

WOMEN'S VU

April 1980

A publication for and about women
at Vanderbilt University

II:6

YWCA Offers Workshop On Stress

The Women's Resource Center at the YWCA is offering a workshop on Stress Management for Women. This workshop will be led by two Vanderbilt University Medical Center staff members, Lynne Lenox and Richard Thomas. There is a \$30.00 fee for the three-session workshop. Dates and topics are:

Wednesday, April 30. 7-9 p.m.—
Identifying sources of stress in your environment;

Saturday, May 3, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.—
Identifying your own personal stress reactions;

Monday, May 7, 7 - 9 p.m.—Prevention and coping skills.

Printed material will be provided so that participants may continue to work on their own following the workshop. For more information or to register, call Peg Neuhauser at the YWCA, 385-3952.

"LAST FRIDAY"

For all women employed by the University: You are invited to bring your own lunch to the Women's Center on the last Friday of each month, starting on April 25th, between 11:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Strictly social. Meet friends. Make new friends. Get to know your associates who work in other parts of the University.



Grace M. Eaton Day Home

Photo by Ardon B. Brown

University Women Meet B.O.T. Women April 24

On April 24 women Trustees will meet again with women of the University in the private dining-room of the Divinity School. The "informal conversation" will begin at 8:30 a.m. and end at 10:00 a.m. Come for part of the meeting if you cannot come for the entire time.

Phyllis Pittman will report on Women's Week 1980, and Pat Pierce, Assistant Director of the Opportunity Development Center, will speak about women at Vanderbilt from the point of view of Affirmative Action.

These meetings provide a forum for exchange of ideas and concerns with our female Trustees. All women on campus are welcome: faculty, staff, administrators, and students in every school.

GRACE M. EATON DAY HOME SERVES 100 CHILDREN

As a further continuation of articles on child care in Nashville, this issue features the Grace M. Eaton Day Home at 1708 Pearl Street (corner of Pearl and Jo Johnson). Operating hours are 6:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. weekdays. Lucille Dysart is the Director.

While the availability of organized day care is a relatively recent phenomenon, the Grace M. Eaton Day Home has been in operation since 1926, having been founded at the initiative of the Fireside School, an organization of Christian women. The Home moved to its present location in 1975.

Approximately 100 children from the ages of 2½ to 6 are served by the Home; 90% of these children come from families eligible for assistance under Title XX guidelines. Charles Powell, the Day Home's social worker, indicated that these guidelines are such that many graduate students and some staff at Vanderbilt might qualify.

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Mildred Cohn Speaks On Chemical Isotopes and Scientific Careers For Women

Dr. Mildred Cohn, Professor of Physiological Chemistry at the University of Pennsylvania, was the first Ethel Mae Wilson Lecturer to be invited to Vanderbilt by the Biological/Biomedical Sciences. Cohn, who is a world-renowned scientist, has pioneered the use of various chemical isotopes to solve biochemical problems. Two of her lectures during her April 2-4 visit outlined her recent scientific advances. The third talk sketched her career in science from 1932 to the present.

Cohn's first job was as the lone female chemist in a group of 70 male engineers and physicists developing a fuel injection engine for airplanes. When she commented to one of her colleagues that a theory of internal combustion needed to be developed before a really good engine could be made, the engineer replied that if one waited for basic principles to be worked out, there would be no engines. This experience taught her that any complex problem must be approached from many levels.

In the mornings during her visit to Vanderbilt, Cohn attended a series of "round-tables" at which various groups exchanged ideas about their current research with her. She also was interviewed by *Women's VU*.

On the second night she had dinner with a group of female faculty and graduate students from Biological/Biomedical Sciences. After dinner, Dr. Jane Park, Professor of Physiology, moderated a discussion about women scientists.

We learned that Cohn attributes much of her success to the fact that she has stayed in the forefront of both scientific and technological development. This made her employable even during the Depression, when no one was interviewing for jobs, because her skills were in demand. Since she was the only person experienced in working with oxygen isotopes, being a woman was immaterial! In fact, growing up knowing that there was prejudice (based on sex and religion) helped her cope with the situation. At

this time, when job openings were limited, an absolute requirement was that the candidate be white, male and Protestant. Although Cohn was not "pleased" by this situation, she was not devastated by it, either.

Cohn was not on tenure track until 21 years after receiving her PhD. This actually may have been an asset, since she was able to obtain support for herself and her work and was able to work on "long-range" projects that significantly advanced the state of art in science. This was in contrast to her peers on tenure track who were burdened by teaching and the pressure to publish quickly.

Cohn feels that it is more important to work in an excellent institution than to have a prestigious job title. She viewed her family as a positive addition to her career because her husband was supportive of the goals "in the most profound sense." She feels that it is important to "compartmentalize" one's life. While at work, work; while at home, be with your family. She noted that many professional women have had fathers who were supportive and demanded that their daughters achieve. These things all contributed to her own self-esteem, which in turn led to her wide acceptance as a competent scientist.

The most impressive thing about Mildred Cohn was the insight and understanding with which she was able to answer all our questions.

—Lenore Kelly, *Ebbie Stewart*,
and *Sally Seaver*

The YWCA Women's Resource Center operates two clinics for women. The Legal Clinic offers counseling on a wide range of legal issues. The Financial Advising Clinic offers individual appointments with financial counselors who advise on all aspects of handling finances. There is a \$1.00 charge to help cover overhead for either clinic. Call 385-3952 for an appointment.

WOMEN'S CENTER RECEIVES VIDEOTAPE

Through the generosity of Vanderbilt Trustee Mary Jane Werthan of Nashville, the Women's Center has been given a 30-minute videotape cassette, *World of Light: A Portrait of May Sarton*. The tape may be borrowed from the Women's Center by classes, groups or individuals for viewing at the Learning Resource Center in Garland Hall.

In *World of Light* we hear and see Sarton as she reflects on her life and work as a poet and novelist. We see her walking with her dog and cat, working in her garden, in her "house of gathering" where she writes, and we see panoramic vistas of the New England she has made her home.

Sarton prefers the morning hours for writing poetry, "when the door to the subconscious is still open." Her poetry seems to issue forth from her rather than being an act of will. "Lines run through my head," she says, "and I can't stop them. They come in batches and are always connected with a woman who focuses the world for me." Although it is a matter of choice to be a writer, one is in some sense chosen to be a poet, Sarton believes. Being a poet is both a gift and a tremendous responsibility. One writes poetry "for oneself and God," while novels are written primarily for readers.

We are now living in a time when we can hope to be fully human, as women and as writers. But we must choose not to follow paths which go against who we know we are. She cites women's bookstores as evidence of a new era emerging for women. They are "places for women to come to," places that we have not had before, places to talk, to share, to bond. Men have always had such places, and men's lives have been shaped by them. Now women have such places, and our lives are being shaped by them.

In response to a question from the interviewer, Sarton states that she would like to be remembered "for being fully human." *World of Light* is an elegant portrait of a fully human woman who followed her own path to a life that is very much her own.

—Julia Kinschner

WOMEN'S WEEK 80

The Women's Week Group held its wrap-up meeting on April 1. Following a review of this past Women's Week and a look forward to next year, the group shared in a pizza party.

Women's Week 80 was very successful. The most popular events were a Student Performers' Night at The Different Drummer Coffeeshouse at which eight women performed; the videotape, *World of Light: A Portrait of May Sarton* (see related article, page); and "Passages," a program originated last year by Linda Morgan and repeated this year with different panelists. Chaplain Mary-Lynn Ogletree's opening address provided an enjoyable and thought-provoking beginning for the week.

At the wrap-up, the group recommended that planning for Women's Week 1981 begin earlier in the academic year, in part to increase the chances of including a nationally-known speaker. It was also agreed that since publicity has become so complex, several women should share these responsibilities next year.

The Women's Week Group is preparing a Report that will be available to next year's Group. The report will cover budget, events and scheduling, planning and coordination, and publicity. Copies will be at the Women's Center in May.

—Phyllis Pittman

to evaluate the progress of women's studies, to reassess the current needs, and to make plans for the future. Such conferences are essential for the continued development of women's studies and, more importantly, for progress toward a more egalitarian society.

—Mary Bufwack

Mary Bufwack is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology and Coordinator of Women's Studies at Colgate University in Hamilton, New York. She is in Nashville doing research on Women and Country Music.



Chancellor Models T-Shirt

S.E.W.S.A. Conference Caps Women's Week

On March 21–23 over one hundred people participated in the Southeastern Women's Studies Association Conference held at Vanderbilt University and hosted by the Nashville Women's Studies Consortium. Such regional groups meet all over the United States in the spring to deliver papers, to discuss regional needs and issues and to elect representatives to the National Women's Studies Association Convention which will be held later this spring in Bloomington. The National Association and the regional groups have grown rapidly in the three years since they were founded because of the important needs they fulfill and the functions they perform.

The bulk of the meetings are devoted to papers and panels in which people share their research about women and their practical experience in establishing women's progress. At this conference there were usually six panels running simultaneously dealing with a diversity of topics including: Women in Literature, Women in the Labor Force, and Women and Alcoholism. Panelists from the Atlanta Feminist Women's Health Center shared their experiences, and Women's

Studies Program Coordinators met to discuss their problems and successes and to help individuals developing new programs. Participants are thus exposed to the newest research on women and to the latest organizational developments.

Such conferences are designed "to further the social, political and professional development of women's studies at every educational level and in every educational setting." They do this by drawing together people from many disciplines who do not ordinarily have the opportunity to share their work. The conference included people from Psychology, English, History, Political Science, Sociology, and several other disciplines.

Because education occurs in many different settings, this conference brought together teachers from different educational levels as well as people in non-teaching jobs. A panelist from the U.S. Bureau of Prisons teamed up with a sociologist from Old Dominion University to discuss the problems faced by women prisoners who must raise their children from behind prison walls. This aligns all educators in the pursuit of knowledge about women, in the development of curriculum and in the advancement of more egalitarian institutions.

The conference provided a group in which papers could be knowledgeably criticized, in which problems could be analyzed and in which successes could be celebrated. It provided a time for people

Virginia Taylor Derryberry: Nashville Artist

"Right now I'm feeling political about my art. Especially the works in my show at Sarratt. Women are so often perceived as frivolous. I think of women as being very strong and very purposeful. Unfortunately, there are not many woman, especially in the South, who are perceived as being serious about their art. They are often seen as dabblers. I don't think of myself as a dabbler. I'm dead serious."

So spoke Virginia Taylor Derryberry whose one-woman show of paintings, drawings and silkcreens in Sarratt Student Center, which closed on April 15, was hailed as one of the most successful exhibits of the gallery season.

Her work is a study of characters in relation to interior environments - a formal problem which she chose to explore in graduate school at Peabody.

"The choice of this focus placed me within a framework that I have been exploring now for 5 or 6 years. It has been a constant concern."

When asked if she saw herself as being content with this particular theme, Derryberry responded: "I don't think you can make art and be content. You never reach a plateau. It's not formula-oriented. It's always growing and changing."

Unlike many contemporary artists who focus on the tension of relationships in their work, Derryberry is drawn to calm and stability. "There is a strong unity between the internal environments and the characters in terms of color and shape and design. My backgrounds end up relating to my personalities. I count the 25th century Italian Pievodelia Francesca and the 20th American Edward Hopper as major influences. They both show concern with calm and stability and light as a presence.

"Light is my dominant interest. I rarely deal with flat and patterned forms—only when it is struck by bright, white light. Usually people think of the absence of light as establishing a mood, like a dark room or a misty landscape. But light-filled areas have a great deal of mood."

Another element of her work that Derryberry is quick to point out is what has been labelled as "eroticism."

"I do think of my work as sensual. Anytime you're dealing with the texture of things and how things look in the flesh, that is bound to lead to sensuality, maybe eroticism. I think of it as a by-product however and not something that I bring consciously to my work. It just seems to come out that way and runs throughout my art. But I really celebrate that!"

While Derryberry speaks of her concerns with light and sensuality which are obvious *moving* forces within the viewer, she insists that her work and visual art generally is not about movement.

"My work is very static. Visual art can *imply* movement. And perhaps my latest work "A Private Room" (title piece of the Sarratt exhibit) does just that. It is a lot looser in the space that is farthest away from you."

Derryberry seems to be expressing her personal artistic direction through the title of this piece and the exhibit. Only in the last six months has she devoted herself full-time to pursuit of her art, in her own "private room."

"I had always wondered what it would be like to work for 5 or 6 hours a day and not see anyone. Not like the college environment where you have constant contact with people who approve of your work. Or who don't. Once, I started doing it, it was wonderful.

"My advice to young women artists like myself is you must first ask yourself if you really want to make art. You have to know what you want and you almost have to have financial backing from someone or some source. If may start out part-time but sooner or later you have to go full-time. You know when the time is right."

For Virginia Taylor Derryberry—determined and sure of her vision—the time is right.

—Pamela Walker

Virginia Taylor Derryberry is a native of Morristown, Tennessee. In 1973, she graduated from Vanderbilt *magna cum laude* after attending Sullins College in Bristol, Virginia where she was an Amelia B. Martin Scholar. She went on to receive her master's degree in painting and printmaking from Peabody in 1976.

Derryberry has taught painting, drawing and printmaking at Cheekwood and St. Cecelia Academy and prior to becoming a full-time fine artist, she taught small groups in her studio.

She has exhibited at Cheekwood, Peabody College, the Martin Wiley Gallery and Sarratt. She is represented by Ars Nova.



"MARRIAGE TAX:" NO END SEEN

... from the *New York* 7 5

A Federal tax official and members of the House Ways and Means Committee agreed that Congress should end the income tax law's "marriage penalty." Despite this harmony at a committee hearing, however, there was little indication that Congress would end the proviso this year.

To do so would cost up to \$8 billion a year in revenues, the committee was told by Emil M. Sunley, the Treasury's Deputy Assistant Secretary for Tax Policy.

The "marriage penalty" is the extra tax that must be paid by a husband and wife who both work and who would have a smaller combined tax bill if they could file separate returns rather than a joint return.

When there is a large disparity of income or when only one spouse works, Mr. Sunley said, their joint return can produce a tax saving, or "marriage bonus." For 1979 income, he said, 15.9 million couples are paying \$8.3 billion in marriage penalties, averaging \$524 each, and 23.8 million couples are saving \$19.2 billion, an average bonus of \$804 each.

Grace M. Eaton Home

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There are two basic guidelines: (1) the parent or parents in the home must either be working or in school or in a job-training program; (2) an income guideline, which is a function of the real income and the number of people in the household. The fee ranges from \$0 to \$5.50 per week per child for Title XX clients, and is \$30.00 weekly for non-Title XX clients.

The Home lists six objectives for the children: 1) to provide an opportunity to learn to work and play independently, 2) to develop cooperative group behavior, 3) to help children develop self-reliance away from home, 4) to help children develop a sense of security and of belonging to a group, 5) to help children develop a view of themselves as being worthy and competent, and 6) to widen the children's perceptions of their world.

In addition, through the services of the staff social worker, the Grace M. Eaton Day Home has three objectives for families: 1) to provide a place which serves as a resource in child-rearing problems, 2) to provide an opportunity for participants in the day-care service to share child-rearing problems and experiences, and 3) to provide support and encouragement to parents in helping the child grow in skills and knowledge. In crisis situations the social worker aides families in clarifying problems and arriving at appropriate solutions; he works with families to help them obtain the social services they need. Further, Grace M. Eaton Day Home seeks to provide employment for community residents.

Long-range goals for the Home include before- and after-school care for school aged children and care for infants and toddlers.

Information about enrollment may be obtained by calling the Grace M. Eaton Day Home at 329-3341.

-Julia Kinschner

ELECTION DATES: May 6, Presidential Primary August 7, State Primary November 4, General Election

"Suffrage," said Susan B. Anthony, "is the pivotal right." Unless we register and vote, women's voice will become that of the silent majority. Decisions that affect the lives of women and men are made by *elected* representatives. Anyone who has telephoned a Representative and said, "I'm one of your constituents" knows how carefully that Representative listens to what you have to say.

Davidson County residents who are at least 18 years old can register in person at 200 Second Avenue South. Call 259-6031 for hours. To register by mail, obtain a form at any Post Office or Public Library. The form must be witnessed by a notary public or by a voter who registered in person.

To register in Tennessee other than in Davidson County, contact the local election commission or town clerk where you reside. All Tennessee voters must be U.S. citizens and have lived in the state at least 20 days prior to registering. Students may register to vote in the county in which they attend school. To vote in the general election you must register at least 30 days prior to the date of that election.

Any registered voter can use an absentee ballot, except new voters who registered by mail. The absentee application can be requested by mail or picked up in person. If you have questions about absentee voting in Davidson County, call Ms. Hill at 259-6038.

Nashville NOW will participate in the ERA MARCH in Chicago on May 10. A chartered bus will depart from the north side of the state capitol on Friday, May 9, at 8:00 P.M. It will leave Chicago to return at about 6:00 P.M. on May 10, arriving in Nashville early Sunday morning, May 11. Cost: \$30. For more information call 292-2374 after 7:00 p.m.

PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL INVESTIGATES SEXUAL HARASSMENT

The National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs is conducting an on-going project to examine ways in which the Federal government can and should assist in protecting students from being sexually harassed by faculty, staff or other employees of secondary and postsecondary institutions. As part of that study, the Council is requesting information from former and present victims about their experiences, and from any others who may have knowledge of such harassment.

In cooperation with the project described above, the Women's Center is gathering data on incidents of sexual harassment of students at Vanderbilt, to be submitted to the National Advisory Council. Any woman who wishes to report an experience which she believes to be sexual harassment should contact the Women's Center before May 10.

Respondents will not be identified in written materials submitted to the Council. All responses will be treated with absolute confidentiality. The purpose of the study is to document the extent and nature of harassment of students, in order to develop policy. It is not a witch-hunt.

Each respondent should describe the type of harassment and the setting in which the incident(s) took place; whether the incident was reported; what action was taken; and the eventual outcome.

The National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs is a presidentially-appointed body (subject to Senate confirmation), established by Congress to advise and report on attaining sex equity in education.

For further information or guidelines in reporting incidents, call the Women's Center at 322-4843.

-Nancy Ransom

Are you battered or abused at home? The YWCA Domestic Violence Program can help you. Call 385-3952 between 9:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday, or 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday.

DAUGHTER

I stand and look upon you as you sleep,
 Daughter—bone of my bone and flesh of my flesh,
 Your face at peace,
 The angers and hurts of the day and week
 Washed away by waves of sleep.
 Woman-child! Child-woman!
 Hovering between two worlds
 Fully now in neither,
 Hair in damp wisps on your forehead
 As it was when you were small,
 But your form suggesting the promise
 Of womanhood, yet unfulfilled.
 Arms outstretched, you embrace your bed
 As if to embrace your world,
 Much-loved Teddy bear grasped
 In one tight hand.

—Julia Kinschner



Metro Police Department Will Hire More Women

The Metro Police Department will hire 200 new recruits next year, targeting women and minorities. Requirements are the Civil Service Exam; at least 20/200 vision, correctable to 20/20; a background check which includes a polygraph test; a physical and a physical agility exam, to determine if an applicant is able to go through the training program.

Salary during the 18-month training period is \$901 monthly and \$952 after training. There is a \$1000 bonus after 6 months of field work. Applications may be obtained in Room 214 of the

There are still a few 1979 and 1980 Women's Week T-Shirts available. Price is \$1.00 for the 1979 ones and \$4.00 for this year's. To obtain one, call the Women's Center, 322-4843, and leave your name, phone number and size needed, or leave a note in Box 4260-B.

Stahlman Building on Church Street downtown.

Vanderbilt alumna Donna Pence, who has worked with the Metro Police Department for 6 years, will be glad to talk with women who want to know more about the work. She can be reached at 741-1430.

New Group Will Meet Twice Monthly

"Women in Transition," a group focusing on opportunities for re-entering the job market or furthering one's education, will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, May 7, at 10:00 a.m. at the Women's Center, E-2 West Side Row. Speakers will be Virginia Holladay, a member of the Board of the YWCA who has taught a class in parenting, and Kathryn Smith, Assistant Director of the Career Planning and Placement Service at Vanderbilt. They will describe personal experiences of their own role changes.

Co-sponsored by the Women's Center and the Vanderbilt's Woman's Club, Women in Transition hopes to attract women who are trying to find new directions in their lives. Encouragement, resources, and ideas about shifting from homemaking to career or re-training will be emphasized. The group will develop a list of community contacts to invite as future speakers on topics of mutual interest.

Meetings will be held twice a month, on the first and third Wednesdays beginning with the May 7 meeting. Reservations are requested. If you plan to attend, please call the Women's Center at 322-4843 and leave your name.

—Andrea Kronenberg

This issue of *Women's VU* was edited by

Julia Kinschner and Nancy Ransom

If you did not receive *Women's VU* with your name and address on the label, and you would like to, please complete the form below and return to the Women's Center.

Name _____

Campus Address _____

Please check: Student Staff Faculty

WOMEN'S CENTER
 E-2 WEST SIDE ROW
 BOX 1513 STATION B

