



# University of Idaho Women's Center

corner of Idaho and Line streets 885-6616

## April 1985 Programs

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Secretary: **Carolyn Caster**

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Newsletter: **Kerrin McMahan**

The Women's Center Newsletter is published six times during the academic year. It includes announcements and information about the many services and programs offered by the Center to the University and Moscow communities, as well as items of general interest about women's issues. If you have announcements or information you would like included in subsequent issues, please let us know. Suggestions for changes, improvements, or additional items are welcome.

"Feminity always demands more. It must constantly reassure its audience by a willing demonstration of difference, even when one does not exist in nature, or it must seize and embrace a natural variation and compose a rhapsodic symphony upon the notes.... To fail at the feminine difference is to appear not to care about men, and to risk the loss of their attention and approval. To be insufficiently feminine is viewed as a failure in core sexual identity... for a woman found wanting will be appraised (and will appraise herself) as mannish or neutered to simply unattractive, as men have defined those terms.  
— from *Femininity* by Susan Brownmiller

### Women's Center Hours

8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday.

*Women's Center programs educate, enrich and entertain. Bring your lunch and join us! Unless otherwise specified, programs begin at 12:30 in the Women's Center lounge and are free and open to the public. If you have any suggestions for future programs, please call or stop by.*

Tuesday, April 2

**WHOSE HOUSE IS IT ANYWAY?** Three University of Idaho law students will discuss landlord/tenant relationships. Several thousand U. of I. students rent housing in Moscow; **Charles de Martini, Johanna Munson, and Michael Larsen**, legal practitioners with the Legal Aid Clinic, will talk about the legal rights of tenants and landlords and their mutual responsibilities.

Wednesday, April 3

**CREATIVITY IN OUR MIDST.** **Jeanne Leffingwell**, a mixed-media artist and Moscow resident, will show slides and talk about her work. Jeanne recently completed and installed a large beaded sculpture commissioned by the city of Anchorage for a public building. Her work is fascinating; take this opportunity to share in its excitement and meet the artist.

Tuesday, April 9

**MS. MOM AND Ph.D.** **Beth Waddel**, Counselor at the U. of I. Student Counseling Center, will talk about the problems — and the joys — of juggling roles. Her own experience includes small children, employment, and Ph.D. work. If you must engage in a daily juggling act, don't miss this chance to talk about how to make it work.

Wednesday, April 10

**IDEALIZATION OF THE WEST.** Do we view western history — particularly western women — with rose-colored glasses? **Sarah Elbert**, Associate Professor of History at State University of New York, Binghamton, will talk about the idealization of the West. In addition to pioneering work on the role of women in farming, Dr. Elbert has recently published the definitive biography of Louisa May Alcott.

Wednesday, April 17

**WOMEN IN THE WILDERNESS.** Visiting Associate Professor of Wildland Recreation Management **Michael Frome** will talk about women's work in — and enjoyment of — wilderness. He will focus on ideas developed for his book **Promised Land: Advent and Encounters in Wild America**. Thinking of summer trips into high country? — this program's for you.

Thursday, April 18

**WOMAN TO WOMAN.** This unusual film traces women's work roles from the turn of the century to the fifties. It focuses on conversations with women in extraordinarily diverse roles — housewives, prostitutes, a telephone operator, women in the San Francisco women's jail, a mural painter, a lesbian psychologist, a ten-year-old girl. The viewer experiences through these informal, intimate contacts unexpected similarities among women.

Tuesday, April 23

**HOW THEIR VOICES ARE SILENCED.** Somehow, between childhood and adulthood, girls narrow the choices available to them in the conduct of their adult lives, particularly career options. Why does this happen? How does this happen? What are the consequences of silencing female voices? **Sue Hovey**, Coordinator of the Gifted and Talented program at Moscow High School, will talk about these issues. Several Moscow High School girls will join her to share their ideas about life choices for young women.

Wednesday, April 24

**CHINA PASSAGE — ON BICYCLES!** **Pat Horner**, Instructor of History at Eastern Washington University, will share slides and stories about her recent trip to China. She spent a month last summer bicycling through China on a tour with thirteen women. Bicycling changes the perspective from which we experience people and places; this program will be informative and fascinating.



# Networking News

The National Organization for Women will hold its monthly business meeting Tuesday, April 9th, at the U of I Law Library. The program meeting will be on March 23rd, place and time to be announced. NOW programs are free and open to the public; watch local media for location and topic.

The American Association of University Women will hold its regular Branch meeting on Wednesday, April 10th, at Cavanaugh's at 7:30. **Marythea Grebner**, Director of University of Idaho Information, will present a program "Tell It To the Judge: A Report on the Oregon Higher Education Class Action

Case." The meeting is free and open to the public. For those who would like to share a no-host dinner preceding the meeting, dinner will be served at Cavanaugh's at 6:30. Call Esther Wilson (882-4669) for dinner reservations.

Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse has completed spring training with our new volunteers trained to assist victims of sexual assault and domestic violence. If you would like to volunteer for ATVP or would be interested in participating in the next training, call the Women's Center and leave your name and number. If you would like to make a donation, however large or small, call the Women's Center or send a check to Women's Center, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843.

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## New books at the Women's Center

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**Femininity**, by Susan Brownmiller. In this book, Brownmiller examines the notion of femininity in her own life and challenges readers to do the same. She describes the many manifestations of femininity through the ages—from 16th century corsets to 20th century cosmetic ads, from the fainting spells of proper Victorian ladies to the obsession of today's women with diets. In so doing, she demonstrates the many powerful nuances of the word *femininity*.

**Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood**, by Kristin Luker. In this compelling book, Kristin Luker examines the issues, people, and beliefs on both sides of the abortion debate. Drawing data from twenty years of public documents and newspaper accounts, as well as more than 200 interviews with "pro-life" and "pro-choice" advocates, Luker reconstructs the social worlds of activists and investigates the complex relationships between their social va-

lues and individual beliefs. She believes that moral positions on abortion are intimately tied to views on sexual behavior, the care of children, family life, technology, and the worth of the individual.

**The Single Mother's Survival Manual**, by Barbara Duncan. Truly a "how-to" book, organized in reference style, this manual spells out the problems that arise with single motherhood and how such problems can be handled. Chapters cover such topics as "Alone and Pregnant," "Seeking Employment," "Another Day, Another Dollar," "Your Car: An Expensive Necessity," and "A Roof Over Your Head." In fact, this book includes valuable information applicable to almost any living situation—from single parenthood, to traditional nuclear families, to people living alone.

**THE CHANCE OF A DECADE.** This year's National Women's Studies Association Annual Conference will be held at the University of Washington in Seattle June 19-23. This is the first time the conference has been this close to us in the Northwest. The conference theme is "Creating Choices Through Feminist Education"; the program will include interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and practical sessions on all phases of feminist education and research. It will also recognize the shared values and differences of race, class, age, sexual orientation and religion. The NWSA convention is always interesting, diverse, and exciting. For more information or to indicate your interest in attending, call the Women's Center or stop by.

The University of Idaho Sociology Club is sponsoring a Community Forum which will examine and discuss responses to sexual assault. The Forum is being held on Wednesday, April 24th, at 7 p.m. in the SUB Borah Theater. The week of April 21st is Sexual Assault Awareness Week; the forum is designed to focus attention on local resources which provide a caring, community response to the problems of sexual assault. Representatives of the police, Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, and other helping agencies in Moscow and Latah County will present the Forum.

**END OF THE U.N. DECADE FOR WOMEN CONFERENCE**, April 2 and 3. This conference at WSU will provide an opportunity for those who cannot go to Nairobi in July for the World Conference and NGO Forum to participate in discussions and workshops designed to assess the progress of the Decade and formulate plans for further action. Tuesday sessions, 8:30 to 3:30, will focus on the three major goals of the Decade: Equality, Development, and Peace. A Tuesday evening session at 7:30 will feature the conference consultant, Kay Fraleigh, Chair of the Non-Governmental Organizations Committee on the UN Decade for Women and one of the Convenors for the Nairobi Forum. Wednesday morning will emphasize local program development. There is no

registration fee. All sessions will be in the Ballroom, Compton Union Building, WSU.

**OLD AT 40: WOMEN IN THE WORKPLACE:** The "older" woman worker of the 1980's is not easily categorized. She may be only 40 but already denied employment and advancement because of her age—a circumstance so common that Congress has attempted to intervene on her behalf. She may be in her 50's and suddenly single, experiencing urgent financial need for the first time in her life and ill-equipped to support herself. The proportion of mid-life divorced women has doubled in two decades, while the average age of **widowhood** is 56—yes, 56. She may be past 65 and still working because she cannot afford to retire. Half of all employed women are in jobs with no pension plans; in general, women receive less than half the retirement income men receive. In 1981, the White House Mini-Conference on Older Women reported: "Women over 40 are the fastest growing segment of the U.S. labor force. Fifty-three percent of women age 40 to 64 are either in the work force or looking for employment. But the obstacles are enormous. While age discrimination is illegal, it is rampant."

**SPOUSE ABUSE: WORSE THAN JUST A SHOVE.** A recent study which included more than 1000 victims of domestic violence included the following information about the severity of violence. Two-thirds of the victims experienced assaults more serious than kicking, biting, and punching. For 41% of the women weapons were involved in the assaults. The abuse began or continued while 48 percent of the women were pregnant. Only a few women were battered on only a few occasions, and more than one out of six women were assaulted in excess of a hundred times. Fifty-six percent of the women were raped by their husbands, and 96 women reported being subjected to more than 100 rapes during their marriages.



# April, 1985 Networking Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2 Women's Center program 12:30  End of U.N. Decade for Women Conference, WSU	3 Women's Center program 12:30	4	5	6
7	8	9 Women's Center program 12:30  NOW business meeting 7:30	10 Women's Center program 12:30  AAUW Branch mtg. Cavanaugh's, 7:30	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Women's Center program 12:30	18 Women's Center program 12:30	19	20
21	22 Women's Center program 12:30  ATV board mtg. 7:30 Women's Center  NOW program mtg.	23 Women's Center program 12:30  AAUW board mtg. Women's Center, 5:15  Responses to sexual assault 7 p.m. SUB Borah Theater	24	25	26 Deidre McCalla concert, WSU CUB, Butch's den, 7:30	27
	Sexual Assault Awareness Week					
28	29	30				
	Dead Week					

For more information about these events, see this newsletter or call the Women's Center, 885-6616



# Deidre McCalla in concert

Singer, songwriter and guitarist Deidre McCalla, who is touring to promote her new release on Olivia Records, **DON'T DOUBT IT**, will be in concert at Washington State University Friday, April 26.

McCalla, whose performance will begin at 8 p.m. at the Butch's Den in the Compton Union Building, has been a working musician for 12 years. She has toured the United States performing in solo concert, as part of an acoustic duo called "Gypsy", and as lead guitarist/vocalist for Milwaukee's six-woman jazz/rock band "Breakwater."

Known for the rhythmic undercurrents of her music and the poetic integrity of her lyrics, McCalla creates vocal textures which glide easily from mocha rich sweetness to high energy dramatic intensity. An inspiring, evocative performer, McCalla has both delighted and deeply touched her audiences.

McCalla marks the beginning of her professional career from the release of her first Roulette Records album, "Fur Coats and Blue Jeans," in the spring of 1973. Since then, her main stage performance highlights have included the New England Women's Retreat, the National Women's Music Festival and the Michigan women's Music Festival; as well as major club appearances in New York, Chicago and San Francisco. A theatre graduate of Vassar College and the National Theatre Insti-

tute, McCalla was a member of the ensemble cast of the film "Chords of Fame" — a docu-drama on the life of sixties folk singer Phil Ochs.

McCalla's songs have been published in *Home Girls — A Black Feminist Anthology*, *Conditions Five: The Black Women's Issue* and *Sinister Wisdom*; while her non-fiction work can be found in *The Coming Out Stories*, *Chrysalis*, and *Paid My Dues*.

Admission to the concert is \$5. Tickets may be purchased in advance at Guitar's Friend and Heartwinds (in the Armstrong Brookfield Circadian) in Moscow, the Debutante Bakery (in the Combine Mall) and the Old Mole in Pullman and at the WSU and University of Idaho Women's Centers.

Mail orders may be placed by sending a check or money order and a self-addressed, stamped envelope to More Music for Moscow, Women's Center, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID 83843.

The concert is sponsored and produced by More Music for Moscow in association with the UI and WSU Women's Centers. For more information call (208) 885-6616 or (509) 335-6830. There will be a dance following the performance. The location will be announced during the concert.



Moscow, ID 83843



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The Women's Center continues to update its mailing list. The list is now on computer so changes are quick and easy. If your address has changed, please let us know; it is a waste of money to send the Newsletter to people who are not interested and, furthermore you might not get your very own copy! If you know someone else who might enjoy the Newsletter, please pass her/his name on to us.