



Serving the womyn's  
community  
since 1983

# Herland Voice

volume **twenty-seven** number **four**

april 2009

## Herland gets a Face Lift

On January 31<sup>st</sup> the Herland Board had a planning meeting for the year, and several committees have been formed to address the problems identified by board members.

A committee to redecorate the inside of the Herland library is hard at work, having completed the painting of 3 rooms. The new colors are wonderful, thanks to Kara, Andy, Margy and Deborah.

They will tackle the job of moving books, replacing sagging shelving, adding light fixtures, and replacing uncomfortable seating in the near future... and they need your help!! Anyone *with library experience* who is willing to help move the books safely, and in order, to and from the shelves, please contact Herland!

The committee will be listing their selections on certain store gift registries, for easy shopping in and out of state. When you have time, drop by on a Saturday and give us your feedback on what has been done, what needs to be done, and what you can do to help!

A volunteer committee has also been formed to identify Herland's needs, and recruit new volunteers. Some that have been ongoing are: staffing the bookstore on Saturdays, mowing the yard, clearing tree and shrub limbs, and other general maintenance. These tasks don't sound like much fun, but working as a group we manage to make them fun. Other volunteers really do have fun, decorating for fund raisers and organizing games for the Retreats!

You are the reason that Herland exists, and your needs and concerns matter. Let us hear from you!

## review

I recently read the article "Lesbian Nation, when gay women took to the road" by Ariel Levy in the March 2, 2009 issue of "The New Yorker" magazine.

She writes, "The lesbian separatists of a generation ago created a shadow society devoted to living in an alternate, penisless reality .... There were outposts of Women's Land all over the United States and Canada...men, and even male children were banned from Women's Land (and they often spelled it "wimmin" or "womyn," in an attempt to keep men out of their words as well as their worlds)."

Levy goes on to tell about the Van Dykes, who went around the country as "van-driving vegans who shaved their heads...and lived on the highways only stopping on Women's Land. Some of the founders of the Van Dykes wrote a recruitment song, to the tune of "Mr. Sandman":

*Would-be Van Dykes  
Bring us your dreams  
Make them the clearest that they've ever been  
Give us a sign, like nickels and dollars  
And tell us that it's just a matter of hours  
Till we find our  
Land in the sun  
With killer dykes there, all having real fun  
Plantin' grains and hoeing beans  
Please turn on and cook up some schemes!*

Given that Herland ascribes to many of the dreams of the Van Dykes, even using the word "womyn" on the masthead of this newsletter, and that our retreats maintain the safe haven of the Women's Land of the late 1970's, does that mean we are out of touch, or does that mean that we have been in touch with a wonderful dream for 25 years? I think it is the latter!

Jeanne Flanigan

## APRIL EVENTS

Saturdays from 1-5 HSR open for reading, meeting & greeting

Saturday the 11th at 5:30: HSR Supper Club at Lin's Chinese Restaurant,  
6300 SW 3rd St, Oklahoma City (near Reno & MacArthur)

Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm: HSR Board meeting, everyone welcome

Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 pm: fold the "Voice" for mailing

Saturday the 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm: Women's Scrabble & Game Club,  
games and snacks provided

## MAY EVENTS

Saturday the 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30: HSR Supper Club at Spaghetti Warehouse in Bricktown.

Friday the 15<sup>th</sup> to Sunday the 17<sup>th</sup>: Herland Spring Retreat  
at Roman Nose State Park (registration form on last page)

Saturday the 16<sup>th</sup>: HSR Board meeting, time TBA, at the Retreat

## JUNE EVENTS

Saturday the 13<sup>th</sup> at 5:30: HSR Supper Club, in Norman  
At Sandalwood & Sage, hosted by owners Natasha Rice and Deb Clark  
Includes concert by local musicians

Saturday the 20<sup>th</sup> at 4 pm: HSR Board meeting

Saturday the 27th at 5:30 pm: Annual Herland Pride Picnic

# news briefs

## Research debunks myth of gay, lesbian elite

LGBT people aren't necessarily "affluent"—lesbian couples have a greater chance of living in poverty than married, straight couples, and the children of gay and lesbian parents are twice as likely to be poor as their peers in families with married, straight parents, a groundbreaking study from UCLA's Williams Institute has found.

A study examining wealth and poverty in LGBT people sheds light on the economic challenges facing this community, and could prove helpful in the formulation of LGBT political strategy, according to Dr. Gary Gates, a co-author of the report. "LGBT political involvement in 'mainstream' policy initiatives may help to strengthen ties to a wide range of diverse organizations and individuals," Gates writes.

(sources: Gay & Lesbian Leadership SmartBrief.com: USA Today, Washington Blade, and The Bilerico Project)

## U.S. signs on to United Nations gay-rights declaration

The Obama Administration on Wednesday (March 18) announced its formal endorsement of a United Nations declaration calling on member nations to put an end to the criminalization of homosexuality. In joining the 66 other countries that support the motion, the U.S. reversed the stance held under then-President George W. Bush. (AP)

## Victory Fund 9<sup>th</sup> annual champagne brunch April 19

The Victory Fund Brunch is a spring tradition. Celebrate openly LGBT political leaders and help the Victory Fund elect more of them in 2009. (The Victory Fund has supported Rep. Al McAffrey and others) The Brunch at the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D.C., will feature Rep. Jared Polis of Colorado, the first openly gay man ever to be elected to congress as a freshman. We'll also welcome Rep. Kendrick Meek of Florida and Speaker Christine Quinn of the New York City Council. For information about how you can get tickets, or be an event sponsor, call 202-842-7301

## Mister US of A Male Illusionist 2009 Crowned in Oklahoma

March 12 to 15<sup>th</sup> marked the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Mister US of A pageant for Male Illusionist 2009, at Angles Club in OKC. Thirty-two contestants from 28 states competed in Talent, Creative Eveningwear, and Interview in front of a packed audience. Seven Judges made their choices of the 15 finalists on Sunday night, and selected 5 national winners. Contestants entertained with elaborate props, groups of dancers, and unique costumes.

The winners are: Richard Cranium, Indiana, Mister US of A M.I. 2009; Owen McCord, First Alternate; Amedeus Karmanii York, Texas, Second Alternate; Luke Mihway, Arizona, Third Alternate; and Justin, Fourth Alternate. For more information on the competition, contestants, and photos of the pageant, go to [www.misterusofami.org](http://www.misterusofami.org) or [www.myspace.com/misterusofami](http://www.myspace.com/misterusofami).

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## community events

Second Friday of the month: **POW (Professional Okla. Women)** at Partner's  
2805 NW 36<sup>th</sup> St., Music and snacks from 6-9 \$5 entry

Friday April 3 at 7 pm: **Mary and Louise** at Full Circle Book Store  
In 50 Penn Place Mall, NW 50<sup>th</sup> and Penn

April 3-5: **Spring Diversity Weekend** in Eureka Springs, Arkansas  
Iris is performing for their 10<sup>th</sup> year at Chelsea's  
Contact Iris at: [iristheband@yahoo.com](mailto:iristheband@yahoo.com)

Tuesday April 7 at 7 pm: **PFLAG-OKC**  
Church of the Open Arms, 3131 N Penn, 525-9555

Thursday April 9 at 7 pm: **PFLAG-Norman**  
St. Stephen's United Methodist Church, 1801 W Brooks, 360-4497

Monday April 13 at 6:30 pm: **OGLPC** general meeting, Neighborhood Alliance

Tuesday April 14 at 8 pm: **Louise and Mary** at Galileo's on the Paseo

Thursday April 16 at 5:30 pm: **Group Tour** with Church of the Open Arms,  
of the "Harlem Renaissance" exhibit at the OKC Museum of Art

Saturday April 18 from 9-5: **Cimarron Foundation Leadership Conference**  
Downtown Library, \$20 admission includes lunch

Sunday April 19 from 3-5 pm: **Cathedral of Hope Health Fair**  
First Unitarian Church Fellowship Hall, NW 11<sup>th</sup> and Walker

Monday April 20 at 6 pm: **The Equality Coalition of OKC** general meeting  
(LGBT community center organizers) at Church of the Open Arms

June 27-28, **OKC Pride Parade and Festival**, for details  
Go to [www.okcpride.org](http://www.okcpride.org)

## arts events

Friday April 3 from 6-10 pm: **First Friday on the Paseo**, art gallery openings

April 3-5 from 9 am-7 pm: **Norman Medieval Fair**, Reaves Park

Friday April 10 from 7-10 pm: **Norman Art Walk**, art gallery openings

April 21-26 from 9 am-7 pm: **OKC Festival of the Arts**, downtown

August 4-9: **Michigan Womyn's Music Festival**: [www.michfest.com](http://www.michfest.com)

# Sage/AARP Conference

In 2008 SAGE (Services & Advocacy for GLBT Elders) and AARP (American Assoc. for Retired People) stepped onto the national stage together through AARP's sponsorship of SAGE's Fourth National Conference on LGBT Aging. This partnership, developed through a series of invigorating inter-agency discussions, marks an important moment in SAGE's national advocacy efforts as the leading voice addressing the issues affecting LGBT older adults.

Consistent with the Conference's theme, "It's About Time: LGBT Aging in a Changing World," SAGE stands ready to leverage its three decades of experience to provide skilled, reality-based assistance for all efforts to transform this country's aging policies to encompass the needs, interests, and contributions of our nation's older LGBT adults.

Nearly 600 people attended, where ideas, advocacy and research about LGBT aging were shared and expounded upon. Presenters and participants came from as far away as Australia and London, and from all over the USA.

Most importantly, the conference brought together professionals in the field with older LGBT people themselves.

Over and over, presenters emphasized the need to develop and enforce policies that outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender expression or identity; support important innovations that effectively address the needs of LGBT older adults; and provide relevant training, data collection and research that includes the LGBT community.

AARP will sponsor a "Diversity and Aging" conference this June in cooperation with SAGE. For more information go to [www.sageusa.org](http://www.sageusa.org)

exerpted from Winter 2009 "SAGE Matters" newsletter

*The Voice is published monthly 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. Herland reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Subscriptions to The Voice are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.*



Michael Adams, Executive Director, SAGE; Alejandro Garcia, AARP New York Executive Council; Jenny Chin-Hansen, President, AARP; Percil Stanford, Chief Diversity Officer, AARP

photography ©Danna F. Arago

## herland voice subscription renewal

If you enjoy reading the Voice and keeping up with what's happening in our community, please help us with an annual donation. Just \$15 a year will go a long way toward covering our costs. Herland is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization. Your contribution is deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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- Annual Renewal. Enclosed is a \$15 donation to Herland.
- I'm new! Add me to the mailing list, here's \$15 donation.
- I've moved. Change my address (new address above).
- I prefer the electronic version of the Voice. Please send only the email version of the Voice to this Email Address:  
\_\_\_\_\_
- I'd like to volunteer at Herland. Please contact me at  
\_\_\_\_\_



Natasha Rice  
Deb Clark

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 405-366-SAGE  
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## OU SOONER WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

### April 2009

Date	Opponent / Event	Location	Time / Result
<b>Judi Garman Classic</b>			
04/01/09	vs. Baylor	Norman	5:00 p.m. CT
	vs. Baylor	Norman	7:00 p.m. CT
04/04/09	vs. Nebraska	Norman	2:00 p.m. CT
04/05/09	vs. Nebraska	Norman	1:00 p.m. CT
04/08/09	vs. Arkansas	Norman	5:00 p.m. CT
04/10/09	at Kansas	Lawrence, Kan.	7:00 p.m. CT
04/11/09	at Kansas	Lawrence, Kan.	1:00 p.m. CT
04/15/09	vs. Oklahoma State <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">TU</span>	Norman	7:00 p.m. CT
04/18/09	vs. Texas A&M <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">TU</span>	Norman	2:00 p.m. CT
04/19/09	vs. Texas A&M <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">TU</span>	Norman	12:00 p.m. CT
04/22/09	at North Texas	Denton, Texas	6:00 p.m. CT
04/25/09	at Missouri	Columbia, Mo.	2:00 p.m. CT
04/26/09	at Missouri	Columbia, Mo.	12:00 p.m. CT
04/29/09	at Oklahoma State <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 0 2px;">TU</span>	Stillwater, Okla.	7:00 p.m. CT

## OSU COWGIRLS SOFTBALL

### April 2009

Date	Opponent	OPP Rank	Location	Time (CST)	Results	Media
Wed, Apr 01	Arkansas	-	at Tulsa, Okla.	3:00 p.m.		
Wed, Apr 01	Tulsa	-	at Tulsa, Okla.	7:00 p.m.		
Sat, Apr 04	Baylor *	-	at Waco, Texas	2:00 p.m.		
Sun, Apr 05	Baylor *	-	at Waco, Texas	1:00 p.m.		
Wed, Apr 08	Texas A&M (DH) *	-	at College Station, Texas	5:00 p.m.		
Fri, Apr 10	Missouri *	-	Cowgirl Stadium	5:30 p.m.		
Sat, Apr 11	Missouri *	-	Cowgirl Stadium	3:30 p.m.		
Wed, Apr 15	Oklahoma *	-	at Norman, Okla.	7:00 p.m.		
Sat, Apr 18	Iowa State *	-	at Ames, Iowa	2:00 p.m.		
Sun, Apr 19	Iowa State *	-	at Ames, Iowa	12:00 p.m.		
Wed, Apr 22	Wichita State	-	Cowgirl Stadium	7:00 p.m.		
Thu, Apr 23	Missouri State	-	Cowgirl Stadium	5:00 p.m.		
Sat, Apr 25	Texas *	-	Cowgirl Stadium	2:00 p.m.		
Sun, Apr 26	Texas *	-	Cowgirl Stadium	12:00 p.m.		
Wed, Apr 29	Oklahoma *	-	Cowgirl Stadium	7:00 p.m.		

# Herland Spring Retreat

## Roman Nose State Park, Watonga, OK

### May 15-17, 2009

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 Herland Spring Retreat will be at Roman Nose State Park (near Watonga), Friday, May 15 to Sunday, May 17.

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.

For this retreat, on Friday night, consider joining us for the **Meet and Greet**. We had a blast last time, and Kara has been busy organizing more fun for this retreat. On Saturday, Jeanne will be leading us in more of the now famous, **Bra Games**. Everyone that was there last fall, knows just how much fun this was! Also on Saturday, our Bartlesville & Tulsa friends will be leading a **Salsa Dancing Workshop!** In addition to all this, we'll have **the Open Mic** for you to showcase any talent you'd like to share, and the Saturday evening Potluck Supper is a perfect opportunity to show off your culinary skills. On Saturday night, we're in for a treat, as Oklahoma City's own **TARA HENRY** will be performing the Concert! Tara has an incredible spirit that will have you rockin', rollin', and singin' the blues! After the concert, there is always singing and story telling around the campfire. This is only a slight glimpse of what the retreats are all about and what all there is to do.

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](mailto:SAHatwork@aol.com) and we'll get it planned. Be creative with this - anything goes!

**The Herland Retreat is whatever we make it. Let's make it great!**

If you'd like to register now, just mail back the registration form with your check. A retreat packet (including a map) will be mailed back to you. There will be more information and another registration form in next month's Voice; however, the time between when you receive the next Voice and the registration deadline is close. Do yourself a favor, and register now, while you're thinking about it!

#### **Herland Spring Retreat Registration Roman Nose State Park, Watonga, OK May 15-17, 2009**

Deadline for pre-registration is May 9. 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 mailed to you.

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

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

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

Email (optional): \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Registration Fee \$\_\_\_\_\_ enclosed.**

- ( ) I need a work 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).
- ( ) I'm bringing \_\_\_\_\_ dogs that will be kept on leashes at all times and I and will sign a waiver stating I am completely responsible for any injury or damage caused by my dog(s).
- ( ) I have a disability and need the following if possible: \_\_\_\_\_

#### **Sliding Scale Registration Fee (for entire weekend)**

Annual Income	PER PERSON	
( ) under \$13,300	\$30	( ) All Day Saturday \$25 (includes Concert)
( ) \$13,300-\$30,000	\$45	( ) Saturday Night Concert Only \$10
( ) over \$30,000	\$60	

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