

# Old Lesbians Organizing for Change



## Here Comes the 2012 Gathering: July 19–22

By *Alix Dobkin, 1940*

The 2012 National Gathering promises to deliver a grand old time for great Old Lesbians (you!) with a varied program conducted in elegant and comfortable quarters.

As you may have read in earlier issues, our host will be the Woburn Hilton in Boston where, beginning on Thursday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, we will convene, cavort, and carry on for a long, jam-packed, laugh-filled, and community-building July weekend.

Our theme, "Bridges to Justice: 21<sup>st</sup> Century Activism," is a part of our response to an impromptu meeting at the end of our 2010 Gathering. It was called to discuss how OLOC could more effectively recognize and challenge racism, classism, and other oppressions within OLOC as well as without. Since that meeting, the Steering Committee has undertaken a number of steps in this direction. (Write us for details about what we've done so far.)

To help us hold faith with our commitment and theme, we invite you to join the OLOC Steering Committee on Thursday for a free all-day session, Activism for Racial and Class Justice. We will work with facilitators to learn, plan, and develop strategies that will further our education and refine our skills so we can be more effective activists for social and economic justice. You will want to arrive on Wednesday if you plan to attend the daylong facilitated event on Thursday. You will be able to register for the Gathering on Wednesday evening.

Thursday night the Gathering hits the ground running with a welcome reception and

presentation of the Del Martin Old Lesbian Pride Award followed by *Celebrating the Life of Del Martin*, a new documentary film capturing the extraordinary civic celebration held in San Francisco's grand City Hall rotunda to honor the life of civil rights pioneer Del Martin.

During the remainder of the weekend we plan to keep you busy with a range of activities including:

- The one & only Ferron with her unique songs, stories, and repartee
- Carolyn Gage and her acclaimed Michigan Womyn's Music Festival hit, "The Lesbian Tent Revival"
- Keynote address by Vera Martin, co-director emerita and OLOC founder (we are awaiting responses from several other notable Old Lesbian speakers)
- A sing-along lead by Judy Ross
- Caucuses and workshops
- Hospitality room for chats, snacks, games, & more
- Talent show
- Memorial celebration
- Authors' book signing
- Vendors
- Live & silent auctions



*Vera Martin, Keynoter*

*continued  
on page 2*

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Ferron

*conclusion from page 1*

We await workshop proposals, preferably but not limited to a topic that relates to our theme. They come in slowly at first, but those slots fill up quickly, so get yours in ASAP.

We are also seeking useful and/or beautiful and valuable donations to our silent and live auctions, and be there when I make my debut as (gulp) auctioneer.

You can make your reservation at the Woburn Hilton, Boston. Call the hotel at 781 937-0999 and ask for the special OLOC rates, or go to our page at the hotel site: <http://tinyurl.com/7nzpo5a>

We have found the Hilton to be quite accessible, (check for details as needed) with a friendly staff receptive and accommodating. Ruth did a

magnificent job negotiating with the Hilton to provide FREE daily:

- Full breakfast buffet—the best we have come across at any hotel in which we've yet stayed (only two per room, so if more of you share a room, you will have to figure this out on your own).
- Wired & wireless high-speed Internet access in the rooms
- Parking

It's a terrific package, so if you haven't already made your plans, start that process now. Financial assistance is available.

### Wondering What a Tiny URL Is?

URLs are the addresses at which specific pages are located on the internet. They have to be entered manually, either typed in, or with the aid of copy and paste. If the URL is a hyperlink and it appears in an e-mail or newsletter or other active document, you simply click on it and you're automatically taken to the site. For those manually entering a URL, getting it exactly right can be a tricky proposition. Some clever person came up with an easy way to convert long, complex URLs into shorter ones called tiny URLs. So when you run across something that starts with "tinyurl," that's what it's about. Thus a URL with 85 characters, like the original one for the hotel in Woburn, can be converted to more manageable 26.

**Registration and Financial Assistance forms for 2012 Gathering in Boston are included in this issue.**



Carolyn Gage

### Chapters & OLOC Approved Research

To find out about OLOC chapters, presently in Minnesota, California, New York, Ohio, Missouri, Oregon, Washington, and Colorado, look here: [www.oloc.org/about/chapters.php](http://www.oloc.org/about/chapters.php)

Doing or wondering about participating in research? Check in with our Research Gatekeeper Sharon Raphael or view our guidelines here: [www.oloc.org/researchrules.php](http://www.oloc.org/researchrules.php). For chapter or research information in print, phone 1-888-706-7506 and leave your name and address.

### SF Bay Area Political Action List

With all of the political activity going on lately in the Bay Area, many of us have decided we need a way to let one another know about political actions that might be of interest to us. Right now we have an e-mail list of 32 local OLOC members. If you live close by and are interested in being part of this group, e-mail Pat Cull at [patcull70@gmail.com](mailto:patcull70@gmail.com) and she will add you to the list. The list is solely for our purposes and not for anyone else's use.

If you wish to alert us to an upcoming political action, e-mail Pat Cull, clearly letting her know that this message is to be forwarded.

### SF Bay Area and the Occupy Movement

We have been involved in demonstrations for the Occupy Movement and against the many cuts to programs that will negatively affect seniors.

Women living in Coleridge Park senior housing, many of whom are OLOC members, have organized an occupation of the sidewalk in front of our local Bank of America at 3250 Mission St., San Francisco. On January 20<sup>th</sup>, Occupy Wall Street West held an all-day Occupy San Francisco Financial District nonviolent mass occupation! Our actions so far have brought out many people, mostly women, who are happy to find a place where we can fit into the Occupy Wall Street Movement.



Pat Cull and Sheila Goldmacher Photo by Cathy Cade

### Report from Puget Sound OLOC *Gloria Stancich, 1935, Mary Henry, 1939*

The Puget Sound Chapter of OLOC just keeps on keeping on! In addition to the coalition work discussed elsewhere in this issue of *The Reporter*, we have continued to ride the momentum from our wonderful summer Gathering and organize our women further from the South Sound area. A new group has been formed in the northern end of Seattle that has become confident enough to plan its first large-scale, invite-lots-more-women event for January. The South Sound Lunch Bunch continues to grow to the point that we are having trouble finding restaurants able to handle the crowd in a manner that makes it easy to converse. We've found that one long table leaves those at each end feeling left out. That makes the problem an agenda item for the Leadership Retreat to be held in January. There are Occupy efforts going on in several cities in Washington State, most recently occupying foreclosed homes. A number of PS OLOCers are involved in one way or another.

Our Leadership Retreat will be held at Birch Bay Resort in Blaine, WA, thanks to the generous donation of her timeshare points by Ellen Kritzman of Vashon Island. Ellen has become an involved member of our group since her beginnings with the Lunch Bunch a few years ago. We will divide our time between strategic planning for the next year and brainstorming how to manage it all with the new Pride Foundation Grant, which was lower than asked for this time. Of course, all work and no play—is not how we operate! Especially not while we are enjoying an accessible resort. This one even has a lift to help us in and out of the outdoor swimming pool—if it were warm enough to swim!



### Civil Rights Activists By Jan Griesinger, 1942

OLOC proposes to honor Lesbians who actively participated in the civil rights movement of the 1950s or 1960s. (We are not saying Lesbians who were out in that era but simply "Lesbians.") We are seeking nominations of Lesbians who played a substantive role in local or national movements organizing for civil rights.

Nominate yourself or another, give us some details as to what the involvement was, and contribute \$50–100 toward a plaque that will become part of the 2012 celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the birth of Bayard Rustin. Rustin was an African American gay man who played a central role in the movement. The 2012 celebration is being sponsored by the National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC) and organized by OLOC member Mandy Carter. Most of the funds raised from donations for the plaques will go to the NBJC. If funds are limited, let us know, and we may be able to raise them for a particular nominee. Nominations can be sent to OLOC's e-mail or mailing address and are needed by March 1, 2012.

### Resources to Check Out

"LGBT Old Adults in Long-Term Care Facilities" offers results of a survey done by SAGE and the National Senior Citizens Law Center and is based on hundreds of stories. You can get access to this information and much more at this new Website: [www.lgbtlongtermcare.org/](http://www.lgbtlongtermcare.org/)

AARP has launched a site for LGBT Older Adults: <http://tinyurl.com/3oouofm>

#### Available From OLOC:

OLOC T-Shirts • Denim Shirts • Sweatshirts  
Cloisonné Lapel Pins • Buttons • And More!

e-mail, phone, write or go to  
[www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org) and click on OLOC Market

### Here's Sandra

We were not happy with how the photo of Sandra Tignor looked on the December fundraising letter. It was pretty fuzzy and was not the one she requested. Since only a small window of time was left to send it, we went ahead, but here is the photo Sandra preferred.



Sandra Tignor: Photo by Cathy Cade

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

- [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org). E-mail: [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org)
- Post Office Box 5853, Athens, OH 45701; 888-706-7506

This Newsletter Brought to You By:

Co-Editors: Jennice Thomas, 1940; and Susan Wiseheart, 1941  
Proofreaders and Copy-editors: Malinda McCain, 1940; and Nancy Krody, 1939

Content Review: Alix Dobkin, 1940; and Jan Griesinger, 1942  
Design/Layout: Margaret Purcell, 1951

The mailing crew and all of the writers and photographers.

Deadline for the next issue is April 15, 2012. Limit submissions to 300 words. Contact us for a style guide. We may edit articles for clarity and length. Send articles to OLOC: [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or OLOC, PO Box 5853, Athens, OH 45701.

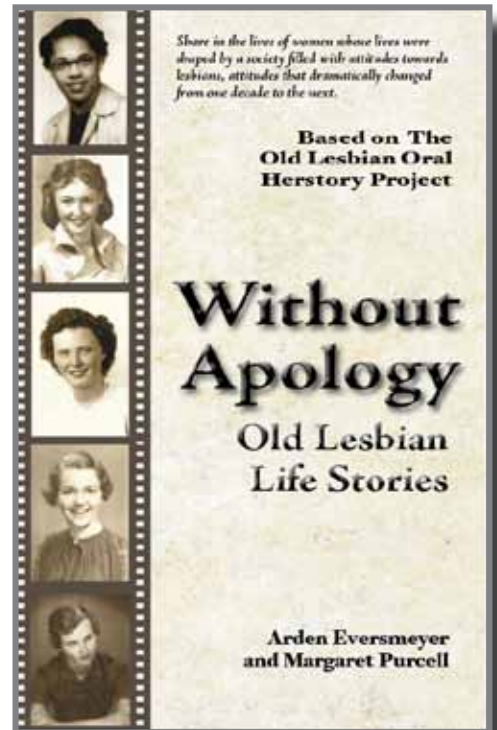
### **A Labor of Love** By Arden Eversmeyer, 1931

The Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project, OLOHP, is ready to release our second book, *Without Apology: Old Lesbian Life Stories*. *Without Apology* invites you to share in the lives of 24 lesbians, the oldest born in 1917 and the youngest in 1937. Writing these books has been an amazing experience. Margaret Purcell and I collaborated on the writing, but it took more than the two of us. Several other Old Lesbians contributed their time, skills, and insights as well. Everyone involved helped to take this book from an idea and a list of notes to a book you can hold in your hands. It has truly been a labor of love and a collaborative effort.

We hope you will see yourselves and many of your own experiences reflected in the stories as you read *Without Apology*. Without all of you who have been willing to share your stories, not only would there not be an OLOHP, but there would also be a large piece missing in the history of our community.

Thanks to the support of OLOC and others, the OLOHP collection now includes more than 250 life stories. If you, or someone you know, would like to learn more about being interviewed, please contact me.

To order a copy of *Without Apology*, or our earlier book *A Gift of Age*, go to [www.olohp.org](http://www.olohp.org), email [info@olohp.org](mailto:info@olohp.org), or call me at 713-869-1482. Our next goal is to have an e-version available before very long for reading on your Kindle, iPad or similar device.



### **OLOC Media Library**

The OLOC Media Library list is available at <http://tinyurl.com/8xf8b8z> or in print by request from the post office box. Include \$2.00 for postage and handling for print.

The list includes a few new DVDs. Three are high entertainment by and about the Topp Twins. These New Zealand Lesbians are wildly popular in the mainstream of their own country and in many places in North America and elsewhere. Though they are not quite old yet, they are on their way.

The OLOC Herstory section includes new ones from our dedicated video editor, Cristina Vegas, who recently gifted OLOC with a set of DVDs from the 2004 National Gathering in Houston. She also gave us a 2002 University of Houston "Lesbian Activism/Experience in the 70s and 80s in Houston" panel with our own

Arden Eversmeyer as part of it along with a couple of other DVDs starring Arden (the coordinator of the Arden Eversmeyer Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project).

We also have the story of the development of the Triangle Square old gay and Lesbian low-income housing in West Hollywood, an interview with Jan Griesinger given to us by the Landyke Documentary Media Project, and a 2008 promotional DVD for the June Mazer Lesbian Archive.



OLOC is a Wolfe Video affiliate. Use this link to order from Wolfe, and OLOC will receive cash to support our work. Wolfe Video is Lesbian-owned-and-operated.  
[www.wolfevideo.com/default.asp?R=1344](http://www.wolfevideo.com/default.asp?R=1344)

### Activism for Racial and Class Justice

OLOC is delighted to announce that Mandy Carter and Lisa Weiner-Mahfuz will facilitate the daylong anti-oppression planning session scheduled for July 19, 2012. The event will take place in both the morning and afternoon of the 19<sup>th</sup>, with the full Gathering opening in the evening. The focus of the planning session will be working to achieve common understandings and then moving forward to make plans for how OLOC can be more anti-racist and anti-classist.

Mandy is a long-time member of OLOC who has done nationally recognized work of this kind for decades. Lisa is also experienced and has worked with many organizations on just such issues, including Creating Change.

For those who want to attend the session, you will be asked to register for it on your Gathering form, included in this issue. You must let us know by June 1, 2012, if you plan to attend.

This will help us estimate how many to expect. You will need to come one night early (Wednesday the 18<sup>th</sup>) so you are on-site on Thursday morning. Local Lesbians can of course commute if you wish. The session itself is free, but you will be on your own for the extra night at the hotel and for your meals. If you want to request help so you can attend this event, add it to the financial assistance form.

We look forward with great pleasure to working with Mandy and Lisa to further OLOC's ability to move forward against these two oppressions.



Mandy Carter

### Opportunity: Be Generous to OLOC and Your Sisters

*By Ruth Debra, 1944*

If you have extra miles on your frequent flyer plan and don't plan to use them for a ticket, you have the opportunity to donate them to OLOC for bringing Old Lesbians to our National Gathering this summer. You would have to have at least 25,000 miles to purchase a ticket. This would be a wonderful donation and much appreciated.

E-mail or phone me for more information.  
[ruth@oloc.org](mailto:ruth@oloc.org) 760-318-6794

### Request for Workshop Proposals

If you have an interest in presenting a 90-minute workshop at the National Gathering, please send an outline of what it would include. List details of materials or equipment you may need. Include all contact information of presenter/presenters with (for each) a short bio and a high-resolution photo. Proposals are due by April 1, 2012, and you will be informed by the end of April whether or not your proposal was accepted. Preference will be given to workshops relating to our theme, "Bridges to Justice: 21st Century Activism." Send to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or to the post office box, attn. Sally. Questions? Phone 888-706-7506.

#### OLOC Vision Statement

OLOC will be a cooperative community of Old Lesbian activists from many backgrounds. OLOC's priorities will be to challenge and oppose ageism, racism, classism, sexism, and ableism. OLOC will collaborate with other organizations doing the work of social justice. OLOC will use its power and resources to advance the just world we all envision. OLOC will seek leadership from Old Lesbians of Color and Old Lesbians of a variety of class backgrounds in these efforts to address multiple oppressions, including as advisors to and members of the Steering Committee.



### A Fragrance-free National Gathering

Did you know that the city of Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada, banned the use of cosmetic fragrances in most public spaces within the city limits? The ban is based on proven dangers to humans, other living things, and the environment from the chemicals found in fragrances.

OLOC is not banning fragrances, but we do ask you not to wear them to the Gathering. Don't forget, it is not just perfume and cologne; it is also body care products and laundry products. Please, if you normally use scented products, take a break for this short time and come fragrance-free. This is for the benefit of those OLOC members who are sensitive to the chemicals and have unpleasant or dangerous reactions to them. It is part of our attempt to be aware of disabilities and make the event as accessible as possible to Lesbians with disabilities. Thanks.

OLOC is supported in part by grants from the Arcus Foundation and the Carpenter Foundation

### OLOC Memorial Plaque and Slide Show

The OLOC Memorial Plaque will be displayed at the 2012 Gathering at the Boston/Woburn Hilton in July. If you want to add the name of an Old Lesbian who died recently or in the past, send her name, year of birth, and year of death to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or the P.O. box. Unless you tell us not to, she will also be included in the Memorial Slide Show that will be part of the ceremony at the Gathering. Include a donation (we suggest \$20.00 but more if you can, less if you can't). Send an online photo with the same information to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org). (For those of you without computer access, please find a friend to send the photo.)

### Mission Statement for OLOC

Old Lesbians Organizing for Change is a national organization for Old Lesbians age 60 and over and will:

- Promote Old Lesbian Pride.
- Educate, support and empower Old Lesbians.
- Challenge ageism in our society and educate the general public about the effects of ageism and oppression.
- Celebrate our strengths, our talents, our experiences, and document our lives.
- Convene National Gatherings of Old Lesbians.
- Encourage, establish, and support local chapters and regional events

### Send Nominations for the Del Martin Old Lesbian Pride Award

Any OLOC member can make a nomination. Your nominee must be 70 years of age or older. You should describe her outstanding accomplishments and/or achievements. You should also show how she has benefited the



lives of Lesbians. The award will be presented at the OLOC National Gathering in Boston, July 2012. The deadline for nominations is April 8, 2012. Send your nominations with full contact information for yourself and your nominee to [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) or to the OLOC PO Box.

In 2004, Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon's life was featured in the documentary film, *No Secret Anymore: The Times of Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon*, by filmmaker Joan E. Biren.

### OLOC and the Occupy Movement

OLOC supports the work of Occupy Movements everywhere and encourages OLOC members and chapters to attend them with OLOC signs, t-shirts, and/or banners.

From Tita Caldwell, San Francisco Bay Area: "Some of us are occupying our local bank. I am quite excited about it. Toni Langfield says she has a tent, but I'm afraid they would take it away from us. I am thinking of getting a bicycle helmet." (Read more about Tita's experiences with the Occupy Movement elsewhere in this newsletter.)

From Carol Demech, New York City: "I have been to marches and demonstrations with the Occupy people. A few other women have also marched and gone to Zuccotti Park. Much is being planned for the spring by various organizations. OLOC has not done anything as a group."

From Jan Griesinger, Athens, OH: "I have briefly attended Occupy events in Athens, Dayton, and Springfield OH."

From Emily Greene, Mentone, AL but working in Chatanooga, TN and elsewhere: "I am inspired by the diversity of people and their commitment. Occupy has helped to bring us together."

From Lynn Hicks, Siler City, NC: "I've been very busy with Occupy. I am so inspired by this movement. In all my years of activism, this is the first time I've had any hope since the 70s."

### Puget Sound OLOC: Community—Visibility—Action through Coalition, Collaboration, and Partnering

*By Gloria Stancich, 1935*

Our Puget Sound group has been actively involved in coalition work since we began meeting in 2007. We culled e-mail lists and personal contacts to find Old Lesbians. Those contacts led to groups and individuals working on aspects of our own mission statement, goals, and objectives. The latter reflected our desire to form community, to gain visibility, to act to improve the lives of Old Lesbians, and to document those lives.



An early collaboration was formed with the Pacific Northwest Lesbian Archives, which was collecting Old Lesbian stories and ephemera (we were already connected with the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project). That collaboration expanded when PNLA sponsored a weekend retreat for all Lesbians in the area. There we met members of Dyke Community Activists, many of whom identified as Old Lesbians, involved in political work highlighting and combating intersecting oppressions, ageism, sexism, racism, classism, and heterosexism.

That led to occasional collaboration or partnering with other groups focused on one or more of these issues. Our increasing visibility as a group and our tested reliability to show up for meetings, events, and actions led to more and more invitations to work in coalition, to collaborate on events, and to partner on sponsorship or information dissemination. Our core group weighed each request against our own goals: the time, energy, and resources required to participate, and the relative impact we could make toward our objectives.

We now have representatives on coalitions focused on housing, health, ageism, marriage equality, peace, justice, racism, classism, and gender equality. We bring our experience, strength, integrity, and resources to these tables and a vocal insistence on the recognition of the needs of Old Lesbians. In turn, we have allies who rally to help when we are faced with challenges, such as producing the Regional Gathering in 2011!



### How to Occupy *By Tita Caldwell, 1931*

I was immediately drawn to the Occupy Movement, as it seemed like the first time the people and institutions responsible for most of our problems were finally being identified. I was discouraged, however, by the difficult conditions facing the protesters, and afraid of putting my old and ailing body on the front lines.

Then I read a brief article in *UltraViolet* called "Occupy Everywhere," describing how they had begun standing with big signs in Half Moon Bay, CA. A few days later we had a pot-luck at the senior housing where I live, and ten of us (including seven OLOC members) decided to occupy the sidewalk in front of our local Bank of America branch. We picked the location because it is the only bank in our neighborhood.

A couple of weeks later we walked down to the bank, with the aid of walkers and canes and with our signs in a laundry basket. People waved at us and beeped their horns before we had even arrived at our destination. The people we invited were eager to join us—women from Code Pink, *UltraViolet*, Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and of course several OLOC members.

We gathered twice during December, and at our first formal meeting decided to do our

occupation weekly during January. We have connected with Occupy Bernal in our neighborhood, attending their first General Assembly, along with about 60 other people. We were welcomed with warmth and respect, especially because we had begun our action while they were still planning it.

We also agreed to work with Occupy Bernal in planning a day of Action on January 20th. It is wonderful to feel visible and useful in such a vibrant movement. I urge all of you who are interested in participating to find an accessible spot and three or four friends so you can start your own occupation.

**Editor's Update:** News of the occupation of the space in front of the Bank of America by Tita's group, calling themselves Wild Old Women, made the news in several places and went viral on Facebook, which means it was

spread all over the place by people posting and forwarding it. The bank closed and locked its doors when the women arrived with their walkers and (one of them) tank of oxygen. Tita was widely quoted, saying: "We're upset about what the banks are doing, particularly in our neighborhood and neighboring areas, in evicting people and foreclosing on their homes. We're upset because the banks are raising their rates, because it really affects seniors who are on a fixed income."



*Tita in Tacoma July 2011*

#### Contact List for Current Steering Committee Members

**Co-Directors:**

Jan Griesinger, 1942, Athens, OH  
Alix Dobkin, 1940, Woodstock, NY

[jan@oloc.org](mailto:jan@oloc.org)  
[alix@oloc.org](mailto:alix@oloc.org)

740-448-6424  
845-679-7586

**Steering Committee Members:**

Tita Caldwell, 1931, San Francisco, CA  
Ruth Debra, 1944, Palm Springs, CA  
Mina Meyer, 1940, Long Beach, CA  
Sally Tatnall, 1937, Cleveland Heights, OH

[Tita@oloc.org](mailto:Tita@oloc.org)  
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760-318-6794  
562-420-3555  
216-862-0598

**OLOC 2011 Financial Report**

|                 |   |               |
|-----------------|---|---------------|
| <b>INCOME</b>   | Individual donations                              | 21,941        |
|                 | Grants  | 55,000        |
|                 | Sales, T shirts                                   | 3,271         |
|                 | Chapters  | 1,191         |
|                 | Grant for Bay Area OLOC                           | 1,426         |
|                 | National/regional gatherings financial assistance | 3,145         |
|                 | Misc.   | 586           |
|                 | <b>Total</b>                                      | <b>86,560</b> |
| <b>EXPENSES</b> | Administration                                    |               |
|                 | Supplies, equipment                               | 1,879         |
|                 | Admin. Coordinator                                | 14,744        |
|                 | Steering Committee meetings                       | 12,004        |
|                 | Grant for Bay area OLOC                           | 1,426         |
|                 | Outreach/education                                |               |
|                 | newsletter  | 3,137         |
|                 | delegates to confs                                | 6,997         |
|                 | ads, web, publicity                               | 2,667         |
|                 | Program coordination                              | 3,475         |
|                 | Oral Herstory                                     | 8,384         |
|                 | Stipends Co-Directors                             | 5,400         |
|                 | Sales, T shirts                                   | 791           |
|                 | National gathering 2012                           | 797           |
|                 | Regional gathering                                | 8,627         |
|                 | Civil rights bricks                               | 1,000         |
| Misc            | 795   |               |
| <b>Total</b>    | <b>72,123</b>                                     |               |

**New Study Reports**

**Increased Risks to Old LGBTs**

According to a new study, Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender baby boomers face higher rates of physical disabilities, depression, and loneliness than their heterosexual counterparts. The higher rate of aging and health disparities among Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender older adults is a major concern for public health.

The study surveyed 2,560 LGBT adults ages 50 to 95 from across the U.S. and found that many of the subjects' unique circumstances lead to physical and mental distress, with nearly four out of ten participants asserting that they had considered suicide. In addition, 47 percent of respondents reported a disability, 31 percent reported depression, and 53 percent reported loneliness.

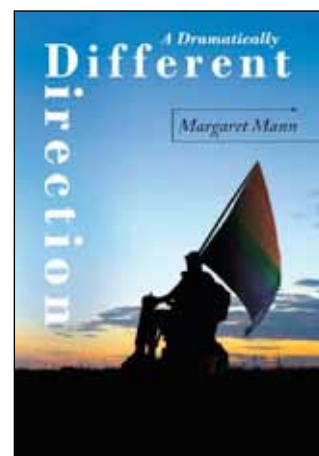
The study participants also cited senior housing, transportation, legal services, support groups, and social events as services needed in the LGBT community. The researchers note that despite the reported lack of services, 90 percent of the subjects said they felt good about belonging to their communities.

Karen Fredriksen-Goldsen presented some of the study's key findings during a congressional briefing in early November. She was also a presenter at the 2011 Regional Gathering in Tacoma.

From LiveScience.com (Sat, Nov 19, 2011) by Remy Melina <http://tinyurl.com/77qt4bg>

***A Dramatically Different Direction*  
Reviewed by Alix Dobkin, 1940**

Being aware of the effort it takes to make profound thoughts compelling, and complicated experiences coherent and engaging, I especially appreciated *A Dramatically Different Direction*. Margaret Mann has written a wise and witty primer on both disability and the proper approach to life, and reading it has substantially furthered my education on both counts. If everyone read this book, everyone's life would be better. Available from: [www.createspace.com/3630186](http://www.createspace.com/3630186) or from [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com).



### Oops!

*By Jackie Grover, 1943*

Ever since my partner of 23 years died in 2005, "the holidays" have been something for me to just get through. This year I decided to join a social group of Old Lesbians for the annual Thanksgiving Day feast. My friend Molly accompanied me.

She picked me up and we drove to the address we had been given. I read her the directions as we went along. We were to look for a two-story gray house with three steps up the front at the corner of the block. We spotted the house described and checked that the number matched.

Bringing our gifts of wine, we rang the bell. A woman opened the door, introduced herself as "Jane," grabbed our gifts and welcomed us in as laughter could be heard from other rooms. The house smelled wonderful! It was warm and beautifully decorated.

Suddenly, some men approached and welcomed us with open arms. One asked me, "How was your flight?" The other one asked, "What would you like to drink?" Both Molly and I looked at them puzzled. Finally, one of them said, "Aren't you our relatives from Texas whom we've never met?" Molly stammered, "No, we just drove here."

In an instant I was smothered in a blanket of embarrassment: It had just dawned on me that we were on the wrong street! Jane reappeared and I explained our mistake. We all laughed about it as she returned what we'd brought. "Hate to see you go," she said. "I'd been looking forward to drinking some of that."

Once back outside, we realized we were one block over. Not only were the houses identical but the numbers were also the same. I'd just confused the street name, "Path" with "Place"!

### Honors

**Bev Hickok:** Bev was the featured photo for the June L. Mazer Lesbian Archives online fund-raising letter for the end of 2011. It is a fetching picture of her taken over 40 years ago in lovely saddle shoes.

**Tita Caldwell:** OLOC Steering Committee member Tita Caldwell is one of 30 people selected to receive a California Senior Leaders Award in 2012. Last year Joan Emerson and Natalie Zarchin both received one of the awards (which includes \$500.00). Tita plans to give hers, as Natalie did, to Bay Area OLOC.



### New Social Network

Lesbians of color have a new social networking site with 4800 members: [www.oursistacircle.com](http://www.oursistacircle.com)

### Memorials

#### **Barbara Grier, 1932–2011**

Barbara Grier, one of the founders of Naiad Press and activist in Lesbian publishing beginning in the 1950s, died in November of 2011. She was born in 1932.

#### **Rita Moss, 1923–2011**

OLOC member, Rita Moss of Carbondale, IL, died on November 8th, 2011. Her memorial service was January 14th, 2012.

#### **Miriam Carroll, 1930-2011**

Miriam lived in Atlanta, Georgia and had shared her life story with the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project.



**OLD LESBIANS ORGANIZING FOR CHANGE PRESENTS NATIONAL GATHERING 2012**  
**July 19–22, 2012 Bridges to Justice: 21st Century Activism**

Speakers, workshops, entertainment, dinner, dance, silent and live auctions, sing-along, keynote speakers, talent show, hospitality room with games and food.

Lesbians 60 or over (and female partners/female caregivers of any age) are invited.

Early Registration deadline May 15; Workshop proposals due by April 1.

**2012 National Gathering Registration Form**  
**Boston/Woburn, MA July 19-22, 2012**

**Step 1. Tell us about you**

*Online Registration  
coming soon*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_ Age as of 7/18/2012 \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Add me to a contact list that all attending will receive

I prefer my contact list electronically  I prefer my contact list in print

I plan to attend the Activism for Racial and Class Justice event on July 19th

Do you need any specific services to assist with disabilities? If so, please describe.

Emergency contact (if you become ill or need help)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ phone \_\_\_\_\_

Food preferences: meals with  meat  fish  vegetarian  vegan  other

if other, please explain: \_\_\_\_\_

Step 2. Registration fee covers programs, entertainment, Friday lunch & Saturday night dinner. It does not cover housing, transportation or meals other than those listed above.

**EARLY REGISTRATIONS**

POSTMARKED BY MAY 15, 2012 \$250

POSTMARKED MAY 16–JUNE 15 \$275

POSTMARKED JUNE 16 or later \$300

**Everyone attending  
needs to register!**

STEP 3: PAYMENT: (financial assistance form below)

Registration fee (see schedule above) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

OLOC Membership (includes newsletter) (\$25-50) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution for financial assistance \$ \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL \$ \_\_\_\_\_



(Mail a check and this form to OLOC PO Box 5853, Athens OH 45701 or use PayPal at [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org).)

# 2012 NATIONAL GATHERING FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE REQUEST FORM

(Send this form with your registration form by May 15, 2012)

OLOC is committed to making it possible for every Old Lesbian who wants to attend an OLOC gathering to be able to do so. If you are unable to pay all or part of the costs, please fill out this form and return it to us with your registration form no later than May 15, 2012.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

What is your level of needed assistance? (Please answer all the questions so we fully understand the extent of assistance you need):

1. Registration fee: Do you need assistance? \_\_\_\_\_ How much can you pay? \_\_\_\_\_
2. Housing costs: Do you need assistance? \_\_\_\_\_ How much can you pay? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Transportation costs: Do you need assistance? \_\_\_\_\_ How much can you pay? \_\_\_\_\_

What type of transportation will you use? \_\_\_\_\_

Any other info or details you would like to give us? \_\_\_\_\_

Can you prepay any of what you need and be reimbursed? \_\_\_\_\_

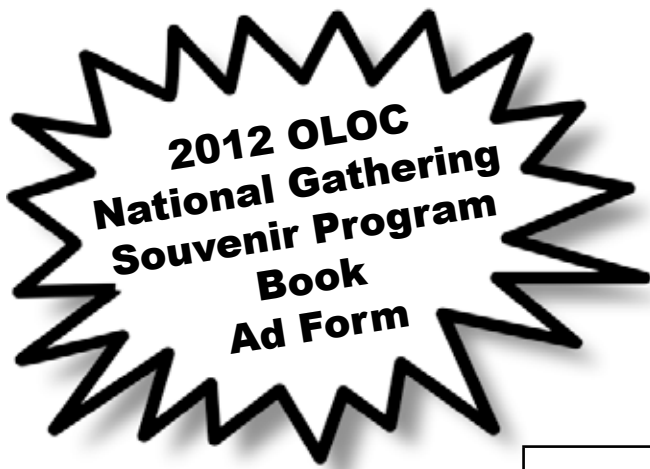
*\* Financial assistance is available according to how much we are able to raise and we will let you know how much you have been awarded by May 31st so you can make your plans.*

.....  
: **BE KIND TO YOURSELF AND YOUR SISTERS** :  
: We request that you make every effort to help us create a space that is free of the chemicals :  
: used to make scented products. They adversely affect the health of all of us, some more severely :  
: than others, plus they degrade the environment. Please come with fragrance-free body-care :  
: products and clothing and, if you normally use cologne, essential oils, or perfume, we ask you not :  
: to use these during the Gathering. Thank you. :  
: .....  
: .....

## THE HOTEL: Hilton Boston/Woburn | 2 Forbes Road | Woburn, MA 01801

The Hilton Boston/Woburn is our hotel for the Gathering. It is in a Boston suburb. An express bus is available from Logan Airport to Anderson Station, and the hotel provides van service from the station. The hotel is lovely. Rooms are \$109 per night and include two free breakfasts per day and complimentary Wi-Fi service. You can have either one king-size bed or two double beds and as many occupants as you want per room, but if more than two, you will have to figure out about the breakfast. There's an indoor pool and many small areas for Old Lesbians to gather. You can reserve your room online at <http://tinyurl.com/7nzpo5a> or by calling: Jill Cashman, the sales manager, at 781-932-0999 ext. 7900. Please inform her that you are with the OLOC block of rooms to confirm the rate, which is remarkably inexpensive for this area.

To see more details about the hotel, here is their website, but do not use the link below for registration or you won't receive the special rates for OLOC. <http://tinyurl.com/yqp62r>



## Support OLOC by Advertising

We'd love to see your ad in the Program Book. Here is the form for placing ads in the Souvenir Program Book, which will be given to all attendees and all advertisers. Do you have a local organization, business, or group that would like to place an ad?

**Bridges to Justice**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Century Activism**  
**July 19-22, 2012**  
**Hilton Boston/Woburn**

**Our 23<sup>rd</sup> Year Celebration...**  
**Our 8<sup>th</sup> National Gathering**

| Sizes and Prices for Ads and Greetings |                        |                           |
|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Full Page                              | 7.5" wide x 9.5" high  | \$550 inside front cover  |
|  |                        | \$450 inside back cover   |
|  |                        | \$600 outside back cover  |
|  |                        | \$350 other full page ads |
| 1/2 Page                               | 7.5" wide x 4.5" high  | \$200                     |
| 1/4 Page                               | 3.75" wide x 4.5" high | \$125                     |
| Business Card                          | 3.5" wide x 2" high    | \$ 50                     |
| Greeting                               | 20 words or less       | \$ 25                     |

Name (Please Print): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Text for Greeting: \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

Paying by check     Paying via PayPal    PayPal Transaction ID \_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for ads is May 15, 2012. Send your ad via e-mail in **either** straight text for us to typeset and lay out for you at a fee, OR camera-ready as a PDF saved at print resolution. Contact us if you have a question. You can also mail your camera-ready ad or business card with your check and we will scan your ad. You can pay for your ad via check or PayPal. Visit and click on: Donate Via PayPal; include your transaction ID on the form once you've paid.

**Send your payment to Old Lesbians Organizing for Change**

OLOC • PO Box 5853 • Athens, OH 45701

[info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) • [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org) • toll free 888-706-7506

Please request additional copies of this form. Deadline for ads is May 15, 2012



## OLOC Membership/Supporter Form

**We want everyone who wants *The Reporter* to receive it. Please check all that apply:**

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| <b>Options</b> | <input type="checkbox"/> I am (we are) not sending money at this time, but we want to receive <i>The Reporter</i> for another year.<br><input type="checkbox"/> I am (we are) at least 60 years old and want to be an OLOC member (be OLOC members). I (we) understand that I (we) will receive four issues of <i>The Reporter</i> for each year of membership. \$25 –\$50 for a one–year membership.<br><input type="checkbox"/> My partner is not yet 60 but is a supporter. Her information is below.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Send one copy of <i>The Reporter</i> to both of us.<br><input type="checkbox"/> Send us each a copy of <i>The Reporter</i> .<br><input type="checkbox"/> I (we) want to receive <i>The Reporter</i> but I (we) can contribute only \$ _____<br><input type="checkbox"/> I am (we are) supporters of OLOC under the age of 60. I (we) would like to receive four issues of <i>The Reporter</i> . \$30 - \$60. |
|----------------|---|

**To pay using a PayPal account or a credit card, go to [www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org) and click the Donate button. You do not have to have a PayPal account to use a credit card here. If a couple is paying, please include both names in the comments section.**

We very much appreciate you giving us your full date of birth, ethnicity/race and disability status. We use statistics from the information when applying for grants and to monitor our diversity. The statistics will never be attached to any names. Only OLOC uses our mailing list. We do not share it.

**Name** \_\_\_\_\_ **Additional Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_ **Additional Date of Birth** \_\_\_\_\_

**Ethnicity** \_\_\_\_\_ **Ethnicity** \_\_\_\_\_

**Disability** \_\_\_\_\_ **Disability** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **State** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_

**Out of United States? If so, additional address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail(s)** \_\_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_\_

**New Subscription**  **or Renewal**  **May we send you an occasional e-mail?** Yes  No

**I prefer:**  a print copy via U.S. Mail  a PDF via e-mail **MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "OLOC"**

**Skills you can offer OLOC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**I would love to have an OLOC chapter near me and could help work toward establishing one.**

**I found out about OLOC from** \_\_\_\_\_

*Winter and Summer addresses: It does cost us money if we don't have your correct address. Let us know which address to use for March, June, September and December.*

**OLOC • P.O. Box 5853 • Athens, OH 45701**  
**[www.oloc.org](http://www.oloc.org) • e-mail: [info@oloc.org](mailto:info@oloc.org) • toll free 888-706-7506**



**OLOC**  
**PO Box 5853**  
**Athens, OH 45701**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

NON PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
ATHENS, OH  
PERMIT NO. 82

**Time to Renew?**

If your label says 2012.03 (meaning 2012 March) or earlier, your membership/support has ended and it is time to renew.



**OCCUPY BOSTON**

**OLOC National Gathering July 19-22, 2012 Boston/Woburn, Massachusetts**