

Dear Gertrude & Alice:

For many reasons, one of which is survival, lesbian and gay communities tend to be fairly tightly woven. In addition, the rural nature of much of Vermont means that there are fewer people in these tight-knit communities. We think the special problems inherent in these conditions are well illustrated in this month's questions.

Dear Gertrude and Alice,

My ex is coming to town after a two year absence. She 's currently involved in a committed relationship, but I haven't seen her since we were lovers. What do I do? Do I offer her her own room? Or do I leave it to her to tell me if she doesn't

want to share a bed? Is it okay to cuddle, or is that out too? How do I take care of myself and her new relationship? Is it my responsibility to worry about the latter? What's a good dyke to do?

-Trying to do the right thing in Colchester

Dear Trying,

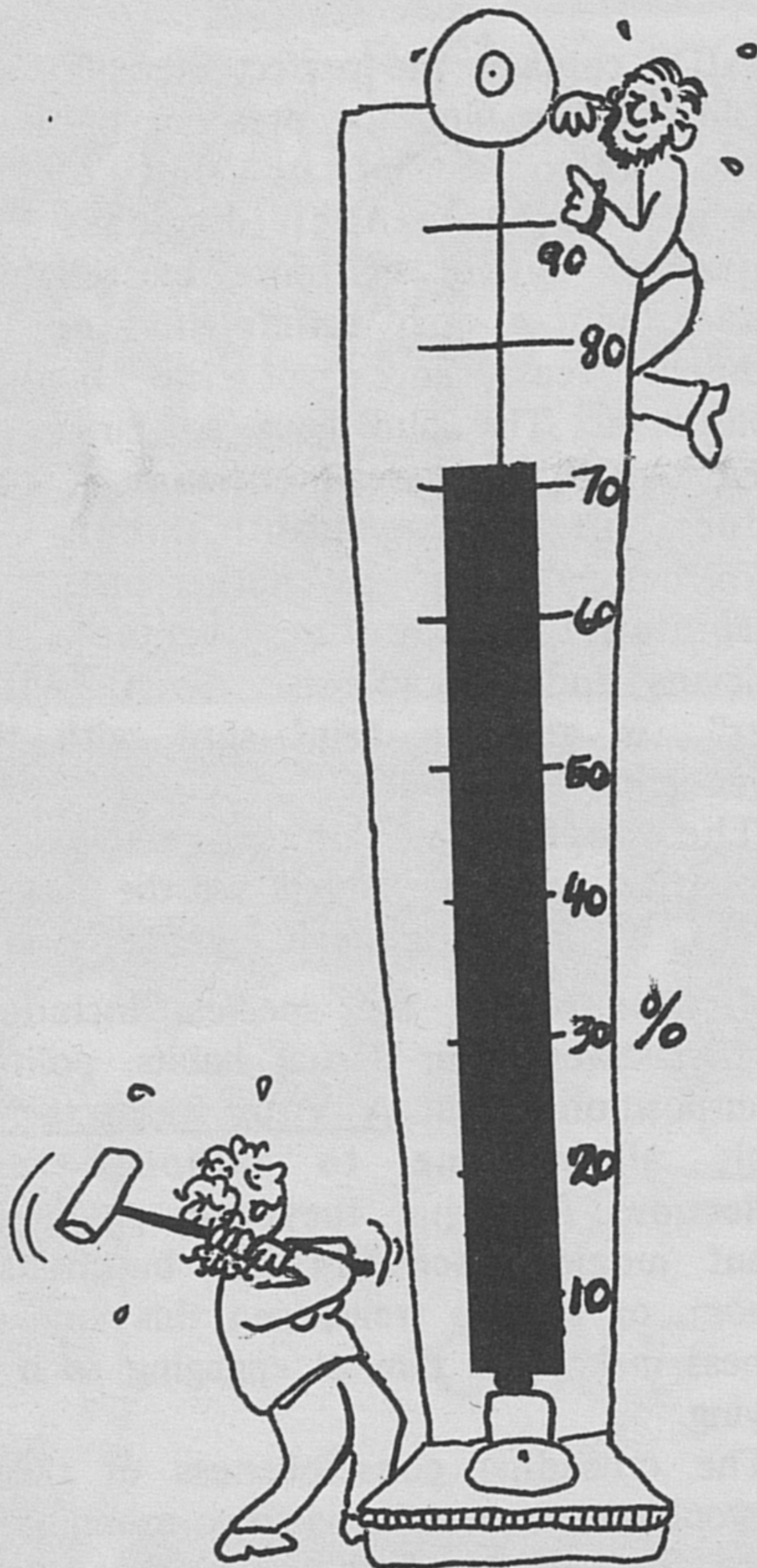
How big is your bed? But seriously, you haven't told us anything about how you feel.

We assume you parted on good terms with your ex and you think the attraction between you two will be strong. Gertrude feels that, although you have no specific responsibility to "take care" of your ex's new relationship, you do have a responsibility to take care of yourself. If she lives with someone else, far away, an

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Fundraising campaign for OITM -1987.

If you have already given, thank you. If not, please consider making a contribution. We need to raise \$4500.



_____ \$300 - yes I'll underwrite a whole issue.

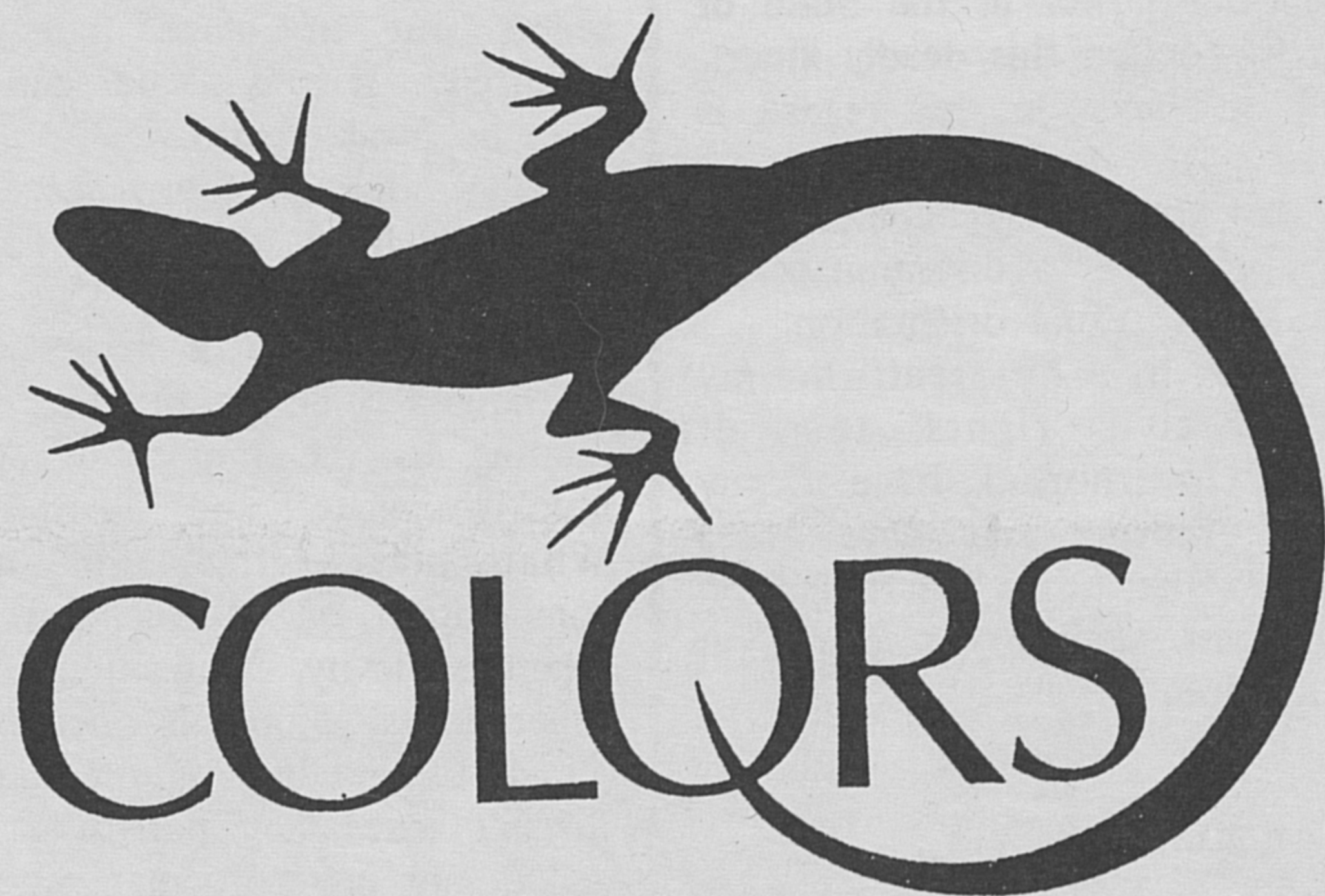
_____ \$150 - yes I'll underwrite half of one issue.

_____ yes I'll underwrite _____ pages @ \$40 each.

_____ other

Make checks out to OITM and send to OITM, P.O. Box 438, Hinesburg, VT 05461.

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