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Title: *Lavender Letter (Harrisburg, PA)*

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LAVENDER LETTER

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Volume 23 No. 4

A Calendar of Events for and by Womyn

April, 2005

Activities....

SATURDAY, APRIL 9

8 - 10 PM...Janie Womack is appearing at The Little Coffeehouse, 116 St. John's Church Rd. Mechanicsburg. Come on out and listen to Janie, she's terrific!

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

8 - 11 PM...Bobbi Carmitchell and her sister Anne are appearing at El Serrano's in Lancaster. For more info and directions please call: (717) 872-4512.

SATURDAY, APRIL 16

7 PM...Chambersburg Ladies Night Out will meet at Dilly's, 642 Lincoln Way West, Chambersburg. Please RSVP to Beth by Friday, April 15 at: bshuppgeorge@hotmail.com

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

EARTH DAY

This is the 35th Anniversary of Earth Day. Please visit: www.earthday.net.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

7 - 9 PM...Janie Womack is appearing at Coyote Joe's Cafe, 3401 Hartzdale Dr. Camp Hill. Come on out and listen to Janie play!

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

6 PM...Lancaster Ladies Night Out will be going to The Olde Spring House, 3707 Marietta Ave. Lancaster. Traditional American fare. RSVP's due Friday, April 22. Call Shannon at (717) 285-2425, or e-mail: sunshineshannon@dejazzd.com.

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

5:30 PM...The Lesbian Alliance of South Central PA will host a potluck in York. Following the potluck, we'll enjoy a DVD of a live Suede concert. If you've never heard Suede, you're in for a treat! Call (717) 846-2089 for directions.

CHORAL CONCERT WITH A HISTORICAL TWIST

VOICES OF WOMEN

SATURDAY, APRIL 23, 2005 AT 8 PM

The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus invites you to sit back and be transported back in time through music history for an exciting concert featuring music composed and sung by women throughout the centuries.

This concert will be at the Lancaster Unitarian Universalist Church, 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster. Tickets are \$15. Children 18 and under, students, and seniors 65 and older, \$5. A reception follows the concert. For more information, please visit: www.cpwchorus.org, or by e-mail at: info@cpwchorus.org, or by calling (717) 234-4825.

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

9:30 PM - 1 AM...Bobbi Carmitchell and her sister Anne are appearing at the Lancaster Dispensing Company in Lancaster. For more info and directions please call (717) 872-4512.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

6:30 PM...Harrisburg Ladies Night Out meets for good food and good conversation. Singles and couples are welcome! Please call Judy at (717) 232-8382, or e-mail: info@lavenderletter.com by Thursday, April 28 to RSVP.

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

8 - 10 PM...Janie is appearing at The Crimson Frog, 1104 Carlisle St. Camp Hill (in the Cedar Cliff Mall). Come listen to Janie!

Upcoming Events....

SATURDAY, MAY 14

CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA WOMYN'S CHORUS

8 PM...The Chorus invites you to sit back and be transported back in time through music history from Africa to the Americas, Bolivia to Samoa, France to the USA. You will be taken on a music voyage and experience the musical styles and cultural traditions of music composed and sung by women throughout the centuries.

Generously hosted by the Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, 1280 Clover Lane (just off Eisenhower Blvd, near the East Mall) the concert will be \$15. Tickets for children 18 and under, students, seniors 65 and older will be \$5. A reception will follow the concert. Tickets are available from any chorus member, at the web site www.cpwchorus.org or by calling 234-4825.

PINK LIZARD APRIL EVENTS

PINKLIZARD891@AOL.COM 717-939-1123

SPRING HOURS: THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY 7 til close

FRIDAY, APRIL 1st.- 10pm. Pride Benefit Show
This fundraiser will help support Gay Pride Day!

FRIDAY, APRIL 8th.- FREE POOL TABLES
DJ STARTS AT 9pm ICE TEA'S ONLY \$3.00

FRIDAY, APRIL 15th.- Miss Pink Lizard Pageant
Pageant begins at 9pm Audience gets a vote!

FRIDAY, APRIL 22nd.- 9pm NATALIE DARKUS
Natalie has a new band, come check them out!

FRIDAY, APRIL 29th.- SWINGERS NIGHT

THURSDAY NIGHTS- 8:30PM TRIVIA / BINGO
GIVEAWAYS AND PRIZES / ICE TEA'S \$3.00

SATURDAY NIGHTS- DJ starts at 9pm.

Spirituality....

WORSHIP SERVICES

...Unitarian Universalists of Gettysburg, UUG holds weekly Sunday services at 3 PM at Trinity UCC, corner of S. Stratton & E. High Sts., Gettysburg, PA. Religious education for our young people is a top priority. Nursery care. Everyone welcome. For more information, call (717) 334-5141, or visit: www.uugettysburg.org.

...MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson St. Hbg. Every Sunday 10:30 am & 7 pm. Call (717)236-7387 for information. We offer Christian educational sessions that nurture the whole person, call for details and special events. Website: www.mccofthespirit.org.

...Unitarian Universalists of the Cumberland Valley, Sundays, 10:30 am at the Meeting House, 2 Forge Rd. in Boiling Springs, PA 17007. Children's program runs concurrently. Fully accessible. Rev. Judy Welles & Rev. Duane Finkeisen, ministers. For info call (717) 249-8944, or write: PO Box 207, Boiling Springs, PA 17007.

...Unitarian Universalist Church of Lancaster, Sundays, 9 am & 11 am. Rev. Valerie Mapstone Ackerman. 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster. (717) 393-1733. E-mail: Churchoffice@uuclonline.org Website: www.uuclonline.org.

...Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York, 925 South George St. York, 17403. (717) 845-8212. Services Sunday 10 am. Rev. Robert Renjilian, Childcare & religious education for youth provided. Welcoming Congregation. Website: www.uucy.org.

...Unity Church, 927 Wertzville Rd., Enola, PA 17025 Services: Sundays 9 & 11 am. (717) 732-9773. Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation & recognizing that all people are one in God. Website: www.unitychurchharrisburg.com.

...Vision Of Hope MCC, 130 E. Main St. Mountville, PA. 17554. Services: Sundays at 10:30 am, Prayer and Praise Wednesdays 7 pm, Saturdays 6 pm starting in October. Morning Children's Sunday School. Call (717) 285-9070. E-mail: [PastorDebbieCoggin@aol.com](mailto:PastorDebbieCoggin), or visionofhopemcc@aol.com.

...Unitarian Church of Harrisburg, Sundays 10:30 am. 1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg, PA. (717) 564-4761. We are a liberally religious "Welcoming Congregation". Our Interweave Committee promotes acceptance & affirmation of GLBT concerns. Please join us. E-mail: office@uchuaa.org. Website: www.uchuaa.org.

...Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Of Pottstown, Sunday services 10 am. 1565 South Keim Street, Pottstown, PA19465. (610) 327-2662. Website: <http://members.aol.com/uupottstown>.

...St. Michael Lutheran Church, 118 State St. Harrisburg, PA. (717) 234-0092. Sunday services begin at 10 AM. Fellowship follows the service at 11:15 AM. We are a welcoming congregation. Website: www.paonline.com/stmike.

...Temple Beth Shalom, 913 Allendale Rd., Mechanicsburg, PA. (717) 697-2662. Website: www.tbshalom.org.

...Market Square Presbyterian Church, 2nd and Chestnut Sts. Harrisburg, PA. (717) 257-1270. Church School at 9:30 AM, Sunday Worship at 11 AM. Handicapped access and free garage parking. We are a welcoming congregation. Website: www.marketsquarechurch.org.

Inspiring Quotes....

Why not go out on a limb?

That's where the fruit is.

- Will Rogers (1879 - 1935)

Actor, Author, Humorist

Fundraisers....

...The Female Offender Reentry Program of Lebanon County is a group that works with women who have recently been released from the Lebanon County prison. The group offers support groups and workshops to both the former offender and her family members. F.O.R.E. hopes to open a half-way house within the next year that will allow the women not only housing and guidance, but the freedom to live with their children during this process.

F.O.R.E. is holding its third annual Mother's Day Hankie Sale. The women at the Lebanon County prison are provided with white cotton hankies which they decorate using colored pencils. The beautiful hankies are then given to F.O.R.E. and sold during our Mother's Day event. For a \$10 donation F.O.R.E. will send to a significant woman in your life a Mother's Day card with an enclosed hankie. The card lets the woman know that a donation to F.O.R.E. was made in her honor. For an additional \$2.00 you may have the card personalized with the receiver's name and your name and message.

To order a card call the Lebanon F.O.R.E. office at (717) 228-0405 or e-mail the chairperson of this fundraiser at gward@plgsc.org.

...Common Roads...show your Pride and Support by ordering a lavender EQUALITY wristband. All proceeds benefit Common Roads, our Central PA LGBT youth group.

To purchase your wristband, contact Common Roads by e-mailing luci@commonroads.org, or send a check payable to Common Roads for \$5.00 plus \$1.00 S&H for each wristband to: Common Roads - 1300-A Third St. Harrisburg, PA 17102. Write on a piece of paper how many wristbands you would like, and your name and address.

Wearing an EQUALITY wristband shows your support of our equal rights and supports LGBT youth who are the future leaders of our community.

...Unity Church, 37 East Main St., Palmyra, PA. 17078 Sunday services at 10:30 AM. Phone: (717) 838-7808, or e-mail: unityofhershey@cs.com. Dial-A-Prayer (717) 520-9710, changed daily by Pastor Julie Vance. Based on positive, practical Christianity, Unity Church's purpose is to know and express God's peace, joy and love. We have frequent class offerings, guest musicians and special events, in addition to weekly worship services. We welcome you. Please visit us: www.unityofhershey.org.

...St. Macrina's United Church of Christ, Lebanon Optimist's Building, 14th & Washington Streets, Lebanon. Sunday services are at 10 AM. We are a progressive worshipping community honoring Rich Traditions, Honest Questions, Shared Experience. Whoever you are or wherever you are on life's journey, we invite you to St. Macrina's UCC. We are Open and Affirming of all God's people. Our Liturgy includes singing, prayer, conversation, silence, simple dance and Eucharist. Inquiry: (717) 272-7844.

Women's Circle....

**TRANSGENDERED LESBIANS:
A JOURNEY TOWARD WOMANHOOD
APRIL 10TH FROM 2 - 4 PM
COMMON ROADS, HARRISBURG**

In an effort to educate ourselves and be more sensitive to diversity within the lesbian community, the Women's Circle is offering a panel discussion on the experiences of Male-to-Female (MTF) transgendered lesbians - specifically, men who have begun the journey toward becoming women and who identify as lesbians. In this candid and open forum, lesbians and allied women will have an opportunity to hear from MTF transgendered lesbians about defining moments in their lives, their perspectives on seeking womanhood, and some of the highs and lows along the road.

If you have been confused about the transgendered life, this conversation will help to clear your muddled head. If you have been uncertain about your own attitudes, this conversation will open your mind and your heart. If you have questions, this panel will help to answer them. If you want to better understand the complexity of the feminine within the lesbian community, spend the afternoon with us. Visit our website at www.womenscircle.org for more information and to read an article written by one of our panelists.

We will be meeting at Common Roads beginning at 2 PM on Sunday, April 10th. After our panelists have shared their experiences, we will have an opportunity for questions and conversation. Bring a snack to share if you like.

Common Roads is located at 1300 N. Third St. in Harrisburg across the street from the entrance to the Broad Street Market. You enter on Verbeke Street by going through the second iron gate and down the outside stairs to the ground level. For directions, call (717) 920-9534. For more info about this forum, contact Amy Skillman at skillman@culturalpartnerships.org, or Marlene Kanuck at mkanuck@earthlink.net.

Editor's Notes....

Just some brief notes here about the Lavender Letter:

*Every other month starting this month, the page that has Support, Social, and Activism Groups will be replaced by other things that are too important to be left out of the Letter. I tried to do another page, but that is too expensive to do every month. The solution is this new format.

*I am opening up the Issues Page on the Lavender Letter website to any writer who feels the need to "shake up" or issue a "wake up" call to our community. Take a look at the current Issues Page to get a feel for how long the article should be. You do not have to reveal your whole name, but I would like at least to show a first name at the end of the Issues article.

*Mz Kleen sez....will return next month. I know many of you miss that column, it was on a brief hiatus.

*There will be changes to the Lavender Letter website over the next couple of months. I have some additions to make that I feel you will all like. I'm not telling you what it is.....you'll have to keep checking back to find out!

Alternative Adventures....

This is a new camping group for womyn. We have a terrific camping schedule for the upcoming camping season. Check it out!

May 20,21,22 - Mauch Chunk Lake Park - The park is located near Jim Thorpe, PA. in the beautiful Pocono Mountains.

June 10,11,12 - Rickett's Glen - The park is located 30 miles north of Bloomsburg, PA. It's a beautiful area with more than 20 waterfalls nearby and plenty of hiking trails.

July 15, 16, 17 - Cunningham Falls State Park - The park is located near Thurmont, MD. This is a FAMILY trip. If you have kids, or nieces and nephews, or grandkids, this is your trip. This is a great park for kids. There's a playground nearby, swimming, a zoo nearby, nature programs by park rangers, hiking and fun.

August 19,20,21 - Cape Henlopen, DE. - This is near Rehoboth Beach. This will be a great trip, it coincides with Rehoboth's lesbian weekend. Suzanne Westenhoefer and Suede will be performing that weekend in Rehoboth.

September 23,24,25 - Pine Grove Furnace State Park - Located in southern Cumberland County. This is a DOG trip. bring your dog or dogs! This is a beautiful area for hiking and biking, and there's swimming too.

October 28,29,30 - Gifford Pinchot State Park - Located in northern York County near Lewisberry, PA. This is not a tent trip. We will be sleeping in yurts. Yes, a yurt. Yurts: Mongolian-style tents are round, on a wooden deck and sleep six people in single bunks and double/single bunks. Yurts have a cooking stove, refrigerator, countertop, table, chairs, electric lights, electric heat, outlets, fire ring, and picnic table. Nearby Bathhouse #7 provides toilets, showers, drinking water and a dishwashing station.

The website for Alternative Adventures will be up very soon, and you will be able to register and pay for your camping trip right on the website. If you have any questions about Alternative Adventures or the camping trips listed above, please contact: info@altad.org OR info@lavenderletter.com.

Artist Reception....

2nd Floor Gallery, located at 105 S. Market St. Mechanicsburg PA is hosting an Opening Reception for Deborah Swanger, our local fine art photographer, Saturday, May 21st from 7 - 10 PM. It's a wine and cheese reception with music by Bobbi Carmitchell. The entire gallery and the Sculptural Gardens will be open. Free admission. Open to the public. Everyone welcome!

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Theatre....

FULTON THEATRE ENCHANTED APRIL APRIL 28 - MAY 15, 2005

Described as "Heaven on Broadway," this new play will sweep you into a glorious spring filled with acacia, sunshine and wisteria. Mix two world-weary, middle class London wives, a titled sophisticate, a British grand dame and a saucy, Italian housekeeper in a rented Tuscany villa, and you have a sure recipe for comedy and chaos. Throw in some men, and life changes forever in the "delightful, the feel-good show of the season".

The Fulton Theatre is located at 12 N. Prince St. in downtown Lancaster. Ticket prices are \$15 - \$39 per person. For more info, please visit the Fulton online at: www.atthefulton.org, or call: (717) 397-7425.

OYSTER MILL PLAYHOUSE ENCHANTED APRIL APRIL 15 - MAY 1, 2005

When two proper London housewives decide to rent a villa in Italy for a holiday away from their bleak marriages, they recruit two other, very different English women to share the cost and the experience. During their enchanted month in the villa, the ladies fall under the spell of their idyllic, sun-drenched surroundings. There, amid the wisteria blossoms, they rediscover laughter, learn new truths about themselves and find just the romance they need, though perhaps not the romance, we-or-they, expect to find. Enchanted April is a success as a romantic comedy because it is a beautifully written and entertaining play.

Single ticket prices are \$12.00. For more information please call (717) 737-6768, or visit them at: www.oystermill.com.

LITTLE THEATRE OF MECHANICSBURG SOPHIE TUCKER: AN AMERICAN LEGEND APRIL 29 - MAY 15, 2005

The legendary Sophie Tucker, is brought to life on LTM's stage...and you just might be able to join her. From the risqué and rollicking "A Good Man is Hard to Find" to the loving "My Yiddishe Mama" this is musical entertainment at its sassiest.

Tickets are \$15. Please call the Box Office (717-766-0535) for a recorded detailed message about performances, dates and times, or you may visit them at: www.ltmonline.net.

THEATRE OF THE SEVENTH SISTER OUR TOWN BY THORNTON WILDER APRIL 21 - MAY 8, 2005

This great American classic chronicles the lives of the townpeople of Grover's Corners, New Hampshire. In this deceptively simple play, Wilder traces the inevitable and yet unpredictable cycle of life, death, and all the seemingly mindane things in between.

Tickets are \$20. For tickets please call (717) 396-7764. For more information and directions to Dutcher Hall at Millersville University, please visit: www.seventhsister.com.

THEATRE HARRISBURG THE FOREIGNER APRIL 8 - 17, 2005

When a painfully shy man pretends to know no English in order to avoid speaking with strangers, everyone accepts him at face value. However, he hears more than he should, and the opportunity to help the "good guys" and thwart the evildoers brings about a remarkable transformation. A fast and furious comedy by the author of The Nerd.

Tickets are \$25 for Orchestra and Mezzanine, \$15 for Balcony seats. For more information and to order tickets, please visit their website: www.theatreharrisburg.com

Anna has taken control of her life. As a lesbian, she has taken a major step toward protecting the future that she wants.



If you could do the same, would you?

Working with her financial professional, Anna was able to:

- Ensure that she remains financially secure;
- Potentially reduce the amount of taxes she pays;*
- Pay for medical needs, without depleting her savings, should she become ill;
- Retain control over her decisions, even if she becomes incapacitated.

As a lesbian financial professional, I understand the unique concerns facing gay men and lesbians. We will assess your present situation, explore your future goals, and develop a financial strategy that can help you get to where you want to be.

To set up a free consultation and to find out how I can help you achieve your dreams, please give me a call for more information.

*Consult your professional tax advisor before making any decisions.

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MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Saturday, April 16, 2005 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Stamp N' Scrap - -
an afternoon stamping and scrapbooking event

Mountville, Lancaster County (easy access from Route 30)

Presented by: Shannon Zimmerman, Creative Memories Consultant

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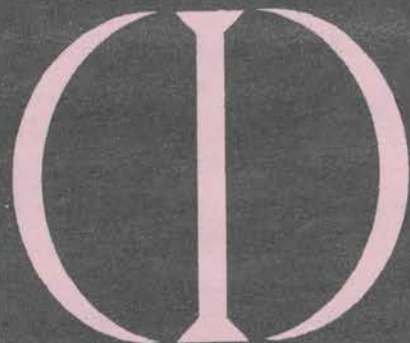
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FYI....

...Cris Williamson in concert Saturday, May 28 at 7 PM at the Tin Angel in Philly. Tickets are \$22. www.tinangel.com.

...Birthday Party for women born in 1955. I am looking to get a group together and have a big party maybe in June. Please email info@lavenderletter.com for more info.

...Riverboat Luncheon on the Pride of the Susquehanna Riverboat sometime late June or early July. We had so much fun 2 years ago with 66 womyn on board that we'll do it again this year! This year I'm looking for 110 womyn to take over the whole boat for 2 hours. Just us! If you are interested please email info@lavenderletter.com.

...Planting posies soon? Check out this website for a \$5.00 off coupon on your posie purchase at your local independent gardening center: www.fourflowers.com.

...Melissa Ferrick in concert Saturday, May 7 at Club Z in Williamsport, the hottest new nightclub in Central PA. This is her ONLY Central PA concert on her national tour. Tix are \$22.00. For more info: www.clubzbar.com.

Seminar....

**BUILDING FINANCIAL FREEDOM FOR
GAYS & LESBIANS 101**

Saturday, April 23, 2005 at 7 PM at Forever Books in Steelton, PA. This is a financial planning seminar for domestic partners as well as individuals. Our previous event (2/10/05) was very successful! Don't miss out on this very important and educational event. Wine, cheese, crackers and fruit will be provided. This is BY RESERVATION ONLY! Limited seating available, sign up soon! For more info and to sign up, please go to: www.foreverbooks.biz.

Website of the Month:

WWW.EQUALITYFORUM.ORG

This is the biggest LGBT event in the country this year, and it all happens in Philly, April 25 to May 1, 2005. Check out this website!



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Health Spotlight....

DO YOU HAVE IRON POOR BLOOD?

Did you know that iron deficiency is the number one deficiency in women and the leading cause of fatigue in women between the ages of 15 and 50?

A shortage of iron in the blood deprives cells of the oxygen they require to burn the body's fuel. Even a mild deficiency can rob you of energy and leave you feeling constantly tired or even exhausted. Your concentration may become so impaired that you find it difficult to complete simple tasks. Even a mild deficiency can be linked to PMS, depression, impaired fertility and pregnancy complications.

Some symptoms of iron deficiency can include: Pale skin; increased susceptibility to infections such as colds and flu; pale dark circles under the eyes; fatigue and weakness; poor sleep; cold hands and feet.

You need to get sufficient iron in your diet. Good dietary sources of iron are: lean meats, fish and poultry; and plant foods, which includes beans, tofu, raisins, leafy dark green vegetables, spinach, etc.

If you engage in regular intense exercise you will require more iron. If you are a vegetarian, you may need to take in twice as much iron as meat eaters because of the lower intestinal absorption of iron from plant foods. If you don't take in enough iron through diet alone, you may need to consider taking iron supplements.

Consult your doctor if you feel you may have an iron deficiency. To learn more about this subject, please visit:
<http://www.mayoclinic.com/invoke.cfm?id=DS00323>.

Advertising Rates

Business Card Size 2" x 3 1/2"	Double Card Size 4" x 3 1/2"
One Month \$ 20.00	One Month \$ 40.00
Six Months ... \$ 110.00	Six Months ... \$ 220.00
One Year \$ 200.00	One Year \$ 400.00

Other Services:

Personal Ad (5 Lines)....\$5.00 Insert (1/3 page)....\$50.00

Events & News....Free

Information must be received by the 20th of each month.

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Sat., April 23 • 8 pm

Lancaster Unitarian Universalist Church
538 W. Chestnut St.

Hosted by the church's Interweave group

— & —

Sat., May 14 • 8 pm

Harrisburg Unitarian Universalist Church
1280 Clover Lane

across from Leed's Restaurant on Eisenhower Boulevard
Hosted by the church

Reception following each concert



Tickets \$15

\$5 (Students 18 & under, & Seniors 65+)

For more info call 717-234-4825

Or email info@cpwchorus.org

Or see our web site

www.cpwchorus.org

The chorus brings together a diverse group of women,
 united by the joy of singing,
 to celebrate and empower women,
 and to affirm a positive image of lesbians and feminists.
 Please support us in any way you can.
 For more information, call 717-234-4825
 or see our web site at www.cpwchorus.org

Yes! I want to support our womyn's chorus!

Please send me tickets to the concert

(check one and complete the box):

Lancaster April 23

— OR —

Harrisburg May 14

Kind	No.	Price	Subtotal
General Admission		\$15	\$
Students 18 & Under		\$5	\$
Seniors 65 & Over		\$5	\$
Total			\$

I am making a (tax-deductible) contribution:

A monthly pledge of \$_____ until further notice (list Visa card info below) — \$5 minimum, please

\$500 or more ("benefactor")

\$100+ ("sponsor")

\$50+ ("donor") \$25+ ("contributor")

under \$25 ("friend")

Write name(s) below as you want it to appear in program (otherwise, we will take it from your check), or check here if you prefer not to be listed in the program

Check enclosed for a total of \$_____, OR

Charge my VISA

Card no. _____-_____-_____-_____

Exp. date ____-____

Signature _____

I would like to help with:

Selling tickets Fund-raising activities

Concert production

I'd like to sing.

Put me on the mailing list and keep me posted on concerts and other activities.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP: _____

PHONE _____

EMAIL _____

Clip and mail to: **Central Pa. Womyn's Chorus**
P.O. Box 60426 • Harrisburg, PA 17106-0426