HERLAND VOICE

June, 1995

Reflections on Idio-radio

by Margaret Cox

Darn, I've got this nagging moral dilemma, and I want to share it with you. I've been surfing the right-wing radio shows, God knows why, - penance, I think, for past misdeeds - for some time now. Yes, since before April 19. Sometime after the 19th, I happened to be visiting my younger brother, who is painfully aware and thoughtful and sometimes annoyingly consistent in his reasoning; and I remarked that I thought G. Gordon Liddy should be arrested for treason and as an accessory before the fact of the bombing; and my brother replied, "But Sis, then shouldn't they have arrested us for treason in the 60's and 70's?"

His answer stopped me short at the time, but upon reflection I cannot remember that I once, not even in my staunchest support for the Black Panthers, recommended shooting government agents anywhere, let alone in the head or groin; and much as I disagreed with LBJ for his Vietnam war, I respected him for his Civil Rights programs, and I would never have named my targets in assault-weapon practice Lyndon and Lady Bird hell, I wouldn't have even named them Ron and Nancy, and I can't think of one thing I liked about those two.

Soon after visiting that brother, I was chatting with my older brother, who is a sweet, kind, gentle, easy-going haven'tgot-a-clue-about-real-life kind of guy, and a big fan of the AM talk shows. He agreed with our other brother that there was nothing treasonous about Mr. Liddy; and since this is the first time they have ever agreed on anything - coming of age, as they did, on opposite ends of the Vietnam war - I suppose they are right.

But really I think it means they are both wrong. When President Clinton was questioned about who he was referring to in his remarks about the need for talk radio to tone down the rhetoric, I wish that he had just said "If the shoe fits..." and refused further comment. I think that Rush Limbaugh, G. Gordon Liddy and Oliver North are totally irresponsible and wrong, and that they skirt treason, if they don't sometimes actually embrace it.

Which brings me back to my moral dilemma. I was listening to Oliver North yesterday (and so far he seems to be much the least offensive of the Big 3, believe it or not), and he suddenly told us, his (dis)loyal listeners, in a tone not to be disobeyed, "I want you to send off for this video tape NOW. Call 1-800-330-4046..." Now friends, you won't be surprised to hear that I immediately wondered how much each individual call to that number would cost him, a dollar or more, I imagine; and my mind instantly began to dream of mass, continuous dialings to that number to tell him, Well no, Ollie, I don't

Oh dear, it was a fun thought for a moment, and then into my mind popped the image of a Gay hotline being sabotaged in that way, and there you are: a major dilemma. It might be one of those unanswerable questions, like, should women carry guns? I could argue for days on both sides of that one too.... Anyhow, now you know, and you can worry about it yourself. ☆

CELEBRATE LESBIAN/GAY PRIDE WITH HERLAND Join the Herland contingent in the 1995 Pride Parade on Sunday, June 25. We will be gathering at 3:30 for the march. Look for the Herland banner at Memorial Park. We'll save a place for you!



BARS BENEFIT PARADE

Fundraisers for the Pride Parade will be held in June at the following places:

- - The **PORTHOLE** on June 9, with RAZ as the M.C.
- The **BUNKHOUSE** on June 10.
- The NEON MOON on June 10.

These events will offer you a wonderful evening of entertainment, so please turn out to help support these businesses and PNI's efforts to organize the best and biggest parade ever!

(see the VOICE calendar for all Pride Month activities.)

ST. SYBIL

St. Sybil, Unsung Heroine of the American Revolution and Matron Saint of the Forgotten Woman, is an occasional contributor to this space.

Dear St. Sybil,

Well, I'm sorry, but I just don't get it. Just what, can you tell me, is wrong about calling ladies - uh, women - "ladies"? Now, I can see that the pairing of "men" and "girls" maybe sends a subtly demeaning message, but why does it hurt to use the more elegant, softer term "lady", instead of "woman", which is kind of harsh, you know?

Very truly yours, Ivanna Bea Goode

Dear Lady Bea Goode,

Well, my dear. If, as you say, "lady" is less harsh than "woman", then you are using "lady" as a euphemism for "woman"; and as only things with a bad or unpleasant connotation need euphemisms, let's look at why people feel this way about women - about, alas, thee and me.

Woman is often seen as either higher than men, or lower - the famous "madonna/whore" syndrome; and neither placement does her a bit of good. "Ladies" is an euphemism to make clear that one is not referring to the bitch/whore side of the syndrome. Consider the transition over the years from Gravedigger to Undertaker to Mortician to Grief Counselor; these are all attempts to take a term which has an unpleasant connotation - death - and to remove that taint. Think of Stewardess to Flight Attendant, to remove the taint of service and the slight intimation of Bimbo. Think, for instance, of sweetbreads. How many elegant dinner tables do you think sweetbreads would continue to grace if the dish were called what it actually is, which is cow pancreas. Yes, it is. Then, ask yourself: what taint, what unpleasantness, does "woman" have that needs an upgrading, or softening? Of course, there is none, unless subconsciously we buy into the bitch/saint myth. "Ladies" indicates that we are referring not to the bitch but to the pure, the good, the holy, to the Madonna side of the syndrome. But that puts a woman right up on top of a pedestal, and being on a pedestal is a dangerous and very constricted place to be.

Traditionally, the term "lady" defines a woman by her actions and demeanor, just as writer, politician, humorist, homemaker, doctor, nurse, define her by her vocation; just as "gentleman" defines a man by his behavior. (Except, of course, that the "upper" classes don't consider any woman who is not "well-born" to be a lady, no matter how lady-like she strives to be; and it is impossible to totally separate out that snobbishness from the word: another reason not to like it or use it.

And further: "Lady" is, of course, a common name for a sweet, gentle, docile pet; and I just don't know many of us who really want to be considered that way anymore, if anyone ever did.

Woman is fully human, a being with infinite potential, just like the guys. In this century, in this country, "Lady" and "Gentleman" should be restricted to use as harmless frills, as pleasantries, as complimentary embellishments in social situations.

The handy-dandy, easy to remember, never-fail rule is: Keep a horizontal equity. "Lady" is fine and appropriate when "Gentleman" would be used for the other sex: Ladies & Gentlemen, Women & Men, Boys and Girls. "Ladies & Gentlemen, start your engines". "Both men and women are invited to try out for the javelin-catching contest"; "You boys (girls) have had a snootful, so I'm calling a cab for you right now. Gimme those keys".

And if you still don't get it, picture Helen Reddy up on stage, ready for the big finale, slinky dress flashing in the spotlight: she squares off, stares the audience in the eye, raises her arms up to heaven, and belts it out: I AM LADY.....

Too Much Animal Protein?

Scientists have known for decades that protein, in particular animal protein, speeds up the loss of calcium from the bones. Good Medicine, Autumn 1994, explains the theory behind this loss. Animal protein produces an acid condition in the blood, which sets off a series of reactions that help to neutralize the acid. In the process of these reactions, calcium is released from the bone.

A study at the Institute of Child Nutrition in Dormund, Germany, examined this relationship. It found that when people switched from an acti-ovo-vegetarian diet to one that included moderate amounts of animal protein, acid levels went up; so did calcium loss. The effects were even more pronounced in a high-protein diet.

For strong bones, avoid meat.

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Methotrexate: An Already Legal Abortion Pill

A recent article in the <u>Concord Monitor</u> describes Dr. Richard Hausknecht, a doctor from New York City, who considers himself a rebel. Back in the 60's, when he was a gynecology resident at Yale, he handed out diaphragms in defiance of a state ban on contraceptives that was later struck down.

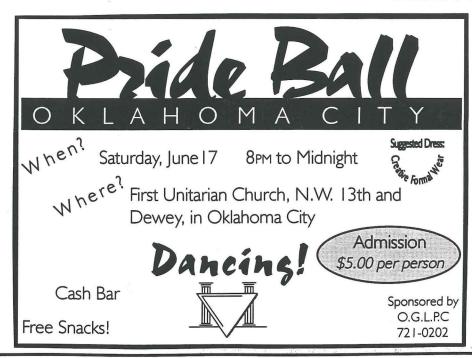
Distressed by delays in marketing RU-486, the French abortion pill, Dr. Hausknecht mixes legal drugs to mimic the effect of the yet unapproved abortion pill. His ringing phone is unrelenting. Doctors and patients around the nation have heard he performs drug-induced abortions and many want more information. One drug Hausknecht uses, methotrexate, is a tissue-growth inhibitor that is used to treat cancer, and can end some ectopic pregnancies. The other is misoprostol, an ulcer treatment, which also stimulates labor.

Researchers have been trying to determine whether the two drugs used together to induce abortion are safe and effective. In the meantime their use in a non-research setting falls into a gray area. The Food and Drug Administration allows a doctor to prescribe a drug for an unorthodox use in unusual circumstance. But is that drug being used on a large number of patients, or when data is being gathered regarding that use, research has been undertaken. Dr. Hausknecht has applied for FDA research status, although he insists his technique is not research, but innovative medicare care.

Studies are underway currently, however, and early results show the drug combination to be safe and more than 90 percent effective.

Pamela Maraldo, president of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America says, "He is a trailblazer with women's interest at heart, but we have to have clinical trials."

Reprinted from WomenWise, Winter/Spring 1995



Women's Studies 16th Annual Conference

At its sixteenth annual conference, "Women's Movements: Cultural, Intellectual and Political (R)evolutions" to be held at the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma, June 21-25, 1995, the National Women's Studies Association will consider women's relationships to (r)evolutionary change historically and globally, in women's studies and the women's movements, and in our organizations.

Among the many questions the conference will address through its workshops, panels and plenaries will be: How have women participated in the political, social, cultural and intellectual revolutions of the past and present? How have women shaped these revolutions or been excluded from them? How have women themselves organized for change, creating movements to struggle for political and economic justice? How have women participated in and helped to define other movements for change: the civil rights movements; the union movement; the gay and lesbian rights movement; the peace movement; the environmental movement? How have women's lives been shaped by change as they have moved or been removed from their land and homes as refugees from hunger, violence or political or religious persecution; moved around the globe as immigrants; moved into cities as workers in the industrial and technological revolutions of the nineteenth and twentieth century or as domestic workers in South Africa or textile and electronics workers in the Free Trade Zones of Southeast Asia; moved to travel the world?

Especially in the past 20 years, women inside and outside of the academy around the globe have challenged the fundamental conceptualizations of gender, race, class and sexuality, the epistemological and methodological bases of disciplines, the social and cultural arrangements of societies; the definitions of canon and quality in art, music, literature, dance,

and theater; the systems of representation in media, film, and other popular forms. How have our challenges provoked reaction, retaliation and backlash? Have we created and are we creating new orders and understandings?

Wilma Mankiller, the first woman principal chief of the Cherokee Nation, opens this conference that features more than 200 panels and workshops, a writers series, continuous film and video series, evening entertainment featuring Margie Adam, Mary Reynolds, Miss Brown to You, Odetta, Karen Williams and Revue f of Oklahoma (see related article), and a book exhibit. The opening night program includes a keynote dialogue between feminist theorist, bell hooks, and feminist scholar and Women's Studies program director at Spelman College, Beverly Guy-Sheftall.

If you have questions about housing, food, and local arrangements phone the OU Women's Studies Program at 405-325-0138.☆

JUNE 25 = PRIDE PARADE

The eighth annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade and Rally will be held on Sunday, June 25. "From silence to celebration" is the theme of this year's parade which will feature floats and marching contingents and the first parade appearance of "The Banned of Oklahoma", our own marching band.

The Celebration will begin at 12:30 with an ecumenical service in Memorial Park at NW 36th and Classen. Kathy McCallis, minister of Epworth Methodist Church and Moderator of the Clergy Coalition for Human Rights will close the service and begin the 2:00 Rally which features keynote speakers and entertainment including comedian Karen Williams, State Senators Angela Monson and Bernest Cain, and singer/activist Peggy Johnson.

Floats and marching groups will be judged during the parade, with a trophy being awarded in each of those two categories. Oklahoma City Police officers have been hired to provide security and to detour traffic approaching the parade route. Participants in the parade will line up on the west side of Memorial Park at 3:30 and begin the mile-long march at 4:00. All attending or involved in the Rally and Parade are encouraged to park at the end of the Parade route-Habana Inn at NW 39th Expressway--and ride the free shuttle bus to the park area.

This annual event is organized and funded by PNI (Pride Network, Inc.), which raises money through parade entry fees, Pride shirt sales, and fundraisers. If you haven't bought your 1995 Pride T-shirt, sweat shirt or tank top, telephone 794-3035 or 942-6250 to find the sales point closest to you.

(see the accompanying map for the Parade route)

PARADE ROUTE NW 42nd St. NW 39th St. NW 36th St. Memorial Park

Great Entertainment Coming to Oklahoma...

Get ready, there is fabulous entertainment on its way to Oklahoma in June. The National Women's Studies Association Conference is being held this summer in Norman; and in addition to inspiring speakers and workshops, the following performers will be delighting audiences on June 22 - 24, 1995:

June 22, widely respected songwriter Emily Kaitz and Oklahoma's own Mary Reynolds will be the opening act for comedian Karen Williams. It will be wonderful to have Mary back in Oklahoma, and Karen Williams is no stranger to us either. Herland has been instrumental in bringing Karen to Oklahoma twice before, and those of you lucky enough to have caught her act know how lucky we are to have her return. She is one of the country's leading stand-up comics and emcees. Known as the Diva of Comedy and the Queen of Improv, Karen Williams is the funniest and best-known feminist comic entertainer on today's comedy scene. Her reviewers find her "charming, likeable, warm, sexy, and irreverent". Karen is a frequent comic host on the Olivia Records cruises, entertaining fan-filled audiences during excursions to the Caribbean, Mexico, Greece and Alaska.

June 23 is an exciting double-bill, with the famed Margie Adam performing first. Since the mid-seventies, she has been known to feminist and progressive audiences as a singersongwriter of elegant love songs and inspiring songs of conscience. She also established herself as a composer-instrumentalist in 1980 when she released a ground-breaking solo piano recording. Margie's trademark orchestral style is intensely polyrhythmic, chordally complex and melodically clear as a bell, and concert audiences find her command and delicacy at the piano compelling. Her playing has a vibrancy and drama that draws from Broadway musicals, as well as a hypnotic sensuality that is gently influenced by Brazilian rhythms. One hears whispers of Gershwin, Ravel, Rachmaninoff and Jobim.

On the same bill with Margie is the fabulous Odetta; from Alabama to Zimbabwe, from Carnegie Hall to Shea Stadium, from the Montreux Jazz Festival to "A Prairie Home Companion", Odetta has captivated music lovers in many lands and from all facets of the music world. "Odetta should be declared an American treasure, for she surely is one...her voice is a miracle!" A woman of wide-ranging political and musical interests, Odetta has recreated Bessie Smith on stage in a Chicago musical; she sings frequently with such blues bands as the New Black Eagle Jazz Band in Boston and Jacob's Pillow; and has collaborated with other such major folk stars as Pete Seeger, Joan Baez, Buffy St. Marie, and Richie Havens. According to the New York Times, she has "the most glorious voice in American folk music."

Saturday, June 24, the opening act will be the professional debut of fOklahoma, a Regional Revue, a fast-paced upbeat showcase of musical talent; from down-home country to fiercely feminist a Capella and everything in between. Performers and groups include Free Fall, Full Circle, The Vested Interest, Peggy Johnson, Donna D, and others!

Following fOklahoma's performance, ticket-holders will dance the night away to the wonderful music of MISS BROWN TO YOU. Miss Brown To You is a (continued on page 6)



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.

THE NINTH ANNUAL GOLDEN THREADS CELEBRATION will take place June 23-25 at the Provincetown Inn in Provincetown, Massachusetts. This is a celebration of older lesbians, featuring a banquet, dancing, and entertainment by Alix Dobkin. All lesbians are welcome. Write Christine Burton, Golden Threads, P.O. Box 60475, Northampton, MA 01060.

THE FIRST CONFERENCE ON HIV/AIDS AND CHINESE MEDICINE will be held June 15-18 on the campus of Columbia University in New York City. For more information call 415-282-4028.

CALL FOR ART: <u>WomenWise</u> is actively soliciting artwork for future issues. They are particularly interested in black and white line drawings of subjects pertaining to women, border art, and marginalia. Compensation is mostly karmic, although they are able to offer a small amount for cover art; all artists receive a one-year subscription and five portfolio copies of the issue in which their work appears. Write to <u>WomenWise</u>, c/o Concord Feminist Health Center, 38 South Main Street, Concord, NH 03301.

TAKING OUR PLACE: GAY AND LESBIAN JEWS IN THE 21ST CENTURY - 14th International Conference of Gay and Lesbian Jews will take place July 27-30, 1995 in New York City. Call New York's Gay and Lesbian Synagogue (212)929-9498 for registration and program information.

WRITERS / AUTHORS! Be part of a new ongoing anthology, Lesbian Short Fiction. Premiering in Spring of 1996. LSF will accept short stories with significant lesbian content in most genres. Send SASE NOW for guidelines to: Jinx Beers, Editor Lesbian Short Fiction 6507 Franzivers Avenue West Hills, CA 91307.

EIGHTH ANNUAL CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE TRAVELS TO THE MOTOR CITY Creating Change, the preeminent national gathering of gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender activists, will be hosted this year in Detroit, Michigan, November 8 through 12. All conference events during this eighth annual conference sponsored by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) will be held at The Westin Hotel, Renaissance Center in downtown Detroit. For more information or to receive a Creating Change 1995 registration brochure, call 202-332-6483, ext. 3329. To reserve a room at The Westin Hotel, Renaissance Center, call 800-228-3000; mention "National Gay & Lesbian Task Force" to get the special conference room rates of \$80/single & double; \$90/triple & quad.

GRANDMOTHER SPEAKS! A series of bioregional walks/pilgrimages for wise old women to share wisdom, experience, contacts, perspectives. This is in the planning stages for 1996./97. If you've been secretly waiting for an opportunity like this - Let's Do It! "Grandmother Speaks" is a series of walks, perhaps concurrently, perhaps sequentially, being planned in different ecological areas of what's commonly called Canada, the U.S. and Mexico. This is an opportunity for all Grandmothers, red, black, white and yellow, to reflect among ourselves, alone and together, and share these perspectives with a world hungry for wisdom. Women of all ages are welcome to do support work, however, only elders may walk. For more information write to: "Grandmother Speaks" P.O. Box 8191 Silver Spring, MD 20907.

CONTRIBUTORS



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Great Entertainment....(cont'd)

group equally at home in jazz, rhythm and blues, and rock n roll. They are Terri Hoersh on Bass, Elyse Angelo, percussion; Louise Goldberg on keyboard, and Mary Reynolds, vocalist, guitar and saxophone. They are world-class musicians and sublime to dance to.

If you would like further information about the NWSA '95 Conference please call the University of Oklahoma Women's Studies Department at (405)325-0138.☆

Oklahoma Pride Summit Planning Meeting

The Oklahoma Pride Summit will have it's next planning meeting on Saturday, June 10, 1995 from 11:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. at the Stroud McDonalds on I-44. The planning group is reconvening after an unfortunately long hiatus.

The Summit theme is "Raising the Roof - Building Our Community". The top agenda items for the meeting includes: 1) Establishing a framework for the planning and 2) Selection of a date for the next Summit.

The organizers intend for the Summit to become the premier statewide gathering in Oklahoma and we encourage wide participation in the planning process. The Summit planning meetings provide a unique forum for statewide networking. For more information, call 321-7085.☆



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Race II

Church bombings, exploding myths the puritan fathers are fading now. Dr. Death and Dr. Life struggle into nowhere The doctors are ill stuck between heaven and hell.

The children in the meadow are laughing and playing, they don't know of the gray doom of rape:
 of children of women of earth by the puritan fathers who are obsessed with death, who kill others because they want to kill themselves.

The children are innocent yet not cruel yet kind love yet hate the fathers of death.

Sarah Progress



JUNE 1995



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Cleveland County NOW Norman Public Library 7pm	PNI meets The Diner 7pm	8	9	OK Pride Summit planning Stroud McDonalds 11am-3pm
11	Peace House potluck 6:30 Pastors for Peace Caravan to Cuba sendoff 7:30pm 524-5577	0GLPC Oasis, 7pm	70ral History of Women and Nuclear Resistance in OK & TX" Leland Clegg 105 E. Hefner 7:30pm	15	16	Pride Ball 8pm - 12am NW 13 & Dewey
Herland Board Meeting 4:30pm	19	20	21 PNI meets The Diner 7pm Women's Studies Conference OV Campus	22 Women's Studies Conference OU Campus Emily Kaitz, Mary Mary Reynolds, Karen Williams	Women's Studies conference OU Campus Margie Adam, Odetta	24 Fomen's Stud. Conference OU Campus roklahoma: Free Fall, Full Circle, Peggy Johnson,
Pride Day Hemorial Park Ceremony Ipm Parade 4pm	26	27	28	Newsletter Party, 6:30p Herland	30	



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

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