

# outstanding Rocking in a Free Oregon

**S**alem-born Linda Vogt has been writing, educating and empowering women throughout her lifetime. She recently retired from Clackamas Community College, where she headed the journalism department and completed her 29th year teaching journalism to college and high school students. She also produces and is a member of the band Motherlode, which creates the annual Northwest Women's Music Celebration. She will continue her work empowering women by organizing a women's tour of Europe, combining song-writing and her sense of adventure.

**My name is** Linda M. Vogt.

**I am known as** a journalist, concert producer, event organizer musician and friend.

**My cause is** creating positive experiences for women through music, travel and writing.



MARTY DAVIS

Linda Vogt's distinguished career in education has wrapped, but her contributions to Motherlode continue.

**I am** 58 years old. I feel 35 years old.

**Right now,** I'm retired from teaching and live in Gladstone.

**My childhood ambition** was to be a writer and to have lots of true friends. (Check! Check!)

**My first girl crush** was on my eighth-grade gym teacher.

**I like to spend my down time** playing music or enjoying dinner and good conversation with friends—or just hangin' with Scout, my devoted, buff little dog. Oh, and watching *Brothers & Sisters* and *Boston Legal!*

**My proudest moment** was performing my song "The OCA, They'll Get You Anyway" during the Ballot Measure 9 rally in Pioneer Square in 1992 with my partner and my Motherlode pals, in front of 10,000 people!

**My biggest challenge** is finishing the mystery novel I want to get published.

**A perfect day in Portland** would be spent walking along the river with a good friend, having dinner with a view, then seeing a really good film or play downtown.

**My first job** was picking strawberries on a platoon in Salem when I was about 12. Then during high school it was at the cannery, watching thousands of green beans go by on a conveyer belt. Ugh!

**My vice** is apple fritters and playing the slots at Spirit Mountain Casino.

**My inspiration** is women who make things happen and make the world better. Go, Hillary!

**The last queer or philanthropic event** I participated in was single women's Bunco night! Thank you, Kendall [Clawson] and Marty [Davis].

**My highest hope for the cause** is that one day we won't need to raise money and spend time fighting for rights we should have anyway.

—Melanie Altaras 10

# just asking

The opposition is back in action, trying to repeal Oregon's domestic partnership and nondiscrimination laws. What's the best defense strategy?



**"W**e need to show these people that we're the same as everyone else. No one can legislate away the rights for straight people to have committed and recognized relationships. How could we deny one section of the population something that everyone else has?"

CAITLIN HIER  
Recovering College Graduate



**"T**hreatening the nonprofit status of churches if they don't stop doing political organizing in their churches."

BILLY TAYLOR  
Dog Walker



**"R**emembering that this wasn't a right given to us. By looking to repeal this law, they are looking for legal justification to discriminate. We should put the onus back on them."

TRACY ANN WHALEN  
Northwest Gender Alliance Member



**"L**etting these people meet gay people to realize our daily concerns are pretty much the same as theirs and our relationships are the same as theirs. That would remove some of the 'otherness.' And we have to remind people that we have a separation of church and state."

HOMERO LUNA  
Militant Hug Sniper

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