

## Southern Womyn's Festival

*Get ready to celebrate womynhood with entertainment and humor*

JACKSONVILLE, FL — The Fourth Annual Southern Womyn's Festival will be held this year from May 8-12. As with previous years, the entertainment line-up is excellent. SWF 2003 will feature long-time favorites, Holly Near and Cris Williamson, the multi-talented Ember Swift and one of the south's favorite duos, Halycon.

Other southern artists performing at this year's event are Laura Blackley, Patti B. and Billi and Aimee Alden. Fans of drumming will be happy to know Ubaka Hill is returning as well as Cheri Lunn, and new for 2003, Rhythms of Aqua.

Comedians Marga Gomez and Vickie Shaw are also scheduled, and this year for the first time, SWF will add spoken word to the line-up with the eloquent poetry of Robin G. White and C.C. Carter.

The 2003 Festival will have more than twenty entertainers, all of whom represent the power and diversity of women's music. Says co-producer, Linda Jackson; "There is something for everyone, no matter what your musical preference."

In addition to the day and night stage entertainment, SWF 2003 will host a varied and talented group of craftswomen who will be offering fine, women-made arts and crafts for sale. Women can also choose to attend a variety of informative and fun workshops. In all, the 2003 festival promises to provide four unforgettable days of entertainment and good times.

SWF 2003 will be held this year in Georgia, approximately one hour west of Atlanta. "We are really looking forward to our new location. It is more centrally located for women in the South and we are hoping to have a record attendance this year.", says Pat Cobb, festival producer. Publicity manager, Linda W. agrees, saying, "It is our goal to reach as many women as possible and to let them know about this great event. Festivals provide a wonderful opportunity to meet new womyn."

This year, as a special bonus, the first 300 women to purchase four-day tickets will be eligible to win a 7-day vacation at a woman-owned resort in the US Virgin Islands.

### info: tickets

2003 Festival Guide: [www.gaywomyn.org](http://www.gaywomyn.org)  
Phone: Pat Cobb: 904-725-8079



## Green Party plants SC roots

*Charleston group signs on for an alternative to the same old parties*

"The time has come for Charlestonians to have a new voice" said Mandi Simpson of North Charleston. She spoke about why she had joined the Green Party at their first meeting, held last November. "The old political system does little to protect our environment. The time is ripe for change."

Annie Mithoefer of Mt. Pleasant echoed Simpson's views. "I'm disappointed in the two party system and would like to work to get an alternative going in South Carolina," she said.

The meeting came about because Bentley Anderson of Charleston contacted the national Green Party through their website. "When I found out that there was no local group here in Charleston, I decided to get the ball rolling." Anderson talked with friends, and posted signs around the Charleston area. "For a first meeting, I think we accomplished a lot," he said.

The group has decided to use a ballot drive to help get the word out to people in the

area. "By giving people information about the Green Party, as well as issues important to our area, we hope to show folks that their time is not wasted. No one wants to spin their wheels," said Todd LaVasseur of Folly Beach. "We want people to see the Green Party as a tool they can use to empower themselves and their community," he said.



With connections to environmental, labor and other community based groups, the Charleston Green Party hopes to make a difference soon. "Once we start to show people that they can make a difference, we feel sure that the local group will grow in numbers and influence," said Michael Mithoefer. "Greens in Charlotte have recently elected their first person to office. Hopefully we won't be far behind," he said.

The last meeting was held January 11 at the public library.

info: Green Party: 803-984-5414  
[www.greenpartyus.org](http://www.greenpartyus.org)

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