

---

# PRESS RELEASE

---

BADGER BOOKS INC.

P.O. Box 192, OREGON, WI

Contact: Kristin Gilpatrick

Phone: (800) 928-2372

FAX: (608) 835-3638

Chris Roerden

(336) 323-1032

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MILWAUKEE COUPLE IS MODEL FOR ACTIVISM

OREGON, WI, November 10 -- A Milwaukee couple who helped revolutionize sexual assault laws and change sexist attitudes share their tactics and strategies for effective reforms in a new biography.

Sam and Mandy Stellman battled for social justice in many arenas, from the "Dear Abby" column to the state capitol. They are the subject of a new book called *What Two Can Do: Sam & Mandy Stellman's Crusade for Social Justice* by Chris Roerden. Mandy Stellman, an attorney, fought for legal change, while her husband, Sam, director of the University of Wisconsin Criminal Justice Institute, pioneered "deprogramming" for men who beat women.

"With her eye on the law, Mandy combatted sexism and helped women find justice in an unjust society," says Gene Boyer, national president of the Jewish Women's Coalition. "With his eye on social service, Sam combatted violence and helped men find empathy and control in a macho society. Together and separately they helped make this planet a better, safer, more rational place for both men and women."

The book chronicles the couple's roots in Toronto, Ontario as well as their later work in New York, Ohio and Wisconsin. It also tells the story of Mandy's persistent work with rape victims in the legal system and Sam's courageous efforts to change the attitudes and behavior of the police, rapists and sexual abusers during an era when these attitudes were not viewed as unacceptable by everyone.

The author, Chris Roerden, is a professional book editor with her own business in Greensboro, North Carolina who was deeply involved for decades in the struggle for women's rights.

###

---



# ***Badger Books Inc.***

## ***Waubesa Press***

**P.O. Box 192 Oregon, WI 53575 Phone/fax/data: (608) 835-3638**

**Online catalog: <http://www.badgerbooks.com>**

**E-Mail: [books@badgerbooks.com](mailto:books@badgerbooks.com)**

### **WHAT TWO CAN DO**

#### **Fact Sheet**

**TITLE:** *What Two Can Do: Sam & Mandy Stelman's Crusade for Social Justice*

**PUBLISHER:** Badger Books Inc., P.O. Box 192, Oregon, WI 53575; Phone: 800-928-2372; Fax: 608-835-3638; E-Mail: [books@badgerbooks.com](mailto:books@badgerbooks.com); Web site: [www.badgerbooks.com](http://www.badgerbooks.com)

**PUBLICATION DATE:** June 2000

**AUTHOR:** Chris Roerden

**PAGES:** 352 + 8 pages of photos; includes index and end notes

**FORMAT:** 5.5 x 8.5 trade paperback

**PRICE:** \$14.95

**ISBN:** 1-878569-68-6

**LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CATALOG NUMBER:** 00-102346

**SUMMARY:** A biography of Sam & Mandy Stelman, who fought sexism and pioneered deprogramming of batterers during the 1970's and 1980's.

**DISTRIBUTION:** Available from Amazon.com, Ingram, Partners, Baker & Taylor and The Bookmen.



# **Badger Books Inc.**

## *Waubesa Press*

**P.O. Box 192 Oregon, WI 53575 Phone/fax/data: (608) 835-3638**

**Online catalog: <http://www.badgerbooks.com>**

**E-Mail: [books@badgerbooks.com](mailto:books@badgerbooks.com)**

### **About the Author**

A native New Yorker and an editor since the mid-fifties, Chris Roerden joined the National Organization for Women in 1972 and understood why she'd been paid less than her male coeditors.

After her first book was published she received a BA in English *summa cum laude* from the University of Maine organizing students to challenge a discriminatory policy of the graduate school she became the first recipient of a Master's in English at the Portland campus. At the same time she was teaching writing and rearing two feminist sons.

When the Roerdens relocated to Wisconsin, NOW's president appointed Chris to a national executive committee and she received a grant for leadership training. Inspired, she quit a job and abandoned her doctoral plans to volunteer in the push for ERA ratification. She learned to speak in public, was elected state president of NOW, trained new leaders, tripled state membership, and filled several regional and national roles, including editor of the organization's 10th anniversary commemorative. She also became one of the founders of the Wisconsin Women's Network.

In 1983 Chris left employment as a managing editor to start her own business as an independent book editor. She's edited hundreds of books (17 awards won) and written a game and eight books, four of these as a ghost.

An inveterate volunteer, she taught in South Korea one summer, initiated two long-running women's support groups at The Counseling Center of Milwaukee, and served as v-p and then president of Mid-America Publishers Association. She leads workshops throughout the country for writers, editors, and publishers, and in 1999 she relocated her growing business to Greensboro, NC.

**WORKS EDITED INCLUDE:** Agatha-award-winner *The Body in the Transept* by Jeanne Dams (New York: Walker & Co., 1995); *The Herbal Drugstore* (Emmaus PA: Rodale Books, 2000); Cassidy McCabe Mystery Series (5 titles) by Alex Matthews (Intrigue Press: Philadelphia PA & Angel Fire NM, 1996-2000); *Genetic Connections* by Danette Nelson-Anderson (Sonters Publishing, Washington MO, 1995) [5 honors, including use as Companion Guide to PBS Series "Ancestors"]

**WORKS WRITTEN INCLUDE:** *Collections from Cape Elizabeth* (Town of Cape Elizabeth, ME: 1965); *On to the Second Decade* (Washington DC: National Organization for Women, 1977) [made part of Smithsonian Institution's Special Collection on Women]; *Office Minder* (21st Century Products, Beloit WI: 1989); *Open Gate* (Edit It Publications, Brookfield WI: 1990); "Oops'n'Options" (a simulation game later used in USAF officer training, Rickenbacker AFB) (Brookfield WI: West Suburban NOW, 1982); [Plus 4 ghostwritten books whose contracts prevent identifying; the most significant being a book on domestic violence]