

# HERLAND VOICE

September 2003

Volume 21, Number 9

## Tulsa Women's Tea Dance

It is once again time for the Tulsa Women's Tea Dance! This unique event is by and for women. It allows a diverse group of women to meet and network in a casual, safe, fun, empowering, and affirming environment. It celebrates the diversity of women! This year's theme is: 2003, Let There Be Tea!

This is the 3rd year of this "not to be missed" event, and each year over 300 women have attended. This year the event will again benefit the Tulsa Oklahomans for Human Rights' Pyramid Project Capital Campaign. It will be held at the Greenwood Cultural Center, 322 N. Greenwood in Tulsa on Saturday, September 20th, from 4 pm till 8 pm.

We will have free hors d' oeuvres, a cash bar, live women's entertainment, and the women's networking and business display area. Other fun details are being confirmed as well. It promises to be even better than the last two years!! The price of tickets are \$20 in advance (purchase by mail and pick up at the door or purchase directly at several Tulsa locations) or \$25 at the door. For more info call (918) 749-3504.

## Womyn of Color Club

The Womyn of Color group meets the 2nd Sunday of each month. Please email womynofcolor@gay.com or call (405) 842-3464 or (405) 947-7691 for more information.

## Native American Women

The OKC Two-Spirit Society is having meetings for lesbian and bi-sexual women of Native American descent. Come and share a meal with us at Herland on September 25 at 6:30 pm. The OKC Two-Spirit Hotline number is (405) 317-7283.

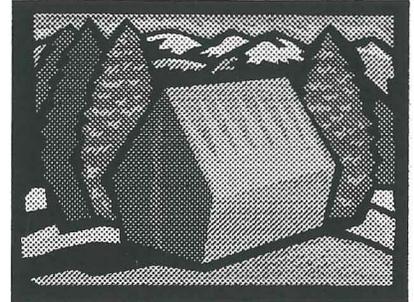
WEBSITE OF THE MONTH  
[www.tohr.org](http://www.tohr.org)

## Herland Fall Retreat at Osage Hills September 5-7

It's not too late to register for the Herland Fall Retreat. The setting for this year's Herland Fall Retreat promises to be one of unique beauty.

Osage Hills State Park is located in a densely wooded area of lush, rolling hills. Located 5 miles north of Pawhuska, this state park is near the Tallgrass Prairie Preserve and the Prairie National Wild Horse Refuge. (A group outing to the preserve is planned for 9 am Saturday.)

Saturday afternoon workshops will include financial and estate planning. Bring bedding, personal items, musical instruments (for the open mic or around the campfire), games, and something for the Saturday evening potluck. The Saturday evening concert will feature Peggy Johnson and Wende Allyn - two of Oklahoma's best singer/songwriters. See page 3 for retreat registration form.



## International photography exhibit visits Oklahoma

World Neighbors' international photography exhibition, *Work of Women*, is slated to visit Oklahoma, October 3 through October 25, 2003, at the Untitled Gallery in downtown Oklahoma City. Mercy Health Center, which grew out of the inspiration of strong women, is sponsoring the opening of the Oklahoma City exhibition. The *Work of Women* exhibition recognizes women's work throughout the rural villages of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. The exhibit, now touring nationwide, originally debuted in New York City at the United Nations Headquarters in conjunction with International Women's Day, 2003. There it was viewed by hundreds of people, including visitors from more than 50 countries around the world.

The exhibition features stories and more than 40 photographs of working women from Nepal, Guatemala, Peru, Burkina Faso, Mexico, Ecuador, India, and Kenya. Four female photographers - Linda Lambert and Gayle Younghein, both Oklahomans, along with Christy Gavitt and Margaret Woodson Nea - captured the spirit of women working to improve their own lives and the lives of their families in different parts of the world. Sister Rose Elizabeth Power, a Mercy Health Center vice president, said, "We consider it an honor to help bring this exhibition to Oklahomans."

Almost 200 years ago, Mercy Foundress Catherine McAuley boldly opened a house to care for impoverished women and children in the middle of a wealthy neighborhood in Dublin, Ireland. That same strength brought the Sisters of Mercy to Indian Territory in the late 1800s. When others turned back in dismay, the Sisters of Mercy were more determined than

*continued page 4*

## Herland Supper Club

Saturday, September 13, 5:30 pm

at Papa's Lil Italy

10603 N. I-35 Service Road

(West side of I-35 just south of

Hefner Rd.) in OKC

Followed by Game Night

at Herland at 7:30 pm

This month the Supper Club will dine on Italian food at a restaurant that's been getting rave reviews. After supper, the group will go back to Herland for game night. Meet at Herland at 5:00 pm if you would like to carpool to Papa's Lil Italy.

## Herland Book Club

The Herland Book Club will be reading a wonderful book for the September meeting: *The Secret Life of Bees*, by Sue Monk Kidd. This book is highly acclaimed by critics at large and the author is well-respected. It is readily available at bookstores (\$14.00, paperback) and libraries. ALSO, please note: the first Monday of September is Labor Day, and so the book club is going to meet on the **second Monday**, September 8, at 7 pm, at Herland. As always, there will be cookies and good conversation. Hope to see you there.

## Herland Hiking Club

Join the Herland Hiking Group for its regular monthly outing to Martin Nature Park, 5000 W. Memorial, at 10 am on Saturday, September 13th. There is also an optional coffee gathering beforehand at Panera's, corner of Memorial & Meridian, at 9:30 am.

## Sistahfest 2003

ULOAH, United Lesbians of African Heritage, announce their annual fall festival September 25 - 28, in Malibu, California. ULOAH's Mission: We empower black lesbians through education, the promotion of health and wellness, and advocacy. We combat all forms of oppression affecting black lesbians. ULOAH works to create a changed society wherein black lesbians can safely live their full authentic lives. In addition to raising the quality of life for black lesbians, ULOAH's unique collaborative work builds bridges in the broader LGBT community and in the non-gay black community. For more information call (323) 960-5051 or email [www.uloah.com](http://www.uloah.com).

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(what the churches call "magick") in magical books: *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Hobbit*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Cat in the Hat* - and, yes, *Harry Potter*. Here's the truth: most people who are warning of the dangers of reading Harry have never read one of the books or gone to the movie and the ones who have are just stamping their little feet like Rumpelstiltskin, furious that someone besides them has done such a joyful magical job of creating this pure child's fantasy, which is rightfully showering the author with fame and riches. J. K. Rowling is giving the gift of literacy and the love of books to millions of children. Bless her for that.

So for heaven's sake, Ivanna, grab a flashlight and get under those covers with your kids! Fun's not all that easy to come by these days!  
Yours for more laughter and mystery,  
Sybil

## Saint Sybil

Dear Saint Sybil,  
My eight-year old triplets, Patience, Prudence, and Mary Warner, are just mad about Harry Potter. Their other parent just bought them the fifth book in the series, and they sit around taking turns reading to each other, laughing and gasping and oohing and aahing - one night I caught them an hour after bedtime under the covers reading with a flashlight. I'll admit, I saw the first movie and thought it was fun. It wasn't until I was going to bed that night, chuckling about the movie, that I struck my forehead and realized - Ohmigosh, that Quidditch match wasn't real - they really weren't flying those brooms high in the sky.

And those are two of the things that bother me about Harry Potter - how obsessed kids get with it, and how easy it is to succumb to the fantasy and believe it is real. The other thing is that my new church preaches that the Harry Potter books are very dangerous and encourage people to make light of the "dark arts." What do you make of all this, Sybil?  
Thanks,  
Ivanna Doright

Dear Ivanna,

*Do kids get too obsessed with Harry Potter? I dunno, I used to read Robin Hood under the covers with a flashlight, and if I was between books my own creative fantasies took over and I gamboled in the branches of the great Sherwood Forest with Robin, Will Scarlett, Friar Tuck, and of course the sweet Maid Marian, to whom I was always very gallant and kind, as the poor thing didn't get to have much fun (she had to be rescued such a lot). Anyway, what an archer I was, how many times did I save the day as Robin's trusty sidekick! I rode the West with Tonto and Kemo Sabe; for two years I never willingly took off my boots and six-shooters. And - this is embarrassing - I even pulled many a prank and solved crimes with the Bobsey Twins - and if that isn't the height of fantasy, what is?*

*We should take a look at some of Harry's underlying values. Good triumphs over evil; handsome is as handsome does; the social/economic class one is born into doesn't have a thing to do with how classy a person is. Brains are great, but only when accompanied by hard work and good ethics. Women and men, girls and boys, warlocks and witches, are completely equal in intellect, humor, courage, spirit, valor, ethics and wizardry. Physical strength, in a world of wizards, doesn't amount for beans; and Quidditch, which is the Holy Grail, the OU Football, the Super Bowl, the Final Four, the ne plus ultra, of Hogswarts and indeed the entire wizardry world, is played at all levels by girls and boys alike; on the same teams. The school champions are likewise both male and female.*

*To look for the negative, there are more compelling male characters than female ones; still, there are more prominent female characters in Harry than in most children's books. Hermione, the Quidditch players, Professor McGonagall, Angelina, Cho, even the lady in the portrait: these are all strong characters. There are not a lot of female villains, but I'm not sure I mind that, as it is so rare in fiction that female "heavies" are not completely one-dimensional, and that dimension being: bitch. Think: Rita Skeeter.*

*So on gender equality Harry is pretty good. On race, when Rowling thinks of it, fine as well. On sexual orientation, thus far, silent. There is considerable classism directed towards Muggles, but - c'mon, why not? Muggles come in all shapes, ages, sexes, sizes and we assume colors and sexual orientation, so it is perfectly equitable for wizards to snicker at them. I kinda do....don't you?*

*As far as succumbing to fantasy and believing it is real, one word: Professional Wrestling. And Santa Claus and the Tooth Fairy. And the Little Mermaid, the Jungle King, Disney and Madison Avenue. Let's get real here about fantasy's role in our lives.*

*Now, on to your church's concerns: are there "dark arts" that we must be wary of, that are encouraged by the great - ahem - Satan? Certainly some people believe there are. And some people attempt to practice evil magic. Assuming for argument's sake that there is such a thing, it should be pointed out that "good" magic always triumphs over bad magic*

## The Music Scene

By Jill Garner

If you can make it to Tulsa on September 13th, by all means get there. Lucinda is coming to town! That's Lucinda Williams, for any of you who might not know her by just her first name. And she's only one of the best singer/songwriters ever. She rarely if ever comes to Oklahoma so don't wait thinking she's coming to Oklahoma City because she's not. Greg Johnson at the Blue Door is a friend of hers and he can't even get her to play in Oklahoma City! As she put it, with the success of her 1998 album, *Car Wheels on a Gravel Road*, her appearance fees have gone up.

Williams is playing the last show of the season in the *Spot Rocks the River* concert series at Tulsa's River Parks Amphitheater. General admission tickets are around \$30 and can be found at [www.startickets.com](http://www.startickets.com) or at Albertsons in Tulsa.

It's possible Lucinda Williams may not be in your CD rack, but some of her songs might be. "Passionate Kisses" recorded by Mary Chapin Carpenter, "The Night's Too Long" sung by Patty Loveless, "Crescent City" by Emmylou Harris, "Changed the Locks" by Tom Petty and also Kasey Chambers, and "Lafayette," by John Cougar Mellencamp, among many others too numerous to mention, are all songs written by Lucinda. The daughter of a poet, Miller Williams, she shows him all her lyrics before releasing her CDs. Her latest CD, *World Without Tears*, came back from her dad with no marks on the words. In an interview I read, she said he commented, "This is the closest thing to poetry you've ever written."

If you like Lucinda, don't miss this show. It can't get much better than listening to Lucinda and her band on the river in Tulsa on a nice end of summer evening. I'll see you there!

I've been listening a lot lately to a Ruthie Foster CD I bought used several months ago and for some reason never listened to until now. This CD is several years old, but lately I've been reading a lot of press on Ruthie and everyone who's written about her just raves. So, I pulled it out recently and quickly heard why she gets such wonderful reviews. She's awesome, as a singer and as a songwriter. Here's my favorite quote about her written by Richard Skanse of Texas Music Magazine about her latest CD, *Runaway Soul*. "That's Runaway Soul in a nutshell: not so much a happy union of gospel and blues as a riveting tug-of-war between the two, with Foster's powerhouse voice caught in the middle as the prize. Self-penned tunes prove that Foster, a Gause native who's been working the folk circuit for more than a decade, can hold her own as a songwriter, but it's as a singer that she truly dazzles.." Please do yourself a favor and take a listen to her at [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com).

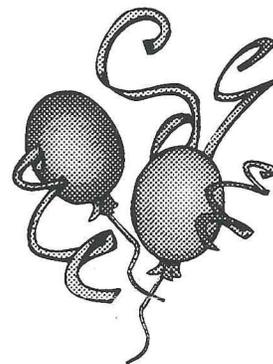
## Herland Work Day

Don your work gloves, put on your painter's pants, and join in some sisterly work at Herland on Saturday, September 13th, from 10 am to 5 pm (or any portion of those hours). We have lots of interior painting, exterior gardening, and other sprucing up activities that we would like to get done before our 20th anniversary celebration (see below). Come on by and lend a hand and enjoy meeting a few new people.

## Herland 20th Anniversary Celebration Planned

Would you believe Herland is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year? It's true. Our research into Herland's history revealed the Herland Collective was formed in 1983.

In honor of that anniversary, Herland is planning a celebration in mid-November complete with a concert by a nationally-known artist. Stay tuned for more details.



## Herland Spring Women's Retreat Registration Form Osage Hills State Park - September 5-7, 2003

Below are guidelines to help you select an appropriate registration amount. Deadline for pre-registration is Sept. 2nd. Please remember that dogs are welcome but must remain on leashes and are not allowed in the dining hall.

Registration fee enclosed (payable to Herland):

- \$15    \$25    \$35    \$45    \$60  
 Saturday only (workshops, concert, & one night stay) - \$25  
 Concert only - \$10

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_

### Sliding Scale Registration Guidelines Based on Income

Single Person Annual Income	Household Annual Income	Pre-Registration per person
under \$6,500	under \$13,300	\$15
\$6,500-\$13,300	\$13,300-\$18,000	\$25
\$13,300-\$19,500	\$18,000-\$26,000	\$35
\$19,500-\$30,000	\$26,000-\$50,000	\$45
over \$30,000	over \$50,000	\$60

- 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 age 10 are welcome).

Please return registration form and check to: Herland Sister Resources, 2312 NW 39th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112  
A retreat packet with all information will be sent to you.

ever to meet the needs that were so great. "Our Mercy heritage is steeped in women who had vision and stamina, much like the determination witnessed in this powerful exhibition of photos – both taken of women and by women," said Sister Rose.

Ron Burkard, World Neighbors' executive director, said, "The *Work of Women* exhibition is an opportunity for Oklahomans to recognize and pay tribute to women around the world." The exhibition will be on display at venues throughout parts of the United States including the northeast, central, southwest, and west coast.

**About World Neighbors** - Founded in 1951, World Neighbors works with the rural poor in 18 countries throughout Asia, Africa, and Latin America helping people solve their own problems of hunger, poverty, and disease. World Neighbors fosters strong, just, and sustainable communities around the world. For more information about World Neighbors and the areas in which World Neighbors works, visit [www.wn.org](http://www.wn.org).

**About Mercy Health Center** - Mercy Health Center is a member of the Sisters of Mercy Health System—the 25th largest health system in the U.S. and the tenth largest Catholic health system in the nation. Mercy has a rich heritage in women reaching out to women. Their mission is to improve the health of Oklahomans by offering compassionate care and the most advanced medical treatments.

**About Untitled Gallery** - Untitled Gallery is an environment designed to stimulate creative thought and new ideas through contemporary art. Untitled Gallery is committed to providing access to quality exhibitions, education programs, performances, publications, and to engaging the community in collaborative outreach efforts.

### Classifieds

**Help Wanted:** Occasionally I need a woman's help with my lawn and garden. Let her have two green thumbs and her own lawn equipage. Women only, please - 789-3034

**Lawnmower Wanted:** Herland is seeking the donation of a used but working lawnmower for groundskeeping at Herland.

**Duplex For Rent:** 1 BD, 1 Bath with CH&A near Paseo area. Prefer no pets. \$350/month + bills + deposit. Call Ginger at (405) 942-1535 for more details.

**Job Announcement:** World Neighbors is an international non-profit organization working to alleviate hunger, poverty, and disease in Asia, Africa, and Latin America, inspiring people to work together to create a healthy, just, and peaceful world. IMMEDIATE OPENINGS:

- \* Human Resources Manager
- \* Executive Assistant
- \* Accounts Payable/Receivables (Part-time)

Job descriptions are available by request or at [www.wn.org](http://www.wn.org). Send resume and cover letter to World Neighbors Personnel, 4127 NW 122nd St., Oklahoma City, OK 73120, Fax 752-9393, or e-mail to [Personnel@wn.org](mailto:Personnel@wn.org). EOE M/F/D/V.

## EVENTS AT A GLANCE

### September

- Friday, September 5: Mary and Louise at One, 323 White Street in Norman, 7:30 pm, \$5 suggested donation
- September 5-7: Peggy Johnson and Wende Allyn at the Herland Fall Retreat, Osage Hills State Park
- Saturday, September 6: Miss Brown to You at UCO Jazz Lab, 100 E 5th in Edmond, 8-11 pm, \$7 admission
- Monday, September 8: Herland Book Club, 7:00 pm
- Monday, September 8: OGLPC Monthly Meeting at the Center, 2135 NW 39th, 7:00 pm
- Saturday, September 13: Herland Hike at Martin Nature Park, 5000 W. Memorial, 10 am
- Saturday, September 13: Herland Work Day, 10 am - 5 pm
- Saturday, September 13: Herland Supper Club at Papa's Lil Italy, 10603 N. I-35 Service Road, 5:30 pm
- Saturday, September 13: Mary Reynolds and Greg Jacobs at the Blue Door, 2805 N McKinley, 9 pm, \$15
- Sunday, September 14: Womyn of Color Meeting
- Saturday, September 20: Tulsa Tea Dance, 4-8 pm
- Thursday, September 25: Women's Two-Spirit Meeting at Herland, 6:30 pm



### November

- November 7-9: IRIS at Chelsea's for Diversity Weekend, Eureka Springs, Arkansas
- November 1-30 (weekends): Louise and Mary in the Pollard Theatre's *Little Shop of Horrors*, Guthrie

**M Coleen Woody**

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<p><b>Molly Whitworth</b>          THREE CDS NOW AVAILABLE          * WEIRD DUCK*          * LEAN IN FOR A KISS *          * HUNGRY WHEN I WAKE          CDS \$10, LYRIC BOOKS \$5, SHIPPING/HANDLING \$2          HEAR ALL THREE CDS AT HERLAND          email: MollyWhitworth@aol.com  <a href="http://mollywhitworth.blogspot.com/">http://mollywhitworth.blogspot.com/</a></p>	<p><b>Stonewall Democrats</b>          &amp;  <b>Eleanor Roosevelt</b>          Invite you to her 119th Birthday Party          Saturday, Oct. 11, 2003 at 7:00 pm          Krumme Center, 4100 N. Lincoln, OKC  <a href="http://www.oklahomastonewall.org">www.oklahomastonewall.org</a>          (405) 843-3651          mystery guest to be announced</p>
<p><b>REBECCA R. HOLT, Ph.D.</b>           Clinical Psychology          (405) 321-2148           Box 5119          Norman, OK 73070           Individuals - Couples          Family Therapy, Retreats</p>	<p><b>Julia Irwin, M.D., P.C.</b>           Psychiatrist           Doctor's Park          500 E. Robinson, Suite 600          Norman, OK 73071          (405) 321-3719   <i>Young          And Older Adults</i></p>
<p><b>DOROTHY E. HEIM</b>          Attorney at Law          (405) 691-4949  <a href="mailto:dheim033@yahoo.com">dheim033@yahoo.com</a>           Call me with your legal questions:          estate planning                      personal injury          contract issues                      small business</p>	<p> <b>Sandy Ingraham, J.D., M.S.W.</b>          Attorney-at-Law          Ingraham &amp; Associates, PLLC           Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Probate, Adoption, Contracts           Route 2, Box 369-B          McLoud, OK 74851           Tel. (405) 964-2072  <a href="mailto:Ingraham@mcloudteleco.com">Ingraham@mcloudteleco.com</a></p>