

HAG RAG

WISCONSIN'S LESBIAN-FEMINIST PRESS

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NEW RAGE THINKING

SPECIAL ISSUE ON SEPARATISM

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WHERE TO PURCHASE HAG RAG:

In Milwaukee at: The Beer Garden, 3743 W. Vliet St.; People's Books, 1808 N. Farwell; Webster's Books, 2559 N. Downer; Women's Alternative Health Clinic, 1240 E. Brady; Woodland Patterns Books, 720 E. Locust St.; In Madison at: Room of One's Own Bookstore, 317 W. Johnson St.; In Cincinnati at: Crazy Ladies Bookstore, 4168 Hamilton Ave.; and In Minneapolis at: Amazon Bookstore, 1612 Harmon Pl.

EDITORIAL POLICY

Hag Rag, Wisconsin's Lesbian-Feminist Press, announces the following themes for upcoming issues, and copy due dates (publication date is the first of the following month):

Topic	Due Date
Building Lesbian Community	June 10, 1988
Lesbian Sex	August 10, 1988
Fighting Back	October 10, 1988
Control	December 10, 1988
The Closet	February 10, 1989

Writers are invited to submit thought-provoking, theoretical, possibly humorous, and ground-breaking treatments of these topics or other issues relevant to lesbians. We also welcome drawings/photos by visual artists. Please include a short autobiography with your submission.

Articles should be no longer than 1000-1500 words (four to six double-spaced typed pages). Longer articles may need to be published in segments.

If we feel editing is necessary, we will contact you. Please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you want your materials returned. HAG RAG pays in contributor's copies. For more information, please write HAG RAG, P.O. Box 93243, Milwaukee, WI 53203, or call Mary, 414/372-3330 or Justice, 414/372-8850 in Milwaukee, or Lance, 608/255-1227 in Madison.

The Hag Rag mailing list never leaves Hag staff hands. Any mailings to members by other groups are done by Hag staffers. We do not sell or lend our list.

ABOUT THE ARTIST WHO DESIGNED OUR BEAUTIFUL NEW LOGO:

RENNIE LAING (MAIEUTIC)

On the cover is our new logo, as designed by Rennie Laing (Maieutic), winner of our recent logo contest. Rennie received \$25.00 and a lifetime subscription to Hag Rag for her winning design. We hope to publish more of Rennie's work in future Hags.

In Rennie's own words:

The Hag logo is the first piece of artwork that I have had printed in a lesbian publication. This is very exciting for me! I am a graduate of the Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design, and have a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree. My work has been exhibited in the Layton Gallery and the Marine Bank lower lobby gallery. I have been studying and practicing my craft for twenty-four of my twenty-nine years. Currently, I am making my living by selling my work and teaching watercolor and other forms of artistic expression in my home.

I sometimes use the name "Maieutic" which means "to act as midwife; to bring out conceptions latent in the mind and into consciousness".

Last spring, I held a series of one day workshops where womyn had a safe environment in which to find and explore their creative selves. These weekends included making your own amulet pouch, mandala, etc. I am presently setting up new workshops and am open to suggestions for future enrollment.

Crystal Dreams has my beaded deerhide bags on consignment and they sell quickly. My jewelry has been sold at Jackie B's and at Sanctum Regnum.

I make personalized, one-of-a-kind tarot cards that are hand drawn and water colored, assist womyn in making their own ritual objects, teach classes and hold workshops for children. My fees are usually negotiable, sliding scale and/or barter.

I am certified to channel Reiki and presently accepting clients.

Call me at 562-3114 if you are interested in any of my services. Thanks, Hags, for choosing my logo and making this all possible!

SEPARATISM: MANY VOICES, ONE SONG

This issue of *Hag Rag* completes our second year of publishing, and we are proud to present our Wisconsin community with this very special issue on Separatism. As many of you may know, several of us have been Separatists for many years, coming out as Seps when we became feminists and/or Lesbians. For us, Separatism is the means by which we validate our Lesbian existence by radically focusing on Lesbians and our values. For us, Separatism is not an escape from "reality," but an escape from patriarchy, and a radical leap into Lesbian reality.

Separatism is hated by patriarchy because it denies the context in which patriarchy thrives, and thereby threatens the continued existence of this oppressive system. It creates another context in which Lesbians and wimmin live free, strong and Self-determined lives. Separatism is also hated by many Lesbians and feminists who in the 1970's broke away from the radical roots of feminism's second wave. Separatism is a threat to them because it exposes their collaboration with patriarchy and assimilation into the structure they formerly challenged.

Seps, like earlier feminists, dream of another reality, one which is fundamentally radical and challenging to the status quo. As Sarah Lucia Hoagland points out, "early feminism of this [second] wave..., in its focus on women, was deeply disturbing to the status quo. In changing their relationship to the world--nature and culture--women were removing themselves from the world men had taken/dominated for their own purpose. Early feminists were separating from patriarchy and its values.... Early feminist groups were separatist; there was no place for men."¹ Separatists of the 1980's carry on the politics developed by the early 1970's feminists. As Hoagland continues, "...lesbian separatists are the only stability the women's movement has known,...while other parts of the feminist movement wavered and often abandoned the politics with which they began."²

The seven dykes writing on Separatism in this issue, some new to Separatism and others long-time Separatists, carry on in this radical feminist tradition. While no one Lesbian has the final word on Separatism, these dykes all speak eloquently and from their hearts, leading us to understand why wimmin choose Separatism, how we live with its joys and contradictions, and why the only future we can envision is a Separatist one. We hope their stories move you to dream of Lesbians and to create Lesbian space where all our dreams become reality.

^{1&2} "Lesbian Separatism: An Empowering Reality," *Sinister Wisdom* 34, p. 26.

Love, The Hags

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SWIM PARTIES

Hag Rag is sponsoring three benefit swim parties during the summer months.

Saturday, June 18	Waxing Moon in Leo
Friday, July 15	Waxing Moon in Leo
Saturday, August 20	Waxing Moon in Sagittarius

All swim parties will run from 7-9 pm. Please be prompt, as doors will lock at 7 pm. Call Mary at 414/372-3330, Justice at 414/372-8850 or Lance at 608/255-1227 for location.

Get out your flippers and join us.!