

The HERLAND VOICE

August, 1998

FALL RETREAT



With 100 + degrees at 7 :00 PM, Fall seems a long way off but it's not too early to start planning for the Herland Fall Retreat. It's set for October 9-11 at Osage Hills State Park near Pawhuska. Mark the dates on your calendar now. Registration forms will be available in the September *Voice*.

Osage Hills State Park was the location for the first Herland Retreat. Several activities to celebrate retreat herstory are being planned. Start gathering your old retreat photos, retreat t-shirts, songs, poems, or stories written at or about retreats, or other retreat memorabilia, and bring them to share.



Other details are still being planned. If you'd like to lead a workshop or discussion group, please just leave a message at Herland or drop us a note. All kinds of workshops/discussions are welcomed. □



Elizabeth Cady Stanton (as played by Diane Trout Harwood) was the most distinguished guest at Herland's celebration of the 150 anniversary of the Seneca Falls Women's Rights Convention.

Celebrate Volunteers

Join us at Herland on August 15 at 4 P.M. to celebrate the birthday of Linda Stone, Herland's Volunteer Coordinator.

Linda has been an active participant in Herland from our earliest days and certainly epitomizes the spirit of volunteerism that keeps Herland going.

Come, have a piece of birthday cake, wish Linda a happy birthday and maybe even sign up for a volunteer shift at Herland! □

WOMEN'S BOLD JOURNEYS

Maya Angelou will be the keynote speaker for *Women's Bold Journeys, From Weavings to Websites* on October 17 at St. Luke's Methodist Church in Oklahoma City.

Women's Bold Journeys is a women's fair with the mission "to give visibility to women's perspectives and actions in the work and struggle for justice, peace, and the integrity of creation." Nearly 60 workshops and panel discussions, with topics ranging from "Building Bridges among Oklahoma's Cultures" and "Adjusting to Motherhood," to "Fundamentals of Investing" and "Creative Spirituality". Several workshops will be geared to teenagers.

The conference is a collaborative effort of nearly forty community-based and faith-based organizations. It follows a ten-year study on women's issues by a task force of the Oklahoma Conference of Churches.

Early registration is strongly encouraged. The registration fee (which includes lunch) is only \$35 until August 15. Scholarships are available. For registration and scholarship information call 405-525-2928. □

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment granting women the right to vote was certified as part of the U.S. Constitution. It states, "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The U.S. Congress designated August 26 as "Women's Equality Day" in 1971 to honor women's continuing efforts toward equality. □

IN REVIEW

by Jill Garner

Before I get on to music, I need to just rant and rave for a minute. Once I finish that, then I'll tell you about some good music to help get you in a good mood again.

The Alabama Supreme Court ruled recently that a lesbian mother is unfit to have custody of her child. Furthermore, she can't have visitation with her child when her partner is present.

Okay, what's new about that you ask? Besides the horrible fact that this is the highest court in Alabama that committed this travesty, that's not even the scariest part. They also said that the father did not have to prove the children were being harmed in any way, which is usual in change of custody cases, but only had to show that the change of custody would be "in the best interest of the children." Wow. Does that open up the door to abuse or what? Any kind of accusation of lesbianism, abuse, or whatever else someone can think of, doesn't even have to be proven, and you too could rip custody away from your ex-spouse.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights is discouraging the couple from appealing to the US Supreme Court immediately, for fear a loss there would be devastating to gay parents across the country, not just to those unfortunate enough to be living in Alabama. It's hard to say what the right thing to do is, especially if you're the couple that lost your child. But I'll be watching for more news about this case.

Okay, now that I got that out my system momentarily, have you heard the new Dixie Chicks CD, *Wide Open Spaces*? I've been impressed with it, and it's become one of my favorite morning drive to work CDs to listen to. This Dallas-based trio is talented, beautiful, and their music is a lot of fun. With Natalie Maines on lead vocals, Emily Erwin on dobro, banjo and acoustic guitar, and Martie Seidel on fiddle and mandolin, they have a very lively sound and some beautiful harmonies that give me goose bumps. They incorporate a lot of traditional country sounds into their music with some bluegrass and pop and this first major label release by this group is a good one.

Two of their songs, the spunky "I Can Love You Better Than That" and the very catchy pop country song "There's Your Trouble" are both being played a lot on country music radio. There are a lot of good songs on this release. The title-track was penned by Susan Gibson, an Amarillo musician I heard one night at the Blue Door with her band the Groobies. The harmony on the much-remade song "Loving Arms" is beautiful, and the folk-rocker "Am I the Only One (Who's Ever Felt This Way)" written by Maria McKee is one of the best on the album. I especially like the gay-friendly lyrics of John David Souther's "I'll Take Care of You" (with gorgeous harmony I might add): "Let them talk about us, let them call

us funny things, People sometimes do, Oh I don't care as long, As you know I love you, Oh and you know I do." There are a few ballads, and the honky-tonk "Tonight the Heartache's on Me", the feisty "Let 'Er Rip", and Bonnie Raitt's bluesy "Give It Up or Let Me Go" help assure a lot of variety from this group. "I love being able to play a straight-ahead country tune and then rip into a bluegrass number, then a blues song," says Martie. "To me, that's what's fun about this group." My thoughts exactly.

Okay, so where were you the night of the Carrie Newcomer show at City Arts? She put on a great show and effortlessly filled the room with her deep, strong voice. She played with her band most of the show and then blessed us with a few songs by herself. Don't get me wrong. Her band is great and I thoroughly enjoyed every song they did. But until you've heard just Carrie Newcomer's voice accompanied only by her guitar, you haven't truly experienced her awesome talent. She's got a new CD out called *My True Name*, and you can find it just about anywhere, so check her out. Help support her so she can keep sharing her wonderful music. □

Attention Deaf Lesbians

There is a new survey on the WWW just for deaf lesbians. Part of a research project at the psychology department of Gallaudet University, the study is designed to find out more about the lives, attitudes and feelings of deaf lesbians because deaf lesbians are often overlooked. The survey is completely confidential and anonymous. To participate goto: <http://www.deaflesbian.ml.org>. □

Breast Cancer Survivors Call for Entries

If you are a black lesbian with breast cancer, *Women in the Life* wants to hear from you. Entries are being solicited for *Zora's Journal*, a 30-day journal of stories from black lesbians who have experienced life with breast cancer. Black lesbians who have a relative or loved one with breast cancer can also send in entries based on their experience with that person and the disease. Each entry should describe one day in the life of dealing directly or indirectly with breast cancer and should be no more than 400 words. The deadline for entries is Sept 1, 1998. Please call 202-483-9818, mail to 1611 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 2-B, Washington DC 20009 or email witl@usbol.com for more information. □

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The Voice is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address. Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym or anonymously.

Subscriptions to *The Voice* are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.

Herland Sister Resources

August, 1998

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 <small>MARIA MITCHELL (1818-1889) AMERICA'S FIRST WOMAN ASTRONOMER. FIRST WOMAN ELECTED TO AMERICAN ACADEMY OF ARTS AND SCIENC</small>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8 <small>ESTHER HOBART MORRIS (1814-?) SUFFRAGIST. ANTI-SLAVERY ACTIVIST. PERSUADED WYOMING TO ENACT LAW GRANTING WOMEN THE VOTE</small>
9	10	11	12	13 <small>LUCY STONE (1818-1893) FOUNDED AMERICAN WOMAN'S SUFFRAGE ASSN., ORGANIZED WOMEN'S RIGHTS CONVENTION.</small>	14	15 4:00 PM Celebrate Linda Stone's Birthday at Herland
16 4:30 PM HSR Board Mtg.	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 <small>NORAH ELLEN O'NEILL-1949- AIRLINE PILOT- FLYING TIGERS</small>	24	25 <small>ALTHEA GIBSON-1927- FIRST BLACK PLAYER TO WIN A MAJOR TENNIS CHAMPIONSHIP</small>	26 WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY -19TH AMENDMENT RATIFIED, 1920	27	28	29
30	31	<p>HERLAND IS OPEN EVERY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FROM 1 P.M. TO 5 P.M. COME IN TO BUY A BOOK OR TO CHECK OUT A BOOK (OR BOOKS) FROM THE LENDING LIBRARY OR JUST TO HANG OUT FOR A WHILE!</p>				

<p>Jeri M. Schaben Financial Counselor</p> <hr style="width: 30%; margin-left: auto; margin-right: 0;"/> <p style="text-align: right;">405.755.4916 miz@theshop.net</p>	<p>For Sale: 85 Honda Rebel 250; 4K actual miles, ga- raged/covered. Original everything, \$2500. 2 shoe shine stands, supplies, & equipment. Call Laura, 943-4070</p>
<p>405-528-1018 FAX 405-528-1035</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Peggy C. Johnson Attorney At Law</p> <p><small>Associated with Parr, Friend and Johnson</small></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><small>2200 Classen Blvd., Suite 650 Oklahoma City, OK 73106-5609</small></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please Be Our Guest</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">CHURCH OF THE OPEN ARMS Worship Sundays 1:30 p.m. 3901 N.W. 63rd</p> <p>Rev. Kathy McCallie (405) 524 - 6300 Pastor Openarmsok@aol.com</p>

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