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### The Montana Women's Resource, March 1979

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# March Newsletter

## WRC'S MONTHLY MEETING- March 20

The top priority of the March monthly meeting will be the nomination and election of new Board members. The nominating committee has compiled a list of names for the Board of Directors. On Tuesday, March 20, these people and other nominees from the floor will be considered and the new Board will then be voted on.

Progress reports on the work/study groups will be heard.

The benefit dance thats taking place March 27, will also be discussed.

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## WORK/STUDY GROUP REPORT\*\*\*

The Information and Referral Committee has established 6 files which cover; a talent exchange, book file, work exchange, babysitting co-op, women in business, and a professional file (including doctors, lawyers and counselors). The files are available at the Center to anyone who is interested in using them. We need additional file input, so please stop by - browse through the files and fill out a few file cards. This is a no risk, simple, anonymous opportunity to help the women in the Valley.

At this time a literature group is being formed. A sign up sheet is posted outside the Center door or you can call Toni at 257-6909 to have your name added to the list.

If you are interested in a general women's support group call the Center and your name will be included on the list.

\*\*\*\*\*

## A BIG VOTE OF THANKS!

The Women's Resource Center would like to extend a big vote of thanks to Carol Kranpitz for loaning a much needed typewriter. The Center is still looking for a typewriter and office furniture, so if you can help us out we'd sure appreciate it!

\* \* \* \* \*

We would also like to thank Plum Creek for donating lumber for our new storage benches and Columbia Paints for donating the paint to finish them! They look fantastic thanks to Mr. Doran, Hilary and a crew of very enthusiastic helpers! Come in to the WRC and check out this great addition.

\*\*\*\*\*

## FINANCIAL FREEDOM- TAKING THE FIRST STEP\*\*\*

A seminar for women on making your money work for you as little as \$10.00

per week. The WRC will coordinate this seminar. Plans are for the classes to be conducted for 2 hours per week for four or possibly five weeks starting Fri. April 20 and continuing through to May 11 or possibly May 18. We will have afternoon classes (hopefully with child care) and evening classes for our working women.

Marilyn Rider, Account Executive, with Merrill Lynch in Spokane will conduct the seminar. It will be open to all women and will be free of charge.

There will be more information in the next newsletter. Please watch the media also for further information.

\*\*\*\*\*

Montana's ERA ratification is safe for another two years. On March 12 the Montana House of Representatives voted 59-30 to sustain an adverse House Judiciary Committee report on SJR-12, a Senate-approved resolution rescinding Montana's ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment. This vote effectively kills the resolution which called for Montana's ratification to expire on March 22, 1979.

The Women's Resource Center would like to express appreciation to the local State Senators and Representatives who voted against SJR-12. They are Senators Bob Brown and Dick Smith, and Representatives Bob Anderson, Pat Gesek, Michael Keedy and Jake Udhe. We encourage you to extend your personal messages of thanks.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### STATUS OF BILLS OF INTEREST TO WOMEN March 15, 1979

In order to keep women up to date on the bills of special interest that are currently being considered in our State Legislature we have listed the bills below. For a full list of the bills please stop by the Center.

Senate Bill 409: Act Generally Revising Law To Assaults Occurring Between Spouses...

This bill was passed by the Senate and Transmitted to the House on Feb. 23. On the date of March 15, this bill is still in the House committee waiting to be voted on in the House Judiciary.

House Bill 282: To Provide for Expanded Day-Care Assistance... This bill is in House Appropriations Committee and therefore not subject to the 45th day transmittal deadline.

House Bill 418: To Increase Payment to Day-Care Facilities... This bill is in the House Appropriations Committee and therefore not subject to transmittal deadline on the 45th day.

House Bill 652: Relating to the Definitions of Terms Used in the Sexual Crimes Statutes... This bill was passed by the House and transmitted to the Senate where it has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Bill 665: To Continue the Pilot Programs for Displaced Homemakers... This bill is in the House Appropriations Committee and therefore not subject to the 45th day transmittal deadline.

House Bill 749: To Make Sexual Abuse of Children a Criminal Offense... This bill was passed by the House and transmitted to the Senate where it has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

House Bill 868: To Provide a Battered Spouses And Domestic Violence Grant Program... Program... This is in the House Appropriations Committee and therefore not subject to the transmittal deadline of the 45th day.

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### LIBRARY\*\*\*

It's nice to see so many people taking advantage of our library. We would like to announce that all the books have been cataloged and are on the shelves and we invite you to come take a look at the books that are available. However, while going over our records it seems a few books are unaccounted for. If anyone knows the whereabouts of the following books please contact the Center:

- Fascinating Womanhood
- Divorce and After
- What Every Child Would Like His Parents to Know
- Passages
- Women, Culture, and Society

Donations are always welcome.

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### MATRIX ENCOUNTER\*\*\*

On Friday, March 9, a group of people from various Lutheran Churches around the state visited the Center to find out the development, philosophy, goals and services of the Center. Topics discussed were history of the WRC, workshops, educational programs, mens involvement and the library. The utilization of the Center by different age groups, such as students, senior citizens, etc. was also discussed. The response of this group was very positive. It was decided that a mutual exchange of ideas and support would be beneficial to both groups. The group was organized by the Northridge Lutheran Church. We would like to thank them for coming. It was exciting!

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### NON-TRADITIONAL JOBS FOR WOMEN\*\*\*

On February 26, Kathleen Cohen and Diane Sands from Missoula gave a workshop on Non-Traditional Jobs for Women. The subjects they discussed were displaced homemakers, non-traditional jobs, discrimination and how to re-enter the job market.

Some of the factual information they gave was surprising. Women make up 50% of Montana's labor force, 41% of the National labor force, and 55% of all people living in poverty in the United States are women. Also a woman with four years of college earns less than a man with only a high school diploma.

Kathleen and Diane also pointed out that occupational segregation is a major factor of the difference in the pay scale between men and women or read the book What Color is Your Parachute by Richard Bolles.



## I LOVE YOU

I love you  
So far beyond this night  
That the edge  
The very limit of my love  
Silently recedes  
And leads me to the promise  
Of loves new self.

In you I find an endlessness  
Of love in every moment  
And with you eternity  
Lives in each hour.

I love you  
So far beyond this night  
That if there were no dawn  
Still this nights love  
Would rise.

## SOLSTICE

As they fall  
No special place is made for them

Beyond their summer  
And beneath the broad fullness  
Of the spring they knew

Like so many before them  
They felt that they alone knew  
The melting  
Running  
And dripping of winter

AS YOU PASS EACH FENCE  
AND DOOR  
I SEE YOU PASS

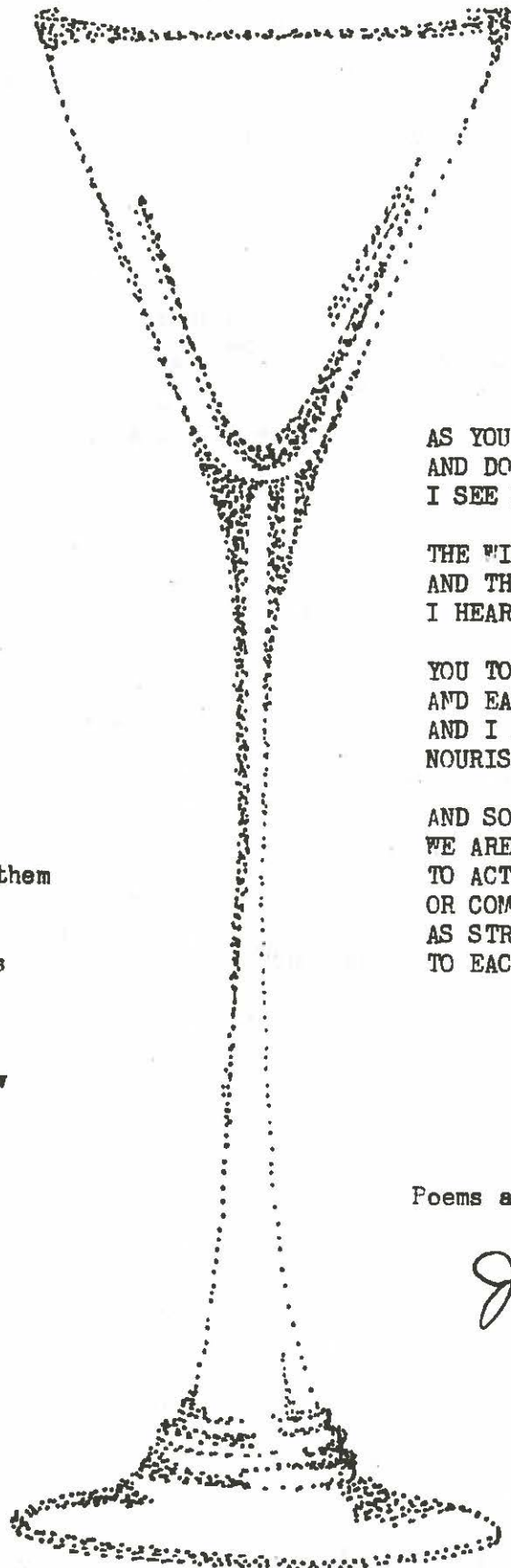
THE WIND LOUD ALLEY  
AND THE DOG YOU HEAR  
I HEAR

YOU TOUCH  
AND EAT  
AND I AM PLEASANTLY  
NOURISHED

AND SO TOGETHER  
WE ARE FREE  
TO ACT ALONE  
OR COME ONCE MORE  
AS STRANGERS  
TO EACH OTHER

Poems and Drawing by

*Julie Seitcher*



DONATIONS\*\*\*

There's been a good response to the \$2.00 subscription donation for the monthly newsletter. It's been helpful in covering the cost of printing and handling. We would like to thank those who have donated to making the newsletter a possibility.

\* \* \* \*

Anyone who would like to work on the newsletter or has something they would like to contribute, please contact Toni at the Center.

\*\*\*\*\* CUT \*\*\*\*\*

CALENDER OF EVENTS\*\*\*

March 20 - Regular monthly meeting, 7 p.m. at the Center (Board Elections)

March 22 - Brown Bag, 12 Noon, Women and Health by the Dr. Joan Miller

March 27 - Benefit Dance

March 29 - Brown Bag at 12 Noon, Adult Basic Education (ABE) by Bob Hand at FVCC

April 5 - Brown Bag at 12 Noon, Film on Battered Women by the Rape Crisis Line

April 12 - Brown Bag at 12 Noon, Grief and Loss by David Hoyer

April 17 - Regular Monthly Meeting, 7 p.m. at the Center