

FRONT PAGE

Newsletter of the Bloomington, Ind., Women's Liberation Movement. June 15, 1970

The Maintenance Committee has announced the schedule for the general meetings this summer:

THURS., JUNE 16, 8 PM, UNION M 45 is the FIRST GENERAL MEETING. The program is a discussion of Women's Liberation in Bloomington. Ann Vallian-Springfield will discuss what we've accomplished during the past year; Barb Bradley, programs and ideas for the summer. There will be a report on activities by Concerned University Women, and a report on other WL groups. Come, and bring your ideas for the summer!

THURS., JULY 18, 8 PM, UNION M 45, is the SECOND GENERAL MEETING. The topic is Job Discrimination: hiring, pay, promotion, etc., particularly in the Bloomington area.

Anyone who'd like to pass out leaflets on WL at summer registration Tues. and Wed., call Linda Sahin 6-2632.

Several projects have been suggested for the summer:

- job discrimination

- sex education

- health care group - design

- a course to teach women about their bodies

- better health care facilities
- there is no gynecologist at the health center

- ...etc

- if you are interested in these or other projects, come to the June meeting or call WL house,

6-8691.

6-8691 is the number of Women's Lib House. Please call only between 7 and 9 PM, if possible, this summer, for the convenience of those living there.

If you'd like to hold a meeting at WL House, call to be sure it's free, and have the date recorded on the calendar.

Ruth Beasley is assembling a statement on women in library science to be submitted at the American Library Association Convention at Detroit starting the 27th of June. If you are a librarian, or have ideas, or would like to help staple call Ruth at 6-2931, or 75127 (office). 816 E Hunter

The Third Day Care Center needs volunteers. It's across the street from Dunn Meadow, at the University Lutheran Church. If you can help, call Carolyn DeMeyer, 206 Redbud, 6-2786 or Pat Peek, 9-4935.

We're starting a file of names and addresses of people in other areas who are in or interested in WL, both to find out what other groups are doing, and as contacts for those who move, etc. If you have likely names, please call the WL House (7 to 9 PM).

Will whoever has the Abortion Literature files checked out please return them to WL ?

WOMEN AND THE WAR: A LETTER FROM D.C.

June 10

Dear Sisters,

We want to share with you a process that some of us in D.C. Women's Liberation have gone through in the last two weeks and to urge you to join us.

It began through the sense we now have of being much more closely in touch with our sisters in Vietnam as a result of Charlotte Bunch-Weeks visit to Hanoi last month. Through Charlotte, they've reached us with a two fold message: asking us to organize the full potential in American women to end the war that's making a desert of their country; and - especially the revolutionary women of South Vietnam - telling us they know their long range struggle, like ours, is for a society in which they too are freed from their second place role as women.

In response, about 20 of us...met last week to discuss how we could go about organizing more American women in support of the twofold struggle of our sisters in Vietnam. We started talking about strategies clearly aimed at smashing the military complex, as a monstrous machine of male domination at home as well as the murderer of life in Indochina; about possible actions in this line for Susan B. Anthony day (Aug. 26: the day on which American women were given the vote; also the day of NOW national strike.)

...we, as women, have up to now always been in the position of reacting to the plans, actions, demonstrations of the male-dominated movement, just as the whole anti-war movement has till now been in the position of reacting to the decisions of the enemy in the White House and the Pentagon. We realized that we have to start taking the offensive with our own strategies for action.

In this context, we talked about the emergency Strategy Action Conference for organizers being planned by the New Mobilization, SCLC, National Welfare Rights Organization, the Black Panthers, and several trade unions. It will be held in Milwaukee on June 27-28, in liason with a parallel conference of National Students on Strike. Many of (us) started out very down on doing anything with the New Mobe...and the call to this conference doesn't even mention sexism, though it does link the war with other evils built into the society: racism, poverty, repression.

...we saw that we might be able to use the conference as a way of coming together with many other women - in NWRO and in the anti-war movements; as a way of communicating with women's liberation groups in different cities; and of forcing the movement to deal with its own sexism and of working out strategies for fighting sexism and the war.

So, we initiated a women's caucus in Milwaukee the day before the conference, June 26, starting at 1 PM and going into the evening (to be held at the U. of Wisconsin, Engleman Auditorium, Hartford and Maryland Streets). Washington based people two women's anti-war organizations: Women's International League for Peace and Freedom and Women's Strike for Peace, agree that the caucus is important and will try to get their members to come...

continued on page 3

continued from page 2

We'd like to hear about your own discussions with women in your area about women's strategy to end the war. The caucus meeting will be more productive if women's groups can have meetings before the conference to discuss strategy for ending sexism, racism and the war, and then send a few representatives to Milwaukee to share ideas for strategy....Sisters in struggle,

The letter is signed by several members of D.C. Women's Liberation. If you are interested is going, call WL House

summer support groups will *****
be set up at the first general meeting

We have a stencil for printing WL stationery. Anyone who's interested in working on this call WL House.

Anyone who knows Sarah Greenwood should write to her at
Blue Harbor House
Reading P.O.
St. James
Jamaica, W.I.
She's very lonely.

Newsletter crew this issue:
Barb Bradley, Karin Ford,
Barbara Gill, Mary Beth
McCrea.

Unfortunately I have misplaced the list of those who signed up at the last meeting to work on the newsletter this summer. We plan an issue in the beginning of July and one at the end of summer session. If you'd like to help, call me at 332-1382. Mary Beth McCrea

Women's Liberation in Minneapolis has started a Women's Counseling Service. The following are excerpts from their bulletin.

"The Women's Counseling Service deals with the problem of insufficient medical facilities - antiquated abortion laws, inadequate dissemination of birth control, and the lack of readily available medical care - in two ways. Most women have very little knowledge of the medical services available to them; therefore, one function of the Women's Counseling Service is to direct women to those services available to them in the areas of birth control, maternity care, child care, services for unwed mothers, adoption agencies, and venereal disease.

The Women's Counseling Service is a place where women can come and talk with trained counselors who are well informed of the "Ins and outs" of various agencies, who can talk with women about the fears that they have, and who can give women the personal care and information that is lacking in most public agencies. A very important aim of the Women's Counseling Service is to create a solidarity between women which recognizes that the problems of each individual are the problems of all women that our "personal problems" are political, exemplifying the status of women in our society.

The Women's Counseling Service has done a great deal of research into the medical and social services for women in the Twin Cities. Our research has clearly pointed out the lack of decent medical care in our cities. To correct this situation, the second function of the Women's Counseling Service is to organize groups of women to put pressure on private doctors and public agencies to provide more intensive, comprehensive, and personal medical care for women. This will also involve educating the public about the present medical situation and making demands on various institutions to increase and expand their services.

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