# HERLAND VOICE May, 1995

### AFTER THE BOMB

by Pat Reaves

9:02 A.M., APRIL 19, 1995: Our community and our lives were forever changed. No one in Oklahoma City will ever forget where they were and what they were doing at that moment. Fifteen miles away, working at my computer, I felt the blast and with my co-workers ran outside to look for the source of the explosion.

None of us are unaffected -- a friend's partner is missing, a co-worker's cousin, another friend's pastor and on and on and on. Every day brings more bad news. I wonder about all the people I know only by their first names. When I go to my favorite bar or restaurant or to hear local musicians, will the usuals all be there? This was no attack on an abstract government -- ordinary working people and their children are dead and missing.

Thousands rushed to donate blood and to volunteer in the hours after the blast. Enough doctors responded that the closest hospital reported they had a doctor for each of the more than 100 victims who came into the hospital. A radio caller asked a volunteer rescue worker if he had been afraid of contracting AIDS from all the blood on the victims. The worker responded that saving lives was worth the risk. I worked in a cold rain with other volunteers whose names I don't know to unload donations of warm clothing and rain gear for rescue and relief workers whose names I don't know brought by others whose names I don't know. It didn't matter who they were. We are neighbors -- and neighbors help each other.

Expressions of concern and sympathy have come from around the world. Particularly poignant to me are the calls from Israel. A rabbi quoted an Israeli friend, "Now you don't understand, like we don't understand." The father of two missing children tells a press conference he feels the world supporting him. We have been reminded that we are not so different. Through the horror, we have found a common humanity and compassion.

Yet some are still not treated as neighbors. There are reports that Muslim women have been stoned and spit on. The New York Times reports a Muslim woman had a miscarriage after a rock is thrown through the window of her home. Their humanity is denied. They are called "those people." Around the world, violence does not pause. There is a gas attack in Japan; thousands are killed in Rwanda.

In the past few days we have seen the best and the worst of human nature. The worst was when people were reduced to icons; symbols of the government or targets of our fear and rage. The best came when we looked at each other and saw family even though we were different races and classes.

In these days most Oklahoman's have acted like we've learned the lesson our mamas tried so hard to teach us -- "Be nice and share." It's not complicated or politically sophisticated but it seems like a place to start making this city and the world a more decent place to live.

I'm not naive -- we have real conflicts and huge challenges to face. My hope is that we build on the common humanity we've found in these days after the bomb. ☆

"When they talk of hatred, let us stand up and talk against it. When they talk of violence, let us stand up and talk against it."

President Clinton

#### Condolences Sent From Tel Aviv

Laura Choate reported receiving a message from the Tel Aviv lesbian community expressing their concern for the bombing that took place in OKC on April 19th. Laura had worked with some of these women in 1985 in Israel on a government project.

Having experienced first-hand the terror and destruction that a bombing can wreck upon the lives of those affected, they wish to convey their understanding for the emotions Oklahoma citizens are going through now.

The women especially want to send their love and support to the women of Oklahoma. ❖

"For every dark night there is a brighter day."

Anonymous

### **GAY MAY DAY**

Pride Network, Inc. is sponsoring the annual community festival of entertainment, crafts, merchandise, gifts, and information on Saturday, May 6. Activities will take place from 1 P.M. to 6 P.M. on May 6 in the parking lot just west of the Habana Inn, 2200 N.W. 39th Street, OKC.

Popular entertainer, Deb Roberts will coordinate the afternoon's entertainment which will include performances by Oklahoma's newly formed gay/lesbian ban, *The Banned*. &

#### STATEWIDE TOWN MEETING ON GAY/LESBIAN ISSUES

A town meeting to set goals and plan strategies on issues affecting lesbians, gay, transgenders, and bisexuals in the state of Oklahoma is set for Saturday, May 6 from 10 A.M. to NOON at Testing the Limits, 2136 N.W. 39th Street in Oklahoma City.

A number of issues are on the agenda. First is to reduce the list of goals from previous meetings to just ten. They will be further distilled to five goals or strategies and action groups will be formed to plan, brainstorm and strategize what it will take to bring these five goals into reality in Oklahoma.

More information is available from Paul Thompson at 405-524-2131. ☆



# BREAKFAST WITH THE BOARD

Come share your ideas for Herland; learn more about Herland and give feedback to the women on the Herland Board. We'll gather at 9 A.M. on Sunday at the retreat over breakfast in the dining hall. This is your opportunity to tell us what you think!



NWSA '95 CONFERENCE - Women's Movements: Cultural, Intellectual and Political (R)evolutions to be held June 21-25, 1995 at the University of Oklahoma Norman Campus. Questions? Call 405-325-0138 for more information. ☆

# RETREAT ODDS & ENDS

If you haven't made plans to attend Herland's 1995 Annual Spring Retreat at Roman Nose State Park May 19, 20, and 21 it's not too late to do so! Registrations are still being accepted and on-site registration is available as well.

You say you can't afford the time to spend the entire weekend at the retreat because of your schedule? No worries! Consider driving up for the Saturday night concert only and revel in the music of Cuchla, Marca Cassity, Freefall, and Donna D. Tickets to the concert only are \$10.

We have several activities planned at this years spring retreat to entertain and amuse you. **Workshops** include a presentation on the natural history of Roman Nose State Park as well as the musical, rhythmical, hands-on experience workshop that seems to be a favorite among retreat goers.

For you athletic and semi-athletic enthusiasts we will be having **competition events** on Saturday so train hard and bring your gear!

As a reminder, we will not be providing a Friday evening meal as we have in the past. Instead, we are encouraging you to bring something to **cookout over our open campfire**. Saturday and Sunday morning breakfast/brunch will be provided as usual and it is up to your creativeness to muster something up for the pot-luck dinner Saturday night.

**Peggy Johnson** of course will be on hand to delight us with her wonderful music around the campfire along with others, which is not something you're going to want to miss. It has become one of the most enjoyable activities of the entire retreat experience!

If that's not enough entertainment for you, don't forget the area offers horseback riding, hiking, fishing, golf, paddle boats, canoes and who knows what else!

If you are free Friday, May 19 around 1:00 P.M. please stop by Herland's and help us with the task of loading things up for the retreat.

#### See you there!

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by Jill Garner

#### The Cox Family - May 19th

For those of you who aren't going to the Herland retreat or who are waiting until Saturday, here's a concert that you might want to know about. The Cox Family will be here on Friday, May 19th at the OK Country and Western Museum at 3925 S.E. 29th in Del City. While they are a Blue Door concert, the location will be at the museum. So if you're here and you love beautiful voices, great harmony, and have any interest whatsoever in bluegrass and/or gospel, this will be a show not to miss. The Cox Family most recently won a Grammy award for their album with Alison Krauss, I Know Who Holds Tomorrow. It's a bluegrass gospel collaboration filled with the wonderful voices and music of this talented family, along with Krauss and her band Union Station. The show starts at 8 p.m. and tickets are \$15. Call 525-7472 for more details.

I recently caught a couple of great shows at the Blue Door. Pete and Maura Kennedy, formerly of Nanci Griffith's Blue Moon Orchestra, returned for another night of great music. Maura is the voice of the duo, although they harmonize wonderfully together, and Pete is a wizard on the acoustic guitar. He has at least one album of his guitar music on CD, Shearwater, but he's also a showman and it's a blast to watch the way he plays his guitar. Pete and Maura recently released an album together, River of Fallen Stars, on Green Linnet Records or if you love acoustic guitar, check out Pete's album.

I also heard Ann Hills play at the Blue Door. I had never heard her but I took a chance. I'm really glad I did because she held the audience captive with her gorgeous voice and moving songs. Her albums can be found in the Ladyslipper catalogue. She also had her friend, Ilene Weiss, who has some albums of her own, with her and she performed alone as well as with Ann, and kept us all laughing with her hilarious stories.

For those of you who missed the Carla Sciaky concert at the City Arts Center, too bad, because she put on a great show. She's a very talented songwriter and has a beautiful soft, high voice that is mesmerizing, and she's funny on top of all that. One special treat of the show was Freefall, who opened the show on their own, and helped close it by singing a few songs with Carla. Freefall consists of Ginger McGovern, Rhonda and Tamara Smith, and Louise Goldberg. They get better every time I hear them, and they certainly deserved their standing ovation. Carla's latest album is **Awakening** and consists of the hilarious *Insomnia Blues*, as well as the very touching *Is This Water* and I highly recommend it!

Besides the Cox Family, watch the Gazette for upcoming shows at the Blue Door. As Greg wrote in the Blue Door newsletter, the singers he brings in are played on radio stations that we don't get here, so we just have to trust his taste and

take a chance on hearing some of the best singer/songwriters around, right here in Oklahoma City. You don't have to spend a fortune, there's no such thing as the nosebleed section, you can take your own cooler, buy new music, and talk to the performers. Sounds like heaven to me. &

Thanks to generous donations, Herland now has an **operating burgular alarm**. We appreciate all of you who continue to give financial support and your voluntary services to help us continue working for the community.



# **BOOKS**

### CLEARANCE SALE CONTINUES THIS MONTH!

10 - 40%

WILL BE MARKED OFF SELECTED BOOKS.

Herland has many books that will be marked down to this special clearance price as well as a variety of used books that we offer for sale also.

# WE RECENTLY ORDERED MANY NEW BOOKS TO HAVE ON HAND AT THE 1995 ANNUAL SPRING RETREAT!

If you are unable to make it to the retreat the remaining books will be for sale at Herland during normal business hours.

DON'T FORGET OUR LENDING LIBRARY!

### SPRING RETREAT TO FEATURE OKLAHOMA TALENT

An evening with some of Oklahoma's finest women musicians will be the entertainment highlight for this years spring retreat. You've all had the opportunity to hear these women, no doubt, at various fund raising events in Oklahoma City. They are always available and willing to lend their talents for the good of our community which we deeply appreciate. If you have never had such an opportunity to hear them, then you are in for a treat! Make plans now to attend this retreat and delight in the music of:

CUCHIA

MARCA CASSITY

FREEFALL

DONNA D.

The Spring Retreat will be held at Roman Nose State Park the weekend of May 19-21. Unlike past retreats, we will not be offering a Friday evening meal so you will need to pickup something to eat or bring something to cook over an open fire. We are still in need of workshop presenters so if you would like to participate please contact Herland with your idea.

### **HSR RETREAT REGISTRATION**

MAY 19 - 21

ROMAN NOSE STATE PARK

Single Person's annual income	Pre-registration per person	Household Annual income		
under \$6,500	\$15	under \$13,300		
\$6,500 - \$13,250	\$25	\$13,300 - \$18,000		
\$13,250 - \$19,500	\$35	\$18,000 - \$26,000		
\$19,500 - \$30,000	\$45	\$26,000 - \$50,000		
over \$30,000	\$60	over \$50,000		

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-regristration is May 17, 1995. Registration is non-refundable after May 18.

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

Name		Phone				
Address						
City	State _			Zip		
Make checks payable to Herland. Registration fee enclI need a scholarship to attendI'm oI'm bringing children. (Girls of all ages arI would like to ride with someoneI can	enclosing nd boys u	an additional \$ nder 10 are welcom	_to provide re	etreat schola		

Upon receipt of your paid registration Herland will mail you directions to Roman Nose State Park as well as a list of suggested items you may wish to bring. Horseback riding facilities and a fishing lake are located nearby.













# **Dykes To Watch Out For**





WE HAFTA FINALIZE THAT THING TONIGHT. TOMORROW'S ITAT MY LAST DAY TEMPING AT THE LAW FIRM AND I DON'T KNOW WORK! WHERE ELSE I CAN SCAM FREE COPIES.



## **Dykes To Watch Out For**

RAFAEL!



©1995 BY ALISON BECHDEL

MAMA HASN' SEEN YOU DAYS

I WAS JUST PUTTING HIM TO BED. I

THOUGHT HE'D NAP AT MADWIMMIN WHILE

I DID THE PAYROLL, BUT LOIS GOT HIM TOO

WORKED UP. THEN LATER, GLORIA

BROUGHT STELLA OVER TO PLAY.

HE CAN'T GO TO BED! IT'S ONLY SEVEN! I LEFT A TON OF WORK UNFINISHED JUST SO I'D GET TO SPEND SOME TIME WITH HIM!

TOO BAD. YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO WASTE YOUR EVENING SPENDING TIME WITH ME.





I SHOULD REALLY

BE GETTING TO WORK

ON THAT, UM ... BOOK

REVIEW.























DID I TELL YOU WHAT A MESS





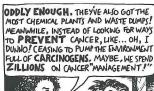
















WHY? BECAUSE ALL

THE CHEMICAL AND



HELLO?...HI, MO. WHAT'S UP?... WHAT? MADNIMMIN'S RENT CHECK BOUNCED? BUT THERE







## CONTRIBUTORS

In Honor of Dale Smithson 10/27/63 - 8/28/94



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heritage Plaza 1961 W. Linosey Norman, OK 73069 Rebecca R. Cohn, Ph.D. Clinical Psychology

Norman, OK 321-2148 individual, Couples & Family Therapy



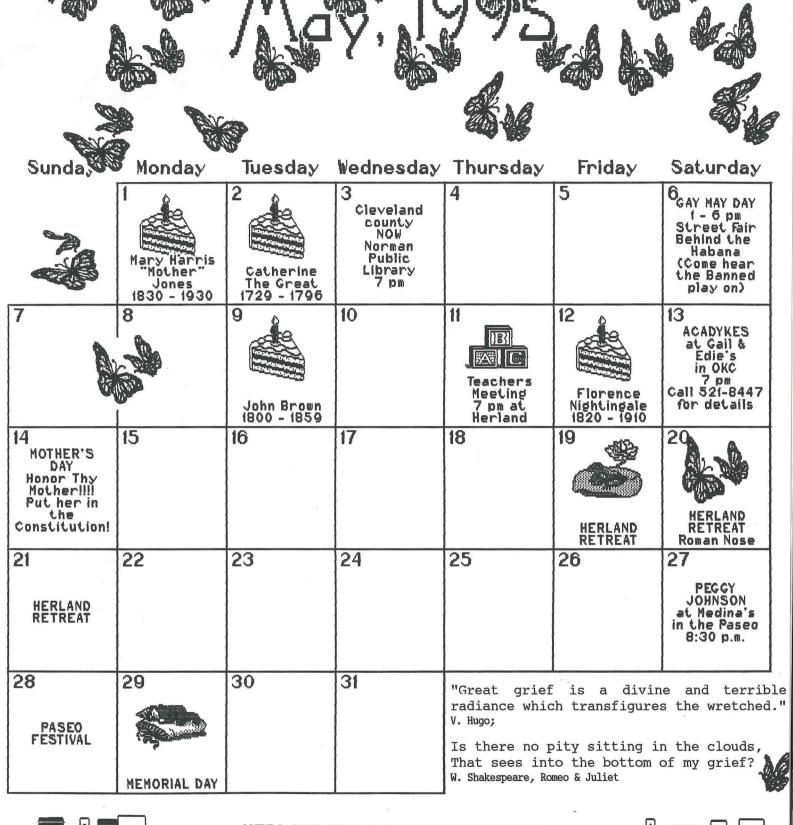
**LESBIAN-ONLY COUNSELING** - group or individual counseling. For more information contact Jo L. Soske M.E.D./M.H.R./I.CA.D./L.P.C. at 321-0134.

21st ANNUAL FEMINIST WOMEN'S WRITING WORKSHOPS, INC - July 9 - July 16, 1995 - Join a community of established, emerging and novice women writers for eight days in a serene, supportive atmosphere on the shore of beautiful Seneca Lake in New York's Finger Lakes Region. Share a residence (private rooms) on the campus of Hobart/William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY. Choose from workshops on a variety of topics, evening readings, talks and critiques as well as enjoying time for solitude and individual writing. Our Guest Writer will be Ruth Stone, author of numerous books including *In an Iridescent Time, Topography, Cheap, Second Hand Coat, Who is the Widow's Mus?* and the forthcoming *Simplicity* (Paris Press, Spring 1995). For more information, send a SASE t: Feminist Women's Writing Workshops, Inc., P.O. Box 6583, Ithaca, NY 14851.

Poetry/Short Story Contest - \$100.00 prize and publication in each category. Stories 1,500 word maximum. Authors retain copyrights. Enclose \$5.00 reading fee for each entry. Any topic relating to women. Deadline: July 31, 1995. Send a SASE for winner list. Southern Women's Words Quarterly. Attn: Diane Tait, Box 32294, Raleigh, NC 27622. QUALIFIED NON-WINNERS WILL ALSO BE PUBLISHED.

**WANTED:** works from Black lesbians for anthology of coming out stories. Your story could be in the form of journal entries, autobiographical fiction, poetry or whatever way the words came together to describe your coming out. Even if you don't think you're a writer, your story is important. Send submissions to: Lisa Moore, P.O. Box 861, Decatur, GA 30031. Deadline: June 30, 1995.

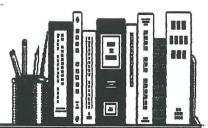
GLPCI'95 - 16th Annual Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International Conference will be held June 30-July 3, 1995, at the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). The conference, composed of three related sub-conferences for parents, young adults and children, will consist of more than 20 in-depth workshops and panels covering a wide selection of topics important to gay and lesbian parents and their families. For more information about the 16th Annual Conference, including details on conference fees and accommodations, write to: GLPCI'95, 7985 Santa Monica Blvd., Box 109-346, West Hollywood, CA 90046 USA.





HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC. 2312 N.W. 39th Street Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112 405/521-9696

Hours: Saturdays 10 - 5, Sundays 1 - 5





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