



An International  
Community of  
Lesbian Elders

# The Reporter

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

DECEMBER  
2023

Vol 33 #4

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## 2023 International Gathering One of the Largest Gatherings Ever!

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By Patti Kardia, 1959

OLOC hosted one of its largest Gatherings ever in Tempe, Arizona, last month, November 15–19, 2023! More than 160 women attended at the Doubletree Hotel from Wednesday to Sunday. The Steering Committee received so much positive feedback from the Old Lesbians who attended. A quick review of the evaluations showed an average overall ranking of 4.47 out of 5. All of the meetings-of-the-whole were ASL [American Sign Language] interpreted as well as captioned [with CART, Communication Access Realtime Translation] which made it easier for all to “hear” and participate. And, starting with the pre-Gathering events for Lesbians of Color to gather and white women to explore racism—onto the Opening, then Thursday’s first plenary, a review of OLOC’s strategic planning process and progress from the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, and beyond—the Gathering worked toward being inclusive and equitable.

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“This Gathering was exceptional, the best one I’ve been to. Much was covered, much accomplished.” Henri

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*Old and young (intergenerational workshop participants), we all had a great time!*

Of course, there were areas for improvement, e.g., though a dozen women used scooters to get around, the conference center was NOT accessible and very challenging to get in and out of; workshops didn’t include captioning or ASL, which made it challenging for some women to [follow]; though the hotel

staff were helpful, rooms were not always as anticipated; without a printed program booklet, the individual pieces of paper were confusing for many women; and three days of rain meant leaks in one of our key breakout rooms, which took it out of use; and so forth.

If you attended, please complete the online evaluation at <https://forms.gle/nxjW3dH1MH4XR25L6> if you didn’t have a chance to complete the paper evaluation and would like us to consider your feedback.

The presenters were outstanding, including the keynote and comic, and the Talent Show was entertaining. We hope to share some of the recordings on Zoom and hope even more Old Lesbians will join us in 2025!

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

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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: 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 February 1, 2024.

Limit contributions to 300 words. For memorials we  
print only announcements. Send in name, location, and  
birth and death years of the Lesbian who died. Life  
stories appear in the E-News ([enews@oloc.org](mailto:enews@oloc.org)).

We may edit articles for clarity and/or length, and  
we reserve the right to decide which contributions to  
publish. Send articles to [reporter@oloc.org](mailto:reporter@oloc.org)  
or PO Box 100129, Cranston, RI 02910.

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

- **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.

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### **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](mailto: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](mailto:info@oloc.org) for details.
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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/2023/05/  
FORM-Affiliate-Fillable\\_8-25-22-EN.pdf](https://oloc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/FORM-Affiliate-Fillable_8-25-22-EN.pdf)  
(English) or [https://files.constantcontact.  
com/e3e24b82801/0270ec22-fabb-4522-ac0a-  
66e1916a14cc.pdf](https://files.constantcontact.com/e3e24b82801/0270ec22-fabb-4522-ac0a-66e1916a14cc.pdf) (Spanish).

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



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

[www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC](http://www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC)

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**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.

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**Vision:** OLOC is an inclusive, multicultural rainbow of Lesbian Elders working in community  
for social justice, maintaining a Lesbian focus.

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# The Roving Reporter Asks: "Your Opinion of the Gathering?"



**Sandra Garcia, 1957**  
 Jersey City, NJ  
 "I think I always learn a lot, but this one was different because I felt the progress. This one had the white women and Women of Color. It has been a nice sharing. I feel like we are all sisters."



**Kate Miler, 1944**  
 Santa Cruz, CA  
 "It's my first event. We are having a wonderful time. It's especially wonderful to meet everyone."

**Ayesha Ali, 1953**

Baltimore, MD  
 "It felt warmer to me than the Ohio OLOC [2019]. I am aware that people are working to bring more Lesbians of Color to the Gathering."



**Penny Mickelbury, 1948**  
 Rock Wall, TX  
 "This is my first OLOC Gathering and I wouldn't trade it for anything and I'm glad to be here. It's a necessary event. I still think there's too much separation. Lesbians of Color met on Wednesday and that wasn't part of the Gathering — just an appendage — not a part of the main Gathering. It felt like the Gathering has not been inclusive. The discussions didn't have anything to do with me. A lot of the discussions felt limited."



**Maritza Lima, 1955**  
 Trujillo Alto, PR  
 "I had a wonderful time. It's a great event. We should do it every two years. I got a lot out of the workshops."

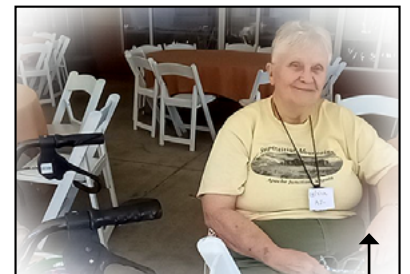
**Oyaùúrù Ifáwárinwa, 1950**  
 East Cleveland, OH  
 "It's a wonderful opportunity for women to exert their personal power as we come together intentionally to cure the habit of domination delusion of superiority syndrome which we can only do together."



**Lisa Kamieniecki, 1957**  
 Apache Junction, AZ  
 "Being here at OLOC is more than I would ever have envisioned this Gathering being. Going to individual workshops has given me tools for solving struggles either societally or interpersonally that I did not have before I came here. Being in an environment with so many Women of Color has been so much fun."



**Windsor Young, 1943**  
 El Sobrante, CA  
 "This is probably a lot larger than others I have gone to. This got into a lot of really personal areas and made people really think of what they think about an issue."



**Sylvia Brown, 1939**  
 Apache Junction, AZ  
 "Nice to see all the planning work come to fruition. Special thanks to the brand new Steering Committee who were thrown into the fire and survived."



**Sandy Smith, 1947**  
 Santa Fe, NM  
 "It's been Old Home week because I used to live in Phoenix when I was 23. It's been great. I appreciate OLOC doing the breakfasts and dinners."

## More on the Gathering

### The Gathering Has Changed My Life

By Linden Winterberger, 1951

When I first heard that the Gathering would be in Arizona, I swore I would never go to that gun-toting Republican haven. My OLOC ASL Zoom friends helped me see my anti-southwest USA bias; I thought about it more and decided to volunteer. I am a certified interpreter and making sure the Deaf and hard-of-hearing who use ASL as their preferred communication strategy [have access] is my passion. So I went!

And to my absolute surprise there were interpreter teams at all the parts of the Gathering where it was appropriate, except for the pre-Gathering day. I ended up interpreting the whole day by myself, not because there were women there who had requested it, but because the presenters wanted it. They understood that making the statement of inclusion and promoting awareness was a golden opportunity to stand up and be seen and experienced by our hearing sisters. There were many hearing aids in the audience, too. YES, there were masks available that were see-through for those who speech read.

There was a session where Jewish women got together; there were about a dozen of us. The CART [Communication Access Realtime Translation] was MAGNIFICENT! It was shown on two monster screens in the main room. I use a cane and the mobility access was awesome, as well; they had a FLEET of scooters. There were several accessibility issues in the hotel, especially the restaurant on multi levels with steps only.

This Gathering totally filled my heart-tank with love and affirmation and fun and the joy of being an Old Dyke. I will be there in 2025 if I am still alive, and I hope many of you who were not able to make it this time will consider joining me. The Gathering has changed my life. For real, and for good.

Photo by Linden



### OLOC Gathering Workshop on Lesbians in Kenyan Refugee Camp

By Mary Jean Mulherin, 1951

Once a month (second Wednesday, 3:00 P.M. EST) I coordinate an OLOC Zoom for affiliates interested in discussion of their lives and the lives of other Lesbians in the wider world. OLOC affiliates have come from New Zealand, Canada, and Ireland, as well as those in the US interested in learning more about Lesbians in other countries.

At the Gathering, a workshop presented by Washington state OLOC affiliates, Jan and Tina, was warmly appreciated by women in attendance. They have gone beyond “talking about” an issue to taking action to “be there” for their Lesbian African sisters and their children living in a refugee camp in northern Kenya. Lesbians in this camp have fled extreme anti-Lesbian attitudes in home countries, including Uganda and the Republic of Congo, where their lives are in danger. They also face ongoing harassment and violence within the camp.

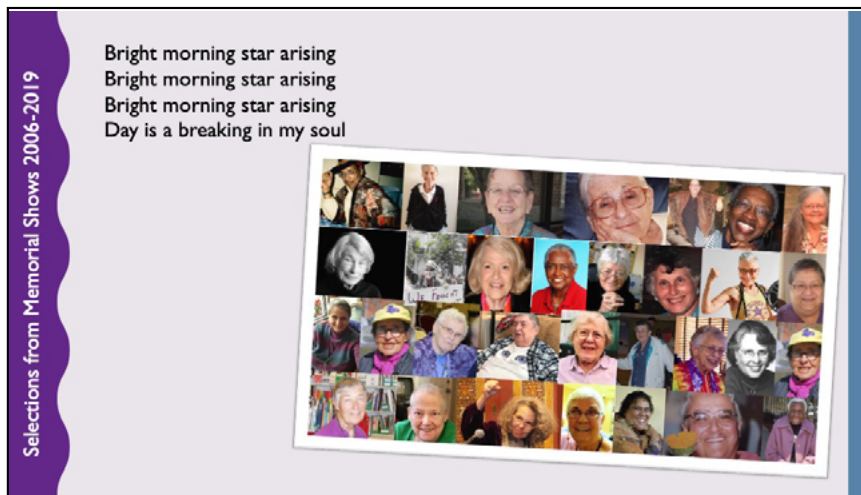
The Advocates for Human Rights ([https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/LGBTI\\_Rights](https://www.theadvocatesforhumanrights.org/LGBTI_Rights)) January 2023 report concluded that the Government of Kenya has failed to uphold its human rights obligations regarding sexual orientation and gender minorities, resulting in violence, discrimination, and a context of fear for members of these groups. This report reviews specific human rights violations that require immediate attention by the Government of Kenya, including the right to freedom from discrimination and the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living, fair work, and education. The report also addresses the intersectional violations perpetrated against LGBTIQ+ individuals with disabilities. The group issued similar reports on crimes against women in Trinidad, Tobago, Uganda, Jamaica, El Salvador, Russia, Guatemala, Sudan, Ethiopia, Croatia, Honduras, Mexico, Nigeria, Cameroon, and El Salvador.

More information on the refugee vetting process for these women to come to the United States can be found at <https://www.cvt.org/resources/rigorous-refugee-vetting-process-for-the-u-s>.

If you have further interest in the work of Jan and Tina, please contact Tina Gianoulis directly at [tgianoulis@gmail.com](mailto:tgianoulis@gmail.com).

# The New Memorial Slide Show is Here!

OLOC is committed to remembering the lives of Old Lesbians who are no longer with us, particularly our affiliates. One way we do this is through our memorial slide show. It is updated every two years for the National Gatherings, mostly by collecting memorials published in each issue of the E-News.



The newest show is 20 minutes long and is available on our website at <https://oloc.org/projects-2/> and at <https://youtu.be/ewYBUPrI7o>. Created by Mev Miller, 1955, it made its debut at the recent Gathering in Tempe. This version consists of memorials received since the 2019 Gathering and includes a composite of memorials from the 2006–2019 Gatherings (see one example

in the photo here).

The show is visual with names and years of birth/death on the screen. There is one song at the beginning with lyrics; the rest is instrumental.

***We need your participation moving forward!*** You can memorialize your Old Lesbian friends, lovers, and mentors who have died, regardless of when.

It is not for affiliates only, as long as you are one. Our show may be missing someone or have incomplete/incorrect information or no photo. We depend on you for what and who we include. If you can help us correct or add to the show, let us know. Please send the years of birth and death, and the most recent photo available to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or the PO box. Contact us also if you want an obituary to appear in the E-News (200 word limit).

Thank you for helping us honor Old Lesbians who had a connection to OLOC (perhaps through you) and/or were particularly significant to our Old Lesbian community.



Affiliates: Are you part of National OLOC's online forum? It is a great place to have engaging discussions with other affiliates.

*To subscribe, go to*  
<https://groups.io/g/nationalOLOC>.

If you have any problems, contact  
[susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org).

## Passings

Arlene Rosenthal, 1944–2023,  
Sky Valley, California

Caryatis Cardea, 1950–2023,  
Oakland, California

Linda Jupiter, 1944–2023,  
Ft. Bragg, California

See the E-News for more about these Lesbians.

## Old Lesbians Write About The 'Isms'

### The Isms: Jewish Christmas, or Not (Anti-Semitism)

By Clove Haviva, 1960

Did it ever wear on you that the world was assumed to be full of only heterosexuals? Every time that assumption was put on you, did you have any good choices? Saying nothing, participating in your own erasure? Saying something, disrupting the conversation, being difficult, hurting others, risking loss of friendship? Were your choices especially hard at times of greatest heterosexual joy: weddings, births? Have you had a straight, single friend respond to your pain by telling you she doesn't have heterosexual privilege, she likes Lesbians, she is just acknowledging the reality of a world full of straight people?

Less than one-third of the world identifies as Christian. Less than two-thirds of US residents do. Yet, for a month, the world around us assumes that everyone celebrates Christmas. Newscasters describe

good things in even early December as "Christmas presents." Stores play Christmas music. Medical office workers insist that I have a Merry Christmas.

You may say you aren't religious, you are simply continuing the best of your family's traditions, leaving behind the worst, or that you say Happy Holidays.

If I invite you to celebrate Tu BiShvat, Jewish New Year of the Trees, I may wish you chag sameach (Hebrew for "joyful holiday"). If you invite me to your traditional Italian Seven Fishes Christmas Eve dinner, please wish me a Merry Christmas, but only while I am there, freely choosing to celebrate your holiday with you.

Please don't wish me Merry Christmas, or Happy Holidays, in December at the grocery store, or in every email, and I won't wish you Shabbat Shalom every time I see you on a Friday. If you want to wish me a happy holiday, please say it in spring, when Jews celebrate Passover, with food, songs, and stories; that is the holiday of liberation.

### Book Review: *Minor Feelings: An Asian American Reckoning* by Cathy Park Hong

By Patty O'Donnell, 1956

The book *Minor Feelings* was on my "to read list," and I found it through my library e-book program. Cathy Park Hong is the daughter of Korean immigrants, and this book is about her theory of "minor feelings" which she says occurs when United States optimism contradicts your own reality.

She stated that, "In the popular imagination, Asian Americans inhabit a vague purgatorial status: not white enough nor Black enough; distrusted by African Americans, ignored by whites, unless we're being used by whites to keep the Black man down."

Reading her thoughts on racism throughout the book regarding family, friends, co-workers, communities, I learned more about present day Asian racism than just the hate speeches over years that it is their fault for bringing diseases such as the Asian flu and COVID-19 to the United States. One such writing was, "We are the carpenter ants of the service industry, the apparatchiks [unquestioningly



loyal subordinates (sic)] of the corporate world. We are math-crunching middle managers who keep the corporate wheels greased but who never get promoted since we don't have the right 'face' for leadership."

To summarize some history, Cathy Park Hong stated, "Asian immigrants since 1965 have shared histories that extend beyond this nation, to our countries of origin, where our lineage has been decimated by Western imperialism, war, and dictatorships orchestrated or supported by the United States. In our efforts to belong in America, we act grateful, as if we've been given a second chance at life."

This was a very interesting book, and I recommend it to those who are starting or continuing their education on racism in the United States.

# Affiliate Contributions

## Confronting Sexism Session Notes Available

The Confronting Sexism planners have now posted



each session's notes from one of its members on the OLOC website under the password-protected affiliates' portal, <https://oloc.org/affiliates-portal/>. (The password has been emailed to all affiliates. Contact [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) if you need it again.) The notes are available for review by clicking on the year on the Zoom icon, which at this time would only be 2023. You can then scroll through each month, finding the Confronting Sexism session and clicking on the "Read the Full Presentation" bar. Please feel free to contact Patty O'Donnell, 1956, if you have any questions, at [pattytothepines@gmail.com](mailto:pattytothepines@gmail.com).

## End White Dominance Session Presentations Available

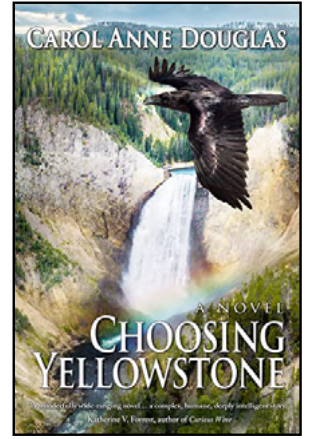
The End White Dominance planners have now posted some of the sessions' written presentations



on the OLOC website under the password protected affiliates' portal, <https://oloc.org/affiliates-portal/>. (The password has been emailed to all affiliates. Contact [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) if you need it again.) The presentations are available for review by clicking on the year on the Zoom icon starting in 2021. You can then scroll through each month, finding the End White Dominance session and clicking on the "Read the Full Presentation" bar. Please feel free to contact Patty O'Donnell, 1956, if you have any questions, at [pattytothepines@gmail.com](mailto:pattytothepines@gmail.com).

## Congratulations, Carol Anne!

The Florida Writers Association has given *Choosing Yellowstone*, a novel about Old Lesbians by OLOC member Carol Anne Douglas, 1946, its 2023 Royal Palm Award for an LGBTQ novel. (This novel is definitely an L.) It's available from BellaBooks, [www.bellabooks.com](http://www.bellabooks.com), in paperback and ebook.



## Attention Bookstore Workers

If you worked in a women's bookstore or publishing house in the 1970s, Carol Anne Douglas, 1946, would like to hear from you because she is working on a novel set in that period. Contact [caroldouglas12@gmail.com](mailto:caroldouglas12@gmail.com). Thank you. Carol Anne



## Are You Fatigued?

By Peg Cruikshank, 1940  
For any OLOC member with fatigue problems, I recommend a book from Australia, *Decoding Your Fatigue*, by Alex Howard. He identifies problems with mitochondria in our cells—when they are blocked, fatigue occurs. I am now on pills to reverse the block and so far feel less severe fatigue. It is more complicated, but for some old women, fatigue is a problem.

## Transforming Trauma Workshop

Kiesa Kay, 1961, will offer a free online writing workshop in her Transforming Trauma series on the third Thursday of every month at 3:00 P.M. ET, 2:00 CT, 1:00 MT, 12:00 PT. The link is different every month and will be available on Survivor Space at <https://survivorspace.org/>.

The contact for questions is Kiesa at [healingartofwriting@gmail.com](mailto:healingartofwriting@gmail.com). Please share this information with anybody who's experienced trauma and could use some healing tools.

## Zoom Events

OLOC's planning committees continue to develop many engaging events to keep us all connected. The Zoom Crew organizes and implements special panels/presentations, 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.

### Special Panels and Presentations

***Astrology: The Everchanging Sky***

Thursday, December 14, 4:00 P.M. ET

***Lesbian Connection [LC]: A National Dialogue***

Thursday, February 22, 3:00–5:00 P.M. ET

### Ongoing Series

***Confronting Sexism: Fighting for Our Lives—  
Topic: Violence Against Women***

Tuesday, December 19, 3:00 P.M. ET

***End White Dominance—Topic: Police Structure:  
No More Police Book, Session I***

Friday, December 22, 4:00 P.M. ET

***Confronting Sexism: Fighting for Our Lives—  
Topic: To Be Announced***

Tuesday, January 16, 3:00 P.M. ET

***End White Dominance—Topic: To Be Announced***

Friday, January 26, 4:00 P.M. ET

***Confronting Sexism: Fighting for Our Lives—  
Topic: To Be Announced***

Tuesday, February 20, 3:00 P.M. ET

***End White Dominance—Topic: Police Structure:  
No More Police Book, Session II***

Friday, February 23, 4:00 P.M. ET

### Open Houses

***Winter Celebrations***

Thursday, December 28, 4:00 P.M. ET

***Places We've Enjoyed Visiting and Travel Tips  
for Old Lesbians***

Early January

***Living Single (tentative)***

February TBD

## 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/>. You can see videos of past events in the affiliates portal, with resources such as reading lists, transcripts, and viewer reports. Questions? Please contact [zoom@OLOC-Chapters.groups.io](mailto:zoom@OLOC-Chapters.groups.io) (Zoom Crew events), [susan@oloc.org](mailto:susan@oloc.org) (End White Dominance), or [renagm@aol.com](mailto: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. Upcoming dates are December 20, January 17, and February 21. Contact gypsy at [tnasus@hotmail.com](mailto: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.

**Revised Dialogue Etiquette:** For all OLOC communications and events, you are responsible for your own contribution which means using “I” whenever possible. Each OLOC affiliate and supporter is to do your part in creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for all through your words and actions. Please use respectful and considerate language at all times, which includes not using racial, ethnic, or any other slurs. OLOC supports 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. (11/11/23)



# Chapter News

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

## Western Mass Chapter

By Emily Greene, 1946

It was a quiet summer for gatherings with our Western Mass OLOC group—not that we were sitting home doing nothing. We have many activists in our group who were busy with saving the Connecticut River. Most of us are horrified by the Israeli and Palestinian war that has erupted. Many just relished the few beautiful sunny days we had to enjoy the great outdoors.

We took a break from meeting in **July**. Another OLOC member joined Emily to table with nuclear information on July 30 at the opening weekend of the film *Oppenheimer*. In **August**, Roberta Pato, 1946, joined with her younger Lesbian friend, Tori, to talk to our Chapter regarding the group Okay So, which is working to help LGBTQ youth who are struggling. In **September**, we joined National to see Holly Near [the Zoom event *Because of a Song: A Conversation with Holly Near, Melanie DeMore, and Carolyn Brandy*].

In **October**, we had 10 Western Mass OLOCers, four Lesbians from New York City [two OLOCers and two not], and two OLOCers from Connecticut who had been planning for several months to meet up in Provincetown for Women’s Week (see photo), so there was no online meeting. As has been reported [November E-News], it was a fabulous week enjoying getting together, going to the events, and often taking a quiet walk on the beach. On October 7, Roberta and Emily showed the documentary on the Pagoda Lesbian Community that we had worked on for two years. We had 14 Pagoda women come to the online presentation and a total of 85 Lesbians came, some OLOCers, some not, some younger. The words from the Pagoda women 45 years later were priceless. Rose Norman, 1949, will launch her book about the Pagoda in January through *Sinister Wisdom*. So it’s time to build our winter nest.



Seated L to R: Wraye, Denise, Ann, Cathy, Irene, Laura, Grace, Michelle, Sheryl, Nancy.  
Standing L to R: Emily, Chris, Marie, Carmyn, Wind, Lynne.

# Chapter News (continued)

## New Mexico Chapter

By Susan Buchler, 1946

**Albuquerque OLOC Gathering On September 16, 2023.** Program facilitator: Hari Sheppard, 1950

Today's meeting was arranged by Elizabeth Berrey, 1945, and Hari Sheppard to provide opportunity for closure. We are the New Mexico Chapter that is closing due to the lack of engagement, despite a good number in attendance today of 11.

We came together in New Mexico OLOC to preserve our herstories, to confront social injustice, and to give and receive support for our later years. This was at one time the "only game in town," but now Lesbian Earth and numerous other groups are providing many more activities than we can provide. We also encouraged everyone to join National OLOC.

Each member in attendance had the opportunity to share feelings and thoughts. We recalled stories and reminisced about past OLOC meetings. Many regrets about OLOC's closing were expressed. We viewed *OLOC Memories*, a beautiful video put together for us by Carole Eagleheart, 1944, with photos from many years of activity.

New Mexico OLOC is now officially closed, but there will be a "reunion" gathering co-sponsored with Lesbian Earth on the third Saturday in December to assemble new, warm winter clothing donations for our sisters at Barrett House and Crossroads for Women.



Front L to R: Hari Sheppard, 1950; Paula Fisher, 1951; Sandy Smith, 1949.

Back L to R: Carole Eagleheart, 1944; Pat Pedersen, 1943; Susan Buchler, 1946; Elizabeth Berrey, 1945; Courtney McBride, 1948; Joanne Magalis, 1942; Elaine Magalis, 1939; Dusty Evans, 1961.

(Chapter News continues on page 11)

**Want to start an OLOC Chapter in your area? Contact [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) for information.**

## The Senior List Website

This website is an interesting resource in areas such as safety (medical alert systems, walk-in tubs, home safety), living (home care, assisted living, housing), money (senior discounts, insurance, Medigap), and technology (cell phones, hearing aids, internet service). The address is <https://www.theseniorlist.com/#>. There is also a free newsletter to which you can subscribe. We hope it is useful to you!



To find OLOC on Facebook, go to

[www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC](https://www.facebook.com/NationalOLOC)



## Chapter News (continued)

### Colorado Chapter

By Elisabeth Borden, 1950

The Colorado Chapter spent much of our **August** meeting generating ideas and assignments to increase our visibility and build membership. Since COVID-19, we had let some things lapse that we had been doing, such as keeping monthly meeting announcements in local LGBTQ+ newsletters and participating in marches with our OLOC banner.

We first created a list of the organizations and places to contact. The list includes LGBTQ+ organizations, women's choruses, senior centers, and selected churches. We were able to get volunteers willing to contact all of these groups. Someone volunteered to draft different sizes of PR blurbs and an article to be used in getting information to these groups. Another member volunteered to research ways to get at least a basic online presence, either through social media, a website, or a page on the National OLOC website, if possible.

In **September**, after an outstanding potluck and sharing about our lives with each other, we continued discussion of outreach efforts—what had been done so far and what was still to be done.

We also looked at our existing banners and decided on text and design for a new banner.

For our **October** meeting, we hosted a presentation called “Our Forgotten Sisters: A History of Women Loving Women in Colorado” by The Colorado LGBTQ History Project. Folks in this project have been digging deep through archives to find Lesbian individuals and groups in three time periods



*From top left, counterclockwise around the table: Janet P-L, 1950; Kathy, 1947; Sky, 1948; Roberta, 1943; Mary Jane, 1946; Katherine, 1954; Sara, 1937; Janet G., 1950; Sami, 1944; Brangwyn, 1944; Betsy, 1935; Suzanne, 1938.*

*Attending but not in photo Elisabeth, 1950; Connie, 1946; Trish, 1949.*

between 1850 and 1950. None of us had seen this material before, and we were both fascinated by it and grateful for their discoveries.

This is the link to download the slides: <https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fi/57roxc7pmyj3bzkgsvyya/Our-Forgotten-Sisters-with-notes.pdf?rlkey=7rmmz2vd-suopo70kcenykjomi&dl=0>.



*L to R: Deb Taylor, 1944; Sue Bracken, 1955; Sara Beery, 1937; Janet Gilmore, 1948; Elisabeth Borden, 1950.*

Five of us were excited to be going to the OLOC Gathering in Tempe—more on that later! But, in the meantime, see the photo of us there!

**OLOC**

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*Time to renew?*

Print readers: If you receive email from us, watch for a reminder that it is time to renew.

If you do not receive email, watch your label on the print copy for your renewal date.

“I had a blast, and met a lot of damn wonderful and incredible women who have worked all their lives for social justice for all. I sat at the feet of giants.”  
Linden

