



IN Our Circle

www.inourcircle.org

ANNUAL GATHERING MAY 3, 2003

Our community is now in its **15th year** since women began traveling to Delavan, Wisconsin to explore their truth! This is our 5th year of hosting the weekends!

It is time to do some re-defining around our community. What works? What doesn't? When do we play, learn, or rest? When and how do we support, challenge, and nurture each other, and ourselves? How does this personal growth evolve in your everyday life, outside of Woman Within ?

HOW IS YOUR LIFE DIFFERENT since you have been sitting in a circle of women?

I KNOW MY LIFE IS VERY DIFFERENT!

And since I won't project just how it's changed onto your experience..... Your presence at the **ANNUAL GATHERING** is very important. This is a time when we do visioning for the next year, and beyond.

COME for the connection, **COME**, for new ideas, **COME**, for great food, **RECEIVE** inspiration, blessings, fun, challenges, (and great food). We'll have a fun and thought-provoking process to introduce. For your inner child, your angry bitch, your peaceful wise woman!

SHARE your insights, (you know you have them) **SPEAK** about what changes you'd like to see. **ASK** about what you'd like to know. **VOTE** on the slate of officers for the new board members.

CREATE A NEW COMMUNITY

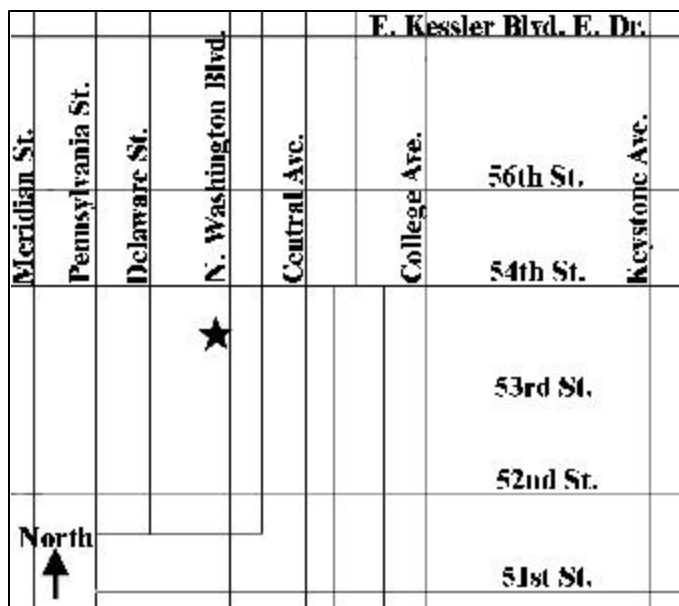
NECKLACE. A necklace to represent your growth, your truth . . . To embody the essence of *YOUR* COMMUNITY . . . A powerful reflection of each circle, and of every woman of IN Our Circle; an evolving strand, uniquely its own collection of strength and beauty. A symbol of continuation.

Bring a bead for your Empowerment Circle, and one for yourself. Help co-create the necklace we will carry to each weekend in the Midwest and to the joint Woman-Within and ManKind Project conference this July in Chicago.

Get your Empowerment Circle together and head to Marcia Stone's home at 10AM on Saturday, May 3. We will have an open-house approach, so come any of the time or all of the time. (We'll end at 3PM.) Bring a dish to share for the pitch-in and plan to eat well!

Don't miss another year of community love and lots of great hugs. Make plans now to attend the Annual Gathering and make a difference for yourself and others! See you there!

Embrace the Journey! Joyce Bailey-Pendleton



Marcia Stone's Home (317) 259-8373
5335 N. Washington Boulevard
 10AM - 3PM Open House

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OPEN CIRCLES ARE EXTINCT!

Especially for IN Our Circle! And it's all about Circles. We will no longer have open circles! Well, at least, not as you have come to know them. We'll have Visitor's Circles, Bridge Circles, and Community Connection Circles! Each with its own offerings for initiated women, and/or guests.

You are Invited to help RE-INVENT
Your Community Gatherings

Apr 14 Introduction to Visitors Circles

Learn how to open Empowerment Circles to visitors! The experience is rewarding, enlightening and intimate.
Irvington United Methodist Church, 40 North Audubon
Time: 7 - 9PM OPEN TO ANYONE

May 3 Annual Gathering

Delicious food, great conversation, plenty of hugs and, yes, some business. It's a great opportunity to connect with sisters.
Location: Marcia Stone's Home, 5335 N. Washington Blvd.
Time: 10AM - 3PM OPEN TO WWI COMMUNITY

June 9 Community Connection Circle

A learning experience for women who want to know more and an opportunity to share your unique and awesome talents with others. Location: Irvington United Methodist Church, 40 North Audubon Time: 7 - 9PM OPEN TO ANYONE

The Woman Within International Website has been reconstructed!

It is up and running now. Check it out at www.womanwithin.org.

Midwest Region will be updating their website soon. We'll keep you posted as this change is made.



TO THE AWESOME, POWERFUL, WOMEN OF IN OUR CIRCLE

To make the new Community Connection Circles successful, I will need your help.

1. What are your interests? What would you like to learn more about? What subjects would you like to explore?
2. What talents, knowledge, gifts and strengths do you have that you would be willing to share?

I know the gifts are as numerous as our membership.

- a. aromatherapy connected to healing & personal growth
- b. menopause /natural hormone replacement
- c. massage therapy
- d. self defense
- e. dancing
- f. sacred objects
- g. multi culture
- h. drumming

THE LIST IS ENDLESS!

These Community Connection Circles will take place 4 times a year. The first one is scheduled for June 9th (7-9pm) at Irvington United Methodist Church (40 North Audubon). Will YOU be the first to meet the challenge of sharing your gifts?

Please contact me with topics that interest you and also with topics you'd like to present. I know if we work together, we will make a rewarding, revitalizing and intimate connection. Please email me at emlucas98@yahoo.com with your suggestions.

Thanks and Hugs, Liz

My Travels In The Middle East

by Jana Y. Lovick

I spent the month of February in the country of Oman visiting a cousin of mine. She lives in a small village in the northern portion of that country - a couple hours from the U.S. airbase stationed there.

Yes, I was very close to Iraq. No, I was not scared. I trusted to my Higher Power to keep me safe.

After meeting the people of Oman, I was overwhelmed by their generosity of spirit. I was taken in and treated like a long lost relative in every home we visited. Many were the offers I received to "Stay! You can live stay with us! One month isn't long enough to see our beautiful country."

Never have I met a group of people whose hearts are so open to strangers. I was constantly touched by how hard everyone struggled to speak in English so that I could understand. I felt perfectly safe everywhere we went - whether it was big cities, small villages, or to visit the ruling Sultan's enclave.

People who didn't know me went out of their way to help a fellow human being find her way and enjoy herself. At no time did I feel threatened by being a woman, nor did I feel subjugated to the will of men. The women I met were not oppressed or beaten or mistreated in any way. Rather, the men in Oman treat women as precious treasures to be enjoyed and helped as much as possible.

I must admit to a bit of trepidation regarding my status as an American entering a region well-known for hatred of the American government. When the Omani people found out I was American, though, they reacted with surprise and curiosity. They don't often get to meet Americans and were eager to hear my views - both personal and political.

I received bountiful gifts from many of the women I visited. When I described my Empowerment Circle, they even sent gifts for each of those women. Now that's giving from the heart!



I explained one day to my cousin's family that my nephew died at the Pentagon on September 11, 2001 and that I was having a hard time dealing with the loss. The next day I was surprised to find dozens of women gathered in the family room, waiting for me. Were they there to castigate me, to tell me Major Steven Long deserved to die because he was in the American military? Far from it!

Several hours were spent that day in silence as the women sat around me to offer silent strength and condolences on my loss. Every once in a while, a woman would get to her feet, thread her way to me, and proceed to rub my head and cry. My cousin explained these actions as common Omani ways of sharing my grief.

I never received anything of this sort in the United States. Maybe we could take a lesson from the women of the Middle East!

SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY BY EATING!

Bring your family and friends to **Buca di Beppo** downtown on Sunday, April 27, 2003. Join other community members and their families in celebrating with a great dinner of spaghetti and meatballs, Buca country style bread, and mixed green salad served family style.

Bring as many people as possible! Seating times will be 1pm and 2pm. Tickets cost \$14.95 for adults and \$7.95 for children. For every adult ticket purchased, Buca di Beppo will donate \$5 to IN Our Circle and \$2 for every child's ticket purchased.

What a great way to support the community and get a great meal at the same time!

To get tickets, contact one of these fantastic women:

- Sandy Ernst (317) 862-3385 slernst@worldnet.att.net
- Joyce Pendleton (317) 255-3277 joycek-artist.att.net
- Cheri Goll (317) 925-7612 cgoll@indy.rr.com
- Jana Lovick (317) 852-7103 dayze@earthling.net



Heart Funshop was a Big Success!

What a fabulous, FANTASTIC day!!!!

The “Make-a-Heart Funshop” was wonderful. I was very tired before the funshop that morning, and became energized! After spending the day with inspired women creating 3-D images of their hearts, I am feeling blessed and connected. Not only with other women, also more connected with my inner joyful 3-year old.

I honor Tricia O’Connor for sharing her vision and creativity around this process of self-discovery and expression. It was her gift to us, of how important it is to first explore the depth of our hearts to be able to create a representation that honors their very nature!

I got in touch with aspects of my heart, such as its strength, beauty, fragility and shadows. And I saw a marvelous variety of uniqueness in the hearts each of us stitched, glued, tied, and stuffed!

It is possible that we will do this again, and I highly recommend it to any and all who consider the powerful stories in their heart! Also thanks to Marcia Stone, Sherry Hanafee, & Jana Lovick, for donating fabric, and various beads, ribbon, etc.

Love and Blessing,
Joyce Pendleton



The Healing Wisdom of Africa: Finding Life Purpose Through Nature, Ritual, and Community

by Malidoma Patrice Some (pages 91-92)

Contributed by Linda Lee

“Many modern people believe that community absorbs the dignity and integrity of the individual and threatens to kill the much-cherished sense of self. The truth is that one doesn’t lose one’s self as a result of being part of a community. On the contrary, being in community leads to a healthy sense of belonging, greater generosity, better distribution of resources, and a greater awareness of the needs of the self and the other. In community, the needs of the one are the needs of the many. In community, one does not worry excessively about one’s intimate relationships because you are not left to confront your problems alone. In such a context, people are not encouraged to be on the run every day chasing survival. In this way, being part of a strong community strengthens one’s individuality by supporting the expression and enjoyment of one’s unique gifts and talents.

Individuality, no, individualism, is the cornerstone of community. Individuality is synonymous with uniqueness. This means that a person and his or her unique gifts are irreplaceable. The community loves to see all of its members flourish and function at optimum potential. In fact, a community can flourish and survive only when each member flourishes, living in the full potential of her or his purpose.”

com·mu·ni·ty

from Latin *communis*

Date: 14th century

1: a unified body of individuals:

d: a group of people with a common characteristic or interest living together within a larger society

e: a group linked by a

common policy

f: a body of persons or nations having a

common history or common

social, economic, and political

interests

g: a body of persons of

common interests scattered

through a larger society.

FIRST-TIME STAFFER Tells of Her Experience

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Hello sisters! I have been reminded by the universe that trusting the process and stating and sticking with my truth is necessary for continuing to feel good in my life. I have been rewarded by actually feeling better when I stick with my truth and let go of outcomes. It's amazing how it echoes through my life.

I've been getting reminders of this ever since I got home from staffing the last initiation weekend. I staffed for the first time, and I discovered a deep and beautiful change in myself as I learned how to include myself in the staff. It was an incredible experience, and I feel like I graduated again into yet another level of my life.

Staffing was a challenge and a joy, and I would encourage any woman interested in staffing to fully explore the opportunity. I was looking for another challenge, and this experience served me. I saw shadows of mine and strengths of mine I hadn't seen before. I shared parts of myself with the staff and with the participants that felt awesome in the sharing. I felt golden. Staffing is different from going to a workshop for yourself. It's a unique opportunity that can help when other experiences haven't.

With love, Lara

STAFFING APPLICATIONS

If you're planning to staff one or more Woman Within Weekends this year, now is the time to get your application in.

You can go to our website at www.inourcircle.org and find a link to the application. Print it out, complete it, and send the application in as quickly as possible in order to reserve the dates you're interested in.

Remember, you can staff ANY WWI weekend. It may be interesting and informative to staff a weekend in a different region!

WOMEN EMPOWERING WOMEN (WEW)

Friday, August 22 (7PM) thru
Sunday, August 24 (2PM)

Courtyard by Marriott in Louisville, KY
(Exit 15 off I64 Hurstbourne Parkway)

This seminar will be led by Sheri Zuccato. While it is required for staffing WWI weekends, it also has lots of other benefits. Communication skills are discussed, group dynamics are explained, and support skills are examined.

Fee: \$ 295 (which includes a non-refundable \$100 deposit). Visa, MasterCard and American Express accepted. Meals and lodging not included - you may sleep at home and commute to the workshop or accommodation suggestions will be provided.

To register, contact Woman Within International (800) 732-0890 Fax: 519-728-3264 email: [wwwithin@aol.com](mailto:wwithin@aol.com) or you can visit the website at www.womanwithin.org to print an application.

SITES NEEDED!

I am collecting information on locations around Indy that can be used for meetings, workshops and celebrations--both large and small. Some meetings would be just a few hours and others would be 3-4 day sessions.

Do you have a home to share, a room where you work, or a clubhouse? Did you attend a meeting at a location you liked? If you know of a place with potential, please contact me. Any of the following information would be helpful, if you have it: name of site, side of town, possible capacity, cost, pets, contact person.

Contact Joyce Bailey-Pendleton at joycek-artist@att.net or (317) 255-3277.

IN OUR CIRCLE LOGO T-SHIRTS

DIFFERENT SIZES AVAILABLE
S, M, L, XL, 2XL

DIFFERENT COLORS AVAILABLE
White, Bright Green, Light Blue

DIFFERENT STYLES AVAILABLE
Short-sleeve, Long-sleeve, V-neck, Round neck

Each shirt has our beautiful ribbon heart and
tagline in full color. These shirts are gorgeous!

To get your very own IOC T-shirt, contact

Jana Y. Lovick
dayze@earthling.net
Cell: (317) 797-7848
Home (317) 852-7103



MKP / WWI Joint Summer Conference 2003

**Beyond Our Circles
Our Families,
Our Communities,
Our World**

July 10 - 13, 2003

Friday - Sunday

Omni-Orrington Hotel
Chicago/Evanston, Illinois

IOC LIAISON TO MKP SPEAKS OUT

Greetings sisters! To keep up with the Indy MKP online, you can always check www.mkp.org/indy and for a direct link to their calendar www.mkp.org/indy/annualcal.html. The MKP link is also available on our own page at www.inourcircle.org

Noteable MKP events coming up include:

Running With Iron John - A weekend for couples created by Cheri and John Goll - April 11-13.

New Warrior Training weekend - The initial training weekend for ManKind Project - April 25-27

MKP Graduation - Thursday, May 1

Men's Speaker Series - Regular lectures from subject matter experts in the ManKind community - "The intimacy of sound: Acoustical literacy and the joy of hearing" presented on May 22 by Elliot Berger

I, with the assistance of our board of directors, am exploring and establishing lines of communication and partnership with the ManKind Project men in our Indy community. I am excited for the opportunity to be working with some very wise and loving men. I am also searching for another woman who would like to learn the basics of my job and serve as my backup. If you're interested in helping keep up the connection between IN Our Circle and the Indy ManKind Project, please contact me.

With love, Lara Coutinho

(317) 859-0644 orange@indy.net

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 2003

10-14 Thursday - Monday
Woman Within Level 2
Racine, WI
Open to WWI community
(Must register)

11-13 Friday - Sunday
WWI Weekend
Delevan, WI
Open to public (women)
(Must register)

11-13 Friday - Sunday
Running with Iron John
Bedford, IN
Open to MKP and WWI
(Must register)

14 Monday 7-9PM
Intro to Visitors Circles
Irvington U.M. Church
Open to public

25-27 Friday - Sunday
New Warrior Training
Open to public (men)
(Must register)

27 Sunday 1-3PM
Buca di Beppo Party
Downtown Location
Open to public
(Must purchase tickets)

May 2003

1 Thursday 7-9PM
MKP Graduation
Church of the Savior
Open to public

2-4 Friday - Sunday
Taking It Lightly
Milwaukee, WI
Open to public
(Must Register)

3 Saturday 9AM
Annual Gathering
Marcia Stone's home
Open to WWI community

21-25 Wednesday - Sunday
Warrior Monk Weekend
Cincinnati, OH
Open to public
(Must register)

22 Thursday 7PM
MKP Men's Speaker Series
St. Luke's Meth. Church
Open to Public

June 2003

3 Tuesday 7-9PM
Board Meeting
Irvington U.M. Church
Open to WWI community

6-8 Friday - Sunday
Taking It Lightly
Milwaukee, WI
Open to public
(Must Register)

9 Monday 7-9PM
Community Connection
Irvington U.M. Church
Open to public

20-22 Friday - Sunday
WWI Weekend
St. Louis, MO
Open to public (women)
(Must register)

July 2003

1 Tuesday 7-9PM
Board Meeting
Irvington U.M. Church
Open to WWI community

11-13 Friday - Sunday
WWI / MKP Summer
Conference
Evanston, IL (Chicago)
Open to WWI and MKP

11-13 Friday - Sunday
Taking It Lightly
Milwaukee, WI
Open to public
(Must Register)

17 Thursday 7PM
MKP Men's Speaker Series
St. Luke's Meth. Church
Open to Public

August 2003

22-24 Friday-Sunday
Women Empowering
Women (WEW)
Louisville, KY
Open to WWI community
(Must register)

WORKSHOP CONTACTS

Woman Within Weekend Training
Gail Farbman 847-564-4625
www.womanwithin.org

New Warrior Training
Ollie Howe 317-852-6806
www.mkp.org

Running With Iron John
Cheri Goll 317-925-7612
cgoll@indy.rr.com

Women Empowering Women (WEW)
Woman Within Level 2
Registrar 800-732-0890
wwwithin@aol.com

A Couple's Weekend and Advanced Couples Wknd
Char Tosi 810-750-7227
richtosi@att.net

Warrior Monk
Jodi 909-659-0445
jodi@starcoyote.net

Taking It Lightly
Patricia Clasen
414-374-5433
patricia@lightly.com

COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Louisville Community
Dale Herink 502-228-4959

Mailing Lists, Roster and Staffing for Midwest
Erin Farrar 847-487-7358
askmywife@juno.com

SCAT Team
Ruth McClellan, 253-7286
rmccle7777@home.com

President, IN Board
Joyce Pendleton, 255-3277
joycek-artist@att.net

President-Elect and E-Group Coordinator
Cheri Goll, 317-925-7612
cgoll@indy.rr.com

MKP Liaison and E-Mail & Chat Lists
Lara Coutinho, 872-4378
orange@indy.net

Financial Assistance
Ann Bevilacqua, 253-7948
abevilacqua@imcpl.lib.in.us

Mailing Lists and Roster
Sue Daniel 317-335-2120
stdaniel@splintershop.com

EMPOWERMENT CIRCLE INFO

EMPOWERMENT CIRCLE COORDINATOR

Cheri Goll (h) 317 925-7612
(w) 317-338-5368
cgoll@indy.rr.com

Badass Butterflies - OPEN

Contact: Jana Lovick, (c) 317-797-7848, dayze@earthling.net
Meets Tuesday evenings, Downtown.

Diamond Girls - CLOSED

Contact Sylvia Gray, (h) 317-896-3575, sylv0701@yahoo.com

Rose Within - OPEN

Contact Kathy Bourus, (c) 317-796-3499 (w) 317-243-1150
Meets alternate Tuesday evenings, Central Christian Church.

Sisters in Spirit - OPEN

Contact: Marcia Stone, (h) 317-259-8373,
freerange@ameritech.net
Meets Thursday evenings, near Northside Indianapolis.

South E-Group - OPEN

Contact: Judy Stasek, 317-889-0565, jmc5@iquest.net
Meets alternate Monday evenings, Unity Church.

White Buffalo - OPEN

Contact: Betty Seno, (h) 317-845-9886,
bseno@iquest.net
Meets alternate Monday evenings, near Broad Ripple.

Editor: Jana Y. Lovick
dayze@earthling.net
(317) 797-7848



Sue Daniel
9770 Highland Springs Drive North
McCordsville, IN 46055

We would like to keep you up-to-date about our events and activities. However, if you prefer not to receive mail from IN Our Circle or Woman to Woman Midwest, contact us and your name will be removed from our list.
Sue Daniel - 9770 Highland Springs Dr. N.,
McCordsville, Indiana 46055
(317) 335-2120 * stdaniel@splintershop.com