

women who have been living in Portland less than five years? There does not seem to be a centralized place in which women can assimilate into the rapidly growing community.

In addition, there is a limited number of lesbian-friendly activities and resources that are accessible and interesting to the entire lesbian community.

There are a few substantial organizations that do some great things—the Sexual Minority Youth Recreation Center, the Lesbian Community Project and Lesbian Avengers, to name a few—but are these organizations accessible, or desirable, to most lesbians in town? I think it is very difficult to meet people if you are not into sports or bars, or if you don't have much money.

Where are the lesbian dances (affordable, with seating for women who don't dance and a location not in a bar for the nonsmokers and nondrinkers) with all kinds of music for all ages of lesbians? Someone should rent a space, maybe in Northeast Portland, quarterly, for something like this. Anyone interested in working on this with me?

Also, how about a drop-in gay and lesbian advocacy organization? I know this is potentially in the works, which is very exciting to hear.

What do lesbians in Portland think of the current scene?

I read a comment in *Just Out* not too long ago from a lesbian who moved here and felt a gay and lesbian community center was not needed [Speak Out, March 5]. It is all relative depending on what you need as an individual. There are a lot of us in this town, and if we do decide that a strong lesbian presence is a priority—for partying and networking—and we are willing to put in a little extra time outside of our small lesbian circles, Portland could truly become an invaluable, pro-lesbian place to live.

ANDY FISH
Portland

correction

In the April 2 article "Straight Allies," Ann Shepherd was incorrectly identified as an ordained minister in the First Presbyterian Church. She is an ordained elder. *Just Out* regrets the error.

just asking

A Just Out staff member stopped by the recent Rose City Softball Association try-outs to ask aspiring athletes if they had participated in sports in high school.



RICHARD SUNIGA
Portland
Loan officer

"I don't remember what I had for breakfast yesterday, let alone what I did in high school."



RICK HORNER
Portland
Systems analyst

"If dating was a sport, yes."



TONI CARR
Portland
Women's division commissioner, RCSA

"Yes, I did. I was playing semipro fast-pitch when I was 14."



DARIN MOORE
Portland
Warehouseman

"No, I didn't. I just didn't feel like I fit in with the jock element."



TERESA GATTEN
Portland
Supervisor

"Yes. I started playing when I was 7 and now I'm in my 30s and still playing."



PATTY GREEN
Portland
Player, Team Quest

"Yes. Sports come easily to me because I'm naturally energetic. I always felt like one of the guys."

You have questions—"Just Asking" will get the answers! To submit a query, contact Just Out via fax at 236-1257; via e-mail at justout@justout.com; or via the USPS at P.O. Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400.

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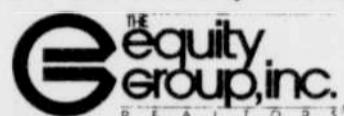
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