

# herland newsletter

September 1984 a publication of Herland Bookstore, 1630 N.W. 19th Oklahoma City 73106

## NATIVE AMERICAN WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN SHELTER

The main difference in providing social services to people of other cultures than the major culture in this country is style, according to Kathy Denman, Coordinator of the Indian Health Board Family Violence Program, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Denman is one of 38 presenters at Oklahoma's first state-wide conference on domestic violence and sexual assault, "Searching for Solutions." The conference is November 1-3, 1984, at the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, Norman.

"In style, the way people process things, communication can break down between different cultures," Denman said in a telephone interview. "As a therapist, I try to make the services fit the client. Otherwise, they may think there's something wrong with them if they don't fit the services."

According to a Black woman who is a member of the minority task force for the Minnesota Coalition on Domestic Violence, Blacks use a more confrontive style, more up in the face. That's the way they communicate, Denman explained.

"Native Americans are indirect," Denman said, "and withdrawn into a slower pace and life-style. An intake worker in a shelter for battered women needs to know that women from different cultures have different reactions and needs. Poverty, oppression, mistrust of social services in general, confrontation with intellectualism, (an example might be when a therapist is explaining the cycle of violence theory at a time when the client is primarily concerned with her five kids and feeding them) creates barriers for the Indian woman who is seeking a safe space and counseling."

Denman will be presenting two workshops at "Searching for Solutions." In "A History of Indian Victimization," she will describe American history from a different perspective to provide an understanding of how Indian values affect service provision to the Indian community. "A Cultural Awareness of Indians" will help non-Indians understand basic cultur-

al issues including holistic health, myths, comparative cultural values on family, peace and time.

"There aren't a lot of Native Americans in the shelters," Denman said. "In a traditional setting I have worked as an intake worker and have had 20 minutes allotted to assign a therapist. I have also worked in a non-traditional setting doing outreach to rural areas and counseling on reservations. There, you enter their schedule and your client may not move at that pace."

"I believe in accomodation," Denman said, "and my environment is me. When a client comes into my office they see rugs, feathers, beads and we may talk about that before filling out forms. As an Indian I don't ask for names first. I ask, where are you from and what tribe are you from. I can usually tell whether a client is traditional or progressive. I ask them where they are spiritually. All these things will help me in counseling and connecting them with other resources in the community."

Especially important is whether a client speaks another language and which came first, according to Denman. If a clients first language is Ojibiwa, their thinking process will be in Ojibiwa. In therapy, when you get on an unconscious level, you may lose 30% of what's being exchanged, Denman said.

"The symptoms of domestic violence for Indians are similar to that of any other culture, but what led up to it and what happens after is different," Denman said.

"Searching for Solutions" is sponsored by the Oklahoma Coalition on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault and the University of Oklahoma Women's Studies Program. The conference is from 12:00 noon Thursday, November 1 to 3:00 p.m. Saturday, November 3, 1984. Members of the OCDVSA may register for \$15.00; non-members may register for \$35.00; membership to the OCDVSA is \$15.00. Scholarships are available. Child care will be provided at no extra charge. The conference is accessible to the handicapped and sign language interpreters will be provided.

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The pre-registration deadline is October 19. Please mail checks payable to OCDVSA Conference, Central Registration Services, 1700 Asp Avenue, Norman, OK 73037. Add \$5.00 for on-site registration.

For additional information, contact the Women's Studies Program, University of Oklahoma, 601 Elm St., Room #530, Norman, OK 73019, (405) 325-3481.

"Searching for Solutions" is funded by a grant from the Chicago Resource Center.

#### A WOMEN'S COFFEEHOUSE AGAIN? YES!

Herland Sister Resources is proud to announce the return of the "coffeehouses" to be held the last Friday of each month at Herland Bookstore.

Mary Black and Susan Morgan will be the featured entertainment for the first event, at 8:00 p.m. Friday, September 28, 1984.

Be there!

#### NORMAN WOMEN'S COMMUNITY NEWS

The good news this month is: Two Oklahoma University student organizations who sponsor community events are back and planning to keep up the good work.

The first, and oldest of the two groups (since 1976) is the Women's Studies Student Association. Their annual event, the Take Back the Night March, will be expanded this fall into a week-long series of seminars, workshops and street theatre, culminating in the rally and march. They are also planning a Die-In as a protest to the Nuclear Arms Race. More information later on specifics of time and place.

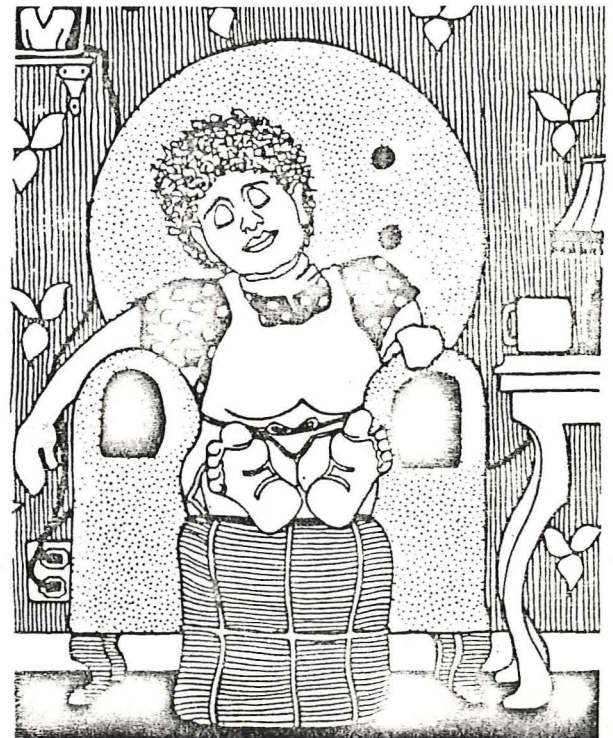
If you are interested in joining the Women's Studies Student Association (open to non-students and students alike), and/or if you wish to lend your help, support and participation to their events, you can contact Teresa at 325-3481 or 321-8220.

The second organization returning to community service is the Women Artists League (WAL). In conjunction with the Women's Studies Student Association (WSSA) they planned and executed the Women in Film Festival last spring. It was such a success, boasting film series, speakers, workshops, an art exhibition and poetry performance, that WAL will be doing it again this

year. Planning meetings have already begun for the 2nd (and we hope annual) Women in Film Festival.

The Women Artists League itself is open to all people who support the continued growth of Woman's creativity in whatever way it manifests itself. WAL is currently having a membership drive. Memberships are \$2.50 for students and \$5.00 for non-students. The money goes to fund WAL events. Such events in the past have included pot-luck suppers, Guest Artists and Talks on Women's Art History.

For more information call Teresa at 325-3481 or Michelle at 321-8220.



#### WORKSHOPS FROM THE SUPPORT CENTER OF OKC

In September and October the Support Center is offering six workshops in Lawton, Oklahoma City and Tulsa: Marketing and Public Relations for the Organization of the 80's, Newsletters and Brochures: Planning and Production, Private Foundation Research: Where and How to Find Funders, Grant Proposal Writing, The Fund Raising Organization: Planning and Organizing to Raise Money in Your Community, and Asking for Support: Tested Fund Raising Techniques.

Fees are \$44.00 full day with lunch; \$20.00 half day without lunch. Write them at 525 N.W. 13th, Oklahoma City, OK 73103 or call (405) 236-8133 for scheduling information.

## A REVIEW BY TERESA D. LONG

My Sister's Hand in Mine: The Collected Works of Jane Bowles. New York: Ecco Press. c. 1970

Jane Bowles. What do you say about the work or the person of Jane Bowles? That she was a truant, eccentric writer of genius? A lover and a walker on the tightrope of wild-life in a dying culture? Yes. Yes, you could say those things, and, in fact, I will. Here are some of the strange facts of Bowles's life: she was a crippled gypsy who wandered across Europe and Northern Africa stunning society with her marvelous stories and eccentric habits; she was a writer who married a fellow writer, who lived with him and an Algerian witch in Algiers; a writer whom Truman Capote, in his introduction to this edition of her work, called "that modern legend." Whew!

Now let's proceed to her writings as collected in this Ecco press edition. They consist of one novel (Two Serious Ladies), one play (In the Summer House) and 13 short stories. They are as witty, as penetrating (pardon the expression) and as incandescent as you might imagine such a person would write. The work deals almost exclusively with women as Bowles experienced them in all their enigma, wonder and delight. The most dazzling thing for me about Bowles's work is the unbelievable situations her women get themselves into, merely by being curious and responsive to their environments. The psychological intricacies of human behavior and the inexplicable workings of circumstances are sardonically woven into plots which are simultaneously tragic and hilariously funny. This is no mean task for a writer.

Of the works in the collection I most highly recommend the novel, and the short stories: "Plain Pleasures," "Everything is Nice," "A Day in the Open" and most especially, "Camp Cataract." This last story has one of the most unexpected endings of all time. Until you get to it, you have no idea you're going to find out what you find out. Its truly magic. This collection, fine as it is, is made a classic by this one piece alone. Try it out for an evening of fun, fantasy and revelation.

### "Gender Gap" film featured by NOW

The next OKC NOW meeting will screen the "Gender Gap" and discuss the support of local candidates, Wednesday, September 12, at 7:00 p.m. at the Oklahoma Blood Institute, 1001 N. Lincoln.

NOW can keep you posted on when and where the Mondale/Ferraro campaign headquarters is set up; the status of the Civil Rights Act of 1984

(to prohibit discrimination by schools that receive federal funding) and other things like...job openings:

The Oklahoma City Fire Department is actively seeking applications for female fire fighters during the first two weeks in September. Contact John Parasich, OKC Fire Training Center, 850 N. Portland, 947-0771. Annual salary after 1 year, \$17,434 (for only 10 working days per month)

### LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP MEETS

Herland Sister Resources is proud to announce the beginning of a Lesbian Support Group, facilitated by psychologist Cassia Mealor. Topics to be discussed will be decided by the participants.

The first meeting is Thursday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m. at Herland Bookstore (1630 N.W. 19th at Blackwelder). The session fee is \$5. per person and is payable at that time.

Call Mealor if you have any questions at 524-3017. (Due to a possible lack of seating, you may want to bring something to sit on.)

### WOMEN: LET'S GET TOGETHER PROFESSIONALLY

The Oklahoma City Women's Political Caucus is promoting the publication of The Woman's Directory to put women in touch with each other in work-related needs as well as professional and home needs.

Mail your listings now, \$20.; more than one category listing, \$15. each. The deadline is September 25 so that publication will be mid November and sales for Christmas buyers. Choose your choice of listing category; alphabetically by first or last name or company name.

Woman's Directory, OKC Women's Political Caucus, P.O. Box 25212, OKC, OK 73125 or call Linda at 942-5892.

### AN EVENING WITH CAROL CASSELL

"Men fail to recognize that seduction to a woman is not only a step on the way to an erotic encounter but a confirmation that the encounter is special. And women don't realize that men aren't aware of this." from Swept Away: Why Women Fear Their Own Sexuality, by Carol Cassell, Ph.D., 1984.

Planned Parenthood Association of OKC is sponsoring a reception for Cassell and speech, "Why Women Confuse Love and Sex," Friday, September 14, 6:00 p.m. at the Kirkpatrick Center. Call Ama at 528-0221 for more info.

## ITEMS OF INTEREST

Long after Sigmund Freud posed the question, "What do women want?" psychoanalysts still don't have the answer. Or at least that seemed to be the case at the 73rd annual meeting of the American Psychoanalytic Association, held in San Diego, CA. Where one doctor said: "The riddle remains a riddle."

Lesbianism is one issue that seemed to be especially baffling to the analysts, who have come up with a variety of theories on the origins of female homosexuality. One conference attendee, Dr. Martha Kirkpatrick of Los Angeles said the controversy over the competing theories is "stimulating," but added, "it hardly allows one to feel secure that psychoanalysis has a clear understanding of female sexual development."

Kirkpatrick has done her own study of divorced mothers, both heterosexual and lesbian, and now theorizes that sexual preference in women is most closely linked with a desire for emotional intimacy. She notes lesbian mothers reported that lack of closeness broke up their marriages, while heterosexual mothers left their partners for reasons like alcoholism or abuse.

(Her Say)

Veterans in Rochester, NY cancelled the city's 116 annual Memorial Day parade rather than allow a women's peace group to march with them. "We don't want to play ball with them, so we pick up our ball and go home," said Michael Danylyshyn, the parade marshal. The women, he added, want to use the parade for political gain. The group, Rochester Women's Action for Peace, had asked to march at the back of the parade carrying banners, distributing leaflets and giving away balloons saying "Teach Peace" as a way of memorializing the nation's war dead. "Our group stands for curtailing the nation's military, not the nation's defense," said Hyla Sandgrund, a member of the peace group. "We have enough weapons to destroy this planet." Danylyshyn said the women wanted to use the parade to make political statements contrary to the veterans' philosophy.

"They are strange, in a sense, that they do look different from other ladies that I know," Danylyshyn said of the women.

City officials have said that according to an earlier decision, the veterans could not hold the parade if they excluded the women.



Margaret Cruikshank's lawsuit was settled out of court on February 1, 1984. The University of San Francisco agreed to purge her personnel file of all derogatory statements, including, most significantly, the letter saying she had been fired in December 1980 for malfeasance. She agreed to secrecy about the financial settlement reached by her lawyers and the lawyers for the university. The judge said she could not even characterize the settlement. She is very pleased to have avoided the trial, scheduled for February 6, because her lesbianism had been an issue during depositions in June 1983, and she did not feel confident that a jury, even in San Francisco, would return a fair verdict. Also, the lawyers for USF told her lawyers that if they lost a jury trial, they would appeal the decision.

According to information from the Boston Herald provided by the Rape Crisis Project of the Women's Center in New Bedford, MA, the victim of last year's gang rape at Big Dan's bar has been forced to flee her home. "There was a fifth sentence in this case," lawyer Scott Charnas told the Herald reporter "Life in exile for my client."

Harassment of both the woman and her extended family; the sight of "tens of thousands of people" marching to protest sentencing of the rapists; and "unsubstantiated rumors" that people were taking up collections to hire an assassin all contributed to the woman's decision to flee, Charnas said. "All she wanted to do was take part in the process, testify, and then return to as normal a life as possible. Unfortunately, that's impossible."

In mid-March, the woman, whose name had become known throughout the community, packed up her two children and left without a forwarding address. The Rape Crisis Project has set up a Jane Doe fund to help pay for her relocation. They may be reached at the New Bedford Women's Center, 252 Country St., New Bedford, MA 02740.

Thanks to supporters who raised \$30,000 to make sure it survived last year's arson attack, the Toronto Women's Bookstore was able to celebrate its tenth anniversary in a "beautiful new home." The Body Politic reports that bookstore fans packed a grand opening at 73 Harbord Street, only a few doors away from the building in which the bookstore and the Morgenthaler abortion clinic were housed before the firebombing last July.

## IT'S AVAILABLE

Lavendar Horizons presents The People vs. The Ku Klux Klan, a stirring 45 minute slide tape by Patricia A. Gozemba and Marilyn L. Humphries creators of Woman-Loving Woman, documenting over a century of brave stories of resistance to the Ku Klux Klan. The production captures the stories of Fredrick Douglass, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, W.E.B. Du Bois, Mary Church Terrell, Jesse Daniel Ames, Lillian Smith, Anne and Carl Braden, Patrick O'Donnell, The Greensboro 5 and many others. Available for rental or purchase Fall 1984. Write P.O. Box 806, Marblehead, MA 01945.

The Feminist Therapy Institute, Inc. is a new organization for advanced (5+ years experience) feminist therapists. For info or a copy of the FTI newsletter write Laura S. Brown, 4527 1st Ave., N.E., Seattle, WA 98105.

The Women's Studies Librarian-at-Large for the University of Wisconsin System issues a number of publications designed to share information about women's studies and research materials. Included in these publications are New Books on Women and Feminism (annotated bibliography of new titles in women's studies including children's lit) and Feminist Periodicals: A Current Listing of Contents. \$12 per year. Acquisitions Dept., 324 Memorial Library, 728 State St., Madison, WI 53706.

Lesbian Mothers: We are forming a new correspondence club for lesbian mothers and their friends. For details, send SASE to L. Carlin, P.O. Box 861, Lynnfield, MA 01940 (from Telewoman)

Women for Individual Rights is a nationwide support and defense group for women in prison. It offers services ranging from legal contacts to emotional support, a vital link between women on the inside and women on the outside. Contact Donna Havoc, Editor of Feminine Connections, P.O. Box 3319, Milford, CT 06460 (from Telewoman)

Wanted: Sticky questions and handy solutions for the Book of Lesbian Etiquette. Send them to Celeste West, 555-29th St., San Francisco, CA 94131 (from Telewoman)

Business and Professional Women's Foundation Career Advancement Scholarships are available to provide financial assistance to mature women employed or seeking employment in the workforce. Awarded for a 1-year period. September 15 deadline. Write BPWF, 2012 Massachusetts Ave., N.W. Washington, D.C. 20036

Publisher: Herland Bookstore  
Editor: Elaine Barton

Women on the Job: Careers in the Electronic Media, is a 31-page booklet describing career possibilities in all aspects of the broadcast industry. Listed are more than 90 occupations as well as sources for the securing of information on education, training and job placement. Free from the Women's Bureau, US Dept. of Labor, 200 Constitution Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20210

Mothers' Home Business Network: A Support System for Mothers Who Work From Home assists mothers who choose home as their workplace. The network helps answer business problems, formulate new ideas and provides an informative newsletter. Write P.O. Box 423, East Meadow, NY 11554; (516) 997-7394

Maize: A Lesbian Country Magazine. 3 issues for \$6 from Word Weavers, P.O. Box 8742, Minneapolis, MN 55408-0742

Feminist Teacher is a new quarterly building a network of feminists in education. It will serve as a forum for exchanging ideas about politics and teaching with readers playing a major role in shaping each issue. Send \$12 to subscribe or ask for manuscript info to: Feminist Teacher Editorial Collective, Ballantine 442, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN 47405

Guide to Women's Art Organizations and Directory for the Arts. 174 page book listing galleries, networks, publications, archives, grants, emergency funds, etc. \$8.50 Send to Cynthia Navaretta, Midmarch Associates, Box 3304, Grand Central Station, NY, NY 10163 (from Telewoman)

Female Sexual Mutilations: The Facts and Proposals for Action, by Fran Hosken, an action guide based on research found in the Hosken Report. \$5.00 Win News/Fran P. Hosken, 187 Grant St., Lexington, MA 02173

DES Exposure: Questions and Answers for DES Mothers, Daughters and Sons. \$1.00 + \$1.00 postage to DES Action, 2845 24th St., San Francisco, CA 94110

Lesbian Relationship Handbook. Includes fighting fair, what do you need to know before you say yes, building contracts, commitments and rituals, and more. 2-4 weeks delivery \$5.00 + 50¢ postage to Kinheart, Inc., 2214 Ridge, Evanston, IL 60201 (from Lesbian Connection)

Independent Woman Books, specializing in old, rare and out-of-print fiction, biography and paperbacks about Lesbians. For Catalogue 5, write IWB, Kathleen S. Koch, 74 Grove Ave., Groton, CT 06340

## BOOKS FOR THE FALL OF '84

New titles from Spinsters Ink: Winter Passage a novel by Judith McDaniel (native Oklahoman) is set in Vermont in the 1970's. It's about the intersection of three women's lives, one a poet, one a painter, two are mothers, one divorced, one married, one a lesbian: We Didn't Have Much But We Sure Had Plenty, by Sherry Thomas, a collection of first person stories, based on interviews with farm women aged 45-90 from across America. Forthcoming in the fall: Here's the Good News: Lesbians and Sex, by Joann Gardner Loulan, a warm and affirming book, exploring couple relationships, initiating, orgasm, taking responsibility for sexuality, sexual misinformation, and other related topics. Also forthcoming, The Highest Apple, three essays by Judy Grahn and It's Time: A Nuclear Novel, by Star L. Bluejay.

New from Crossing Press, Sister Outsider, Essays and Speeches, by Audre Lorde. This collection contains fourteen essays and speeches, several of them published for the first time, that span almost a decade of her work. Included are "Poetry is Not a Luxury," "Man Child: A Black Lesbian Feminist's Response," "Uses of the Erotic: The Erotic as Power," "Eye to Eye: Black Women, Hatred, and Anger," and others. And, New Lesbian Writing, an anthology edited by Margaret Cruikshank, includes poetry and prose by 35 women and bibliography of recent lesbian literature. Published by Grey Fox Press.

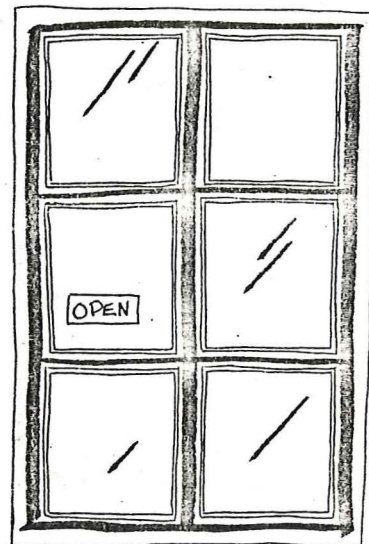
Forthcoming in the fall from New Feminist Library When: Biology Became Destiny: Women in Weimar and Nazi Germany, edited by Renate Bridenthal, Atina Grossman and Marion Kaplan.

New upcoming titles from Naiad Press in the fall: Katherine Forrest's third book, Amateur City, Jane Rule's The Young in One Another's Arms, Sarah Schulman's The Sophie Horowitz Story.

Pure Lust: Elemental Feminist Philosophy, by Mary Daly, published by Beacon Press, is a sister book to Gyn/Ecology in which she affirms the institutions and the vision of those of us who have an axe to grind. With language that is philosophical, poetic, playful, she puts into words what we've sensed all of our lives and she expands our knowing and our naming as we are taken further on the gyn/ecological voyage through the "country of the strange." She suggests a double-sided nature for Pure Lust which she uses to reflect both the deadly dispassion of patriarchal malevolence and evil which breaks female be-ing and the vigorous, wonder/wanderlusting pure passion of journeying women.

Kitchen Table: Women of Color Press announces its first titles: Cuentos: Stories by Latinas edited by Alma Gomez, Cherrie Moraga, and Mariana Romo-Carmona; Home Girls: A Black Feminist Anthology, edited by Barbara Smith; Narratives: Poems in the Tradition of Black Women by Cheryl Clarke. This Bridge Called My Back: Writings of Radical Women of Color, edited by Cherrie Moraga and Gloria Anzaldua is again available.

Yours in Struggle: Three Feminist Perspectives On Anti-Semitism and Racism, written by Elly Bulkin, Minnie Bruce Pratt and Barbara Smith is now available from Long Hall Press. Also available is The Women Who Hate Me, poems by Dorothy Allison.



## HERLAND BOOKSTORE

1630 N.W. 19<sup>th</sup> at Blackwelder/OKC  
Saturday 10-6 // Sunday 1-6

The Feminist Press, which in 1981 re-issued Paule Marshall's 1959 classic Brown Girl, Brownstones, has just published Marshall's newest collection of short stories, Reena and Other Stories.

Homophobia and Education: How to Deal With Name-Calling, a special issue of Interracial Books for Children Bulletin (Vol. 14, no. 3 and 4) on homophobia, edited by Leonore Gordon. Articles by Barbara Smith ("Homophobia: Why Bring it Up?"), Letty Cottin Progredin ("The Secret Fear That Keeps Us From Raising Free Children"), Audre Lorde ("There is No Hierarchy of Oppressions"), Jan Goodman ("Out of the Closet, but Paying the Price"), Leonore Gordon ("What Do We Say When We Hear 'Faggot'?"), as well as bibliographies, resources and lesson plans are included. Single copies \$3.50 from Council on Interracial Books for Children 1841 Broadway, New York, NY 10023.