



# SUPPORT OUR SISTERS IN STRUGGLE

In the fall of 1969, a group, calling themselves the "Beaver 55," pulled off two successful raids against the American military-industrial complex. "Some of us completely destroyed...draft files and ledger books in 44 local boards in the Indianapolis Metropolitan area. Some of us entered the Computation Research Center of the Dow Chemical Co. (in Midland, Michigan) and destroyed magnetic tapes and processing cards used to store and process scientific research in such areas as nerve gasses, napalm, defoliants and other secret weaponry."

The core group of the Beaver 55 is made up of 8 people, 3 of them women; Jo Ann Mulert, 19, formerly of Dubuque, Iowa and now a factory worker and artist in Chicago, Jane Kennedy, 44, a registered nurse and assistant director of nursing training at Billings Hospital, and Connie Grubbs McNamara, 19, formerly of Dallas, Texas and an organizer of High School Young Christian Students.

The group declares that "We have done this because we are not blinded by the lies that corporations attempt to pawn off on us. A growing number of us understand clearly how American foreign policy is used to make possible the rape of human life and natural resources in developing countries. Military intervention is readily resorted to whenever financial interests are threatened by people struggling to free themselves from political

and financial domination. In Vietnam it is clear how many people our government is willing to kill and napalm to protect corporate profits."

The Beaver 55 would like to speak to groups throughout the area to explain their actions, discuss the war, and raise money for their bail (which was set at \$20,000 each). They can be reached at:

Beaver 55  
1907 S. Ruble St. or 222 E. 16th  
Chicago, Ill. 60616 Indianapolis, Ind  
226-5747 (317) 926-6671

Support our sisters in struggle! Help to set up meetings so these women can talk with their sisters.

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The newsletter needs articles from you about what your group is doing, thinking, planning. Send all articles to the office.

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WHAT WE NEED (that could be worked on by chapters or individual members)

Introductory Pamphlet Most of the lit. that has been produced by the women's liberation movement, although it is very good, is not appropriate for general distribution to high school students, non-college educated women, and new people in general. We need a short simple introductory pamphlet which raises some of the issues of women's liberation, suggests beginning actions, and would be suitable for general distribution.

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contest. It involved women and men struggling together to understand and unmask the implications of a beauty contest, and it kept the level of hostility low. People could understand the message and still be able to laugh. Maybe most important was the way we all felt afterwards -- really together and flying high.

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to look at and admire by forcing them into the role of walking commercials. The candidates concluded their statements by denouncing the idea of being judged on externals. They refused to allow themselves to be so judged and offered an alternate candidate whom they felt could legitimately be judged by appearances. To a rousing chorus of "Her She Comes Miss America" the candidate emerged -- a cow. Her front and rear ends managed to dance in step around the dance floor. Leaflets were distributed explaining the action in greater detail. Then the entire contingent peacefully left and the cow and queens returned to liberated pumpkins.

In retrospect the action was noteworthy on several counts. It successfully demonstrated our complaints against the

# SPEAKERS BUREAU

## MIDWEST WOMEN'S LIBERATION CONFERENCES !!!!

The Speakers Bureau committee met on January 15 and formulated the operation of the bureau. A card file of speakers will be maintained in the office and as requests are received, women at the front of the list will be contacted. After a woman makes a speech, her card will be placed at the end of the file. If you would like to be added to the list of possible speakers, please send, or call in, the following information to the office:

1. Do you want to speak with someone else?
2. Do you have a preference of type of group (high school, college, small, large, etc.)?
3. Are you free to do follow-up work -- help to organize a group where you speak?
4. Your status--high school student, college, housewife, job
5. Times, days and parts of the year you are not available.

Feel free to ignore any questions or to add other comments.

In order to improve our skills and increase our confidence, the committee also planned a training session for speakers. It will be held on January 26 at 5:00 (bring a sandwich) at Ida Noyes Hall, U of C (corner of Woodlawn and 59th)

The training session will cover: history of the women's movement, sample introductory raps, techniques and gimmicks, discussion of typical questions asked and possible responses. We also will have as many media resources (films, tapes, etc.) which can be used when speaking.

Please try to come to the training session if you want to do speaking.

A third aspect of the Speakers Bureau which was discussed was soliciting speaking engagements. The committee approved a pamphlet which will be mailed out which describes the bureau and women's liberation generally.

For copies of the speakers bureau pamphlet, to get on the speakers list, or to request speakers, call or write the CWLU office 2875 W. Cermak Rtn. 9 927-1790.

On January 23 & 24, a Midwest Women's Liberation conference will be held in Lexington, Kentucky, drawing women from Ohio, Ky., Tennessee, West Virginia, Indiana and Michigan. Marlene Dixon will speak and the workshop leaders will include Charlotte Bunch Weeks and Shaska Kenyatta, a Louisville Black Liberation Front member. The Boston group, Bread & Roses, will present a mixed media show, the Cleveland WL group will present a skit (Free the Dolls), and the film Salt of the Earth will be shown. It would be important for us all if some member of CWLU could attend the conference to tell us all what went on. If you are interested in going, call the office (927-1790) for more information or call Marie Allison 606-255-8026.

A conference on women's liberation will be held in Iowa City on February 6 & 7. Participants will include Marilyn Salzman Webb, Roxanne Dunbar, Marlene Dixon & Barbara Bank. In addition to several workshops dealing directly with women, there will be a men's workshop on male chauvinism. Interested? Write Francie Hornstein, 510 S. Capitol, Iowa City, Iowa and call the CWLU office where we have their leaflet on the conference.

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WELCOME SPIRO TO CHICAGO .....

Spiro T. Agnew comes to town February 12 for the Republican Party's "Lincoln Day" dinner. As Lincoln said, "capitalists generally act harmoniously and in concert to fleece the people."

A demonstration is being initiated by Johnny Appleseed Patriotic Publications around the slogans, "Aid the People, not the Junta", "Free all Political Prisoners -- in Greece and at Home", "Self Determination for all peoples -- at home, in Greece, in Vietnam", and related slogans.

"Any people anywhere...have the right to rise up and shake off the existing government." Abraham Lincoln, 1848. Let's celebrate his birthday like real patriots! Call 247-6646 and ask for Judy, for more information.



# U of C. COUNTER-CURRICULUM

by Narge Witty

A coalition of women from the New University Conference's Women's Caucus, Women's Radical Action Project, the University Women's Association, and women from the Southside community have arranged a series of workshop-seminars on a variety of subjects concerning women. The project arose as a response to the Sociology 122 course at U of C which is, at best, inadequate in confronting the oppression of women. At worst, the course actively contributes to this oppression by omitting in-depth critiques of standard misogynists (Freud, Erikson, Bettelheim, etc.) and standard sociological thinking which brackets out of discussion radical analyses of women's position in society. Women who raise objections are naturally accused of fulfilling their irrational natures through such unscholarly outbursts.

The seminary-workshops are then a voluntary counter-curriculum as well as an opportunity for the practice of speaking skills and the exchange of sorely needed information. They are open to all women who can attend and we encourage women with knowledge of the various subjects under discussion to come and share with us.

The seminars will be held on Tuesday nights at 8:00 beginning January 20 at the Blue Gargoyle, corner of 57th and University in Hyde Park.

The subjects include: Consumerism: Domestic Imperialism, The Socialization of women, or How to Shuffle Good, The Physiological & Biological Nature of Women, Comparative Family Structures, Women in the Labor Force, Women in Socialist Countries, Child Care & Abortion.

The format will include a short presentation, the questions and issues raised, and a discussion session. Co-ordinating the seminars is Tobey Klass (324-4867). Call her for more information.

ing. The press picked up on Hefner's story without even calling us and without checking to see if there was really any damage to any of Hefner's property.

The ACLU, in traditional form, referred the matter to committee. The committee report is set for after this newsletter goes to press. However, the ACLU Board, which had up to this time failed to see women's rights as a valid civil liberties issue, was finally moved to action. It passed a sweeping resolution on women's rights and is now looking for cases.

We shouldn't let Hefner off the hook. Individual chapters could discuss actions against the Playboy empire, and perhaps some national action could be organized that would demonstrate the widespread opposition of women to this type of exploitation.

UP AGAINST THE WALL, HUGH HEFFNER (or how three sisters were tossed out of an ACLU benefit at Hefner's pad for exercising their civil liberties)

by Nancy Moore, Jody Parsons & Kathy Roberts

When we learned that the Illinois American Civil Liberties Union was going to hold a big fund-raising bash at Hugh Hefner's mansion, our first reaction was to boycott. We couldn't believe that the ACLU would legitimize Hefner by holding a benefit at his pad. In addition, the affair smacked of the worst aspects of Chicago jet-setism (selective invitations, \$15 admissions, nude swimming at 4 am and all kinds of celebrities.

But then we decided it would be a great opportunity for a guerilla-theater action. We could protest both Playboy's portrayal of women as mindless sex objects for huge profits and the ACLU's eager attachment to Hefner, also for money.

We copped tickets by various means and went to the affair with the following props: small cards of naked men labeled January Playmate, Feb. Playmate, etc; large posters that busted the Playboy attitude towards women, for example: "He's a good lay, but he gets so emotional afterwards" or "He's got a nice ass, but he's kind of dumb." We also had several comical male pinups in bunny suits and lipstick to leave messages on the bathroom mirrors.

The action was going according to plan until about 1:30 when Hefner discovered the identity of one of the culprits. He ordered two of his plainclothes cops to "Get that woman out of here!" and to "use any force necessary." She resisted, but they succeeded in ousting her.

The next day we ran into a familiar counter-attack. Our protest was turned into a campaign to protect private property rights by Hefner's fabricated story that one of us had taped a poster to a \$40,000 (!) painting.

"Art, literature, philosophy, are attempts to found the world anew on a human liberty: that of the individual creator; to entertain such a pretension, one must first unequivocally assume the status of a being who has liberty." Simon de Beauvoir

"An army without culture is a dull-witted army, and a dull-witted army cannot defeat the enemy." Mao-Tse-Tung

One of the biggest brainwashes that women have been subjected to is the notion that only man can be truly creative. A woman may read, write, paint, philosophize, dance, sing or may even attempt to play a blues harp, but her efforts, according to the man, are only the frivolous dabbings of one whose mind cannot possibly grasp the real meaning of true, heavy art.

Well, we can see for ourselves just how "heavy" the man's art scene is. You can't see most of it. Instead of being allowed out as a revolutionary love, it's kept holed up in its "place" in art galleries. You have to leave your neighborhood and travel up to Michigan Ave. to one of those ritzy "hip" galleries where a dolled up "chick", underpaid and appropriately brainwashed into staying in her place, will take you in to see the art of the man.

But why is the art there? To be sold at a profit for the art galleries and the bourgeois artists. The prices charged for this art are far out of the range of most of the people. The only free art anywhere is way downtown at the Art Institute and even that may not be free for long. The same scene applies to any of the other art forms. It's set up to represent the man's interests and is a profitable American institution.

Women need art to break out of the chains of colonizing brainwashing that we have been subjected to all of our lives. We need art to help break up the empire of the American fatherland. The Women's Revolutionary Art Co-op will thus have a double purpose: to provide space, instruction, encouragement or anything else a woman artist might need to develop herself, and to open another front upon American imperialism.

It is proposed that it be set up in the following way. All women artists will be urged to bring in paintings, sculpture, jewelry, etc. to be displayed at the La Dolores Center. Every month some of it will be put out for sale. (Each month the art work could be changed.) The money coming from the sales would be distributed co-operatively in the following way. One portion would go to the running of the co-op as a whole - for leaflets, group co-op projects, etc., and for the setting up of a "needy artists fund" to provide space and materials for unpaid or underpaid women artists who need these things for their work. Another portion would be divided up equally among the co-op members. (It should not be divided up according to how many works particular artists have sold - that's capitalism.) A third portion could go back to La Dolores Center to help run it.

Suggested group projects are 1) providing weekly free instruction in various arts and crafts, 2) sending out "guerillas" to clandestinely paste up posters all over the neighborhood and city, 3) creating a "Wall of Pride" on the vast empty wall space right outside of the Center (painting murals, etc. portraying important women in the history of our struggle).

We are planning to have the first meeting of RAC on Tuesday, June 17th at 8:00 at La Dolores Center. Bring art and we can start setting it up. Also, bring ideas and suggestions on the Co-op.

Art Belongs to the People!  
Free All Oppressed People!  
Seize the Time!

## PLAYBOY

The Playboy Action Committee has decided on June 20 as the date for our attack on Hugh Hefner at his Playboy Club. We need support and organizational help to succeed so we are meeting June 4 at 8:00 p.m. at the La Dolores Center. Please come!

We plan to hold a people's court in which Hugh Hefner is found guilty on all counts of degrading women. We will also take pictures of couples as they enter the Club. We hope this will cause embarrassment and confusion, since many men will not be with their wives. To do this we need several committees. Please come and help! Let's support one another and show him what women really think. We won't be used as sex objects for men's pleasure. Power to the Sisters! Call Barbara at 549-2634.

## ON THE CENTER

One of the purposes for opening the La Dolores Center was to provide an organizational center for the women of the northside. This means not only that women who already know one another may meet there but also that women who do not know each other will get the opportunity to meet together at and through the Center. We have tried to provide this opportunity in several ways: by setting up groups which women may join, by sponsoring a film showing and a rummage sale, by opening the Center for meeting of already existing groups, by holding a free childrens night once a week--a project which interested women can work together on, and by obtaining the names and addresses of all interested women on the north side and putting them in contact with one another.

This last project has been an enormous one and is not yet completed. By now we have filed all names and listed them according to geographical areas. Within the next week or two we will be able to send you a list of women who live in your area so that you can get to know them. Meeting each other and working together will depend on the active co-operation of everyone. If you can work on this and would like to be a co-ordinator in your area, please call the Center. We are trying to find women who will assume this responsibility. The Center PHONE IS 944-8087. Our staff worker is Sandy Wilson who will be there Monday, Wednesday and Friday from noon to 3:00PM.

## NOTICE

I am an office worker in an alienating shit-house office. I need some sisters for solidarity. The Co where I work will be able to give me \$100.00 if I bring new people in. I will gladly split it with a sister.

I am interested in starting a rap-group for office workers. Please call if you are also an alienated office worker. Lenore (465-5287)

## NOTICE

The Women of Rogers Park are planning a back yard pick-nik for the women who live north of Irving Park (4000 North) on 6-13-70 at 2:PM. It is a great chance to get to know your neighbors in this city and to begin developing the supportive sisterhood we need. Come on Saturday and bring what you can and/or share. The backyard belongs to Betsy Vasquez, 6729 N. Ashland Avenue, Chicago and call 465-4943.

# → CALENDAR

READ THIS

- Thursday, January 22..... STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING  
Be sure that your group sends a representative! 13 groups were represented at the last steering committee meeting. 7:30 pm at the office 2875 W. Cermak Rm. 9
- January 23 & 24..... Regional Conference at Univ. of Kentucky (see article)
- Monday, January 26..... TRAINING SESSION FOR SPEAKERS  
5 pm at Ida Noyes Hall, U of C, 59th & Woodlawn (see article)
- Wednesday, January 28..... NORTHSIDE MEETING  
to plan a northside center, 7:30 pm, 925 W. Diversey
- February 6 & 7 ..... Conference in Iowa City (see article)
- Saturday, February 14 ..... Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference Women's Group  
Introductory Program on Women's Liberation
- Sunday, March 8 ..... INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY!!!! (see article this page)
- Tuesday nights, southside..... U of C Counter-curriculum Workshops (see article)
- Southside Women's Center..... Call D03-1348 for dates of group meetings

## PLAN FOR MARCH 8

March 8 is International Women's Day. It is a holiday which began in 1907 when a fire on the lower east side of New York city killed many women in an unsafe sweatshop. Many women went on strike to protest the murderous fire and terrible working conditions. Since that day March 8 has been a holiday celebrated in Socialist countries throughout the world...but seldom in America.

We propose to begin the celebration of our holiday and the recapturing of our history of struggle in the United States for dignity for women, and to strengthen our present struggle.

On Sunday, March 8 the CWLU could hold teach-in programs on women in the four main areas of the city where we have members; the far northside, the near northside, the southside, and the western suburbs. The programs could utilize the facilities of campus communities and publicize the activities so we would draw women from the surrounding communities.

Our movement has numerous resources which we could use to celebrate and educate on that day: the Palatine Skit on the history of women's struggles throughout the world (scripts will be available at the office in 2 weeks), the Up Against the Wall Miss America film, a tape of a talk by a woman from South Vietnam on the effect of the war on women, speakers on socialization, education, etc. Please begin to talk about this activity and plan for it in your area.

## STEERING COMMITTEE

On January 8 the CWLU Steering Committee met for the first time. Representatives of 13 groups were there: Liz Butters (southwest side group), Marjorie Witty (U of C WRAP), Linda Strothman (Roos. U), Heather Booth (U of C NUC caucus), Cathie Podojil (Rogers Park), Jody Parsons (ACIU caucus), Margaret Schmid (northside study group), Eleanor Oliver (Abortion Counseling), Kathy Rowley (new west suburban rap group), Carol June (southside center) Amy Kesselman (Lakeview Org. Project), Beth Rainsford (Hyde Park Tues. nite rap group), Toby Silvey (married women's rap group),

The meeting focused mainly on an exchange of information on what each group was doing and thinking.

Relations with the news media was discussed and it was decided that position papers pro- and con- relations with the press will be written and distributed to the chapters and voted on by the steering committee.

March 8 program was discussed and will be brought up at the next meeting.

Carol June volunteered to work on coordinating the bail fund.

The staff was authorized to buy a mimeo machine.

The next steering committee meeting will be on Thursday, January 22 and it is hoped that all chapters will be represented.