

PS OLOC miniNEWS

Connecting old lesbians throughout the Puget Sound area to form community and encourage participation in activities and causes that work to improve our lives and increase our visibility.

Our 39th Issue!

late December 2015

Join Us to View and Discuss, *Light of Change* Saturday, January 16, 12:30 on

In the last issue of the miniNEWS, we shared most of what you need to know about our next PS OLOC event, other than the date and place.

Well, now we have that set as well. We've found available space at the Des Moines Library on January 16. Plan to gather around 12:30 before we show the film starting around 1 pm. A full address and map for the library can be found later in this newsletter.

Other than simply looking for our next opportunity to get a bunch of us together, we plan to view the DVD *Light of Change: a concert with Carrie Newcomer, Bernice Johnson Reagon and Holly Near*. Although it came out a few years ago, the discussions and the music fits right in today. Here is part of what Ladyslipper Music shared about the film:

This live performance by three remarkable singers and songwriters - Carrie Newcomer, Bernice Johnson Reagon, and Holly Near - documents a unique and powerful collaboration of music and message. Recorded live at a gathering of 4,000 women, it features signature songs from each artist as well as collaborative pieces. Interwoven with the 19 songs performed during the show are conversations with the artists, recorded six months later, reflecting on their creative process and the power of music to bring people together for common purpose.

Thanks to Donna & Gloria, we have a copy of this thought-provoking and entertaining film.

Please join us. We'll probably have some light snacks, and those who are interested will go someplace nearby for dinner afterward. Contact PS OLOC if you have questions. (contact info on the last page)



House Concert Judy Fjell Sunday, March 6, 3 pm

Thanks to many of you, we're on a roll... please mark your calendars for our fourth house concert. Since the previous three have been fantastic, there's no reason to think this one will be anything less.

Come hear Judy Fjell, Montana-based singer/songwriter/guitarist.

We start with a reception with lots of tasty tidbits and time to meet and chat with the artist. Music starts at 4 pm. You can learn more about Judy and her music at www.judyfjell.com

You will need to reserve a seat. For tickets and more information, contact: caseyhannan@hotmail.com or call Casey: 425-301-3294

What's next in the line up? We're glad you asked! We have at least two more singer/songwriter/guitarists coming. Ann Reed will sing for us all next May 14! Looking even further ahead, we'll be welcoming Deidre McCalla on October 22. There will be another concert in between, probably in early August, but that date hasn't been set...don't worry... we'll let you know as soon as it is.



PS OLOC and House Concerts? What's the Connection?

Wondering what PS OLOC has to do with the house concerts, and why? Simple answer: Community, community, community! With the support of our group and TLC, four PS OLOC women have taken on producing the concerts. For many of us, women's music (aka lesbian performers) holds a special place in our lives, one we want to share with all of you as we support these hard-working, talented women artists. The way these concerts have been received so far shows it means something special to many of us.



Contact Information for PS OLOC QC3 Members is the last page.



Recurring PS OLOC Area Events

Here are the highlights of what is going on in the various geographic areas within PS OLOC. We encourage you to join the separate Yahoo groups – info on how is on the last page of this newsletter.

Seattle area:

- The Dinner Group continues to meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month. Location varies, but they always try to meet at 6:30. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Aganita. Place TBD for December 17.
- The Seattle PS OLOC Book Group is changing things up a bit. As they begin their third year, they're changing their scheduled meeting to the fourth Tuesdays at 1 pm. Their first book, for the January discussion, is the novel about a Bangladeshi immigrant in London titled *Brick Lane*, and it's written by Monica Ali. Aganita is your go-to person on the book group. The place they meet continues to be Couth Buzzard Books. Have an idea for a book you'd like the group to tackle? Send suggestions to Deirdre.



Westies (Olalla, Gig Harbor, Longbranch, Shelton, etc.):



- West women try to meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays, generally at 12:30. Activity varies from discussions, films in private spaces, movies at theaters, picnics, games, etc., so locations vary a bit, too. Contact the westies thru their yahoo group (info on the last page) or by reaching out to Kathy Knowles: 253-857-4849 or kjknowles@centurytel.net ***

South Sound:

- South Sound Lunch Bunch meets in the Tacoma area on the 2nd Tuesday of the month at 11:30. Locations vary, and occasionally they need to switch up the dates. You can keep in the know by... you guessed it... joining the South Sound yahoo group!

Coming Out Women

- CO Women meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month. An additional night has been added to help with women's work schedules: they also meet on the last Thursday (except when it conflicts with holidays). CO Women is a support group for women of all ages dealing with coming out issues. CO Women meets at the library in University Place. For more info, contact Kathy P. or go to www.comingoutwomen.org



Coming Out Women reaches the Five Year Mark! WOW!

Since you never know what might happen to derail even the best made plans, we suggest you check close to the date of an event to make sure it's still on track.



*** If you have Kathy Knowles' old email address lingering somewhere in your computer – the one with smudge in the address – be warned:

several of us are beginning to question what kind of super powers, or super glue, Kathy used with that address, 'cause it keeps on reappearing in your mail application. You may need to perform an exorcism to get rid of it...

Excerpt from the Old Lesbian Oral Herstory Project:
My mom hired this young girl to take care of my sister. I guess I was working, or whatever. This girl had been in Chillicothe, which was a reform school upstate here in Missouri. Honey, she knew everything! She picked up on me in about half a second. The next thing you know, I'm happy! (laughing) Oh my god! At a very young age, I knew what that felt like! She left shortly after that. I think I saw her one other time after I was older and had a car. But I ain't never forgettin' her. I'm not gonna say her name, but I ain't never forgettin' her, for sure!

Looking For A Few Good Lesbians (by Ellen K)

Actually, we're searching for as many good lesbians as we can find. At its December 2015 retreat the QC3 members identified six areas in which they felt PS-OLOC leadership could use some help: fundraising, grant writing, social media/communications, coordination of special projects and interest groups, legal advice, and miniNEWS.

We certainly recognize that you may know of others you feel aren't being covered and should be. We invite any and all who wish to volunteer to work with the Queer Cronos Coordinating Council on needs identified by us, or by you, to let one of us know (we are listed at the end of the miniNEWS). Then maybe you could talk it over with us at



one of our QC3 meetings, and together we'll decide where things should go from there.

Some of you might like to go further and join the QC3. We meet every other month, usually the first Tuesday of the month, and do one retreat, usually in the fall. Each member commits to working in several areas, abiding by operating principles (see a later article on these) and approval by consensus. We would invite you to a couple of meetings to determine if you find our group as a fit, and vice versa, and how our expectations of each other jibe. While we would like to keep the QC3 on the relatively small side for optimal workability, no number is cast in stone, and new blood is always healthy.

Ellen, on behalf of the QC3

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Our ears are open, and so is the QC3.
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DVD Project Update

We told you in the last issue about the project PS OLOC is tackling, making a DVD of a presentation based on the dramatic readings we have done from the Herstory work PS OLOC is actively involved in. We're still on track, making progress in the editing and other tasks, and with any luck, things will continue to go smoothly. Like almost every project you take on, especially those that are new to you, we underestimated how much time it would take to do the various steps required. That said, we didn't underestimate how exciting it would be. Lots more to do, but we'll keep working on it. Before you know it, the readers will all be saying, "We're ready for our close ups, Mr. DeMille."

Who is Welcome in PS OLOC?

How about this: If you can say aloud, or at least to yourself, that you are a lesbian, and that you are old, then You Are Welcome! Best yet, here in PS OLOC, we don't define either *lesbian* or *old*! We've each come to recognize facets of ourselves at different stages in our lives. If you see yourself as an old lesbian, you're welcome to be a part of any and all that we do.



If there is a question as to who to contact about an event, you can always email info@psoloc.org.

From the December 2015 OLOC E-News

If you are traveling to Atlanta next October 5-9 for The Most Fabulous ZAMI NOBLA and OLOC National Gathering and want to reserve a room at the special rate at the Holiday Inn & Suites Atlanta Airport North where we will be meeting, reservations are now open. This is the link to the hotel's reservation system (the group code is already filled in). Please note the link does not work on mobile devices.

You can also make your reservation by contacting Leshawn Rue, Conference Service Manager, at 404-669-1218 (phone), 404-669-1209 (fax), or lrue@hiatlantaairport.com (e-mail). Be sure to mention the OLOC Gathering in October.



Want the Latest PS OLOC News?

Sign up for the various Yahoo groups. Learn how on the last page of the miniNEWS.

QCCC (Queer Crone Coordinating Council) Check In

Ahhh. The best laid plans... Once a year, the women on the QC3 agree to take a couple of days and do a retreat together. Even those who have attended can't quite believe that there is that much PS OLOC business to do, but somehow we manage to fill the two day long meetings so full we end up tabling some items. The QC3 did manage the meetings, but not quite a full retreat this time. Several things, including unavoidable conflicts, germs, wayward passports, and Mother Nature, conspired to keep us from going far. Plans changed from going to Victoria, to meeting on Vashon... yes, we did manage to meet on an island, just not the one we'd been aiming for.

Thanks to Ellen and others, plans were changed and most of us managed to meet and check a whole bunch of items off the agenda. Instead of boring you here with a litany of what all we discussed and decided, you'll find bits and pieces tucked into this newsletter (such as Ellen's article on page 3) and the next issue or two.

Everyone participating in person or via Skype deserves applause, but Ellen deserves stars in her crown for undoing our arrangements in Victoria and remaking them on Vashon!



Agreements/Operating Principles

A few weeks back, Jolly Sue shared a link to an article entitled *10 Agreements for a Happy and Well-functioning Team, aka, how to not suck as a coworker*. Reading through them, they sounded like a great set of fundamental agreements that would help the QC3 as we do the work of PS OLOC, so at our recent retreat, we discussed each agreement and agreed! We'll give you the bullet points here, but if you want to read the full article with examples and more detailed explanations, you can find it at <http://tinyurl.com/o5mvyd5>, or write to Mary and she'll send you a copy.

1. We will assume the best intentions in one another.
2. We will not get pissed at anyone for failing to fulfill expectations we never clearly set.
3. We will give feedback honestly and directly and not be passive-aggressive.
4. We will focus on specific behaviors, not attack personal character.
5. We will give everyone chances to learn and to improve.
6. We will not get pissed at anyone if we've never given them feedback and a chance to improve.
7. We will not form cliques nor spread gossip.
8. We will own our part in any conflict.
9. We will own our part in creating and implementing solutions.
10. We will not take our jobs for granted.

Not to leave well enough alone, the QC3 added one more.

11. We agree to revisit this list as often as needed!

Pokey Recommends...

Go See the Movie *Carol*

The new movie about two women falling in love, set in 1952 should be coming to a theater near you soon, if it isn't there already. It's based on the pioneering novel *The Price of Salt* by Patricia Highsmith.

The name of the film is *Carol*. One of the stars is Cate Blanchett. It's gotten quite a few strong, positive reviews including 5 stars from Rotten Tomatoes.

Autostraddle.com said, "*Carol* Is Even Better Than You've Heard, Is Maybe The Best Lesbian Movie Ever Made."



Pizza Klatch Gayla

Saturday, Jan. 23, 6 pm
at the Washington Center

You're invited to the 2nd Annual *A Slice of the Good Life* Gala in Olympia. Pizza Klatch is a Thurston County nonprofit that aims to eliminate suicide and reduce bullying of LGBTQ+ youth. Main stage begins at 7:30 pm, starring Pizza Klatch student speakers and featured entertainers Richard Blanco, President Obama's inaugural poet, and Chely Wright, first popular country musician to come out as lesbian. For tix, go to www.pizzaklatch.org/ It happens at the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in downtown Olympia.



Speak Up!

We may feel relatively comfortable here in Washington state, but have you thought about what might happen if you and your partner had an accident, or worse, while traveling in the US? Or abroad? Here are just two examples of areas that still need our attention and our activism.

Married on Sunday, Fired on Monday

Houston's recent setback in protecting our basic rights was horrible, but that is only one city. Twenty-eight states still lack basic civil rights and protections for LGBT people in the workplace, adoption, housing, and more. They may have to let us marry, but that doesn't mean they have to protect our rights. As unbelievable as it seems, in Arkansas, SB 202 was signed by the governor earlier this year. The new law is basically an anti-anti-discrimination bill that actually prevent cities and counties from protecting the civil rights of gay people! Unless things have changed recently, none of the following states has a state-wide nondiscrimination law in place.

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|-------------|--------------|
| Alabama | Nebraska |
| Alaska | N. Carolina |
| Arizona | N. Dakota |
| Arkansas | Ohio |
| Florida | Oklahoma |
| Georgia | Pennsylvania |
| Idaho | S. Carolina |
| Indiana | S. Dakota |
| Kansas | Tennessee |
| Kentucky | Texas |
| Louisiana | Virginia |
| Michigan | W. Virginia |
| Mississippi | Wyoming |
| Montana | |

Marriage & Native Lands

Here in Washington, we live alongside dozens of tribal lands. You probably already knew that Native American reservations are not bound by the same laws as non-native lands in the US – that includes the right to marry. Some Washington tribes have extended marriage rights to same-sex partners, notably the Puyallup, Suquamish and Colville tribes. But others here, and nationwide, have not, with the two largest tribes, the Navaho and Cherokee, banning marriage.

It will be fascinating to listen over the next few years to see how groups work within their tribes to effect change. It may be a whole different fight than it was in the non-native cultures.

Only 1¢ – Here's the Catch

If you do much shopping on the internet, especially on sites like Amazon.com, you may have run into an item priced at 1¢ and wondered how that can be true.



Don't follow it through to where you end up paying for the item, but look to the right and you should find a place to say how many you want to put in your cart. Set it to say Qty: 1. Now look at the shipping to learn the catch.

Qty:

\$0.01 + \$4.98 shipping
In Stock. Sold by Jack poloo



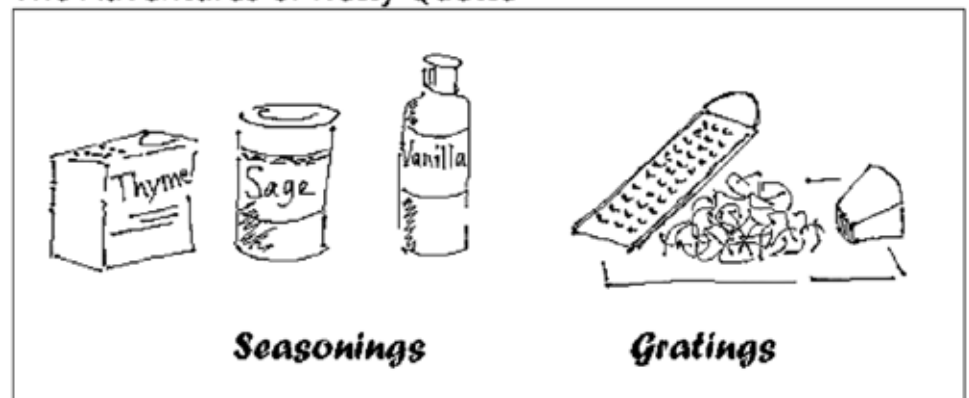
Now set the quantity to 10, note the new total, and then go and buy it elsewhere!

Qty:

\$0.10 + \$49.80 shipping
In Stock. Sold by Jack poloo



The Adventures of Netty Quette



Netty Quette, also known to some as Deirdre, offers us another cartoon. Let's "egg" her on and see what she comes up with for Easter!

Squeezing in a Last Few Tidbits



Light of Change Event Saturday, January 16, 12:30

Des Moines Library
21620 11th Avenue South
Des Moines, WA 98198

If you're coming from the north/Seattle or the south/Tacoma, keep in mind there isn't an exit off I-5 directly onto 216th, the easiest thing to do is to, at some point, get yourself onto Hwy 99/Pacific Hwy. The library is on the SE corner of 216th and 11 Ave. So., about a mile west of Hwy 99.

Mary will organize an expedition for a meal afterwards... if you have any druthers as to where to go, let her know.

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PS OLOC has been slowly growing a select collection of films of interest to our group. They're available to show in groups, or to borrow. Contact Gloria for details.

Keepin' Up With PS OLOC Events

Each group has two addresses listed here. If you belong to the group, use the first address to post. If you are new, send your initial query to the second address, the one with "subscribe" in its address. It's the least expensive subscription you'll ever have – and no renewal notices!

For the Seattle metro area:

SeattlePSOLOC@yahoogroups.com
SeattlePSOLOC-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

psoloc.org • info@psoloc.org

For the South Sound Lunch Bunch & the Westies (Gig Harbor, Olalla, Longbranch, etc.):

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For all PS OLOC

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