



# UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO

## WOMEN'S CENTER



Corner of Idaho and Line Streets

885-6616

**Director:** Betsy Thomas  
**Asst. Director:** Elizabeth McCall  
**Coordinator of Assault Programs:** Gwen Snow  
**Workstudy:** Michelle Hall  
Marianne Shawish  
Heidi Turner

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

*Martyrdom does not end something; it is only the beginning.*

*You cannot shake hands with a clenched fist.*

--Indira Gandhi  
1917-1987

Programs begin at 12:30 in the Women's Center lounge.

### JANUARY/FEBRUARY PROGRAMS 1993

January 15, 18, 19, 20, & 22

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. HOLIDAY CELEBRATION:** see back page for a partial schedule of events.

January 20, Wednesday

**GOTTA MAKE THIS JOURNEY: SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK.** Vibrant and engaging video profile of the cappella activist group. Singing to end the oppression of Blacks worldwide, Sweet Honey embraces musical styles from spirituals and blues to calypso, and causes ranging from feminism and ecology to peace and justice.

January 26, Tuesday

**HANDS FULL OF WORDS: AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE AND THE DEAF COMMUNITY.** Although ASL is one of the most used languages in the U.S., there has been an ongoing history of opposition to its use. Krista Kramer looks at the profound impact that research, mainstreaming, disability rights legislation and the media have had on the status of ASL in the last 25 years.

January 27, Wednesday

**"YOU JUST DON'T UNDERSTAND".** Have you ever had one of those conversations that went so wrong that afterward you wondered if both parties spoke a common language? Judy Wallins, Director of the Tutoring and Academic Assistance Center, will lead a discussion of Deborah Tannen's book which explores gender differences in communication styles.

February 2, Tuesday

**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN.** A panel of international women will share their personal stories of living in two worlds. What are their struggles in living in the U.S. and maintaining their own cultural identity? Join us for these personal cross-cultural journeys.

February 3, Wednesday

**MEALTIME CHALLENGES FOR WOMEN IN THE 1990'S.** If you're like most women of the 90's, you are an expert juggler of jobs--the school/work front and the homefront. Mary Schwantes, registered dietitian of the Student Health Service, will discuss where and how nutrition fits with today's fast-paced lifestyles of both singles and families.

February 10, Wednesday

**THE LIVES OF CHILDREN...KEEPING THEM SAFE.** Our children need a society where women and men are actively involved in crafting an environment that makes their journey through childhood safe. Dr. Janice Fletcher, UI Professor in Home Economics, will discuss societal responsibilities across gender.

February 16, Tuesday

**SUSAN B. ANTHONY'S BIRTHDAY AND VALENTINE'S DAY POTLUCK.** To continue a time-honored tradition, the Women's Center will again host a potluck in honor of this early suffragist born on February 15, 1820. We will supply the cake and punch, you bring the food. Come and have a piece of Susan B's 172nd birthday cake.

February 17, Wednesday

**IMAGES OF WOMEN IN THE NEW COMICS.** UI History Professor Katherine Aiken will look at the tension between traditional women's roles and the expectations and aspirations of American women through examining "The Sensational She-Hulk", "Ms. Mystic", "Red Sonja" and "Storm". These heroines are both physically adept, commanding and attractive, and possess distinctly feminine characteristics, including motherhood.

February 23, Tuesday

**ON THE "CREATING CHANGE" CONFERENCE.** Thomas Talboy, UI law student, reports on the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force conference, including the current state and federal laws and strategies for organizing on campus.

February 24, Wednesday

**ECOFEMINISM AND ANIMAL RIGHTS: A DISCUSSION OF THE "OTHER".** Women comprise 75% of the estimated 16 million animal rights activists. Greg Brown, UI graduate and social activist, and Leisa Huyk, WSU graduate student, will explore the relationship between these two important social movements.

**WE KNOW THE TYPE ON THE NEWSLETTER IS SMALL. WE HAVE RECORDED IT ON AUDIO TAPE FOR THOSE WHO HAVE A SIGHT IMPAIRMENT. LET US KNOW IF YOU WANT TO BORROW THE TAPE AND WE WILL SEND IT TO YOU.**



**WOMEN'S CROSS-COUNTRY SKI WEEKEND:** It's time for the annual Women's Center Cross Country Ski Weekend. It is scheduled for January 30th and 31st at Huckleberry Heaven in Elk River. We will leave Moscow the morning of the 30th and return the afternoon of the 31st. Approximate cost for meals and lodging is \$25.56 per person (this includes dinner on the 30th, breakfast and a sack lunch on the 31st).

We have reserved two apartments for the trip, each equipped with a kitchen. You may want to bring snacks and beverages. You must bring a swimming suit if you plan to use the hot tub. Ski equipment can be rented from Huckleberry Heaven (826-3405, call early to reserve your size) or Outdoor Rentals in the SUB (885-6170).

There will be a meeting of those wishing to attend this year's ski weekend on Friday, January 15th at noon at the Women's Center. Please plan to attend this meeting if you want to go to Huckleberry Heaven with us, since we'll be discussing the final cost, departure time, who will drive, and who will bring their own food and who will purchase meals. Mark the trip and meeting on your calendar!!! It is not necessary to attend the meeting in order to go on the ski trip, you just have to live with the decisions the group makes. It is also not necessary to ski to enjoy this great weekend. There's a hot tub and there will be table games (Trivial Pursuit and Pictionary) and, of course, lively conversation and a sharing time for all.

#### **CRONE-HAPPY WOMEN DEFY AGEISM:**

More than a dozen women stepped forward at the National Association of Women's Centers Conference in Eugene, Oregon this fall, ready to claim their places as crones. A Crone, according to Barbara Harrison and Lee Sennish from New Jersey's Pamapo College Women's Center, is a woman who wants to celebrate the years of her life, all of them.

Each woman who had decided to participate in the crowning reviewed accomplishments of her life: "I am proud that I got a college degree", that "I overcame childhood sexual abuse," that "I have had a long, happy marriage," that "I claimed my identity as a lesbian."

As a crown was placed on her head, each woman vowed to celebrate "my beauty, wisdom, passion and power as a crone." The crowns, decorated with flowers, glittering ornaments, feathers and names of foremothers, friends and role models, bedecked the radiant women. Women in the circle cheered each newly crowned woman with drums, chimes and flutes. The closing chant expressed a common feeling: "I am the old woman, I am the new woman, I am the same woman, stronger than before." Although most women in the ceremony were in midlife, a 21 year old woman celebrated her own wise old woman and the strength she perceives in her own mother and grandmother.

At the workshop on the crone, held the previous day, participants looked at the effects of ageism: poverty, inadequate medical care and insufficient resources for a secure old age. They noted the systemic ageism which falls particularly hard upon women of color, and indigent, lesbian, immigrant and disabled women. "We are often seen," said Lee Sennish, "as invisible, sexless, unproductive and expendable."

Workshop participants learned that the Crone was once equal to and even more powerful than the Maiden and Mother, the three figures prominent in ancient European rituals. Our present society elevates the Maiden, but also uses and objectifies her, particularly in the media. The Mother is often denied autonomy but feminists are struggling to define her for themselves without losing their nurturant gifts. The Crone, who was once the Wise Woman of the community, the herbalist, mid-wife and the ancient hospice person who cared for the dying, became the despised witch, persecuted over four centuries.

The Crone was very much alive in Eugene as celebrants chanted and drummed in a final flourish, gliding around the outdoor courtyard, defying ageism but celebrating aging, the natural process of being alive. from National Association of Women's Centers Connection, Fall 1992, Vol. 6, No. 1

**ALTERNATIVES TO VIOLENCE OF THE PALOUSE SEMI-ANNUAL TRAINING:** January 19-February 11, 1993. Students may take the training for one or two credits. Members of the community are encouraged to participate in learning about domestic violence and sexual assault issues and becoming involved as advocates and volunteers. Tuesdays: January 19 & 26, February 2 & 9; Thursdays: January 21 & 28, February 4 & 11, 6:30-9:30pm. Saturdays: January 30 and February 6, all day. Call ATVP, 332-0552, for more information.

**SEXUALITY AND TELEVISION:** The "average" adult in the United States spends more hours watching television each year than doing anything else—except sleeping. The "average" teenager watches 15,000 to 18,000 hours of television before graduating from high school—about 3,000 to 6,000 hours longer than time spent in classroom instruction! Does watching television teach children, teen, and adults positive or negative messages about sexuality?

This question has often been addressed in recent years by researchers, and experts are divided in their assessments of television's ability to influence learning and affect behavior. Some researchers, like Victor Strasburger, M.D., of the Department of Pediatrics, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, say the amount of time young people spend watching television will "inevitably affect their behavior."

Dr. Strasburger estimates that each year a child or teen in the United States watches about "1,000 rapes, homicides, or assaults; and hears (more) than 14,000 sexual references, innuendoes, and jokes" on television. Only a handful of times in the same year will there be references to abstinence or birth control.

Dr. Strasburger also describes a "TV world" where people are shown having sex very frequently with few negative consequences, and where racial, ethnic, age, and gender stereotypes abound. Strasburger's recent research had revealed that 75%-90% of all characters in children's television shows are white males, that many "bad guys" in these shows have foreign accents and non-Caucasian facial characteristics, that old people are often depicted as feeble, and that adolescent girls are shown to be "obsessed with shopping and boys, incapable of serious academic interests or career goals." (*Sexuality Education Newsletter for Spokane*)



**JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1992 NETWORKING CALENDAR**

<b>Monday</b>	<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Friday</b>	<b>Sat/Sun</b>
11 *Lesbian Supper Club 6:30 pm	12 Noon Program 12:30	13 Noon Program 12:30	14	15 Ski Weekend Meeting at 12:00 noon M. L. KING Birthday	16/17
18 U of I Closed MLK Holiday	19 Noon Program 12:30	20 Noon Program 12:30	21	22	23/24
25 *Lesbian Supper Club 6:30 pm	26 Noon Program 12:30  **LCHRTF 7:00 pm	27 Noon Program 12:30	28	29	30/31 Woman's Center Ski Weekend
1	2 Noon Program 12:30	3 Noon Program 12:30  ATHENA 6:00 pm	4	5	6/7
8 *Lesbian Supper Club 6:30 pm	9	10 Noon Program 12:30	11	12	13/14 AAUW 9:30 am at Taters
15 Susan B. Anthony's Birthday UofI Closed	16 Noon Program 12:30	17 Noon Program 12:30	18	19	20/21
22	23 Noon Program 12:30  **LCHRTF 7:00 pm	24 Noon Program 12:30	25	26	27/28

\*Lesbian Supper Club, the 2nd & 4th Mondays of the month, 6:30pm until 8:00pm.  
For more information call 335-6830

\*\*Latah County Human Rights Task Force, 7:00 p.m.



**ATHENA:** Next meeting Wednesday, February 3, 6:00pm, Morin Room of the Wallace Center. The topic is financial security issues for professional women. Call Kathy Clark, President, 885-0200, for more information.

**LOST BUT NOT FOUND:** The book, *The Names*, A memoir by N. Scott Momaday, was borrowed, from the Center; it does not have a library pocket and card. It belongs to the director. Please return it.

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**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. WEEK CELEBRATION: VOICES CRYING--VOICES HEARD**  
(Partial Schedule of Events)

- January 18 8:00pm Interfaith Celebration: Spiritual Voices, First United Methodist Church, Moscow  
James Daniel Duncan, UI theater student: MLK Jr. speeches  
Spokane Gospel Choir
- January 19 12:30pm Speaker: Les Purce, Vice-President of Evergreen College, "Global Perspective on  
Human Rights". Gold/Silver Room at the SUB  
7:00pm Voices of Advocacy: Student Speak-Out, SUB Ballroom
- January 20 12:30pm Video: "Gotta Make This Journey: Sweet Honey in the Rock", UI Women's Center  
6:00pm Candlelight March from Friendship Square to UI Administrative Auditorium  
7:00pm Keynote Speaker: Dr. Blossom O'Nealy Nelson, "Making Voices Heard", UI  
Administrative Auditorium
- January 22 Voices of Friendship: Ethnic Idaho, Moscow High School Auditorium and Gymnasium  
6:00pm Cultural Food Fair  
7:00pm Entertainment: Nez Perce Drummers and Nez Perce Hoop Dancers  
Singer: Cedric West  
Cultural Activities including Phi Beta Sigma - Step Dancing, Square Dancing, Mexican Dancers

**FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION  
PLEASE CONTACT DIANE ALLEN AT 885-7058**

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