



University of Idaho Women's Center

corner of Idaho and Line streets 885-6616

March Programs

1984

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*Women's Center programs educate, enrich and entertain. Bring your lunch and join us!
 All programs begin at 12:30 at the Women's Center and are free and open to the public.*

The Women's Center newsletter includes announcements and information about the many services and programs offered by the Center to the University and Moscow Communities. It is published and distributed at the beginning of each month during the academic year. If you have announcements or information you would like included in subsequent issues, please let us know. Suggestions for changes or improvements in our format are welcome.

The Women's Center continues to update its mailing list. If your address has changed or if you would like to have your name added to the mailing list, please call or stop by the Women's Center to let us know. If you do **not** wish to receive the newsletter, please call. If you know someone else who might enjoy the newsletter, please pass her/his name on to us.

Women's Center study table/tutoring will be held Thursday evenings from 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Tutoring will be offered in lower division math (including calculus) and lower division biology classes. Even if you don't need tutoring, stop by the Center Thursday evenings for a quiet place to study. In addition the Center will be open Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6:30 - 10:00 p.m. for study table. The coffee pot is hot and the environment pleasant for concentrating on studies.

Women's Center Hours

8:00 am - 5:00 p.m., Monday - Friday
 6:30 - 10:00 p.m., Monday & Wednesday
 7:00 - 10:00 p.m., Thursday

Tuesday, March 6

NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK. Kathy Aiken, Director of Extended Learning at LCSC and Visiting Assistant Professor of History at UI, will talk about the lack of women in traditionally written history and the importance of rewriting history to include those women who have helped shape the direction of the world. In this program she will also share the history of several of her favorite historical women, including Kate Waller Barret, who founded more than 100 homes for unwed mothers and pioneered in promoting day care and nurseries for working mothers, and Mary Heaton Vorse, a laborer/activist who wrote 16 books and over 400 articles and short stories, many of them prize-winners.

Wednesday, March 7

FILM FESTIVAL

10:30 **WE THE WOMEN:** A film that traces the history of the women's movement from colonial times to the present day. 29 minutes.

11:30 **UNION MAIDS:** A film about three women and their roles in the American labor movement in the 1930's. 51 minutes.

12:30 **HERE'S TO THE WOMEN:** A slide-tape show about the lives, work and community activities of women in Washington State as told by the women. 20 minutes.

1:30 **GOOD WORK SISTERS:** A slide-tape show about women who went to work in the shipyards of Oregon and Washington during World War II when American women were being recruited into defense production jobs for the war effort. 20 minutes.

2:30 **WOMEN'S PLACE:** A film showing the changing role of women using examples of children's books and playthings, advertisements and movies. 52 minutes.

Thursday, March 8

WOMEN AGING, PART II: ORAL HISTORY Three women who live at the Good Samaritan Village will talk about the changes in women's roles and expectations that they have seen and experienced over their lifetimes. Each will be available to answer our questions about growing old as women and about the flexibility that women develop for survival in an ever-changing society.

March 10 - 18

The Women's Center wishes you all a happy Spring Break!

Tuesday, March 20

WOMEN IN PRISON. Jan Dyer will share first-hand experiences about the inequalities that exist for women in jails and in prison. She will talk about problems both in sentencing and in the treatment of women in the correctional system.

Wednesday, March 28

Discussion of Racism. N.O.W. has targeted racism as a priority issue in 1984 — to what extent is racism a part of our lives? Are racism and sexism related, or are they separate issues? Please come and share your ideas in this open discussion.

Truth Is Stranger Than Fiction A judge in Waukesha, Wisconsin dismissed a sexual assault charge against a man accused of fondling a 10 year old; charges were dismissed because the girl's breasts were not developed. Judge Roger P. Murphy ruled after the preliminary hearing that although the man had intentionally touched the girl, he could not have become sexually aroused because she was underdeveloped. Ramona Powers, a psychotherapist and coordinator of a sexual assault prevention program challenged the decision to dismiss the charges against the man, who allegedly grabbed the child's chest at least three times. "Obviously, he (Murphy) does not have the knowledge that this is harmful and that the law was written to cover that," Powers said. "I feel very sad that this can happen." The case is being appealed by the state attorney general.

Writing Proficiency Exam Workshops The Learning Resource Center, newly located in the north end of the Old Journalism Building, has begun two Writing Proficiency Exam workshops. The workshops are on Tuesdays 3:30 - 5:00 and 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. and will be running through the month of March. Either stop by and sign up or just drop in at workshop time. Anyone interested can join at any time. Contact the Learning Resource Center for more information, for ASUI tutoring, for study skills help, or for tutoring in individual subjects. The Resource Center is open 9:00 - 5:00 Monday, Thursday and Friday and 9:00 - 7:30 on Tuesday and Wednesday. The Women's Center welcomes its new neighbor!

Marketing You And Your Business This one day conference is designed for women who either own or manage a small business or for those thinking about starting their own business. Experienced and novice business women will learn about financial planning, goal setting, and developing an overall marketing strategy for their operation. This conference is sponsored by the American Association of University Women and the Washington State University Career Services and Placement Center, Conferences and Institutes, Office of Programs for Women and Small Business Development Center. The conference is Saturday, March 24, at Cavanaugh's Motor Inn in Moscow beginning at 8:30 a.m. and closing with a Wine and Cheese Social Hour at 5:15 p.m. The conference registration fee is \$35 if paid by March 9 or \$40 if paid after that date. The fee includes attendance at all sessions, informational handouts and pamphlets, lunch and the wine and cheese hour. Make checks payable to WSU and send to Continuing Education and Public Service, Division of Conferences and Institutes, 208 Van Doren Hall, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-5520. For further information write to the same address or contact Susan Schneiderman at 509-335-3557. If you want to open your own business or become more effective at running the business you have, then this conference is for you.

Women In Religion Study Group The Campus Christian Center continues to offer a staff and student study group at 4:00 p.m. each Wednesday. The group is reading, studying and discussing the book *Sexism and God-talk* by feminist

theologian **Rosemary Reuther**. The group is open to anyone interested. For more information, contact the Campus Christian Center.

Man to Sylvia: I read an article that said in the future men could actually bear children. There'd be a lot of changes if men could have children. **Sylvia** Yep, day care centers would spring up overnight.

Get It Off Your Chest The Women's Center is sponsoring a Consciousness Raising/Support Group this coming semester. If you would like to participate, please stop by the Center or call by March 15. Leave your name and your class/work schedules, and we will find a time for you to meet.

Affirmative Action? In 1982, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) took on 74.7 percent fewer cases than they did in 1980. The EEOC refused to release 1983 statistics, forcing women's groups to file a Freedom of Information Act Request. According to one study, 60 percent of the 4,309 companies reviewed by the Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) in 1983 were found to be in violation of affirmative action requirements. Yet the OFCCP filed only 18 administrative complaints and awarded a mere \$684,000 in back pay to 462 victims of discrimination. During 1979 4,336 victims received more than \$9 million in back pay.

Women in Politics Since 1969 the percentage of women state legislators has more than tripled from four percent to 13.4 percent in 1984. This year nine percent of all state senate seats and 14.9 percent of the state house and assembly seats. Of the women who hold these state offices, only 6.2 percent are black women and less than one percent are hispanic women. Every state has at least three women in its legislature; however, Louisiana, Mississippi, Texas and Virginia have no women in their state senates. In top legislative leadership positions, such as house speaker, senate president and majority and minority leaders, less than one percent are held by women. In comparison with our neighboring states, Idaho is low at 17 percent. Wyoming has 23.4 percent, Oregon has 22.2 percent and Washington has 19 percent. Kentucky elected its first woman governor last November making Martha Layne Collins the only woman governor at this time. We can certainly applaud the tremendous gains that women have made in state government over the past decade but women make up over 50 percent of the population and deserve equal representation. More women are needed in state houses, on Capitol Hill; how about the White House!

Some Notable Quotations:

Edwin Meese, nominee for Attorney General, on hunger and poverty: "We've had considerable information that people go to soup kitchens because the food is free and that's easier than paying for it."

Charles Z. Wick, Information Agency Director, on Margaret Thatcher's opposition to the invasion of Grenada:

"Margaret Thatcher's a great prime minister. She's also a woman."

National Women's History Week

The week of March 4 - March 10 is National Women's History Week, and we have scheduled some very special programs for that week. National Women's History Week began in Santa Rosa, California, just six years ago as a local observance and has grown into an annual nationwide celebration. It is a time set aside to recognize and celebrate the lives of countless women of all races, cultures, ethnic traditions, religious faiths and ways of life. It is a time to know women who have participated in history by living out their lives, in ways grandly eloquent or steadfastly ordinary, and have moved the world and history ever along. Through knowing their stories, we can recapture the inspiration of earlier women, and become more optimistic about our power to affect change in our long and varied journey for equal rights. Join us as often during this week and month as you can.

We are creating our past as women. We are unearthing our heritage from the hole where men have buried it. Like archeologists, digging and sifting, exploring and guessing, feminists are finding and fitting together the fragments of a proud history. Yet we have only pieces and can only begin to imagine where they will lead and what we will someday know of our past.

We can't imagine more because our imaginations are still crippled from the scurvy diet of male history we were fed in our classrooms. History is political. It has been a parade of fossilized stereotypes, used for centuries to keep women in our place and to deny us any pride of past accomplishment. We are still force fed male supremacist, heterosexual myths about our past everyday — on television, in the movies, comic strips, songs. Popular culture is like popular food. If we keep swallowing the stereotypes along with the sweeteners, we not only fail to nourish ourselves and grow stronger, but our self-confidence will rot along with our teeth.

(Shamelessly lifted from the introduction to *Women Remembered. A Collection of Biographies from the Furies*, edited by Nancy Myron and Charlotte Bunch.)

The Feminist Letters, Edited by Alice S. Rossi. This anthology begins with a letter from Abigail Adams dated 1771 and concludes with pieces from contemporary history. A comprehensive anthology of major feminist writings from the late eighteenth century to the mid-twentieth, it includes writings by diverse religious women as well as atheists; conservatives and radicals; women in deep rebellion from their families and society as well as women in comfortable circumstances. This book is a wonderful way to celebrate women's history week!

Liberating Women's History: Theoretical and Critical Essays, Bernice A. Carroll. This collection of twenty-two essays has a threefold purpose: to meet the need for critical historical theory in women's history; to compare and test assumptions against the evidence of women's historical experience; and to offer new directions in the field of women's history. For anyone even peripherally interested in women's history, this collection is both significant and interesting.

Women: A Feminist Perspective, Edited by Jo Freeman. This collection of essays, published in 1975, provides interesting perspectives on the development and history of the

current women's movement. This book was one of the first to examine issues raised during the early stages of the movement in a systematic and scholarly way. Essays are arranged by section: 1) The Body and Its Control; 2) In and Out of the Family; 3) Growing Up Female; 4) The Working Woman; 5) The Double Image; 6) Institutions of Social Control; and 7) Feminism. Still a consciousness-raiser, this book is also interesting as contemporary social history.

And Jill Came Tumbling After: Sexism in American Education, Edited by Judith Stacey, Susan Bereaud, and Joan Daniels. This collection of essays should be compulsory reading for anyone involved with public and higher education — teachers, students, parents, university professors, researchers, school board members, policy makers — the list could go on. It provides realistic information about how schools actually work, how the explicit and implicit sex bias of schools affects students, and how we might reasonably begin to eliminate such bias. From pre-school to post-grad, girls get a different education than boys. This book explores the hows and whys of that fact.

Meg Christian In Concert

Meg Christian, a pioneer of women's music, will be in concert at the University of Idaho in the SUB Ballroom on April 18 at 8:00 p.m. Appearing with her will be Diane Lindsay on bass and Sue Fink on keyboards.

This will mark the first time that Christian, a co-founder of Olivia Records (the country's first and most successful women's recording company), has performed in northern Idaho. She is touring to promote her latest album, **From the Heart**, which includes almost all original songs — songs about love, growth, change, spontaneity, relationships and determination. Christian is gaining in popularity because of her striking abilities as a vocalist, guitarist and songwriter.

This concert is sponsored by the UI and WSU Women's Centers and is produced by More Music for Moscow. Ticket prices are \$7 in advance and \$7.50 at the door and are available at either Women's Center.

Call the Women's Center for more information and stop by for tickets. Those attending from out of the area may obtain housing information by contacting Elizabeth Vogt, PO Box 8691, Moscow, ID 83843



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