

# community



MARTY DAVIS

went from 0 to 10 when I came to Portland," Brindley says of her activism with OLOC and beyond. She was also featured in a Basic Rights Oregon video speaking on marriage equality and worked with Gay & Grey's educational panel for two years. Her partner of 49 years, Evelyn Hall, passed away in 2010. "I would have never considered myself an activist until I came to Portland," Brindley says. "I was too busy hiding in the closet to try to protect my sanity and my existence. It brought out the best in me."

The gathering itself is also a means for the nation's OLOC members to meet and greet each other in a social way, highlighted by a performance by Canadian singer-songwriter Lucie Blue Tremblay, as well as a dance and lots of sightseeing to the treasures of Tacoma's part of the Sound. Brindley has attended three national gatherings previously, describing them as "like an ageism revival."

But by the very virtue of the group's existence, in-depth discussion of some tough issues facing lesbian seniors is mandatory. And OLOC has a reputation for not letting any instances of ageism slip by its radar. One of the group's national chapters recently organized a statement against ageist greeting cards by mailing copies of the cards back to the greeting card companies, with letters expressing their frustration over what they viewed as old people being made fun of in an unkind way. Some chapters have even

produced an "old lesbian" calendar. As Brindley explains, fighting ageism isn't enough; empowering all old people by reclaiming the word "old" versus the ageist "older" is another integral part of OLOC's discussions.

"Wherever OLOC is, there will always be a panel discussing the [term] 'old lesbian' versus 'older lesbian,'" Brindley says. "Everybody gets 'older.' And people can usually deal with being 'older.' Like 'when I'm 16,' 'when I'm 21,' and so on. But the word 'old' holds a lot of people back. Doctors are always saying, 'Oh, that's just old age,' or 'That comes with age,' and it's absolutely not true."

Brindley explains that OLOC's minimum age of 60 was a strategic introduction, as many of the founders of OLOC agreed that they felt "old" as well as began to be on the receiving end of ageism at 60 and above.

Having marched in their third Portland Pride Parade in June, Brindley and her peers hope that this month's first regional event will convey their message to a broader base. But first things first: Have you offered your seat to a senior citizen on the bus recently? If not, Brindley has her eyes on you. ☐

*OLOC's Pacific Northwest Regional Gathering takes place July 28-31 at La Quinta Inn in Tacoma, Wash. Lesbians over 60 interested in attending should contact [pnw.gathering@psoloc.org](mailto:pnw.gathering@psoloc.org). For more information, visit [oloc.org](http://oloc.org).*

HOW WILL YOU SEE YOUR FAMILY?

**Vision 162**  
visit [Vision162.com](http://Vision162.com) for details  
360.944.1911

Maintenance • Repairs • Smiles...  
For Your Car

**Green Drop**  
Portland, OR  
Garage

**\$25 Oil Change\***  
[www.GREENDROPGARAGE.com](http://www.GREENDROPGARAGE.com)  
\*With Coupon

hip **CHICKS**

do **WINE**

*Crisp Refreshing,  
Summer Whites  
& Hearty Reds  
for your Summer BBQs!*

Limited amount of Pride Wines available at our Portland Tasting.

Both Tasting Rooms Open Daily.  
Portland tasting room: 11AM - 6PM,  
Newberg tasting room: 12 (noon) - 7PM.

LOCATED AT 4510 SE 23<sup>RD</sup> AVE. PORTLAND, OR 97202  
503-234-3790 | [www.hipchicksdowine.com](http://www.hipchicksdowine.com)

**mint** 820

Established 2001  
503 284 5518  
816 N. Russell Street, Portland

**Happy Hour**  
Mon/Tue 4pm - 8pm  
**WED & SUN ALL NIGHT LONG!**  
Thur - Sat 4pm - 6:30pm

**Dinner**  
Tue - Sat from 5pm till close  
(820 is open 4pm till close)

[www.mintand820.com](http://www.mintand820.com)

**Tonkin**  
FOR THE LOVE OF CARS

**#1 Highest Rated Mazda Dealer in Portland!**  
Highest star rating according to Google Places. 7/6/2011

We also carry Mazda Certified Pre-Owned Vehicles

Experience Excellent Customer Service at  
**Ron Tonkin Mazda**

**Fast. Fun. Easy.**

**Ron Tonkin Mazda**  
750 Southeast 122nd Avenue  
Portland, OR 97233-1106  
**(503) 258-5610**

Visit us online at [RonTonkinMazda.com!](http://RonTonkinMazda.com)