

# SistersVOICE

A Quarterly Newsletter of Sisters Of The Road, 133 NW Sixth Avenue, Portland, OR 97209

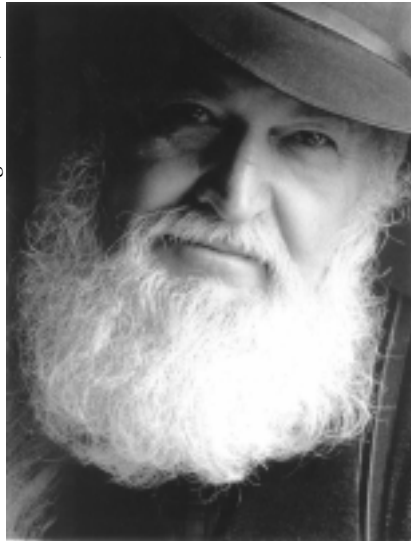
Volume 7, Issue 1: Winter/Spring, 2004

## *Please Welcome Back Utah Phillips to Winterfolk XVI!*

By Debbie Fox

Sisters Of The Road is proud to announce that songwriter, storyteller and conscience of America, Utah Phillips will return to the Aladdin Theater for The Winterfolk XVI Benefit Concert. Joining Utah will be an all-star folk cast including Anne Weiss, Jim Page/Billy Oskay, Kevin Burke with Mike Beglen, Mark Ross, Kate Power/Steve Einhorn, Tom May Trio and Tillers Folly from Vancouver B.C.. A promoter of the IWW and a national treasure of wit and humor, Phillips, dubbed the "Golden Voice of the Great Southwest," has earned a small but devoted following for his tales, guitar music, and songs, which he shares among the folk family in the style of a Celtic bard. He is known for researching a town to learn landmarks, anecdotes, and local minutiae before appearing onstage or at a festival. His programs extol self-reliance and encourage people to stop depending on government or corporatism, and to toss their televisions out the window. A heart condition prevents him from his usual circuit of 120 cities a year, but he continues to perform his history-based blarney about eccentrics and heroes of the road and always returns to Sisters every year. Beloved as a rabble rouser and individualist, he remains true to unionism in the tradition of Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger and the strikers of

Fleming & Assoc., Inc.



*Continued on page two.*

### **Our Mission:**

*Sisters Of The Road exists to build authentic relationships and alleviate the hunger of isolation in an atmosphere of non-violence and gentle personalism that nurtures the whole individual toward changes that will reach the root of his or her homelessness and poverty and end it forever.*

*Enjoy a meal at Sisters Of The Road Café. The Café is open Monday through Friday from 10:00 am to 3:00pm. The last meal of the day is served at 2:45pm. Our administrative office is open 9:00am to 5:00pm.*

*E-mail us at:  
info@sistersoftheroadcafe.org.  
call (503) 222-5694, or  
FAX (503) 222-3028  
www.sistersoftheroadcafe.org*

### **What's Inside:**

<i>March for the Dream</i>	2
<i>Artichoke's Guitar Raffle</i>	3
<i>Solutions to Homelessness</i>	3
<i>Living and Learning</i>	5
<i>Behind the Scenes</i>	5
<i>New Staff Member</i>	5
<i>Sisters' Calendar</i>	6
<i>Creative Ways to Give</i>	7
<i>Gifts that Give!</i>	8

*"At Sisters Of The Road, there are no strangers, just friends we've never met."*

## Winterfolk Welcomes Utah Phillips

---

*Continued from page one.*

the 1930s. This is a show not to be missed. Come join us for an unforgettable evening with some of the best local, regional and national musicians performing today! Show is Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup>. Doors open at 6pm, music begins at 7pm. Tickets are \$23 in advance/\$25 at the door. Last year was a sold out show, so get your tickets early!

Where to purchase tickets:

- On-line through [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or at any ticketmaster location
- Music Millennium 3158 E. Burnside or 801 NW 23<sup>rd</sup>, 503-231-8926
- The Aladdin Theater Box Office 3017 SE Milwaukee—Monday through Saturday from 11 am to 6pm. 503-233-1994

A big THANKS goes out to our Winterfolk Sponsors: Stewart-Stiles Truck Line, Willamette Week, Artichoke Music, Music Millennium & Leopold & Ketel.

## *March for the Dream*

---

### **Please Join Us For The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Martin Luther King March for the Dream**

*By Mary Kay McDermott*

Sisters Of The Road announces its 12<sup>th</sup> annual Martin Luther King Jr. *March For The Dream* and Celebration, January 19, 2004, at 6 PM.

The March will once again gather in two separate neighborhoods and convene into one unified March. The NW neighborhood march will begin at Sisters of the Road in Old Town/China Town, 133 NW 6<sup>th</sup>, marching through the neighborhood, over the Burnside Bridge, then north on Grand Avenue. The NE neighborhood march will begin at the Emanuel Hospital Lorenzen Conference Center, located on NE Graham Ave, marching through the neighborhood and heading south on MLK Blvd. Both

marches will gather at 5:30 and begin marching at 6 PM connecting outside the Oregon Convention Center and jointly marching to the Portland Conference Center for a short program, snacks and an opportunity to meet new friends.

Drawing on Martin Luther King Jr.'s attention to issues of poverty and inequality, and his fervent antiwar activism, this march celebrates the persistence of those who advocate for peace and social change through non-violent political activism.

The public is invited to join either march. Organizations who share Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision and want to celebrate together are encouraged to join, bring signs in support of his ideology, and participate in the celebration.

For more information, contact Mary Kay McDermott at Sisters of the Road, 503-222-5694, ext. 23 or e-mail [marykay@sistersoftheroadcafe.org](mailto:marykay@sistersoftheroadcafe.org).

Don't forget your friendly chants, signs, flashlights, and candles! We hope you will make our March part of your Dr. King celebration activities this year!

***“Power at its best is love  
implementing the demands of  
justice. Justice at its best is love  
correcting everything that  
stands against love.”***

*Martin Luther King, Jr., Where Do We Go from Here: Chaos or Community?, 1967.*



*Pictured from left to right are Ryushin Creedon Head Cook, Ron Daily Volunteer, Rosie Dean Guest Chef for the Soul Food Meal. Photo by Debbie Fox.*

## *Artichoke Music Donates Guitar for Raffle*

---

Once again, our good friends Kate Power and Steve Einhorn of Artichoke music generously donated a valuable CF Martin guitar for raffle at this year's Winterfolk XVI Benefit Concert. You could be the lucky one out of 1000 tickets (\$10 per ticket) to win a 1998 CF Martin D-28 guitar with a hardshell case. This beautiful guitar is valued at \$2000. The winning ticket will be drawn at the Winterfolk Concert on January 31, 2004. You need not be present to win but we would love it if you were there! View the Martin and purchase tickets at Artichoke Music, 3130 SE Hawthorne Blvd., 503- 232-8845, [www.artichokemusic.com](http://www.artichokemusic.com).

**Win this guitar! Tickets for \$10  
available now at  
Artichoke Music  
3130-A SE Hawthorne Blvd.  
232-8845  
Only 1000 tickets will be sold!**



**Martin & Co.**  
EST. 1833

## *Sisters' Involvement in Portland's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness*

---

*by Keith Vann*

Hi, my name is Keith Vann. I am a homeless member of crossroads, a Community Organizing Project of Sisters Of The Road. I am also an appointee to the recently formed Citizens' Commission to End Homelessness in Portland.

The Citizens' Commission is an official body endorsed and recognized by both the City of Portland and Multnomah County, which reports jointly to Mayor Vera Katz and County Chair Diane Linn. The Citizens' Commission is tasked with creating (by Fall 2004) a 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness, as mandated by the federal government for any city receiving homelessness program funds from the Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH). Portland was a recipient of ICH administered grants (primarily for supportive housing & services) to the tune of \$9.2M, one of the larger funding totals for 2003.

With the help of crossroads, Portland's 10-Year planning process has grown into a collaborative effort with Multnomah County. Although many months of painstaking preparation have already taken place, largely due to the work of BHCD's Heather Lyons and Molly Rogers, the participatory component of the planning process officially kicked off on November 19.

The 19-member Citizens Commission, chaired by Ray Mathis, includes key local civic, business, and organization leaders. By design, representation from service-providing organizations was excluded from the commission. Where active participation from the social service providers and the general public has been included is on the Coordinating Committee and its subsidiary workgroups. The Coordinating Committee coordinates the efforts of the workgroups and supplies specific recommendations to the Citizens' Commission for ultimate approval. Naturally, crossroads is an active workgroup participant.

The Coordinating Committee comprises the various workgroup leads. Each workgroup addresses

*Continued on next page.*

## Ending Homelessness

---

*Continued from previous page.*

a distinct aspect of the overall challenge of homelessness. Each makes recommendations to the Coordinating Committee based upon the relevant available data and research. Workgroups defined so far include: Discharge Planning, Short-Term Rental Assistance, Outreach and Engagement, Chronic Homelessness Services Implementation, Housing and Services Linkage, and Special Needs Housing. Other proposed workgroups include: Social Services Accountability, Pilot Project Incubation, and Systemic Issues.

As the sole representative of crossroads on the Citizens' Commission, my goal is to create an ongoing participatory process for ending institutionalized homelessness that actively engages stakeholders from the homeless community. I seek to ensure that any administrative policies or decisions resulting from this process will be created with homeowners, tenants, business leaders, government representatives, and homeless people sitting together at the decision-making table.

For more information about the City/County 10-Year Plan, visit BHCD's Ending Homelessness webpage, <http://www.portlandonline.com/bhcd/index.cfm?c=30140>, or email Ruth Benson at [rbenson@ci.portland.or.us](mailto:rbenson@ci.portland.or.us).

## *Sisters' Blast To The Past*

---

*by Mary Kay McDermott*

As a continuation of Sisters' 25<sup>th</sup> year celebration, a Sisters' history and storytelling party is currently being planned for February 22<sup>nd</sup>, from 4-8 PM in the café. Sisters' Blast To The Past will provide an opportunity for past and present board, staff, and customers to reconnect. It will also be a time to share your stories about Sisters and to learn about how you can be a part of Sisters' 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary quilt. It is hoped that excerpts of the stories shared will be made into a book commemorating Sisters' 25 years. Soup and cornbread will be served at the event. Please make sure to mark this important date February 22<sup>nd</sup> in your calendars and drop by during the hours of 4:00 to 8:00 pm or come for the whole time!

## *Learning and Living in Community*

---

*By Sara Westerfeld*



*Tim Berg, photo by Debbie Fox*

Tim has been a part of Sisters Of The Road's community for three years. He started at Sisters with barter work. Through his constant determination to work and improve his situation Tim was enrolled in Sisters' Job

training program in 2002. Because of this program, Tim began learning invaluable kitchen skills, and was able to secure housing. Tim switched around, learning the different jobs, before being promoted to assistant cook here at the Café.

Tim admits that before working here, he knew nothing about kitchen work, but now after spending over a year as the cook's assistant, he is confident in his skills and more importantly, in himself. Tim says, "I am doing exactly what Sister's philosophy is here for, I am building relationships and forming a community for myself." Tim was saying how he owes a lot to Sisters Of The Road. He appreciates how they have helped him move off the streets, and feels very connected to the people here. "If it wasn't for Sister's, I don't know where I'd be right now, probably still on the streets or maybe even worse. Our philosophy of gentle personalism and nonviolence effects everyone who walks in the door, and personally has helped me in my life journey and with relating to people."

Tim has incorporated what he has learned at Sisters into his personal life too, he meditates, has been reading a lot during his free time, and plays his guitar with amazing skill and grace. Maybe one day Sisters will start up their own band, with half of us being musicians. Tim is looking into attending some classes in the future, possibly related to cooking or massage.

## *Behind the Scenes at crossroads*

By Sara Westerfeld

Long-term supporter, Marla Koch, has found that Sisters of the Road is a place where everyone can feel safe and accepted, and also a place where people can plug into the thriving Downtown Community. Marla explains, "When I first moved to the Portland-Metro area thirteen years ago, Sisters rescued me from isolation and loneliness. I was being a stay at home mom, with no friends or new networks formed." Marla was invited to participate in Sister's first fundraising auction, since then; she has been involved with Sisters Of The Road in various ways. Marla is currently a researcher for *crossroads* extensive research project.

She feels privileged to be able to ask people about their reasons for homelessness, the realities of their daily lives, their dreams for the future, and the roadblocks keeping them from their dreams. Marla comes in once a week to interview people for the research project. The depth of their conversations, and the breadth of topics surprised Marla. Most people interviewed have talked about their personal reactions to the reality of their life. Marla informs us that during the interviews, "We traverse conversations of hopelessness and despair, joy and discovery, spirituality, health and how attitudes are formed. Homelessness affects everything in a person's life and this directly relates to their stories. I suspect the people who tell me their stories are changed in some way by the act of telling, I know I am changed by the listening."

When Marla began working with *crossroads* she hoped that possible solutions for preventing and ending homelessness, or improving the daily lives of people who are currently homeless would readily present themselves. Marla has come to the understanding that the more she learns the less clear the solutions become. "As you delve in deeper, the questions seem to expand and the solutions become more complex." The one thing that remains clear to Marla is that by asking these questions and taking time to listen to the answers, we are all moving in the right direction.

## *New Staff Member*

**Kate Cox, Volunteer Administrator**



*Kate Cox pictured with Floor Manager Orville Humphries & Annie Welch, photo by Debbie Fox.*

Only a month at my new job, and I'm at home, tucked in bed with a fever and chest cold. And I feel really fortunate that I have a warm and dry place to rest when I'm sick and such an amazing job to go back to when I feel a little bit better.

I want to thank all the volunteers that I've met so far who have welcomed me and helped me feel so comfortable at Sisters and for your support in making our Soul Food and Customer Appreciation meals so successful. You are quite a remarkable group of folks! I look forward to working with you all in the coming months and to meeting the many other volunteers that help make Sisters such a uniquely wonderful community.

For volunteer opportunities, you can reach Kate at (503) 234-2967 or [kate@sistersoftheroadcafe.org](mailto:kate@sistersoftheroadcafe.org).

*We are too often trying to be  
heroic instead of just  
ordinarily good and kind.*

*- Dorothy Day*

# *Sisters Of The Road Café 2004 Calendar*

---

## **Post & Save the Date!**

### **Regular Events:**

Volunteer Trainings: 5:00 – 7:00 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays at the Café

### **JANUARY**

Monday, January 19<sup>th</sup> – Soul Food Day and Martin Luther King Jr. March & Celebration

Saturday, January 31<sup>st</sup> – Winterfolk Benefit and Concert!

### **FEBRUARY**

Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> –Story Telling Party, 4:00 – 8:00 pm at the Café. Come and share your stories about what Sisters means to you!

### **MARCH**

Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> – St. Patrick's Day – Irish Meal

Saturday, March 20<sup>th</sup> Free Training: Gentle Personalism I 9:00 am to 12:00/noon at the Cafe

### **APRIL**

Saturday, April 17<sup>th</sup> Free Training: Gentle Personalism II 9:00 am to 12:00/noon at the Cafe

### **MAY**

Saturday May 15<sup>th</sup> Free Training: Conflict Resoluton I 9:00 am to 12:00/noon at the Cafe

Monday the 31<sup>st</sup> – Memorial Day Observed/ Holiday Café closed

*“The first principle of non-violent action is that of non-cooperation with everything humiliating.”*

*-Cesar Chavez*

### **JUNE**

Sunday, June 27<sup>th</sup> –2ND ANNUAL GUITAR JAM BAND! See the May newsletter for more info

### **JULY**

Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> Free Training: Non-Violence I 9:00 am to 12:00/noon at the Cafe

### **AUGUST**

Saturday, August 4<sup>th</sup> –Training Non-Violence II 9:00 am to 12:00/noon at the Cafe

### **SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER**

Second Annual Bluegrass & Old Time Music Festival - TBA

Monday, September 6<sup>th</sup>– Holiday/ Labor Day Weekend, Art In The Pearl Host a Fundraiser for Sisters!

### **NOVEMBER**

Wednesday, November 24<sup>th</sup> – Soul Food Meal

### **DECEMBER**

Friday the 17<sup>th</sup> - Holiday Meal & Caroling



*Cafe Servers Susie Wolf & Anthony Harris,  
photo by Debbie Fox.*

# ***Help Sustain Sisters!***

## **Why Sustaining Membership?**

If the majority of our committed donors gave between 50 cents a day (\$15/month) and \$1 a day (\$30/month) the vital services of Sisters would be sustained on a day-to-day basis! It's easy and safe to become a Sustaining Member. If you are already a Sustaining Member, Thank you!

For more information, call Marilyn for more information at 503-222-5694 ext 12 or go to our website at [www.sistersoftheroadcafe.org](http://www.sistersoftheroadcafe.org). Or you can fill out the attached return envelope and mail it to Sisters Of The Road. You will help sustain Sisters day-to-day.

## **Thanks to our Sponsors!**

Thanks to One More Mind for sponsoring and volunteering a day in the Café this holiday season! If you would like information how your organization can Sponsor-A-Day in the Café over the holidays next year contact Monica Beemer at 503-222-5694, ext. 19.

## **Stock Gifts**

Sisters accepts stock gifts year round. Stocks are a great and easy way to donate to Sisters. Call Debbie Fox at 503-222-5694 ext15 for more information or to notify her of a stock gift donation.

## **Donate On-line to Sisters**

You can donate securely to Sisters on-line. Just go to Sisters website at [www.sistersoftheroadcafe.org](http://www.sistersoftheroadcafe.org) and click on *ways to give*. Then click on the *donate now through the network for good* button and directions will follow—you just need a credit card, debit card or bank account number to donate.

## **Including Sisters Of The Road, Inc. in My Estate Planning**

Charitable bequests by our committed partners through their estate planning is an important source of support to Sisters Of The Road Café. There are several ways you may include us when you update or create your estate planning documents. An outright bequest can be made for either a set amount or a percentage of your estate or a percentage of any remainder after other distributions.

To ensure your requested funds will revert to Sisters, we encourage you to use the following

language in your estate planning documents: "I devise to Sisters Of The Road, Inc., whose legal name is Sisters Of The Road, Inc., an Oregon Non-Profit Corporation, the sum of \$\_\_\_ (or\_\_\_%) (or all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) to be used for carrying out its mission." Our tax identification number is 93—0748169.

If you have, or are considering, naming Sisters in your estate planning, please contact Monica Beemer, at (503) 222-5694, ext. 19 or [Monica@sistersoftheroadcafe.org](mailto:Monica@sistersoftheroadcafe.org) to share your intention. We would also be happy to talk with you and your attorney to structure the type of gift that will benefit you and your loved ones and Sisters' services and mission. Thank you for your continued commitment to Sisters Of The Road!

## **Thank you! Holiday Matching Grant Campaign Update**

Thank you! You helped raise \$180,000 to support Sisters' mission, reaching the root causes of hunger and homelessness in Portland to end them forever! Thanks to all the individuals and businesses who donated this year for another very successful Holiday Matching Grant Campaign. The funds raised during the Holiday Campaign are crucial to Sisters' operations throughout our entire year. We could not do it without all of your generous support each year.

## **A word on our Mailing List**

Several people have asked us and we wanted to let you know – we do not sell or share our mailing list - ever! We thank you for your support and we respect your privacy about your contribution.

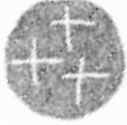
## **Would you like to receive notice of trainings, events via e-mail?**

E-mail us at [info@sistersoftheroadcafe.org](mailto:info@sistersoftheroadcafe.org) and we will put you on our list. We send between 8-10 e-mails per year with updates on what is happening and ways you can be involved with Sisters. Thank you!

## **Sisters Wish List: VCR and a DVD player!**

## **Thanks to All!**

Thanks to all who donated hygiene supplies and toys this holiday season! And thanks to all the volunteers and community members who volunteered and donated items over the holidays! We couldn't do it without your support. Thanks!



Sisters Of The Road  
 133 NW Sixth Avenue  
 Portland, OR 97209

Nonprofit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Portland, OR  
 Permit No. 3679

**Return Service Requested**

**President of the Board**

Denise Blair

**Directors**

Monica Beemer  
 Steel Fixler

**Editors/Contributors**

Kate Cox  
 Monica Beemer  
 Debbie Fox  
 Mary Kay McDermott  
 Keith Vann  
 Sara Westerfield

**Gifts that Give!**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the following items:

**Meal Coupons:** \$2 each

# \_\_\_\_\_ Meal Coupons to give out to my family/friends/co-workers @ \$2 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Syracuse Cultural Workers' Peace Calendars** Featuring Sisters!: \$15 each

This calendar will be distributed nationally and highlights actions for peace and justice across the world. Go to [www.syraculturalworkers.org](http://www.syraculturalworkers.org) for a month to month view of the calendar – we are April!

# \_\_\_\_\_ Peace Calendars @ \$15 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Winterfolk CD's:** \$15 each

# \_\_\_\_\_ Featuring Utah Phillips, Tracy Grammar w/ Donny Wright, Chris Kennedy, Misty River, Kate Power & Steve Einhorn, Tom & Dylan May w/ Fuzzy Purcell and Andrew Calhoun.

WFXV CD's @ \$15 each = \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please help us expand our mailing list. Pass on the name of a friend or relative who would like to learn more about Sisters.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: Sisters Of the Road, 133 NW Sixth Avenue Portland, OR 97209

**Thank you for your support of Sisters Of The Road!**