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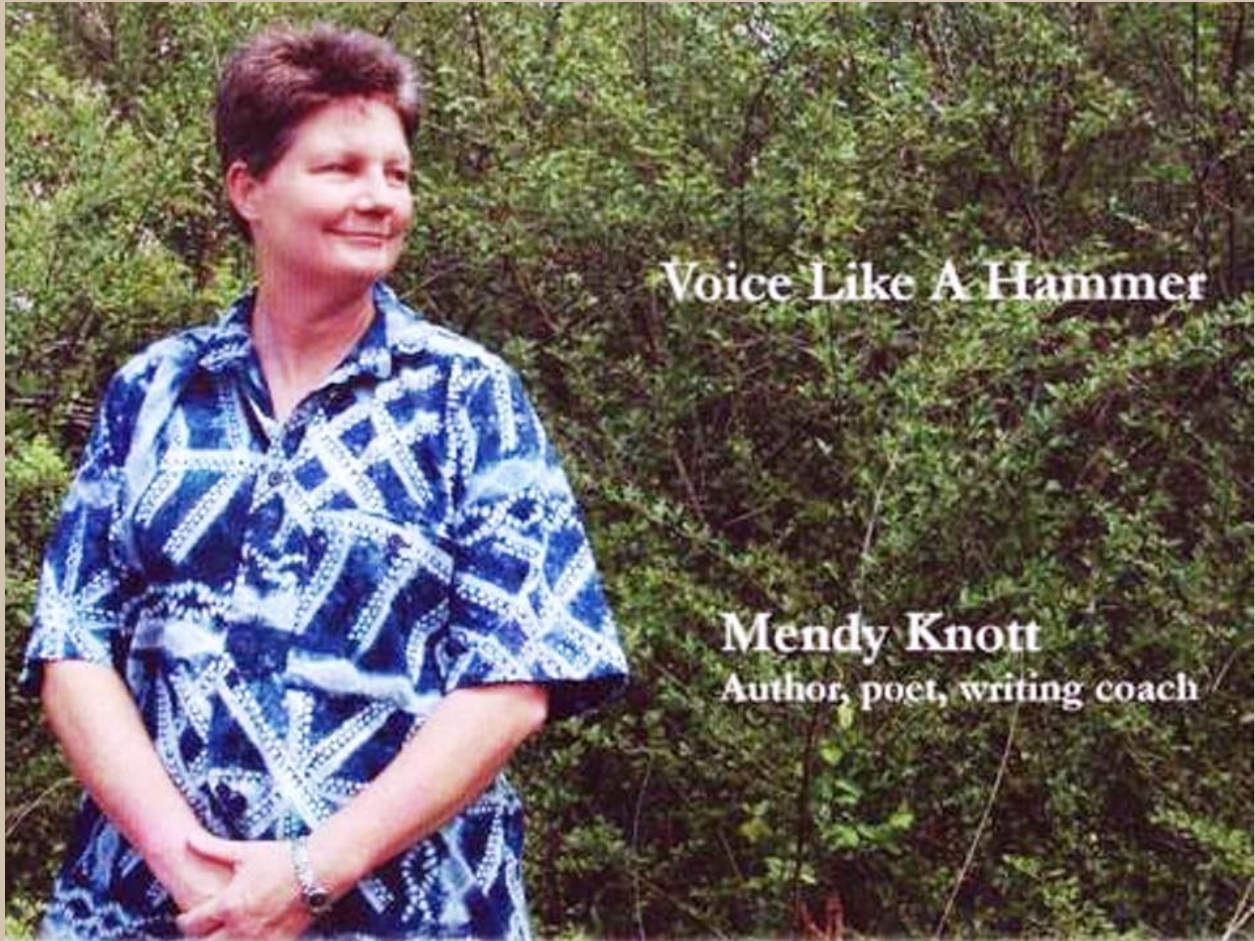
January 2025 Spotlight

Activist and Lesbian Mother, Finding Family



Barbara "Bobbie" Reaux was an active member of Richmond Lesbian Feminists for much of her adult life. Her story of growing up in Richmond, Virginia as a Black child in the segregated South, coming out in her twenties, and joining a majority white, political and social organization in the 1970s gives us a fascinating glimpse of her courage and life struggles. This interview reveals a lesbian who goes through so many of the same struggles we all have, solving them in her own unique way. Bobbie was adopted, and she begins her story with her search for her birth mother. She finds much more than her mom.

[Read the January Spotlight](#)



Hot New Interview: Mendy Knott, A Writer's Life

Check out our latest interview posted to the SLFA Herstory Project website! Mendy came out at 19 and never went back, following her dream to be a writer and to live in the mountains. Swannanoa, now Mendy's hometown, and surrounding areas were devastated by Hurricane Helene. [This interview](#) was done prior to the hurricane and it covers the ins and outs of a long life as a lesbian writer. At the end of the article, we provide a link to her writing since the hurricane.

You are invited to participate:

**Who inspired you to lesbian feminism?
Send us the name of your most significant Shero
with a brief reason why she inspires you.**

Both she and you can remain anonymous if you want (just say so) since we will PUBLISH these here on our SLFAHP website.

Send submissions today to: slfainspired@gmail.com. Here's an example:

Rose Norman got her inspiration from Nancy Finley. "At the time, Nancy Finley was the chair of the Sociology Department at my university. She said, 'Let's see who might be interested in starting a women's studies program.'

"She made feminism seductive, and she opened my eyes to structural causes of oppression. She walks the talk in all aspects of her life."

The Southern Lesbian Feminist Activist Herstory Project

We collect, archive, and celebrate oral and written stories of unsung, Southern, lesbian-feminist activists during the second half of the twentieth century. We are proud of our contributions to lesbian culture, strengthened by our collective voices.

Many of us recognized that the lesbian-feminist voices of Southern lesbians had been omitted or marginalized in mainstream literature of the LGBTQ movement as well as from feminist history. We are the antidote to this omission. We worked with Duke University to set up archives, did interviews all over the south, and eventually collaborated with Julie Enszer to publish 6 issues of *Sinister Wisdom*, full of all our stories. Now we maintain our website and update it monthly, as you hear about through this newsletter. We are still gathering more Southern lesbian stories, interviewing, writing, editing, tracking, and networking.

We are always ready to welcome new collaborators! If you would like to join the SLFAHP group, email us at SLFAHerstoryProject@gmail.com.

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