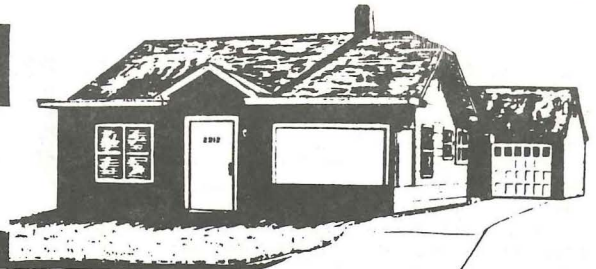


HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES



VOLUME 5, NUMBER 9
SEPTEMBER, 1988

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

Around the Corner

A FINAL WORD FROM HERLAND'S FOUNDING MOTHER

MOORE, OK - The rumor that Barbara Cleveland is leaving Oklahoma is true. Herland's founding mother will be attending graduate school in Columbus, Ohio, and will no longer reside in Oklahoma by the time this newsletter hits the stands and your mailbox.

At a farewell party given in her honor recently, this is what Barbara had to say.

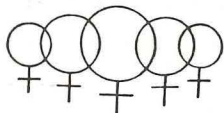
"I have given credit where credit's due many times. When I wrote those stories in the newsletter about the people who were my she-roses, who hounded me about getting involved, they are here tonight sitting among you.

"I think this is a beautiful state, a wonderful state. It's a state that gave me a vision and helped me find myself in the women's movement and to find sisters, because it's difficult being a Black lesbian anywhere, especially in Oklahoma. Those of you who are lesbians understand that. I am going to Columbus, Ohio, to graduate school, but I will always be an Oklahoman and I will always represent you. hopefully well. I will certainly hope that you will work with the board. They are working very hard and have opened the new building.

"It is not MY bookstore. It is YOUR bookstore. If you think about what it means to be a non-profit organization, it means that you can give money to yourself if you are a part of Herland and get a tax deduction for it. That is very important. That is one of the things we need. I watched women's centers struggle because they were having to deal with the bureaucracy, denying too much of themselves in order to get money to operate.

"We, as feminists, as lesbians, as women, have many of the same concerns as everybody else. We are concerned about rape. We are concerned about racism. We're concerned about many of the 'isms' in the world. We are probably the strongest, because we are the most oppressed of people. They can't move the mountain without us because they are not as strong as we are.

"I'm encouraging you to involve yourself in coalition, which is what Herland is thinking about now. Please, support it by buying books or whatever Herland has to offer. Please, help Herland, and I WILL be back."



UNITY

FEATURED ARTIST A NEWCOMER TO MIDWEST

By Sondra Metzger

The following article is excerpted from a telephone interview with Karen Williams done in mid-August.

Comedienne Karen Williams was born in New York City, moved to Los Angeles, makes her home in the San Francisco Bay area (Berkeley to be exact), and has never been to the mid-west section of the country.

"I'm a big city kitty," Karen explains, "who's looking forward to being in Oklahoma. I need to have the experience. It's so different out here in the Bay area. It doesn't mean you don't go through your homophobic stops like everywhere else, but you do have a tremendous amount of support within the community. I know that every place is not San Francisco or Berkeley and to just come

and have that feeling of unity, support, and empowerment is real important."

Karen began her career as a comedienne four years ago by working in Black night clubs. After performing at a few AIDS benefits, she found herself working a lot in the gay and lesbian community. Coming out as a feminist, Karen feels that women supporting women is a key issue.

Because her background is that of a writer, Karen performs all her own material. She has also been a dancer and has done high fashion modeling. The new career was a way to combine her writing and performing talents into one package.

"It was a natural evolution for me to go from dancing where I'm with other people," she said, "to modeling, where occasionally the focus is on me, to performing where it's just me, a mike, and my material."

She credits a friend, now deceased, who

Continued on page 2

HERLAND FALL RETREAT FOR WOMEN

Pre-registration is \$17 - \$20, based on your ability to pay. Upon receipt of your check, a map to the campsite and list of suggested items to bring will be mailed to you. Deadline for pre-registration is September 9, 1988.

Name(s) _____

Number of Pets _____
(Pets must be kept on leash
and no pets in main bldg.)

Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

_____ I would like a scholarship Amount Enclosed \$ _____

_____ I would like a work exchange

_____ I will provide _____ scholarship(s)

_____ I would like to lead a discussion group on _____

_____ subject.

_____ I would like to attend a group on _____

_____ subject and a possible leader is _____

Things I liked at other retreats were _____

Things I disliked about other retreats were _____

Suggested solutions _____

I would like to provide _____

_____ for the Retreat auction.

Mail to: Herland Sister Resources
% Laura, Camp Director
4924 S. Kathy
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73135

continued from page 1

used to co-write with her, for giving her inspiration while she's on stage. "This friend had the best laugh," the 36-year-old explains. "She's my inspiration, because she had so much but didn't know it."

Karen likes to build up a relationship with the audience when she performs and bring it to a level of having compassion and understanding; just a very deep sharing on another level. She credits humor as being good therapy for her and wants to share the healing power she has found. It also keeps her from going crazy.

"I'm a single mom with two sons, 5 and 16," she said, "and it's not easy bringing up two boys with my limitations plus keeping up with my goals and desires."

In describing the use of humor as therapy, Karen told of a situation in Minnesota in which the director of battered women's shelters in Chicago approached her and asked if she could go to Chicago and perform for the women in the shelters. "I thought to myself, 'Wow, what a challenge -- I'm not sure I can take that on'," she said. After thinking about it, the whole idea made sense to her. Did she go? Find out in next month's issue of the HSR Newsletter!

The focus of her goals and desires is serious acting. Although hoping to get into theatre, Karen is not eliminating television altogether. She was part of a PBS show called "She-nanigans" which was about women talking about women and was filmed in the Bay area. She will also be heard rapping to the beat on the next June Millington album.

"I hope I can live up to everyone's expectations in Oklahoma," Karen said. "I know I'm breaking new ground, which is very exciting to me as an artist."

For those aspiring comedienne in our audience, Karen had these words of wisdom: "GO FOR IT!"

Karen will perform Saturday night, September 17, at the Retreat at Sequoyah State Park. Singer/songwriter/musician Nancy Scott of Austin, Texas, will open for Karen.

If you have the time, come and experience these two talented performers, and share in the sisterhood of Herland's 4th annual Fall Retreat.

We encourage the exchange of information, personal opinions on issues of concern to the Oklahoma women's community, and your stories and experiences.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense letters according to space limitations. Letters should be typed, doublespaces and signed by the author(s). Include your address and phone number. If you wish to be published anonymously, so indicate, but include your name, etc., for our information, in case the editor has questions.

Mail or deliver your letters to HSR; 2312 NW 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73160. Deadline is the 15th of each month.

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672-4141

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ADVERTISING: 794-7464

DEADLINE on all advertising and submissions is the 15th of each month.

SUBSCRIPTIONS to this Newsletter are free upon request.



ANNOUNCES

HERLAND'S FALL RETREAT
at
SEQUOYAH STATE PARK
near Wagoner

SEPTEMBER 16, 17, & 18

THE NEW HERLAND CENTER IS NOW OPEN:

SATURDAYS 10 AM - 6 PM & SUNDAYS 1 PM - 6 PM
at 2312 NW 39th St.

NEXT COLLECTIVE MEETING:

September 25, 4:30 PM at
2312 NW 39th

HERLAND FALL RETREAT TO SERVE VEGETARIAN FARE

Herland's upcoming Fall Retreat will feature vegetarian chili and burgers, red beans and rice casserole for Friday night dinner and Saturday lunch, prepared by gourmet vegetarian chef Chris C. Famous home-cooked meal chef Mary R. will be serving up a traditional breakfast Saturday morning, for retreaters who wish to reserve all their retreat time for fun and games rather than preparing meals. For those of you who prefer to prepare your own meals, the well-equipped kitchen is just the place to have at it, however remember to bring along the vittles from home.

The nominal fee of \$2.50 will buy any of the meals prepared by Herland's chefs. Laura, the Camp Director, reports that there are 6 scholarships and unlimited work exchanges available for anyone who wants to attend the retreat, but has limited funds to do so. Just call her at 672-4141.

Seasoned retreaters are looking forward to Saturday evening's entertainment, as they are now familiar with the quality with which Herland prepares this important evening's events. A real treat is in store for Herland's guests this Fall at Sequoyah State Park, in the form of comedienne Karen Williams (see associated story) and singer-songwriter-guitarist Nancy Scott, who will open for Ms. Williams. Hailing from Austin Texas, where she enjoys a large gay following, Ms. Scott will balance the evening's enjoyment with a musical performance that

has been billed as "great" by those who have seen her.

Persons who would like to see the evening's entertainment, but who do not wish to retreat, may do so by paying \$5 at the door Saturday night.

Retreaters will want to bring with them: sleeping bag or other bedding and a pillow, a flashlight, sporting equipment, campfire goodies, musical instruments, some favorite dish for Saturday's Pot Luck dinner, food or cash for other meals, beverages, and toiletries. The family pet will be allowed, but must be kept leashed and away from the kitchen and main building. Compliance with these requests will insure our pets' continued companionship at future retreats.

So, get ready, set, go ... to Sequoyah State Park in northeastern Oklahoma's beautiful "green country", and enjoy a good, old fashioned get-away, in the best of company! Fill out the attached Retreat Registration and send it in today!

OASIS COMMUNITY CENTER INVITES PARTICIPATION

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Oasis Community Center invites anyone interested in the future of Oklahoma's gay community to participate in shaping its direction by becoming a volunteer. Volunteer training seminars are held every first Saturday of each month at 10:00 A.M. at the Oasis, 2135 NW 39th St.

The Board of Directors meets every first Thursday of each month. Center Director,

Continued on page 3

Continued from page 2

Darlene Burgess, invites anyone who wishes to do so, to attend and get involved.

A women's rap group is planned for the future. Information on the group may be obtained by calling 525-2437.

Regular hours at the Oasis are: M - F 12 noon - 5 PM, M - Th 7 - 10 PM, F - Sat 7 PM til Midnight, closed Sundays.

OKC WOMEN'S SOFTBALL TEAM HEADS FOR NATIONAL TOURNEY

OKLAHOMA CITY - A composite women's softball team will be travelling to Kansas City to represent Oklahoma City's gay community in the seventh annual Heart of America Classic, a national gay softball tournament to be held September 24 and 25. The team consists of members from five different OKC-area women's teams.

Since the women are presently individually self-sponsored, several fundraising activities are planned to raise the \$1,200 necessary for entry fees, motel, and travel expenses.

The first activity was a garage sale held August 27th. On September 9th, the ball team will put on a benefit cabaret show at King Arthur's, 2024 NW 11th. There will be a \$3.00 cover charge to benefit the team. On September 10th, a mini show will be taken to the Hi-Lo Club, 1221 NW 50th, and the Mainline, 4315 N. Western.

Due to the amount of money needed, and the short amount of time before the tournament, the team is also seeking donations from community businesses and individuals. The Olympians, the name the team has chosen for itself, will also raffle two tickets to the OU-Nebraska football game. The drawing for the tickets will be held at the Herland Fall Retreat September 18th. You need not be present to win.

Thanks to Herland Sister Resources and the Oasis Community Center, the exposure and assistance needed to make this trip a reality is evolving. Anyone who would be interested in going to Kansas City for the tournament or who would like to donate dollars to help pay team expenses may contact Anita at 720-0721.

Everyone is invited to attend one of the cabaret shows, meet the members of the team and have a good time. Any questions? Call Anita at the above number.

MCC SPONSORS SUPPORT GROUP AND COUNSELING PROGRAMS

OKLAHOMA CITY - Christ the King Metropolitan Community Church has begun a series of Support Group meetings. Four sessions which met during the month of July dealt with the various aspects of the "coming out" process and overcoming the problems associated with that process. August meetings dealt with the subject of "Homosexuality and Christianity."

Both series have proven to be enlightening and of help to those attending them. The group meetings have experienced a steady growth in attendance.

"Self Esteem" will be the topic to be discussed during the weeks of September 8-29 at Christ the King Metropolitan Community Church, 1900 NW 12, in Oklahoma City. The Support Group meetings are scheduled for one hour and begin at 7 PM. Any and all persons having an interest or a need in the announced subject matter are encouraged to attend.

Counseling will be available each Thursday evening from 6 - 9 PM. For appointments call 405-521-8352 on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday from 1 - 5 PM. A small fee will be required, or special arrangements may be made for those needing financial aid.

Call 521-8352 for further information on the Support Group meetings.

MCC SEEKS INPUT AS FESTIVAL PREPARATIONS CONTINUE

OKLAHOMA CITY - The Metropolitan Community Church is in high gear in preparation for their annual Fall Festival, to take place on Sunday, October 23, 1988.

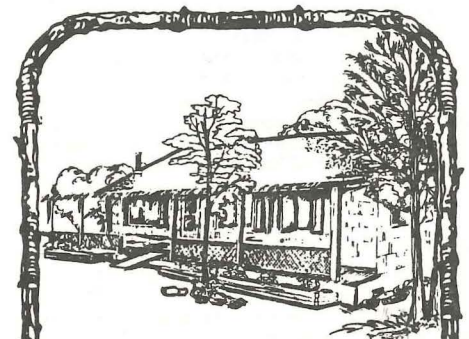
Conceived as a day of music, entertainment, craft shows, and just plain fun; for and by the community. The event has been sponsored by MCC for the last two years, and has met with overwhelming success.

MCC is seeking input from the community to help make this year's festival the best ever. Performers, craftpersons, and information booth staffers are encouraged to participate in the program and presentation. If you are interested in participating, please contact MCC at (405) 521-8352 Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday from 1 to 5 PM.

OOPS! AGAIN

Those of you who read last month's HSR Newsletter article entitled "Senate Votes to Allow Discrimination Against Gays" on page 4 of the Newsletter, may have been perplexed by the asterisks next to some of the congressperson's names. "What," you may have asked yourself, "do these mean?"

An error was made in not noting at the end of the article that the stars denoted House of Representative members who are co-sponsors of the federal Gay Rights Bill. Sorry.

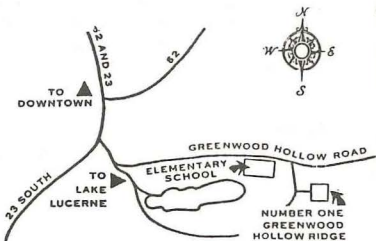


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Around the Country

WOMEN WIN JOBS BACK

WASHINGTON, DC - Three Black women employees of the Hyatt Regency and Marriott Hotels in Washington were fired for wearing their hair in cornrows.

Pamela Mitchell, a reservations agent with Marriott, had been given three written warnings advising her to remove her braids, wear a wig or face discharge. Cheryl Tatum, a food and beverage cashier, and Cheryl Pressley-Parahoo, a waitress, tried to reach a settlement after being fired by the Hyatt Regency through mediation by Rev. Jesse Jackson. After the mediation failed last September, a boycott of the Hyatt was called and endorsed by Jackson.

The three women filed complaints with the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, which found that the hotel administrations allowed other employees to wear their hair in various fashions with impunity, only disciplining Black females who chose to wear braids: "Cornrows are more prevalent among Blacks than Whites and are generally regarded as a Black cultural symbol. The hotels' refusal to allow employees to wear the cornrow hairstyle adversely affects Blacks, because they have a hair texture and historical perspective different from Whites."

The EEOC ruled that both corporations engaged in a nationwide pattern and practice of discrimination against Black female employees and applicants, and that all Black women so affected are entitled to full and complete relief.

From Up & Coming, August, 1988 & Arkansas State Press, 5/19/88

PREGNANCY/AIDS LINK TO BE RESEARCHED

As of June 27, 1988, 1049 children less than age 13 have been diagnosed with AIDS, and many more are believed to be seropositive for the virus. Approximately 80 percent of these children acquired the infection from their mothers. Transmission from an infected mother to her newborn occurs 20 to 60 percent of the time, but the exact mechanisms of transmission during pregnancy and birth are not known.

"Recently we have seen a sharp rise in the numbers of AIDS-infected babies, especially among those born to Black or Hispanic women who are drug abusers or whose sexual partners are infected" said Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, Director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. NIAID has awarded three 5-year contracts totaling \$29.4 million dollars in a major collaborative effort to determine what factors influence transmission of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), the cause of AIDS, during pregnancy and birth.

Dr. Fauci goes on to say, "These studies will clarify the risks for pregnant women who are already infected and will provide an opportunity to educate the study participants about how to avoid infection in themselves, their sexual partners, and their infants."

The three institutions receiving funding are Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston, University of Illinois Hospital in Chicago, and Presbyterian Hospital in New York City.

Data collected in this study will be used to design improved prevention, diagnostic, and treatment programs for women at risk of HIV infection and their children.

LESBIANS TO HAVE THEIR OWN NATIONAL MAGAZINE

AMES, IOWA - Lesbians around the United States have been ignored in the media long enough, according to a group of women here.

What they intend to do about it is begin publication of a lesbian quarterly in October called The New Moon.

The idea for the magazine evolved during a brainstorming session between several Ames area women. Participants in that early discussion lamented over the need for a networking tool for lesbians. They also pointed out the necessity, because of the differences between gay men and lesbians, for some sort of independent, healthy identity to be established for lesbians.

"We looked around and realized that as lesbians we could read about things that affect us as gay people in the gay presses, and about those things that affect us as feminist people in the feminist presses," said Claire Hueholt, editor, "but there is really no place that we can gather information about the richness and diversity present in our own 'lesbian' community."

"We are not attempting to start a publication that will be simply a letter/informational exchange or literary publication," she said. "Those things are already available to lesbians. We want to cover the events and people who are constantly shaping and reshaping our community; we will also choose particular subjects to explore in the journalistic style of an entertaining feature or news magazine."

The New Moon is to be a non-profit, national publication for lesbians. It will examine the lesbian community as a positive group with very unique interests and issues. The magazine will include features, profiles, travel, arts and entertainment, politics, news, short stories and poetry, sports, and, of course, classified and display advertising.

"We decided that although we have no seed money, we have the enthusiasm and expertise to pull this off if anyone can," she said. "There is a group of about 15 women here that have committed to do whatever it takes to get this thing off the ground."

The first and only successful attempt to publish a lesbian magazine, was The Ladder, which got off the ground in the late fifties and survived for 16 years. Barbara Grier, former editor of The Ladder and now the co-owner of Niaid Press, Inc. the largest lesbian publisher in the country, said she was extremely excited about the possibilities surrounding the new lesbian periodical.

"The dearth of national lesbian media in the magazine format is disgraceful. Economic and material considerations have led to a state where there are fewer such periodicals in 1988 than there were in 1975," Grier said. "In part, this is a commentary on our growth and sophistication, but that is little comfort to the young women who have no periodical home for their birthing consciousness as lesbians."

But the Ames area women's dreams are not without problems. To get the project out of debt, they need women to begin subscribing to the magazine and to advertise in it.

Hueholt said "I understand that many women want to see the product before they sink hard earned cash into a subscription or an ad. But the bottom line is 'we need a few risk takers.'"

For more information or to subscribe or contribute works contact The New Moon at 2 Kings Terrace, Ames, Iowa 50010 or call (515) 292-1972. Subscriptions are only \$15 per year. Send your subscription request in today, and obtain the first issue in October.

GAY PLAY TO PREMIERE

WASHINGTON, DC - "More Than Names", a new play based on the experience of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt, will have its world premiere on Thursday, September 29, 1988, at New Playwrights' Theatre in Washington, DC. Written and directed by David Lemos, former Producing and Artistic Director of the San Jose Repertory Company, "More Than Names" is a poignant, yet often humorous portrayal of a community in the midst of crisis.

One of many events sponsored by the San Francisco-based NAMES Project in conjunction with the Quilt's return to the Capitol Mall on October 8 & 9, the play chronicles the creation of the quilt, culminating in its emotional and dramatic inaugural display in October 1987. Like the Quilt itself, "More Than Names" seeks to give a human face to AIDS, and thereby raise consciousness, compassion and contributions in the ongoing battle against the disease which, to date, has killed more than 39,000 Americans.

"The play is a pastiche - in a way a quilt itself," says Lemos. "The source material is the thousands of letters written by people who have made panels for the Quilt, the conversations and stories told by staff members, volunteers, panelmakers and people who have viewed the Quilt. But, first and last, the main inspiration is the Quilt itself."

In workshop for over five months prior to its Washington opening, "More Than Names" comprises a cast of 12, all volunteering their time for this project. All proceeds from the production will go to support the NAMES Project. The play's opening night, September 29, will be a fund raiser to help offset production costs. Tickets for the special opening night are \$50 and include a pre-show reception and post-show cabaret. Playwright and cast will be available for interviews.

The New Playwrights' Theatre is located at 1742 Church Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036. For tickets, call the Box Office at 202-232-1122 or 1-800-448-9009. Visa, MasterCard, American Express accepted.

Potpourri

BLACK LESBIANS AND GAYS TO HOLD CONFERENCE

WASHINGTON, DC - This city will host the Tenth Anniversary Homecoming Conference on September 30 through October 2, 1988, for the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays.

The organization is this country's only national organization designed to address the needs and concerns of Black Lesbians and Gays, and this event celebrates the close of its first decade and the beginning of its second.

Some of the planned skills workshops include: developing political strategies, lobbying local issues, coming out to family and friends, addressing homophobia in the Church, defining women's/men's issues and formulating strategies, responding to anti-gay and lesbian violence, supporting PWAs and PWA care-providers, and more.

"It is indeed a victory for a national Gay and Lesbian organization to have survived for ten years," says NCBGL's executive director, Renee McCoy. "NCBGL has sur-

IS YOUR ADDRESS CHANGING?

If you are planning to move, and you don't want to miss any issues of the HSR Newsletter, please let us know your new address BEFORE you move. The Post Office will NOT forward the Newsletter, and Herland will NOT change your address without your authorization. Therefore, to insure receipt of the Newsletter fill out and mail us this Change of Address form BEFORE you move. The form may also be used to add a new name to the mailing list.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS FORM

Name(s): _____

Old Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

New Address: _____

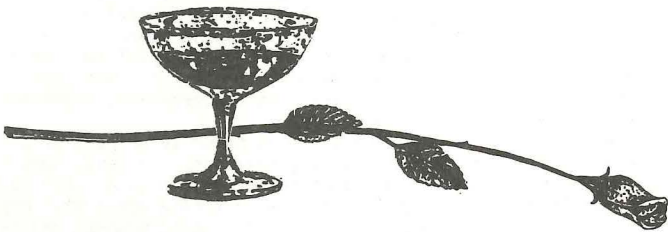
City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: (____) _____

Mail to: Herland Sister Resources, Inc.
2312 NW 39th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Westport Liquors



1205 N. Santa Fe, Moore

vived against incredible odds. This next decade will be an even greater challenge, requiring more commitment than ever before from both the Black Lesbian and Gay community and the Gay and Lesbian community at large...This conference will be the beginning of a process which will make a serious difference in our future."

For more information or to make a contribution, contact: Renee McCoy; NCBLG; 19641 W. Seven Mile; Detroit, MI 48219; 313-537-0484.

A WEEKEND IN NEW MEXICO: FUN, FALL, FEMINIST

Women in Movement in New Mexico announces a celebration of women's music featuring Teresa Trull, with a special appearance by the Washington Sisters, at the Kimo Theater on Saturday, October 8, 1988.

The weekend also offers one of the highlights of the Albuquerque International Balloon Fiesta. There will be mass ascensions on Saturday and Sunday mornings. If you've never been to the Albuquerque Balloon Fiesta, talk to someone who has - it is wonderful!

So make plans now to spend the weekend in Albuquerque.

A CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS

For an anthology: In Our Own Voices Fat Dykes....Break the Silence.

Fat dykes suffer from acts of physical, sexual, emotional, mental or verbal abuse during our lives. We are ignored, isolated, and victimized. We think that because we are lesbians, things will be different, but we are sadly mistaken. Our sisters must begin to take responsibility for their ignorance, for perpetuating the standards of society at large. We must talk to one another about our struggles, our anger, our healing. Where do we get our strength? How do we take care of ourselves?

Fat dykes of the world unite! You have nothing to lose....So send your narratives, essays, short stories, letters, journal entries, poems, cartoons, line drawings, graphics or black/white photographs to:

Toni L. Cassista
P.O. Box 2968
Santa Cruz, CA 95063
(408) 423- 4734

Previous writing experience is not important. All accepted pieces will be published in the language in which they are written.

You may also help this project by making contributions to fund the publication of

this book.

Please send a SASE with all contributions. Deadline is January 1, 1989.

A CALL FOR MATERIALS

Bisexual Feminists, come out wherever you are!

Writings by Bisexual feminists, including but not limited to those whose main cultural and political identity and activity is within the lesbian/gay community and writings by those feminists whose primary identities are within other communities, are being collected by Lani Kaahumanu and Loraine Hutchins for an anthology which will reflect the growing visibility of the Bisexual Community.

All ages, classes, races, cultures, religions, people of color, other minorities and the differently-abled are encouraged to respond.

Essays, articles, prose, interviews and poetry will be considered.

Write Lani Kaahumanu at 20 Cumberland, San Francisco, CA 94110 or Loraine Hutchins at 1113 Fairmont NW, Washington, DC 20009 for more information; or call (415) 821-3534 by September 15, 1988.

Material deadline is October 15, 1988.

Meet The Board

Herland's Board of Directors consists of 17 dedicated women. Each of these women has her own reasons, as well as common reasons, for her involvement in the organization which is Herland.

Currently, the board members are: Terry C., Jean K., Jill W., Pat C., Laura C., Karen L., Margaret C., Kathy C., Cindy B., Cindy L., Elyse A., Rhonda S., Jacque M., Carletta B., and two new members as of August, Roxanne G., and Sondra M. One vacancy has yet to be filled.

Because Herland feels a commitment to the women's community, it is appropriate and desirable for the community to know the women who give direction, set policy, and raise funds for Herland. Therefore, with this issue the Newsletter begins a series of interviews with the board members: Introducing the Board. We begin with Herland's equivalent of President, Sister I.

SISTER I: MEET TERRY C.

By Sondra Metzger

A California native who moved to Oklahoma in 1975 with her significant other, Linda, Terry went to school in Ada and transferred to OU where she received her bachelor's degree in political science in 1980. During the day Terry maintains a 7 AM to 3 PM job as a child care worker and counselor. When time allows, she does financial services.

"I chose the counseling mainly to earn a steady income," Terry explains, "and because I was qualified to do it. I had a background in nursing and have been an emergency medical technician. I also worked at Children's Hospital. It was an honor to be asked to be a trainer for child care workers, but my main profession is the financial services. I'm very committed to that."

Terry enjoys working with children and teaching others how to work with them. She also enjoys the financial business because it allows her the opportunity to show people how to figure out ways to save money and how they can get good returns on their money. As Sister I, she is honing her leadership skills and again working with people.

Not to say Terry is taking her new position as Sister I lightly. She is very committed to Herland and what it is trying to accomplish.

"I have been looking forward to becoming Sister I," she said. "I didn't agree to become Sister IV lightly. Before I was asked, I thought very carefully about it to make sure this was something I wanted to do. Until I could answer yes, I never took on more responsibilities than I thought I could handle. When the time did come, I was ready and I had the commitment in mind. When I committed to Sister IV, I knew I had committed to Sister I, because that's the way the rotation goes, and I wasn't going to start at Sister IV and not go completely through. I look at this as a learning experience of being a board member and being in an executive position. I had never had the opportunity to do that."

For those of you who do not understand the officer positions at Herland, there is Sister I, Sister II, Sister III, and Sister IV, roughly corresponding to president, vice-president/secretary, treasurer, and assistant treasurer. The rotation Terry

mentioned is this: Every six months the officers are rotated and Sister IV becomes Sister III, Sister III becomes Sister II, and Sister II becomes Sister I. The past Sister I becomes the Outreach Coordinator, and a new Sister IV is selected. This process allows a person to become familiar with all aspects of the organization, thus ensuring knowledgeable, well-seasoned leadership. As Terry implies, it also involves long-term commitment to Herland and its objectives.

Terry's hobbies include exercising, lifting weights, and golf. Although a recent operation has limited the amount of physical exercise she can do, she is looking forward to starting back into a jogging program as well.

Crediting Barbara Cleveland for getting her involved in Herland, Terry explained that she started by just buying books at the store then moving up to volunteering her time. It was a year and a half until she took over the position of Volunteer Coordinator and later Sister IV.

"Barbara is the most influencing factor," she explains, "because she has the vision. She has the feeling in her heart of what Herland is and she could look at another person and see that they could have that feeling and they would be the next person to become a part of Herland and keep it going."

Terry began going to board meetings after Linda died. At the time she could not commit to more than that. She feels that it's important that people take mental stock of their capabilities and commitment abilities at any given time. She feels there's nothing wrong with saying that a person can't commit at this time as well as saying a person can only commit to so much and cannot go beyond a certain point. She feels it gives everyone a good idea of where that individual is and then they know there must be a limit to their expectations.

It was at one of the board meeting that she met the present love of her life, Laura. They now share their home with two Dobermans and two cats.

Terry would like to see Herland support itself financially some day by ex-crowding monies through an escrow account and to see the newsletter support itself through the sale of advertising. She would also like to see the retreats become an institution, such that in order for a person to be assured a space at the next retreat, they would have to register six months in advance. So much of an institution that Herland knows a year in advance where the next one will be and people just send in their registration and fees with never a second thought because they have so much fun.

"I'm an entrepreneur," she said, "and I believe in the free enterprise system. I'm a capitalist to the core, economically, not socially, and I believe that this is a business, and it can run like a business and maintain itself as a business financially. I'd really like to see Herland be an organization that succeeds, beyond the time that any particular person is no longer a part of it."

To insure the proper running of Herland, Terry cannot stress too much the importance of appointing committees. She feels the work load for the board as a whole would be lightened by committee work. She also feels that Herland needs a more active volunteer pool to keep people from becoming burned out and to keep Herland alive. She sees her role as being the one who keeps everyone on track, the one with a clear picture of what

needs to be done.

"In the past," she said, "we've gone from crisis to crisis, never looking at a long-range plan. Now, we're actually doing some long-range planning and it's going to require some very strong committee work and commitment."

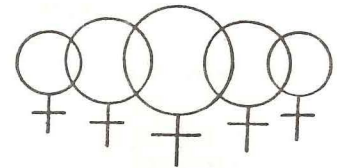
When asked what she sees for Herland's future, Terry responded that she feels Herland needs to network more and encourage people to participate in Herland and get Herland to participate with them. People may drop by the Herland Center or come to board meetings (the next of which is to be September 25 at 4:30 pm, 2312 NW 39th). She would like to see the inventory in the store grow and include other items besides books, albums, and tapes. She would also like to see Herland sell self-help and positive thinking books as well as strictly gay/lesbian material.

Asked what Herland means to her, Terry responded: "It means a resource center where primarily women can network and get an opportunity to run a business. I really do think it's a business. It's an opportunity to get your feet wet and run a business without all the negatives of having to run a business by yourself, such as overhead and all the financial commitment. It gives me a chance to run a business in a collective type of operation, a non-profit operation."

"It's quite an honor to be part of a non-profit organization. It lends some kind of satisfaction to my life to be able to say that I've been a part of a non-profit organization, have been a board member, and have been president of the board. What I like about this non-profit organization is that it touches the lives of people I like to see touched and that's primarily women as well as gay men."

"I see Herland as a place where people can gather and learn and also build friendships. I think it's kind of neat, because it's one thing to think about things and another to actually do things that I've thought about and can put into practice. I love people and I love being around people, and when you've got a goal you see it being accomplished. I see that's what Herland does. Herland provides that foundation to dream and then go ahead and bring those dreams about."

Thank you, Terry. Next month's issue will feature Sister II. If you have the time to spare, check into doing some volunteer time at Herland. It doesn't take much; just a few hours. Think about it.



A SPECIAL THANKS TO SHATZY

Herland would like to extend a special thank you to Shatzky W. for generously offering to make curtains for all the windows at the new Herland Center. Thanks to this talented seamstress, the Center will be able to maintain its sometimes-needed privacy. However, more than that, it will present an attractive environment for its volunteers and clientele. Thank you, Shatzky!

September 1988



On this Labor Day --

May we celebrate the achievements and contributions of working women. May we, also, be conscious of the suffering which many women and their families continue to endure as a result of the mindless discrimination of tradition and religious fundamentalism, and an unhearing administration working to maintain the status quo.

Through unity, may we be inspired to continue our struggle for equal rights, equal pay, and freedom of choice.

Sun. Mon. Tues. Wed. Thurs. Fri. Sat.

					MCC Fun Nite 7pm, 1900 NW 12 HERLAND BOOKS at MCC, 7-10pm	Sisters of Swing Hi-Lo Club 9 pm 1221 NW 50th
					1 521-8352	2 528-0020
Shartels at VZD's 9 pm 4200 N. Western			Mail Herland Retreat Registration!		Women's Softball team fundraiser at King Arthur's	Women's Softball team fundraiser at Hi-Lo Club
528-0020	4 Labor Day	5	6	7	8 720-0721	9 720-0721
					Sisters of Swing Kerr Park in OKC 11:45am - 1pm	
NEW MOON	11	12	13	14	15 4 pm Women's Retreat Sequoiah State Park	16 672-4141
Retreat ends at 12 noon	18	19	20	Yom Kippur 21	Autumn Begins 22	23
Kansas City - 720-0721						Gay Softball Tourney in...
FULL MOON 794-7464	25	26	27	28	29	30

A Herland Calendar



Listing events sponsored by various groups and presented here as a community service by Herland ♀

Classified Advertising

APT. FOR RENT - Newly-decorated efficiency apartment in north-west OKC. AC, W & G paid, parking available. \$150 mo. Call Tre at 525-8524.

CLEVELAND'S LEAVING FOR OHIO AND CAN'T TAKE ALL HER CATS!
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LET'S GET TOGETHER

OKLAHOMA AIDS INFORMATION
1-800-342-AIDS

___ YES! I want to be a Friend of Herland. My minimum donation of \$12 allows me use of the Herland Library and a 10% discount on store purchases over the next 12 months.

___ \$12 ___ \$

___ YES! I want to help Herland with a donation to the New Building Fund.

___ \$15 ___ \$20 ___ \$25
___ \$50 ___ \$100 ___ \$

___ I would like to volunteer to work at the Bookstore.

___ I would like to volunteer my skills to help renovate Herland's new home.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ St: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone Number: () _____

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