



Serving the womyn's  
community  
since 1983

# Herland Voice

volume twenty-nine number three

[www.herlandsisters.org](http://www.herlandsisters.org)

september 2011

## Herland fall retreat!

*Lake Eufaula State Park—October 21-23, 2011*

Are you ready for a weekend full of relaxation, good friends, good music, good food, and tons-o-fun? Well you're in luck! Mark your calendar and make plans now to attend The Herland Fall Retreat. Plans are currently being made for all kinds of exciting activities, including meet and greet games, a craft workshop, fabulous food, a group going fly fishing (led by Jean), dancing, games, campfires, and just about everything else you'd expect from a Herland Retreat. If you have a hobby you'd like to share with other awesome women, or have an idea for a workshop, email [SA-Hatwork@aol.com](mailto:SA-Hatwork@aol.com) or call (405) 550-2312 and we'll get it planned. With such a great group of women - the possibilities are endless. Be creative with this - anything goes!

On Saturday morning, Pamela M. Hawkins, M.Ed. will be leading a backpacking/hiking workshop, entitled Embracing The Great Outdoors: Come, Let's Saunter Together! Our Saturday Night Concert will feature Nancy Scott, an *incredibly* entertaining singer/songwriter from the Austin area. Nancy's songs and stories will make you laugh, and make you cry, coming straight from the heart. Even if you can't come for the entire weekend, try to come for the concert. She is truly one in a million!

If you have never been to a Herland Retreat, you owe it to yourself to give it a try! Whether you come solo or with friends, are a certified camper or city grrrl, or come from near or far, it's a perfect, affordable opportunity to meet new friends, catch up with old

friends, play board games and sports, explore nature, create or learn something new at a workshop, strut your stuff at the Open Mic, express your culinary skills at the Saturday evening Potluck, sing and tell stories around the campfire or simply relax in an incredibly supportive environment. Also, please remember to bring an item or two for the raffle &/or silent auction. This helps keep the costs of the weekend low for us all.

Your registration fee includes lodging in a cabin, a light dinner on Friday, scrumptious breakfast/brunch on Saturday and Sunday mornings, Saturday evening Potluck Dinner (bring or plan on making a dish to wow your fellow campers), all workshops and group camp activities, and the Saturday night concert.

If you have any special needs or requests, please be sure to include them on your registration form, or call one of the numbers listed below, and we'll make every attempt at accommodating you.

This will be the only article and registration you'll receive before the retreat. So...do yourself a favor and register now, while you're thinking about it! To register, just mail back the registration form (pg 3) with your check. After we receive your information, a few weeks before the retreat, we will either email or mail you a packet which has the retreat schedule, a list of items you may want to bring, more details about the weekend, and a map to Lake Eufaula State Park. Please let us know which way you prefer to receive the information on your registration form. If you have questions, you may leave a message at (405) 550-2312 or (405) 521-9696 and someone will call you back.



## upcoming herland events

### **Supper Club at On the Border and Bowl at Meridian Lanes on September 10**

On the Border is a great Tex-Mex restaurant located at 120 S Meridian. They have a full selection of delicious tacos, burritos, enchiladas, fajitas, and margaritas! We'll eat at 5:30 then some will head over to Meridian Bowling Lanes at 2900 S Meridian and others will head back to Herland for a concert by Dr. Jan Rosenberg.

### **Herland House Concert with Jan Rosenberg, 7 pm on Saturday, September 10**

It's been too long since we've all had the opportunity to hear the incredible talents of Dr. Jan! She's coming from Indiana to perform a house concert for us, and has mentioned how much she is looking forward to seeing all of her 'old' Herland friends, as well as make some new ones. We'll have light refreshments, and hope you will all make plans to welcome her back on this visit. No charge to join in the fun, but "love offerings" will be gratefully accepted.

### **Herland Backyard Cookout and Game Day, Saturday, September 24**

We've got hamburgers and fixins ready for a cookout starting at 1 pm on Saturday, Sept. 24. After lunch, we'll play some board games like Apples to Apples, card games like Spades, and maybe a game of Scrabble. Come one, come all!

### **Supper Club at Kona Ranch on October 8**

The Herland Supper Club heads over to Kona Ranch, 2037 S Meridian, at 5:30 pm, on Saturday, October 8 for some "Hawaiian cowboy" fare. Their menu features seafood, steaks, chicken, pork, and even BBQ. Some folks may try their hand at bowling afterwards so come prepared!

### **Herland Work Day October 15**

Break out the work gloves and come help us spruce things up at 10:30 am on Saturday, Oct. 15. We'll have indoor and outdoor stuff to do. Then stay for the book study!

### **Herland Book Discussion Group on Saturday, October 15**

Kathy McCallie will lead a 3-session discussion of the book, *The Good Body* by Eve Ensler, from 1:30 to 3:00 pm on Saturdays, October 15, November 19, December 3. You can join in the discussion even if you have not read the book. See article, page 4.

### **Scrapbooking Workshop, 1 to 5 pm, October 29**

Learn how to scrapbook like a pro! Three sessions are offered for \$5 per session. See article page 5.

### **Scrapbooking Workshop on Saturday, November 12**

2nd of 3 meetings. See article page 5.

### **Supper Club at Inca Trail at 5:30 pm on Saturday, November 12**

The supper club ventures into new lands for November's culinary trek! We're going to a Peruvian restaurant, Inca Trail, located at 10948 N. May. The authentic Peruvian cuisine combines elements of Spanish, African, Japanese, and Chinese food traditions into a delectable treat for the palate. Afterwards, we may see a movie at the Northpark.

### **Herland Book Discussion Group on Saturday, November 19**

2nd of 3 meetings. See article page 4.

### **Herland Book Discussion Group on Saturday, December 3**

3rd of 3 meetings. See article page 4.

### **Scrapbooking Workshop on Saturday, December 10**

3rd of 3 meetings. See article page 5.

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# Herland Fall Retreat 2011 Registration

## Lake Eufaula State Park, Checotah, OK October 21-23, 2011

Deadline for pre-registration is October 15th. Please return registration form and check made payable to:

Herland Sister Resources, 2312 NW 39th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

A retreat packet with all information will be mailed to you.

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like the retreat packet emailed—or—mailed to me. Please circle one.

Total Registration Fee \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.

I'm enclosing an additional \$ \_\_\_\_\_ to help provide scholarships.

I'm bringing \_\_\_\_\_ children (girls of all ages and boys under age 10 are welcome).

I'm bringing \_\_\_\_\_ dogs that will be kept on leashes at all times and I and will sign a waiver stating I am completely responsible for any injury or damage caused by my dog(s).

I need to apply for a work scholarship to attend. (Limited number available - depending on donations - 1<sup>st</sup> come, 1<sup>st</sup> served basis).

I have a disability and need the following if possible:

\_\_\_\_\_

### Sliding Scale Registration Fee (for entire weekend)

#### Annual Income PER PERSON

under \$13,300 - \$30

All Day Saturday - \$25 (includes Concert)

\$13,300-\$30,000 - \$45

Saturday Night Concert Only - \$10

over \$30,000 - \$60

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- Reverend Dr. Kathy McCallie

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## community events

September 2: Miss Brown to You - Ingrid's Kitchen

September 18: Dallas Pride Parade

September 18: Herland Board Meeting at 4:00 pm. All welcome.

September 25: AIDS Walk OKC

October is LGBT History Month

October 1: Miss Brown to You - Full Circle Bookstore

October 11: National Coming Out Day

October 15: CAF Gala. Cimarron Alliance celebrates in a big way. Our 2011 LGBT History Month Gala will be held on Saturday, October 15. It is at our gala that central Oklahoma's gay community honors those individuals who have made--and are making--significant contributions in our march toward equality.

October 16: Herland Board Meeting at 4:00 pm. All welcome.

November 12: Peace Festival at Civic Center.

November 20: Herland Board Meeting at 4:00 pm. All welcome.



### Love Your Body. STOP FIXING IT: A book discussion and celebration of women's bodies

October 15, November 19, and December 3  
1:30-3:00 p.m. each Saturday

The Good Body, by Eve Ensler (author of "The Vagina Monologues") is a very short book. It has brief poems and reflections that are quick and easy to read, but pack in lots of punch for reflection and inspiration. Kathy McCallie will lead this discussion group that will be enjoyable even for those who have not read the book. Copies of the book will be available for use or sale to those in the group. All women are invited to join in the discussion. Each session will cover different topics, so come to one or all three sessions as your schedule allows.

Eve Ensler is the playwright and founder of a global movement that was inspired by "The Vagina Monologues" to end violence against women and girls. In her book, The Good Body, she raises awareness about torturous shame and disgust many women still associate with their bodies or their sexuality. She learns from women of older cultures to imagine making peace with her body and honestly enjoy her body rather than trying to fix it.

In this discussion group we will reflect on poetry and stories as we contemplate our relationships with our own bodies. We will wonder together about the themes of beauty and the beauty industry, perfectionism and eating disorders, aging and sexual pleasure.

For more information, call Kathy McCallie (405) 206-5817 or Herland.

**Scrapbooking Workshops**  
**Saturdays, October 29, Nov. 12,**  
**and Dec. 10**  
**1–5 pm**  
**\$5 per session**

Want to do something with those photos in a box? Thought of making a holiday gift for someone? This is your chance to explore the world of scrapbooking. Bring at least 8-10 photos and we will provide other supplies or bring your favorite scrapbook supplies (if you have them).



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**5K Run**  
**\$20**  
 Pre-registration  
**\$25**  
 Day of the Event

**Sunday, September 25, 2011**  
**Sonic Plaza - Bricktown**  
 AIDS Walk of Oklahoma City & 5K Run  
 Pre-register at [www.aidswalkokc.org](http://www.aidswalkokc.org)

*thank you for your generous gift!*

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I prefer  email or  hardcopy.
- Please change my address (new address above).
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# THE KATZ DRUG STORE SIT-IN

1958 account by Clara Luper

Katz Drug Store was located in the Southwestern corner of Main and Robinson in downtown Oklahoma City. It was a center of activity with its first class pharmacy department, unique gifts, toys and lunch counter. Blacks were permitted to shop freely in all parts of the store. They could order sandwiches and drinks to go. Orders were placed in a paper sack and were to be eaten in the streets...

As I was thinking about what should have been done, Lana Pogue, the six-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis J. Pogue, grabbed my hand; and, we moved toward the counter. All of my life, I had wanted to sit at those counters and drink a Coke or a Seven-Up. It really didn't matter which, but I had been taught that those seats were for "whites only." Blacks were to sweep around the seats, and keep them clean so whites could sit down. It didn't make any difference what kind of white person it was, thief, rapist, murderer, uneducated; the only requirement was that he or she be white. Unbathed, unshaven--it just didn't make any difference. Nor did it make any difference what kind of black you were, B.A. Degree black, Dr. Black, Attorney Black, Rev. Black, old Black, pretty Black, ugly Black; you were not to sit down at any lunch counter to eat. We were all seated now in the *"for whites only territory."* The waitress suffered a quick psychological stroke and said in a mean tone, *"What do you all want?"*

Barbara Posey spoke, *"We'd like thirteen Cokes please."*

*"You may have them to go,"* the waitress nervously said.

*"We'll drink them here,"* Barbara said as she placed a five dollar bill on the counter. The waitress nervously called for additional help. Mr. Masoner, the red, frightened-faced manager, rushed over to me as if he were going to slap me and said, *"Mrs. Luper, you know better than this. You know we don't serve colored folks at the counter."*

Clara Luper, venerated Oklahoma City Civil Rights Leader, is dead at the age of 88. She was an icon in Oklahoma and well-known across the nation for her activism. She is a member of the Oklahoma Hall of Fame! She taught school in the Oklahoma City School system for many years and was a highly regarded teacher among her colleagues and her students, and is remembered fondly and lovingly by many of her students.

In the following account, Clara Luper, the leader of many Oklahoma City civil rights demonstrations between 1958 and 1964, describes the first sit-in at OKC's Katz Drug Store in 1958.



Clara Luper  
1923–2011

I remained silent and looked him straight in the eyes as he nervously continued. *"I don't see what's wrong with you colored folks--Mrs. Luper, you take these children out of here--this moment! This moment, I say."* He yelled, *"Did you hear me?"*

*"Thirteen Cokes please,"* I said.

*"Mrs. Luper, if you don't move these colored children, what do you think my white customers will say? You know better, Clara. I don't blame the children! I blame you. You are just a trouble maker."*

He turned and rushed to the telephone and called the police. In a matter of minutes, we were surrounded by policemen of all sizes, with all kinds of facial expressions. The sergeant and the manager had a conference; additional conferences were called as different ranks of policemen entered. Their faces portrayed their feelings of resentment.

The press arrived and I recognized Leonard Hanstein of Channel 9 with his camera and I sat silently as they threw him out and a whole crew of cameramen.

The whites that were seated at the counter got up, leaving their food unfinished on the table and emptied their hate terms into the air. Things such as *"Niggers go home, who do they think they are? The nerve!"* One man walked straight up to me and said, *"Move, you black S.O.B."* Others bent to cough in my face and in the faces of the children. Linda Pogue was knocked off a seat, she smiled and sat back on the stool. Profanity flowed evenly and forcefully from the crowd. One elderly lady rushed over to me as fast as she could with her walking cane in her hand and yelled, *"The nerve of the niggers trying to eat in our places. Who does Clara Luper think she is? She is nothing but a damned fool, the black thing."* I started to walk over and tell her that I was one of God's children and He had made me in His own image and if she didn't like how I looked, she was filing her complaint in the wrong department. She'd have to file it with the Creator. I'm the end product of His Creation and not the maker. Then, I realized her intellectual limitations and continued to watch the puzzled policemen and the frightened manager.

Tensions were building up as racial slurs continued to be thrown at us. Hamburgers, Cokes, malts, etc., remained in place as pushing, cursing, and *"nigger,"* became the *"order of the day."* As the news media attempted to interview us, the hostile crowd increased in number. Never before had I seen so many hostile, hard, hate-filled white faces. Lana, the six-year-old, said, *"Why do they look so mean?"*

I said, *"Lana, their faces are as cold as Alaskan icicles."*

As I sat quietly there that night, I prayed and remembered our nonviolent philosophy. I pulled out what we called Martin Luther King's Non-Violent Plans and read them over and over...

As I folded the paper, I looked up and saw a big burly policeman walking toward me. When he got within two feet of me, another officer called him to the telephone. I wondered why the policeman had to stand over us. We had no weapons and the only thing that we wanted was 13 Cokes that we had the money to pay for.

Amid the cursing, I remembered the words of Professor Watkins, my elementary principal and teacher in Hoffman, Oklahoma. He told us to *"consider, always consider the source..."*

My daughter, Marilyn, walked over and pointed out a big, fat, mean looking, white man, who walked over to me and said, *"I can't understand it. You all didn't use to act this way; you all use to be so nice."*

We remained silent and as he bumped into me, the police officers told him that he had to move on. An old white woman walked up to me and said, *"If you don't get those little old poor ugly-looking children out of here, we are going to have a race riot. You just want to start some trouble."* I remained silent. *"Don't you know about the Tulsa race riots?"* the woman asked.

I moved down to the south end of the counter, then back to the other end. This was repeated over and over. As I passed by Alma Faye Posey she burst out laughing and when I continued to look at her, she put her hands on the counter and pointed to a picture of a banana split.

It had been a long evening. Barbara, Gwen and I had a quick conference and we decided to leave without cracking a dent in the wall. Mr. Portwood Williams, Mrs. Lillian Oliver and Mrs. Mary Pogue were waiting. We loaded in our cars and left the hecklers, heckling. We passed our first test. They...called us niggers and did everything, the group said.

*"Look at me, I'm really a non-violent man,"* Richard Brown yelled. *"Look at me. I can't believe it myself..."*

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