

# HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES



VOLUME 5, NUMBER 5  
MAY, 1988

HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC.  
2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK 73112

## Around the Corner

### RAPE: IT EFFECTS US ALL

OKLAHOMA CITY - This year's Rape Awareness Week will run from May 22nd through May 28th, and its theme will be Rape - It Effects Us All.

Sponsored by the Young Women's Christian Association, a Take Back the Night Rally will be held on Thursday May 26th at 6:30 PM in Memorial Park at NW 36th and Classen Blvd. Peggy Johnson will provide the evening's entertainment and there will be a colorful balloon release.

The psychologically, as well as physically, devastating crime of rape is an ever-present danger for every woman. The need for stricter laws, stricter law enforcement, stricter sentencing, and stricter adherence to the sentences handed down by the "juries of their peers" is essential to alleviate the fear with which so many women live. To show your support for these needs, the YWCA asks you to join in the activities at Memorial Park on May 26th. Because, sooner or later, rape effects us all.

### GAY PRIDE WEEK ACTIVITIES BEING PLANNED

OKLAHOMA CITY - The first Gay Pride Parade in Oklahoma is being planned for Oklahoma City. Members of the gay community have been meeting weekly since April 14th to brainstorm Gay Pride Week activities.

The parade, which touches off the week, will begin at Memorial Park at NW 36th and Classen and end at the annual Block Party behind the Oasis building on NW 39th. Everyone is asked to march, even if you feel you must wear a paper bag over your head to protect your identity. It is important that others know of our existence to begin paving the way for future rights.

The theme for this year's week is "Rightfully Proud in '88". A \$100 cash prize is being offered to the person who designs the winning logo for this theme. Anyone may enter the logo contest by submitting their design to the Oasis Community Center, 2135 NW 39th.

Gay Pride Week begins on June 19 and runs through June 25. Planning meetings are being held every Thursday at Oasis at 7:30, and anyone interested in helping to plan this year's festivities is welcome to attend. For further information call Oasis at 525-2437.

### HERLAND RETREAT A SUCCESS

A REVIEW By Karen L. Lewis

WOODWARD - Over seventy women converged at Boiling Springs State Park on April 8th, 9th, and 10th. The park in northwestern Oklahoma was the pleasant scene of much fun, laughter, sharing, dancing, singing, marshmallow roasting, and sisterhood.

Although the air was quite cool and a bit damp for the majority of the weekend, spirits were high, and there seemed to be no lack of things to do.

Friday night was spent greeting newcomers and latecomers into the wee hours of the morning. Sisterhood wove its warm embrace throughout the quaint and cozy stone cottage that serves as the camp kitchen and dining hall. Hearty homemade vegetable beef soup was on hand to welcome Herland's many guests as a blazing fire filled the huge stone fireplace on the back wall of the cottage.

Along about ten o'clock the Spring retreat's most renowned campers pulled in. Kim and Crystal had started out in their little pickup truck - with their dog, Nestle, comfortable in the back - 22 hours earlier from Atlanta, Georgia to join in Herland's weekend of sharing.

During that first evening a small but vocal group of fun-lovers in robust ceremonial fashion christened the camp duly by running a lavender bra up the flagpole.

A cool but dry Saturday was spent in a multitude of interesting endeavors including softball, spelunking at Alabaster Caverns, workshops on spirituality, and silk-screening, and an assortment of games and other activities. Late afternoon saw a flurry of activity in the camp kitchen as women prepared their special dishes for the traditional Saturday night Pot Luck feast, and there was plenty of recipe-swapping among the myriad of culinary artists present during and after dinner.

As soon as the tables were cleared and the dishes washed by much-appreciated volunteers, Mary Reynolds opened the evening's entertainment. The Sisters of Swing were soon do-wopping their easy-listening music into the country air, but as they warmed up, more vigorous toe-tapping sounds began filtering out into the night. Break time saw a variety of items auctioned off to gleeful campers at Herland's semiannual retreat auction. Then, it was time for those notorious Shartels to show up. And, did they ever, in full force. If retreaters did not know what was meant by rocking the night away before that Saturday night, they certainly know what it means now!! There was dancing on the tables, dancing in the aisles, and screaming groupies throwing themselves at the feet of their idols. It was, indeed, quite a frenzied scene at times.

The stroke of midnight found campers gathered 'round the bonfire listening to the soothing music and pensive lyrics of ballads sung by Mary Reynolds. Marshmallows were roasted and quickly devoured. Hot dogs, burned black by the fire, were likewise consumed. As the evening wore on and the glow of firelight danced lightly on now-weary faces, the campers occasionally sang or hummed along to the music until the late hour took them to their various cabins.

Nancy's famous blueberry pancakes greeted sleepy-eyed retreaters Sunday morning. After a brief, optional, non-denominational spiritual gathering it was time to begin clean-up in preparation to break camp.

By early afternoon the group camp was once again silent and empty. The lavender bra no longer waved at the top of the flagpole and laughter no longer flowed from the stone cottage. Another unforgettable Herland Retreat had come to an end.

#### IN THIS ISSUE:

- NOW Conference information
- An Interview With Judy Who?
- Women's Music & Arts Festivals

### W.A.R. EXPANDING

NORMAN - A Cleveland County chapter of Women Against Rape is now forming. Like the Oklahoma County chapter, members will be present at the hearings and trials of rapists to lend support to the victims, and to encourage judges to do right by the victims. This is done simply by their presence in the courtroom. Another aspect to the organization is to lobby legislators to pass laws that will prevent the parole of convicted rapists, as well as increasing their terms of incarceration.

Anyone interested in becoming part of the new Cleveland County chapter is asked to call 528-8544.

Oklahoma County W.A.R. will have its next meeting at VZD's, 4200 N. Western on May 26, at 9 pm after the Take Back the Night Rally.



## FALL RETREAT SCHEDULED

SEQUOYAH STATE PARK - This location has been selected for Herland's next retreat. Situated on the shores of Lake Fort Gibson in the rolling hills of "Green Country" in northeastern Oklahoma, this park offers an assortment of activities including horse-back riding, golfing, swimming, and fishing.

The dates are also set: September 16, 17, and 18, 1988. Registration is once again on a sliding scale from \$17-20 depending on one's ability to pay. With a late registration (at campsite) fee of \$25.

Plans are under way for the Fall Retreat to be slightly different from Herland's past retreats. Herland will offer original down-home cookin' at bargain basement prices for Friday evening, Saturday morning and Saturday noon meals, so you won't have to go hungry if you don't feel like packin' or forget to pack along your own vittles.

So, start planning now to attend another weekend of enjoyable R & R.

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**GENERAL INFO: 495-4390**  
                   794-7464  
                   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.



## ANNOUNCES

ALL HERLAND COLLECTIVE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO YOU

NEXT MEETING:

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 4:30 p.m.  
 CALL 794-7464 for Location

HERLAND'S FALL RETREAT  
 at  
 SEQUOYAH STATE PARK  
 near Wagoner

SEPTEMBER 16, 17, & 18

## MEMORIES FROM HERLAND'S SPRING RETREAT

Photo by Pat Colognesi



Silkscreen artist Cris readies her equipment for printing another Herland Retreat sweatshirt.

Photo by Pat Colognesi



DykeWear in the making:  
 Rhonda details one of her fine blouses.

Photo by Pat Colognesi



Francis Lee Robinson croons to one of the Shartels' many groupies.



# Around the Country

## FULL MOON COFFEEHOUSE REUNION: ARE THEY LOOKING FOR YOU?

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Full Moon Coffeehouse was a bookstore and coffeehouse begun in San Francisco 15 years ago. For over 4 years it created a safe place for women to gather, buy books, listen to poets and musicians, share their art work, and talk to one another over a cup of coffee. It was the first space of its kind, leading the way for many women's businesses that are still in operation today.

Now, 15 years after its opening, and 10 years after its closing, a 10th anniversary reunion celebration is being planned. Planners seek women who were involved with the coffeehouse through work, financial support, entertainment, moral support or being a regular customer. They are looking for missing friends and co-workers: the women who made Full Moon a reality through their effort and support. The reunion is on June 25, 1988.

For more information contact Nanci Stern at 415-863-5081 or Carol Thompson at 408-899-7450 (or 373-0553) or write them at: Full Moon Coffeehouse Reunion, C/O Boof Bray Records, P.O. Box 170606, San Francisco, CA 94117.

## THAT'LL TEACH 'EM !!!

An arrogant response to feminist criticism has cost a Minneapolis advertising agency an \$8 million client. As reported by AP writer Paula Froke, it all started when Neala Schleuning, director of the

Mankato Women's Center, wrote in October to Charles S. Anderson of Duffy Design Group, criticizing parts of a presentation Anderson had made to a marketing conference. Schleuning also objected to a poster ad for the television show "Dynasty" that prominently featured the phrase, "Bitch, Bitch, Bitch."

Mr. Anderson's response was to send Ms. Schleuning a photograph of an African boy kissing a cow's backside and a letter stating, "As the enclosed photo clearly illustrates, the Dinka tribe of East Africa has a rather barbaric ritual... I pass it along to you believing that you will be able to deal with these people in the same firm, yet even-handed manner in which you dealt with us."

When Schleuning objected, she received letters from the parent company, nationally recognized Fallon McElligott. Agency chairman Fallon said he was "appalled" that Anderson had not made arrangements to pay for a one-way trip to Africa for Ms. Schleuning. Creative director McElligott called her the company's "brave missionary to the Dinkas" and said her "amusing" letter had entertained 150 people around the company bulletin board.

"We obviously weren't thinking," said Fallon later. He said her letter had a paragraph referring to the "male gonad style of doing business," and "that hit a raw nerve, because we don't see ourselves like that at all... We allowed our reaction to your criticism to sweep us beyond the bounds of judgment, taste and common decency."

But it was too late for apologies. The Minnesota Women's Consortium had already mailed copies of the photo to other Fallon McElligott clients including Federal Express, The Wall Street Journal and Timex. As a result the award-winning agency lost its 6th largest client, US West (a former Bell company), which stated that due to their "strong and longstanding commitment to pluralism and equal opportunity," they had no choice but to drop their account.

Aside from the distortion and trivialization of African Dinka culture (which no one seems to have mentioned), Kay Taylor of the women's consortium said, "It's imperative that imagemakers, in particular, learn that there is a price for denigrating women."

from the Albuquerque Journal  
1/17/88 and Up and Coming March '88

## GAY AND LESBIAN CONFERENCE

MINNEAPOLIS, MI - The University of Minnesota will be the site of a gay and lesbian conference on May 13, 14, and 15.

Hundreds of people from around the country are expected to attend the event which will feature nationally known leaders like Karen Clark, openly lesbian Minnesota legislator; Karen Thompson, who has been working to overturn court decisions that prevent her from seeing and supporting her lover, Sharon Kowalski, who is confined to a nursing home following an injury; Renee McCoy, National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays, and others.

Goals of the conference include: to provide skills, resources and opportunities for networking that will facilitate participants' abilities to function as grassroots leaders in their own lesbian and gay communities, and to build on the momentum generated by the March on Washington. Its objectives are to build skills, share strategies and resources, interaction with recognized leaders, to give and receive support, set the agenda for the next phases of the gay and lesbian movement, and empowerment for action. Workshops will offer the opportunity to enhance leadership abilities by the exchange of skills and resources.

For information on this conference, contact Emma Hixson at 612-377-5462 or Morris Floyd at 612-377-8118.

## Potpourri



BLOOMINGTON, IN - The National Women's Music Festival will open its 14th annual celebration of women's music on June 2nd, 1988, and run through Sunday, June 5th.

This year the festival adds an entire new day to accommodate the demand for increased depth and number of presentations. Thursday has been added for workshop programming and a variety of intensive (3 hours) workshops have been prepared which include topics like "Finding Self--Recovering From Shame", "Healing Ourselves: Our Adventures of Consciousness", and "What are You Eating/What's Eating You?"

On Friday, workshops on money and how to start your own business will be offered. Workshops on many other topics will also be available, along with the annual Writers Conference, Older Women's Series, the Women's Classical Music Series, and a Spirituality Conference. Scheduled also are the National Emerging Woman Art Exhibit, Performer Showcases, and the Round Robin/Coffeehouse/Open Mike Stage, and of

course lots of live women's music.

For those readers out there who are unaware of this annual event, the Festival is produced by Women In the Arts/National Women's Music Festival, Inc., a non-profit feminist organization. WIA/NWMF members are dedicated to promoting women's culture by offering opportunities to explore that culture and to experience first-hand women's creative power.

For more information or if you are interested in bussing up to Bloomington with other women from the OKC area, call Helen at 366-0923.

## MORE WOMEN'S MUSIC FESTIVALS

ALBUQUERQUE, NM - This city will be the scene of Wiminifests 7th annual women's music festival on May 27, 28, and 29.

A women's arts and crafts fair will be included in the festivities this year, along with the traditional Open Mike, Fun in the Sun (volleyball, basketball, etc. in an open, grassy, sunny southwestern old town park), Dances, and, of course, plenty of outstanding music. Featured artists this year include Alix Dobkin, Rhiannon, Heather Bishop, Deidre McCalla, Lucie Blue Tremblay, and Casselberry-DuPree.

For information, call 505-266-0022 or 505-255-7274.

## SOUTHERN WOMEN'S MUSIC & COMEDY FESTIVAL

ATLANTA, GA - The Fifth Annual Southern Women's Music and Comedy Festival will be held from May 26 through May 30 at a private camp 80 miles north of here.

With a growing number of women performers showing up every year, this women's culture gathering is becoming ever more popular. To be a part of the happenings this spring, contact SWMCF; 15842 Chase Street; Sepulveda, CA 91343.

## MORE WOMEN'S HAPPENINGS IN GEORGIA

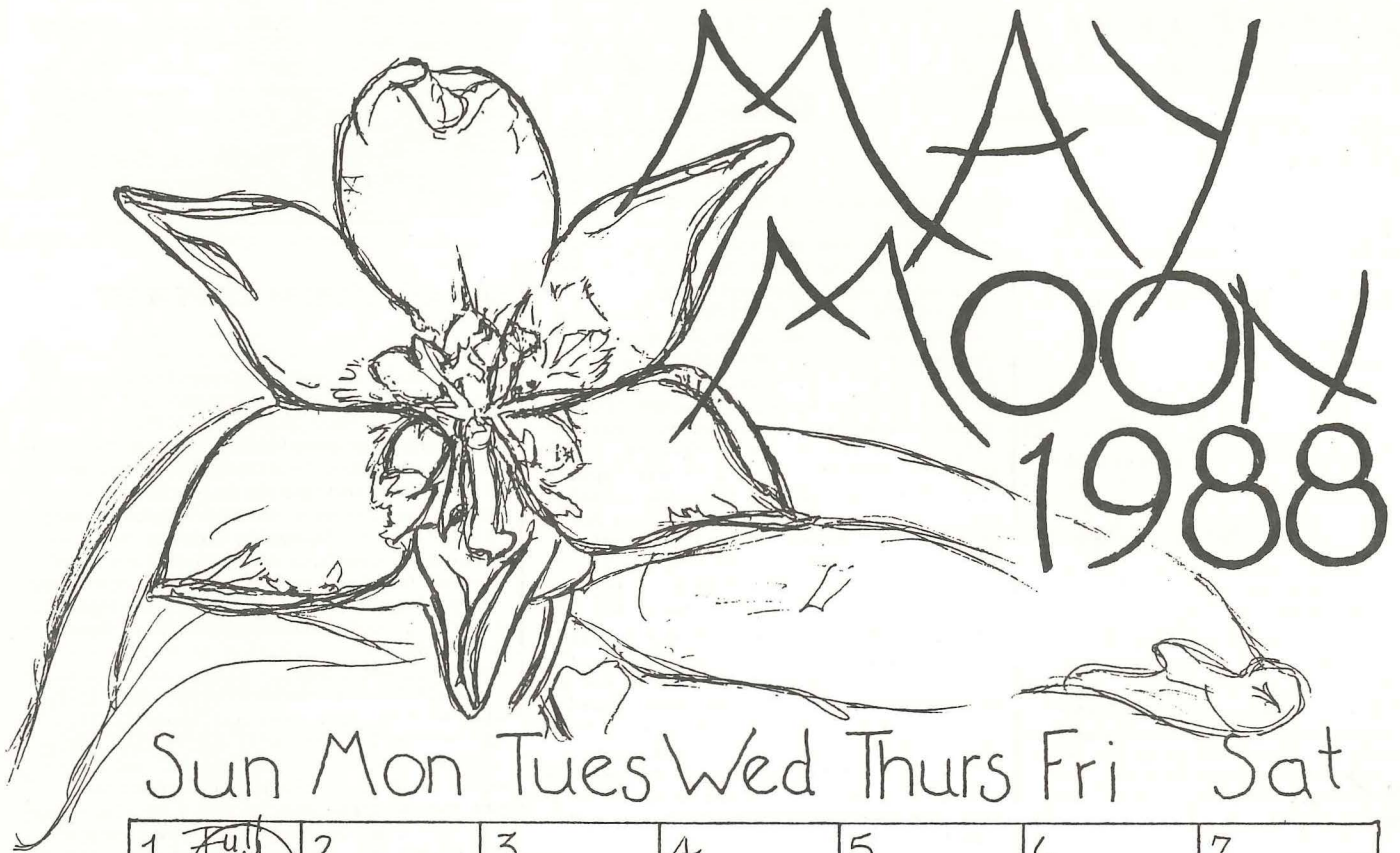
Lesbian writers from throughout the southeast will gather to share their stories, to celebrate their lives, and to enrich one another by bringing together a fertile blend of experience and insight at the tenth annual WomanWrites Conference.

Central Georgia will host the conference beginning June 1 through June 5.

Space is limited, so register early. The cost of \$40-60 per adult includes admission, lodging in dorm-style cabins and excellent vegetarian meals. For further details and registration information, send a SASE to WOMONWRITES '88; 7134 5th Avenue North; St. Petersburg, FL 33710.

Potpourri continued on page 5





Sun Mon Tues Wed Thurs Fri Sat

1 Full Moon	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9 First Quarter	10	11	12	13	14 12:30pm OKC NOW at YWCA 415 NW5 9pm PEGGY JOHNSON at THE CANTINA del PASO on PASO BLVD.
15 New Moon 4:30pm HERLAND BOARD MEETING	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23 Last Quarter	24	25	26 TAKE BACK THE NIGHT RALLY AT NW 36th & CLASSEN 6:30pm W.A.R. MEETING AT VED'S 4200 N. WESTERN from 9-10pm.	27	28
← RAPE AWARENESS				WEEK →		
29	30	31 Full Moon				

# A Herland Calendar

Listing events sponsored by various organizations: presented as a community service by Herland.



## WOMEN'S STUDIES CONFERENCE

A women's Studies Summer Institute to be held July 4-29, 1988 at the Centre for Research and Education on Gender, University of London, will bring together feminists from all over the world to meet and debate issues of common concern. Among the topics included are women and migration, women's diaries, women and crime, and reproductive and genetic engineering. Further information may be obtained from CREG, Institute of Education, Bedford Way, London WC1H 0AL, England.

from SIROW, Jan. '88

expensive surgeon. By goo, you know that I mean male; women just can't understand complicated technicalities like medicine. The higher the fee, the better your face afterward. Don't mess with looking at Before and After pictures; just trust your doctor. If he's abrupt and impatient with your silly questions, that should offer further proof that he's a professional who hasn't time to explain to a mere Lady. Let him decide what you really need. You may go in thinking you only need a little tummy-tuck and come out with a complete make-over for only thousands more!

Think of how it would be if we all had the corrective surgery we need; a nation of lovely mannequins! I think it'd solve a lot of our country's problems. If we all looked a cute as cotton candy, those unemployed bums and homeless people would be so dazzled by our beauty that they'd forget their petty problems in admiration. Like darnin', we could save the country with a few stitches.

Now, I know some of you just might be worried about the cost of this. You shouldn't; your husband is the proper bread-winner, remember? And, if you don't yet have a hubby, this could also correct that disaster. A pretty face and figure is the only fortune you need. As we Ladies say, "Truly needy women should get married." So, if you don't have the ready cash, take out a little loan and look on it as a patriotic investment in your future.

Whew. My little brain is just about turned inside-out from all that. I'd better go watch a soap opera and redo my nails. Bye-bye!

## Judy continued from page 7

think it's important anymore. The truth is, most women are not out of the closet yet and are almost as deeply in the closet as they were 15 years ago. There are pockets of institutions that never existed before, but for the most part they are still in the closet in their jobs, with their families, and some friends. Lots of women still think they are sick or perverted,

that there aren't any other lesbians. Lots don't know they have an option to consider."

To overcome the present financial crisis, Olivia is encouraging people to buy tickets for their 100th anniversary concert, which is planned for the year 2073. This was designed as a "fun" fundraising event, according to Judy, with the specific purpose of showing that they believe Olivia and the culture needs to survive for the next 100 years for the future generations and not just for the last 15 years.

The response to the fundraising is very good. They are in the process of releasing a new album by Dianne Davidson next month on their subsidiary label, Second Wave. There is also one in the making for Lucy Blue Tremblay.

For those artists who are wondering what it would take to be carried on the Olivia label, Judy had this advice: "Develop your own following and find out how good you are through the audience response before sending anything to Olivia. I have gotten good, on-the-way tapes and some terrible tapes. It's really important that you have a strong sense of how good you really are and that you have really honed your craft."

For those who are thinking about starting a business, she had this to offer: "Have some backing, learn something about the business you're going into prior to starting, don't get discouraged, but make sure you have money to do what you need to do to get over the first hump, because it'll be too easy to stop at that point if you don't."

"We had no money and no expertise," she explained, "but we started out of a complete conviction. If you have minimal conviction, you can find out how to do things and convince somebody to help you."

In closing, Judy added, "We intend to be here for as long as we are doing what is needed and what can be supported. I consider it a tremendous victory for having done this for so long."

## WHAT EVERY LADY NEEDS

By Lavinia Wetbrain

Hello, Girls, This is Lavinia Wetbrain, again, of the Ladies Against Women, with more helpful hints for all us happy homemakers. Today, I want to talk about that boon of Ladydom, corrective surgery.

Let's face it, none of us are perfect. We have horrible flaws that keep us from the Barbie-doll perfection so dear to American manhood and consumerdom. Why, those horrible handicaps may even make us too self-conscious to buy extra clothes and do our duty to the economy! Not to mention the trouble it can cause getting a suitable husband.

So, how do we deal with dreadful deformities like too-small bosoms and too-big noses? Some people, like that poor, misguided Miss Fonda, recommend a sensible diet and exercise program. But all true Ladies know that exercise makes us too strong and athletic-looking, which can ruin our helpless image. Furthermore, you can exercise until your false eyelashes fall off without making a bulbous nose look pert. So, what is the answer? Corrective surgery!

The first thing to do is find a good,



Photo by Sandra Metzger



Photo by Sandra Metzger

Sue Fink gave an "Outrageous" performance in Norman on March 19th.

Donna DeSalvo pleased the crowd in her opening for Sue Fink



**CONFERENCE REGISTRATION  
NATIONAL NOW CONFERENCE  
June 24-26, 1988**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Are you a NOW member? Yes  No

Pre-registration Conference Fee—members only **\$35.00**

\_\_\_\_ Members registration fee postmarked on or after May 24, 1988 and/or non-members **\$45.00**

\_\_\_\_ I cannot afford the full fee. Enclosed is what I can afford (applies to NOW members only)\* \$\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ I cannot attend the Conference but enclosed is a contribution to assist others with costs. \$\_\_\_\_\_

Check one to charge your remittance.

Visa  MasterCard MC Bank Number \_\_\_\_\_

Your Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Valid Through \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE: DO NOT mail registration or fees after May 31. Bring them with you. No refunds possible after June 4th.**

\_\_\_\_ I will need special assistance, due to disability.

Specify \_\_\_\_\_

**Volunteer Registration Form**

I can volunteer for \_\_\_\_\_ two-hour shift(s) at the Conference.

My special interest areas are: \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL TO: 1988 NOW Conference 1401 New York Ave., N.W.  
Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20005**

\*Members must bring proof of membership for On-Site Registration. Proof may be 1) membership card, 2) cancelled check, 3) label from National NOW Times.

**HOTEL REGISTRATION  
1988 NATIONAL NOW CONFERENCE**

**MAIL TO: Hyatt Regency Buffalo, Two Fountain Plaza, Buffalo, NY 14202  
Dates of Conference: June 24-26  
1-(800) 228-9000**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ St. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Arrival Time: \_\_\_\_\_

**Reservations subject to availability after May 25, 1988**

Please reserve (circle): **Guaranteed Reservations**

Single \$60.00 Double \$65.00

Triple \$70.00 Quad \$75.00

Suite(s)

Parlor & One Bedroom \$185.00 Two Bedrooms \$250.00

\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_ MasterCard MC Bank Number \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Name \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expires \_\_\_\_\_

**Deposit Check enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

Check-In time is 3:00 p.m.—Check-Out time is 12:00 Noon

SIGNATURE \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**FOR GUARANTEED RESERVATIONS**

I understand that I am liable for one night's room and tax which will be deducted from my deposit or billed through my credit card in the event that I do not cancel or arrive on the date indicated.

**Backup Hotel: The Buffalo Hilton (716) 845-5100  
Same prices—free parking**

**NOW CONFERENCE TO CELEBRATE:  
FROM VISION TO EMPOWERMENT**

BUFFALO, NY - Delegates to the 1988 National NOW Conference will celebrate "Women's Vision, Voices and Votes - The Feminization of Power," June 23-26, in Buffalo, New York. Featured speakers and entertainers include the Honorable Shirley Chisholm, singer Judy Collins, feminist comedienne Roseanne Barr and author Charlotte Fedders.

On Thursday, June 23, buses chartered by NOW will depart from Buffalo to nearby historic Seneca Falls for a day celebrating women's history. Activities will include tours conducted by women park rangers through Elizabeth Cady Stanton's home, the Women's Rights National Historical Park, the Women's Hall of Fame, and the Presbyterian Church where Alice Paul declared the start of the first Equal Rights Amendment campaign in 1923.

Late afternoon ceremonies will feature a reenactment of the first Women's Rights Convention held 140 years ago, with a presentation and debate of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's "Declaration of Sentiments." In addition, an awards ceremony will be held to congratulate winners of NOW's essay contest on the need for the Equal Rights Amendment. The National NOW Board will hold its pre-conference meeting in Seneca Falls.

A separate registration is required for the Seneca Falls day trip. The fee includes transportation and food.

The National NOW Conference will convene officially on Friday, June 24. This is an issues conference at which the delegates will participate in workshops and issue hearings to help determine NOW's legislative and policy agenda, and to decide on major bylaws proposals.

After a full day of workshops on Friday in the Buffalo Convention Center, America's "Domestic Goddess," Roseanne Barr will be the featured entertainer with her irreverent humor. She will also address the Conference on Saturday morning.

Special events planned for Saturday afternoon, in observance of National Gay Pride Day, will be announced later. Issue hearings and regional caucuses will lead into Saturday night's gala entertainment featuring vocalist Judy Collins and the all-women comedy and dance band "Tres Sha Na Na."

Charlotte Fedders, author of Shattered Dreams, an expose of her 16-year tortured marriage to former Securities and Exchange Commission Counsel John Fedders, will speak on Sunday, June 26. Also speaking at the morning plenary will be the Honorable Shirley Chisholm, former congresswoman and the first woman in this century to run for President of the United States. Chisholm presently chairs the National Political Congress of Black Women and is a university professor, lecturer and writer.

Additional highlights of the Conference include a Wellness Clinic to provide free health testing and counseling on health issues by Buffalo General Hospital, and an art exhibition by Western New York women artists.

NOW members planning to visit Canada must be sure to bring proof of U.S. citizenship (i.e. birth certificate, passport or driver's license) for reentry into the United States.

Registration forms are included in this Newsletter. For more information call 528-0604.

from National NOW Times  
Feb/March 1988



# Expressions

THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU! THANK YOU THANK YOU THANK YOU  
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 VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH VERY MUCH

The Herland Board of Directors would like to thank all of you who have sent in your financial support. As you know, Herland's lifeblood is provided only by you. We would very much like to thank those of you who will likely never benefit from Herland's facilities, but who have donated anyway. Like Lesley and Linda in Cambridge, Massachusetts and "T.K." in New York City. THANK YOU!!!

And, to the women of OKC and the surrounding area who have given so much, we send our utmost appreciation. THANK YOU!!!

ED's note: For the sake of privacy the names of local donors will not appear in the newsletter unless the donor makes written request to be so acknowledged.

## EMPTY WALLET - A READER MAKES A POINT

Dear Editor,

An Open Letter to Herland, Rainbow, and Shartel Production Companies:

Thank you for giving us three great concerts featuring Robin Flower, Nancy Vogl, Sue Fink, and Jasmine, and for great opening acts like Peggy Johnson and Donna DeSalvo. I appreciate your efforts. As wonderful as this has been, it has also been a definite blow to my wallet. It's hard enough as it is without trying to come up with the bucks for three concerts and a retreat. I'm sure I'm not the only one feeling the strain.

I was wondering if you could somehow work together to coordinate concerts so we don't have to go broke trying to benefit from them. I really don't care what your reasons are for scheduling things the way you did or why you don't seem to be willing to work together. I'm aware of the spirit of competition as well as tour schedules and traveling expenses for the artists. Surely, the artists would have been passing through again sometime during the year. But, I also know that a lot of women need to be exposed to what's out there for them, and by not working together you're hurting them more than helping. We're only a little lesbian group here, isolated from the mainstream of the life-style. We need all the help and exposure to this stuff we can get. The artists also aren't benefiting because no one has the money to buy their tapes and records.

How long is it going to be until we have another concert? Seems to me that if those three would have been spread out we might have been able to go into the summer with some great stuff, give us something to look forward to, and maybe even sold more tickets.

Am I asking too much? I'm just someone who buys the tickets to see a good concert and help you cover costs and make enough of a profit to bring in more great talent and really let the women of OKC know what's out there. See, my main reason for writing was not just because you emptied my wallet, but because of the women in our community. They need to know and you've only touched the tip of the iceberg. I'm a concerned lesbian who sees an opportunity going to waste because of your apparent lack of cooperation. Don't we have enough struggling in this life-style without more struggling being created among ourselves?

If you have enough consideration to bring the entertainment to us, why not have enough to spread it out so we can really benefit from it?

Sign me....

One Dollarless Dyke

# An Interview

MEET OLIVIA'S PRESIDENT  
 By Sondra L. Metzger

The April issue of the HSR Newsletter featured an article about the 15th anniversary of Olivia records. For this anniversary, Olivia has literally opened her doors and is allowing organizations around the country like Herland to interview the people involved with the organization.

With this opportunity before us, we would like to introduce you to the president of Olivia Records, Judy Dlugacz.

I heard that, "Judy Who??" Judy Dlugacz, pronounced Da-lou-gatch, is the president of Olivia Records and has been since its incorporation in 1973. To this day she remains the driving force behind its 15-year success.

Born in Queens, New York, Judy's family moved to Plainview, New York on Long Island when she was 5. She lived in Plainview until she started college at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

"I majored in psychology of women," Judy said, "and became involved in a group called Radical Lesbians." After graduation, Judy and a few friends from that group moved to Washington, D.C., where they became politically and socially close to other women.

"We were looking for something to do together that wasn't on a volunteer basis so no one would get burnt out," Judy said. "We wanted to start some sort of institution but didn't know what."

Meg Christian found a record by Cris Williamson in the bargain bin of a record store and started promoting her music all over the Washington, D.C., area. When Cris came to perform, she performed to a packed house where people were actually singing along with her.

"She was so amazed she forgot the words to the song and Meg stood up and sang them back to her from the audience," Judy

said, "and that was the sweet beginnings of everything that's here today."

Based on a suggestion by Cris to start a women's record company, Judy and the rest of that group of women got together and committed themselves and all the money they had to making the record company a reality.

"Olivia was started out of a desire to try out new structures and out of necessity," Judy explains. "Through the process of attrition, I'm the only one left from the original group. We were a very sincere group of people who knew we had to be a structured organization even though 'corporate this' and 'corporate that' had no meaning to us. It's remarkable that we were a collective for 7 years. The work was exhausting, plus not having a lot of money but doing necessary, important things with it. We got to sit in the saddle of a spectacular cultural phenomenon: the creation of a lesbian culture. What started out as 25 people coming to events turned into 2,500 all over the country."

When asked about her future as president of Olivia, the 36-year-old replied that it all depends on getting through the financial crisis they are presently under. She explained that Olivia is a community-based institution and that they did not want to involve major investors. Instead, they relied on the community and operated on a shoestring budget for 15 years.

"Olivia has tried to be THE women/lesbian recording company and is the only one who has that title," she said. "There are other wonderful labels, but they do not ascribe to women. We have stood out for 15 years as a lesbian label. What we have done has never been financially viable but has been incredibly successful. We have sold over a million records, put out 32 albums, and have held thousands of concerts. It's very expensive to do that, and we need to educate the community about what goes on and find ways to keep it a community-based organization."

"I think it's important that women know about each other," she added. "People here in the (San Francisco) Bay area don't

## OOPS!

Last month's issue of HSR Newsletter acknowledged several Gay and Lesbian Award winners from the March 12th GALA Ceremony. The editor would like to apologize for overlooking the Outstanding Businesswomen award winners: Teri Hoeltzel and Susan Brooks, owners of Ink Well Printing. Congratulations, Teri and Susan



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