

TIMELINE OF LESBIAN HER-STORY IN CINCINNATI

- 1876-1972 NATALIE BARNEY, “that wild girl from Cincinnati.” Although born in Dayton, Ohio she lived in Cincinnati briefly. Known for amorous adventures and literary salons in Paris, France.
- 1930s – 1940s: “Much of our socializing in the 30’s and 40’s was done in the privacy of house parties... There were 3 or 4 nightclubs we patronized on the weekends.” LITTLE JIMSIE’S PLAYHOUSE on Wooster Pike near Terrace Park, one in Mohawk on Central Parkway, a club on Peeble’s Corner on Gilbert Avenue and a club in the West End called THE CAT AND THE FIDDLE. Excellent all-female dance bands, “part of the lesbian circuit.” -- DINAH, Fall 1983/Informant was born in 1919
- July 1967 CINCINNATI MATTACHINE SOCIETY is formed.
- 1960s One bar was THE CORNERS, men & women, probably at Knowlton’s Corner, THE DOWNSTAIRS CLUB; THE JACOBO, and THE RESIDENT, a women’s bar in Bromley, KY. The KUM BACK INN, on Lincoln Ave in Walnut Hills (all black bar for men and women). Gay restaurant downtown was JORGES on Vine Street between 4th & 5th
- 1970s THE RIVIERA CLUB, Newport, KY. THE JOHNSON PARTYBOAT (private boat on the Ohio River/mostly men). THE TALK OF THE TOWN, Newport, KY; and ADAM’S RIB, on Calhoun Street. in Clifton
- 1971 Both Vic and Phebe officially came out this eventful year!
- 1972 GAY PEOPLE c/o ST. JOHN’S UNITARIAN CHURCH (Friday p.m.) GAY PEOPLE OF OXFORD (Miami University, Oxford, OH)
- Feb or Mar 72 Midwest Lesbian and Feminist Conference in Yellow Springs, OH
- March 1972 Lesbians (Barb W, Martha B) and gay prof Bob Phillips from Miami U talk on WEBN-FM (Frank Wood’s show). This radio show helped some lesbians find each other.
- Fall 1973 LABYRIS leaders (Virginia/Thrace and Martha/Anita) separatists who eventually left to “live on the land” organized local lesbians of mixed political persuasions for discussion and social gatherings.
- 1973 CINCINNATI GAY COMMUNITY – mixed, men & women
- 1973 1st ever Gay Parade on Fountain Square in Cincinnati (actual 1st, often missed)
- Nov 1974 The newsletter DINAH begins as a newsletter of NOW’s Task Force on Sexuality. Continues as Cincinnati/OH’s lesbian news.

- 1974 LABYRIS founders leave and turn over traveling bookstore to lesbian commune
- 1974-1975 GAY WOMEN'S ALLIANCE. established by Deb Arapa.
- 1975 Clifton House lesbian commune (Vic, Phebe, Janet, Kathy, Ida, Nancy, & Susan)
- April 1975 Berkeley Women's Music Collective gives a concert at First Unitarian Church, sponsored by LABYRIS

- June 1976 LAB (LESBIAN ACTIVIST BUREAU) is established by Wendy Winkler Sandie Garsey to organize local lesbians. DINAH was its publication. (Later became independent)
- April 1978 CINCINNATI LESBIAN/GAY COMMUNITY GROUP emerges
- 1978 First (original) Human Rights Ordinance is proposed to Cincinnati City Council
- 1979 "1st Annual (incorrect) L/G Pride Day on Fountain Square, proclaimed by then mayor Gerald Springer
- June 1979 2nd annual Lesbian/Gay Pride Day, proclaimed by Mayor Bobbie Stern
- Aug 18, 1979 Grand Opening of the CRAZY LADIES BOOKSTORE (1st of 3 locations)

* Compiled by Phebe Beiser of the Ohio Lesbian Archives from old issues of the lesbian newsletter DINAH, Cincinnati, Ohio