

**Sisterhood is Global
Schedule**

March 4

Films 7:30 pm Cost: \$2.00
Contois Auditorium, City Hall
Burlington.

March 5

Workshop: Feminism and
Social Change 6:00 pm Free Contois
Auditorium, City Hall

Pawnee Sills: An Evening of Blackness
A one women show on the herstory of
Black Women. 8:00 pm Cost: \$4.00 City
Hall Auditorium.

March 6

Women's Potluck &
Poetry/Monologue Readings 6:30 pm
Church Street Center, Burlington -
Donations

March 7

Keynote speaker: Gwedolyn
Rodgers - report from Nairobi. 103
Rowell Bldg./UVM 7:30 pm Free
Childcare provided.
Somebody's Sisters: International Folk
Songs, after speaker.

March 8

International Women's Day
Celebration for Women 10am- 6pm.
Contois, Childcare provided. Free.

Noon parade: Church Street bring
banners/instruments/voices.

Peformance by MATRIX,
a Balkan Women's Singing Group.

WORKSHOPS WORKSHOPS 10am- 6pm.

Toshi Reagon black singer and
Songwriter from Washington, D.C. 8:00
pm Contois \$4-\$6 Advance \$5-\$7 Door
Sliding scale

March 9

Films 1:00 pm - 5:30pm
Contois City Hall Auditorium \$2.00

LOW INCOME TICKETS
AVAILABLE FOR PAWNEE SILLS
AND TOSHI REAGON. All events
are wheelchair accessible. Tickets
available at the Peace and Justice
Center, 186 College St. Burlington, VT.
863-8326. Sponsored by KWANZAA,
BURLINGTONS WOMEN'S COUNCIL,
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION AND
RESOURCE CENTER/ UVM,
WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL
LEAGUE FOR PEACE AND
FREEDOM, VERMONT WOMEN'S
HEALTH CENTER, CITY OF
BURLINGTON.

Schlafly debates ERA

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voters support the state ERA.

Schlafly, a well-known right wing
activist, has for a number of years
made her living and her name by
opposing equal rights for women. She
travels the country telling women to
stay home and take care of their
husbands and children. According to
her, women should not work for money
or seek worldly status. Besides earning
a great deal of money and establishing
a nationwide reputation in the course
of her unrelenting campaign against the
ERA, Phyllis is married to Fred
Schlafly, a millionaire banker and
corporate lawyer in Illinois, who also
has strong ties to the right wing.

In addition to opposing the ERA,
Schlafly opposes the civil rights of
lesbians and gay men and opposes
abortion rights. She ties all these issues
together and says that "well-meaning"
people who support the "vague, general"
language of the ERA do not realize
what a "Pandora's box of evils" might
be opened after the ratification of this
amendment. She admits, however, that
no matter how an equal rights

Lesbians meet

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purpose. Many possible names,
configurations and activities were
suggested.

Suggestions included the idea of a
loose network of individuals and local
groups that works throughout the state
on a wide range of projects, or a
unified and organized political group
that would be active in the legislative
arena. Ideas for names included
Lesbians of Vermont (LOV's) and
Dykes of Vermont (DOV's).

The next meeting is scheduled for
Sunday, May 4th, from 1 to 4 pm at
the South Royalton House in South
Royalton. Many women will be arriving
at 11.30 for brunch at the House,
which is enormous, delicious and in the
\$3 to \$5 range. (In the event that the
South Royalton House is unavailable on
May 4th, the meeting will be on
Sunday, June 1st).

In addition to discussing name,
structure and activities, two workshops
will take place at the meeting. One will
be on organizing for the ERA, and the
other will focus on legal issues in our
personal lives (wills, insurance and
other benefit issues). Come and share
your knowledge or learn something new.

"We are at the formative stage of
something wonderful," said one woman
who was at the meeting. "We need lots
of ideas and energy at our next
meeting so we may have shape and
direction."

For more information about previous
or upcoming meetings, contact Susan at
234-9589, or Louise at 763-7112, or our
new liaison, Beth.

In the words of one energized
lesbian after the meeting, "Wow! Sixty
lesbians at our first meeting, 'There
ain't no stopping us now!'"

amendment that would benefit women
might be worded, she would not support
it.

In Burlington's Memorial
Auditorium, Feb. 18, Schlafly debated
Sarah Weddington, prominent feminist
and lead attorney in Roe vs. Wade, the
1973 U.S. Supreme Court decision that
legalized abortion nationwide. The
debate was sponsored by the Student
Association's Speakers Bureau of the
University of Vermont, in response to
requests from some Vermonters that
"both sides of the story" be heard.

The crowd of more than 1,500 in
Memorial Auditorium appeared to be
overwhelmingly in support of the ERA
and opposed to Schlafly. They booed
her with some regularity. "Ladies
Against Women," a group of about 50
feminists, parodied Schlafly at every
opportunity, gasping in a "ladylike"
fashion whenever Schlafly mentioned
sex, abortion, or homosexuality. Schlafly
addressed this essentially hostile
audience on the basis of "reason,"
assuming perhaps that people who
oppose her have more intelligence than
her supporters.

Taking advantage of her
opportunity to attack the ERA in
Vermont, Schlafly also appeared on a
radio talk-show the next morning,
presenting "my side of the story" and
responding to phone calls from listeners.
That night, she again spoke against the
ERA in Vermont at the North Avenue
Alliance Church in Burlington.

On the radio show, she again
presented her position as the only
"reasonable" one, implying that her only
concern is for the welfare of the
masses and that she has a mission to
let us know what is really good for us,
because we're too stupid to understand
on her own.

At the church that night, she
addressed an audience of about 1,000,
most of whom she apparently assumed
-- probably correctly -- to be
fundamentalist Christians. She talked a
great deal about God and Our Lord
being on the side of those who oppose
equal rights for women. "God" knows
what Schlafly actually believes, but she
does know what to say to whom, to try
for their support and votes. "God" was
not mentioned at Memorial Auditorium
or on the radio, perhaps because
Schlafly knows that this kind of talk
is not likely to influence intelligent,
responsible people to vote against the
ERA.

Schlafly pledged during her visit to
bring in as much money as possible
from both outside and inside Vermont
to defeat the state ERA. She did not
give her schedule, but we can expect
her and other national right wing
figures to return.

Anyone wanting further
information and documentation on
"what Phyllis and the right wing are
really up to" should contact Brenda
Adrian, Vermont NOW state
coordinator, 20 Intervale Avenue, Apt.
#2, Burlington, VT 05401, 658-2742.