

# CRONES

The need of connecting with "older" women, who are peers, led to the formation of CRONES in 1979. The first group included heterosexual women although it was primarily lesbian. The minimum age was set at 40 and meetings were held for over a year.

Conflicts arose between the "straight" women and lesbians. The lesbian women had no desire to spend their meeting time talking about heterosexual problems and vice-versa. (Interesting that the "straight" women thought the lesbians were intimidating!)

The need for such a group was so great that it was reinforced in 1990. Women in mid-life were very much in need of support and contacts with women of like sexual orientation. Other than at bars, there is little chance of meeting other older women.

Meetings are held in members' homes. Usually they start with discussion; sometimes they are just social. Dancing, massage, chit-chat may dominate. Discussions vary widely: a check into individual lives since the last meeting, a problem with a relationship, a death,

whatever seems to be currently important. The best attended meeting was one announced in advance on lesbian sex! In addition to meeting in member homes, the group has gone hiking and swimming together. When talk is exhausted, we eat. We eat very well with a pot-luck.

The group continues for lesbian and bisexual women and serves a very important role by providing support and social time for older lesbians. Too many older women are isolated with little or no contacts with other lesbians.

Lesbian women 60 and over are now forming to discuss the problems unique to their age group. This new group will continue part of the CRONES but will meet separately on occasion.

Women 60 and over are invited to call 658-5510 if interested in the new group. Women 40-60 may write to Box 242, Winooski for information on location of meetings, etc. ▼

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Coming to St. Johnsbury

Friday Night, April 24th.

Fundraiser for A.C.A.P.

(AIDS Community Awareness Project)

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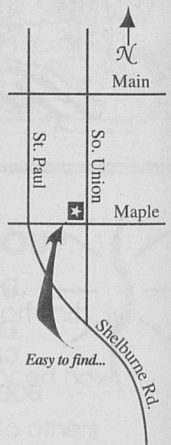
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- Neck Pain
- Headaches
- Shoulder, Arm and Hand Pain
- Hip, Leg and Foot Pain
- Arthritis
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