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southern lesbian feminist activist HERSTORY PROJECT

Collecting, archiving, and celebrating oral and written stories of unsung, Southern, lesbian-feminist activists during the second half of the twentieth century.



February Spotlight: Joan Garner

Her willingness to fight oppression in all its forms has changed the lives of not only Atlanta, Georgia residents, but all across the Southern region. Twenty-four years ago, Garner was one of six cofounders of <u>Southerners On New Ground (SONG)</u>, a regional queer liberation organization made up of people of color, immigrants, undocumented people, people with disabilities, working class and rural and small town, LGBTQ people in the South.

Joan got elected in 2010 as county commissioner in Fulton County's District 6, which contains most of the city of Atlanta. She went on to serve three successive terms, advocating persistently for numerous health initiatives, including LGBTQ, Indigent Care, and HIV/AIDS.

Joan made such a significant impact as a commissioner that in August 2019, her colleague, Fulton County District 4 Commissioner Natalie Hall, succeeded in getting the Ponce de Leon branch of the public library renamed as The Joan P. Garner Library, located in the middle of metropolitan Atlanta, a fitting tribute to an amazing woman.

Read more about Joan Garner

Book Tour Rose Norman's Pagoda Promo

Rose Norman will speak about her new book, *The Pagoda, A Lesbian Community by the Sea*, about the cultural center, women's retreat center, and residential community founded by two lesbian couples in St. Augustine, Florida. It operated from 1977 to 1999.

She will be speaking at the Matheson Museum in Gainesville, Florida, at 4 PM on Feb. 11. Although the event is free, the Matheson requires registration. Those planning to attend in person need to register at <u>Events – Matheson History Museum</u>. For the full experience, please attend in person if you are nearby.

Also, this talk will be live-streamed! To learn more about the book and lecture, and to register for the Zoom link, <u>Click Here</u>.

What is this Book Tour like?

On February 1, Rose gave a presentation for the St. Augustine Historical Society, which was sponsored in association with the Flagler College Lifelong Learning Institute. There was an enthusiastic audience of about 80 people. It was held in a beautiful old home on the Flagler campus, the Markland House, with free refreshments, including wine. Rose sold all the books she had with her, 39 total.

There was a lot of curiosity about the Pagoda. Most St. Augustine residents had heard of it, but they knew nothing much about it. One thought it was started by two women who came from New York, yet the founders were Floridians. The day before, she had given another talk about the Pagoda for Flagler students, with about 16 attending.

SLFA Herstory Project Quarterly Meeting You are Invited!

Thursday, March 14, 2024, at 7:00 pm EDT (USA & Canada)

- See what's happening in the new year.
- Tell us how you want to participate and contribute to the Herstory Project.
- Do you have an idea? Share it in the meeting.

Or email us at: <u>SLFAHerstoryProject@gmail.com</u>





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