

the HERLAND VOICE

March 2005

Women's History Month

volume 23, number 3

Woman Triumphs!

British Sailor Ellen MacArthur has broken the world record for sailing around the world solo. She completed the 26,000-mile circumnavigation in February. Her journey took 71 days, 14 hours, 18 minutes, 33 seconds, beating the existing record of Francis Joyon of France by more than a day.



MacArthur averaged only four hours a day of sleep, and never more than 30 minutes at a stretch. "There were some times out there that were excruciatingly difficult," she said. "There were more lows than highs, no doubt about it. It is exceptionally difficult to communicate how tough this was."

In recognition of MacArthur's remarkable achievements, Queen Elizabeth II has approved a

damehood (the female equivalent of a knighthood) for her. The 28-year-old MacArthur is the youngest person to receive this honor. In addition, the Royal Navy said MacArthur would be made an honorary naval officer, holding the title of Lt. Commander in the Royal Navy Reserve.

MacArthur joins an ever-expanding sisterhood of women

world record holders that include Ironman (sic) champion Paula Newby-Frazier, rock climber Lynn Hill, and famed Iditarod champion Susan Butcher.



Oklahoma City Hosts One of 100 Parties in Celebration of International Women's Day

Oklahoma City, OK -- International Women's Day on March 8 will be commemorated in a festive and meaningful way, when women from around the United States will simultaneously host parties to raise funds to benefit marginalized women in developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. It is hoped that the parties will collectively raise \$30,000. One of the nearly 100 parties will be hosted by the Social Justice Committee of the First Unitarian Church of Oklahoma City on Saturday, March 5, 2005 from 4 to 6 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church of Oklahoma City, 600 NW 13th Street.

Party sponsors are members of WOW! (Work of Women), a global membership organization within World Neighbors, a not-for-profit community development organization working in partnership with the rural poor in hundreds of villages in countries as geographically diverse as Kenya, Guatemala, Nepal, Burkina Faso, India and Indonesia. More than half of World Neighbors' beneficiaries are women.

"The party concept provides our members, no matter where they live, with a tangible, hands-on way to get involved and make a difference in the lives of women in developing countries, who want the same things for themselves and their families as we in the United States seek," said Wariko Kabuga Waita, WOW! coordinator.

World Neighbors, founded in 1951, currently operates 48 programs in 16 countries that reach more than 250,000 direct participants and more than 1.3 million beneficiaries who live in some of the poorest villages on the planet.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Teresa Rendon, First Unitarian Church
Aren1450@aol.com
405-840-1875

Erin Engelke, World Neighbors
Communications & Marketing Coordinator
eenengelke@wn.org
405.752.9700

Herland Spring Women's Retreat Registration Form

Roman Nose State Park - May 13, 14 & 15, 2005

Below are guidelines to help you select an appropriate registration amount. Deadline for pre-registration is May 6th. Please remember that dogs are welcome but must remain on leashes and are not allowed in the dining hall.

Registration fee enclosed (payable to Herland):

___ \$15 ___ \$25 ___ \$35 ___ \$45 ___ \$60

___ Concert only - \$10

Sliding Scale Registration Guidelines Based on Income		
Single Person Annual Income	Household Annual Income	Pre-Registration per person
under \$6,500	under \$13,300	\$15
\$6,500-\$13,300	\$13,300-\$18,000	\$25
\$13,300-\$19,500	\$18,000-\$26,000	\$35
\$19,500-\$30,000	\$26,000-\$50,000	\$45
over \$30,000	over \$50,000	\$60

Name(s): _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

email (optional): _____

- () I need a scholarship to attend.
- () I'm enclosing an additional \$ _____ to help provide scholarships.
- () I'm bringing _____ children (girls of all ages and boys under age 10 are welcome).

Please return registration form and check to: Herland Sister Resources, 2312 NW 39th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73112
A retreat packet with all information will be sent to you.



Herland Poetry Month Events

April is nationally designated as Poetry Month, and Herland has several poetry events planned.

First, our April issue of the Herland Voice will be devoted primarily to poetry.

Secondly, a Poetry Workshop **"Moved by Words"**: Saturday April 9, 2005, 1 – 4 pm at Herland. Using movement, meditation and poetry to connect with self and others. A workshop in creating and appreciating poetry. Participants will write their own poetry, contribute to group poems, and share their poetry at the evening's HERLAND poetry gathering. Our workshop facilitator is Carol Davis Koss; a well-known and respected Oklahoma poet.

This FREE Workshop is limited to 15 participants, so please call Herland at 405/521-9696 to reserve your place; or email herlandsisters@cox.net with "Poetry Workshop" on the subject line.

Finally, a Poetry Gathering; Saturday evening,

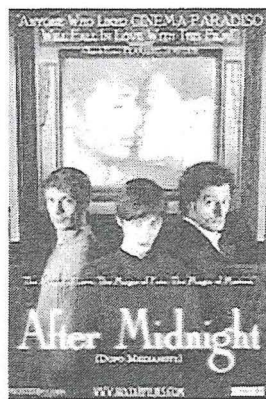
April 9, 2005. Participants from the workshop will be encouraged to share their poetry, and all other members of the community, especially those who have contributed to the Voice, are welcome to participate also. This will follow our monthly Supper Club, which will meet and dine at Pei Wei restaurant.



Cartoon by Sue Clancey

Herland Supper Club

The March Supper Club will meet Saturday the 12th at 5:00 pm at Zio's Italian Kitchen, 2035 S Meridian . Those wishing to carpool can meet at Herland Sister Resources at 4:35 pm (Herland is located at 2312 NW 39th street in OKC). The post-meal event will be the Italian film After Midnight, beginning at 7:30 at the Oklahoma City Museum of Art, 415 Couch Drive, Oklahoma City.



After Midnight is a masterful homage to love and cinema. In Italian with English subtitles. Run time is 87 min. For more information about the film, go to www.okcmoa.com/programs_film_cal.htm

Mark your calendars for 2005 Herland Retreats

May 13-15 at Roman Nose State Park, see registration form on page 4. The band "Iris" will be the Sat. night concert.

Herland's winner of the season-one DVD of *The L Word* was Kita Morris of Portland Oregon.

The Voice is published monthly by Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. The Voice is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address. Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym or anonymously. Herland reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Subscriptions to The Voice are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.

Don't Forget to Support the Voice!

Your contribution is important! Just \$15 a year will help us pay for the \$300+ it costs every month to print and mail the newsletter.

Enclosed is a contribution for \$ _____

Please add me to the mailing list for The Voice.

Please change my address (new address below).

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

HERLAND EVENTS CALENDAR

March

- **Saturday, March 5:** Mary Reynolds and Louise Goldberg will join Emily Kaitz at the Chouse in Norman.
- **Saturday, March 12: Herland Supper Club** will meet at Zio's Italian Kitchen. For more info. See article this page.
- **Saturday, March 12:** Herland Hike at Martin Nature Park, 5000 W. Memorial, 10 am.
- **Monday, March 14:** OGLPC Monthly Meeting at the Center, 2135 NW 39th, 7 pm.
- **Friday, March 4:** Informal showing of the first 2 episodes of the second season of *The L WORD*, at 7 pm. This is a free event.
- **March 8, 9 & 11:** "The Vagina Monologues" are coming to the Pegasus Theater, Liberal Arts Building, on the Univ. of Central Okla. Campus. Show time is 7:30 pm.
- **Friday, March 11:** Informal showing of *The L Word* at Herland at 7 pm. This is a free event.
- **Thursday, March 17:** Iris the band at Sister's.
- **Friday, March 18:** Informal showing of *The L Word* at Herland at 7 pm. This is a free event.
- **Saturday, March 19:** Herland Video Night, 7 pm—film to be announced.
- **Sunday, March 20:** Herland Board Meeting at Herland, 4 pm, everyone welcome.
- **Friday, March 25:** Informal showing of *The L Word* at Herland at 7 pm. This is a free event.
- **Saturday, March 26:** Herland scrabble night, 6 pm.

April—mark your calendars

- **Saturday, April 9: "Moved By Words"** — Free Herland poetry workshop. Space is limited so sign up early.
- **Saturday, April 9: Herland Supper Club** will meet at Pei Wei restaurant for dinner followed by Poetry Night at Herland.
- **Sunday, April 17:** Book Art workshop begins at Herland. See article page 5.

PFLAG Meetings

PFLAG Norman meets the second Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. Our meetings are at St. Stephen's United Methodist Church in Norman at the corner of McGee Drive and West Brooks St. Each meeting is a support group unless we are having an educational program, which we have several times a year. The programs are usually a speaker, a panel or a video (i.e. a professor talking about health care issues for GLBT persons, a mix of perspectives on same gender marriage, or a documentary about bullying). More information about PFLAG Norman is available from our hotline at 360-4497 or on our website at www.pflagnorman.org.

Announcements

A National Multiracial, Multigenerational Conference for People of all Religions and Spiritualities Creating Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender-Affirming Communities Together in Faith brings together LGBT and All people of all ages, races, religions and spiritualities from around the country for skill-enhancing workshops led by nationally renowned activists and community-building activities with like-minded progressive People of Faith. Attendees will leave with new information and tools to help them create LGBT-affirming cities and faith communities.

Together in Faith 2005 will be held on August 5-7, 2005, in Ypsilanti, MI. Please visit www.togetherinfaith.com for info. To receive a registration packet or more information please email Amanda Sharrai at conference@afsc-fan.org or by phone at 734-761-8283 ext. #3.

What people had to say about last year's conference:

I traveled from California to attend. It was worth it!

Have another one soon! This is going to grow and reach many in need.

Excellent first conference - loved the diversity of presenters, presentations and entertainment. Thank you!

All the Friday performances were moving and the drumming circle was a very grounding experience and a great way to start a conference. Thank you for a great conference. I met some new people to be on the journey with.

CODE PINK

After the disastrous presidential election, many people fantasized about seeking asylum in some other, more peace-loving country. While we certainly don't advocate abandoning the US, we do encourage people to travel overseas to learn about the world, and even more importantly, to be a citizen ambassador.

Become a Citizen Ambassador with CODEPINK, by joining one of our Peace Delegations in 2005. In coordination with Global Exchange, we'll be organizing amazing, inspiring and life-transforming trips to Palestine/Israel, Afghanistan and Iran!

PALESTINE/ISRAEL for International Women's Day
March 6-16, 2005

With the recent election of Mahmoud Abbas, this is a critical time to explore prospects for peace in this con-

flicted region. The women's delegation to Palestine/Israel will offer a unique opportunity to hear first-hand from Palestinian and Israeli women about what the occupation means for their lives and how they see the future. Learn about Palestinian women's struggle for peace and human rights while living under occupation, and Israeli women's fight to stop the injustices committed by their government. Our delegation will also meet with an amazing array of community organizers, human rights activists, health workers, educators, students, families and legal advocates.

AFGHANISTAN for International Women's Day
March 6-15, 2005

What is life really like for Afghan women today? How has their situation changed since the overthrow of the Taliban? This trip provides first-hand insight into Afghan women's perspectives on their lives and the future of their country. The delegation will meet with the Ministry of Women's Affairs, grassroots women's organizations, groups involved in de-mining efforts, educating the youth, and creating new income-generating projects. It is an opportunity of a lifetime to spend international women's day with some of the most courageous and inspiring women on the planet!

IRAN Building friendships April 19-29, 2005

In this time of increased political tension between the US and Iran, American travel to Iran helps establish the people-to-people ties that facilitate understanding and respect between our two countries. This is a very rare opportunity to meet with women's groups, environmental NGOs, artists, and ordinary Iranians. A former delegate to Iran, Judy Carlock, said this of her experience: "I didn't expect to be standing here, by these graves, tears rolling down my face. But then, I didn't expect a lot of things when I came to Iran. I didn't expect flowers, music, colored lights. Most of all: I did not expect joy." Explore this beautiful country and culture, and learn the people's views on their government, US-Iranian relations, and their hopes for the future.

Many Code Pink members have organized their own fundraisers to help pay for their trips. See www.globalexchange.org/tours/fundraisingtips.html for fundraising tips. For more information about any of these trips or other similar trips organized by Global Exchange, visit www.realitytours.org or con-

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

tact Ceanna Stephens at
ceanna@globalexchange.org or 415-575-5546.

In continued solidarity,
Andrea, Carol, Claire, Dana, Gael, Jodie, Medea,
Nancy, Tiffany

This Month's website of the month is:
www.codepinkalert.org

Sexuality & Scriptures Conference

4th annual Sexuality & Scriptures Conference in OKC
"Legislating Sexual Ethics Then and Now"
Thursday, Friday, Saturday – March 3, 4, 5
Mayflower Congregational Church, 63rd & May, OKC

Organizers of Oklahoma City's fourth annual Sexuality & Scriptures Conference: "Legislating Sexual Ethics Then and Now" say that all persons are affected by religious and civil efforts to legislate sexual ethics. "This conference will foster dialogue and informed, integrated views on sexuality, spirituality, and faith," said Church of the Open Arms pastor Rev. Kathy McCallie, one of the religious leaders organizing the conference.

"Spirituality and sexuality fuel each other, producing power that people in authority have always sought to control," McCallie said. "Responsible freedom in this area of our lives is part of healing the injustices and brokenness of the world."

On Thursday evening, at 7 pm, the conference will begin with a panel of presenters including Rabbi Barry Cohen of Temple B'nai Israel, University of Oklahoma professor Julia Erhardt, and other Oklahoma City clergy. On Friday evening, at 7 pm, Rev. Kevin McLemore from Houston, TX, will offer a keynote address. McLemore was the organizing pastor of Oklahoma City's Cathedral of Hope. Refreshments and dialogue will follow the presentations on Thursday and Friday evenings.

Saturday workshop titles include: "Sacredness of Sexuality," "Psychological and Emotional Issues," "Authority of Scripture," "Bisexuality," "Feminist Liberation and Erotic Power," "Theology of Marriage," and others. "Although controversy over homosexuality is often the catalyst for discussions such as these, heterosexual as well as homosexual persons must be committed to promoting learning and dialogue on these issues," McCallie said.

Conference events will be held at Mayflower Congregational Church, 3901 NW 63rd Street, one of the seven local congregations sponsoring the events. Other sponsoring churches include First Unitarian, St. Andrews Presbyterian, Epworth Methodist, Cathedral of Hope-OKC, Clegg Memorial United Methodist, and Church of the Open Arms, according to McCallie. The seven congregations sponsoring the conference affirm that lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender persons and their relationships are of equal sacred value with all others, and are neither sick nor sinful.

Registration information and a detailed brochure are available at 525-2346 or 525-9555.

Book Art Classes at Herland

Herland will be offering a series of 6 book art classes from noon to 3 pm on the following **Sundays: April 17 & 24; May 1 & 22; June 12 & 19.**

The classes will be taught by esteemed local artist, Connie Seabourn who says "I believe that the interest in book art has been growing for some time. There was a thesis on book art that presented some statistics about how female artists dominate this field (and speculation as to why). There are many ways that this particular art form would especially promote emotional health and social bonding. I love books and visual art, and this combines both."

Pre-registration is required. Tuition (which benefits Herland) is \$20.00 per class or \$100.00 for all 6 classes if paid in advance—which gets you one class free. The classes are limited to 10 students, so register early. Supplies will cost about \$20.00—or as much more as you care to spend. Once registered, you will receive information about purchasing supplies.

To register, call (405) 521-9696 and give your name and a number where you can be reached or email Herland at: herlandsisters@cox.net . Tuition can be mailed to Herland Sister Resources, 2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK 73112, or brought by Herland on Saturdays between 1 and 5 pm.

March 1st—World Friendship Day

Friendship Force of Oklahoma will participate in World Friendship Day Around the World—March 1st. Friendship Force Ambassadors and Hosts are people who enjoy new experiences and believe that friendship can be a catalyst for improved world relations. For more information go to <http://friendshipforce.homestead.com/OKLAHOMA.html>

Herland Needs Donation of a Laptop Computer

Minimum System Requirements for donated laptop to run Windows XP Professional and Office Professional Edition 2003

- 300 megahertz Pentium III processor or compatible processor
- 128 megabytes (MB) of RAM
- 6 gigabytes (GB) hard disk
- Super VGA (800 x 600) or higher-resolution video
- CD-ROM or DVD drive

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