With the help of Chris Pattee, M&M, and Deirdre Knowles, the OLOHP managed to conduct nine new interviews while in the area.

Having been gifted with the Sunday morning plenary time slot, Arden seized the opportunity to present a fact- and photo-filled overview of the OLOHP, from baby steps back in 1998 to today's flat-out run in 2014. The presentation

obviously was well received, as shown by the impressive number of women who signed up as interested in being interviewed, becoming an interviewer, or even becoming transcribers. Amazing! It is absolutely clear that the need for gathering and preserving our own stories is still strong. With all the women who stepped up, the OLOHP can't help but become even stronger. We thank you all!



## Old Lesbians Organizing for Change

### Contact List for Current Steering Committee Members

#### Co-Directors:

Jan Griesinger, 1942, Athens, OH, [jan@oloc.org](mailto:jan@oloc.org)  
740-448-6424

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

#### Steering Committee Members:

Ruth Debra, 1944, Palm Springs, CA, [ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org)  
760-318-6794

Sally Tatnall, 1937, Cleveland Heights, OH,  
[sally@oloc.org](mailto:sally@oloc.org), 216-862-0598

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845-679-7710 or 845-417-1481

Pat Cull, 1942, Oakland, CA, [pat@oloc.org](mailto:pat@oloc.org)  
415-637-5002

*OLOC's Steering Committee welcomes constructive feedback and suggestions from members by way of mail, phone, or e-mail.*

OLOC has received a generous donation of shares of stock that a member inherited from her family. If you are privileged to be able to donate stock, let us know—the system to do it is very easy.

### 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.

### Mission Statement for OLOC

#### We are committed to:

- ♦ addressing what it means to be Old and to be Lesbian
- ♦ finding ways to gather Old Lesbians for ongoing support
- ♦ working against all oppressions that affect Old Lesbians
- ♦ standing in solidarity with allies for racial, economic, and social justice

#### OLOC works for change by supporting:

- ♦ comprehensive immigration reform
- ♦ elimination of violence against women
- ♦ enactment of universal single-payer healthcare for all
- ♦ all efforts to challenge/overturn racism, classism, sexism, ableism, and ageism
- ♦ an end to corporate "personhood"
- ♦ an end to any curtailment of voting rights





### The 2014 Del Martin Award

The Del Martin Old Lesbian Pride Award was split between two Old Lesbians this year. At the Gathering ceremony in Oakland, each of them spoke of her work on behalf of Old Lesbians. Here is a little more about each of them:



Joan Emerson and Arden Eversmeyer. Photo by Sandy Morris.

**Arden Eversmeyer**, 1931, founded the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project (1999), to ensure that the stories of Lesbians born in the first part of the 20th century are recorded in history. Project volunteers have documented hundreds of diverse life stories recording the sacrifices and obstacles faced by Lesbians of that era. OLOC has been a strong supporter of the OLOHP for most of its existence, assisting with financial support as well as outreach to the community of Old Lesbians. The collection is now archived, and continues to grow, as part of the prestigious Sophia Smith Collection at Smith College.

Today, Arden is grateful to live in a time when she can be her true self with acquaintances, friends, family, medical professionals, and everyone. Yet, at the same time that Arden lives a life comfortable with being out, many of the interviews the OLOHP conducts remind her that not everyone else is as fortunate as she is and that her work—and that of so many others who strive to improve the lives of LGBT individuals—remains vital.

Reflecting how far our society has come, Arden was recently honored for her work by the National Women's History Project and also was a featured speaker at a US Department of Energy celebration of Women's History Month.

**Joan Emerson**, 1935, coordinated the San Francisco Bay Area OLOC from 1996 to 2013. Born in Washington, DC in 1935, where her father was a lawyer for the New Deal, she graduated from Reed College and earned a Ph.D. in sociology from the University of California at Berkeley. She taught sociology at Carleton College and the State University of New York at Buffalo, and she wrote articles that became classics.

Her biggest regret was watching the women's movement and the civil rights movement from the sidelines. She left the field of sociology and at age 55 began training to work as a psychotherapist with children.

In 1996, at age 61, she attended the OLOC National Gathering in Minneapolis. Arriving only "to explore the Lesbian world," within 24 hours she had enthusiastically joined the Old Lesbian community. Impressed by the self-acceptance OLOC women had in being women, old, and Lesbian, she offered to revitalize the San Francisco chapter. She did that and continued to guide the chapter until very recently.

Did you attend the Gathering? If you were not a member of OLOC, you will receive the September and December issues of *The Reporter* with the membership form included so you can join as a member or supporter if you want to do so. Thanks.



Sandra Tignor, Ali Marrero-Calderon, Crystal Jang, L. Frank Manriquez, Happy Hyder. Photo by Sandy Morris.

## New Mexico Chapter Confronts Police Brutality

By Maria Bautista

On November 27, 2012, the US Department of Justice and its Civil Rights Division began an investigation of the Albuquerque Police Department (APD). Maria Bautista and Nyira Gitana, NMOLOC members, survived a home invasion by APD. They followed grievance procedures with the Mayor, Chief Schultz, and the Police Oversight Commission. Several months later they received a letter from the POC to say the officers had been exonerated.

To receive a full text of the proceedings, contact [susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org) or phone 888-706-7506.

## Member News

OLOC member Sharon Murphy has just published a book about being married to Maya Angelou's son and fighting him for custody of their young child. It is well-written and fascinating. Interested in getting a copy?

[amazon.com/Disappearing-Act-Mothers-Journey-Underground/dp/1490523448/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1403892780&sr=8-1&keywords=disappearing+act](http://amazon.com/Disappearing-Act-Mothers-Journey-Underground/dp/1490523448/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1403892780&sr=8-1&keywords=disappearing+act) And you can read the prologue and chapter one on her blog: [sdiamondheart.com/author/sdiamondheart/](http://sdiamondheart.com/author/sdiamondheart/)

## Questions about the Welcome Ceremony at the Gathering

By Elana Dykewomon, 1949

A number of women I spoke to at the Gathering were confused about what happened with the Ohlone two-spirit people. This is how I understand what happened—I am only speaking for myself here.

The Ohlone two-spirit Bay Area group was approached by one of the local program committee women, Bo, and asked if they would like to open the Gathering—OLOC wanted to honor the Native peoples of this place and acknowledge that we were meeting on land that was taken from them by conquest.

The local two-spirit Ohlone said they would be glad to send drummers to bless the Gathering, but that their group did not conceptualize

or distinguish gender the way that OLOC does and wanted us to respect their decision on whom to send.

The local and national organizers had a lot of discussion about this and decided that we did not want someone we might identify as male opening the Gathering.

At the Welcome, Bo said that the Ohlone two-spirit group's message was that we had their permission, but not their blessing, to meet; they wanted us particularly to respect their boycott of the Bay Street Mall in Emeryville built on their burial ground.

While I was one of the Lesbians who agreed with the decision not to accept someone I might identify as male opening the Gathering, I have had second (third and fourth) thoughts about this. Now I believe we were given an opportunity to meet another culture, indigenous to Oakland, on their own grounds, and we blew that opportunity.

The ways we understand gender are complex and contested among Old Lesbians, as well as in the spectrum of LGBTI communities; parsing that for this circumstance would be a book-length project.

But, perhaps science fiction metaphors will help: Consider the OLOC Gathering as a ship of travelers, who, though we come from multiple backgrounds, races, classes, abilities, share the ship. We recognize another spaceship, approaching us from their home planet located in the space we're traveling through. We hail them. They respond and would like to welcome us to their part of the universe, offering details of their welcoming ceremony. Should we tell them how to offer welcome? Or accept their blessing in the spirit it is given?

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and click on OLOC Market.

## The Pioneer Valley OLOC CR Group

By Emily Greene, 1946

Five OLOC members, Tryna, Jean, Bim, Judith, and Emily, bravely committed to an eight-week CR group on ageism, designed by our foremothers, Charlotte Avery, Pat Denslow, Rosemary Hathaway, Shevy Healey, Ruth Heidelback, Vera Martin, and Kittu Riddle, who wrote the handbook 25 years ago. We started back in Feb 2014 with six members and lost one to a critical illness in her family, which took her to Florida. In spite of the worst winter in decades, we all showed up each week. We were able to have our meeting at member houses, which led to a more comfy setting.

We decided that each of us would take a turn at facilitating the meeting and material, which we all agreed was another step in trust and bonding. All of us did a great job at facilitating. Each chapter helped us delve deeper into our lives and souls and left us wanting to continue a monthly get-together, just the five of us. Our first get-together is a trip to Bloodroot Café in Bridgeport, CT. We all highly recommend this process for all OLOC members and we plan to continue some of the CR chapters each month. We ended with a party and enjoyed lots of luscious food and great conversation. Thank you OLOC Steering Committee, for giving us the guidelines to do this.



Tryna Hope, Bim Burns, Judith Sara, Jean Frances, Emily Greene. Photo by Jean Frances.

## Puget Sound Chapter Report

By Deirdre Knowles, 1947

The Puget Sound Chapter has been busy extending our reach to Old Lesbians more

broadly. We now have three distinct areas in which we hold activities: Seattle area, the South Puget Sound area, and the area West of Puget Sound.

The South Sound PSOLOC group covers the area around Tacoma and as far south as Olympia. The group holds a monthly lunch in a local restaurant, and has recently hosted several discussions on topics of interest to Old Lesbians. The lunch has grown from just a few women to a group of perhaps forty, averaging around twenty attendees most months. We hope to make the discussion a monthly event also.

The Seattle PSOLOC group gathers for dinner once a month, alternating between north and south Seattle locations and drawing between ten and twenty-five women each time. They also sponsor a monthly book club/discussion at a local independent bookstore.

The West Sound PSOLOC group is just getting started, hosting several recent potlucks/picnics to take advantage of the beautiful summer weather we've been enjoying.

These local groups have more frequent gatherings and enable women to become better acquainted with others who live in their general area, though of course there is a good deal of traveling back and forth as well! In addition, we continue to sponsor activities for all of PSOLOC every few months, such as film events and our annual summer Ice Cream Social and potluck.

We continue to connect with other groups around Puget Sound, groups working on aging and LGBT issues in a variety of ways.

PSOLOC is also proud to have been represented at the Oakland Gathering by about two dozen women, nearly ten percent of our total.

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*Gail Collins in the 6/28/14 NY Times op-ed "The Eggs and Us": "We are reminded that men do not get pregnant. Or Corporations. We keep being told they're people, but if they were people who could reproduce I guarantee you contraceptives would not only be free, there would be a tax break for using them."*



## Memorials

### **Bobreta Franklin, 1945–2013**

Bobreta was a flight attendant for TWA in the years when almost no African American women were flight attendants. She was a life-long activist living in the California desert, and a friend of Steering Committee member Ruth Debra. Ruth vividly remembers her: “If I close my eyes I can still see and hear her



saying, ‘Now, this is how a black woman looks at it.’ She was strong yet gentle.”

### **Roberta L. Clegg, 1932–2014**

OLOC member Roberta L. Clegg from Valdosta, Georgia, died April 20, 2014. Her life companion Mickie Gieske sent this information: Roberta retired as a professor emeritus at Valdosta State University, having taught Community Health Nursing. She wrote a book titled *Odyssey in Tibet* about the Diaspora of the Tibetan people by invading Chinese.

## Talking about Race

(Excerpts from “Living Our Testimony on Equality: A White Friend’s Experience,” Pendle Hill 2011, by Patience A. Schenck)

“A major roadblock is that people often do not like to talk about race. People of color seldom confide to whites about race because they have come to expect that white people may not take them seriously. It also is hard for white people to talk about race among themselves; these conversations bring up feelings of defensiveness. We think we should pretend we do not ‘see’ race and try to be ‘colorblind.’ And we are afraid we might let slip evidence of a thought or feeling we do not want to own up to. . . . It can be hard not to be defensive if your words have offended someone when you had only friendly intentions. But it is the impact of our words and actions, not our good intentions, that affects the hearer.

If you are white, you can

- ◆ Read writers of color, both fiction and nonfiction.
- ◆ Continue to think and journal about your own personal racial history.
- ◆ Get to know more people of another race. Seek out racially mixed settings and get to know the people you like there.
- ◆ When people of color describe instances of discrimination, trust that they know their

own experience. Refrain from saying ‘I’m sure she didn’t mean it that way’ or ‘he might have treated me the same way.’ Care that the person is hurting.

- ◆ Give up defensiveness. You are welcome to your own perceptions, but rather than defending them as the truth, welcome the opportunity to understand the responses of others.
- ◆ Speak up. Do not let insensitive comments pass. Plan in advance how you might handle these situations. Get together with a friend and role-play some responses to a variety of comments.
- ◆ Expect to make mistakes. You will. Be gentle with yourself and others.”

*“Racism informs how patriarchy spins out in various communities of color, but misogyny is colorblind.” From a comment in a very interesting Facebook discussion, [newnarratives2014.wordpress.com/014/05/16/how-is-gender-harmful-and-what-does-the-idea-of-gender-abolition-mean-to-trans-women/#comments](http://newnarratives2014.wordpress.com/014/05/16/how-is-gender-harmful-and-what-does-the-idea-of-gender-abolition-mean-to-trans-women/#comments)*

## Report on Alliance for Retired Americans Conference/Convention

By Ruth Debra, 1944

I attended the Alliance for Retired Americans April 28–May 1, 2014, in smoky Las Vegas. The venue was inexpensive, but having to go through a smoky casino to get to plenary sessions and workshops made it pretty unpleasant.

Although some of the speeches were over-long and repetitive, I really enjoyed the event. I think the ARA mission and issues are very similar to OLOC's members' concerns. There was a very strong labor presence (steelworkers, autoworkers, teachers and nurses, etc.). Themes of expanding Social Security and maintaining Medicare are issues about which our members care.

Instead of workshops they title the break-out sessions "Action Sessions." I attended several that were excellent. The two standouts were on Voting Rights and Voter Suppression and the Trans Pacific Partnership Fast Track. If enacted, the TPP would have a large effect on women and old people, including higher drug prices, no quality control over manufacturing, higher food prices, environmental damage, etc. This would really hurt our quality of life as we continue to age.

I only met a few Old Lesbians but many, many allies. People were interested in hearing about OLOC, and I gave out quite a few flyers and rainbow cards for folks to give to friends and family. The first woman I met had a table about consumer safety but she wanted to talk about her Lesbian daughter.

I highly recommend membership in this organization to all of our members. The \$10 membership fee seems quite reasonable.

I think sharing information about ARA and its issues with OLOC membership would be very beneficial. We know only too well that Old Lesbians as a group, even if lucky enough to retire, do not have much economic security.

## Provincetown Social Worker Looks Out for LGBT Elders

By Kris Wrenn, 1954

Cathleen Metzger, a social worker who lives in Provincetown, has been appointed to the Massachusetts Commission on LGBT Aging. Metzger, who is in her mid-60s, is the only Cape representative among legislators, state agency and nonprofit administrators, and geriatric specialists.

## Research Possibilities

If you like to help with research projects and to help be sure Old Lesbians are represented in the groups who answer them, the following are some opportunities for you. You may need to be able to access the surveys online. These projects have been approved by Dr. Sharon Raphael, OLOC's Research Gatekeeper.

## Live in Rural Appalachia?

If you live in a community that is smaller than 50,000 people and not adjacent to any area of that size or larger in the Northern Appalachia region (Maryland, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia) and want to be part of a project to interview women who identify yourselves as Lesbian and you consider yourself to have a more masculine/butch or androgynous gender presentation, contact the researcher, Dr. Julie Hartman, via phone 301-687-3198 or email [jehartman@frostburg.edu](mailto:jehartman@frostburg.edu). Most of the interviews will be done by Skype or telephone.

## For Lesbians Who Self-Identify as African American, Asian American, or Hispanic

The researcher is from Howard University and the study is examining daily stressors and body image among sexual minority women of color. For this one, go here: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/SexualMinorityWomenofColor](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/SexualMinorityWomenofColor)

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*"All your life you think 60 is ancient, and all of a sudden you find you're 60 and you don't really feel that different. I feel stronger and more engaged. This is the best time of my life." Glenn Close*



The following is a reprint of a letter sent by Mary M. Morgan, age 88, to *The Amish Cook*, Lovina Eicher, *Dayton Daily News*

Dear Editor: The Amish Cook has shared with her readers her fear and loathing of getting old. "I turned another year older (43). Sounds old and makes you dread to see your age get higher up there." If she is experiencing dread at age 43 and the life expectancy of white American women has now risen to 81.27 years, she is in for a long period of dread. That's assuming she reaches the statistical expectancy that many people consider a goal and a privilege. I suppose she would be a little bit relieved to learn that the expectancy is only 80.41 years in Ohio.

What and who is promoting this pervasive ageism that keeps us from experiencing wonder and rejoicing that our lifespan has been so astonishingly increased in this favored country when so many peoples in the world have no certainty that they will be alive tomorrow? I urge Lavina to get out of her kitchen a bit more, say to the public library, where she will find book after book with all kinds of techniques, experiences, encouragement to embrace joy in living and service to humankind, year after year after year, until her birthday cake cannot hold one more candle.



Vicki Randle, Marion Abdullah, and Bea Jones.  
Photo by Sandy Morris.

## Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor,

It was such a small gesture, but it made such a large difference! The first OLOC event I attended was a regional conference in Tacoma, Washington, three years ago. One of the little "favors" was a magenta soft plastic bracelet that had the words on it, **Be the Spark; Be the Change**. I wear that bracelet still to remind me to do just that! It has encouraged me to *come out* gracefully to so many in the last three years.

I look for an appropriate opening to tell the person I'm chatting with in the line at the grocery store, or a tech in a medical office, or a stranger on a bus, or a train, or in the museum—actually, almost anywhere. I mention my partner of 26 years who is now deceased: "Yes, she gave me that ring, blouse, or jacket you're admiring." "She and I loved traveling to that state or country and how friendly we found the people also." "My partner, she and I had one dog and five cats there at that lake." You get the idea. . .

To most people I just look like someone's grandma, so my purpose is to help others see that Lesbians can be anyone they meet **or** they know already. In these three years, I have never had anyone show shock or treat me in any way disrespectfully. It seems most of them look a little surprised, but they cover it quickly and get back into our conversation.

I wish to thank the women from the Pacific Northwest OLOC who thought of that little addition to our goody bag. It has helped me remember to be the change agent so that more persons on my path can see Lesbians for what we are—just regular women whom they may meet every day.

Yours truly,  
Karen Averitt, 1945  
Newly of Santa Rosa, CA

## Why Does OLOC Choose Big Hotels for Our National Gatherings?

*In 2012 Jan Griesinger wrote an answer to a commonly asked question about why we choose hotels for our Gatherings and why they are usually fairly large ones. We published it in the Reporter. Since we are still hearing the same question, we are reprinting her answers here.*

Our first few National Gatherings were held on college campuses, but we were not able to continue this practice, primarily because we require fully accessible space. On campuses it is very hard to find accessible spaces—large plenary room, cafeteria, dorm rooms, and workshop rooms—fairly close together so everyone can easily get to them, especially when the weather is hot or it is raining.

Also, dorm rooms are not necessarily cheaper than a hotel room for two Lesbians.

We cannot choose a rural retreat or conference center because we need easy access via public transportation from a major airport.

We will continue to explore the possibility of meeting on sites other than large hotels, but so far this has been the best option to meet all our needs. If anything else comes up, I will let you know.

## Defining Racism

*Excerpts from the May–June 2007 issue of the American Psychologist journal. Authors were Derald Wing Sue, Christina M. Capodilupo, Gina C. Torino, Jennifer M. Bucci, Aisha M.B. Holder, Kevin L. Nadal, and Marta Esquilin*

“When Asian Americans (born and raised in the U.S.) are complimented for speaking good English or are repeatedly asked where they were born, the effect is to negate their U.S. American heritage and to convey that they are perpetual foreigners. When Blacks are told that “I don’t see color” or “we are all

human beings” the effect is to negate their experiences as racial/cultural beings. . . .”

“Researchers emphasize that racism is (a) more likely than ever to be disguised and covert and (b) has evolved from the ‘old fashioned’ form, in which overt racial hatred and bigotry is consciously and publicly displayed, to a more ambiguous and nebulous form that is more difficult to identify and acknowledge. Aversive racists are strongly motivated by egalitarian values as well as anti-minority feelings. Their egalitarian values operate on a conscious level. While their anti-minority feelings are less conscious and generally covert. . . .”

“We have found the term ‘racial micro-aggressions’ to best describe the phenomenon in its everyday occurrence. They are brief, everyday exchanges that send denigrating messages to people of color, because they belong to a racial minority group. They are detrimental to persons of color because they impair performance in a multitude of settings by sapping the psychic and spiritual energy of recipients and by creating inequities.”

## Gaye Adegbalola Donates to OLOC Media Library

*By Susan Wiseheart, 1941*

Longtime OLOC member Gaye Adegbalola of Saffire-Uppity Blues Women fame, now with a band called Wild Rutz—sent us free copies of both her (DVD) two-episode television show *Old Black Dyke™* that she does with her band and her CD *Blues in All Flavors*, show-casing many styles of blues. At my youngest grandson’s ninth birthday party a couple of years ago, some of the kids sang and danced along with it. Both are available on loan as part of the OLOC Media Library (home use only).

**A big thank you** goes to Nan Worthing and Mary Morgan, who put labels on our June newsletter. They also stuffed envelopes and labeled our fund-raising letter. It might not sound like much, but the letter takes hours.



OLOC is a Wolfe Video affiliate. Use this link to order from Wolfe, and OLOC will receive cash to support our work.

[wolfevideo.com/default.asp?R=1344](http://wolfevideo.com/default.asp?R=1344)

Wolfe Video is Lesbian-owned-and-operated.



## 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. To be a supporter, you may be anyone else. As either a member or a supporter, you will receive four issues of the OLOC Reporter before you have to renew. Couples may both use the form below.

**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 choosing to send (suggest between \$25.00 and \$50.00) for my membership. Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ (less if you can't, more if you can)

I am not qualified for OLOC membership but would like to be a supporter and receive 4 issues of *The Reporter*. Suggested donation for supporters is \$30-\$60 for one year. 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 choosing to send (suggest between \$25.00 and \$50.00) for my membership. Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ (less if you can't, more if you can)

I am not qualified for OLOC membership but would like to be a supporter and receive 4 issues of *The Reporter*. Suggested donation for supporters is \$30-\$60 for one year. Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Prefer (circle one) print copy / electronic / both

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

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 occasional E-News by e-mail?  
Yes ☐ No ☐

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 occasional 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 have to have a PayPal account to use a credit card there. If a couple is paying, please include both names in the comments section. MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "OLOC."

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

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

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

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 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. \_\_\_\_\_



**Old Lesbians Organizing for Change**

**OLOC**

**PO Box 5853**

**Athens, OH 45701**

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***Time to Renew?***

**If your label says 2014.09  
(meaning 2014 September)  
or earlier, your membership/  
supportership has ended  
and it is time to renew.**

**Ageist:**

**“For all of her years she was  
supple as a girl.”**

**Ageist:**

**“Ravages of time.”**

**Ageist:**

**“Old age, thy name is pitiful.”**

**Anti-ageist?**

**“Old people know more about  
being young than young people  
know about being old.”**