

Herland Retreat T-shirt Design Contest

Can you believe Herland has had Spring and Fall Retreats for 20 years? The very first retreat was held in October 1985 at Osage Hills State Park and the Saturday evening entertainment was by Mary Reynolds and Peggy Johnson.

Well, we are coming up on the 20-year anniversary of that first womyn's retreat and we are going to celebrate in a big way. This October we will have our Fall Retreat at Eufaula State Park and we will have lots of special activities as we try to re-create some of the more popular events from past retreats.

We also want a special T-shirt design recognizing our 20 years of fun, friendships, and yes, even frivolity.

You can enter as many designs as you wish and we will contact you if we select your design. The winner will receive a free registration to the Fall Retreat and a free T-shirt, of course.

The design contest will be for the front of the T-shirt and should be no larger than 8.5 x 11 inches. (On the back of the shirt will be a chronological list of all the retreats and where they were held.)

Submissions may be electronic or hard copy and **must be received by September 1, 2005**. Please include your name and phone number or email address with each submission. (If we are unable to contact you, your design cannot be considered.)

Pride 2005 Recap

This year's Pride Week was one of the best ever. Large crowds, virtually no hecklers, not unbearable heat for the parade, and the police were almost friendly. What more could you ask for?

Some of the **highlights of the week** were:

- The Friday night showing of the documentary "Tying the Knot" by Women of Color and OUT-OK at Church of the Open Arms. This film explored the many issues behind the gay marriage debate and focused on two couples where the death of one of the partners left the other in a legal battle fighting for what would be rightfully theirs could they have married. In attendance was one of the men featured in the film, Sam, an Oklahoma rancher who lost his partner Earl of 25 years.
- **Herland's Pride Picnic** with over 150 people attending. The entertainment was great, the food was good, and many old friends showed up including Marla O. back from France for a visit, and Wanda C. with her granddaughter Sommer, now 13 years old.
- **Moodswing** at the festival on Saturday evening. We heard rave reviews about this all-women band from everyone who attended.
- **Herland's Float** in the Pride Parade. Thanks to the efforts of Cheryl, Karen, Andy, Kendra, Andrea, Dominique, Margaret, Chris, Ashley (10 years old), Michaela (5 years old), and several others, Herland had a float in this year's parade. The team made a replica of the Herland building façade and then stationed women at each corner of the float holding signs advertising different Herland activities. The group threw mini-Frisbees and other novelties advertising Herland to the crowd.
- And, speaking of **the crowd**, it was tremendous. Running the gauntlet at the end of the Strip was an awesome experience this year. The roar of the crowd was louder than any previous year and the surge of energy and excitement was incredible. For a couple of women in the Herland contingent, this was their first parade and they were truly amazed. (If you've never had the experience of running the gauntlet, you should do it at least once.)
- The **Block Party on the Strip** after the Parade. The Strip was kept blocked off to traffic for the remainder of the evening and hundreds of partiers crammed the streets for hours.

Soliciting Volunteers for the Holocaust Remembrance Exhibition

The Oklahoma Holocaust Remembrance Exhibition (OKHRE) and Docent Co-Chair Margaret Cox are looking for docents (informed ushers) to aid visitors to the exhibit. Docents will receive a formal training on September 15, during one of two training classes to be held that day and evening; and will have ample opportunity to inform themselves at the website www.OKHolocaustexhibition.org.

Docents may sign up for one five-hour shift, for one shift per week, or however long and often you wish. There will be two docents on duty at all times, so feel free to recruit a friend and schedule yourselves together.

Please contact Margaret at 405-413-2600 or by email at mocox1@cox.net. You may also go to the exhibition website, above, and sign up on the Volunteer page there.

(cont. from bottom of page)

"The exhibit brings into sharp focus the end result of intolerance and hatred that left 11 million dead. The facts of this tragedy raise important questions for all of us about the inhumanity that led to this – and the inhumanity that exists in every society, even our own. In the "Rescuers" exhibit, we can see the courage shown by those who risked their own lives standing up to intolerance and violence," said Pam Fleischaker, the project's Honorary Co-Chair.

"Nazi persecution of Homosexuals 1933 – 1945" exhibit has been touring nationally since 2003 and has been shown in Houston, St. Louis, Phoenix, Tucson, Los Angeles, Minneapolis, Ft. Lauderdale, San Francisco, and East Lansing Michigan. The exhibit is scheduled next in West Palm Beach, Florida, Atlanta, Georgia, and Ithaca, New York.

For more information or to donate to The Oklahoma City Holocaust Remembrance Exhibition visit the web site at www.OKHolocaustexhibition.org.

United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Traveling Exhibit: "Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933 – 1945" to visit Oklahoma City

The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's traveling exhibit, "Nazi Persecution of Homosexuals 1933 – 1945," examines the police terror that led to the arrest of more than 100,000 men under a broadly interpreted law against homosexuality and the torture and death of many of them. The exhibit of photographs, documents and artwork, and a companion exhibit, "Rescuers: Portraits of Moral Courage in the Holocaust," will be offered free to the public September 14 through October 23 at Untitled [ArtSpace], 1 Northeast 3rd Street in downtown Oklahoma City.

The **Oklahoma Holocaust Remembrance Exhibition** is a project of Cimarron Alliance Foundation, supported by community partners including the Jewish Federation of Greater Oklahoma City, The Metropolitan Library System, the Arts Council of Oklahoma City, and several other community and religious organizations. The project committee is chaired by Rob Howard and honorary co-chairs are Jim Roth, Oklahoma County Commissioner and Pam Fleischaker, Presidential appointee to the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum Council from 2000-2005.

The "Rescuers" exhibit features portraits by Gay Block and narratives by Malka Drucker of people who helped save the lives of Jews in Europe during World War II. Of the 105 portraits of European rescuers from 10 countries, 49 tell the story of their lives before, during, and after the war as they grapple with the questions of why they acted with humanity in a time of barbarism.

From 1933 to 1945, Nazi leaders waged a ruthless campaign against people deemed "enemies of the state." Hitler's regime, driven by a racist ideology, carried out the destruction of six in the Holocaust implemented a program of "race hygiene;" killing more to cleanse society of Gypsies who carried diseases, the physically disabled, Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals and the more than 100,000 homosexual men proximately imprisoned and 5,000 sent to concentration camps, where an unknown number of them perished.

The award-winning film documentaries, "Paragraph 175" and "Resisting Paradise" will be shown as companion pieces to the exhibits during limited screenings in cooperation with the Oklahoma City Museum of Art. "These exhibits are designed to teach us all about the Holocaust and encourage visitors to reflect on the moral and spiritual questions raised by these terrible events" said Jim Roth, Honorary Co-Chair of the Oklahoma Holocaust Remembrance Exhibition.

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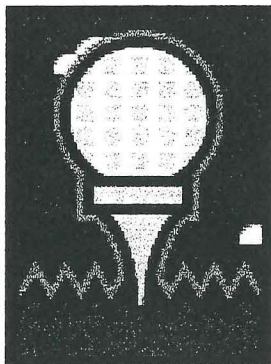


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Herland Golfing

Everyone is welcome to join us for the first Herland Golf Outing at 8:30 am Saturday, July 9th, at James E Stewart Golf Course, 824 Carverdale Drive, OKC (1 block east of MLK and NE 10th Street).

This is a 9-hole take about 1.5 take reservations. (That, and the possible heat, are the reasons, from beginning golfers and up some fun four-be there by 8:30 am consecutive tee clubs, please let us indicated they have bring. Call Ginger at 942-1535 to let us know about needing clubs or if you have any other questions.



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Herland Supper Club

The July Supper Club will meet Saturday, July 9th, at 5:30 pm at the Belle Isle Brewery, 50 Penn Place. Those wishing to carpool can meet at Herland Sister Resources at 5:15 pm. (Herland is located at 2312 NW 39th Street in OKC.) After the meal, all are invited back to Herland for an evening of games such as Taboo, Cranium, Encore, and Outburst. The competition was stimulating at the game night in May, so come prepared for a rousing good time.

Herland Movie Night

WHAT THE BLEEP DO WE KNOW?! is a new type of film. It is



part documentary, part story, and part elaborate and inspiring visual effects and animations. The protagonist, Amanda, played by Marlee Matlin, finds herself in a fantastic Alice in Wonderland experience when her daily, uninspired life literally begins to unravel, revealing the uncertain world of the quantum field hidden behind what we consider to be our normal, waking reality. As Amanda learns to relax into the experience, she conquers her fears, gains wisdom, and wins the keys to the great secrets of the

ages, all in the most entertaining way. Join us at 7 pm on Saturday, July 16th, for our screening of this unique and powerful movie.

Herland Events Calendar

Saturday, July 2: Mary Reynolds and Louise Goldberg at the UCO Jazz Lab, Edmond, 8 pm.

Sunday, July 3: IRIS on the patio at Sisters

Saturday, July 9: Herland Golf Outing, James E Stewart Golf Course, NE 10th & MLK, 8:30 am.

Saturday, July 9: Herland Hike, Martin Nature Park, 5000 W. Memorial, 10 am.

Saturday, July 9: State NOW Meeting, OKC Downtown Library, 3 pm.

Saturday, July 9: Herland Supper Club and Game Night, Belle Isle Brewery, 50 Penn Place, OKC, 5:30 pm. Games at Herland after meal.

Sunday, July 10: Herland Bookmaking Class, noon. \$20. Everyone welcome.

Monday, July 11: OGLPC Monthly Meeting at the Center, 2135 NW 39th, 7 pm.

Tuesday, July 12: Young Lesbians/Gays Support Group, 7 pm at Herland (see article page 5).

July 13-17: Annual Woody Guthrie Festival, Okemah, OK. Mary Reynolds plays Wed at 8 pm and Fri at 2:45 pm.

Saturday, July 16: Herland Video Night, 7 pm, "What the Bleep Do We Know?"

Sunday, July 17: Herland Board Meeting at Herland, 4 pm, everyone welcome.

Saturday, July 23: Mary Reynolds and Louise Goldberg at the UCO Jazz Lab, Edmond, 8 pm.

Tuesday, July 26: Young Lesbians/Gays Support Group, 7 pm at Church of the Open Arms (see pg 5).

Website of the Month

www.OKHolocaustexhibition.org

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.

Canada Military Hosts First Gay Wedding

Two members of Canada's military have tied the knot in the country's first gay marriage to be recognized by the armed forces. The two unnamed men were married at an airbase in Nova Scotia last month. Same-sex marriages are currently legal in the majority of Canada's provinces, with the country's government keen to offer marriage across the country in the coming months.

The issue is currently being debated in Parliament, where it has faced stiff opposition from conservative legislators and religious leaders. The military, however, introduced guidelines in 2003 to allow lesbian and gay members to marry, the Canadian Press (CP) reports. The instructions ensure same-sex couples are treated as equally as their heterosexual counterparts and offered the same marriage rights available. CP reports the men were a sergeant and a warrant officer and that the marriage was presided over by a United Church of Canada minister.

Holy Union Announcements

Early summer nuptials were on the agenda this year for several of our longtime Herland friends, with two couples exchanging vows in May.

On May 21, at 2:30 pm, Terry Cocon and Rebecca Harlow had a celebration of life partnership at their home in northwest Oklahoma City. Terry's longtime friend, Monica Laurila, of United Life Church in Denver, Colorado, officiated at the ceremony. In attendance were Terry's niece, Sarah, and Rebecca's mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, and brother as well as numerous friends. The couple wore black tuxedo pants and white tuxedo shirts with blue ribbons. Terry's friends, Thomas Attalla and Rodney Seeman, hosted the reception.

On May 28, at 7 pm, Laura Choate and Linda Edenstrom were



joined in holy union at Church of the Open Arms in Oklahoma City. Chris Christoffels presided over the ceremony with Denise Smith performing smudging and keeping the sacred items for exchange. Linda's sister-in-law, Barbara, from Minnesota stood with her and Kita Morris of Portland, Oregon stood with Laura. Linda was escorted by her son, Paul and Laura by

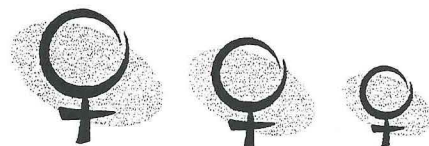
her father, John. Laura wore a traditional Native American shirt with beadwork and Linda wore black tuxedo pants and vest with a blue shirt. In addition to those already mentioned, also in attendance were Laura's stepmother and Linda's stepchildren, granddaughters, grandson, and great-granddaughter and numerous friends of both parties. The reception afterward was held in the fellowship hall.

State NOW Meeting

The National Organization for Women will be holding its next meeting on Saturday, July 9th, 2005 at 3:00 pm at the Oklahoma City Downtown Public Library. The library is located at 300 Park Avenue in Oklahoma City. Parking on the street is ample and free on Saturdays.

We will be discussing the National conference, new committees, the fall membership drive, and political issues in general. All new members are welcome, and your children are welcome as well.

If you are unable to attend, but are interested in more information, please contact OK NOW at ameevanderpool.now@gmail.com. See you there!



2005 National NOW Conference



July 1-3 Nashville, TN

**Confirmed Speakers: Sara Paretsky,
Judge Martha Craig Daughtrey,
Dolores Huerta, Tillie Black Bear,
Kakenya Ntaiya**

See www.now.org for more details.

Passageway Shelter Donations Needed

Passageway is an emergency shelter in Oklahoma City exclusively serving women and children who are the victims of family violence. They are in need of the following items which may be dropped off at Herland any Saturday:

- *summer clothes for children and women*
- *sandals*
- *twin bed sheets*
- *towels*
- *washcloths*
- *new underwear for children and women*
- *toiletries (shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes)*

Young Lesbian and Gay Support Group Forming

Herland, PFLAG, and Church of the Open Arms (COA) are joining together to sponsor a support group for young lesbians and gays. The group will begin by meeting every other week, alternating between Herland and COA. This group

If you are between the ages of 18 and 30 and would like a chance to meet with other people your age, discuss issues of importance to you, and make new friends, please join us for the initial meeting at Herland on Tuesday, July 12, at 7 pm at Herland, 2312 NW 39th Street. The second meeting in July will be Tuesday, July 26th, at 7 pm at COA, 3131 N. Penn.

Please call Donna at 748-7301 or Ginger at 942-1535 for more information.

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