

The HERLAND VOICE

September, 1994

HSR FALL RETREAT

Mark your calendar, send in your registration and pack your gear, it's time for the Herland Fall Retreat. The Retreat is scheduled for October 21 - 23 at Arrowhead State Park near Eufala, Oklahoma.

The Therapy Sisters with Oklahoma's own Mary Reynolds will highlight the weekend's entertainment in a concert Saturday evening. The Saturday afternoon open mike will feature local musicians, poets, and comedians. and campfire sing-a-longs will give everyone a chance to make music.

Workshops are now being planned. If you'd like to share a skill or lead a discussion group, just let us know. Also, we need women to organize sports activities like volleyball or softball.

The Arrowhead State Park group camp is located on Lake Eufala with fishing and swimming nearby. It is newer than other group camps where previous Herland Retreats have been held and has somewhat upgraded facilities. The camp is fully accessible, according to state park officials.

Retreat registration (see registration form in this issue for the sliding-fee scale) includes three meals, a late supper on Friday, Saturday brunch and Sunday breakfast; and lodging in a group cabin. □

LARGEST ANNUAL GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN DALLAS

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will host its annual skills-building conference in Dallas, Texas this year during Veterans Day weekend in November. Creating Change has become the pre-eminent national forum for lesbian, gay and bisexual activists to share skills, dialogue about the political movement, and discuss strategies for the year ahead. Last year, more than 1,400 organizers gathered in Durham, North Carolina at Creating Change.

Plenary speakers at this year's event will include Mel White, Letitia Gomez, Glen Maxey and Phill Wilson. White is currently the Dean of the Cathedral of Hope, the largest gay and lesbian church in the world. Gomez is the Executive Director of the National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGO), which she helped create in 1987. Maxey is the first openly gay elected official in the State of Texas. Since 1991, he has served in the Texas House of Representatives. *(continued page 3)*



In the August *Voice* we told you about the losses from recent break-ins at Herland. Those losses along with the usual summer slow-down in donations and purchases, have forced us to reduce the size of this issue of *The Voice*. We are simply unable to afford the cost of a complete issue, without going into debt.

Herland is different from most non-profit organizations. Herland is a community of women that supports itself. Herland depends almost completely on the small contributions from our community. For more than ten years now, this community has always come through.

Herland has no paid staff. All of the work of the organization is done by volunteers. Together, we publish a newsletter, operate a bookstore and lending library, and provide musical and other events for women. Herland offers a safe place for women to meet and exchange ideas, feelings, hopes and fears and to learn about themselves and each other.

It costs over \$2,000 each month, to operate Herland. All of us have a part in keeping her going and it takes all of us to be successful. In September, there'll be several opportunities to support Herland while you are having a great time: September 11 -- a going away party to send off a former Herland Sister One, Pat Colognesi; September 17--a huge used-book sale at Herland; September 18 -- an open-mike at the Porthole. Every weekend Herland will be open for you to come by and purchase women's books, recordings and crafts or to drop off a donation. We hope to see you at Herland soon. □

OPEN MIKE BENEFITS HERLAND

The tradition continues. Kathy, the new management at the Porthole, is hosting an Open Mike Fundraiser for Herland on September 18. The club opens at 5 P.M. and the music will start sometime later. Drop by for "brunch" and stay to enjoy all of our fine local talent, and support Kathy and Herland at the same time. □

ST. SYBIL

Dear St. Sybil,

Once again, election time is upon us. We have just had our first round of primaries here in Oklahoma, and have weeded out the wackiest and the weirdest, -- and some of the best. And speaking of morally bankrupt, our choices for U.S. Senator, never very exciting or inspiring in this state, are unusually unappealing. The Republican is to the far right of Attila the Hun or Rush Limbaugh; the Democrat is a totally political animal without one visible spark of principle. What they both share, in spades, is that they are good-looking white men. "Oh look, ma, we got us a real purty baby boy here." "Well hot damn, pa, then we got us a prospective Congressman, don't we! -- or maybe even a Senator if he don't get your bald spot!" I tell you, Sybil, going to the polls gets harder and harder. Could you run that by me again about how voting for the lesser of two evils is the right thing to do?

I'm confused as all get out,
Ann Di Hatemmall

Dear Ann,

First let me remind you, before you get accused of white male bashing, that three of the four candidates for Lieutenant Governor are women; and of course what they share in common is that they are traditionally good-looking white women who wear all the trappings of female servitude: backbreaking high heels and enough cosmetics to paint a ballot box -- in other words, female twins of the guys running for Senator. Not to say that they aren't all qualified for the job -- indeed a couple of them might be over-qualified to be Guv Lite...

And depending on how the Democratic run-off for Governor goes, there might be a woman on the big ballot for Governor in the fall, running against an exceptionally good-looking white man ("well dang it, Ma, he just looks like a governor, don't he") and a good ol' boy who's decided he can get thirty-five percent of the vote all day long any day he wants, and is running as an independent.

And how about this: Oklahoma has two African Americans with pretty decent chances of being elected to Congress this year. True, one of them is a football star and the other is a minister, but face it, minority candidates for state-wide office in Oklahoma will need all the help they can get for many years yet. One of them is far right, the other far left; it will be really interesting to see how they far they go.

So all in all, this year is giving you some pretty diverse polling choices, Ann. Lots of lesser evils to vote for, and a few really good people, if you're in the right district. So do your research, read your OGLPC and Peace House information, and Vote. I will admit that I am having a change of heart about voting for the lesser of two or three evils being the thing to do. Not that I was wrong before, mind you; after all, I do know all and see all from my handy dandy perch on the continuum of time. It's just that it's possible to come down squarely on both sides of some issues, and this seems to be one of them. I'm being increasingly persuaded by the very good argument that the only guarantee one gets from voting for the least awful of two choices is that next time around, the choices will be even worse.

Progressively yours,
Sybil

NEW BOOK ARRIVALS AT HERLAND

Keeping Secrets by Penny Mickelbury

DC police Lt. Maglione, head of the Hate Crimes Unit, tracks down a serial killer. News reporter Mimi Patterson also investigates the deaths and the rumors that the force is keeping secret the methods of death and the victims' sexual orientation.

Flashpoint by Katherine Forrest

At a cabin in a California mountain resort, three lesbians and a gay man wait in mutual antagonism for Donnelly, the woman who has summoned them all here. Donnelly, an activist connected at the highest level of government, knows about a critical political decision about to be made that will affect all their lives.

Staying Home by Elisabeth Nonas

Molly and Alix want a baby. Alix, a classical violinist, has embarked on a medical regimen to become pregnant. Molly, a fine art restorer, supports Alix's decision...until Alix's efforts turn into the overriding issue in their lives.

We also have several Lambda Literary Award finalist books in stock. Currently Herland has *Home Movies* by Paula Martinac (lesbian fiction), *Lesbian Culture* and *Sisters, Sexperts, Queers* (lesbian and gay anthologies), *Forty-Three Septembers* by Jewell Gomez (lesbian biography/autobiography), *Blue* by Denise Ohio (small press), *In the Garden of Dead Cars* by Sybil Claiborne (lesbian and gay science fiction/fantasy), and *Long Goodbyes* by Nikki Baker (lesbian mystery).

Be sure to stop in and browse through these books and many volumes that are on sale. □

THIRD ANNUAL FAREWELL PARTY

Herland's Third Annual Pot Luck Farewell Party, Sunday, September 11. The first two were for Kathy -- thought that woman would never leave! -- this one's for Pat Colognesi. An ex Sister One and longtime supporter of Herland, we want to give her a big sendoff (and it never hurts to have a good friend in Santa Monica...) □

DALE SMITHSON 10-27-63 / 8-28-94

Our community has lost a beautiful spirit and a tireless fighter. Our hearts go out to his family and friends. We feel enriched and privileged to have known him. The family requests that donations be made to Triangle Associates, Testing the Limits, 2136 NW 39th Street, Oklahoma City 73112.

CREATING CHANGE *(continued from page 1)*

Creating Change will offer day-long intensive sessions on issues such as Fighting the Right, AIDS and Youth. This format will give activists the opportunity to meet with their counterparts from around the country, share experiences, examine successful and unsuccessful campaigns, debate theories, develop strategies and set agendas for on-going work.

This year's conference will offer approximately 80 workshops in media, fundraising, campus organizing, workplace organizing, anti-violence, health, organizational development, lobbying and legislation, sodomy repeal, arts and culture, sex and sexuality, and more.

Creating Change 1994 will also offer three Movement Building pre-conference institutes: The Transformation Institute: Building A Movement; the People of Color Organizing Institute; and the Race, Class and Gender Institute. The pre-conference institutes will be held Wednesday, November 9 and Thursday, November 10.

The conference will be held at Southland Center Hotel in downtown Dallas. Call 800-272-8007 for room reservations, and identify yourself as a Creating Change participant for special rates. For a scholarship application, please send a self-addressed stamped envelope to Creating Change Scholarships, 1734 14th St., NW, Washington, DC 20009. For further information about Creating Change, contact Ivy Young at (202) 332-6483 ext. 3304. □

HERLAND NEEDS YOUR BOOKS!

Herland is asking for book donations for our huge used book sale to be held September 17, 10-6. Donations will be accepted at Herland any Saturday (10-6) or Sunday (1-6) before September 17. There'll be lots of great books for cheap, cheap, cheap. Come hang out with us and take home all those books you've always wanted. □

WORK DAY AT HERLAND

Saturday, September 24, starting at 10 AM, we'll give Herland a good general clean-up and fix-up. With a good turnout of handy women we should have a building to be proud of by the end of the day. So whether your skills are with a power saw or a broom, come be a part of making Herland look nice. □

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS SEPTEMBER, 1994

Monday September 5, all day: Labor Day. Sleep late, relax, and appreciate the women and men who worked and sometimes died to make the workplace a better place.

Thursday September 8, 7 pm: L/G Teachers Meeting, 7pm, at Herland

Friday and Saturday, September 9 & 10: Women's Conference at the Clarion Hotel in Oklahoma City. Please see insert for details of this exciting conference.

Sunday, September 11, 5 pm: Pot Luck Party at Herland.

Monday, September 12, 7 pm: Herland Legal Defense Fund Meeting, at Herland.

Thursday September 15, MISS BROWN TO YOU at the Coyote Club; fundraiser for Simply Equal/OKC.

Saturday September 17

10 - 6: Used Book Sale at Herland.

7pm: Academic Dykes; Call Judy at 405/377-4718 or Vivien at 405/364-2693.

9pm- 1am: PEGGY JOHNSON at La Baguette in Norman

Sunday, September 18

4:30 pm: Herland Board Meeting. Visitors welcome.

Open Mike at the Porthole.

Tuesday, September 20, 7am - 7pm: Run-off Elections.

Wednesday, September 21, 12:00 Women's Studies Brown Bag: Women in Western Political Thought, Susan Zolmke Rm. 360 Physical Sciences Bldg, University of Oklahoma.

Saturday, September 24, 10am; Work Day at Herland.

Thursday, September 29, 6:30 pm: Newsletter folding party at Herland. Fun! Friends! Maybe Pizza!

Friday, September 30, 9:30pm-1: PEGGY JOHNSON at Medina's on the Paseo

Debra K. Browning, R.Ph. D.D.S.

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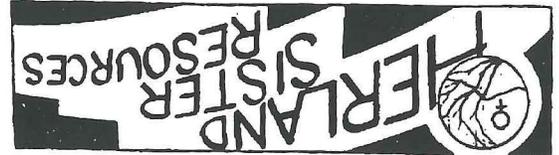
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HSR RETREAT

OCT. 21 - 23

ARROWHEAD STATE PARK

Single Annual	Person's Income	Retreat Pre-registration per person	Household Income	Annual
under \$6,500	\$6,500	\$ 15	under \$13,300	\$13,300
\$6,500 - \$13,250	\$13,250	\$ 25	\$13,300 - \$18,000	\$18,000
\$13,250 - \$18,500	\$18,500	\$ 35	\$18,000 - \$28,000	\$28,000
\$18,500 - \$30,000	\$30,000	\$ 45	\$28,000 - \$60,000	\$60,000
over \$30,000	\$30,000	\$ 60	over \$60,000	\$60,000

Please choose the registration fee most appropriate for you based on the above guidelines. On-site registration will be \$60 with no exceptions. The deadline for pre-registration is Oct 19, 1994. Registration is non-refundable after May 20.

Complete and return the pre-registration form to Herland, 2312 N.W. 39, Oklahoma City, OK 73112.

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____

City: _____ State _____ Zip _____

- Registration fee enclosed: \$15 \$25 \$35 \$60 I need a scholarship to attend.
- I'm enclosing an additional \$_____ to provide retreat scholarships.
- I'm bringing _____ children. (Girls of all ages and boys under 10 are welcome at the retreat.)
- I would like to ride with someone. I can help provide rides.