

THE LESBIAN TIDE

August, 1971



a publication of DAUGHTERS OF BILITIS, Los Angeles, Calif.

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The Los Angeles Daughters of Bilitis is a non-political, non-profit organization which has as its goal, the actualization of personal pride in the lesbian. We intend to realize this goal by educating the lesbian to utilize her unique talents in ways most beneficial to herself and society. It is our purpose to educate the lesbian to appreciate her sexual orientation as freedom of choice, as well as to appreciate her differences of life style within her own community.

The new LA DOB will exist separate from the dictates of any organization, institution, or individual, other than itself. Our goals are inner and outer directed so that we can strengthen ourselves and educate society at large.

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LA DOB CENTER FACILITIES AND HOURS

The LA DOB Center is open from 7:30pm to 10:00pm every weekday evening. Saturday and Sunday hours are from 2:00pm to 6:00pm and 7:30pm to 10:00pm.

Check the calendar for complete Center activities.

LESBIAN TIDE STAFF:

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Sisters!!!

THE WEEK THAT WAS!

GAY WOMEN'S WEST COAST CONFERENCE...

As of this writing, many of you will already have read and/or heard a variety of accounts on the happenings at MCC on the weekend of June 25, 26, and 27. During the weeks following the event, press coverage was given to the weekend in the Free Press The Advocate, the Herald Examiner and EVERYWOMAN. Unfortunately, other than the account(s) given in EVERYWOMAN and one article in the Advocate, not too much space was devoted to the women participating in that weekends events. Even less space was devoted to photographs of the women.

An observation passed on to me was that, "because it was a PEACEFUL event, it was not deemed news-worthy". Possible. Personally, I would prefer a lack of publicity to exposure brought about by other than an approach of Peace and honor! This merely indicates to me that an event of this type may not be the ideal way of reaching our public. If it only served to unite us among ourselves, then it was worth it.

I feel there is definitely more cameraderie among the Gays of today, than, say even five years ago. Granted, there still are and always will be a polarization of

ideas due to many different personalities of the people in the Gay Movement...but at least today we have a Gay Movement, a Gay Women's Movement.

Notice, for example, the marked increase in participants in the Christopher St. West Parade this year as compared to last year. Certainly, there were infinitely more women in the march down Hollywood Blvd. this year. I know that last year I was apprehensive about merely going and WATCHING the parade and this year, well...there we

IN THIS ISSUE

Gay Women Marry.....	pg.4
DOB Annual Elections....	pg 5
A Note to Gay Feminists.	pg 7
Gay Women do EVERYWOMAN.	pg 9

were, two cars, our own float, an army of women preceding us and an army of women following. That's Progress. Talk about working together. DOB, L.F. & GWSC got it all together and sponsored and carried off the first major West Coast Conference of Gay Women. Regardless of whatever else may be said about the Conference, it did bring together a cross section of gay women. Just seeing each

cont. pg.13

WOMAN of the MONTH



DEL WHAN

Del Whan, founder and first director of the Gay Women's Service Center, came to Los Angeles somewhat accidentally. Returning home (Vermont) from the Peace Corps in Hawaii Del decided to get off in Los Angeles instead. "I was just coming to terms with my being gay and I thought I would have a better chance to meet the one or two other gay people in the world here in a big city."

A graduate in International Relations from the University of Pennsylvania, ('62) Del continues her education at Cal State Dominguez' graduate school of Behavioral Science. In '64 she had attended UCLA but midway through, "I got hooked into the bar scene. I was very lonely- hadn't met anyone in the two years I'd been here, so I began going

every night, just to drink and forget the loneliness." After a year of this, "I decided I didn't want to kill myself." Del found herself a job (Language Lab director at U.S.C.), went to AA and started going to Gay Liberation meetings. For many months she continued to work for the Movement in this group (now the Lesbian Feminists). However, "I began to feel that the group had become too lofty and abstract, with all their politics, from the bar reality. Most gay women, such as myself, were still lonely, or taking pills, alcohol, etc. There was a huge gap between gay militancy and gay reality."

With this motivation, Del opened up a Service Center for gay women in February, 1971. "It is a place where the under 21s can come, for everybody- to relax, to be with sisters, to do whatever they want."

Del has recently resigned from her post as director of G.W.S.C. and is presently advertising and promoting for EVERYWOMAN newspaper. Of further work in the movement Del says, "I have no definite plans now, but I'll probably move toward communications- that's where it's at (the media)."

With all the foibles of any human being Del Whan has tried to turn the direction of her life into providing new avenues of service and expression for her sisters. The LESBIAN TIDE salutes Del Whan as a leader and member of our community.

WOMEN MARRIED

"Two girls married each other at a church picnic that drew 15,000 rock music fans from across the country to Farragut State Park, Idaho.' If you are really sincere, I don't see any reason why not,' the Reverend Kirby Hensley told the girls, who were identified only as Cathy and Pepper, both from British Columbia. Hensley of Modesto, Calif. is the founder of the Universal Life Church which opened the three day 'Celebration of Life' picnic at the park Saturday."

(reprinted; L.A. Times, July 5.

GROUP THERAPY...

Beginning October 1st, Miss Edwards (who has been holding Group Therapy at D.O.B.) will be available days Monday thru Saturday and evenings on Tuesday and Thursdays for group and individual counseling.

Miss Edwards utilizes existential approaches such as Gestalt Therapy and Transactional Analysis.

Gestalt Therapy is an approach that focuses on what is rather than what was. It can help facilitate the individual's discovery of the choices she has over her existence, aids her learning to rely on internal support rather than depending on others,

and encourages her assuming ownership of the parts of herself she has rejected or avoided. The individual can then leave her so-called "sick" roles or games and become more aware of and responsible for herself in her environment.

Transactional Analysis encourages the individual to become aware of the three divisions of their personality; called parent, adult, and child. There are also gesture (with the hands, body and face) and a tone of voice that goes with each one of the three parts. What this system allows one to do is become a better observer of human nature, especially of themselves and with others they come in contact. The hope is that through this educative process of therapy, they will become more knowledgeable in being able to use this approach on themselves and with others so that they may realize more self control, more social control and more choice in their everyday life than might now be the case.

If you are interested in participating in a day or evening group, please call the center any evening after 7:30, leave your name and phone number and Miss Edwards will contact you. Groups will be formed as soon as eight people sign up.

Fees are set according to your salary or ability to pay. All information is kept confidential.

...THOUGHTS
FROM
YE
OLD
OFFICERS...

ELECT

...serving as an officer has been the greatest experience of my life as a gay person...when I came into D.O.B. my socio-political awareness was less than non-existent.... whereas be-

fore I cringed at the

word, I'm now proud I'm a lesbian...

all the officers worked well together... I'm proud to be gay and I'm even more proud to say.....

"I'm a member of D.O.B."

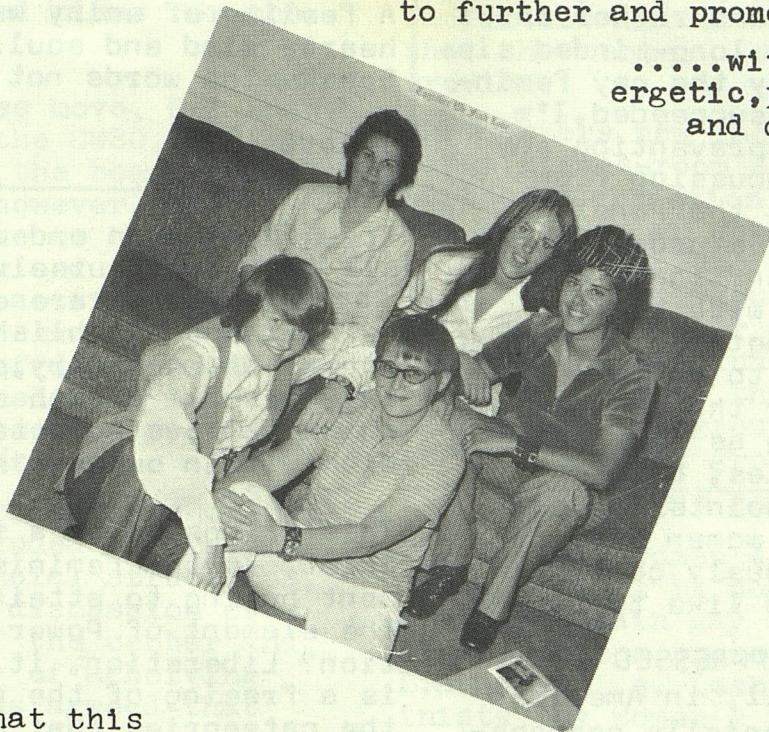
...my feelings on leaving are ones of a deep sense of fulfillment and continued commitment to our community...experience has shown that the people who have worked together have gained much....

....I have a great deal of faith and hope..

TION!

...YE
NEW
OFFICERS....

...I have much faith in the principles and goals of D.O.B., my intent is to further and promote them....



.....with the energetic, purposeful, and dedicated women in our membership, I have no doubt we will succeed....

....what this country needs is a good 5¢ cigar a chicken in every pot and a D.O.B. Chapter in every city!...

...we will reach out. We will grow, in size, in knowledge, in understanding, in service....

NOTE TO
GAY FEMINISTS

After attending the Gay Women's West Coast Conference recently, I decided that the reason I felt so frustrated and just generally "down" about the whole thing was because I realized I had some rather short sighted and long-winded sisters, namely the gay feminists. They succeeded, I'm afraid, in preventing any serious discussion from occurring at the Panel session on Saturday morning by dominating the entire event with their "I hate men" rhetoric. I am not attempting to condemn these sisters for their views nor am I acting as an apologist for the males, but there are a few points I feel, that these women have failed to seriously consider and I would like to present them.

MALES OPPRESSED ALSO!

First of all, in American culture, socially oppressive elements are not limited to females. Both male and female are expected to fulfill certain social role roles. We are oppressed, as a people, both male and female, by role expectations and I feel that men are beginning to realize that they no more wish to be merely role fulfilling individuals than do women. In order to bring about any meaningful sense of equal-

Like the sun's rays sifting through hazy clouds, my love touches yours.
Your love is my soul as I seek your soul.
A tender gaze, soft and understanding,
A gentle caress, a closeness,
A feeling of unity with one's heart, mind and soul...
Speaks the words not spoken...

I love.

Deeni

ity between men and women, we all must free ourselves of the social roles we are expected to fulfill and establish through course of necessary, painstaking personal growth a lifestyle which we have come to terms with within our own selves.

This brings me to a second point. Is the feminist movement hoping to attain as a goal the element of Power or Liberation? Liberation, it would seem is a freeing of the mind from the categories that people use to alienate themselves from one another whether that category be racial, class oriented, sexual or otherwise. What I've viewed as occurring is the creation of categories by which these are systematically alienating themselves more and more from the human race. They seem to be more concerned with the fact that they are women as opposed to human beings (one category), and also that they are gay (another category), as

GAY COMMUNITY NEWS

The Gay Women's Service Center is developing a new look, new location, new officers and board, and some new policies emerging. The Board of Directors met Thursday, July 15, at the new center(1542 N. Glendale Blvd. about 4 blocks north of the old location), and discussed plans for the future.

In a surprise move, Del Whan, founder of the GWSC, resigned from the board and the presidency, however, she will continue to be active in fund-raising and other Service Center activities. The board is now composed of Virginia Hoeffding, (president) Ann Hensley (VP and corresponding secretary) and Karolyn (sec/treas).

Other accomplishments of the meeting included the revamping of financial structures, and serious discussion of the goals of the center and the best way of achieving them. It was agreed that the center needs a broader base of authority. Two possibilities for this are to expand greatly the board of directors, and/or establish a voting membership on the basis of attendance or dues. A general meeting is planned for Thursday, July 22, to discuss with those interested these and other alternatives, as well as plans for fund-raising activities, etc.

Some of the other plans include monthly house parties, regular fund-raising dances, and a campaign to get contributions from wealthy lesbians and other interested people. The center may also choose a coordinator to organize the day-to-day use of the center's facilities and the services that the center is trying to provide.

The centers new location is a large, single-room store front at the intersection of Glendale and Alvarado in Echo Park. The phone is still the same: 483-9223. At present, the regular activities at the center are the Thursday night dinner and general meeting, and the Friday night survival group, a loosely structured open group (cont, pg9)

INTER GROUP COUNCIL...

The L.A. Gay Women's Inter-Group Council is comprised of the three main gay women's organizations presently in the L.A. area, i.e., Lesbian Feminists, Gay Women's Service Center and DOB. These three groups meet on a regular basis for the purpose of exchanging ideas and purposes of intent as pertains to the gay women's movement.

The groups are widely diverse in attitudes, approach and direction. The uniting bond is the advancement of Gay Women in contemporary society.

(cont. pg.9)

(Service Center, cont)

with its emphasis on solving the problems of everyday life. Everyone is welcome to all the activities of the center. For information call the center or call Virginia at 454-4739.

GAY WOMEN DO EVERYWOMAN !!

Members of the staff of EVERY WOMAN (Los Angeles' largest feminist newspaper) recently offered the gay-women's community the opportunity to put out an all lesbian issue.

Accepting the challenge, the Inter-Group Council (DOB, GWSC and L.F.) put out that issue! It is replete with more than a dozen pictures of women, at the National Conference, marching down Hollywood Blvd., rap session, together. This issue has stories about almost every aspect of lesbian life and life style. Everything from Personal autobiographies -- "Portrait of the Lesbian as a Young Dyke", to politics- "Lesbianism and Socialism" are in the EVERYWOMAN issue.

The creativity and ingenuity of our community are reflected in this publication. This all lesbian, all woman, all gay issue is a must for all of us to read!

Copies sold (25¢) at DOB Center and the Women's Center.

Ex-President's

THOUGHTS...

When I came into DOB, my socio-political awareness was less than non-existent. In the last 9 months I've watched DOB come out of sporadic apartment house meetings to an UP FRONT address on Vermont Avenue.

L.A.DOB now sponsors more than a dozen activites a month; dances, workshops, speaking engagements, T.V., radio and film programs.

My feelings on leaving the Presidency are ones of a deep sense of fulfillment and continued commitment to our community. The fulfillment arises from the overwhelming growth in numbers, program and spirit on the part of LA DOB members and friends; from the building and stabilizing of LA DOB into a strong and creative branch of the LA gay women's community; and from the tremendous devotion and commitment of my officers. In friendship and in business no president, no person, could have had the privilege of working so closely, so productively or so supportively as I have had. My very deepest gratitude and love are extended to Tamie Smith, Caren Pressley, Pat Ramsay and Phyllis Stern for one of the sincerest experiences of my life. (cont. pg. 13)

(Gay Feminists; cont.)

opposed to being a woman or a human being. Meaningful liberation then would result in the lack of necessity to refer to one another as "gay" or "straight", man or woman, black or white, or any labels. As things stand so far, it seems that these women are more concerned with the attainment of power as opposed to meaningful liberation. In seeking power one is not freeing oneself from the effects of the present social structure in the mind. One is rather, perpetuating the very oppressive social elements which are keeping the mind from being one's own.

It is a difficult thing to face the fact that it is ourselves that we must first liberate before we can ever hope to accomplish anything as a movement. Group identity is too often a cop out, in that by identifying with a group we are allowing ourselves to escape facing self-oppressive elements within ourselves. I hope in presenting these views, the women within the ranks of the gay movement will perhaps think twice before condemning the other half of the human race.

SAY WOMEN'S SERVICE CENTER has found a new home; 1542 N. Glendale Blvd 386-9915 . Echo Park! now at 386-9915.

Short Bits o' NEWS...

Daughters wish to thank Mr. [redacted] for donating a carpet for the Center. Mr. [redacted], a friend of member, Eve Galler, has been a supporter and friend to DOB for several months.

Women's COFFEE HOUSE opens!
Sat. Aug. 7th. 1027 S. Crenshaw. Health Foods Buffet.
7:30 p.m. All women welcomed!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all
CANCERS!!

July

Barbara McLean..... 3rd
Deeni Norton..... 12th
Leda Nyden..... 13th
Jeanne Cordova..... 18th

And all other Cancer
Sisters!!

D.O.B. VISITS DIGNITY...
Several members, including our president, visited Dignity, an organization for gay Catholics.

Even though the membership is now primarily male, several women were present at the meeting. An invitation was extended to DOB members who would like to visit the group.

D.O.B. JULY

ACTIVITIES....

NO LAW AGAINST GAYS

Yes, it's true--nowhere in the California Penal Code is there even a reference to the terms, "homosexual, gay, queer." However, Sec. 647a of the P.C. classifies, "one who engages in or solicits to engage in lewd conduct" as a sexual deviant--a misdemeanor. Sec. 288a lists, "oral copulation" as a felony, punishable by 1 to 15 yrs.

D.O.B. was advised of the above in an enlightening session with Attorney Irv Osser, guest speaker at the July 23rd meeting. Mr. Osser is from a background of experience on the police force and in the Criminal, Civil and Youth Courts. He presently has a law firm in Beverly Hills.

Asked what he thought of gay clients, Mr. Osser replied, "O.K.!" He then mentioned that he has found an abundance of prejudice against gay people by the medical and law professions.

Other points of the discussion;

1. There is no law against gay people holding hands or kissing in public, on the street or in a bar.
2. The 9th Amendment provides us with the right of privacy in our own homes.
3. One can only be arrested for "soliciting" if there is an exchange of money or items of monetary value.
4. Gays cannot be arrested for necking in a gay bar--unless--i.e. a straight customer gets uptight, calls in the police to make an arrest on the charge of "disturbing the peace."

Mr. Osser offers this advice to gay people; "Confine your lovemaking to the privacy of your own homes." To gay organizations, "Do as much public relations work as possible, and whenever possible, on an individual basis."

by Barbara McLean

POT LUCK & POLICY

At our July 9th meeting everyone brought their home cooked specialty- or whose ever they could get a hold of!

We resurrected all of the policies we had been dealing with these last nine months and voted on them. (next issue Policies will be published).

FERNDALE PARK LIBERATED

A dozen D.O.B. members met at Ferndale Park on a lazy Sunday afternoon for general eating(!) and rapping. A couple of dozen gay brothers from Dignity had also chosen that day for a picnic.

FOR YOU ONLY

Nothing in my life has been
easier than loving you.
Nothing will be harder
than forgetting.
No one in the past meant
near as much as you.
No one in the future will
know all of me as you have.
Never before has anyone
loved me like you.
Never again will I allow
anyone to,
fearing the same result.

All of my future
was planned in you.
Now all of my plans are
suspended, because
All of you is gone.



we shall enjoy it...as for him who
finds fault, may stillness and
sorrow take him. *Sappho*

NON - DICHOTOMY . . .

I'll remember how we didn't
say good-bye
And left the important people
'til last
And never really got around...

I'll remember a long time
past tonight
and early next year
What we had together
And the sadness of loving you.

I'll remember when we really
didn't know what to do

with each other.
And a strange kind of love,
That didn't go by any
of the rules.
And I'll remember rooms full
of people,
Seeing only you, and waiting
For that smile that made me
come alive.
I'll remember you, who opened
up a world for me
And showed me...LOVING.....
Doesn't need any labels.

(cont. PRESIDENT's THOUGHTS)

For the consistent faith, trust and commitment shown in these months by all of the many DOB members who built our organization, I am deeply moved and grateful. We have shown what women, what sisterhood, is all about. To the many women from the other lesbian organizations whom I have come to know as workers (and close friends), who have given so much to me as well as DOB- thank you.

And the best "high" of all-- that these last nine months have built a future. Numerous women have come out as leaders, some of whom are our new officers. I'm sure I re-

flect the spirit of our members in saying, "I know DOB is going higher, farther-- for all of us."

Jeanne Córdova

(CONFERENCE cont.....)

helped open our eyes to how everyone else is getting it together, whether or not we share each other's viewpoint on HOW to do it. It's not NOW you do it that counts- it's the fact that we're at last coming out of our closets and doing it. I for one, am glad I had the opportunity of being a part of it all-it helped me get a broader perspective of the Gay Movement.

VIVA LES GAY!

Joanne Taures

CALENDAR

July 25, sun.	7:00pm <u>Inter Group Council</u> G.W.S.C.
Aug. 1, sun.	12:00 <u>Beach Party</u> . Venice Beach. Brooks Ave. front of Westwinds. 394-4614. 4:00pm <u>RAP SESSION</u> DOB Center
* Aug. 3, tues.	7:00pm. <u>GROUP THERAPY</u> . DOB Center. Call 664-9727 for further info.
Aug. 4, wen.	7:30 <u>MEMBERSHIP MTG</u> . DOB Center 8:30 <u>GROUP THERAPY</u> group forming. Call Miss Augenbraun 479-6349.
*	
* Aug. 5 thurs.	8:00pm. <u>Community Dinner</u> . GWSC.
* Aug. 11 wan.	7:30 <u>Officers Mtg</u> . D.O.B.
Aug. 13 fri.	7:30 <u>DOB MEETING</u> . guest speaker!
* Aug. 17 tues.	8:00 Lesbian Feminists meet.

*weekly activities; same time, same place.

** for phone numbers, address see pg. 14

* Aug. 18, wen.	7:00 Officers Mtg. DOB Center 8:30 <u>GROUP THERAPY</u> DOB Center.
* Aug. 19, thur.	8:00 <u>Community Dinner.</u> GWSC.
* Aug. 20, fri.	Survival In the Gay Community. GWSC.
Aug. 22, sun.	Rap Group 4:00 <u>RAP SESSION</u> . DOB Center
Aug. 28, fri.	7:30 <u>DOB MEETING.</u> speakers, Come and socialize! beer and coke!
Aug. 31, tues.	8:00 Lesbian Feminists meet. 7:00 <u>GROUP THERAPY.</u> DOB Center.

PHONES!

IMPORTANT, RELEVANT, MEANINGFUL phones and addresses!

DOB Center.....737-9159. 1910 S. Vermont Ave. 90007
 Gay Women's Service Center; 386-9915. 1542 Glendale Blvd.
 Lesbian Feminists...937-3964. 1027 S. Crenshaw.
 Everywoman Bookstore.....399-0908. 1043 Washington, Venice
 Help, Inc. (legal aid).... 463-3146.
 Counseling...Miss Augenbraun; 479-6349.
 Miss Edwards; 664-9727
 Emergency numbers(problems of immediate concern-counseling, information, programs, etc.; call Jeanne 656-1049 or 394-4614.
 DOB DAYTINE.....Joni at 466-3728.

SUBSCRIPTION

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WANTED:
 Desk, preferably wood, with drawer for filing. \$15 to \$20. Call Barbara 934-6593.

ac ADVERTIZING:

$\frac{1}{4}$ page.....	\$5.00
$\frac{1}{2}$ page.....	\$7.50
Full page.....	\$10.00
Classified ads;	\$1.00p/inch

This magazine is a lesbian publication. Written by and for the rising TIDE of Gay Women today; it will speak of their numbers, their lives, their ideas and their pride.....