

# *To the* HERLAND VOICE

August, 1992

## TEN YEARS OF HERLAND

In August, 1982, a small women's bookstore opened at the corner of 19th and Blackwelder in Oklahoma City. That bookstore was the direct ancestor of Herland Sister Resources. With this issue of *The Voice* we celebrate those early years and the journey to today's Herland. To all those who have shared the journey, we express our sincere appreciation.

### LA SALLE DES FEMMES

*Jo L. Soske*

In 1981 and 1982, I was associated with a radical group of Lesbian Feminists who formed the editorial collective of *The Brazen Hussy Rag*. Together, we put out a few issues of a newspaper and envisioned vast changes for lesbians in the Oklahoma City area. Unfortunately, our politics and our hopes were stronger than our ability to stay together during difficult times. Looking back a decade later, I am able to have some perspective. I realize that our dreams were not fruitless. The roots of today's Herland lie in that eighties collective.

The majority of the wommin who worked on and wrote for *The Brazen Hussy Rag* no longer reside in Oklahoma. Therefore, I have decided that I can tell the story since I can. We all have a right to our herstory.

There were many wommin who put long hours into *The Brazen Hussy*; I personally was involved in some unlikely fund-raising which allowed us to put out a new edition when we thought we were completely broke. Primary among these wommin, though, were Jana B., the editor, and her partner, T.J. Nearly all of the work on the newspaper was done at their home.

It was Jana and T.J. who first envisioned a wommin's bookstore. I remember the evening. They were out walking together when they came across an old unused store at 19th and Blackwelder. They began talking to each other about how wonderful it would be to have a feminist bookstore in the city. They were so excited by the idea that they knocked on the door of the adjoining house to discuss it with the owner. That is when they met Murray and the idea of *La Salle des Femmes* was born.

The excitement spread quickly throughout our collective and we got to work. We held organizational meetings at Jana and T.J.'s home. We began weekend work days lasting on Saturday from 12:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. and Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Originally, we could not even enter the building due to trees which blocked the door. My partner at the time, Cathie, and I were involved in the clean-up days. She did some sheet-rock work. Before long, we were able to use the building as a meeting place for the organizational rally when Reagan visited Oklahoma in 1982.

Barbara Cleveland was around during those times, but she was not yet directly involved with the bookstore. She was however, always interested and supportive. In March of 1982, she wrote in an article for *The Brazen Hussy*, "...Another note. Have you heard of the new women's bookstore? Well, Sharon is going to autograph pictures that will be sold to raise money to help the bookstore..." She was promoting the Sharon Riddell concert and did not neglect to help the bookstore in her efforts.

*(Continued on page 3)*

### MY LIFE WITH HERLAND

*Peggy Johnson*

I had just hit Oklahoma City in October of 1982, fresh from the Navy's boot and all ready to become active politically. On my way to New Orleans or San Francisco, I was here visiting my girlfriend's family. The only thing I knew about Oklahoma was the song.

We must have seen a sign for a meeting at Herland (over on N.W. 19th) at D.J.'s or K.A.'s, so we went. There was a handful of womyn, the most memorable being Barbara Cleveland, of course. I think Elaine was the new secretary and I don't remember the others very well.

I signed the mailing list and put down a friend's address in New Orleans because it was the only one I had at the time and I was happening-city bound.

On that October night, the little group seemed to be reorganizing with the help of some new members. Little did I know (until much later) that they were organizing as Herland and this was one of the first Herland meetings. I had been overseas and before that, stranded in a small south Georgia city and I thought big cities had well-established womyn's and lesbian organizations. I had been to San Francisco, after all.

By the end of October, my life started undergoing some reorganization itself and I wound up getting an apartment in OKC. I lay low from the social scene for a while, trying to get a grasp on my personal one.

I became reconnected with Herland after the Second Fret -- that wonderful folk music club which lived at 30th and Classen from 1984 to 1987 -- opened. It was such a great safe place for folkies, lesbians, and acoustic music lovers to go and I started playing music there and even hanging out a bit. Somehow the womyn started hearing about my music and someone, probably Marian, asked me to do a coffeehouse at Herland. That was Friday, March 29, 1985. I sent out a light green flyer to my small mailing list, calling myself "a renderer of woman-identified blues and folk music." (I always loved that flyer.) I didn't know if they were radicals but assumed they were. I wasn't sure if I should sing songs written by men or not. (I've since realized that Herland is an umbrella for women in all phases of development.)

Pretty soon my audience at the Second Fret became more and more woman-oriented. Besides the Second Fret mailing list, I think it was mostly word of mouth and word spread by the Herland folk and the Herland newsletter.

Because of their diligent following of my music, Cindy, Rhonda, Jean, Pat and Pat became my friends. I mean, they were always there and carried me through the rough spots (still do). Kathy, Ginger, Margaret, and Karen have been the same way and later Michelle and Charlotte. These are all past and present Herland Board members.

*(Continued on page 2)*

# SAINT SYBILL

*Sybil Ludington, Heroine of the American Revolution and Matron Saint of the Forgotten Woman, answers the occasional odd query in this space. She is very pleased to report that this particular odd communication was actually received from someone other than her channeler; keep those cards and letters coming in!*

Dear St. Sybiling,

**How about this guy Clinton? In the face of Bush, Perot, 500 years of sexism, racism, and colonialism, his big concern in addressing the Rainbow Coalition is a brilliant, talented, angry, activist, young, female, African American rapper.**

**I hear that the lesser of two (three) evils is still evil. Should I vote?**

**Best Witches,  
Yobro**

Dear Bro,

Upon receiving your letter I tuned in to Sister Souljah and her famous rapping; and while some of us here where I am like her more than others do, most of us will accept your assessment of her. We also agree with Bill Clinton's recent acknowledgment that she has a right to be as angry as she is; the incarceration/murder rate for young blacks, the hopelessness and alienation, the double bind, the system's back-of-the-hand rather than a hand outstretched, - any African American without a great reservoir of anger is either blind or barging down Denial, which is not just a river in Egypt...

Some of us here, however, (including the Matron Saint of the Strong and Eloquent, Sojourner Truth) do rather wish that Souljah would ease up a little on her white sisters, cut them a little slack, and recognize that there is more than one kind of oppression afoot in the land.

Which of course is one reason, albeit subconscious, why Clinton picked on her - women traditionally are easy and acceptable targets; old Bill was evidently trying to be seen as macho and not toadying to his audience, even while he was otherwise giving a pretty nice talk about specifics and asking for support.

So it was weak and stupid and mean of him; but evil? I don't know about that. Now George Bush, with his massacre of grotesque dimension in Iraq, his unholy election strategies and a breathtaking lack of moral principal, is clearly evil. Give Clinton the time and the presidency, and he too might be so corrupted by the power that he qualifies; but don't be too cynical; it isn't inevitable.

Should you vote? Well, try this. Try thinking of the election as the choice between three pieces of fruit, let's say three papayas. One of these papayas is wrinkled and wizened and discolored and decaying and will probably make your body Politic even sicker than it is now. Another one is green and hard as a rock and guaranteed to give you one heckuva bellyache - and besides will have dropped out of the race by the time this comes to print; the third little old papaya is a good color and well ripened, although it does have a soft spot or two or three. Now, Bro, remember: it's not like you can say "thank you kindly, but no thanks", and won't have to eat any of these papayas; *one of them is going down your little red lane November 3 whether you like it or not.* Should you vote on which one you want? Come on, of course you should, how could you not?

And to make it easier for you, I promise that when you join us here where I am and become the Patron Saint of the Righteous and Slightly Aggravating, we will not blame you for the state of the world just because you voted

Love and best Witches to you too,  
Sybill

## My Life With Herland (continued from page 1)

I must mention Elaine and Marian and Kris who were always there in the early days. There are so many to mention. I can't begin to name all those who have a general Herland association who have crossed my path.

Not until 1989 when Jean asked me if I wanted to be on the board was I active for Herland in other than a musical capacity. I said yes and got voted in. It's been a blast -- from the board meetings (they may be a bit long but we laugh and work and listen and talk and make decisions which sometimes even get carried out!) to painting inside and outside, to remodeling the inside, to digging in the yard. The retreats are fun and, I think, very important to this community.

We have a mailing list of over 900, staff the bookstore most every weekend and it's all volunteer. Nobody gets paid a dime. We've brought in women's circuit musicians, comedians and activists. The turnout hasn't always been great but over the long haul, Herland's efforts have touched thousands of women, most in this very area. Whether they know it or not, the women in this community have been affected by the Herland spirit.

Lately, several of the friends I've mentioned here and I have become more active politically. That activist circle I was hoping to find when I first got here is evolving and has been for the last ten years. Who would've thought I'd be right in the middle of it?

"A womyn's place to be." "We're here for you." "This land is your land, this land is Herland." "The Herland Voice." "Herland Sister Resources". These ideas have stood the test of time for ten years now. Thanks especially to Barbara Cleveland and the early ones, Herland was started. Thanks to the current activists, Herland still lives. May she be a beacon to those who have yet to discover the sense of community and the sense of place found only in a group of women dedicated not to personal or material gain but rather to maintaining that place to be, that space to unfold into the women that we could be--ourselves.

## WE'RE SORRY!

Many of our readers have reported that their Voice did not arrive until mid-July and some have not yet recieved their copy. Apparently, many copies disappeared into some bulk mail "black hole" at the post office.

We apologize to anyone who didn't get their Voice in time to make plans for an event or was otherwise inconvenienced by its absence. Unfortunately, such problems do occur from time to time with bulk mail. If you don't receive your copy of *The Voice* on time give us a call and we'll send another or you can pick up one at Herland, The Porthole or the The Coyote Club.

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# REFLECTIONS ON THE DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

MOC

I have been active in and around the progressive movement all during the Reagan/Bush years; working hard in some areas, less hard in others, just showing up to swell the body count in still others, and sometimes just putting a little money where my mouth was and letting others do all the work - from women's issues, including reproductive rights and the ERA, bless its heart; lesbian and gay rights; for peace and justice in Central America; against the massacre in Iraq; against the death penalty; for the environment; against racism, for animal rights. In other words, I have been waging a stubborn holding action against my own government; and it was not until the last few days that I realized how very weary, discouraged and downhearted I had become. Goddess knows I am a sinfully stubborn woman, and I have refused to stop slugging away, even while most reasonable folks knew that I and my "causes" were down for the count.

Watching the Democratic convention every night this last week (and profound thanks to C-Span for its commentary-free coverage), I have felt an unfamiliar emotion beginning to build in me; and this morning, the morning after the end of the festivities, I awoke with the strangest damn feeling; I lay still and went with the flow and finally recognized it: **optimism!** I am an old woman - well ok, merely oldish - and I clearly remember years and years ago waking *every morning* with that feeling; but so help me goddess, I haven't had it in more than a decade. *I have been bloody well depressed all during these last dreadful administrations, and now that I realize it, it really makes me mad.*

But I now have the feeling that just maybe things will be all right; maybe the country will again begin to live its stated values: indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. Maybe we will have moral leadership which will encourage our best instincts, not our basest. Maybe our leadership will encourage a unity within and celebration of our diversity rather than encourage division. Maybe our next Supreme Court Justice will be more like Anita Hill than Clarence Thomas.

Don't get me wrong, I don't think that the Clinton/Gore ticket or agenda are perfect, and I haven't even had a chance to read the platform yet; I know that we can't retire from the fray and leave it to them, they'll certainly need our dedicated, ongoing guidance. But the struggle could be as different as slogging through quicksand, as it was under Reagan Bush, and striding down a wide dry pine forest path.

And maybe, just maybe, I will once again be able to feel perky about being an American. □

## La Salle Des Femmes (continued from Page 1)

Hours of hard work went into La Salle des Femmes. In addition to the work days, we held fundraisers. We held a buffet/concert at both D.J.'s and The Rose. The efforts were beginning to show. It was possible to enter the building and event to hold meetings. The April, 1982 issue of *The Brazen Hussy* stated "...Work on "La Salle des Femmes" bookstore is progressing well, but it is housed in an old building that needs a lot of work. If you have skillsx, tools, time or energy--We Want You!"

Suddenly, things went bad. Jana and T.J. broke up. T.J. left town and we found that our bookstore account was empty. We were all terribly disillusioned. We had worked so hard and we didn't have a cent to continue. The newspaper folded. Murray lost patience with the standstill in our plans. She pad-locked the door shut.

That is when Barbara Cleveland arrived on the scene with her gift for organization, planning, and leadership. She was able to convince Murray to give the bookstore dream one more chance. The rest is Herland herstory. Barbara actualized the dream.

When Herland opened, some wommin from the original collective refused to go there. They felt that their vision of a feminist-lesbian bookstore had been changed and that the new name did not reflect the radical roots of the dream. I was not one of those wommin. I frequented Herland from the day it opened. I have nothing but admiration and gratitude for Barbara Cleveland. She is a woman who makes things happen and we owe her a great deal.

I do believe, however, that we must not forget the wommin who came before and their efforts no matter how unsuccessful their end. Five years ago, my former partner, Cathie, came up from Dallas and we attended Herland's five-year anniversary party. We looked at the photos and spoke to wommin. Late in the evening, Cathie looked at me and said, "They don't even know that we existed. I spent all of my spare time working on La Salle de Femmes, and nobody knows that we were even part of it." I am writing this for Cathie and all of the other wommin of *The Brazen Hussy* collective. I know that you were there. I know that you are part of our herstory and I love and appreciate you as I do Barbara Cleveland. Thank you for giving us Herland -- a place of our own. □

*Thanks*

*to*

*S.P.O.R.T., Shatzky, Carol*

*and the staff of the Porthole*

*for your benefit which raised over \$500  
for the Herland Legal Defense Fund.*

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# VOICES OF THE PAST

*Throughout the Herland journey of the past ten years, the Herland newsletter has been our constant companion. In the early days it was known simply as "THE newsletter" and more recently as The Voice. Below are excerpts from Herland newsletters published through past years to provide snapshots of the landmarks along the path we have traveled.*

## **August, 1984**

On August 17, we officially change our name; from Herland Bookstore to Herland Sister Resources.... "Herland Sister Resources" we believe better describes our present activities and future directions -- to develop into a women's center.

## **November, 1984**

Dear Sisters and Friends of Herland,

For two and a half years I've worked toward a dream: making a bookstore a center for the women's community. Its been an interesting time, full of excitements and disappointments. But through it all, we've continually moved forward.

Herland will continually move forward, but not under my ownership. She will be taken over in January by a Feminist collective. I do not foresee any changes, except for the better....

Barbara Cleveland

## **December, 1984**

The Herland Sister Resources collective has applied for nonprofit incorporated status within the state of Oklahoma. We have adopted by-laws and set the wheels in motion for a new organizational and financial structure.

## **April, 1985**

The only time I had ever heard Peggy Johnson sing was at the Second Fret, the night of the Hawkins/DeLear concert....Maybe it's better to hear new-to-you artists with no preconceived notions, though, because I found the March Herland Coffeehouse performance of Peggy Johnson a thoroughly enjoyable experience....I think she's well on her way, and when she's the headliner at the National Women's Music Festival, we can say "Oh, yes we heard her all the time at Herland Sister Resources in OKC!"

## **July, 1985**

It's official -- Herland is very pleased to announce our non-profit status under section 501(c)(3) has been approved. Thanks to Kris Marek, our legal counselor, for her outstanding work and many donated hours. Over the past six months we have done the groundwork for an organizational structure which should prove accessible and responsive to the public; flexible and functional enough to provide a base for service for many years to come."

## **September, 1985**

Donna Bechtel, an Edmond battered woman who shot and killed her abusive husband last year, is currently serving a life sentence for first degree at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center. A group of concerned citizens (Citizens for Donna Bechtel) formed in May to express community outrage at the plight of Ms. Bechtel and other battered women. Ms. Bechtel would appreciate hearing from supporters. Write to Donna Bechtel, MBCC, P.O. Box 11492, OKC, OK 73136. [ed. note: In 1992, Ms. Bechtel remains in prison at MBCC]

## **October, 1985**

Although the site of the October 25-27 Fall Festival/Women's Retreat has been changed to Osage Hills, plans for a fulfilling weekend are proceeding with excitement....The musical treat of the retreat will be Mary Reynolds and Peggy Johnson....The retreat is open to lesbian and non-lesbian women and their children.

## **November, 1985**

We sang a lot around the campfire. We played hard with passion and I think truly enjoyed the company we made for one another. We rode horses which sprang into occasional gallops. We painted a totem pole and conjured up the woman spirit of a full moon, played drums and spoons, read tarot and rune stones, discussed health and law, survival and children. We learned to juggle, told a continuous stream of bad jokes, acted in plays, wrote and painted, banged on the old upright piano....

Events like this retreat, I think, are a trip "over the rainbow" where women can relax and share visions, can indulge in a mini-society which we create for a few days, can receive nurturing support we don't always get from the major society.

Ann Jones, author of *Women Who Kill* and *Everyday Death* spoke at Herland, October 11 in conjunction with Domestic Violence Awareness Week.

## **December, 1985**

Gayle Marie made her fourth appearance in Oklahoma City Friday, November 22, 1985, and lived up to all the claims her fans had made about her talents....

This was the first concert for the Herland Collective, as such, to produce, and its success has reminded us of how long it has been since OKC had a major concert, as well as assuring the Collective that, indeed, there is an audience out there that will support our bringing live women's music to the area.

## **February, 1986**

After the fall retreat at Osage Hills received such rave notices, the Herland Collective is organizing a second one....Make your ideas known now so they can be included in the development of the event. Herland retreats become what the participants make them, a tradition possibly, with special memories.

## **March, 1986**

Born and raised in Oklahoma City, Janis Galloway is back from San Francisco and she has brought her new smiles and new music to share at Herland's March coffeehouse, 8:00 P.M., March 28, 1630 N.W. 19th.

"...Acoustic music was the beginning and is the backbone of rock and roll," Galloway explained. "I write and sing about the hard times, about a happy love, or about the adventures of being alone. I write from the heart and sing it out to the hearts of others who have a need to identify with something."



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### **September, 1986**

Herland did it! We have written a three-year plan. After being germinated at the Spring Retreat's brainstorming session, the plan has taken form and is in effect to direct our efforts and emphasis....Five priorities are 1) Monthly events to broaden base of support; 2) Coordination of activities and events; 3) Outreach to identifiable groups; 4) expanding newsletter resources; 5) Coordinators for specific tasks and events.

### **March, 1987**

Bring your friends and come celebrate Women's Studies at OU on March 26, 27 and 28 with Judy Chicago, Jennifer Roberson, and Andrea Weiss. The conference kicks off Thursday, March 27 with a potluck dinner and the premiere showing of *Before Stonewall...* The 3 day celebration of Women's Studies will be topped off Saturday evening with a Nancy Day concert brought to you by Herland.

### **October, 1987**

On Monday, September 21, 1987, Herland Sister Resources made an offer to the owners of a property in northwest Oklahoma City. The offer was accepted and Herland is now under contract to purchase the property located at 2312 NW 39th Street.

### **January, 1988**

Herland Bookstore will be closed for the entire month of January. If work goes according to schedule the Bookstore will reopen in February at its new location at 2312 NW 39th.

### **February, 1988**

On April 2nd, Herland and Shartel Productions proudly present a return engagement of Jasmine. Surprised and very pleased with the response they received on their first tour of Oklahoma City last winter, this "top of the line", all-woman jazz group looks forward to coming our way again.

### **July, 1988**

Led by police escort, Oklahoma's first annual Gay Pride Parade made its way up Classen Boulevard and across 39th Street to the Block Party behind the Oasis Community Center without serious interference on Sunday, June 19th....

Of those gathered along the parade route only a handful were thumping Bibles....Five or so Ku Klux Klanners, gathered near the corner of 39th and Penn, rapidly dispersed as the parade drew closer and the number of marchers became apparent.

### **August, 1988**

Herland Bookstore and Library will open its doors on Monday, August 1st at 4:00 P.M. and will be open for business until 7:00 P.M.

Although the building is still not quite completed, Herland Board of Directors believes the store can open and be available to the women's community while finishing work continues.

### **September, 1988**

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 mail box.

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

"...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."

### **October, 1988**

Karen Williams took the floor and charmed a group of 75 women who attended Herland's Fall Retreat at Sequoyah State Park September 17.

### **November, 1988**

Herland's first coffeehouse in the new building will be held November 12 from 8 p.m.- 9:30 p.m. Entertainment will be provided by the winner of the G.A.L.A. female vocalist of the year award, Donna DeSalvo.

### **February, 1989**

...Because here in Oklahoma City, in the short span of three weeks in November and December, we listened as two prophetesses of a brighter day sang to us their visions of the other side....Alix [Dobkin] told of the many faces of Lesbian culture that exist around the world.... The Linda Waterfall concert was not promoted as a quote-unquote women's concert....But thanks to the women who supported the concert so enthusiastically, her music was able to touch on a new direction for the community here in central Oklahoma: that a woman doesn't have to be a Lesbian to make "women's music".

### **March, 1989**

Herland Resource Center now has a telephone!

### **September, 1989**

Hey! Have you noticed anything different about the newsletter! After many months, she now has her own name, her own identity, The Herland Voice.

### **October, 1989**

Our sympathy and concern go out to Joni T. and other friends of Ruby Todd, who was murdered on "The Strip" on Saturday night, September 30.

### **February, 1990**

A-mazing. She breathes, she walks, she drinks perrier and cough syrup-- from the vast plains of radical feminist thought, Mary Daly whisked onto the plains of Oklahoma last month and spoke to a crowd of approximately 200 at the "aca-demented Oh You".

*(continued on page 6)*

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### June, 1990

Oklahoma Women Against Violence Against Women (OWAVAW) will hold a Take Back the Night Rally and March on June 8, 1990 at Memorial Park, N.W. 36th and Classen in Oklahoma City. The theme of the event is "Sexual Assault Doesn't Happen to Someone Else, It Happened to Me."

### October, 1990

Hunter Davis is coming to Oklahoma...Hunter is definitely a musician on the move, touching audiences across the nation with her creativity and warmth, and infectious, boundless enthusiasm weaving instant rapport with every listener.

### January, 1991

The NLC-Gulf Region will hold a variety of events including pot luck suppers and women's video nights, dances, and slumber parties at Herland...beginning January 12 and running through April 10, 1991.

### February, 1991

The women of the Herland Board met on October 6, 1990 to begin the process of developing a mission statement and three-year plan for Herland. The process was completed with the formal adoption of the Herland Sister Resources Mission Statement at the December Board meeting.

### March, 1991

Pro-choice counter demonstrators at the January 20th anti-abortion so called "pro-life" rally at the Capitol were delighted at the sight of a dozen ACT-UP member winding their way through the crowd shouting slogans....

### July, 1991

Yes, the 13th Herland Retreat at Robber's Cave State Park near Wilburton, Oklahoma didn't fall prey to unlucky superstition. Rather it lived up to all the fun that retreats have always cracked up to be.

### October, 1991

...the notice came that a pro-choice rally would be held in Wichita to counter the actions of Operation Rescue's clinic blockades.... Twelve women associated with Herland gathered on Friday evening to travel together....In front of the clinic, completely surrounded by the Operation Rescue crowd, we circled and sang the Mountain Song....We continued our march back to the street corner where we took up places on the street's edge holding signs and chanting pro-choice slogans.

### November, 1991

On Tuesday, October 15, I stood among a group of friends and strangers at the O.U. School of Law. Our eyes were fixed on a television screen as the U.S. Senate voted on the confirmation of Clarence Thomas.

...I am angry. It is a healthy anger which will lead to action, and I am not alone. There are many of us. We will not forget October 15th, and we will not go away.

### January, 1992

Craftswomen gained a new opportunity to display (and sell) their wares when a new crafts consignment area was opened by Herland on December 7, 1991.

### March, 1992

For the first time in our history, Herland has been awarded a grant from a national foundation.

### May, 1992

Nearly a million people, mostly women, marched on Washington April 5 to demand full reproductive rights for all women.

*And the best is yet to come...* □

## HERLAND NEEDS YOU!

Can you remember when there wasn't a Herland? Can you imagine Oklahoma City without a Herland?

Many women have made Herland. They have painted and built. They have staffed the center on cold winter days and beautiful spring days. They have made donations -- when times were hard and nobody knew how the bills would be paid, they came through. They have spent long hours in meetings planning and making all the things we call Herland happen. They have given freely of themselves and made Herland.

Herland needs you. You are needed to volunteer to staff Herland on the weekends, to use your skills to help maintain the building, to serve on a committee to produce musical events, fundraise, or publish the newsletter. Whoever you are and whatever your skills, there is a place for you at Herland.

If you'd like to volunteer, drop by the center on the weekend and leave your name and number or leave a phone message for Michelle, the current volunteer coordinator.

Herland needs your financial support., also. It takes about \$50 a day for Herland to operate. Please consider making a contribution to help us continue to meet these costs.

In whatever way you can, we invite you to join with the women who make Herland. □

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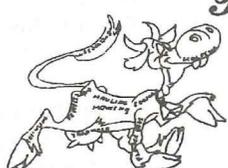
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*The Voice* is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Signed articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address. Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym.

Subscriptions to *The Voice* are free upon request.

*The Voice* is printed on recycled paper.

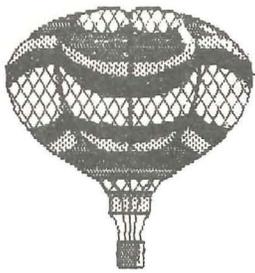
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# August, 1992



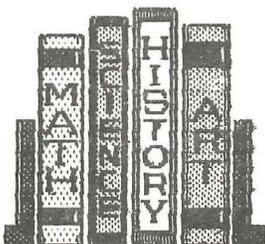
Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

CONGRATULATIONS TO HERLAND - 10 YEARS AND GOING STRONG!

DOC HERLAND SAYS: IMAGINE MY SURPRISE:  
CLARENCE THOMAS VOTED TO OVERTURN ROE V. WADE.

1  
Cleveland  
County  
NOW  
2 pm  
Norman Public  
Library

|   |  |  |   |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| 2   | 3<br>Cleveland<br>County<br>Pro-Choice<br>Coalition<br>7:30 - 9<br>Norman Public<br>Library<br>Rooms A&B       | 4<br>Legal Defense<br>Fund<br>Meeting,<br>Herland,<br>7 p.m.   | 5<br>The New<br>METRO OKC<br>NOW<br>6 pm<br>Belle Isle<br>Library                                     | 6<br>Remember<br>Hiroshima,<br>1945:<br>Work for<br>Peace.  | 7<br>CoDA, 7 pm  | 8<br>VOLLEYBALL<br>TOURNAMENT<br>Will Rogers<br>Park, on the<br>East Side                          |
| 9<br>Richard Nixon<br>resigned the<br>Presidency,<br>1974   | 10   | 11   | 12  | 13<br><br>LUCY STONE<br>1818 - 1893   | 14<br>CoDA, 7 pm   | 15<br>PEGGY<br>JOHNSON's<br>Pre-Law<br>School Bash<br>at the<br>PORTHOLE<br>9 - 1                  |
| 16<br><br>Board<br>Meeting<br>4:30  | 17   | 18<br><br>THIS DAY<br>DEDICATED*<br>TO<br>JANIS JOPLIN   | 19  | 20  | 21<br>CoDA, 7 pm   | 22<br>OK NOW, 1p.m.,<br>Belle Isle<br>Library<br>*<br>10TH<br>ANNIVERSARY<br>LAWN PARTY<br>6:30 PM |
| 23<br>HERLAND'S<br>OPEN NIKE<br>AT THE<br>COYOTE CLUB<br>Come and<br>entertain<br>your friends<br>8:00 pm | 24<br>Cleveland<br>County<br>Pro-Choice<br>Coalition<br>7:30 - 9 pm<br>Norman Public<br>Library<br>Rooms A & B | 25<br>PRIMARY<br>ELECTION DAY<br>Voting is a<br>privilege as<br>well as a<br>right; be<br>privileged,<br>and VOTE! | 26<br>WOMEN'S<br>EQUALITY<br>DAY<br>Celebrates<br>Ratification<br>of the 19th<br>Amendment<br>in 1920 | 27  | 28<br>MISS BROWN<br>TO YOU<br>at<br>The Earth<br>in OKC<br>*<br>CoDA, 7 pm | 29<br>NOW<br>WALKATHON   |
| 30  | 31   | *Dedicate a day<br>in the Voice Calendar;<br>Call (405) 521-9696<br>for particulars.                               |   | Silent Vigil for peace in Central America. On the steps of the<br>Federal Building, NW 4th & Robinson, OKC; Wednesdays at Noon. |  |  |



HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES INC  
2312 NW 39th Street  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73112  
405/ 521-9696  
Hours: Saturday 10 - 6; Sunday 1 - 6

HERLAND GIFT SHOP  
The Place to Shop  
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## HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES MISSION STATEMENT

Herland Sister Resources envisions and strives toward a world in which all women live free from oppression.

Herland supports and includes all women who experience oppression. Lesbians as a group have a deep experience of the general oppressive climate of this world. Although Herland is not restricted to lesbians, we have a strong lesbian focus. We are a womanist organization, support women in their journey toward self-definition and self-determination, and recognizing that each woman has her own pace of growth and enlightenment.

Herland is a non-profit volunteer organization. We publish a newsletter, operate a bookstore and lending library, and provide musical and cultural events for education and entertainment. We offer a safe place for women to meet and exchange ideas, feelings, hopes and fears and to learn about themselves and each other.

The only requirement for involvement in Herland is a desire for women to be free of the restraints of oppression. □

## AUSTRALIAN INVITATION

Dear Lesbians,

You are cordially invited to Western Australia in October 1993 for our Australian Lesbian Festival and Conference.

It will be in our springtime and there will be millions of wildflowers in bloom. The gloriously unpolluted, turquoise waters of the Indian Ocean will be sparkling and Lesbians from all over the world will be gathering here to celebrate our lives, our diversity and to have fun.

We are asking you to pass this information on to other Lesbians via your grapevines, newsletters, magazines, bookshops, radio programmes and whatever other means you can manage.

We will be in touch again soon with more information about this event but mark it in your diary now!

With love,

Karen and Aquila for the 1993 Lesbian Festival and Conference Organisers, P. O. Box 985, Fremantle, Western Australia 6160. □

## ANITA HILL FUND ESTABLISHED

The Anita Hill Fund has been established to endow a professorship at the University of Oklahoma College of Law. The professorship will be dedicated to teaching, research, and law reform efforts concerning equity in the workplace. The fund's goal is to raise \$250,000 which will be matched by the State of Oklahoma. □

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## TARGETING THE SENATE, 1992

In recent months The Voice has been bringing you profiles of feminist, pro-choice women running for the U.S. Senate. Thus far we have profiled Barbara Boxer and Dianne Feinstein of California, dynamic newcomers Carol Mosely Braun of Illinois and Lynn Yeakel of Pennsylvania, and Elizabeth Holtzman and Geraldine Ferraro of New York (both running for the same seat, unfortunately). If you are moved to send financial support for any of these women, you might send a donation to the Women's Campaign Fund, 120 Maryland Avenue, NE, Washington, D.C. 20002; or the Emily List, 1112 16th Street NW, Suite 750, Washington, DC 20036. "Emily" is an acronym for "Early Money Is Like Yeast," referring to the almost magical effect of abundant money early in a campaign.

If you watched much of the Democratic National Convention in July, you will have seen and been impressed with two other lesser known women candidates for the Senate, from Kansas and Iowa: Both women are strongly pro-choice and pro-woman.

**Gloria O'Dell from Kansas:** O'Dell has adopted a tactic from Jerry Brown's campaign (or was it the other way around?) and displays a toll free number prominently on her campaign signs and literature: 1-800-GLORIA-3. She has a Bachelors degree in English and a Masters in Social Work, and has worked in mainly support positions in politics and government for many years before stepping into the limelight herself. She has a tough but winnable race against incumbent Bob Dole.

**Jean Floyd Jones from Iowa:** Jones has traveled a long road from work as a secretary (an honorable but vastly undervalued occupation, not unlike "housewife") to her current position as President Pro Tem of the Iowa Senate. She is seeking to unseat Senator Charles Grassley. Senate Grassley was a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee during the infamous Clarence Thomas confirmation hearing. □



## Chatterbox

The Seventh Annual Midwest Feminist Graduate Student Conference will be held at Bowling Green State University, Ohio. Sessions will be designed for African-American, Euro-American, and Third World feminists, and suggested topics include cyborgian identity, issues of the subaltern, post-colonialism, and feminist theories inclusive of cross-cultural issuers. One page abstracts are due: October 15, 1992 to: MGSC, c/o Women's Studies Program, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, OH 43402. (419) 372-8361.

•••••

Workshop and performing arts ideas are needed for the 4th Annual Lesbian Bizarre, which will be held March 19 - 22, 1992. Send your odd, strange, bizarre ideas by January 16, 1993 to Attn: Bizarre, Something Special, 7762 NW 14 Court, Miami, Florida 33147-5571.

•••••

*The National Directory of Women of Color Organizations and Projects* has recently been published. It contains names, addresses, and phone numbers of key contact people in women of color organizations throughout the country. It provides access to the organizations and projects that are affecting the future of Native American, Asian American, African American, Latina, and Arab American women throughout the U.S. It is indexed by issues and by race/ethnicity/nationality. Available on book or disk, and the disk is easily converted into mailing labels. For ordering info contact Women of Color Resource Center, 2288 Fulton Street, Suite 103, Berkeley, CA 94704; (510)848-9272.

•••••

Oklahoma N.O.W. has a new phone number : (405) 321-6676 and a new address, P.O. Box 5516, Norman, Oklahoma 73070.

# THE *Coyote* CLUB

*Where desert hearts gather...*

**PRESENTS...**

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HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES.**

**AUGUST 23rd**

**8:00 - 11:00 pm**

**\$2 COVER AT THE DOOR.**

**WEDNESDAYS - YOU BRING THE MEAT, WE'LL DO THE REST.**

**THURSDAYS - HOT COUNTRY NIGHTS W/C & W DANCE LESSONS 7:30 - 9:30 PM.**

**SUNDAYS - VOLLEYBALL TOURNAMENT BEGINS AT 2:00. COOKOUT FROM 6 - 8**

2120 NW 39th, OKC • 521-9533