

Herland VOICE

April 2002

Volume 20, Number 4

SPRING
RETREAT

MAY 17-19, 2002
At
Roman Nose State Park
Entertainment:
NANCY SCOTT
Games, workshops, sports,
R&R for body & soul
Register Today!

Increase the number and appeal of our activities in order to attract new, diverse attendees and bring them into active roles within the organization

Project an image of a fun, effective, socially-conscious, safe, energetic, and involved organization

Many thanks to Margaret, Beth, Joanna, and Linda for their input to the planning session. And our gratitude to Lydia for making what can be a difficult process, fun and enjoyable.

And now, we want to hear from you. Your input on the draft mission and goals helps us define a shared vision and coordinate programs to achieve that vision. Provide feedback by dropping us a note in the mail or email us at herlandsisters@home.com. Whatever method you choose ... we want to hear from you!

HERLAND GOALS RETREAT

The Herland Board (and several other interested parties) met with facilitator Lydia Gill-Polley on March 24, 2002 to develop organizational goals for the next three years. This strategic planning process links our present activities to a future vision and helps determine our priorities. It sets into motion actions that need to be taken today to assure that vision becomes a reality.

As part of the process, we identified our current challenges, revisited/updated our mission statement, established goals, and determined the objectives and strategies to help us meet those goals. The final step was to develop a feedback plan so that we can monitor our progress toward meeting these goals. Following is a summary of these items.

Challenges Identified:

- Decreasing financial resources
- Fewer board members
- Substantial building maintenance needs
- Lack of clear direction for the organization
- Need for a fresh, positive image in the community

Draft Mission Statement:

Herland Sister Resources, a lesbian/womanist organization, provides resources to strengthen, enrich, and support women and to promote a world free of prejudice, oppression, and exploitation.

Draft Goals:

- Expand the board by three members each year to increase our diversity and our expertise in the areas of fundraising, public relations/marketing, and building maintenance
- Be financially stable with enough annual income to support our program, maintain the building and build a savings account
- Improve the maintenance, appearance, and utilization of our building

HERLAND WOMEN OF COLOR CLUB

Herland's Women of Color group meets the second Sunday of every month. The next meeting will be April 14 at 4:00 p.m. at Jacqueline's house – it will be a Potluck. Call Jacqueline at 842-3464 or email her at jscottross_42@hotmail.com. for directions.

HERLAND BOOK CLUB

The Herland Book Club will meet on Saturday, April 20, at 5:00 p.m. at Herland. Our book for this month is *Animal Dreams* by Barbara Kingsolver. It is available from the public library as well as out in paperback.

Herland Supper Club and Speed Match

Saturday, April 13th, 5:30 pm
At Sala Thai, 1614 N.W. 23rd Street,
OKC

This month the Herland Supper Club will enjoy some great Thai food at Sala Thai in OKC. After dinner we will head over to Church of the Open Arms for an evening of fun and getting to know new friends (and possibly more) through Speed Match. OKC folks can meet at Herland at 5:15 pm or at the restaurant at 5:30 pm. Call Laura at 405/943-4070 or Ginger at 405/942-1535 for more details.

SAINT SYBIL

Dear "Saint" Sybil,

So okay, I've gotcha now, you bleeding heart. Tell me just what the difference is between the KKK picketing the Church of the Open Arms (what they call a "fagg support church") and Soul Force picketing the Village Baptist Church? I think all you activist types ought to just live and let live and leave people alone.

Yours truly,

Jess Abbott Hostel

Dear Jess.

Wow. Hostile indeed. But that is a very good question. In both cases there's a group of opinionated people making a nuisance of themselves outside someone else's house of worship. Not a hair's bit of difference, you say? Well, let's say we take a little look at - *intent*? In one case we have a gathering of peaceful souls supplicating for acceptance, inclusion and dialogue; on the other hand we have a gang of angry violent people decrying and deriding the picketed church.

Shall we look at the *history* of the two groups? They're not very similar. On the one hand a group of gays and lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered, and their friends, a non-violent gathering if ever there was one; on the other hand a group of people whose name conjures up images of nightriders, cross burnings, lynchings.

Shall we look at the *reaction* from the authorities to the two events? For the Soul Force vigils the police send, at most, *one* officer to keep an eye on things and maintain the peace. Sometimes they don't send anyone. When the Klan got its permit to demonstrate outside the Church of the Open Arms, the police put up a double row of barriers in the street, and sent *six dozen* police officers to keep the peace and protect the innocent.

Finally, let me mention the spiritual strength and *dedication* of the two groups. The temperature the day the Ku Klux Klan was scheduled to show up was 15 degrees, the roads icy. The number of Klan members who showed? Zero. The day of the last Soulforce vigil the temp was 7 degrees, the roads, icy. The number of vigilers? Thirty-eight. Love makes us strong. Hate withers us

At the Soul Force Vigil, the main activity, besides singing off-key and eating donuts, was shoveling ice so the churchgoers wouldn't fall; and escorting them across the slippery road. If the KKK had girded their impotent loins and shown up to demonstrate outside the Church of the Open Arms, what would their main activities have been? We don't know, thankfully. We do know it would not have been kind, or helpful, or peaceful.

So Jess, now that you see what a substantial difference there is between the two, we'll look forward to seeing you at the next Soul Force vigil on April 7.

Love, Sybil

Dear Sybil,

I was out in 7 degree weather last weekend, vigiling with SoulForce; watching the good folks going to and from church, maneuvering across the heavily iced sidewalks and streets. Now I don't want to sound scornful, intolerant, superior or god forbid *sensible*, but can you tell me why, oh why, women persist in wearing those killer high heels in the snow and ice? They are bad enough on dry land - *kill* their posture, *kill* their back, *kill* their feet, "catch-her *kill-her*" shoes; - but on the ice?!? Are they crazy?

Yours, Bee Fuddeld

Dear Bee,

Well, no, they're not crazy. They just are afraid that they'll be perceived as insufficiently feminine, or womanly, or attractive, or subservient, or willing to suffer fools gladly, if they wear safe, comfortable, reasonable shoes; and in the circles they operate in, they are often right. It is enough to make a saint cry. One day in the not-too-distant past - or future, I forget which - when all women play basketball, - that ridiculous footwear will be a thing of the past - or future, I forget which.

Love, Sybil

Check us out at
WWW.HERLANDSISTERS.ORG
News, photos, and great links

SPEED MATCH

Are you a woman who is newly out and would like to meet other women? Or, are you a woman who would like to add new friends into your life? Maybe you've been wishing to meet someone new who might become that someone special. Herland Sister Resources will be providing the opportunity for women to meet new women, Saturday, April 13, at the Church of the Open Arms.

Speed Match is similar to speed dating, if you've ever heard of that. Here's how it works. When each woman arrives, she will be given a number and given a rating sheet to use. Women will seat themselves in groups of three and take turns asking each other questions, such as: what do you do for fun, what's your favorite movie, what's your philosophy of life? Make up your own fun questions! Each woman will have two minutes to ask questions of one of the women, while the third woman listens. Then the first woman will ask the third woman. Then after two minutes, the next woman will ask questions of the other two women. It's an easy and fun way to get to know other women!

After all three women have taken turns, the moderator will ask the women to check on the rating sheet whether they would prefer to pass for now, would like to get to know the other person as a friend, or would be interested in something more. The rating forms have only first names and numbers and will be immediately turned in to the moderator. After the forms are completed, the women will change seats and find new groups to conduct another speed match session. Lots of opportunity to meet new women! The moderator will be cross-referencing the ratings and will call women later to give them the names and phone numbers of their matches!

Speed Match will be held Saturday, April 13, at 7:00 at the Church of the Open Arms. The Church of the Open Arms is located at 3131 N. Pennsylvania. Herland is asking for a \$10 donation for providing the evening. There will also be snacks & beverages provided. If you have any questions, please call Herland at 521-9696.

The Voice is published by: Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. 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 Sisters Resources, Inc.
Financial Statement (1/1/01 to 12/31/01)

INCOME	
Donations	3,284.82
Events	527.90
Retreats	2,757.77
Newsletter Advertising	420.00
Newsletter Subscriptions	127.00
Rent	780.00
Sales	573.94
Sales Tax Collected	33.68
Total Income	\$8,505.11

EXPENSE	
Advertisement	50.00
Bank Charges	166.00
Building Maintenance	234.44
Event Expenses	214.48
Insurance	1,253.23
Merchandise for Resale	57.50
Misc. Office Supplies	92.52
Newsletter Postage	1,560.20
Newsletter Printing	1,590.09
Retreat Expenses	1,572.72
Sales Tax	41.70
Telephone	683.54
Utilities	1,311.85
Total Expenses	\$8,828.27

Net \$(323.16)

Herland Legal Defense Fund
Financial Statement (1/1/01 to 12/31/01)

INCOME	
Donations for Legal Defense Fund	\$11,416.78
Interest	11.42
Total Income	\$11,428.20

EXPENSE	
Returned Check	28.00
Legal Defense Fund Payments	12,463.50
Postage	119.00
Printing	57.41
Total Expenses	12,667.91

Net \$(1,239.71)

Herland Sister Resources - our annual financial statement is above. Herland is a nonprofit organization operated entirely by volunteers. Your gift will help Herland continue to publish our monthly newsletter, operate the bookstore and lending library, and host a wide array of social and educational activities. Please consider making a donation at this time to allow us to continue to serve as an important resource for the lesbian community of Oklahoma. An envelope is enclosed; please use it for your donation and/or to return your Retreat registration. Thank you.

HERLAND SPRING RETREAT

May 17-19, 2002 - ROMAN NOSE STATE PARK

Please choose the registration amount most appropriate for you. On-site registration will be \$65. The deadline for pre-registration is April 10 and registration is non-refundable.

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

Registration fee enclosed (payable to Herland): _____ \$15

_____ \$25 Saturday only Registration

Name _____ Phone _____ Email? _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

_____ I need a scholarship to attend.

_____ I'm enclosing an additional \$ _____ to help provide scholarships.

_____ I'm bringing _____ children (girls of all ages and boys under 10 are welcome)

Please note, your dogs are always welcome but they must remain on leashes and outside the dining hall -State Park rules.

Herland Herland Sister Resources
2312 NW 39
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

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U.S. Postage
PAID
Oklahoma City, OK
Permit No. 861

Address Service Requested

Support our Supporters



Singer's Wanted! Even if you have little or no formal training or experience, if you like to sing and you're a woman, we want you!

Rehearsals are at Epworth United Methodist Church

(1901 N. Douglas - between NW 17th and NW 18th)
every Thursday evening, from 7:30pm to 9:30pm.
Contact us at Singalot3@aol.com for more info.

REBECCA R. HOLT, Ph.D.

Clinical Psychology
405/321-2148

P.O.Box 5119

Individual - Couples

Norman, Okla. 73070

Family Therapy, Retreats

Website of the Month

<http://www.equalrightsamendment.org>

An inspiring website with great links

Barnes Gift & Book, Inc

9:30 AM - 6:00 PM Monday - Saturday
2717 NW 50, Oklahoma City, OK

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