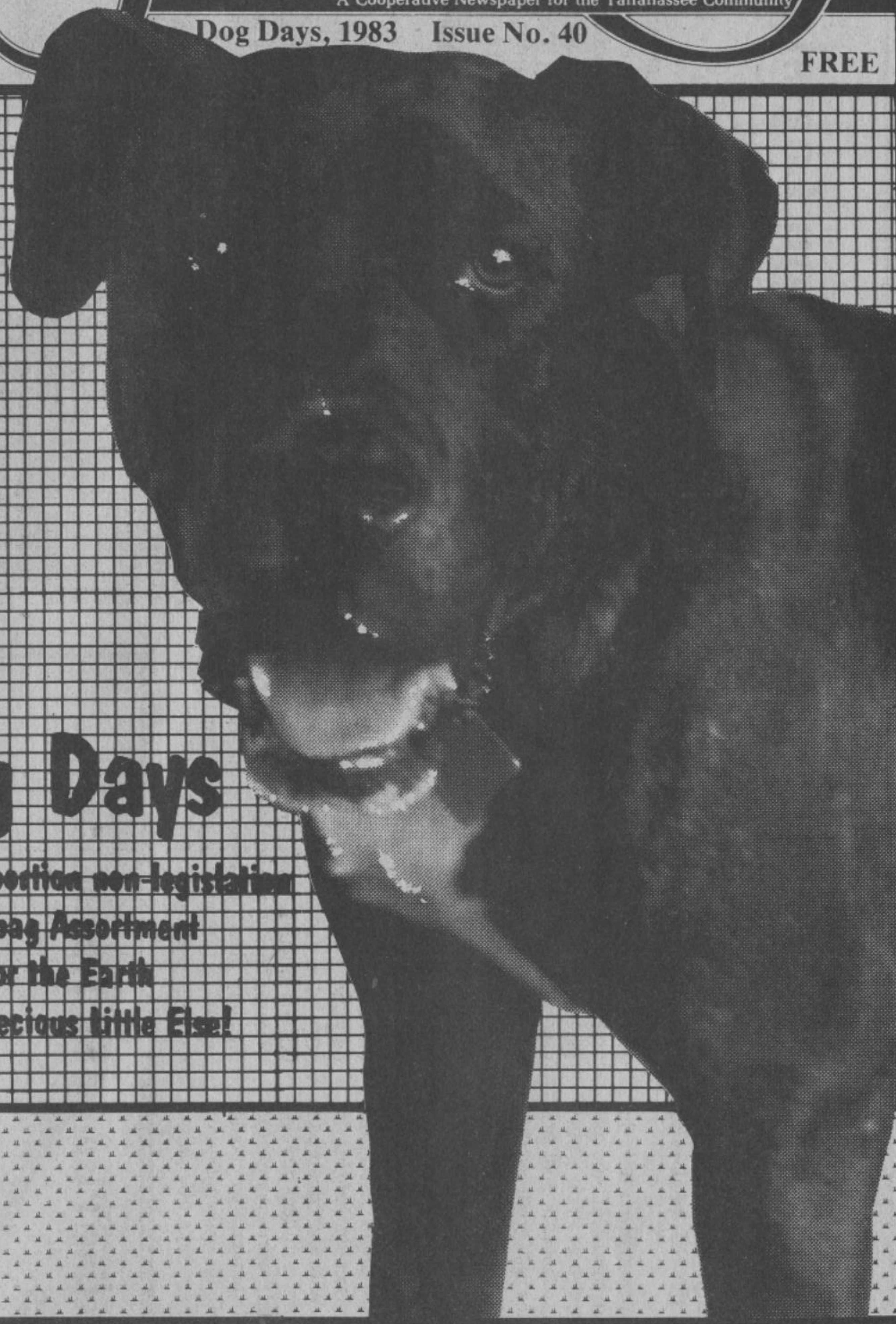


SPECTRUM

A Cooperative Newspaper for the Tallahassee Community

Dog Days, 1983 Issue No. 40

FREE



Dog Days

- Anti-abortion non-legislation
- A Mailbag Assortment
- Walk for the Earth
- And Precious little Else!

Why Go On? — see page 1

Spectrum's

EVOLUTION

Why Go On?

This group of editorials about Spectrum at this point in history comes from the five collective members who have been the core of the paper for the past year or so, some of us harking back to its beginning five years ago. We are experiencing some major shifts in outlook toward continuing the journalistic and production work we've been doing, and individually we are at differing points in our attitudes about going on. We are tired/enthusiastic, ready to quit/hopeful to be transformed — these contradictions are published in our ongoing effort to reveal our collective process, such as it is, to our readers. The conclusions, for most of us, are not yet drawn. Please read on, however self-indulgent they may seem, and respond. Thanks.

"This is my last regular issue..."

— by Vicki Mariner —

At our last *Spectrum* meeting Larry informed me that this was *Spectrum*'s fifth year. For some reason I've been thinking three years... for the last two, apparently. Now stretches of time, like five years, get less daunting with age. There was a time that I could not imagine doing *anything* for five years. If Tana had asked for a five-year commitment from me in 1978 I would have been much too busy with other projects.

Let me tell you what we've been doing every six weeks for the last five years. Each issue of *Spectrum* takes the better part of a week to produce. First Larry runs all over town and sells ads. On Thursday night the editing group goes over all the articles that have come in by then. So far it's fairly relaxed and social. Now comes the big push. It takes two 12 hour days to do the typesetting and paste-up. The Mediatype lab is only available to us on the weekend (I said it took the *better* part of a week). For the forty-hour-a-week indoor worker this is a real sacrifice. The Mediatype lab doesn't even have *windows*. Then the next three evenings are devoted to correcting type errors and remembering things we forgot. You would not believe how long this can take. Finally someone, usually Larry, drives the flats to Bainbridge, Georgia, on Thursday afternoon to be printed. Now this week of production

Continued on page 2

"It's the six-week production cycle that's numbing."

— by Tana McLane —

Almost five years ago when a gathering of people met at a group house called "Autumn Lane," the only item on the agenda was whether to start this newspaper. It was a somewhat broad group as to political orientation, ranging from anarchists to socialists to generic cooperativists of many hues, though not diverse as to race or perhaps ethnic background. We met at a time when the food co-op and book and record co-op were maturing, when Catfish Anti-nuclear Alliance was very much alive, when the Feminist Women's Health Center was the only women-run health clinic in town, and during a time when broad-based progressive idealism was once more at a zenith in this city.

Most of us were serving on various boards of directors and committees and going to meetings four or five nights a week, witnessing everything from character assassinations to moments of serene clarity earned by successful negotiation.

Spectrum. The name was chosen from an oft-said phrase, "full spectrum of the left," meaning a tolerance toward and promotion of many progressive points of view, ideologies, and priorities. But the image in the mind of the one who pulled that word out as a name for the paper was of a rainbow, a complex natural

phenomenon whereby airborne vapor is struck by sunlight and reflects colors in an organized pattern...like we hoped to do. We wanted to collect the various rays in a colorful pattern and make them visible to ourselves and to others in Tallahassee.

Of course it never has worked smoothly. First of all, Tallahassee progressives are a deeply divided though interdependent group of people. Despite our virulent differences with each other, we suspect our basic interests are more alike than, say, ours with our government or with fundamentalist activists hoping to repress everyone into a square, featureless mold. But we have a lot of trouble being in the same room with each other or producing a cooperative newspaper with each other without feeling done in. This affected the initial vision of the paper from the beginning, and has been a struggle throughout its history.

Spectrum also turned out to have a rather small labor and financial base once it began to roll. Many small meetings were held as we crammed a larger vision into a smaller practical reality. We also had the typical experience of getting our consciousnesses raised as we went

Continued on page 2

"...Bad weather and serious challenges to freedom and the ozone layer."

— by Carmy Greenwood —

In my brief time with *Spectrum*, I've observed unpredictable but distinct fluctuations in the way we relate to the paper, and just generally in the way things happen. Sometimes we arrive at the Mediatype lab on Friday night and have the bulk of the articles typeset before we go home around midnight. All three Compu-graphic Compuwriter IV TG machines, Harpo, Groucho, and Chico perform as intended, creating a symphony of clicking keys and gurgling machinery, awash in the aroma of chemicals strong enough to interfere with respiratory function. The exacto knives have sharp blades and the side door to the Union is open. We actually had lots of articles to read at the editing meeting Thursday, and we have gleefully tortured at least one of our friends into writing

what we consider a "must" article. Maybe there's even already an idea for a cover. Even if work drags on until the wee hours of the morning on the day we go to press, there has been, at least for me, a sustained feeling of success, that things are going well, there are articles to be enthusiastic about, touches of editing or design that will make the paper a nice little thing.

But there are other times, and this was definitely one, when the mise en scene is poop. By Friday night the only article we have is on "plugging in" to something, and ad sales are creeping in in \$10 non-spurts. Jerry Johansen comes in to help typeset and ends up sitting at the row of machines alone. Harpo, Chico, and Groucho are not funny. Any machine that gets a chance

Continued on page 2

"It hasn't dampened my enthusiasm."

— by Frank Brown —

I've mentioned *Spectrum*'s potential demise to a couple of friends. One said, "It's getting pretty blah lately — I'm not sucked in by the writing anymore." The other said, "Oh no — I'd really hate to see it go. What can I do to help?" I share both sentiments.

I enjoy participating in planning, writing, and producing the newspaper. I like the freedom to publish (say) whatever expression or idea the board feels worthy. The policy of what to print is not beholden to advertisers.

Since it has a small circulation in a town with a major daily newspaper, *Spectrum* doesn't have to concentrate on "big news" events, and can devote more space to issues to which the *Tallahassee Democrat* may give only passing mention.

While I get exhausted at the end of many production sessions, this has not dampened my enthusiasm for continuing the publication. I'm still excited by many possibilities not yet attempted. How about a special issue on Evil in Tallahassee? And another on Work and Employment Alternatives? What about a showcase for local photographers? Poverty and Wealth in Tally? A Leisure Activities Smorgasboard? Athletics for Non-Jocks?

I'm ready to keep on doing this, and enjoying it even with imperfections and limitations. But there is a quantifiable amount of person-energy needed to keep operating. If the level of participation drops sufficiently, the paper will change or die.

If that happens, I'll put my time into other things. But I'm hoping the paper will survive for a while longer.

What can a person do to plug in? Many things, depending on your ideas, skills, and time. Call me at 488-3111 or 224-9933, or send articles or ideas to 625 E. Brevard, Tallahassee, 32301.

Carmy, from page 1

eats any galley it touches. None of the articles do anything for me, and my article doesn't do anything for anybody else.

Sometimes these down phases are preceded by weeks of bad weather and serious challenges to individual freedoms and the ozone layer, but are just as often not. Their real cause seems to be the ever-changing, sometimes coincident, often contradictory cycles of experience which we all have with ourselves and each other.

A few years ago I saw a romantic comedy called "Four Seasons," that featured Alan Alda and Carol Burnett. The plot revolved around the tenuous, volatile relationships

among and within three couples. The Alda/Burnett pairing seemed the most hopeful to me, because they recognized the nature of their continued togetherness — an act of will, an artifice, if you will, created in order to create something, and recreated with each new experience, each fight, each compromise, each disappointment and each realization, every moment. Alda's character observed the same kind of moody, recreative and reactive cycles of feeling in their romantic pact as there is in our pact with **Spectrum**. Sometimes Alda's and Burnett's characters were passionately, strenuously, happily in love with each other. Sometimes they were

in a winter time, when their feeling for each other was quiet, dormant but not dead, perhaps submerged in other interests or needs. Then, they just tolerated each other, and love was not too lively a thing. At other times, one was head over heels in love and the other was pretty worn down. But they always seemed to get back together at that high point, when there was "bloom in love," and get enough of a recharge to keep the seed alive through those cold spells.

This has been my theory about the way I, Carmy and We, **Spectrum** and **It Spectrum** come together more or less and produce a paper every six weeks. It was my theory when I first understood that some of the members of the collective were losing enthusiasm for this process and were interested in stopping it or redirecting it. I thought it would shake loose after the next really nifty article we got, or the next Morgan Bunch came along to coordinate us all into shape. But they're beginning to convince me that this is another thing. There are times when the high points just don't cover the lows, or when our

romance with another person or another project or another life is just too hot to ignore, or when we just don't give anymore. Right now I'd say we're out of synch in a big way — with each other and the paper and the community that writes and reads it.

I don't think new members or workers or contributors will change things around or turn things back for the people who are dog-tired of doing this. But new people could create a new relationship, a new collective, a new **Spectrum**. Some of the old folks will be part of the new thing in a new way. And it will be a new thing, even if there are no personnel changes, just for us having gone through this. But probably some of us will create completely new romances.

I hope to be a part of a **Spectrum** that does what it does now a whole lot better, and does a whole lot more. I want the people who read **Spectrum** to be passionately, strenuously, happily in love with it, at least now and then. Only long after September will I know if that's a real possibility.

Vicki, from page 1

does not include the ongoing weekly meetings and time spent distributing **Spectrum** over the month. **Spectrum** pays only for itself.

So what do we get out of it? Tana, Frank and I have all done pasteur for a living, so for us a lot of satisfaction was in using our skills more creatively. We were all involved, to varying degrees, in the Book Co-op, the Food Co-op, the Land Co-op, and had an interest in any other co-ops that might be forming. Besides the co-ops, what we called the "alternative" or "progressive" community loosely included feminist groups and the anti-nuke Catfish Alliance as well as others I'm probably forgetting. It seemed like a good idea to have all the news and updates of these groups. They could read about each other and anyone new to Tallahassee could find out where the action was from a handy source.

As we all know, many of these organizations are no longer with us. They have been replaced in some cases, but the needs of these groups are increasingly met by their own monthly newsletters. I've been feeling for the last year or so that **Spectrum** in its present six-week form, has become vague in purpose and direction. I also think five years is long enough to volunteer for anything.

So this is my last regular issue and, as it stands now, the last one at least until the fall. I would love to work on something special — like the Feminist History issue we did a year and a half ago. For one-time projects my time, skills and enthusiasm will still be available.

Tana, from page 1

along. We've had marvelous successes and dismal failures, and each of these events have been woven into the overall concerns of the paper.

We've also had to make the paper survive as a business project. It's always paid its own way, even as expenses doubled and tripled through the years. We survived changing printers two years ago. We started out paying the key production people \$50 and \$25 per issue, hoping to increase these salaries and pay for others, too. But we dropped all salaries after about a year and the paper has been produced solely by volunteers ever since.

We've revolved through personnel changes. We've continued long enough to have people go away for a year and come back. The "hardcores" of the collective have remained here, very stable, with a few happy additions.

It's the routine of producing a newspaper, even on a six-week cycle, that's numbing, that makes a few of us imagine life without this paper, without the meetings, without the information and media access in order to get on with our private lives. In order to have the time, energy or inclination to work on other community projects.

And it's not only that. Tallahassee community life — alternative, progressive, whatever — has changed so much since we began to grind our gears five summers ago that it is easy to get lost in thoughts about *our* purpose, *our* direction, and the meaning of *our* work. Should a newspaper be part of a larger picture of community activism or does it have

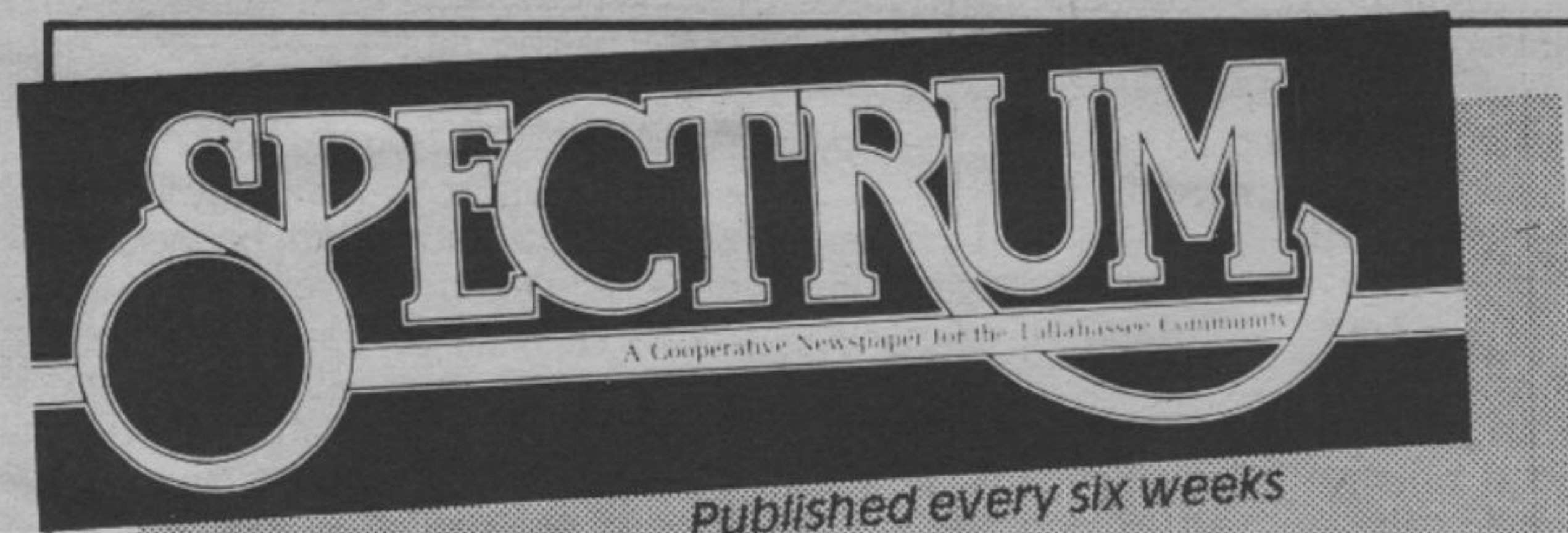
a reason and direction of its own?

We trade with progressive publications all over the U.S., and we're convinced that, like the former book and record co-op, the *structure* of the food co-op, and the structure of the Miccosukee Land Co-op, we've developed a model of a progressive journal that is unique to our locale. Nowhere have we seen another localist-decentralist, participatory, non-organization controlled, feminist, cooperative journal providing free space for writers to broadcast their ideas.

At Autumn Lane, members of the group household — a fluctuating though stable experimental cooperative extended-family group — decided it was time to conclude the experiment in its third year and it was brought to a definite conclusion. It was clean and everybody understood everybody. Sometimes that's the most conscious, loving thing to do: to bring an experiment, a valuable and interesting and important project to a close so that other projects can grow.

What the **Spectrum** collective will decide when we close down after this issue is whether the fifth year will be the paper's last. Whether it should change personnel, become a series of projects (publications, book printings, video and workshops, or simply become smaller), or whether it should continue after a summer off in its current vein.

Please let us know what your interests in **Spectrum** are this summer. Write us letters, stop us in the streets, but let us know. It'll come into consideration as we make decisions over the next several months.

**The Collective —**

Larry Teich, Tana McLane, Vicki Mariner, Frank Brown, Carmy Greenwood, Suzy Fay, Norine Cardea.

Contributors to This Issue —

Jerry Johansen, and all the volunteer writers, artists, and photographers credited within.

Front Cover: graphics — Suzy Fay
photograph — Frank Brown

Article and announcement deadline is the Thursday one week before our publishing dates. We have an editorial meeting at that time and what is selected for the upcoming issue is agreed upon at that time, with rare exception. Please contact us personally if you cannot meet this deadline, so we can still plan to preview your article. Thanks.

Please address all inquiries: **SPECTRUM**, 625 E. Brevard St., Tallahassee, FL 32308, 904/224-7222.

—announcements—

Jeff Thompson will lead workshops on topics relating to nuclear weapons and arms control every Thursday evening at 7:30 p.m. at the Tallahassee Peace Coalition office for the next two months. Call 222-5845 for details.

"If You Love This Planet." If you missed it last time you can see this Academy Award winning documentary with Helen Caldicott on Thursday, July 21, at 8:00 p.m. in Moore Auditorium on the FSU campus.

Concert for peace, jobs and freedom on Sunday, June 19 at the FSU Reservation, at 2 p.m. Bring your friends and children.

"Gods of Metal" and "The Time Has Come," two excellent short documentaries, will be shown on June 29 at 8 p.m. in Moore Auditorium, FSU. The two films deal with the nuclear arms race and what different people are doing to end it.

From the Mailbag:

A lot of information comes in the mail to *Spectrum* which gets funneled to appropriate people or organizations. Some of it gets printed if the timing is right or if the topics have been ignored by other types of media. But some of it just doesn't get prioritized over regular articles, so here is a section of newsletters, publications and sources to provide you with access to useful interesting information. Like always, if anyone wants to borrow or find out more about a particular item, please send us a note or call Larry at the advertising number on page two.



Haiti Alert! — Published by the Friends of Haitian Refugees, P.O. Box 943, Miami Beach, FL 33139 (305) 672-5132.

This covers many aspects of the refugee situation in Miami and around the country and focuses especially on the discrimination against Haitian immigrants. The May, 1983 issue reports on the U.S. Court of Appeals ruling which declared the Immigration and Naturalization Service guilty of discrimination practices in the year-long detention and treatment of Haitians in prisons or camps throughout the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Many implications of the ruling are discussed including its impact on aliens from El Salvador.

Also covered in the newsletter are reports on current legislation in congress dealing with immigrants, refugees, and migrant workers, the situation in Haiti today, U.S. policies in the Caribbean and Central America, an interview with Rev. Gerard Jean-Juste, director of the Haitian Refugee Center of Miami, and a contact list of the other organizations dealing with similar concerns.



AKWESASNE NOTES — A Journal for Native and Natural Peoples — Mohawk Nation, via Roosevelttown, NY 13683; \$8/year.

Setting the standards for Native American journalism, this excellent tabloid presents a wholistic view of such issues as racism, spirituality, environmental destruction, cultural pluralism and anything else worth attention. "We publish articles which are not specifically about Indians because we want our readership to deal with Native peoples as human beings capable of thought and ideas about contemporary reality."

Reading *Akwesasne Notes* completes more of the pattern of what it's like to live in America as second-class citizens and offers education and hope in dealing with it.



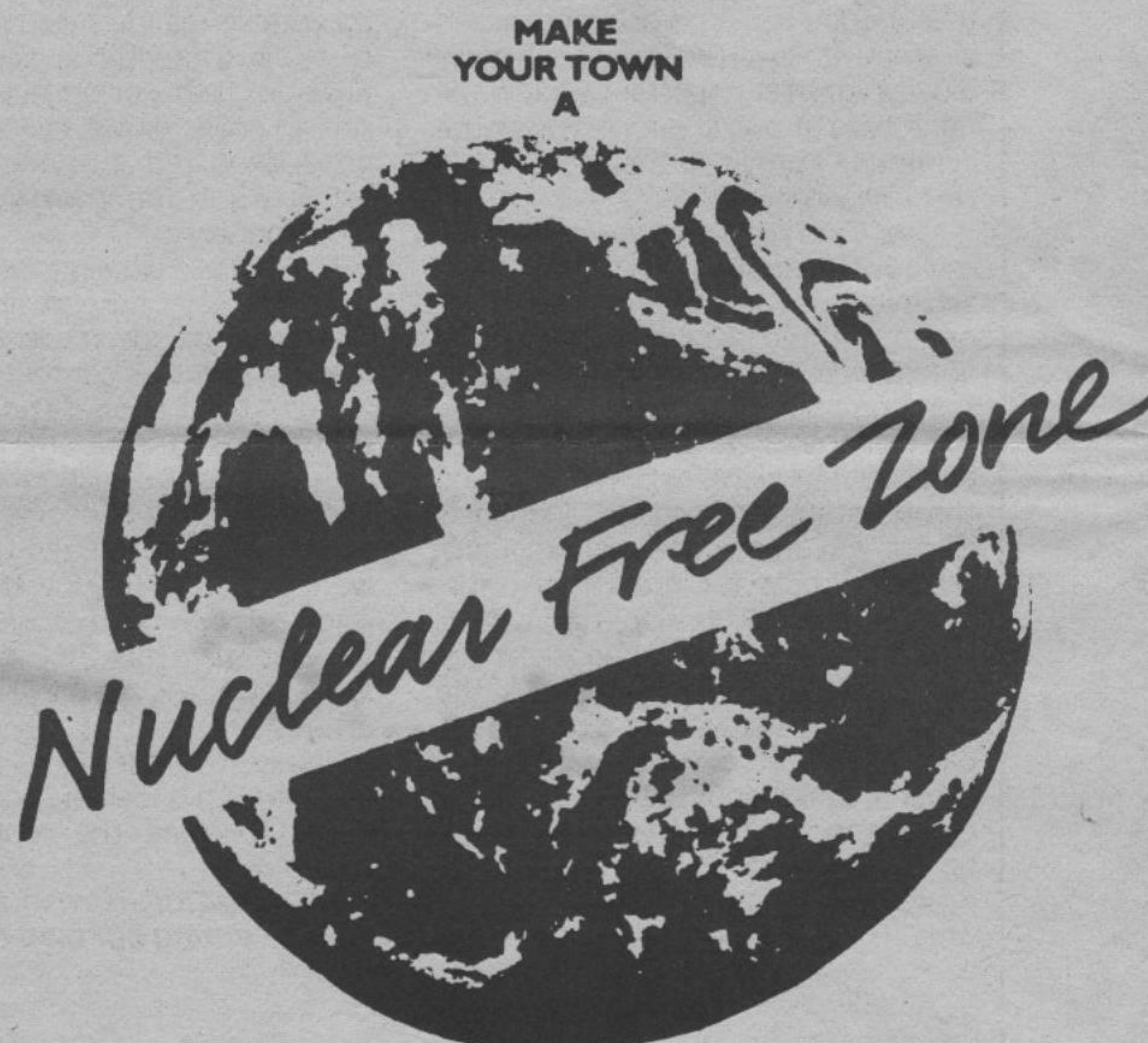
Crazy Horse Spirit — monthly newsletter produced by the Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, P.O. Box 1492, Rapid City, South Dakota, 57709.

The prosecution (persecution?) of Leonard Peltier, a Native American, by the U.S. Government is the focus of this newsletter. Background, trial transcripts and updates, and support activities are provided for anyone following the case. It is only one example of what extremes our government goes to in targeting Native American leaders to quell their efforts of self-reliance. Other cases such as AIM leader Dennis Banks and related topics concerning Native Americans are also covered.

The New Abolitionist — Newsletter of Nuclear Free America. 2521 Guilford Ave., Baltimore, MD 21218.

This gives you a monthly overview of all the areas in this country (and worldwide) that have or are trying to establish "Nuclear Free Zones." Sample resolutions are given that different townships or state legislatures have introduced to officially declare their area off limits to the design, testing, production, or deployment of nuclear weapons or support systems.

The title of the newsletter comes from the comparison of their efforts with the rejection of slavery by the "free states" before the Civil War. Like the Nuclear Freeze Movement, it seeks to change national policy by starting with legislation at the most local level.



Infact Update is published monthly by the Infant Formula Action Coalition, 1701 University Ave. SE, Minneapolis, MN, 55414.

Tired of second hand or unsubstantiated information concerning the Nestle Boycott? Want the latest update on boycotted products and companies involving worldwide consumer and religious actions against infant formula conglomerates? For a reminder of how and why the boycott continues, subscribe or borrow this newsletter from the source. After all, most publications like *Spectrum* only print the highlights. Highlight: the latest successful tactic is targeting Taster's Choice coffee to focus energies and show tangible results.



Co-op America — 2100 M St. NW, Suite 605, Washington, D.C. 20063

Taking the theme of products for people, not for profit to a national level, Co-op America is trying to get the cooperation of producer and consumer co-ops and individuals to pool their

energies and economic power to create a marketing system with integrity. Based on a mail-order purchasing plan, a membership organization has been formed and the first catalog of products and services is now out.

Health insurance, a social investment fund, books and magazines, crafts, clothes, travel services, health products and foods, energy saving and self reliance products are some of the listings available. To see the catalog locally or read more information on Co-op America go to the Leon County Food Co-op at 649 W. Gaines St. here in Tallahassee. Our co-op is a member and takes advantage of the group health insurance plan for the paid employees. A new catalogue will be out in the Fall and may include auto or homeowners' insurance. Here's an enrollment coupon.

Co-op America Individual Enrollment Coupon

Enclosed is my \$5 membership fee. I understand my catalog will be mailed to me promptly. (Make check payable to Co-op America.)

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Please Print

Name _____ Phone (____) _____

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Please enclose this coupon with your \$5 check & mail to : Co-op America, 2100 M Street, NW, Suite 605, Washington, D.C. 20063. IMPR-5/83

March For Jobs, Peace and Freedom

by Ira Shorr



"Now let us begin. Now let us dedicate ourselves to the long and bitter — but beautiful struggle for a new world. The choice is ours, and though we might prefer it otherwise we must choose in this crucial moment of human history."

Martin Luther King, Jr.

Martin Luther King, Jr. is still calling us to action. On August 28, 1963 he electrified 250,000 people who gathered for a March on Washington by sharing his "dream" of an equitable society. The demand for an end to racism, violence and poverty has yet to reach fulfillment and so King's vision once again leads us back to Washington.

The Martin Luther King, Jr. Center for Non-Violent Social Change is drawing on the spirit of King's work to bring together Blacks, Hispanics, Native Americans, women's groups, the elderly, the handicapped, environmentalists, peace activists, consumer advocates and others, in a new Coalition of Conscience. The Coalition has delivered a Call to the Nation:

"Three critical conditions in our society — insufferable unemployment; an escalating arms race; and the denial of basic rights and programs which ensure freedom — force the undersigned to call upon our fellow Americans to March on Washington on August 27, 1983 on the occasion of the Twentieth Anniversary of the historic March on Washington."

This new Coalition will press for the following goals:

- **Jobs** — We call upon the nation to support policies such as the Full Employment Act which will guarantee every American a socially useful and dignified employment with a just wage.
- **Peace** — We must move against record defense spending and move for the stoppage of this maddening arms race. Now!
- **Freedom** — We must work for equity

and equal rights for women and minorities.

A number of organizations and individuals are currently working in Tallahassee to prepare for the August 27 March on Washington. The success of the demonstration lies with grassroots efforts. If you would like to attend the March or help with related community events, call the Peace Coalition office at 222-5845.

Martin Luther King, Jr. also warned us that "Over the blackened bones and jumbled residue of numerous civilizations are written the pathetic words: 'Too late'."

With 11 million Americans "officially" unemployed and cities and states cutting back on vital human services; with an administration careening towards a nuclear war-fighting capability and squandering a preponderance of our resources to do it; with American tax dollars paying for murder in El Salvador, Nicaragua, Guatemala, and other areas of "national interest"; with an earth crying out for environmental protection — we have no choice but to take a spiritual stand for survival.

Join us in Washington on August 27, 1983 and let the entire world hear our cry: "We still have a dream! Jobs — Peace — Freedom!"

Note: The Black Student Union wants to hear from anyone interested in transportation to the Twentieth Anniversary March on Washington. The BSU will charter a bus or some other vehicle if there is enough local demand to make it cost effective for everyone. Call the BSU at 644-5461 as soon as possible.



Add years to your life. add life to your years.

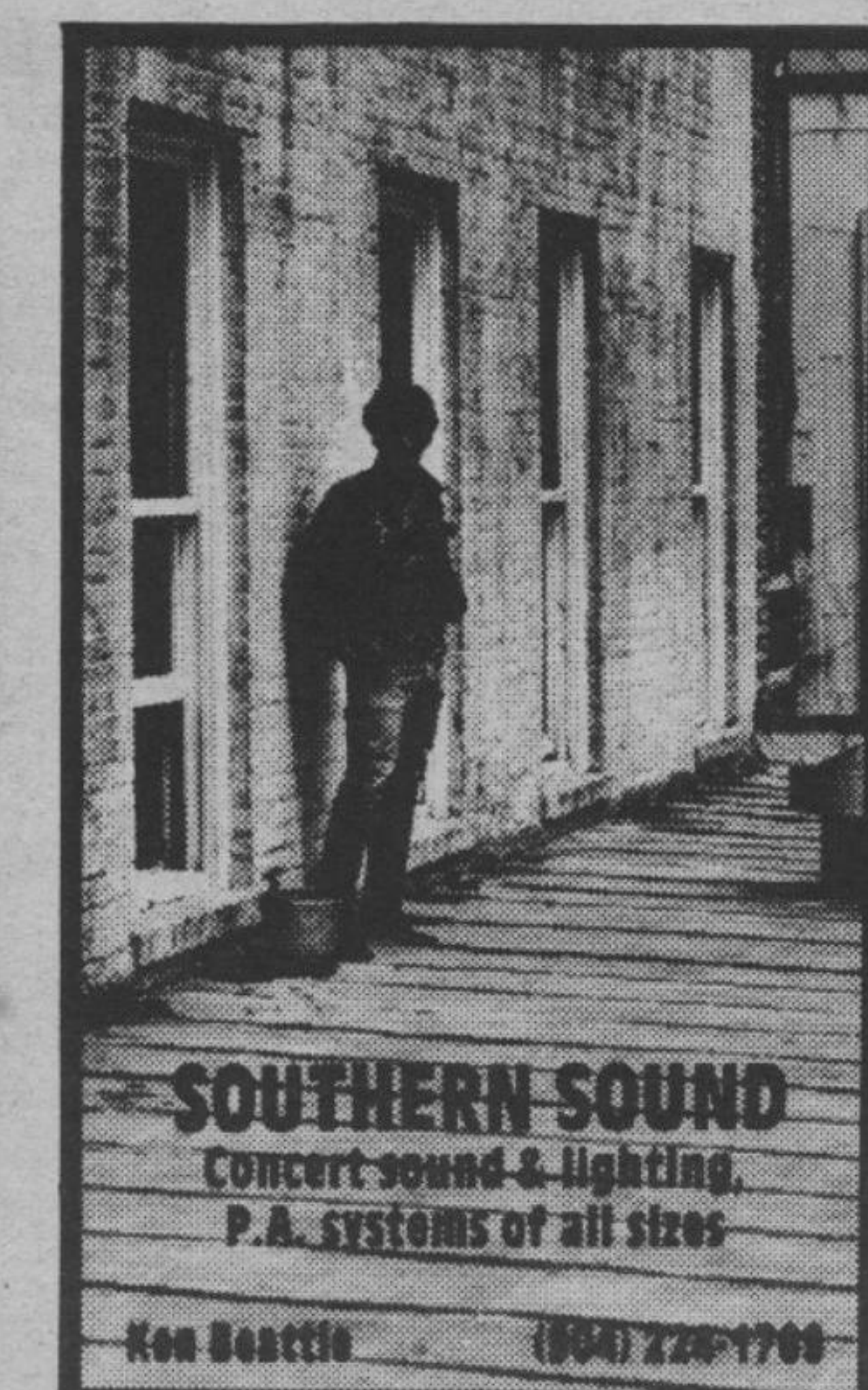
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Once upon a time, *Spectrum* was really the LCFC newsletter. It was the portal through which I found myself, rooted to Tallyland. I have lived with it, sold ads for it, recruited articles for it, and rejoiced each time it came out anew. I for one am not ready to see it vanish. Perhaps it will continue only when persons commit to coordinating a particular issue such as was done with the Tallahassee Feminist History Project, the gardening and music issues.

In this spirit, I hereby volunteer to coordinate the May Eve, 1984 issue of *Spectrum*. The issue will be devoted to the story of Cooperativism in Tallahassee, with a special focus on LCFC (Community Interests, Inc.) in honor of ten years of this experiment in cooperation. Initial article/idea deadline is Halloween, 1983. Care to participate? You can contact me at 224-9929 or P.O. Box 2034, Tallahassee, 32316.

Of Community Interest

Invitation to a Treasure Hunt

by Jerry Johansen

Happy Birthday Leon County Food Co-op! For our ninth annual birthday bash a fortnight ago, I was asked to take a few minutes before the dancing to talk of the past of our co-op. I respectfully declined since, after all, I am a bit of a newcomer (1978) to our endeavour. As it turned out I was less of a newcomer than the person who asked me, so I said I would find someone older or do it myself.

It was supposed to be easy. I would simply take the microphone and ask, "Who here was there on the day LCFC opened its Macomb St. doors?" "Who here was part of the Third Avenue Food Sprout?" "Was anyone here present the day we moved to this Gaines St. location?" Any respondents would come up to the stage and share their part of the story with the throng. Easy. . . Fun. . . Cooperative. . . Diverse. Few takers. No originals. Lots of shy folk.

So I brought out my ace in the hole (stashed conveniently to the side of the stage). Several short friends from Grassroots Free School unfurled a 30-foot long "Happy Birthday LCFC! We Love You!" banner, its paint cracking and peeling. Confident that this relic would elicit a response, I asked my next question, "OK, who here has ever seen this banner before?"

I have been wrong before, but I was totally stunned that no one responded. So, I gave up. . . for then. All was not lost however because, throughout the evening, people would dance up to me and say, "I know someone who. . ." or "I do not like talking in front of people, but I remember. . ." There is a treasure trove of these memories around. My fear is that, without retelling, these stories will fade away forever.

The articles here are the [edited] known extent of these memories currently in print. I want to build this collection. I invite your participation. Please talk to me, or write me a letter, or tell a friend and have them write what you say about any LCFC memories you have that can be preserved. Put these at the LCFC info desk with my name on them. If you feel more literary, work some into an article for *The Latest Tomato*, the most recent version of the LCFC newsletter.

From the LCFC Newsletter (1976-1978), by Lois Bigger

In the fall of 1972, the Alumni Village Fruit and Vegetable Co-op was reorganized and several of us wondered how to obtain whole wheat flour, dried beans and nuts as easily as we could solve the fruit and vegetable supply. Obstacles in the form of storage possibilities, initial investment capital (nobody had any spare money), lack of sources, distribution



difficulties delayed any long-term solution to our problem. The best we managed that year was to order 50 lb. bags of whole wheat flour and to divvy it up in our houses with a few friends.

'73-74 and rapidly rising food costs spurred our efforts once again. This time a dry-goods storefront was visualized and a long search was on for possible locations. Spring '74 marked the first cohesive organization of a real co-op, and priorities and philosophy were discussed, fought over, and adopted.

We wanted to sell low-cost, nutritious foods and we wanted to be available to Blacks, students, and others whose eating habits often reflected lack of income. To do so, we recognized we could not locate in Killearn Estates. As many of you know, we finally found a broken-down warehouse on Macomb Street. Since our membership at that time was about 15, five of us received the joyful

task of cleaning up — definitely an experience on the never-to-be-forgotten list.

In order to pay the rent and utilities, insurance, etc. we had to push our membership drive — we sat for hours and days in booths on campus at FSU, FAMU, TCC; FSU proving our only good source for members. I spoke at public meetings, before civic groups and churches, and even a retirement village in Lanark, Florida. Joe Christy did radio and TV interviews, wheeled and dealt all over town in attempts to attract donations from prospective members, lined up legal help from Stu Parsons, and kept everyone's spirit up during that most difficult beginning. Jeff Thompson was the quiet backbone of the early co-op. He managed, in spite of a heavy schedule in graduate school, to be everywhere on time, with whatever materials were required.

We had bake sales, whipped up a mini-cookbook for sale, and gradually, the funds began to grow. Gradually, because at first Tallahassee strongly resisted the idea of a co-operative venture. We were ignored, insulted, and made fun of in the beginning. We began to feel hopeful when this approach tapered to remarks like "You'll never make it, you know" offered in an amused tone.

But, we did it. We were incorporated into a nonprofit organization. We luckily found a health inspector who worked with

Continued on page 7

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Canopy Credit Union Goings-On by Geoffrey Andrews

The President of Canopy Credit Union has suggested abandoning the consensus procedures which have been in use since the first meeting of directors three years ago. If any members of Canopy care to retain the consensus procedures please contact any Canopy director, or Secretary G. Andrews (222-7798, 514 N. Bronough, Tallahassee).

The Supervisory Committee has reported that the many errors and discrepancies in Canopy's books during 1982 make completion of the required 1982 audit impossible.

In these continuing hard times many of our members are experiencing difficulties with their personal finances. Late payments on loans and delinquencies are increasing each month. Canopy's directors are considering paying to join the Tallahassee Credit Bureau which would require giving all information about our members to that Bureau's computer. Or the directors may decide to list delinquent debtors' names in the next quarterly Canopy Bulletin. Members with thoughts on these credit policies should contact any Canopy director and express your opinions.

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Food Co-op History, from page 6

us instead of against us. We scraped up enough money to get the lights turned on, insurance paid, and our first small order was contracted for.

In the harsh light of summer's day, the humble beginning of the LCFC did not look very encouraging. Our only customers were winos from the bar next door and we gnashed our teeth as they avidly bought up the only embarrassing items on our shelves (cases of potato sticks we had picked up in an unreclaimed freight shipment).

At first, discouraged and tired, we rallied and worked all summer recruiting new members and generally hanging in there, until the fall. With the opening of FSU and the influx of the student population, our spirits and membership rose rapidly. For the first time, we could actually see the tangible possibility of success. This was our take-off point.

Much work still remained, but the Co-op was now real and we plunged ahead with projects, source-hunting, and expanding of operations. We had made it!

Many of our newer members do not even remember our old storefront. Nor were they involved in our early trials and tribulations. It is much easier now to be a member since there are so many and effort can be spread widely. It is also much easier to remain ignorant of what the Co-op really is, and is becoming. I urge all of you to take the time, someday, to read the by-laws and charter, to attend a board meeting some month, come to our covered dish dinners and represent us in the community at large. In spite of numerous newspaper articles, there are still many people out there who know nothing about us or the co-operative movement. Get involved and help us grow. Joe and Jeff and I, in our early ecstatic dreams, envisioned no limits to what we could accomplish. So, there is certainly plenty of room in our original dream for innovation, leadership, and member participation.

Anti-abortion Legislation Defeated

by Sam Miller

Federal courts have said clearly that states cannot prohibit abortions except in a few circumstances, but that doesn't keep the Florida Legislature from battling over the issue in a round-about way almost every session. Abortion opponents have given up trying to outlaw the practice directly, but they keep coming up with plans to discourage abortions or make them more difficult. Hobe Sound Sen. William 'Doc' Myers, a physician, led the major 'right to life' legislative thrust this year, sponsoring a bill requiring physicians who perform abortions to offer to anesthetize the patient to ensure that the fetus does not suffer any pain.

Myers' bill was defeated by the House Health and Rehabilitative Services Committee in late May in the last few days of the 60-day regular session, but after the Senate HRS Committee had passed it over the objection of that panel's three women members.

Myers said scientific studies he has seen prove a fetus can feel pain after only six or seven weeks of development and that administering an anesthetic is the only humane thing to do. But others argued a fetus is incapable of experiencing pain until at least the 28th week when the central nervous system begins to function and abortions are illegal at that stage of pregnancy except when necessary to save the mother's life.

The plan is really a ruse, said Sen Mary Grizzle of Belleair Shore, "The first step in the door toward prohibiting abortions." Bud Bell, Director of the Clearinghouse for Human Services, agrees, saying similar bills are being pushed by anti-abortion groups all over the country now that other tactics to discourage abortions have failed. The abortion controversy is being given a new and highly emotional element, according to Ms. Bell, who says that an anesthetic requirement would have definite practical effect. Many doctors would stop performing abortions, rather than arrange for using a general anesthetic and take necessary precautions because of increased risk to the patient.

Senate HRS Chairman Don Childers of West Palm Beach, forced the Myers bill through his committee and also another anti-abortion bill which he sponsored. The legislation would have prohibited hospitals from refusing to offer staff privileges to a physician because he or she refuses to perform abortions. Opponents managed to amend the bill on the Senate floor to say, conversely, that a doctor could not be denied staff privileges for performing abortions. The Senate finally passed the bill, but the House never took it up.

Clermont Sen. Dick Langley sponsored a bill that would have required doctors who perform abortions to file reports with the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services for inclusion in the State's vital statistics on births and deaths. It died in the Senate HRS Committee on a 4-4 tie vote.

Next Meeting Planned for Homebased Businesses

The first organizational meeting of the Tallahassee Association of Homebased Businesses was held recently with thirty present and would-be homebased business owners in attendance.

The group discussed strategy for addressing the home occupation/occupational license/zoning issue within the city, as well as other problems.

Organizer of the meeting, Judy Newsome said, "There is a real need for home-based business owners to have a place to come together to share information and resources.

The group plans to meet again June 23 at 7:00 p.m. in the Westminster Room of the First Presbyterian Church. For more information, call the Center for Creative Employment.

Contact: Sandi Smith, Executive Director, Center for Creative Employment, 110 N. Adams St., Tallahassee, 32302; 222-3824 or 222-9424.

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