

HerlandVoice

volume twenty-six number three

march 2008

sexual identity and spirituality conference

friday, march 7th, 2008

and saturday, march 8th, 2008

uco campus liberal arts building

keynote speaker

deborah appler

A coalition of OKC-area churches is presenting a conference exploring Sexual Identity and Spirituality. Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons are of equal sacred value as all other persons. These relationships and gender expressions are not sinful or signs of sickness. The scriptures have often been distorted to bash LGBT persons but more and more, faith communities are speaking out for justice, inclusion and affirmation of all persons. This conference reflects a faithful understanding of scripture and the Spirit as well as the desire to faithfully relate to one another.

Workshops (see conference schedule page 3) are designed to explore the connections between sexual identity and spirituality. Though focused on the Hebrew and Christian scriptures, the conference welcomes other faith traditions and seeks to engage their understandings of homosexuality and sexual identity.

Registration is \$15 and scholarships are available. All UCO students, staff and faculty may attend for free, but registration is required. Please register early - space is limited. To register, please call any sponsor church, or Open Arms at 405-525-9555 or e-mail: openarm-sok@aol.com. Limited same-day registration will be available. Child-care will also be provided if requested by March 1.



ignorance and venom: the media's deeply ingrained sexism

*Excerpt from column by
NOW President Kim Gandy*

Editor's Note: Herland does not endorse any political candidate or party. However, we thought the general topic of this article would be of interest to our readers.

My email runneth over. I can't tell you how many people have emailed or called me, outraged by the sorry display of sexism in the media these days. Much of this venom is currently directed at one woman -- Sen. Hillary Clinton -- though as we have pointed out before, no woman in the public eye, from Nancy Pelosi to Michelle Obama, is exempt.

For the first time in our nation's history, the idea of a woman president is no longer limited to the fantasy world of TV or movies. Possibility could become reality this November, and some folks are just having a hard time dealing with it. That many of those people have high-profile

(cont. on page 5)

march events

Roshi Joan Halifax Engaged Buddhism: Practicing Compassion and Fearlessness in an Endangered World Monday March 3 Meacham Auditorium OU 7 pm

PFLAG-OKC Tuesday March 4 Church of the Open Arms 7 pm

PFLAG-Norman Thursday March 13 St Stephens 7 pm

Walk for Women International Women's Day UCO Broncho Lake March 8

Miss Brown to You Friday March 14 UCO Jazz Lab 8 pm

Herland Supper Club Saturday March 8 Golden Palace, 5201 N Shartel 5:30 pm followed by L Word at Herland 7:30 pm

OGLPC Monthly Meeting Monday March 10 Neighborhood Alliance 7 pm

Herland Board Meeting Sunday March 16 4 pm

National Native HIV/AIDS Awareness Day March 20

Herland Scrabble Game Saturday March 22 1 pm

Miss Brown to You Friday March 28 Galileo's 9 pm

Voice Folding Sat March 29 1pm

Mary and Louise Saturday April 5 Full Circle Bookstore 7 pm

Herland Spring Retreat May 16-18 Roman Nose State Park

supper club

We're going to try someplace new we've never been before for supper club—The Golden Palace, 5201 N. Shartel. Expect some great Chinese food at this place. We will meet there at 5:30 pm on *Saturday, March 8*. After that, we will head back to Herland at about 7:30 pm for a few episodes of the L Word.

scrabble games

Join us on *Saturday, March 22*, at 1 pm at Herland for a few games of Scrabble and perhaps some pizza. The competition is stimulating!

cimarron lgbt summit

The 2008 LGBT Leadership Summit will be presented by Cimarron Alliance Foundation on *Saturday, April 5*, from 9 am to 5 pm at the Norick Downtown Library. The 2007 Summit was successful in bringing together LGBT and non-LGT organizations in an effort to more effectively manage themselves and better collaborate with other organizations by providing them tools and guidance.

The 2008 Summit will continue to build upon those relationships strengthened or developed last year and create new coalitions. In addition, there will be two new foci: inclusion of LGBT collegiate organizations and developing a more informed LGBT and non-LGBT citizenry.

Programs appealing to LGBT collegiate groups will be offered and those groups will participate in the planning and facilitating of the summit.

Some topics touched upon last year have been expanded for this year's summit. The summit will be divided into 2 morning and 2 afternoon sessions each offering five tracks. For more information, please go to www.cimarronalliance.org. And watch for more details in next month's Voice.



bath, body, spa

<http://jordanrep.com/10522>

Sexual Identity and Spirituality Conference Schedule

Friday, March 7th

6:30 - 7:00 pm Registration, Gathering and Refreshments

7:00 - 8:15 pm Deborah Appler - Lecture and Questions

8:20 - 9:35 pm Workshop One

9:30 - 10:00 pm Reception

Saturday, March 8th

9:00 - 10:15 am Workshop Two

10:30 - 11:15 am Deborah Appler - Lecture and Questions

11:45 - 12:40 pm Lunch (on your own)

12:45 - 2:00 pm Workshop Three

2:15 - 3:15 pm Process Groups and Closing

Workshops

The Authority of Scripture: Who wrote the Bible? - Kathy McCallie

Marriage: What is the Biblical Model? - Jonalu Johnstone

Coming Out Young - Michael Cich

Why is 3 a queer number? Examining the Western emphasis of a Gender Binary - Paula Sophia Schonauer

Unitarian Universalist Perspectives on Queer Spirituality - Interweave

SMOKE AND MIRRORS: The Ex-Gay Movement and Living the Straight life in a Gay Body - Toby Jenkins

Homophobia as Religious Bigotry in Black Churches: Yes, God Created Adam and Steve - Loyce Newton Edwards

The Clobber Passages: What Does the Bible Say about Homosexuality? - Henry Roberson

The Womb of God: A Gender Queer reading of Jeremiah - Scott Jones

How Modern American Wicca Deals with Sexual Identity - Anna Holloway

The Confusion of Fertility Religion with Sexual Practices - Anna Holloway

Responding to Homophobia with Power and Compassion: A Discussion of Nonviolence - Nate Black

Jesus: Humanity & Divinity: How does Jesus relate to our human sexuality? - Joe Arganbright

Sexuality & Spirituality in the Ancient World - Deborah Appler

Gender, Racial, and Sexual Politics: The Anatomy of a Unified Minority Movement - Greg Johnson

Big Picture: Sexual Development & Health - Terry Dennison

A Critical Look at Religion's Response to HIV Disease - Terry Dennison

The conference is sponsored by Cathedral of Hope, OKC, Church of the Open Arms UCC, Clegg UMC, First Unitarian Church, Epworth UMC, GATE Student Organization, Mayflower Congregational, PFLAG OKC, Peace Education Institute, St. Stephen's UMC, Norman, and United Life.

website of the
month



feministing.com

Save This Date! *May 16th - 18th, 2008*

Are you ready for a weekend full of relaxation, good friends, good music, good food, and lots of fun? Well you're in luck! The annual **Herland Spring Retreat** will be at Roman Nose State Park (near Watonga), Friday, May 16 to Sunday, May 18.

For those of you that have never been to a Herland retreat, now is the time to give it a try! Whether you come solo or with friends, are a certified camper or city grrrl, or come from near or far, it's a perfect, affordable opportunity to meet new friends, catch up with old friends, play board games and sports, explore nature, learn something new at a workshop, or simply relax in an incredibly

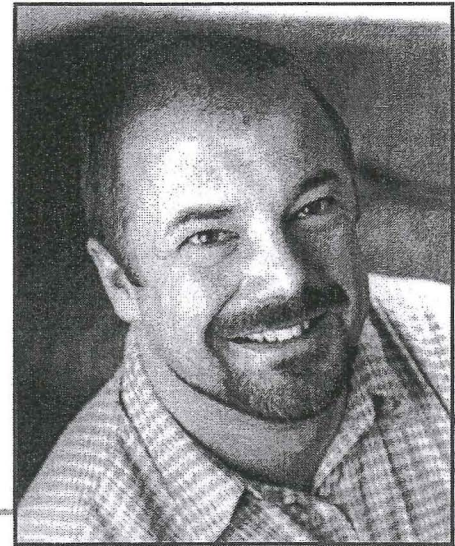
supportive environment. On Saturday, you may want to strut your stuff at the open mic, make something yummy to share for the potluck dinner, and then relax while you enjoy the Saturday night concert. After the concert, there is always singing and story telling around the campfire, and this only gives a glimpse into what all there is to do. **The Herland Retreat is whatever we make it. Let's make it great!**

If you have a hobby you'd like to share with other awesome women, or have an idea for a workshop, email Sannie at SAHatwork@aol.com and we'll get it planned. Be creative with this - anything goes! There will be more information and a registration form in next month's Voice.

oklahoma city university
distinguished speakers series
andrew sullivan
monday, april 7, 2008

Andrew Sullivan, is senior editor of The Atlantic and a columnist for The Sunday Times of London. Sullivan's The Daily Dish was recently ranked as the top political blog in the country. His book, *Virtually Normal*, is one of the best-selling gay rights books, and his essay, "What's So Bad About Hate," is included in the Best American Essays 2000.

A graduate of Oxford and Harvard universities, Sullivan is the former editor-in-chief of The New Republic—the youngest editor in that magazine's history. He was named Editor of the Year by Adweek in 1996, and has received National Magazine Awards for reporting, general excellence, and public interest. Sullivan is the author of several critically acclaimed books including *Love Undetectable*, a book of essays that form an impassioned plea for diverse audiences to acknowledge the humanity of AIDS and to



view friendship as an integral element in our society; and his latest book, *The Conservative Soul: How We Lost It, How to Get It Back* (2006). The lecture is free to the public, but seating is limited. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call (405) 208-4956 or visit www.okcu.edu.

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WOW! WALK FOR WOMEN
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
03.08.08

UCO
Broncho
Lake
Saturday
March 8
Register 9:30am
Walk at 10am

Join us for a Day of Action in celebration of International Women's Day. Participate in the WOW! Walk for Women on the University of Central Oklahoma Campus in Edmond, Oklahoma. Can't be there in person? Be a virtual walker, have a WOW! Party for a Cause or make a donation to WOW! @ World Neighbors. WOW! @ World Neighbors supports World Neighbors entire mission, including activities like women's savings and credit groups, leadership development, water projects, and community and reproductive health. It also goes to the crucial work of social change - of supporting communities to work together, identify solutions to their needs and involve members equitably in contributing to and benefiting from the development process.

For more info visit www.walkforwomen.kintera.org.

the media's deeply ingrained sexism

(cont. from page 1)

jobs at major news outlets is a cryin' shame.

We've been down this road before -- yes, NOW called out the media's bad behavior several times last year, and thousands of women and men demonstrated their agreement by signing our petition demanding serious and fair election coverage. Well, we're barely into 2008, and already we have plenty of fresh examples of the media's failure to clean up its act.

The press have been brutal to Clinton, no doubt about it. Whether consciously or not, too many reporters, commentators, pundits and the like appear unable to critique Hillary Clinton without dusting off their favorite sexist clichés, stereotypes and insults. Some of these remarks seem mild, while others are offensive and truly outrageous. Taken together, they create an environment of hostility toward all women, not just Senator Clinton. At this moment it feels like she is a stand-in for every woman who has ever tried to get ahead and be taken seriously by the powers that be.

There are four common themes in media coverage of Clinton's candidacy: First, Clinton is criticized using a gender-based grading system. The media evaluate how she looks, dresses, talks, laughs and even claps. She is held to double standards familiar to working women. A man demonstrates toughness and strength; a woman who behaves similarly is called icy and rigid. His behavior shows compassion and warmth, but her similar behavior shows too much emotion and maybe weakness. He knows how to work the system; she is manipulative. He shows a mastery of the subject; she is nit-picky. He thinks through all the options before charting a course; she is calculating. Familiar?

Second, our society still has not come to terms with ambition in women -- it is suspect. Clinton is frequently charged with doing or saying anything to win. But I think it has an extra sharp anti-woman overtone as it is used against Hillary. In other words, everything Clinton does to win the election -- strategizing, organizing, confronting, comparing and contrasting -- is interpreted as calculating, fake or just plain evil. But when a man campaigns hard, refusing to cede an inch, they call it . . . running for office!

For the full article please go to www.now.org/news/note/021408.html.

THE OKC LIGHTNING WOMEN'S FOOTBALL TEAM 2008 Schedule

April 19	Dallas	May 24	@ Dallas
April 26	@ Kansas City	May 31	Kansas City
May 3	BYE	June 7	BYE
May 10	Houston	June 14	@ Houston
May 17	Austin	June 21	@ Austin



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