

# The Herland Voice

July 2002

Volume 20, Number 7

## ♪♪♭♪♪ The Music Scene ♪♪♪♭♪

By Jill Garner

Cindy Bullens to appear at The Blue Door, July 7<sup>th</sup>:

Put this show on your calendar now because it's one that you should definitely go see. While you may never have heard of Cindy Bullens, she's been in the music business for a long time, and is someone you ought to become familiar with.

In the late '70s, Bullens was nominated for two Grammy awards. One was for her vocal performance on the Grease film soundtrack and a second was in Best Rock Vocal Performance for her song "Survivor" off her debut solo release Desire Wire in 1979. A couple of releases followed, and then the next 10 years were largely spent raising her daughters. Over the years, Bullens has also played and toured with other artists such as Elton John, Bonnie Raitt, Bob Dylan, and Rod Stewart. Texas blues artist Sarah Brown, New Orleans' Irma Thomas, and The Dixie Chicks have all recorded songs by Bullens.

In 1996, Cindy's youngest daughter Jessie died from Hodgkin's Disease at the age of 11. After 3 years spent grieving, Bullens' album Somewhere Between Heaven and Earth was created as a way to deal with the tragedy. The album touched a lot of people and garnered good reviews from Rolling Stone, People, and The New York Times.

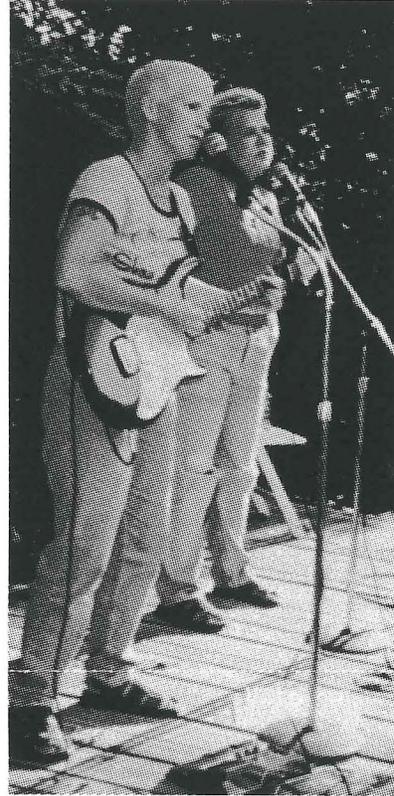
Bullens latest CD, Neverland, is, according to Bullens, "the rock and roll record I've always wanted to make." Bullens sings lead vocals and plays acoustic and electric guitars, and is backed by her band. Guest vocalists include Steve Earle, Emmylou Harris, and John Hiatt.

"Baby I Want Your Love", on the latest release, is probably the bluesiest song Bullens has ever recorded. In addition to the guitar licks she adds to the song, a respiratory infection created a rasping, half-sung/half-spoken lead vocal. They loved the sound so much that they kept it!

The rocker "Sensible Shoes" was co-written by Bullens and former Dave Edmunds bassist John David. Bullens said that title hung around for several years before she told Edmunds she knew it was a rock and roll song and they sat down and wrote it.

If you make it to The Blue Door to hear Bullens play, don't expect a quiet singer-songwriter show. As Bullens said in an interview, "When you come to see me play live, playing the same Les Paul or Stratocaster I played 20 years ago, you will know I'm a rock and roller."

Opening for Bullens is our own Mary Catherine Reynolds. Hope to see you there July 7<sup>th</sup>.



Herland's Firth Annual Pride Picnic was fun and festive, with great music, food and company. Herre Chas and Kadriye entertain the crowd with one of Chas' original songs.

### Herland Supper Club

Saturday July 13, 6:00 pm

### Hideaway Pizza

116 E. Fifth Street in Edmond

### & Shakespeare in the Park at 8:00 pm

This month the Herland Supper Club will head up to Edmond for pizza followed by a Shakespeare in the Park production of "All's Well That Ends Well." The play will be at the O'Meara Amphitheater in Edmond's Hafer Park, 9th & Bryant. Soda, popcorn and snacks are available on site. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and enjoy Shakespeare under the stars with us! Admission to the play is \$6.

Meet at Herland at 5:30 pm if you wish to carpool or meet at the restaurant at 6:00 pm. Call Laura at 943-4070 or Ginger at 942-1535 for more details.

Save the Date: September 15-17,  
Herland FALL Retreat

-- --Womyn of Color Club -- --

will meet Sunday, July 14, 2002. Please contact Jacqueline at [jscottross\\_42@hotmail.com](mailto:jscottross_42@hotmail.com) for meeting place and time.

## St. Sybil

Dear fellow Saints and Sinners,

I'm getting a lot of questions these days from people trying to figure out just what a feminist is, and why, and why so many women are reluctant to call themselves Feminist. Before I reply, I would very much like to know what the Voice readers think on the subject. Please send me, in 25 words more or less, your definition of a feminist and whether you fit that definition. We'll publish all we get that don't make me cry.

Write me c/o Herland, 2312 NW 39<sup>th</sup>, OKC, OK 73112; or email me at [saintsybil\\_77@hotmail.com](mailto:saintsybil_77@hotmail.com). Thanks

In radical sisterhood,  
Sybil

**Are you tired...** of seeing that **Herland Survey** knocking around on your desk? No problem, just fill it out and mail it back to us at 2312 NW 39<sup>th</sup> Street, OKC, OK 73112 – and you will never have to worry about it again. 37 cents well spent. What a deal!!!

**"Batch: No true Christian would ever support something like this".** *That was the email message Nathaniel Batchelder received following his announcement of a planned demonstration at City Hall, during Pride Week, to protest the City's hastily passed ordinance banning banners like Cimarron's gorgeous Gay and Lesbian Pride banners. Here is Batch's response.*

There are differing interpretations of Scriptures on many issues, including the death penalty, slavery, women's rights, racial segregation, and what to do about "non-Christians".

Biblical Scriptures are very clear about the duty a slave owes to their master, and those passages were used to justify slavery in America for hundreds of years. What changed? God? Human understanding of God's will? Interpretation of Scriptures?

I am familiar with the scriptural passages referred to by Christians who claim those passages "condemn homosexuality" I also know that many Christian and Jewish scholars - who have studied the texts in Greek - argue that the original texts preached against the then-common practice of using boys as prostitutes, and preached against all forms of sexual activity not leading to pregnancy. (The Jews were always outnumbered, so it was a "sin" for a man to "waste his seed" masturbating or having sex with a man. Israel needed babies!) Looking at the life of Jesus, it is remarkable that he preached, and talked, and walked with outcasts of the day: women, cripples, the lame and infirm - all "excluded" from worship because Jewish law seemed to describe a God who loved "purity." People whose bodies were imperfect were considered "impure."

Jesus preached that God was not a God of "purity and foolish law" but a "God of compassion and love for the outcast and the poor." (and Jesus enraged religious leaders of the day by healing and doing God's work on the Sabbath, and by associating - always - with outcasts.)

Philip met a Eunuch on the road and preached about Jesus' teaching that all may be baptized and welcomed to worship. "Even a eunuch?" asked the Eunuch. "Yes," said Philip, and they proceeded immediately to a nearby body of water where Philip baptized the Eunuch. The Eunuch had 3 strikes against him. He was black (African, and who

knows what religion?) His body was imperfect (impure). He bore a "sexual mark" (folks get nuts about sex). But scriptures include this radical text for a reason. I think the reason is that Jesus was teaching that Love always trumps "purity and imperfection" - and - that such "imperfections" were not imperfections in the eyes of God, but only in the eyes of "Man."

And what is the greatest commandment? To LOVE. To love others as we love ourselves, and to include everyone, including "the least of these" in the abundance of God's love and in the sacraments of worship.

More and more Christians are coming to the following interpretation of Scriptures: Those of us who walk, and worship, with homosexuals know them to be just as loving, responsible, moral, compassionate and righteous as heterosexuals. *Morality* has to do with honesty, integrity, reliability, compassion, humility, service, forgiveness, conscience, involvement, family, community, relationship with God. Indeed, people who actually know people who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender know that sexual orientation *has nothing at all to do with being moral, or loving God, or being Christian.*

The Ku Klux Klan were devoutly Christian moralists who went "riding in the night" to "light up crosses" and "defend God's word" as they understood it. They believed white people were "pure" and at risk of being defiled and polluted by non-whites, and that mixing races was "an abomination to God." (When the KKK did not actually lynch or kill black people whom they considered "uppity" they certainly did their best to scare the hell out of them.)

As Christians, many of us admit that Christians were wrong about Galileo and Copernicus (even the Pope apologized 500 years later). Christians were wrong about evolution of life on earth (Were there really dinosaurs? Many think so). Christians were wrong about slavery. Christians were wrong about excluding menstruating women. Christians were wrong about denying the vote to women. Christians were wrong about racial segregation. Christians were wrong about women's "place in society". Some Christians still teach women to be submissive). Christians were wrong about religious discrimination (Jews could not join OKC Country Club until 1960).

Maybe the Christians you worship with are wrong about homosexuality. It's possible. Meanwhile, my Christian opinion opposes your Christian opinion.

## PFLAG ~ ~ ~ ~ ~

Parents see you in the Parade? They just found out your sister is lesbian and you're thinking they need some support before you tell them you are too? Maybe your nephew is showing all the signs – you know, Abba, Ann Murray, Judy, Barbra – and you want to help his mom and dad help him? PFLAG is for you. Below is a list of currently active Oklahoma PFLAG groups. For other states, go to [www.pflag.org](http://www.pflag.org) to find chapters near you.

- PFLAG Oklahoma City / Metro: Helpline: (405) 943-9977
- PFLAG Tulsa: helpline: (918) 749-4901  
email: [pflagtulsa@hotmail.com](mailto:pflagtulsa@hotmail.com)
- PFLAG Norman: helpline: (405) 360-4497
- PFLAG Stillwater: helpline: (405) 743-1347  
email [stillwaterpflag@hotmail.com](mailto:stillwaterpflag@hotmail.com)
- PFLAG Edmond helpline: (405) 844-9038  
email: [pflag\\_of\\_edmond@hotmail.com](mailto:pflag_of_edmond@hotmail.com)
- PFLAG Muskogee / Green Country: helpline: (918) 683-7760  
email: [PFLAG4Muskogee@aol.com](mailto:PFLAG4Muskogee@aol.com) And their webpage:  
<http://hometown.aol.com/pflag4muskogee>
- PFLAG Lawton: helpline: (580) 591-2244 email  
[bethryan@sirinet.net](mailto:bethryan@sirinet.net)
- PFLAG, national office: 1726 M Street, NW Suite 400  
Washington, DC 20036; ph: 202.467.8180 fx: 202.467.8194

The Voice is published by: Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39<sup>th</sup>, 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.

♪♪♪ ♭ ♪♪♪ --- and more music

♪ **Friday, July 5** - Mary Reynolds at the London House in Cordell, Oklahoma - 7 pm

♪ **Saturday, July 6** - Mary Reynolds at Clear Bay Café, Lake Thunderbird State Park & Highway 9 in Norman; 7ish until closing

♪ **Sunday, July 7** - Judy Bullens at the Blue Door, 2801 N. McKinley, OKC; with Mary Reynolds opening at 8 pm. \$15

♪ **Saturday July 20** - Mary and Louise at One in Norman, 7:30 - 9:30, \$5; call 307-8853 for directions.

♪ **Thursday July 11 - 14 - Woody Guthrie Festival in Okemah.**

The 5th annual Woody Guthrie festival will be held in Okemah from July 10th through the 14th. There are some great women performers at the festival this year. On Thursday afternoon, **Merlene Taylor** starts the show, followed by **Susan Shore**, whose latest bluegrass release has garnered some attention for this Iowa native.

**Darcie Deaville** begins the evening show at 6 with her wonderfully energetic fiddling and singing. The third performer that evening is **Irene Kelley**, who has been opening for Trisha Yearwood's tour recently, and her song "I'm a Little Bluer Than That" was recently recorded by Alan Jackson for his Drive CD. No offense to Alan Jackson fans but Irene Kelley has such a beautiful voice that I'd rather hear her sing it.

Friday afternoon **Mary Reynolds** and **Emily Kaitz** perform. That night, **Kat Eggleston** starts out the evening. Again on Saturday, catch **Mary Reynolds** during the day at the Brick Street Cafe, and be sure to stick around to hear Austin's **Caroline Herring** that evening. The concerts in the pasture are especially nice as the night cools down and the stars come out, and the music just keeps sounding better. - JG



**Peggy Johnson at the Herlnad Picnic**



Outgoing Sister One, Ginger McGovern, with Tina and Helen Stiefmiller

**TITLE IX - in jeopardy -----**

*Thanks to the American Association of University Women (AAUW) for the following alert:*

On May 29, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) filed a motion to dismiss on narrow procedural grounds a complaint filed in federal court against the U.S. Department of Education attacking the three-prong test developed for schools to determine their compliance with Title IX in women's athletics programs. While the American Association of University Women is pleased that DOJ filed a motion to dismiss the case, AAUW is disappointed that the motion does not defend the legality and validity of Title IX. This is particularly distressing in light of recent reports that the Bush Administration is not committed to Title IX policies, and is looking into re-evaluating and altering the law. Thus the danger to Title IX has never been greater.

**Background** ~ In February 2002, the National Wrestling Coaches Association, College Gymnastics Association, and the U.S. Track Coaches Association, along with several other groups representing male athletes and alumni of wrestling programs at Bucknell, Marquette, and Yale, filed suit alleging that Title IX regulations and policies are unconstitutional. Plaintiffs claimed that Title IX regulations and policies are responsible for instituting quotas and causing many universities and colleges to drop wrestling from their athletic programs, which discriminates against men's sports.

The Title IX complaint is part of a broader attack that has taken place over the past few years in an effort to weaken the law. Opponents of Title IX have voiced concern that women's athletic participation has increased at the expense of men's opportunities, yet statistics show that men's participation rates in collegiate sports and the amount of money spent for men's athletic teams continue to rise. In fact, despite the gains women have made under Title IX, resources for women's sports have never caught up to resources for men's sports. For example, according to the National Women's Law Center, women in Division I colleges represent more than half of the student body, yet receive only 41 percent of athletic scholarship dollars, 30 percent of recruiting dollars, and 33 percent of overall athletic budgets.

AAUW strongly supports Title IX and opposes any efforts to weaken its effectiveness, including undermining the three-prong test used to determine athletic compliance. AAUW believes that this test is reasonable and fair. In fact, it has been upheld as constitutional by eight federal circuit courts. Over the past 30 years, Title IX has broken down barriers to educational opportunity, but full equity has not yet been achieved. AAUW will continue to work with organizations including the National Women's Law Center, Women's Sports Foundation, and the National Coalition for Women and Girls in Education to protect and advance the progress Title IX has made over the last 30 years.

**If you want to help keep Title IX strong**, contact members of Congress (202/224-3121) and urge them to tell the Administration not to tamper with Title IX. The objective of Title IX is to end gender discrimination in sports and education. Any action by the Administration to undermine Title IX will be contrary to fundamental principles supported by every previous Administration over the past 30 years.

**-Requests and Thanks...** to Elaine for the electric stapler - it makes our newsletter mailing "parties" go much faster. And really cuts down on that carpal tunnel syndrome.

This month we have three items on our wish list: a vacuum cleaner for the store, a lawn mower for the yard, and a wheelbarrow for toting this and that from here to there. We have a devoted crew (of one) mowing our yard, and it would be much easier if she didn't have to haul her own mower in. Call us at 521-9696 for pickup, and Thank You.

**~\*~Website of the Month: [WWW.Care2.com](http://WWW.Care2.com) ~\*~**

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## Discrimination?

(or know someone who has?) ... on account of

Race?

Religion?

Ethnicity?

National of origin?

Sexual harassment?

Gender identity?

Disability?

Poverty?

Gender?

Age?

Well, it's wrong! .... and we'd like to help.

Call us: (405) 232-0217

Central Oklahoma Human Rights Alliance

C\*O\*H\*R\*A

## Support our Supporters

### American Association of University Women

Founded in 1881, the AAUW is open to all graduates who hold the baccalaureate or higher degree from a regionally accredited college or university.

In principle and practice, AAUW values and seeks a diverse membership. There shall be no barriers to full participation in this organization on the basis of gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class.

For more information, call 1-800-821-4364 or visit [www.aauw.org](http://www.aauw.org).  
For local contact, call Diane at 524-3495.

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