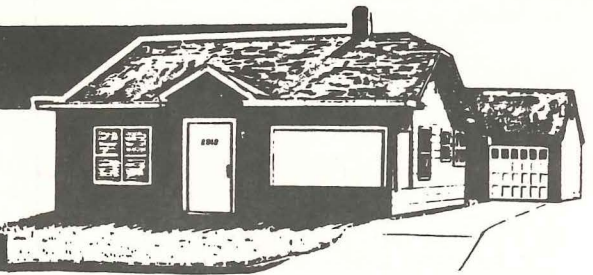


HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES



VOLUME 5, NUMBER 4
APRIL, 1988

HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC.
2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK

Around the Corner

OKC REP FOR NGLTF ASKS FOR YOUR INPUT

OKLAHOMA CITY - The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force is in the process of collecting statistics on the incidence of anti-gay activities in Oklahoma.

The information will be used to support the position of the Task Force at various congressional hearings and meetings in Washington, that anti-gay violence and harassment is a problem that indeed exists and is not being adequately dealt with by law enforcement agencies and legislation.

If you were the victim of any form of harassment or violence or discrimination as a result of the fact that you are gay, or know someone who was, the local representative of the NGLTF wants to hear from you. The period from January 1, 1987 until now (the last 15 months) is the time period the Task Force is interested in. You need not give your identity. They just want to know what happened.

Please call 794-7464 if you have experienced any of the following: harassing notes or letters, telephone calls, verbal or physical assaults, discrimination on the job, loss of a job or home because of your lifestyle.

Your cooperation in assisting the NGLTF in compiling this vital information is strongly encouraged and greatly appreciated.

ARKANSAS WOMEN PLAN RETREAT

LITTLE ROCK - The Women's Project in Little Rock is planning their retreat for April 15 - 17.

Held in a state park lodge, the Arkansas Women's Retreat will begin on April 15 at 4 pm and run until 1 pm on Sunday. Women interested in participating are asked to send their \$20 registration fee to the Women's Project, 2224 Main, Little Rock, AR 72206 by April 4.

Organizers ask that women come to the retreat "prepared to give workshops and lead discussions" on topics they wish to discuss. As the retreat will not be highly organized, bring creative energy and ideas, as well as musical instruments, songs, poetry, and things to share or sell (such as women's books, records, crafts). Children are welcome, but bring toys and books and games to entertain them.

Other things to bring: bedding for bunks, blankets or sleeping bag and warm clothes; food for the weekend. You must supply all your own food. There are refrigerators for storage, but you will need cooking utensils, cups and glasses. Bring something to share with others at a large group meal Saturday night; sports equipment or games; flashlights, towels, toiletries; children, friends, family.

Animals must be kept on leash and in your car. Do not bring any alcohol or drugs.

For further information, call 501-372-5113.

HERLAND WINS NOMINATION

OKLAHOMA CITY - Over one-hundred lesbians and gay men attended the annual Gay and Lesbian Awards Ceremony sponsored by the Metropolitan Community Church in Oklahoma City on March 12th.

In addition to the formal affair were several Herland board members who were surprised when Herland was announced as being one of the nominees for Outstanding Community Organization. Although it lost the award to the Oasis Community Center, Herland's Board President said, "We were very pleased that Herland was nominated."

Other award winners included Donna DeSalvo, for Outstanding Female Entertainer - Live Performance and the Hi-Lo Club's April, for Outstanding Female Bartender.

COME TO HERLAND'S RETREAT

It's RETREAT TIME!!! Come on out to Boiling Springs State Park on April 8th to Herland's Spring Retreat.

Enjoy the company of great women and the great outdoors. Bring your sleeping bag, toiletries, flashlight, guitar, etc, and don't forget something to eat for three glorious days.

Herland invites EVERY woman to come join us in the fun. If you can't get your registration in by April 2, call 672-4141 or 794-7464 for directions and info on what to bring with you.

DO IT! YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH: BARBARA CLEVELAND By Sondra Metzger

This is the first in a series of interviews with the women of the Herland Sister Resources collective. To introduce this column, the first interview is with the woman that some of us involved with Herland have nicknamed "Mother Herland". Initially, I thought this was going to be a biographical sketch of a very ambitious, dynamic, proud woman. Barbara Cleveland, however, turned it into an educational and historical experience which I thought may be of interest to Herland's readers.

Barbara did not dwell on herself very long while being interviewed. Her introduction to women's movements was in the late 1970's, when she was hounded by friends to become more politically aware of what was happening to women. At that time, there was one feminist newspaper in print, Sister Advocate. There was also a women's resource center at 36th and Western in

Continued on page 2

IN THIS ISSUE OF HSR NEWSLETTER:

- An Interview With B.C.
- Olivia Celebrates #15
- Book Reviews

SPRING RETREAT FOR WOMEN

NAME(S) _____

 ADDRESS _____
 CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____
 PHONE (____) _____

_____ I would like to help at the retreat.

_____ I can provide _____

_____ I would like to provide a scholarship.

_____ I would like a scholarship.

Pre-registration is \$17-20; Please pay in this range based on your ability. Upon receipt of your registration form, a map to the campsite and a list of what to bring with you will be mailed to you.

Mail this completed form and your check to:

Herland Sister Resources
c/o Laura, Camp Director
4924 S. Kathy Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73135

Deadline for pre-registration is April 2, 1988.
For further information call (405) 672-4141.

Oklahoma City. "The people who ran it were my heroines," Barbara said. "They would get a phone call in the middle of the night and go to wherever the rape victim was. They would stay with her through the hospital examination, through police questioning, right through to the court date. They were there to support the victim and make sure she was not victimized again by the system."

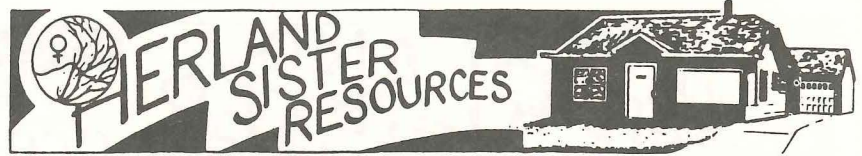
At this time, Barbara was a medical technician in a lab at one of the hospitals and saw how the women were treated when they came in. She witnessed first hand the anguish those women suffered. The women with the resource center amazed Barbara. Not only were they helping rape victims, but they were changing attitudes statewide about rape. They were forcing people to be accountable for what they did, they were helping victims not to be victimized again. "It was astronomical what they were doing," Barbara said. "When it shut down, a few friends and I decided there was a need for a support group. From this support group grew concerts by women performers to raise money for women's causes. Things were being put in me and on me by all those people who were so into the movement."

Around 1980, Barbara joined first the Women's Political Caucus and then the National Organization for Women. "There was a push across the country for the National Organization for Women to deal with lesbian issues," she said, "which they weren't ready to do." Because of all the women coming into the state to work toward passage of the ERA, it was an exciting time for women in Oklahoma. Through these two organizations, Barbara became more involved in women's issues. "I participated in parades in Chickasha and Pauls Valley, handing out leaflets for the ERA," she recalls.

It was in 1979 that Barbara had attended her first national women's music festival. "There were 4,000 people there," she explained, "women of all ages. There were musicians, books. I felt the energy." She wanted to do something in this area. Through the teachings of a friend, Gayle Marie, Barbara learned how to produce a concert and held her first of many at the Nite Life, now Razy's. Her second concert was staged in 1981, in Norman. It was there that word got around that two women wanted to start a bookstore. Barbara's first visit to a women's bookstore had been in Nashville, Tennessee. "I was amazed, simply amazed," she says now. "There were records by and about women, books by and about women. And one whole wall of nothing but books about Black women. I just tingled all over."

Once people began hearing about the bookstore donations started coming in. Several women got together and talked an older woman into letting them use her house as the bookstore. This was the beginning of the Herland Bookstore on northwest 19th. "After getting her permission, they went in a tore the place apart, just gutted it out," Barbara said. "Gobs and gobs of people came. All kinds of people. There was great community spirit. The next weekend, no one showed. Here was this lady's storefront, all torn up, dusty, nothing being done. The lady padlocked the place and wouldn't let any of them back in." It later became apparent that the bookstore was not going to open.

A meeting was called by several people who were concerned that the bookstore was not going



ANNOUNCES

IN CONCERT

APRIL 2:
THE SHARTELS OPEN FOR
JASMINE
7:30 p.m.

AT THE CIVIC CENTER LITTLE THEATER
FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL 672-6459

HERLAND SPRING RETREAT
at
BOILING SPRINGS STATE PARK
near Woodward
APRIL 8, 9, & 10

COME ONE, COME ALL !!!

ALL HERLAND COLLECTIVE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO YOU

NEXT MEETING:

SUNDAY, APRIL 24, 6:30 p.m.
CALL 794-7464 for location

to become a reality, and Barbara was among them. They decided to go ahead with the project on their own and put Barbara in charge of the project. "I knew alot of people in alot of places who could help us," she said. "I went to the landlady and promised her that it would open in one month." In July the group started working on the bookstore three to four nights a week and then all weekend. They divided up the duties to get it organized and called bookstores all over the country for information on how to order books. They also had to raise money. The landlady let the group sell some of her antiques at a garage sale that netted them \$300. On August 14th, the bookstore opened. "There weren't many books," Barbara recalls, "but it was open. We waited to see what would happen." The group was allowed to sell books at the coffee houses which were being held at the Women's Resource Center in Norman. Barbara also sold books at some of the local women's bars. Barbara worked many of the weekends for the first 2½ years the store was open, prior to Herland becoming a collective. Since she worked there so much, it soon became known as Barbara's bookstore. "I agreed to work there, but it was for everyone," she said. "Everyone thought since it was 'my' bookstore, why should I be asking for volunteers to work there? I had a hard time asking people to do anything, anyway." The library was opened in 1983 with the donation of books from a friend. "At that time," she explained, "it was only a browsing library." When asked what she would like to see in

Herland's future, now that she is an Honorary Board member (rather than an active board member), Barbara explained that it still isn't the all-around resource center that she had visualized. "This drives me," she said. "It is only partially there. The opportunity for workshops and book readings is there." Barbara feels that there is room to become more than the predominantly lesbian group Herland has become. She would like to see it be more involved with all women and not be so focused on one group. "I would like to see things being done with Herland's name to give it more strength and validity. When NOW decided to confront the lesbian issue, they invited us over to a conference where Elenor Smeal was to speak. I set up a table at the conference and sold enough books to pay the rent for one month. Once I invested my whole tax refund and bought books about Black women to sell at a Black Liberated Arts Conference. I sold almost every book on the first day. Since Herland became a collective, we haven't been to one of their (BLAC) events. I am more than a lesbian and I cannot restrict myself to a lesbian world. We all have to live in this world. I'm tired of living in the middle. I am an educated Black woman. Gotta be a lesbian here, can't be a lesbian there. Women should all be working together whether we're lesbians or not, to get the women the support they need. Herland Sister Resources should be

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672-6459
1-353-6861 (LAWTON)
VOLUNTEER INFO: 672-4141
ADVERTISING: 794-7464

DEADLINE on all advertising and submissions is the 15th of each month.
SUBSCRIPTIONS to this Newsletter are free by calling any number above.

Continued from page 2

a women's resource center and should not back off from any women's issue, whether it is problems associated with single parenting, issues of women of color, lesbian issues, child-care, rape, etc. They don't need to tell everyone they're lesbian. Herland needs to concentrate on serving the needs of all women. You can't cram something down people's throats (lesbianism) if they're not ready for it, but you can educate them.

At age 43, Barbara is embarking on a new adventure and may be moving to Ohio to work on her PhD. She will leave an indelible mark on the women's movement in Oklahoma. In March she brought Robin Flower and Nancy Vogl to Oklahoma City. With Jasmine on April 2nd, she produces what she considers to be her final concert before her departure. We thank Barbara for her love, concern, advice, insights, courage and the giving of herself to make life better for women. We wish her well on her journey and hope she returns, to again be a part of the collective that is Herland.

Editor's Note: This new monthly column will be used as a vehicle to introduce Herland's readers to various women involved with the Herland collective. It is hoped that this column will help to encourage friendship and facilitate a sense of sharing within the women's community. The editor extends her gratitude to Sondra Metzger for her time and expertise in writing this article.

HERLAND SEEKS BOARD MEMBERS

OKC - In preparation for the future, the number of Board positions has been increased from 15 to 17. Due to this increase Herland has Board vacancies to fill with women who are interested in the organization and progression of Oklahoma's women's community.

Anyone wanting to get involved with women's collective future is encouraged to attend the next Herland Board meeting on April 24.

SUE FINK: CERTIFIED OUTRAGEOUS

A CONCERT REVIEW

Like bread and butter, they went together. Complimenting each other's musical and comedic talents, Oklahoma City's own Donna DeSalvo and California's Sue Fink created a concert performance which radiated pure, unadulterated delight last March 19th.

Sitting on a high stool and wearing a flowing white printed blouse over a black turtleneck pullover and slacks and sporting her inimitable good humor, Donna made a class act of her opening for Sue Fink. Accompanying herself on guitar, Donna treated the gathering to a number of her own compositions including "Pack Up Old Barney" and "My Two Sisters" among others. Obviously pleased with her brand of entertainment, the audience called her back for an encore of "Ode to Robie".

After a brief intermission Sue Fink shed the crutches she had been hobbling around on earlier in the day and gave the assembly an unrivaled performance. Paying no attention to the knee she had injured, for the next two hours Sue Fink moved back and forth across the stage to accompany herself on a novel band of musical apparatus. These instruments, including two which looked like electric organs, but emitted differing sounds and a box that created drum noises, were connected to a computer terminal and keyboard on stage right which she periodically consulted throughout her concert. Without the computer, she said, the instruments are useless. With it, a multitude of wonderful sounds can be generated -- and they were.

For several numbers Sue accompanied herself "womanually" on one or the other instrument. On others she allowed the computer compositions, all of which she had programmed herself, to do the work. Her music included rock, jazz and blues selections from her 1985 album "Big Promise" and a num-

ber of others which are planned for her upcoming, but not-yet-produced, album.

With reverberating audience response, Sue's performance was perforated by frequent interludes with humor. At one point she said, "I think it's time that I changed your lives forever." Her listeners were about to be "certified outrageous". Promising that "you will never feel the same again," she invited everyone to "pick a pitch and hum." They did. Asking for trust, she stressed that she and her listeners had much in common: "You eat, I eat; you pay most of your bills, I pay most of my bills; you flush the toilet, I flush the toilet; you smile, I smile; you flirt, I flirt; you kiss, I kiss; you fall in love, I go to the next town! Now, we've established basic trust." The audience roars. Suddenly she began to shake. Her head snapped to the left, then to the right, and her arms became rigid. Her hands shook. Her eyes closed, then jerked open. In another voice she said, "I'm Sutha. I speak through Sue and I'm glad I do." What followed for the next five minutes brought tears of mirth to this reviewer's eyes. The respite of absurdity ended with the audience being "certified outrageous" by the woman who undoubtedly holds the title.

Later, Sue explained why she behaves as she does. Tired of seeing depression around her, she wants women to find the joy in themselves -- laughter and self-confidence. By performing in an honest, and not unnatural, outrageous manner, she helps that process along.

Called back for an encore, Sue asked for audience participation in writing her final number, then incorporated their responses into a humorous finale of hope.

A positive theme ran through her music and audience interaction. The world could use more Sue Finks. It feels an honor to have such talent in the women's camp. And, the women who came to see her got more than their money's worth. They got "certified.... outrageous."

K.L.

The Book Corner

BOOK REVIEWS IN BRIEF

By Jane Casey

ROMANCE NOVELS PROVIDE GOOD READING

Occasionally, I am asked to give my expert opinion on "What is a good book to read?" Well, to me, any book that deals with lesbianism, fiction or otherwise, is worthwhile reading. However, I realize that some people have a few more stipulations than that. So, let us begin with a discussion of authors who write Lesbian romance novels.

A very good place to start is with Katherine V. Forrest. If the reader likes erotic, romantic literature, she may enjoy Ms. Forrest's *Curious Wine* or *An Emergence of Green*. Both of these novels are very tender, romantic love stories and are two of her finer works. Her other novels seem a little shallow by comparison, but all of them are enjoyable reading material. Ms. Forrest's *Daughters of a Coral Dawn* is a delightful science fiction about a planet populated almost entirely by Lesbians. Her *Amateur City* and *Murder at the Nightwood Bar* are both murder mysteries (although, the real mystery is, when does the lesbian detective get intimate with the beautiful witness?). Ms. Forrest's forte lies in her ability to write a very erotic, romantic, and intimate love story. If this subject matter is to your liking, then you should enjoy her work.

Another excellent author of the romantic novel is Sarah Aldridge. Ms. Aldridge manages to combine romance with some sort of social consciousness. Her plots remain basically the same with all eight of her novels: woman meets

woman, women fall in love, women overcome some inner crisis, and then women live happily ever after. (Come on, now, they have to call this stuff "fiction" for some reason).

Although the plots are simplistic in nature, it's that inner crisis that will touch your heart. Her book *Misfortune's Friend* is about a young Lesbian who learns that a crippled leg is not the worst handicap that can afflict a person, as she falls in love with another student. *Magdalena* enlightens us to the social injustices that are borne by the aging and homeless in a story that tells of a prominent opera star who becomes a bag lady living on the streets after her Lesbian lover dies. Sarah Aldridge creates an old-fashioned Lesbian love story -- with a happy ending.

If the reader likes a little mystery and adventure with their romance, then Camarin Crae is an author to read. Ms. Crae's first novel, *Winged Dancer*, is an exciting who-done-it, murder mystery/adventure that takes its heroine to the far-off corners of the world as well as to familiar places of the heart. Another novel entitled *Soul Snatcher* is an intriguing mystery/adventure about an introverted lesbian who tries to live her self-assured, identical twin sister's life. It's a shocker of an ending. If you like mystery and adventure to go along with romance, you'll really enjoy Camarin Crae's books.

Well, that's about it for this discussion, but before I end, let me say that the opinions stated here are my own, and you may or may not agree with them. Also, I do not mean to imply that only Lesbian romance novels are worthwhile reading. Quite the contrary. There are many aspects to the Lesbian lifestyle, but I have limited the scope of this article to romance novels. The purpose of this writing is to introduce you to but a few of the many authors whose works are enjoyable reading. Ma-

ny women have contributed to Lesbian literature. We'll discuss a few more of them next month. Until then, check out some of the books on the Herland table you'll find at various functions about our fair city.

Note: The Editor extends her sincere appreciation to Jane Casey for her offer to introduce Herland's readers to these books, and to her intentions to continue this column in future issues of the HSP Newsletter.

POETRY: WORDS OF WISDOM

By special request from a reader, the following poem is printed from the book, *When I am an Old Woman, I Shall Wear Purple*:

Social Security
by Barbara Bolz

She knows a cashier who
blushes and lets her use
food stamps to buy tulip
bulbs and rose bushes.

We smile each morning as I
pass her -- her hand always
married to some stick
or hoe, or rake.

One morning I shout,
"I'm not skinny like
you so I've gotta run
two miles each day."

She begs me closer, whispers
to my flesh, "All you need,
honey, is to be on welfare
and love roses."



Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

					1	2 JASMINE! Civic Center Little Theatre 7:30 p.m.
3	4	5	6	7	8 HERLAND SPRING RETREAT BOILING SPRINGS STATE PARK IN WOODWARD 4 p.m.	9 NOW Mtg. 12:30 pm. YWCA SHARTEL at HSR Retreat
10 SPRING RETREAT ENDS AT NOON	11	12	13	14	15 MARY REYNOLDS The Cantina Del Paseo 9 p.m.	16 6pm - Women's SUPPER CLUB at the Side Kicks 9pm - SISTERS OF SWING at Pumps Bar & Grill
17	18	19 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS THE SHARTELS CAFE STAGE 7:30 p.m.	20 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS	21 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS	22 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS	23 FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS PEGGY JOHNSON 2 p.m. at the ARTS FESTIVAL
24 HERLAND 6:30p. BOARD MTG.	25	26	27	28	29	30 WOMEN AGAINST RAPE Meet at YWCA 12:30 PEGGY JOHNSON at CANTINA Del Paseo 9 p.m.

A Herland Calendar

Listing events sponsored by various entities, and presented as a community service by Herland

Jasmine

in concert
CIVIC CENTER LITTLE THEATER

APRIL 2, 1988
7:30 P.M.



CAROL SCHMIDT



MICHELE ISAM

JASMINE....

Represents a cool classic fusion of jazz and pop genres. Their songs exhibit a passion and sophistication of true jazz yet lyrical and musical elements of contemporary chart music.

TICKETS:

EARTH NATURAL FOODS
49th & Western (OKC)
309 S. Flood (Norman)

or Call: 528-0020
672-6459

GENERAL ADMISSION \$8



OPENING PERFORMANCE

THE
SHARTELS



PSA

Around the Country

NEW MOON: NEW LESBIAN MAGAZINE

AMES, IOWA - Proclaiming that it will "Provide for lesbians what MS. has provided for feminists", a soon-to-be journalism graduate from Iowa State University is firing up the presses on a "magazine for alternative womyn".

New Moon is the brainchild of Claire Hueholt a senior about to graduate with a degree in journalism. She explains that "Womyn with alternative lifestyles have a number of lesbian publications to choose from in the United States. However, none up to this point, have taken a national perspective of the community". She plans to have the magazine on the newsstands by the first of October, 1988.

The magazine is to be a semi-slick national publication for lesbians that will be published quarterly. Hueholt said, "It's time that we begin looking at ourselves as a true positive community with unique interests and issues. This magazine will be the first national voice for us. *New Moon* will provide a national unified voice. We'll be the MS. of the lesbian community in the U.S."

Hueholt is currently in the process of assembling a list of potential subscriptions, shareholders, advertisers, and writers and photographers currently working in news media who would be interested in contributing to the new magazine.

Contents of the magazine will include features, profiles, travel, arts/entertainment, editorials, columns, news, short stories/poetry, sports, and classified advertising. Hueholt expects a nationwide circulation of about 10,000 women. Subscriptions for the first year of publication will cost \$15.00.

Anyone interested in contributing in any way or anyone who would like a subscription, contact Claire Hueholt, Editor; 2 Kings Terrace; Ames, Iowa 50010; (515)292-1972.

A NEW KIND OF SORORITY

The University of California at Los Angeles has given official recognition to a sorority formed by lesbian students, says an article printed in the March 9th issue of the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Nine women applied for university sanction of their organization, Lambda Delta Lambda, saying they felt excluded from other sororities on the campus. Under university rules, however, they may not bar heterosexual women from joining.

University officials and gay activists said they believed Lambda Delta Lambda was the first gay-oriented sorority or fraternity recognized for participation in a regulated Greek-letter system at an American college or university. The new U.C.L.A. sorority is not affiliated with any national Greek organization.

LANDMARK JUSTICE DEPARTMENT STUDY ADDRESSES ANTI-GAY VIOLENCE

WASHINGTON, DC - A recent US Department of Justice study of violence based on sexual orientation, race, religion, and ethnicity has concluded that such crimes are "widespread" and appear to be increasing. According to the report,

"the most frequent victims of hate violence today are blacks, Hispanics, Southeast Asians, Jews and gays and lesbians. Homosexuals are probably the most frequent victims."

The study, which was undertaken after sustained lobbying by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) and other professional and civil rights groups, was sponsored by the National Institute of Justice--the research arm of the Justice Department. It was conducted by Abt Associates, an independent research group in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The report's conclusions are based on interviews with forty respondents, including representatives of the criminal justice system, constituency organizations, including NGLTF, and organizations devoted to preventing hate violence.

Commented Kevin Berrill, Director of NGLTF's Anti-violence Project, "This study confirms what gay and other minority communities have long understood: that crimes based on prejudice are widespread and increasing, that such crimes are devastating to the victims and their communities, and that the criminal justice system has not been responsive enough to this problem."

According to the NIJ-sponsored report, crimes of bias "are far more serious than comparable crimes that do not involve prejudice, because they are intended to intimidate an entire group...our country is founded upon principles of equality, freedom of association and individual liberty; as such, bias crimes tear at the very fabric of our society." Despite the far-reaching consequences of hate crimes, the report acknowledges that "the criminal justice system, like the rest of society, has not recognized the seriousness of the hate violence problem."

The NIJ report concedes some of the particular problems facing anti-gay violence victims, such as the fact that gay victims often fear public exposure and, along with Southeast Asians, are especially reluctant to report crime. While noting that "homosexuals are probably the most frequent victims," the NIJ report states that "almost none" of the statutes that address crimes of bias include gay and lesbian victims of bias." Accordingly, it calls for strategies to "encourage legislatures to include gays and lesbians in their statutes." The report goes further to recommend training for police and prosecutors in identifying, investigating, and prosecuting crimes based on prejudice, and in working with victims and their communities.

According to NGLTF's Berrill, the NIJ study, along with the recent passage of the hate crime statistics bill in the House Judiciary Committee, suggest that anti-gay violence is beginning to be recognized as a significant problem--one no less deserving of study and remedy than other types of crime motivated by bigotry. "In the face of this report and our own community's research in anti-gay violence, officials can no longer credibly deny or minimize this problem," Berrill said.

A POINT TO PONDER . . .

If boys do it and girls don't --
Who are the boys doing it with?

Potpourri

NATIVE AMERICANS SOUGHT

Plans are being made to hold a Native American Lesbian conference and All Womyns Sundance Ceremony near Phoenix, Arizona in July, 1988.

Charlene O'Rourke and Beverly Little Thunder of Phoenix are organizing the event and plan to dance four days. They seek the support of any women of any color to assist in the ceremony. "We will need women to learn the songs and drum for four days. We will need women to build the sweat fires and gather wood. We will need trucks to go on water runs and women for security. We also need women to cook during the four days for the drum group," said Charlene. Any woman who desires is needed to pray and offer support from the outer circle of the arbor. However, they ask that for this year, at least, only Native American women who have danced previously or have knowledge of the ceremony dance within the mystery circle during the four days. They also ask that any women who may be coming let them know in advance so they can plan on who will be there.

Native American women who wish to pledge to dance even one day should be aware that there is preparation which needs to begin soon. There are items that need to be assembled during this time as well as several periods of fasting to be done. This is why they ask that women contact them as soon as they feel they may want to dance.

The ceremony will take place in St. John, Arizona. It is high desert and water must be hauled in. There are five miles of dirt road to travel from the main paved road. The road is easily travelled during the time of year the ceremony is planned, and the nearest town is 28 miles away.

This spring they plan a two-week work crew to St. John to dig post holes and set poles up for the arbor. Also, several new sweat lodges will be built. Anyone with the time to travel is welcome to join Charlene and Beverly in completing this task. During the summer for several weeks prior to the ceremony there will be women on the land working in preparation for this event.

There is an understanding that there be no alcohol or drugs, including marijuana. No cameras or tape recordings of any kind will be permitted of the ceremony. Firearms are prohibited. Anyone bringing any of the aforementioned items will be asked to turn them in to security until they leave the ceremonial grounds.

All women, of all colors, straight or lesbian are invited to join in this ceremony. Beverly and Charlene especially seek other Native American lesbians, because they now know that they are not the only Native American lesbians who desire to follow ancestral ways.

For more information you may write or call: Charlene O'Rourke or Beverly Little Thunder; 2505 West Monroe Street; Phoenix, Arizona 85009; 602-272-3906.

THE BASKET AND THE BOW

A GATHERING OF AMERICAN INDIAN GAYS & LESBIANS

MINNEAPOLIS - A conference entitled *The Basket and the Bow: A Gathering of American Indian Gays and Lesbians* is scheduled for June 18-19, 1988 in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

The conference coordinators say that it was the consensus of American Indians who participated in the National March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Rights that the

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

time has come for such a conference. They also feel it is necessary for the support and encouragement of gays and lesbians who are members of the Native American ethnic group. "As individuals from many tribes/nations, we decided that it is time to celebrate our identities as gays and lesbians; it is through our sexual identities that we are strengthened and able to provide leadership individually and collectively" the organizers said.

The target audience for this gathering is American Indian Gays and Lesbians, their partners, Gay and Lesbian service providers, and American Indian service providers. Workshops may be segregated to allow participants to discuss issues freely. Workshop topics will include: AIDS, Spirituality, Reservation/Urban issues, Homophobia, Internalized Oppression, Being Out, The Politics of Racism, Family issues.

For further information, ideas for workshops/speakers, donations, call Lee Staples at (612)870-4848; Sharon Day at (612)222-5127; or write: The Basket and the Bow; P.O. Box 10229; Minneapolis, MN 55458-3229.

OLIVIA RECORDS: CELEBRATING 15 YEARS

THE FIRST WOMEN'S MUSIC LABEL

OAKLAND, CA - Olivia Records, the world's oldest and largest independent label specializing in women artists, celebrated its 15th anniversary, on January 21, 1988.

Over the past 15 years, Olivia has released 31 albums and sold over 1 million albums. Their productions range from folk to pop, soft-rock to country and strive to meet the diverse demands within the women's cultural movement.

Judy Dlugacz, an original founder of Olivia and President of the company, is proud of what Olivia has accomplished over the first fifteen years. "We have watched the music grow and develop and seen the wonderful effects of literally thousands of women's music concerts. We have received thousands of letters over the years and know that the music has touched millions of lives around the world."

During its history, Olivia has released albums which speak to the lives of women, and especially lesbians. "It has always been Olivia's main focus to create safe spaces and visibility for women to find each other and build a conscious and growing movement to sustain our feminist vision," says Dlugacz. "It is through the music that Olivia has helped thousands of women come out of the closet and be proud of their identity. If we accomplish nothing else we have done more than we could have ever dreamed when we began back in 1973."

Everyone in the music industry we talked to said it couldn't be done," recalls Dlugacz. "We started Olivia as a collective with almost no experience and very little money. If someone had spoken of a 'track' on a recorder, we wouldn't have known what they were talking about. But we were in touch with the right people at the right time."

Olivia Records began in Washington, DC back in 1973, with a group of women looking to start an alternative business that would offer opportunities for women to do their political work full time while helping to develop a feminist political/cultural movement. When singer/songwriter/musician Cris Williamson came to town, she provided the needed impetus. "During an interview with Meg Christian, we talked about some of the difficulties women had performing in the (male dominated/male oriented) industry," says Cris Williamson. "Olivia was formed soon after, relying more on spunk than savvy."

With \$4,000 donated by supportive feminists and the help of a woman engineer, the collective cut its first 45 record in 1974. Featuring Meg Christian and Cris Williamson, the re-

cord sold 5,000 copies and gave the collective a shot of much-needed momentum. A first album followed six months later, made for a scant \$11,000 and again produced, performed and packaged solely by women. At concerts, Dlugacz remembers, "We'd go to the audience and say, 'Okay, we need a distributor in Chicago. If anyone is interested, please see us after the show.'" Through this method, Olivia began its own international distribution network.

Recognizing the need for a closer geographic tie to the recording industry, the collective moved to California in 1975, where they recorded Olivia's best-selling album, Cris Williamson's "The Changer and the Changed." Hand carried from listener to listener and store to store, the album has sold over 250,000 copies. "More than any other single factor, 'The Changer' made it possible to insure Olivia's success," says Dlugacz.

During its 15th anniversary year, Olivia will release an album with rock/blues belter Dianne Davidson on Second Wave, a subsidiary

label. Other plans include the release of "The Changer and the Changed" on compact disc and the recording of Lucie Blue Tremblay's second album.

"Fifteen years is a real milestone. We're celebrating by again stressing the grassroots, our natural audience who appreciates quality music by incredibly talented women," says Dlugacz. "We plan for Olivia to celebrate its 100th anniversary, so we're working now for the financial stability and creative growth that will take it into the next century."

Cris Williamson calls Olivia "an idea born out of real necessity. The legendary mother of invention.... Like myself, Olivia is a constant work in progress, helping to carry and shape the elements of a culture too long silent."

Editor's Note: Now that Olivia is "again stressing the grassroots", why doesn't each of us sit down and write them a letter telling how we feel about Nancy Day and her music? We can mail our letters to: Olivia Records; 4400 Market Street; Oakland, CA 94608.

MARIAH WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS ANNOUNCES UPCOMING WOMEN-ONLY VACATIONS

Mariah Wilderness Expeditions, California's only women-owned and operated whitewater rafting and wilderness expeditions company, is offering a variety of outdoor trips for women of all ages and levels of experience. On the schedule for 1988 are the following trips:

- Rafting the Grand Canyon: August 16-28; 13 days, 20 women, \$1493
- Rafting the Rogue River in Oregon: June 28-July 2; 5 days, 20 women, \$525
- Rafting in Costa Rica and a Jungle Tour: November 11-20; 11 days, 20 women, \$785
- Trek Nepal: November 2-30; 28 days, 15 women, \$1640
- Horsepacking in the Grand Tetons: Trips for the novice and the experienced; 5 and 6 days, 5 women, \$700-\$850; offered from July through September
- Sea Kayak Baja: December 27-January 6; 10 days, 10 women, \$650

For further information on these trips and other trips for women only call Donna Hunter; Mariah Wilderness Expeditions; 415-233-2303 or write her at P.O. Box 248; Point Richmond, CA 94807.

NWSA TO PUBLISH NEW JOURNAL - SOLICITING SUBMISSIONS

The National Women's Studies Association is pleased to announce that it will begin publishing the NWSA Journal, a new interdisciplinary, multicultural, feminist journal which will be located in the Center for Women's Studies at the Ohio State University. The first issue is scheduled for Spring 1988. The Journal is actively soliciting articles of interest to women's studies researchers, teachers, and others involved with feminist concerns. In the review process, essays will be read anonymously by women's studies scholars before a final publication decision. (If you wish to participate in the reviewing process see last two sentences of this article).

Submissions in all disciplines are welcome. Of special interest is work written from an interdisciplinary approach, research focusing on feminist pedagogy, and articles by and about women of color. The journal will also publish reviews of books, films, and other educational materials, and, on occasion, some student research. Some art work, including photography, poetry, and short fiction will be considered when relevant. One future issue will focus on analysis of the connections between sexuality and race or class; another on the theoretical issues encountered by feminist scholars in writing of the lives of women, e.g. biography or personal narratives. Articles should be written from a feminist perspective and in a language and style accessible to a variety of readers.

Authors should submit manuscripts in duplicate. The NWSA cannot consider material previously published or that which is under consideration elsewhere. Length should not exceed 30 typewritten, double-spaced pages (less than 9,000 words), and of course, shorter articles may be submitted. Endnotes also should be double-spaced. In addition, authors are requested to send an abstract of no more than 300 words. The author's name and institutional affiliation, if any, should appear only on a separate cover sheet. Manuscript form should be in accordance with the most recent edition of A Manual of Style (University of Chicago Press). Submissions will be returned only to authors who include a stamped, self-addressed, 9 X 12 envelop. Those who wish to review books and other materials should write to the editor requesting reviewer forms. Manuscripts, correspondence, and books, films, and educational materials for review should be addressed to:

MaryJo Wagner, Editor
NWSA Journal
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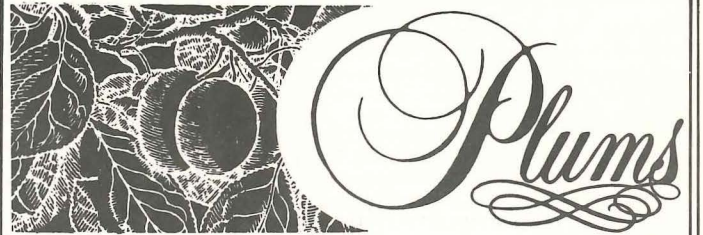
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