

# WOMEN'S VU

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## THE RUSSIANS ARE COMING TO NASHVILLE



Holding one panel which later became part of the Peace Ribbon in Washington, D.C. are 4 Nashville children. The panel depicts "What I couldn't bear to lose in a nuclear war."

Recently, we at the Women's Center got a letter from Betty Bumpers in Washington, D.C. telling us about "a unique historic event" coming in October.

Fifteen women from the Soviet Union will get off a jet in New York and begin their PEACE LINKS-sponsored visit to the United States," she wrote.

PEACE LINKS is an organization of women working for peace that Betty Bumpers helped found 3 years ago. This is the group that sponsored the Peace Ribbon that wrapped around the Pentagon and the White House for Hiroshima Day, August 4, 1985. They are bringing the Soviet women here so that, according to Bumpers, "we can show them firsthand the depth and breadth of our country... and assure them on a one-to-one basis of our heart-felt desire for a peaceful future, and share with them our hopes for a sky over both our countries that's free of the ominous threat of nuclear clouds."

"These 15 Soviet women from all walks of life and from vastly different parts of that enormous country will visit us for 2 weeks to really get to know us better, visit our children's schools, shop with us at the local supermarket and meet our friends and neighbors at potluck suppers.

"What is critically important is that they will see us—ordinary American citizens—as we really are in all our diversity," and that "Americans in places like Pittsburgh and Phoenix and Paullina, Iowa, will get to talk on a one-to-one basis with real-life Soviet women—women

who are school teachers and doctors, musicians and factory workers, mothers and daughters.

"And when they return to the Soviet Union, I hope they and we will know that even though we are separated by a physical gulf of thousands of miles, and an emotional gulf of enormously different ideas and histories, we do share—as women and mothers—the same hopes, fears and dreams for ourselves and our children."

Four of the 15 women will be in Nashville October 17-19. Cosponsoring them during their visit will be many local groups, including the Vanderbilt Women's Center and International Student Services, both of whom are organizing a reception on campus for the Soviet women and the Nashville community. During the reception, the Soviet women will have an opportunity to tell who they are and why they came on this mission of peace. Representatives of several Nashville groups will make presentations to the Soviets symbolizing the sharing of a mutual hope for and working toward peace.

In addition to the reception, the Nashville PEACE LINKS group has arranged for the 4 women to tour Nissan, to attend the Opry, to have their hair done in a local salon, to go shopping at K-Mart (a favorite of international touring groups), and to explore programs offered by the YWCA.

Betty Bumpers writes, "Some people may say it's naive to think that person-to-person visits like this one can change thinking and actions at high governmental levels.

"Well, as an American, I do firmly believe that you and I can change the way our government thinks and acts.

"We need to tell the leaders of our government that a secure future for all of us must be their highest priority. If they focus their intelligence and creativity on the problem, a path will be found that leads beyond the nuclear dilemma.

"But to create these changes will take a deep shift in underlying attitudes.

"For me, working to prevent nuclear war is one of the best things I can do with my life. When my children see me on the phone, talking to other women about ways to work for peace, they know that I still have faith in a productive future for them and for us all.

"We need to move from confrontation to cooperation."

Thus was born the idea to bring the Russians over here; to meet, to share, explore, and change underlying attitudes from a collective mentality of fear to a mentality of cooperation and negotiation.

PEACE LINKS hopes to send 15 U.S. women to the Soviet Union next year to continue this peace exchange.

In preparation for the visit of the Soviet women, PEACE LINKS Nashville is offering a workshop Monday, October 7, at 7:30 PM at Hillsboro Presbyterian Church. This workshop will focus on Soviet culture, the everyday lives of Soviet men and women. It is open to the public, a good opportunity to "visit" the Soviet Union for \$5.00 and a drive down Hillsboro Road. A Russian dinner will precede the workshop at 6:00 p.m. for \$6.00. For reservations call Andrea Jasper, 329-2116 (w), 352-8260 (H).

—Joan Anderson  
Women's Center

### US/USSR PEACE LINKS EXCHANGE

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|------------|--|
| Theme:     | What women can contribute to improving the understanding between the people of our two countries.  |
| Purpose:   | To inform American people about Soviet people and Soviet life, with the hope that we can help instill the confidence that our two countries can learn to mutually survive on this planet.  |
| Objective: | To reach and educate thousands of Americans through our packet about Soviet women and the programs that result from the packet, and to directly involve hundreds of Americans beyond our own network in each of the 14 host communities in small group discussion opportunities with the Soviet women. |

## IN TRAINING FOR LEADERSHIP

This summer I had the opportunity to attend the "Women as Leaders" symposium in Washington, D.C. The symposium was for two weeks and was aimed at women who would soon enter the job market or had recently begun careers.

We had morning and afternoon sessions each day as well as several luncheons during the two weeks, with guest speakers. The morning and afternoon sessions consisted of a lecture followed by a question and answer period. These discussions focused on different topics each day, including "How to Write an Impressive Resume" and "If I Had Known Then What I Do Now." At the luncheons, guest speakers were Helen Thomas, Sally Ride, and Martha Seeger.

Three times a week we would break into 9 discussion groups. These groups were formed according to career goals and interests. I was in the business group. Twice each week we had a business woman explain her professional life to us. We also discussed the readings which we were assigned for that day at this time.

I found all of these discussions and lectures to be very useful and thought-provoking with regard to my future aspirations. *Yet one of the most worthwhile aspects of the symposium was talking with the other women who were present.* The diversity of the group was amazing. Not only were there women from 40 states, but their backgrounds were even more variant. Over 1/3 of the women were "nontraditional," for they were re-entering the labor force after having raised families.

Overall, the experience was one I will not forget. I highly recommend this symposium to any woman who will soon be starting or re-starting a career.

—Audrey Matthews  
A&S '86



VICTORIA JACKSON, business and community leader, to speak on leadership to undergraduate women, October 8.

## WOMEN'S CENTER EVENTS

**ON PROSPERING IN GRADUATE SCHOOL**— A panel of 2 female graduate students, one female faculty member, and one male faculty member will discuss their perspectives of the graduate school experience: how the system operates, how to make it work better for you, tips on in- and out-of-classroom interactions, what to avoid, etc. Wednesday, October 9, 4:30 - 6:00 P.M. at the Women's Center. All women master's and doctoral candidates and women considering graduate school are welcome. Refreshments following the program.

**THE GRADUATE STUDENTS' GROUP** will meet on October 11 and 25, 4:30 - 6:30 P.M. at the Women's Center. Light refreshments provided. All graduate and professional students are welcome.

**THE UNIVERSITY NETWORK LUNCH** group will gather at the Hill Student Center, Dining Room 1, on the Peabody Campus. Noon - 1:00 P.M. on October 16 for all women staff and faculty. Bring your lunch or buy it at the cafeteria.

**NANCY RANSOM WILL REPORT ON THE U.N. CONFERENCE** marking the end of the Decade for Women July, 1985 in Nairobi, Kenya. The Nairobi Report will include slides of the conference and of Ransom's travels in rural Kenya. Following the presentation will be a question and answer period. All are welcome. October 24, Sarratt room 118, noon to 1:00 P.M.

**A SYMPOSIUM FOR WOMEN UNDERGRADUATE LEADERS** will be offered Tuesday, October 8 from 4:30 - 6:00 P.M. at the former Peabody President's Home, an elegant setting for the subject of leadership. The featured speaker will be Victoria Jackson, President and Chief Executive Officer of Diesel Sales and Service in Nashville. Ms. Jackson, a former model who assumed responsibility for her father's business at age 22, has been a leader in the community in a number of organizations including the United Way, the Mental Health Association of Nashville, and the Chamber of Commerce.

The presentation will be followed by questions and answers and a social period with refreshments. Attendance is open to undergraduate women. Reservations required. Call 322-4843.

**DEVELOPING A SOUND FINANCIAL PLAN.** Course instructor is Katrin Bean, Ph.D., Senior Financial Planner for Crabb-Maddox Investment Group and author. Sessions include setting financial goals, understanding Vanderbilt's employee benefits and social security, reducing the tax bite, and investments that will help you meet your financial goals. Four sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays, October 8, 10, 15, and 17. 5:30-7:30 P.M. at the Women's Center. \$20. Pre-registration required for this and the following courses. Call 322-4843.

**TAX TIPS.** A one-session course taught by Sandra Lewis, Certified Public Accountant. She will explain changes in the tax laws that will affect you this year and what you can do now to benefit yourself at IRS time. Monday, October 14, 5:00 - 7:00 P.M. at the Women's Center. \$5.00. Call 322-4843.

**UNDERSTANDING THE VANGUARD/TIAA-CREF OPTION.** Tuesday, October 22, noon to 1:30 p.m. at the Women's Center. The instructor is Katrin Bean, Ph.D., Senior Financial Planner for the Crabb-Maddox Investment Group and author. Course open to all Vanderbilt women employees. Free.

**ALCOHOL, CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY AND WOMEN.** A four-part course on Mondays and Wednesdays October 21, 23, 28, and 30. Instructor: Kattie Myatt, Ed.D., Director of the General Sessions Court Chemical Dependency and Traffic Safety Education Programs. Sessions include an overview of alcoholism and chemical dependency, effects on the family, intervention, and treatment and recovery. 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. at the Women's Center. \$12.00 Call 322-4843.

**"COMPUTER EQUITY: MYTH AND FACT"** A Lunchtime Seminar at the Women's Center, October 8, noon. Bill Corbin, Research Scientist in the Learning Technology Center, will focus on common misconceptions that are held concerning the interaction of women and computers, and causes of computerphobia, and the effect of demographics on attitudes toward computers. The content will be based upon a study of the literature and the presenter's research and personal observations over 6 years of courses and workshops in computer-based subjects. Brown bag lunches welcome; coffee and juice provided.

## WEAV BEGINS FIFTH YEAR OF WORK FOR WOMEN'S EQUITY

Three things help sustain any movement for major social change: a sense of community, a sense of history, and a sense of humor. Those qualities continue to characterize WEAV as it begins its 5th year of work in behalf of women's equity at Vanderbilt.

In 1984-85 WEAV devoted its efforts primarily to enhancing a sense of community at Vanderbilt. WEAV helped initiate and served as a co-sponsor for an alumnae conference on Women's Studies on April 19-20 and also a forum on university governance on April 29. As part of a coalition it worked successfully for the expansion of child care facilities, especially for infants. WEAV also contributed financially to the Vanderbilt Accolade. A special meeting of WEAV and friends in the fall explored female styles of leadership, with presentations by Penny Brooks, Cherie Hamilton, Nancy Hendrix, and Jan Rosemergy. In another special meeting in the spring, women in the medical units were invited to discussions led by Lee Limbird and Barbara Wallston. WEAV has also helped develop a Career Opportunity Program for Vanderbilt. Behind all of these activities is the assumption that people are most productive when their environment is hospitable and supportive.

From its beginning in 1981 WEAV has had a long view of history, both past and future, of what will be required to bring women into full and equitable participation in the life of Vanderbilt. The case of Elizabeth Langland is an important part of that history. Although the lawsuit is closed (the Sixth Court upheld Judge Morton's decision in August, 1985), the issues raised by the case continue to form a serious challenge for Vanderbilt. Professor Langland continues her active and productive scholarly career. She has recently accepted an appointment as Associate Professor of English at the University of Florida at Gainesville after 3 years as chair of the English Department at Converse College. WEAV is proud that its fundraising efforts made it possible to sustain the lawsuit to its conclusion. The total cost of the suit was approximately \$60,000.

A sense of humor also lightens WEAV's work along the way, although not all the humor is fit for print. In any effort worth the while, if you do it right, it's fun.

WEAV is independently incorporated and committed to equal representation of the interests of staff and faculty women. A Steering Committee composed of equal numbers of staff and faculty is co-chaired each year by a faculty and staff member.

Past Co-chairs have been Anne Brandt, Jan Rosemergy, and Pat Post. Past Faculty Co-chairs include Peter Paris, Jeanne Plan, and Susan Wiltshire. Co-chairs for 1985-86 are Penny Brooks (faculty) and Linda Bird (staff). For more information, call one of the above or write WEAV at Box 121326, Nashville, TN 37212.

—Susan Ford Wiltshire  
Classical Studies

## HEALTH INSTITUTE BENEFITS JONES AND VANDERBILT

I was fortunate to be selected as one of 40 participants in the Women, Health, and Healing Summer Institute, June 14-16, 1985, held on the University of California, Berkeley Campus. The participants came from a variety of disciplines (5 came from areas outside the United States) and each had some experience with teaching in the post-secondary educational system. This year's Summer Institute was the second of three institutes funded by the Department of Education in Washington, D.C.

The overall goals of the 3-year composite funding are: 1) to exchange ideas and develop curriculum on teaching research and policy on women's health; 2) to visit innovative women's health programs and projects; 3) to engage in collegial exchanges with scholars at the forefront of research on women, health, and the healing system; and 4) to build resources for participants and others to enrich teaching on the social, behavioral, and cultural aspects of crucial issues in women's health. The 1985 Institute had as its specific focus the health care of minority women. The third and final year of the Institute, 1986, will focus on rural women's health issues.

During the opening session of the Institute, participants viewed a film produced by a female physician during her third year in medical school entitled, "Turning Around: Sexism in Medicine." The film was insightful as well as humorous. Medical students and female patients exchanged roles and role-played different patient/physician and teacher/student interactions. Following the film was a discussion on sexism in medicine and with the film was a grand beginning for the Institute.

General issues discussed throughout the Institute included issues and health of women from cultural and ethnic minorities, integrating minority women's health perspectives into the curriculum; integrating feminist perspectives into the curriculum; women as health care providers; women

participating in health care as clients, consumers and patients; health in developing countries; reproductive health; women's mental health; violence against women as a health issue; and policy analysis from a feminist perspective.

Presentations, printed materials and film resources were excellent. The experience of participating in the Women, Health, and Healing Summer Institute was enlightening, overwhelming, sometimes confusing, exciting, and more importantly, very challenging to me as a faculty member at Vanderbilt with many new and exciting ideas about women's health that I want to integrate into both the School of Nursing and the University-wide curriculum. My course Issues in Women's Health Care will be expanded and improved this academic year because of my experiences at the Institute.

—Sue Jones  
School of Nursing

*From Women . . . A World Survey*  
by Ruth Leger Sivard  
(published by World Priorities, Box 25140,  
Washington D.C. 20007)

"The unpaid labor of women in households, if given economic value, would add an estimated one-third or \$4,000,000,000,000 to the world's annual economic product."

"Rural women account for more than half the food produced in the Third World; for as much as 80% of the African food production."

"The hourly wages of working women in manufacturing are on average three-fourths of those earned by men."

"Educated women rank higher in verbal skills than educated men, but in the global community, excluding China, there are 130 million more adult women than men who cannot read and write."

"Nutritional anemia afflicts half of women of child-bearing ages in developing countries, compared with less than 7% of women of those ages in developed countries."

"Although they comprise 50% of the world's enfranchised population, women hold no more than 10% of the seats in national legislatures. Ten of the 11 oldest democracies waited until the 20th century to give women the right to vote. The first to grant electoral equality was New Zealand, 1893; and the last was Switzerland, 1971."

"Women account for half the students studying for advanced degrees in the humanities and education and the fine arts; but one-quarter in law, engineering and medicine."

"Women are 50% of teachers in primary schools, 31% in secondary schools, and 26% in higher education."

# OFF CAMPUS AND ET CETERA

**CAREER RELATED INTERNSHIPS AND SUMMER JOB ORIENTATATION MEETING** for students October 10 and 31.

**WASHINGTON, D.C. SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES PROGRAM**, October 24.

For more information, call Career Planning and Placement Services, 322-2750.

**WOMEN'S FACULTY ORGANIZATION RECEPTION**, October 8 at 4:00 P.M. in Sarratt room 118. Open to all women faculty, administrators, librarians, and graduate/professional students.

**"WOMEN AS LEADERS,"** Second Annual Symposium for Aspiring Professionals, Washington, D.C. December 29, 1985 - January 10, 1986 (optional week: January 13-17). Sponsored by The Washington Center, 514 Tenth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20004, (202) 289-8680. Open to college women. Academic credit available.

**"THE FEMALE FORM AS SEEN BY MALE ARTISTS,"** a lecture at MTSU by Klaus Kallenberger, Professor of Art at MTSU will be October 15 at 3 o'clock in Keathley University Center, Room 305. Open to the public.

**SEXIST BIASES IN SOCIOLOGICAL RESEARCH: PROBLEMS AND ISSUES** is a booklet published by the American Sociological Association. It identifies 5 aspects of research where bias frequently occurs and gives examples. It is available from the Project on the Status and Education of Women, 1818 R St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20009 for \$.50.

—from *University Women newsletter*  
U. of Wisconsin, August '85

**THE YWCA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS** for October includes the following classes:

- Self-Esteem Workshop
- Writing Your Will
- Staying Healthy
- Searching for Job Success
- Career/Life Planning Workshops

Also, During Domestic Violence Awareness Week, October 13-19, the Y will celebrate its move to a new shelter. Help is needed in furnishing the shelter.

A fund-raiser seminar by Nikki Scott, syndicated columnist of "Working Women," will be November 6, at the Maxwell House. There is a reception from 5:00 - 6:00 P.M. followed by a seminar from 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. Proceeds will go to YWCA Shelter capital improvement. \$25.

For more information about the Y programs, call 269-9922.

## CAREER SKILLS FOR PREGNANT WOMEN

Here are some tips for the successful combination of career and pregnancy:

- Obtain information on maternity benefits of your company or comparable companies if yours doesn't have a plan.
- Ensure the impression of your present and continued value at the company during and after pregnancy.
- Don't announce your pregnancy until after the greatest risk of miscarriage has passed—after the first trimester.
- Tell your boss before anyone else in the office.
- Watch out for power plays for your job.
- Keep yourself looking good.

—*Wall Street Journal*  
June 7, 1985, p. 20

## Low Interest Visa and MasterCard

You can get Visa and MasterCard from Arkansas issuers which charge only 13% (compared to the national average of 19%) on unpaid balances. Union National Bank (800-351-9125) and Simmons First National Bank (501-541-1000) issue cards outside Arkansas for an annual fee of \$20.

—*Money*, June, 1985, p. 211

**PARENTS' SURVIVAL KIT**, a colorful, easy-to read booklet offering humor, encouragement, and suggestions to parents of infants through teenagers in dealing with stresses of child rearing. For free copies, call the Women's Center, 322-4843.

## GRATUITUOUS GRATITUDE

By Lisa Van Dusen  
*Computer Consultant*  
Tonawanda, New York

Recently, a company hired me to complete a computer program that one of its former employees had started. The department manager watched over my shoulder the entire day. When I finished the program an hour before his deadline he thanked me profusely and offered me a bonus for my efforts. "I never thought you'd finish in time," he said. "But honestly, you program just like a man."

—*Savvy*  
August '85

*Edited by Joan Anderson*

TO RECEIVE YOUR OWN LABELED COPY OF WOMEN'S VU return the form below or call the Women's Center, 322-4843, to place your name on the mailing list.

For newsletters sent to non-student, off-campus addresses there is a \$3.00 fee for ten monthly issues through June 1986. Please make checks payable to Vanderbilt University Women's Center.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Department \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Student (please give school and class) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Staff \_\_\_\_\_ Faculty \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

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