

# University of Idaho Women's Center

corner of Idaho and Line streets 885-6616

Director: Betsy Thomas  
 Secretary: Sherry Erickson  
 Counselor: Cindy Carlson  
 Work Study: Heidi Davies  
 Susan Folk  
 Cheryl Fuller  
 Priscilla (Tami) Huff  
 Lorie Merrill  
 Joan Pike  
 Judith Street  
 Karen Wolfe

Typesetting/Layout: Peg Balka

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.

**Women's Center Hours**  
 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

And My Road Is A Little Easier  
 Cause She Was Here  
 I See A Little Clearer  
 Through The Darkness Called Fear  
 Sister Take My Hand,  
 It's With You I Take My Stand  
 And We'll Be All We Can,  
 One Fine Day

Chorus from 'One Fine Day,' a song and women's history music video by Kay Weaver.

**Women's Center Hours**  
 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday

## March Programs 1988

*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.*

### MARCH IS NATIONAL WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH!

This year the Women's Center is combining Women's History Month with the University's Centennial. We are celebrating this month with programs about local and university women, both historically and currently. We have planned programs and invited people who occupy a very special place in the history of the University, The Palouse, and the Women's Center. There will be a memorabilia and centennial picture display during the entire month. Stop in, look around, feel free to add your own items or pictures to the display, share memories, but most of all, JOIN US AND ENJOY!

**Tuesday**  
 March 1  
**WOMEN AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, A 100-YEAR HISTORY:** Keith Petersen, historian and author of "This Crested Hill: An Illustrated History of the University of Idaho," the official centennial book, will present slides and share little known facts about women in the 100 years of our University. Come and discover that among other fascinating information about women of the late 1890's that one of the first UI graduates was a black woman.

**Friday**  
 March 4  
**WOMEN'S MUSIC CONCERT:** Come and celebrate Women's music this first Friday of Women's History Month at Mercy! Beanz (527 S. Maian in the Purple Mall.) Kim Stockton will perform at 5:00 p.m. Be prepared for some very special music and some surprise performers.

**Monday**  
 March 7  
 12:30  
**THE WOMEN'S CENTER:** Alayne Pettyjohn and Kay Keskinen will unfold the sixteen year history of the Women's Center. Alayne was director of the Center from 1979-1985 and was a supporter from our early beginnings. Kay has been active in the Center ever since it was begun in 1972 in a small corner office of the administration building.

**Monday**  
 March 7  
 1:30-5:00  
**OPEN HOUSE:** Virginia Wolf and Alayne Pettyjohn, along with the current staff, will be here to greet and share memories with old and new friends. Many of you remember Virginia Wolf, some of you have only heard of her, and some will not know that she was the driving force behind the early movements in Moscow and at the University to secure equal access and treatment of women. Come join us in welcoming these "sheroes" of the Women's Center.

**Tuesday**  
 March 8  
**WOMEN'S CAUCUS v UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO** On May 8, 1974 a conciliation agreement, negotiated by the Idaho Commission on Human Rights, was signed by members of the Women's Caucus and by the UI administration. It was signed with a "desire to assure equal employment and promotional opportunity to all." Today, Leo Ames, Barbara Petura, and Virginia Wolf, three of the original nine signers for the complainant, the Women's Caucus, will share with us their stories and memories, Elizabeth "Liz" Sullivan, a commissioner of the Idaho Commission on Human Rights, who signed the agreement on the commission's behalf will join the others to tell about her role in this usually friendly law suit.

**March 13-19**  
**SPRING BREAK**  
**Tuesday**  
 March 22  
**WOMEN OF THE PALOUSE:** What was happening in women's every day life on the Palouse during the same 100 years that the university was expanding to enroll more and more students. Sue Armitage, noted western women's historian and author, will tell us about the women who settled and lived here.

**Wednesday**  
 March 23  
**MINORITY AFFAIRS ON CAMPUS TODAY:** Tiajuana Cochnauer, minority student adviser, will share her impressions and experiences about what it is like today at the University for women and men of color. She will be joined by two students.

**Tuesday**  
 March 29  
**WHAT IS THE STATUS OF WOMEN IN 1988 AT THE UI:** A panel representing faculty women, traditional and non-traditional students, classified and professional staff will talk about their experiences at the University. Joan West, president of Athena and a faculty member in Foreign Languages; Barbara Yandle, a returning engineering student; Julie Morris, a traditionally aged marketing student; and Evelyn McGraw, Department of Communications Secretary and past vice president of the Idaho Public Employees Association, will be members of the panel. Did the conciliation agreement help? Is there more to be accomplished? What do we want to accomplish?

**Wednesday**  
 March 30  
**A SPECIAL PROGRAM:** To complete the program for Women's History Month, we hope to have a special guest speaker join us today. We were unable to confirm this by the time we had to go to press, but watch for an announcement. We will keep you posted about the details.

WE KNOW THAT THE PRINT ON THE PROGRAMS IN THIS NEWSLETTER IS SMALLER THAN NORMAL. WE HAVE THE PROGRAMS ON AUDIO TAPE AT THE WOMEN'S CENTER FOR THOSE WHO ARE SIGHT IMPAIRED. LET US KNOW AND WE CAN ARRANGE FOR YOU TO HEAR THE TAPE.

**GENDER BIAS:** The Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court has defined gender bias as: "Decisions made or actions taken because of preconceived notions of sexual roles rather than on the basis of a fair and impartial appraisal of the merits relative to each person or situation."

**IS ANYTHING WRONG?** "Just before the stock market crashed, Forbes magazine announced that the number of billionaires in America has doubled in the past year. Just before the stock market crashed, Shasta County, California closed its entire 10-branch library system for lack of money. Is there any question that something has gone wrong in America?" — Los Angeles Times editorial

**INTERESTING INVENTIONS:** (taken from the Boston Museum of Science brochure for their 1987-88 Women In Science Exhibition) When you think of inventors and inventions, you probably think of Thomas Edison and the light bulb, or Eli Whitney and the cotton gin. But, of course, lots of inventions were created by women — in fact, the cotton gin was really the brainchild of Eli's landlady, Catherine L. Green. Whitney just built the thing! Which of the following do you think were invented by women?

- circular saw
- fire escapes and alarms
- railroad cars
- a submarine telescope
- the use of white lines on roads
- a paper-bag machine
- a computer language called COBOL

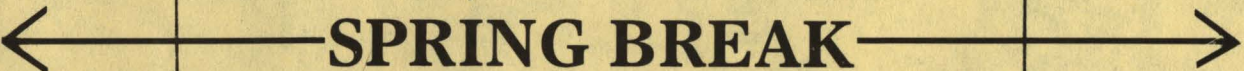
**WOMEN IN THE TOWER OF KNOWLEDGE?** The Boston Society of Natural History, the ancestor of today's Boston Museum of History, faced an important question in 1876, that of whether women should be admitted to its membership. Here is what Charles Sprague, one reluctant member, had to say about that subject: "There have been some very learned women. But the great majority, even of the higher order of female minds, have not that peculiar logical exactness which is characteristic of the scientific minds of men. They have not that unimpassioned, pertinacious, comprehensive and self-denying impulse which leads some men to devote themselves to a dry detail of study in a field totally uninteresting, except to the votaries of each specialty." Hmm... "Self-denial"? "Dry detail"? "A field totally uninteresting"? Is this what Sprague really thought about science? Here are some words that the Museum uses to describe science: fun...hands-on...challenging...exciting! Perhaps Samuel Kneeland of the Society might have agreed. This is his opinion on limiting women's membership: "...I think the Society, in its desire to increase the boundaries of science...has to a great extent lost sight of one of the main aims of its organization...and that is the diffusion of knowledge among the community...to spread a love of natural science as wide as possible. To satisfy this natural craving the women demand entrance to the Society; I think they can not with justice be refused...Education should be free alike to both sexes. I accordingly give my vote for the admission of women on the same footing as men..."

**MANDATORY ARREST FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LEGISLATION:** At this writing (mid February) House Bill 415 is awaiting committee hearings when the public will be allowed to testify. This bill provides that a law enforcement officer **shall** arrest when there is probable cause to believe that domestic violence has been committed. Mack Richardson, Idaho's Director of Law Enforcement says, "Mandatory arrest helps keep the police officer out of the role of mediator, marriage counselor and watchdog. In states with mandatory arrest provisions, officers can focus on the offense committed while staying out of the altercation between the parties. The provisions place the burden for the arrest on the law instead of on the officer. An ar-

rest of an abuser also helps to cool down the situation so that it is less likely that officers will be called back to the scene in a few hours." The bill states that an officer must find probable cause that an assault or battery has been committed before an arrest is made so police still have discretion to determine that an assault has taken place. This elevates domestic violence to the identical level of police judgement that is used in all felonies. **Does Arrest Work?** The National Crime Survey for 1978 to 1982 indicates that calling the police prevents recurrences. An estimated 41% of married women assaulted by their husbands who did not call the police were subsequently assaulted by him within an average 6-month time period; for women who did call the police, 15% were reassaulted. Calling the police was thus associated with 62% fewer subsequent assaults. During Oregon's first three years with a mandatory arrest law, homicides between strangers increased proportionately to population increases, intra-family homicides decreased by 10%. This dramatic reversal cannot be attributed to victim reluctance to report the crime. In California, arresting batterers dramatically decreased the likelihood that they'd do it again. Arrest proved most deterring to younger men who had resisted arrest, had been drinking or had prior convictions. Only 1/4 of these men were reported again as compared to 2/3 of the men in this same category who were not arrested. It was believed that the worry about stiff sentences they were more likely to get for a repeated offense and the effects on their employment prospects were the reasons for the changes in behavior. (excerpts from The Idaho Network To Stop Violence Against Women's fact sheet — Domestic Violence and Idaho Families.

**IDAHO SHELTER STATISTICS** Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse, the Latah County, Idaho and Whitman County, Washington battered women and sexual assault program, discovered recently while they were compiling their year end statistics for 1987 that IDAHO WOMEN MUST STAY IN SHELTER NEARLY THREE TIMES AS LONG AS WASHINGTON WOMEN. ATVP personnel believe that this is due to two factors, 1) the lack of legal protection in the form of mandatory arrest and protection orders which allow women and children to stay in their own homes safely, and 2) less availability of social services than Washington State. They go on to report that all Idaho women who seek shelter consistently report that they suffer repeated sexual abuse at the hands of their spouses. This abuse includes forcible rape (sometimes in front of children) and coercive sexual acts in which the woman is forced to perform sexual acts which she considers to be degrading and humiliating. Many Idaho women choose to flee their home state and settle in Washington due to the greater protections afforded them there. Safety is their chief concern. Battered women want the full protection of the law. They want to know that the abuser will be arrested and held accountable if he tries to harm the family again. Unfortunately, this safety is not currently guaranteed them in their home state, and so they sometimes flee across the border. The lack of response from the legal system in Idaho explains the low reporting rate for family assaults. Only 4 women of 34 even reported their assault to the local police. One had a rifle held to her head, and her husband taunted her to guess if it was loaded, then he pulled the trigger. It wasn't loaded this time. He only got one year's probation. The second assaulted his wife for over an hour, breaking her finger and dislocating her shoulder. He got 12 days in jail, and was ordered to pay some restitution. The other 2 cases were not prosecuted. (From the Alternatives to Violence of the Palouse Fact Sheet, 1987)

# MARCH NETWORKING CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday				
		12:30 Women's Center Program	1	2	3	5:00-7:00 Women's Music Concert at Mercy! Beanz	4	5		
6	12:30 Women's Center Program 1:30 - 5:00 Open House at Women's Center	7	12:30 Women's Center Program	8	AAUW Branch MTG 6:30/Dinner 7:30/Meeting Cavanaugh's	9	5:30 Women's Network Alex's Restaurant	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	 <b>← SPRING BREAK →</b>			
20	21	12:30 Women's Center Program	22	12:30 Women's Center Program	23	24	25	26		
27	28	12:30 Women's Center Program	29	12:30 Women's Center Program	30	31				

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

Women 1987: A Year in Review has been compiled by the NOW Legal Defense and Education Fund. Major advances and setbacks for women's rights in 1987 are excerpted here. The complete review is at the Women's Center.

**TOP ADVANCES FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS** U.S. Supreme Court nominee Judge Robert Bork is defeated in the Senate by the largest vote ever for a supreme court nominee, 58 to 42. (September)

The U.S. Supreme Court upholds a California law requiring employers to grant a new mother up to four months unpaid disability leave as well as job security. (January)

In the first decision concerning affirmative action for women, the Supreme Court upholds the voluntary adoption of affirmative action plans by employers with a conspicuous workforce imbalance. (March)

Iceland's Women's Alliance party wins 10 percent of the vote and effectively holds the balance of power in the formation of a new government. (April)

The U.S. Supreme Court rules unanimously that the California public accommodations law bars Rotary International and similar men's only service clubs from excluding women as members. (May)

The Ontario provincial legislature adopts pay equity legislation which applies to both public and private sector employers, the most progressive bill of its kind in North America. (June)

Under the Federal Child Support Enforcement Amendments of 1984, all states are required by the first of this month to adopt numerical guidelines for setting child support award amounts. All but four states comply. (October)

The first nationwide, toll-free, 24-hour, domestic violence hotline becomes fully operational. 1-800-333-7233. (October)

Physician Mae C. Jemison becomes the first black woman to enter the NASA astronaut program. (June)

**TOP SETBACKS FOR WOMEN'S RIGHTS** Seventy-nine year-old Supreme Court Justice Lewis F. Powell, Jr., a key swing vote on such vital issues as affirmative action and abortion, retires after more than 15 years on the Court. (June)

No female members of Congress serve on the Iran-contra investigating committee. (June)

The Census Bureau reports that only 23.9 percent of the 8.8 million single-headed female households with children under 21 received full child support payments. (August)

The National Center for Fair & Open Testing concludes that sex bias in standardized tests deprives female students of National Merit Scholarships and other academic opportunities. (April)

While the nation celebrates the 200th Anniversary of the Constitution, women still lack the protections of the E.R.A. (September)

The Vatican releases its "Instruction on Respect for Human Life" which condemns artificial fertilization, surrogate motherhood, and sperm and embryo plants. (March)

The National Commission on Working Women of WOW finds that the proportion of single men raising children on TV shows is inconsistent with the real world where 89 percent of children in single-parent homes live with their mothers. (November)

The Connecticut Supreme Court upholds a 1986 ruling by a Superior Court judge that the Boy Scouts of America have the right to bar women from leadership positions. (July)

The Commission of Fine Arts rejects plans to add a statue of a woman to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial to honor all female Vietnam War veterans. (October)

**TERRIFIC TRENDS** Seventy-five percent of Americans surveyed in a New York Times/CBS News poll say that they support the ERA, an increase of 21 percentage points since 1982. (May)

The Supreme Court decision in Rotary International spurns challenges to single-sex clubs nationwide as well as voluntary actions by the clubs themselves to open up their membership. (May)

A Gallup Poll finds that 82 percent of those questioned would vote for a woman for president if she were qualified for the job. (July)

Judy Woodruff, Cokie Roberts and Elizabeth Drew of PBS form the only all-woman news team providing daily national coverage of the Iran-contra hearings. (July)

New family policy initiatives take hold in Congress and move at a healthy pace. (November)

University of Idaho  
Moscow, ID 83843



Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Permit No. 120  
Moscow, ID 83843