



An International
Community of
Lesbian Elders

The Reporter

A quarterly publication of Old Lesbians Organizing for Change:
An International Community of Lesbian Elders

JUNE
2023

Vol 33 #2

The Gathering is Coming! Steering Committee Meets to Plan

By Michiko Bailey Thorne, 1953

The OLOC Steering Committee had a face-to-face meeting in Tempe, Arizona, from April 27 to 29 at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Phoenix/Tempe.

The six of us [including three provisional members] arrived at the hotel on Wednesday, flying in from various parts of the country. We met for the first time Thursday morning at 9:00. We reintroduced ourselves to each other and then got down to OLOC business.

First business of the day was once again reviewing and discussing the evaluations of our last Gathering. We all felt good about moving on to the rest of our agenda, especially tasks involving the upcoming Gathering in November. Some of the agenda items had to do with our Chapters: getting revised up-to-date packets, forms on how to form a Chapter, and [the desire to have] an annual Chapter Coordinators' meeting with the Steering Committee. Lots of talk was had about our various committees such as Communications and Marketing along with DEI (Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion), End White Dominance, and others. The first day we had lunch in the hotel cafe; the remaining two days we had working lunches to stay the course and work through our agenda.



Michiko Bailey Thorne, 1953

We also had lovely guests with us every afternoon: Mary Ciner, 1940; Barbara Gottlieb, 1950; and Sylvia Brown, 1939.

The afternoon discussions varied, touching on the OLOC online discussion group, [rainbow] “card-carrying Lesbian” cards, and our t-shirts in local storage.

Regarding the Gathering, the hotel conference staff spent several hours with us reviewing details such as food, equipment we might need, and spaces for banquets, entertainment, and workshops. The Steering Committee also went over fees, registration and workshop forms, accessibility concerns, and much more.

We left Sunday morning exhausted—but looking forward to welcoming all of you to the Gathering!

Mission: OLOC represents Lesbian Elders in a spirit of inclusiveness to promote Lesbian visibility. We come together to preserve our herstory, to confront social injustice, and to give and receive support for our later years.

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change:
An International Community of Lesbian Elders

PO BOX 100129 • Cranston, RI 02910
Phone: 888-706-7506 (toll-free)

EMAIL: info@oloc.org
www.oloc.org

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This newsletter is brought to you by:

Editor: Sheryl, 1954.

Content review: Sally Tatnall, 1937, and
Susan Wiseheart, 1941.

Spanish translation by Google Translate via Sheryl,
1954.

Spanish Proofreader and Copy-editor:
María Cora, 1953.

English Proofreader and Copy-editor:
Nancy Krody, 1939.

Design/Layout: Connie Rose, 1948.

All of the writers and photographers.

Deadline for the next issue is August 1, 2023.

Limit contributions to 300 words. For memorials we
only print announcements. Life stories appear in the
E-News. For *Reporter*, just send in name, location,
and birth and death years of the Lesbian who died.

We may edit articles for clarity and/or length. Send
articles to reporter@oloc.org or PO Box 100129,
Cranston, RI 02910.

To join OLOC online, go to <https://oloc.charityproud.org/Membership/Signup>.

To join by mail, download the form in PDF at
[https://oloc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/
FORM-Affiliate-May2022-EN.pdf](https://oloc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/FORM-Affiliate-May2022-EN.pdf) (English) or
[https://oloc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/
FORM-Afiliada-5-16-22-SP.pdf](https://oloc.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/FORM-Afiliada-5-16-22-SP.pdf) (Spanish).

Print it out, complete it, and send it in!

**Examples of Ageism—Send Us What
You’ve Seen/Heard**

Thanks to Mary M. Morgan, 1925–2015.

You are in pretty good health for your age.

Age is really just a state of mind.

You shouldn’t call yourself old. It’s so depressing.

Who We Are: OLOC is an organization of
Old Lesbians and our supporters. 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’s Steering Committee welcomes feedback
and suggestions from affiliates by way of mail,
phone, or email. Please let us know if you would
like a response.

Steering Committee Meetings

The National Steering Committee meets regularly
by Zoom—most often on the 2nd and
4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00 P.M. ET. If
there are topics you want the Committee to
address, contact them by email at info@oloc.org;
a note to the PO Box in Cranston, Rhode Island; or
a phone call to 888-706-7506 (toll-free). Be sure to
say if you want a response.

The Steering Committee welcomes OLOC
affiliates as guests at its meetings.
Contact info@oloc.org for details.

Discussion Etiquette

Revised (March 2023): For all OLOC
communications and events, you are responsible
for your own contribution which means using
“I” whenever possible. Each OLOC affiliate
is responsible for creating an inclusive and
welcoming environment through their words and
actions, so please use respectful and considerate
language at all times which includes not using
racial, ethnic, or any slurs regarding others.
OLOC does support civil disagreements between
participants and promotes reflective listening. And
please note, individual opinions do not necessarily
reflect the beliefs or attitudes of OLOC as a whole.





An International
Community of
Lesbian Elders



Una Comunidad
Internacional de
Lesbianas Mayores

OLOC 2023 NATIONAL GATHERING!

¡Encuentro Nacional De OLOC 2023!

November 15–19, 2023

in Tempe, Arizona*

“Love, Laughter, & RESILIENCE”
“Amor, Risa, & RESISTENCIA”

with Old Lesbians -
AND SO MUCH MORE!

Saturday, Nov. 18 at 7:30 pm

**LAUGH FEST
KAREN WILLIAMS!**



Friday, Nov. 17 at 7:30 pm
KEYNOTE SPEAKER



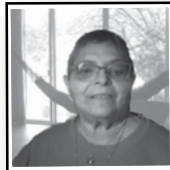
Bettina Aptheker, Ph.D.
active in civil rights
and anti-war
movements of the
1960s and 1970s,
and has since worked
in developing feminist
studies

Karen Williams has the unique distinction of being the nation's first openly Lesbian Black comic to include specifically Lesbian material in her act. Her solo comedy special "I Need a Snack" filmed live in Hollywood – and produced by Andrea Meyerson of AllOut Films – is a LOGO TV favorite and available on DVD.

LOC DAY FACILITATOR

María Luisa ‘Papusa’ Molina, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Instituto Kanankil
Merida, Yucatan, Mexico

– former General Director of the
National Institute for Women in
Mexico – former Director of the
Instituto Quintanarroense de la Mujer in
Cancún – co-founder of Women Against Racism



***DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel Phoenix Tempe**
2100 S Priest Dr, Tempe, AZ 85282

WEDNESDAY, NOV. 15
9:00 am–4:00 pm

LESBIANS OF COLOR DAY:
Evento Para Lesbianas de Color:
Facilitated by Dr. María Luisa ‘Papusa’ Molina

**WHITE LESBIANS EXAMINE
UNCONSCIOUS RACISM
DAY**
Facilitator TBD

OLOC: P. O. Box 100129
Cranston, RI 02910
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To connect to GATHERING INFO
on our website: www.oloc.org
pause your phone camera over this
and click on the link message.



Martin-Lyon Old Lesbian Pride Award

We Have a Winner!

By Patti Kardia, 1959

OLOC's Del Martin-Phyllis Lyon Old Lesbian Pride Award was initially given in 2010 to honor the legacy of Del Martin, 1921–2008, and later also Phyllis Lyon, 1924–2020. Together, they founded the first social and political organization for Lesbians in the US, the Daughters of Bilitis, and made numerous other contributions on behalf of Lesbians.

Del and Phyllis were activists, pathfinders, and OLOC affiliates. They were married in 2008 after 55 years together. Del and Phyllis were both out, proud, and unapologetic when few were. They forged an enduring image that continues to inspire generations of Lesbians around the globe.

The Award in their names is presented at every National Gathering to a Lesbian 70 years or older whose life and work have impacted and will continue to impact the well-being of Old Lesbians.



Please join the OLOC Steering Committee in celebrating the contributions of **Linda L. Wilson, 1949** (above), who will receive the 2023 Award.

Linda has been the Production and Stage Manager of the National Women's Music Festival (NWMF) since 1987. She has filled numerous other positions for women's music events and festivals around the country through Willow Productions, including in Kansas City, Missouri, where she lived for many years. She serves on the Board of Directors of Women in the Arts (which produces NWMF) and produced and hosted WomanSong on KKFI 90.1 FM every Saturday for 32 years, where she featured the music of international, national, and local women in all genres of music.

Linda has been at the forefront of women's music and culture and continues to provide the soundtrack for countless Lesbians, old and young.

The 2023 Martin-Lyon Old Lesbian Pride Award will be presented to Linda at the OLOC National Gathering scheduled for November 15–19 in Tempe, Arizona (near Phoenix).

Congratulations, Linda!

Passings

Jackie Mirkin, 1931–2023,
Gulfport, Florida, and
Northampton, Massachusetts

Rita de Quercus, 1947–2023,
Cleveland, Ohio

Gail Christian, 1940–2023,
Palm Springs, California

Joann E. Campbell Jones, 1932–2023,
Eaton, Ohio

See the E-News for more about these Lesbians.

**VOLUNTEER NEEDS
FOR THE GATHERING:
SEE PAGE 5**

Join the fun and help us out! Win win!



**To find OLOC on
Facebook, go to**

www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC

OLOC News

Volunteers, Please

By gypsy, 1952

Hello Affiliates,

The bi-annual Gathering is approaching, 15–19 November, in Tempe, Arizona. We would like your help starting on Monday, 13 November, and ending on Tuesday, 21 November. We could use your help any time within those dates.

On 14 November/Tuesday afternoon, training will be offered for co-facilitators for the White Lesbians Examine Unconscious Racism Day on Wednesday. Additionally, training will be offered for the registration table on Tuesday. The building guides/“walking maps” will be handed maps to familiarize themselves with this LARGE building on Tuesday. They will also assist those arriving with any help they may need, such as baggage, room location, and restaurant location.

We will need volunteer women at the registration table, women as building guides/“walking maps,” and women assisting at the vendors’ table from 15 November–19 November. Sound engineer and ASL interpreters are needed from 15 November/Wednesday to midday 19 November/Sunday.

If you arrive with any of these skills, we will be grateful for your assistance. Training will be provided for other activities. Please help us. Contact gypsy@oloc.org or (281) 571-9393.

Don’t use computer to see OLOC forms on website? Planning to attend the Gathering and interested in doing a workshop or volunteering to help? Contact info@oloc.org or call our toll-free number at 888-706-7506.

OLOC, Inc.

Profit and Loss • January–December 2022

INCOME	TOTAL
Chapter dues	1,404.00
Contributions income	221,744.71
Grants	20,000.00
Total Income	\$243,148.71
GROSS PROFIT	\$243,148.71
EXPENSES	
Admin Coordinator	14,441.75
Advertising and promotion	-280.56
Contract services	4,045.00
Education	
E-News	11,609.52
Reporter newsletter	16,395.80
Website	8,946.90
Total Education	36,952.22
Insurance	2,332.00
Licenses and permits	125.68
Miscellaneous operating expenses	720.00
National Gathering expenses.....	8,240.10
Office expenses	8,602.19
Steering Committee.....	12,143.73
Storage costs.....	838.25
Total Expenses	\$88,160.36
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$154,988.35
Other Income	
Investment income	1,980.86
Unrealized gain/loss on investment ...	-21,645.32
Total Other Income	\$-19,664.46
NET OTHER INCOME.....	\$-19,664.46
NET INCOME	\$135,323.89

(We were fortunate to receive \$137,000 in bequests from affiliates who passed.)

More Examples of Ageism:

Thanks to Mary M. Morgan, 1925–2015.
You may be 72 but you still act young.
You must be very lonely at your age.
Social Security is going to bankrupt the country.
You certainly don’t look like you’re 68 years old.

Please consider including OLOC in your will if you have, or plan to create, one. Bequests help keep us going. Thank you!

Old Lesbians Write About The 'Isms'

Looking for Anti-racism Activity

By Susan Wiseheart, 1941

When I was in my early days of attending anti-racism trainings about five decades ago, at one training one of the facilitators of the white people group (People of Color were doing other things) drew a square divided into quarters on a piece of newsprint we could all see.

In the four squares, she wrote the following pairs of words, one in each box: active racist, passive racist, active anti-racist, passive anti-racist. Then we discussed each pair.

What did it mean for someone to be an active racist? We named Bull Conner, George Wallace, and others, those who were visibly out in the world acting out their racism by hosing down civil rights activists; stopping schools from integrating; murdering voting rights workers, MLK, and way too many others; stopping positive laws from passing Congress; and plenty more.

Then we talked about what it meant to be a passive racist. That is someone who ignores racism, who walks away or is afraid to speak up, who does not see it, never heard about it, or does not want to: someone, nearly certain to be white, who may not be perpetuating blatant racism in an active way but is not stopping it, either.

An active anti-racist works consistently to bring about positive antiracist change whenever and wherever possible. We brainstormed a huge list of possible actions to take in various situations and agreed to make good use of them by ourselves and together with others, starting with the institution sponsoring the training, the public schools.

Last, we addressed being a passive anti-racist. The facilitator drew a large X across those words because there is no such thing.

Applying this exercise to right now, decades later, still fits. How many in OLOC are in those groups today?

What Is Going Wrong with US Foreign Policy for More than 400 Years? (Imperialism)

By Emily Greene, 1946

This question has chased me most of my adult life, seeing so many people being mistreated by the US government and how this has impacted them. [I also see] the issues we face today from the US intervention in Central America, creating the triangle of horror with Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras refugees in the thousands at our border, but no one talks about the role the US has played. We just need to look back to the 1980s and US policy toward countries that were turning to socialism.

But, let's look at how the US has intervened in Cuba since the revolution in 1959, when the Cuban people fought for and gained their right to freedom and socialism. For over 60 years, Cuba has stood strong in its choice to [provide] all citizens [with] housing and food, free education, free health care, and health care education. I visited Cuba in December 2019 with CODEPINK. We visited an organic farm, a village hit hard by a hurricane that had rebuilt its housing in less than a year, a senior education program, and a school for disabled children. We experienced friendly Cubans, even when we were on our own, walking the streets. I came away wondering why the US is carrying on an embargo against Cuba for over 60 years, a country that during the pandemic was the first to send doctors to Italy. Cuba has not attacked the US, yet we have the right to [immobilize] it with sanctions.

US militarism and imperialism are based on the desire to gain power and dominion over the political and economic life of other countries. The only kind thing the US could do is help struggling countries with humanitarian aid and look at how we could better support Native Americans and descendants of slavery.

Zoom Events

OLOC's Zoom Crew and other planning committees have been developing many engaging events to keep us all connected since the pandemic began. The Zoom Crew organizes and implements special panels/presentations, ongoing series, open house informal get-togethers, and support/discussion groups. The End White Dominance Planning Committee coordinates and facilitates a monthly series of events designed to further educate OLOC affiliates/supporters about systemic racism and what we can do to interrupt it. The Confronting Sexism: Fighting for Our Lives series focuses on the oppression of women and how it affects us as individuals and as a group.

Coming Events:

Special Panels and Presentations

Nothing scheduled at this time but keep checking right here!

Ongoing Series

Confronting Sexism: Fighting for Our Lives— Topics: To Be Announced

Tuesday, June 20, 3:00–5:00 P.M. ET, 2:00 CT,
1:00 MT, 12:00 PT

Tuesday, July 18, 3:00–5:00 P.M. ET, 2:00 CT,
1:00 MT, 12:00 PT

Tuesday, August 15, 3:00–5:00 P.M. ET, 2:00 CT,
1:00 MT, 12:00 PT

End White Dominance—Topics: To Be Announced

Friday, June 23, 4:00–6:00 P.M. ET, 3:00 CT,
2:00 MT, 1:00 PT

Friday, July 28, 4:00–6:00 P.M. ET, 3:00 CT,
2:00 MT, 1:00 PT

Friday, August 25, 4:00–6:00 P.M. ET, 3:00 CT,
2:00 MT, 1:00 PT

Open Houses

eLevate the “L”: Lesbian Legacies during Pride

Monday, June 26, 4:00–5:30 P.M. ET, 3:00 CT,
2:00 MT, 1:00 PT

Virtual Picnic

Sunday, July 9, 2:00 P.M. ET, 1:00 CT,
12:00 noon MT, 11:00 A.M. PT

Support/Discussion Groups

Ongoing groups include:

- Lesbians of Color Discussion
- Lesbian Widows Support
- Caregivers Support

- ASL Chat
- Radical Lesbian Feminist Discussion

Check out the full schedule at <https://oloc.org/zoom-schedule/>. You can see videos of the past Zoom Crew events, with resources such as reading lists, transcripts, and viewer reports.

Questions? Please contact zoom@OLOC-Chapters.groups.io (Zoom Crew events), susan@oloc.org (End White Dominance), or renagm@aol.com (Confronting Sexism).

Calling All Lesbians of Color

Did you know that OLOC has a discussion group for Lesbians of Color? It meets via Zoom every third Wednesday of the month from 5:30 to 7:00 P.M. ET. For June, July, and August, the dates are June 21, July 19, and August 16. Contact gypsy at tnasus@hotmail.com with questions. The registration link is in the twice-monthly invitation sent—only to affiliates who indicate they are Lesbians of Color when sending in their “membership” form—at the beginning of each month and again the day before the meeting (a reminder). You can register up to and even after the meeting starts.

Calling All Writers, Artists, Creators

By Clove Haviva, 1960

The monthly OLOC Art and Writing Share group is (usually and especially now) seeking new creative types to share their work. We have met 15 times to listen to stories and see art of many types. The meetings are focused. We say “hello” and find out where anyone new is Zooming in from; then we dive in, alternating a reading or a song with a visual. The rule is “positive feedback only,” although the presenter is free to ask for other feedback. If you have nothing nice to say, you trust that someone else will. This makes it a safe place to take new art for a spin, and a safe place for trying new art forms or finding your way back into the artistic self you abandoned long ago. When everyone has presented, we usually chat. It is a wonderfully intimate space to get to know new Lesbians.

We meet third Thursdays (though it will be the fifth Thursday in June) 2–4:00 P.M. ET, 1:00 CT, 12:00 MT, 11:00 PT.

If enough Lesbians want to meet at another time, starting a new group in addition is possible.

To learn more or join, write Clove at clove.haviva@bastyr.edu.



Chapter News

OLOC Chapters as of June 1, 2023, are Arizona (meeting in greater Phoenix); San Francisco Bay Area, California; Colorado; WMass, Massachusetts; St. Louis, Missouri; New Mexico; Hudson Valley, New York; Central Ohio; Rhode Island; Vermont; Puget Sound Area, Washington; Tri-State (West Virginia, Ohio, and Kentucky); and Online At-Large and Boundary-free (virtual).

New OLOC Chapter Forms: At-Large and Boundary-free

By Henri, 1937

The At-Large Chapter is for any affiliate, even if already in a chapter in your state. We are Lesbians from across the country, in all time zones. The initiative for this new Chapter came from Janis Sommers, 1951. Janis had attended the last in-person Gathering and the 2022 Zoom Gathering. She wanted to keep that feeling of sisterhood with Lesbians alive, and Zoom made it possible.

The first meeting, February 20, a lively and stimulating event, was attended by 37 Lesbians from around the country. The name was chosen, and so was the meeting time: third Mondays at 7:00 P.M. ET. The second meeting, in March, was devoted to organization: Janis became the “Goddess/Coordinator,” and Sue Reamer, 1942, volunteered to coordinate a revolving list of monthly facilitators. Others volunteered to help with tech issues, birthday cards, and topics for discussion. We felt that we were unique in representing the whole country, not only one area or city; we are not, so far, a “closed group.” Welcoming new women in is primary.

In April, the topic was the upcoming Gathering in Tempe, Arizona, November 15–19. The Gathering is a place to learn what other women are doing as activists, and many in our chapter want to attend, while for others it would be a hardship. Zoom of at least the main sessions would be preferred.

To join our group, send an email to Janis02642@gmail.com.

Hudson Valley Chapter

By Retts, 1953

Well, our Chapter is small but mighty. Seven members of Hudson Valley OLOC (including Bonnie, 1942, and me) attended a forum in March on Alzheimer’s disease and dementia. It was sponsored by the LGBTQ Center of the Hudson Valley and the Alzheimer’s Association of the Hudson Valley. The woman who facilitated the forum told a personal story about her brother who developed Alzheimer’s in his early 70s. She also spoke about “normal” age-related memory loss which put a lot of us at ease. After the presentation, she opened the floor for questions, and many members shared their personal experience with loved ones. It was interesting and informative. We were given materials that I shared at our meeting in April. We also discussed having a Part 2 of the Death Café in May.

In the meantime, our Women Only Social met at a new location in Woodstock the first Thursday in March, after the restaurant we were meeting at closed. Twenty-five Lesbians came as this is open to all women; a portion of the members are OLOC members, and some are potential members. It is purely a social event; however, whenever Lesbians gather it is a political statement.

We also planned an outdoor dance on the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend at a park in West Hurley, which is right next to Woodstock. DJ Chad will be spinning. It was open to all women.

Our Chapter will meet in June, but will take July and August off for summer vacation. August is reserved for our annual pool party meeting where we collect dues and emphasize joining National OLOC and helping others renew their membership. This year’s party is TBA.

Chapter News (continued)

Western Mass Chapter

By Emily Greene, 1946



L to R front: Emily Greene, 1946; Rena Carney, 1950; and Mary Alice Stout, 1945; back: Barbara Lieu, 1945; Rose Norman, 1949; and Sue Barbara, 1949

It's hard to believe that winter is just about over and we had two days with temperatures in the mid 80s in April. I was happy to see warmer weather creeping in. Many of us are desperate to get out and enjoy fresh air. Laura Kaye, 1945, has come up with the perfect solution. On May 7, we gathered in Laura's town for a short hike on a wheelchair-accessible path into a park and then went to [the] center of town for ice cream and to enjoy chatting.

In January, we met to look at what 2023 might look like for us. After losing another member—Jackie Mirkin, 1931, a wonderful Western Mass OLOCer, and Edie Daly's, 1937, partner of 26 years—we decided to talk more about how to create death with dignity. Both February and April meetings were focused on this and our local hospice came and talked to us. For our March program, Roberta Pato, 1946, showed a great comedy hour [movie] of Wanda Sykes.

On the side, Roberta and I have taken on a project over the past year of taking my photos and some short video clips I took at the Pagoda—a [now defunct] Lesbian community in St. Augustine, Florida—and creating a documentary of my story. Roberta has been an incredible tech support in making this possible. Rose

Norman, 1949, has done hundreds of interviews of those who lived there and is close to completing her book about the Pagoda. This legendary community not only gave us 12 tiny cottages to live in but also a three-story building with rooms to rent that housed the theatre where concerts and plays happened for over 20 years. We hope to have this documentary finished to show at the book launch in October and to be archived for future generations.

New Mexico Chapter

By Susan Buchler, 1946

February 18, 2023: Laurel Ladwig (53) from Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge in Albuquerque told us about this natural reserve within our city limits. She described how we could make our own yards refuges for wildlife and pollinators, including birds, bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds, and receive a [yard] plaque and 50-gallon rainwater collection barrel with attachments by qualifying as a Wildlife Habitat.

March 18, 2023: At this meeting in Santa Fe, Lorie Dwinell, 1939, hosted us at her home “museum.” She told us about her travels and some of the artists who created her extensive collection of New Mexico precious indigenous items and Native American



Jojo, 1958; Pat Pedersen, 1943; Lorie Dwinell, 1939; Susan Buchler, 1946; Marge; and Marsie (72)

(continued on page 10)

New Mexico Chapter (Continued)

treasures. These include paintings, pottery, hand-woven rugs, kachinas, and jewelry. After our tour, we visited and enjoyed Lorie's hospitality and the lunches we had brought.

April 15, 2023: Our guest at this meeting, Alice Barczak (65), is the brain-child of a movement started in Albuquerque and spreading out.



(L to R): Elizabeth Berrey, 1945; Hari Sheppard, 1950; Alice Barczak (65); Pat Pedersen, 1943; and Sandy Smith, 1949

Her creation, "Lesbian Earth," started in response to a need when she took over the Meet-up group, *Albuquerque Queer Women*. It is hard to be a Lesbian in 2023 and hard to meet other Lesbians. While the term may be offensive to us, "queer" is how the younger generation describes itself. This Meet-up includes a way to register for "Lesbian Earth" and a newsletter called *Your Lesbian World* that informs about a variety of Lesbian activities.

Of note, there is a major influx of Lesbians moving to Albuquerque because of finances and the political climate, both younger (from Oregon and Texas) and retired (from "red" states).

Also at this program, the year's remaining programs were decided by a ranked-choice ballot.

**Want to start an OLOC Chapter in your area?
Contact info@oloc.org for information.**



**To find OLOC on
Facebook, go to**

www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC

By the XX Amazons' Uprising Planners

A gathering to build and celebrate Lesbian communities and the female-centered world will take place for women-born women actively supporting women-only space from Thursday, October 26, through Monday, October 30, in northwest Arkansas.



Join XX Amazons for festivities and strategizing at this political, cultural, educational, spiritual, and female-bonding event. We are working to end patriarchy, including colonialism, racism, and all other hierarchies. This year, the Uprising will focus on building Lesbian community. We will work together to end female erasure. We plan to bask in womyn and Lesbian energy.

We welcome proposals for workshops with your registration. The Uprising works by power-with, not power-over. We come together as equals, work cooperatively, and treat each other with respect. We recognize herstorical and current wrongs to all womyn.

We welcome and encourage womyn of every age, race, ethnic background, and class to attend, including those re-identifying with being female. There will be opportunities for Womyn of Colors to meet privately. Contact us with any access questions.

The Uprising is limited to 35 of us. We recommend early registration. Lodging is indoors with comfortable beds, not camping. Three meals per day and snacks will be provided. The Uprising is created by the womxxn who come, including preparing meals and creating festivities.

Cost is on a sliding scale. This event is near Northwest Arkansas Regional Airport. The Uprising is a drug-, alcohol-, weapon-, smoke-, and fragrance-free event. Registration forms will be available July 1 and registration will open on July 15. For more information, go to xxamazons.org/uprising/, email uprising@xxamazons.org, or write P.O. Box 133, Fayetteville, Arkansas 72702.

Please do not share information about this event on social media.

Remembering Alix, Two Years On

Missing Alix

By Susan Wiseheart, 1941

My very dear friend, since 1977, Alix [Dobkin, 1940–2021] has now been gone for two years, and I often miss her strongly, deeply. Usually, I believe I might know what she is most likely thinking regarding something going on in OLOC [Alix was on the Steering Committee for 14 years; I am a contract worker] or the world, but, oh, how I wish I could check in and find out for sure.

Alix and I spent a lot of time at each other's houses over the years. We liked to be part of each other's cultures when possible.

In this picture, Alix is at my Ozarks place, about halfway through the writing of *My Red Blood*, her fascinating book about the early years of her life as a communist, artist, fierce activist, musician, and so much more.

The story ends as she comes out Lesbian, and, to those who asked her if she was writing a second one about her dyke life, she said "no." It was hard work, that book writing, and she had already written so much about her life as a Lesbian.



Alix

The photo caught her in her pajamas in her writing space in my common room. She spent hours there every day on that visit.

Alix was impressively devoted to the writing and editing of the book, doing research, coming up with more memories, selecting what to include and what to drop. Rarely did she take days off from it.

I was fortunate enough to read the manuscript several times in process and see how it advanced. I even did some proofreading, copyediting, and suggesting, and enjoyed it all very much. I appreciated her devotion to it. I plan to read it again soon, to refresh my memory and to spend some time with her in that way.

The Woman in Your Life is You

By Alix Dobkin

The woman in your life
Will do what she must do
To comfort you and calm you down
And let you rest now
The woman in your life
She can rest so easily
She knows everything you do
Because the woman in your life is you
The woman in your life
Knows simply what is true
She knows the simple way to touch
To make you whole now
The woman in your life
She can touch so easily
She knows everything you do
Because the woman in your life is you

And who knows more about your story
About your struggles in the world
Who cares more to bless your weary shoulders
Than the woman in your life
She's trying to come through
A woman's voice with messages
A woman's feelings
Oh, the woman in your life
She can feel so easily
She knows everything you do
Because the woman in your life is you
And who is sure to give you courage
And who will surely make you strong

Who will bear all the joy that is coming to you
If not the woman in your life
She's someone to pursue
She's patient and she's waiting and
She'll take you home now
The woman in your life
She can wait so easily
And she knows everything you do
Because the woman in your life is you
Because the woman in your life
The woman in your life is you

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PO BOX 100129

Cranston, RI 02910

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