

# The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



# Our Turn

View and opinions by **The New Voice** staff.

## About The Cover

The cover is a photo taken by Michael S. Francis during his visit to San Francisco.

## Thank You!

The Imperial Court of Nebraska's response to **The New Voice** needing financial support was heartening; the concurrent response of the community was awe-inspiring. ICON set the stage at its Investiture ceremony July 19 at The Max. An article detailing the "magical" evening appears later in this issue.

And "magical" it was for **The New Voice** staff. An Omaha businessperson issued a check to **The New Voice**, challenging individuals and organizations to match it. The result was approximately \$1900 in donations and/or advertising.

Individuals throughout the evening commented on **The New Voice** being an important representative of the Nebraska gay/lesbian community. Individuals also took the time to make suggestions. Many suggestions focused on Omaha and utilizing many resources there. Advertising representatives, representatives at any and all local events, subscribers, etc. are welcomed and needed within every city that can provide such support. The Lincoln staff is willing to hold some meetings in Omaha to accommodate staff within that city.

Our staff has taken many new directions. We hope to continue doing so. Many thanks for the support.

--Sandy  
Chris  
The New Voice Staff

## I'm Proud to Be...

...an American, a Midwesterner, a member of Nebraska's gay/lesbian community and most of all, to be a part of **The New Voice** of Nebraska

Through my affiliation with **The New Voice** I have gotten to know a large number of people who are concerned about developing a community spirit among gays and lesbians. I have gotten acquainted with the workings of various local groups and have met people from outside of Nebraska.

**The New Voice** has accompanied Pat (retired Emperor VI of ICON) on his various visits to other courts. We exchange publications with a large number of other publications across the country. A letter which I wrote to the **Seattle Gay News** was printed, indicating my association with **The New Voice**. Our magazine was recommended to a reader who wrote to **The Advocate** (in their magazine). Last year I substituted copies of **The New**

**Voice** in place of Christmas cards from Maine to Louisiana to Texas and points west. While pushing Pride T-shirts, I introduced the magazine to people from Oregon, California, Colorado, Utah, and Texas. I have received a phone call from a **Newsweek** reporter out of Chicago and from a worker with **The March on Washington** in Washington, D.C.

**The New Voice** is indeed intended for the gay/lesbian community of our state, but we are not a local publication.

The greatest source of pride was my participation in the recent fund raiser held at The Max, where our local community proclaimed their love and support for **The New Voice**. We are your magazine, and together we will continue and be proud. Thank you.

--Jerry Peck

ICON's Board of Governors invites YOU to The Warehouse Labor Day.

# August 1987

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**The New Voice of Nebraska**  
P.O. Box 80819 P.O. Box 3512  
Lincoln, NE 68501 Omaha, NE 68103

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# Letters

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## To the Lincoln Gay Community

I have in the past year, or so become fairly well acquainted with the Lincoln gay/lesbian community. I shall state at the outset, I am not now, nor do I intend to become visible -- however, the community has my support, both the "Rah-Rah" kind and the more "real" financial kind.

My concern at the time is the looseness, which, for lack of a better word, binds it together. It appears to me there is no adhesive quality within the community. All organizations have some basic cohesive quality; you can choose your own organization; please do, examine it, and compare it with the Lincoln gay/lesbian community. Can you find any similarity other than we're all casually spouting trite phrases of support -- but nothing real, nothing we mean, nor anything we wish to follow through.

It would appear we are several years behind; we still are thinking in terms of **fun and games**. That is great, but we all need some serious "down" time to reflect on how we can promote, advance, and help our community. I guess the real word is to accept some responsibility.

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### *Your gay/lesbian community also needs money.*

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It appears to me the time has come for some serious soul searching. We have very capable people in Lincoln who are trying to get the ball rolling, so to speak, but (and here we go) this all costs money. We can't all talk about the many projects going on in Lincoln (there aren't that many) but when you have a few dedicated people you can only expect them to finance any project so far. Even with personal superfluous funds, you can only expect these people to spend themselves so far. Here is where the community should step in. I realize every church, every organization is after you for a donation, but please think it over. Your gay/lesbian

community also needs money.

I cite you one example: Lambda House, a home away from home for the gay/lesbian person. I shall tell you at the outset, Lambda House is barely squeaking by, making house payments, gas, electric, water -- you all know these items if you own a house. However, here is where you can help: there are empty rooms and these all cost money, each and every month. If they are not rented, someone has to pay. I hope by now you are getting my message. You can show your support here in several ways: an outright donation; an annual donation; if you know of someone who needs housing, suggest Lambda House. If you would like to see Lambda House and hear about it, call Gideon at 474-1205; he will be happy to make you aware of the many ways to help.

We have other programs, all worthy, but believe me, we must unite to support our cause. The closeted, the anonymous, all can help. If you have any sense of responsibility, I would suggest you call Gideon now at 474-1205, tell him how you want to help, openly or otherwise and he will respect your desires. Let's now begin to show some maturity and support our mutual cause. Together we can become strong, vital, vibrant. Let's have a community showplace of which we all can be proud and of which we are proud to be a part!

Lambda House is open to any gay/lesbian for meetings, get-togethers, card parties. They currently have a card party Friday early evening. Everyone is welcome. Let's let Lambda House become the pivot for your fun activities; meet at Lambda, then go out on the town: Panic, The Boardwalk, Cherchez la femme, The Club -- but let Lambda become the hub for your activities.

I issue you a challenge. I am doing my part, what about you? Ask your friends the same question. Be proud when you can say: "I am doing my part."

-CH

## Paper Bags to Banners

A year is a short time out of a lifetime but this last year has taken me on a journey that has been painful and joyous.

When Omaha had its first Gay Pride Parade I was only just beginning to recognize feelings that I had denied for years. Last year, I went to the parade assembly point with butterflies in my stomach and a paper bag in my hand. Like others there, I made my bag into a mask to hide my identity as we marched.

I strode along with friends and acquaintances, safe behind my mask. As we entered the second half of the march the confining heat of the mask became unbearable and I removed it and tucked it under my arm. People around me applauded my courage but in truth, it was dripping sweat that changed my mind.

This year, as the Pride Parade approached, friends asked "Are you going to march?" My standard answer was "Only if there are not TV cameras."

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### *"You can put it in front of your face if you need to."*

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I confidently walked up to the assembly point only to find no one but two TV camera men on the scene. "Are you going to march?" a friend asked. "Yes" was my reply as I figured I could lose myself in the crowd. I was waiting with the group from MCC when a young man walked up and asked if I would like to carry a flag. When I hesitated he said, "Here, why don't you help carry this banner. You can put it in front of your face if you need to." So there I was, with two men I didn't know, helping carry a huge banner from the previous AIDS vigil in Washington.

We stepped off and held the banner high throughout the march (especially as we stepped over the TV

cameraman kneeling on the ground for a better shot).

I can't take credit for too much bravery -- the banner did protect my identity to some degree -- but it is a big step from hiding behind a mask to walking in the front ranks of the parade.

I've learned a lot about myself in this last year. One thing is that I cannot live in the closet. I need to be honest about who I am and what I believe.

I would invite my brothers and sisters who are still hesitating to consider if they cannot take some step towards saying "I am who I am -- and I am proud."

--Sharon Van Butsel

The Board of Governors of ICON invites YOU to The Warehouse Labor Day.

## Reader Offers Clarification

(This is in response to the article questioning the use of womon/womyn.)

A few years ago, I was exposed to the use of "womon" and "womyn" (singular and plural, respectively) for the first time. At that time, I did not recognize the significance of these spellings either. As I began to study Lesbian-Feminist theory, however, I discovered why this seemingly insignificant variance is, in fact, an important part of redefining a male-defined/controlled world.

As a lesbian womon, my reality -- my experience and identity -- is significantly different from that of heterosexual women. Above all, my identity as a lesbian (affectionate, sexual, and otherwise) is not based on any relationship to a male. By not using the root word "man"

or "men", I define myself as independent of male-related definition.

I think that few people consider the incredible power of words to shape and perpetuate values. By altering the words that oppress us, we challenge the values of the oppressing system. (If this were not true, why would inclusive language and alternative spellings irritate and threaten so many people?)

I have to wonder if American Blacks would yet have civil rights if they had not persistently called attention to a different, yet equally valid identity/experience. This is not (necessarily) separatism; it may well be one more step toward equitable unity.

--Anita Softisyk



Dedicated to an appreciation of Books, Art, coffee and Conversation  
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THE NEW VOICE

The New Voice Needs to Fill Vacancies  
Call 474-1205  
leave a message  
or Write P.O. Box 80819  
Lincoln, NE 68501

A graphic advertisement for 'THE NEW VOICE'. At the top, the title 'THE NEW VOICE' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Below the title is a stylized illustration of two pansies with dark centers and light petals, set against a dark, triangular background. Below the illustration, the text 'The New Voice Needs to Fill Vacancies' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the contact information is listed: 'Call 474-1205 leave a message' and 'or Write P.O. Box 80819 Lincoln, NE 68501'.

Amethyst

Wednesday, September 2nd  
9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m.  
\$2.00 cover  
The Zoo Bar, 136 N. 14th

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## Local Events

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### Health Fair Planned At Boardwalk

The Boardwalk and The Club would like to start an annual Health Fair. They are in the planning process, looking toward mid-August as the target date for this annual event. At this time, Dr. Goldsmith and social worker Ann Lamb from the Viral Syndrome Clinic in Omaha are planned to speak at the first Health Fair. Other speakers, and organizations to help in planning and executing this event, are being sought. If you have any ideas or time to volunteer, please feel free to call Michael Francis at The Club from noon to 7 p.m., Mondays through Fridays, at 474-5692.

### A Spirit of Unification



The underlying and overwhelming theme of Coronation VII, as should have been evident to all, was unity, a spirit of unification, to unify us all.

Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary defines the word **unify** as: to make into a unit or coherent whole; it further defines **unity** as: oneness; a condition of harmony.

These are lofty words, unify and unity; they denote noble ideals.

We who were present at that coronation were inspired and moved; to be inspired is sublime; to be moved is near to the divine.

Now it remains for us -- **all of us** -- to lift up the torch of

unity and carry it proudly, sincerely, honestly and humbly to ALL of our brothers and sisters. We are a special people; we have suffered and we have grown and we grow. Let us grow together; let us become a coherent whole; let us now, and always, be in a state of oneness, in a condition of harmony.

We are now, in this decade, confronted with an evil which has the potentiality of destroying us: AIDS. We are all working and living to conquer the evil. However, there is another -- if not greater -- evil that confronts: the condition of disunity, of separateness, of segregationist mentality. This evil too will destroy us if we, as a coherent, harmonious people, do not forge ahead to unify and reconcile.

Let us all, therefore, pledge one to another to put aside those old ideas of petty jealousy; let us cease to ostracize those whom we may perceive as being inferior to us; let us eschew all which will harm us as a people, as a community, as a worthwhile coherent whole.

If we stand together unified -- one mind, one spirit, one purpose -- no government, no principality, no ruler, no system can long ignore us. If we speak with the authority of unification, with the spirit of reconciliation and the mind of willful purpose in a non-violent, non-threatening attitude, all will hear and will soon acknowledge us as contributing members of society; they will see our love and know we are both God's children and true, good Americans.

And we as a people and as a community will bloom and grow. We will love and respect one another and be not merely tolerant of those of us who are different, but we will accept our brothers and sisters in a spirit of love and unity.

Let us remember the words of John Donne: "I am involved in mankind; any man's death diminishes me. Therefore, send not to learn for whom the bell tolls, it tolls for thee."

--Leigh Funkhouser

### Gay Pride Rally In Omaha

On Sunday, June 28, the Omaha organizations held a Gay Pride Rally in Turner Park in Omaha. Guest speaker, Rosemarie Wallace, gave a very moving speech. The sponsoring organizations included: The Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, Dignity of Omaha, Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gays Concerned, and the Imperial Court of Nebraska. Pat Phalen and Michael Steele were coordinators of this program.

Ms. Wallace spent thirty years working in the Baltimore City School System and retired a few years ago as an elementary school principal. While she lived in Baltimore she was an active lesbian feminist in the community working for gay rights bills in the city council of Baltimore. She also has been an activist in the Presbyterian church for many years.

The following paragraphs are excerpts from Ms. Wallace's speech:

I'm here to celebrate with you this pride in human dignity and unity. That's what I'm here to help you do today; to think with me of accentuating the positive -- and the theme that love is the greatest.

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*Faith, first of all, is faith in ourselves.*

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I want to acknowledge the fact that we have a right to be angry, and that is a natural feeling to be angry about many things that have happened to us and with our community. Women, particularly, are second class citizens in every way; not just within the gay and lesbian community, as often happens, but within the community at large. And I do recognize the fact that there are many women who are especially angry at the system, and against all men, and against patriarchy.

Faith, first of all, is faith in ourselves; a self-acceptance; not feeling sorry for ourselves, but being proud and declaring that we are people to be looked up to and respected as any other people.

I'm especially conscious at occasions like this when there are those who are fearful of coming; fearful of being seen because they know that there are people out there -- their employers, perhaps -- whom they can't trust and that's one of the things that needs to be changed in this society.

This is a message for those who cannot be here: "Find somebody that you can come out to and confide in and trust." It's the absolute need to be able to have somebody to talk to and to trust.

Faith, Hope, the rainbow; our symbol of hope. And so this hope that I'm thinking about is an active hope. Not wishful thinking, but an active participation. Not, "Gee, I wish we had gay rights in Omaha," but get up and do something about it. An active hope. Get politically involved and work toward what

your hopes and goals are. Faith and hope and work.

And then the third of this glue that holds us together is that chief one of love. But I'm not thinking particularly about the sexual aspect of love. The opposition -- those who are against us -- would want to divide and conquer, to keep us apart, and to keep raising issues that would tend to divide us.

Certainly, within our own community, we have divisions on race or nationality, and on the basis of color, too. Unfortunately, racism is rampant in our community as in the straight community, and that's something we need to address, to look at, to work on combatting.

We have traditional religions, non-traditional religions, and those who have totally given up on any religion. But in all these aspects in our lives, let's stay together. Let's not use that as a means of dividing us or of looking down on one another, but as a means of just getting to know one another. And above all, and lastly, we need to support each other as an open demonstration of

our love for one another. Being there when you're needed, in sickness and in health. You know, it's that human touch that is so very, very important.

Faith, Hope, and Love. The bonding power that holds our network together. Love is the greatest. This love of which I speak is slow to lose patience. It looks for a way of being constructive. It is not possessive. It is neither anxious to impress, nor does it cherish inflated ideas of its own importance. Love has good manners and does not pursue selfish advantage. It is not touch. It does not compile statistics of evil, or gloat over the wickedness of other people. On the contrary, it is glad, with all good people when trust prevails. Love knows no limit to its endurance, no end to its trust, no fading of its hope. It can outlast anything. It is, in fact, the one thing that still stands when all else has fallen.

In this life we have three great lasting qualities, faith, hope, and love, but the greatest of them is love. Follow, then, the way of love, together.

♈

## LEO—GEM CLUB

II

341-1013  
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2224 Leavenworth St.  
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A Simple Country Place . . . nothing  
dirty going on  
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*Specializing in  
Body Wraps  
and Sauna*

**SUMMER HOURS:**  
Wed. — Sat.  
7 p.m.

## *Wild•er•ness*



**W**hat is wilderness? Majestic summits. Hundred-mile horizons. The incomparable beauty of the animal world. National wilderness means preservation of our American heritage itself. Never has protection been more important than now.

For more information about saving America's wilderness,  
Sierra Club, 730 Polk Street, San Francisco, CA 94109.

• • •

Readers of THE NEW VOICE interested in contacting a local activist and leader of non-profit photographic, hiking, canoeing, and international trips may call: Ron K. 476-7375 (lincoln 402)

After Ms. Wallace's speech, Pat Phalen, co-organizer of the rally then stated, "When we began organizing this rally, we said that we would meet at Turner Park in front of the Statue of Liberty. I think that it's noticeable that the Statue of Liberty is not here with us, and hopefully, it will be a reminder that there are liberties that we do not have. Maybe next year, if we work hard, and we show our pride, the statue will be back, and we will have our liberties."

**Get up and do something about it.**

A synopsis of a recent gay history was presented to the audience. An elected member of each organization read a prepared narrative as Pat Phalen read the dateline.

February, 1962: *Victim*, a British film of a black male homosexual opens to a good review.

July, 1962: A New York radio station breaks a major taboo by holding a talk show with homosexuals.

November, 1967: Episcopal Church leaders label homosexual acts morally neutral.

July 4, 1967: British House of Commons approves repealing homosexual crime laws.

February, 1969: *The New York Times* prints a full page story by and about homosexuals.

June, 1969: A review of *The Boys in the Band* is also a coming out.

June 27, 1969: Stonewall. Labelled the birth of the Gay Liberation Movement.

November, 1969: A U.S. Government study urges abolishing archaic anti-homosexual laws.

December, 1973: The American Psychiatric Association joins the American Psychological Association in removing the term "homosexuality" from its diagnostic and statistical manual of mental disorders.

August, 1973: New York City police beat gays badly in a softball game for charitable purposes.

January, 1977: New York Episcopal Diocese ordains a lesbian to the priesthood.

January, 1977: Dade County ordinance prohibits homosexual discrimination.

December, 1977: A Chicago semi-exclusive furrier sponsors the first gay fashion show.

June, 1978: Methodist seminary expels homosexuals and draws widespread protests.

July, 1980: Homosexual rights groups mobilize to assist homosexual Cuban refugees.

November, 1982: From suffering arrest to \$100-a-plate dinners in 10 years.

December, 1982: Minnesota churches support homosexuality.

March, 1983: New film releases try freer, honest portrayal of homosexuality: *Victor Victoria*, *Partners*, and *Making Love*.

The rally participants then joined hands in a large circle and sang "America the Beautiful." A reception was held at Metropolitan Community Church after the rally.

--Garry Griffith

**Editor's Note:** If you would like a copy of Rosemarie Wallace's speech in its entirety, contact the *The New Voice*.

## The Boardwalk Hosts Benefit



Amanda Foxx as Marilyn

On June 29, the Boardwalk held a benefit to help Amanda Foxx and Viktoria Towne in their quest to achieve the title of Miss Gay Midwest, America. Other performers included Dietra Snow, LaTasha Devore, and Peaches LaRue.

The Miss Gay Midwest, America contest was held in Kansas City, Missouri, on July 5. The event took place at the downtown Howard Johnson's, where the contestants all stayed.

Amanda and Viktoria were the only contestants representing Nebraska. They placed ninth and twelfth, respectively. However, Viktoria placed third in the sportswear category, which she designed herself and her mother hand crocheted.

The Boardwalk congratulates these performers on their courage and determination in bringing Nebraska impersonation to the attention of the region and nation.

--M. Francis

## NAP . . .

1½ years of concern and service

"That's what friends are for!"

### \* Nebraska AIDS Project

- Nightly Hotline 6 to 11 p.m. 342-3233
- Support Groups
- Outstate Hotline 1-800-782-AIDS

## Rooms for Rent

at the  
Lambda house

Gay/Lesbian  
Resource Center

Call 474-1205.  
Ask for Gideon.





Jaci and Kathy at The Club

## July 17: A Night of Surprises

On Friday, July 17, the Boardwalk excited Lincoln with a midsummer "Night of Surprises." With a carnival atmosphere, the night featured live performers, clowns, games, and "blue light" drink specials.

To begin the evening, The Club invited Jaci, from the group Amethyst, to perform on saxophone. She was joined periodically by Kara, who was bartending, and fun-loving clowns who provided an occasional back-beat. Then at 11:30, Kathy, also from Amethyst, walked through the door with keyboard in tow. She joined Jaci for the rest of the evening, using her vocal talents as well.

Over at the Boardwalk, an evening of well-planned spontaneity kept the crowd on their toes. Featured performers included Brian, Mike, and Mark as exotic dancers, and Tasha and Gina handling female impersonation. At 11:00 p.m., Alan, the disc-jockey for the night, was paraded through the lounge looking how he usually appears. Within the next hour, utilizing the make-up artistry of Viktoria Towne, he was transformed (while DJ-ing) into a Barbara Streisand look-alike and performed "Send In the Clowns" towards the end of the evening. The final performer was

the Boardwalk's show director, Joel Cason, singing live to his own tape piano accompaniment. Other activities included a "surprise" cake presented to Tom for his birthday, a condom-filled pinata, Sandy selling raffle tickets for **The New Voice**, and a Boardwalk/Club history question. No one won the history question contest; a bottle of champagne was offered to anyone who could answer correctly.

The Boardwalk/Club would again like to thank all the performers, staff, and everyone else who helped make the night a success. Look for more surprises in the future!

--Michael Francis



## Kelly's Resorts to Panic

A Lincoln crowd went into Panic on Friday, July 24 at 200 S. 18th St. in the capital city. The sight that greeted people on that night was the re-opening of Kelly's as Panic.

Joe Swanda and Kelly E., co-owners, stated that the bar remodeling was the first major step in a complete rejuvenation of the facilities. Opening night patrons were greeted with a pleasing combination of black and gray decor, highlighted with touches of vermilion. The bar itself is graced with a black-tiled top, and the floor is newly carpeted in a charcoal and gray combination. The renovation process retained a dance floor and lighting system.

Plans call for completion of the outdoors patio, as well as some enhancements to *Cherchez la femme*, located downstairs in the same building.

Joe and Kelly wish to thank all those who volunteered their time and labor in the remodeling process. They also want to thank the community for its support of Panic and *Cherchez*, and invite you to stop in and watch the progress.

--Jamison



COMING TO THE MAX  
AUGUST 30, 1987

A  
BENEFIT  
FOR THE  
MISS GAY NEBRASKA AMERICA PAGEANT



MISS GAY NEBRASKA  
AMERICA

## ICON Investiture

July 19 was the somewhat shaky date set for ICON's investiture. Many problems preceded this event and it was off and on; but once it was begun it was indeed a delightful evening.

The first half was devoted to command performances for the outgoing Prince Royal Terry and Princess Muffy -- who was not there as Muffy. The runway was lined with balloons as was the backdrop. The dignitaries were seated in white satin thrones.

The second half of the show brought Emperor Dick (The Black Lion) and Empress Velvet (The White Dragon) to the throne to invest titles upon many of the people there. Every bar and organization was recognized; I received the title of Ambassador of Information for The New Voice.

The evening was concluded by installing Prince Royal VII, Terry, and Princess Royal VII, Katrina. At the conclusion of the final number, the Board of The Imperial Court of Nebraska, and friends, took the balloons to the patio and set them adrift.

Yes, I'm proud to be a part of ICON, too. See you all at the Labor Day Picnic.

--Jerry Peck

*Avant  
Card*

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& balloon bouquets.

1325 "O" St. Lincoln, NE  
• 68508/476-1918

# Investiture Show



Dick Brown, Emperor VII



Final Finale



Prince and Princess Royal VI

Empress VI



Velvet, Empress VII



Photos by Jerry Peck and Sandy

“check us out”

Panic!

200 S. 18th

Lincoln, ne.

435-8764

Levi  
dance

## Local Organizations

### BBC: The Boardwalk Body Club

The BBC is coming to Lincoln! It's not the British, but the Boardwalk Body Club.\* The BBC in Lincoln will be a membership club for people in the community who desire a healthier body and mind.

Basically the BBC will provide aerobic conditioning classes for its members in a non-homophobic atmosphere. The thirty minute classes will consist of rhythmic limbering, aerobic conditioning, toning exercises, and flexibility cool-down. The workouts will be conducted by a recently certified aerobic instructor. Although the classes will be set to music, they will not require members to possess dancing ability.

The schedule and intensity of the BBC classes will be flexible and according to members' needs. Members in the club will be the framers of the organization. Further opportunities and possibilities for the club are infinite. For example, a nutrition workshop is in the works for September.

The initial information and registration meeting is on Monday, August 17, at 5:30 p.m. at The Boardwalk. If you are interested in the BBC but are unable to attend the meeting, contact Paul at the Boardwalk. Membership is open to all members of the community and friends. New members will always be welcome to the BBC.

--Paul G.

\* Use of the Boardwalk name and location through permission of Boardwalk-Club, Inc., which assumes no other liability, association, or agency relationship with the Boardwalk Body Club.

### MCC "Comes Out" To Lincoln

On July 12, at Lambda House, a small, informal group gathered to celebrate MCC Lincoln's first worship service.

Quite often the idea of "church" strikes terror into the hearts of lesbians and gay men; understandingly so. Throughout history we have been victims of discrimination and oppressive views at the hands of most mainline churches and our "Christian" brothers and sisters.

At last there is a church in Lincoln where we can be free to worship with our lovers, friends, and family in a supportive and caring church family.

Services are held Sundays at 5:30 p.m. at Lambda House. I urge you to attend and make MCC-Lincoln alive and vital to yourself and the Lincoln Community.

--Tim

### Bowling League Forming

The River City Fall/Winter Bowling League is having an organizational meeting at 3 p.m. on August 30. Bowling will begin at 4 p.m. at King Louis Rose Bowl, 1110 North Saddle Creek Road, Omaha, NE. Call Dean at (402) 344-3821 for information.

GET A TEAM TOGETHER  
AND COME OUT AND BOWL.

The Board of Governors of ICON  
invites YOU to The Warehouse  
Labor Day.

### Lincoln Bars Announce After Hours

The Lincoln bars, working together, would like to provide you with a safe place to go. After Hours, on Friday and Saturday nights, will be offered beginning July 31 and August 1 at Panic, 200 South 18th. The following weekend, August 7 and 8, After Hours will be held at The Club, 104 North 20th. The location will alternate between the bars each weekend after that, provided the support is there for this project. After Hours will run from the time each bar closes until 3 a.m. Check The Club, Cherchez la femme, The Boardwalk, and Panic for more details.

This project comes as the result of the recent increase in violence south of the Capitol. Help us continue to give you a safe alternative.

Sincerely,

Michael, Joe and Kelly

### Riverboat Cruise

Omaha Business and Professional's are hosting a Riverboat Cruise on August 23. Tickets are still available; they are \$10 each. For more information call (402) 346-5004 or send checks payable to MCO, P.O. Box 3124, Omaha, NE 68103.

### New Voice T-Shirts Available

New Voice T-shirts are now available. Large and X-large can be purchased at No. 20th, Lincoln, for \$7. To order other sizes call 474-1205. (XX-large are \$8.)

# Before Stonewall

## What, Me Old?

There was a time in my life that I never could have considered growing old; I suppose everyone in their twenties has the feeling of immortality. I remember wondering what "old dowagers" did, or where gays went when they got old, and who decided "oldness," and what was considered old? Did they reach some magic age and then disappear?

Now that I'm in my mid-forties I have begun feeling somewhat unyoung, but not old. I now realize that aging is a slow process, and there is no magic on which one presses a button and disappears; one just slows down gradually.

No longer do I care to dance the whole night through and go to work with only three hours sleep. No longer do I care to go to loud bars where I can't hold a good conversation. No longer do I care to land in bed with every gorgeous hunk I see. No longer do I care to wear the very latest fashions.

There are, however, many benefits to growing older, so you youngsters may wish to take heed; there is life after 30! First of all, I feel young, and I'm able to mingle with the younger crowd. Now that I've mellowed out, I am enjoying my nine year relationship with my lover a lot more than with my relationships with lovers in my younger years. It seems that a mature relationship is more meaningful.

## The bars in Chicago moved weekly.

Twenty years ago there was no social outlet for gays but the bars. There were no organizations except for the Mattachine Society, which had one purpose: to march and protest. Back in the Sixties such an activity was not on my agenda; I was too busy being young. Twenty years ago the bars in Chicago (where I came out) moved weekly because of raids. These raids were devastating on the lives of the men who patronized the gay bars, because their names and job titles were listed in the **Chicago Tribune**. Many of them lost important positions because of the hostility of both the police and the newspaper. I wish now that I wasn't too busy being young.

## Less than 1% of the potential.

Now that I am older I am active in several gay organizations. It is somewhat dismaying to see any major activity put on by our community organizations shunned by so many people! Omaha is a major metropolitan area of approximately 350,000 people, which means in statisticians figures, that there are about 30,000 gays in the area. So big deal? Yeah, big deal! The maximum attendance at any of these functions is usually 250.

That, queer dear, is less than 1% of the potential.

Where are they? Too busy being young? I wish that in my youth there were these organizations where I could participate in the growing up of gay pride and liberty. Being a part of this gay pride is what is keeping me young and beautiful.

So you want the fountain of youth? Join an organization and become involved, and you will live forever with the vibrance of youth. Some of the organizations that are in need of active people are the River City Mixed Chorus, **The New Voice**, and the Metropolitan Community Church. Don't want to get too involved? Then just put out a few bucks and support the events these organizations sponsor.

--Garry Griffith

## Fulfilling Roles vs. One's Life

I've been thinking and reflecting about how things were for gays 25 to 30 years ago. As a teenager growing up in the Midwest in the 1950's and 1960's, homosexuals were seldom spoken about and usually only referred to as "queers" and "homos." I do not remember

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reading anything about homosexuality but I knew early in my teen years that I was attracted to girls. I always had boyfriends and dated a lot, but I knew my sexual preference was female.

Growing up in the Midwest in those years was confining and conservative but not all detrimental. I believe it gave me a solidarity that I would not have gotten elsewhere. It was an era of believing in one's self and in honesty, hard work, and hope.

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### *girls I danced with had no inkling...*

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In junior high and even in high school, girls could dance with each other and no one would snicker or point. What a great feeling it was! I'm sure the girls I danced with had no inkling of what I was actually feeling, and if they had I imagine they would not have danced with me.

I can't recall that I ever felt guilty for feeling the way I did about girls;

I think I felt more unsure of what to do with those feelings. There was certainly no one I felt I could trust to talk about it -- it has taken me 25 years to tell my parents. My mother said that if she had known then, they would have taken me to a psychiatrist and had me "fixed." Obviously a good thing I didn't tell them till now!

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### *They would have had me "fixed."*

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When I was 17 I had the first of my few relationships with women during the last 25 years. The reason for there being so few is two-fold.

First of all, I'm monogamous and devoted. Secondly, I became a master at hiding my feelings and desires, and I tried so hard to live the "American Dream" (husband, children, house, etc.). During the majority of years I was rearing my two sons I lived what appeared to be a heterosexual lifestyle, and the only excuse I have for that is because I did not want to lose my

children. That threat hung over me and it was very real.

I'm sure my life would have been entirely different if I had never had children, but I honestly am glad that I did. My oldest son, especially, has been very supportive and loving.

Through the years, the openness of some homosexuals has helped make the world more aware of who and what we are. It is a beginning to acceptance of us as people with a great deal to offer, and a realization that we have needs and close relationships and that we should be proud of who we are. Sexuality should have no bearing on how others relate to us. As far as I'm concerned, we're just people who want to live and love and be happy.

Today we are fortunate that homosexuality is talked about, written about, and is an acceptable way of life for some people. There are support groups if they are needed and empathetic counselors. Many of us are lucky to have families that try to understand and friends who accept us.

I sometimes wish I had been born later, but then I wouldn't be me, living a life I am very happy and comfortable with, with the person I love.

--Pamela Radtke

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## The Good Ol' Days

With my advanced years I find that I have an advantage over the young. I can use selective memory to recount what I choose to call the "good ol' days." I can, at times, block out the anguish of feeling like a freak because girls did nothing for me sexually. I can choose to dismiss from my recollection the avoidance of mirrors because I might see what others saw that made me different. The horrors of hellfire and brimstone that tormented my dreams can be forgotten -- all in the name of aging.

Through the gift of vivid imagination I can enhance the rare occa-

sions of sexual satisfaction into monumental romances. I can group my various partners into what would seem to be a continuous chain of affairs.

The truth is that my life has been filled with more loneliness than I care to admit -- even during eleven years of heterosexual marriage.

We say that times they are a changing, especially with the advent of AIDS. I read recently that the last of the bath houses of San Francisco has closed its doors. Some would think that put an end to casual sex. I doubt it. In the P.M. (prior to marriage), I didn't know of any bath houses in my home town, Lincoln, or Omaha. At least Omaha had the Ron-da-Voo (where I went), the Cave and the Diamond. During high school I had male to male sex with classmates on a regular basis. In Lincoln I lived close to UNL in a building full of gay men. I didn't have to leave the building. The Ron-da-Voo provided some contacts, but not nearly the ones in the building where I worked.

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### *This seemed like heaven.*

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In the A.M. (after marriage) and my return to Omaha I was greeted by a bath house in Omaha, one in Council Bluffs, and an abundance of gay bars. There was even a Christian church with an outreach to gays and lesbians, and other organizations to join. Compared to the P.M., this seemed like heaven. With the help of other gays, I learned to be more accepting of my sexuality and myself as a total being worthy of self-love and the love of others. This did not provide me with a life-mate.

In recent years I have seen the gay bars open their doors to non-gays, seen groups form closeted groups, and seen the de-emphasizing of the gay nature. Most recently I have seen every one of the 120 Pride (not Gay-Pride) T-shirts off the shelves. Approximately 60 people marched in the Pride Parade, and less than half of those were wearing Pride T-shirts. I can only assume that the other half of the T-shirts are in the closets. It would seem that the homosexual's homophobia has made great strides into the mainstream of our community.

The face of our community changes, and -- thank goodness -- safe sex is being more widely practiced, but the homosexual nature has not changed. Last winter I left work at 8 a.m. following an ice storm. The streets were clear, so I headed for a favorite park. The roads in the park were not clear. I helped a fellow gay back onto the road and then got stuck myself on the ice, along with two other gay men. How many gay men would you expect to find in a bath house at 8:30 a.m. on a week day?

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### *The "good ol' days" -- a matter of perspective*

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The "good ol' days" would seem to be a matter of perspective and of self-perception. I wish the "community" had been available during my youth. I hope that I can make these days "good ol' days" for some entering the gay world today. For most the expression of their homosexuality is not done in "community" but in private. It is only when we accept ourselves, with help from the community, that what we do in private is free from fear, and we can all develop some "good ol' days."

--Jerry Peck

## My Coming Out Story

The question was asked of me, "What is like to be 41 and a lesbian?" My new friend was curious as she's been out since 18 years of age and I am just coming out within the last year and a half.

It's scary for me, as I know how to get along in the "straight" world and nothing at all about the lesbian world. Yet I find it exciting and there's so much to discover out there.

I come from a conservative Baptist background and am steeped in all the Scriptures concerning any sexual sins, and especially homosexual ones. I have made my peace with the Scriptures and God concerning these passages.

My faith and belief in God is very

important to me and I believe all the good that's come into my life and the deep inner peace God has given me confirms my decision on coming out. I won't go any further with this, but it's a big part of my life, and I couldn't write this without having said what I have.

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### *Stop going against the flow and go with the flow.*

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A very dear friend, who is a lesbian, has helped me own my feelings, and encouraged me to stop going against the flow and go with the flow, like the saying that says, "Don't push the river, it flows by itself." She is one of four lesbian friends. I am trying to be more active in the community and meet more women and gain new friendships.

It's very risky, scary, and adventuresome for me to get involved in the community. What is old hat to you is totally new to me. For instance, I never heard of Womyn's Music, Meg Christianson, Chris Williamson, or Nancy Hill before, nor the Womyn's Riverboat Cruise that 220 beautiful women all shared together. What a fun time! Now I'm wanting to hear more Womyn's Music, go to more events, etc. Slowly I am discovering these things by myself, and I go alone mostly and that's very stretching for me.

I had no idea what's all available in Lincoln and Omaha until one of my friends told me about **The New Voice**, **The Women's Journal-Advocate**, and the Women's Resource Center. They have been helpful to bring news, events, and tell what's happening or coming of interest to the community. I would feel lost without them.

It was helpful to discover the MCC in Omaha, to find other gays and lesbians interested in sharing their faith in worship and with each other. Nothing like it. Never thought a Christian could be gay? Wrong! It was and is a wonderful, enriching time and growing period for me. This is one of the reasons I hope the MCC in Lincoln will become a reality.

## *A place to be who I am coming to be.*

It's fun to listen to an all womyn's band, Amethyst, each month and go to the picnics, the Arts Festival, a few events at the YWCA and some of the events that happen in Omaha. I enjoy being involved and meeting people and find myself trying to take as much in as I can. It helps me learn more of my new lifestyle and gives me a place to be who I am coming to be.

Making the decision on coming out has been a struggle and there are some sad times as I've chosen to do so. A few friends realize where I am now and reject my friendship after being friends for 15 to 20 years. Naively, I guess, since I thought since we had so much history together it wouldn't matter, but I was wrong. Maybe some of you have known this also. For me it's hard to not tell my parents. When I write home I can't share a riverboat cruise or a certain party and the new friends I have. We have developed a good relationship over the past few years which has taken a lot of work for all of us. I am glad I have a few friends in both lifestyles who understand and care, and I hope it will help to share with them and my regular family.

I'm trying to remember the words that Chris Williamson sings: "Don't lose heart, you've finally found a family of friends." As I keep discovering this I feel truly blessed.

Joy and Hope.

--Carla

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## Maybe Next Year

Because of my father-in-law, who is 81 and gay, I had once thought of starting a senior gay group in Omaha, but decided I would not do it alone. There are a few professionals in the area that I approached to help get a group started, but none of them was interested enough to help with this venture.

A year ago I wrote to fourteen such groups around the country, and I got many answers back; some are still sending newsletters. I have read all of their articles and newsletters about senior gay groups, and there is a lot of information available, but there is no such group in the Midwest. Denver and Chicago are the nearest groups to Omaha.

Listed below are the groups which answered my inquiries about starting a senior gay group in Omaha, and comments about these organizations.

**Center 55 (Long Beach)** was established a little over two years ago. The founders have had a tremendous time of getting the group together, with attitude problems and a lot of overtime. Founder Ken Mondshine suggests "an awareness of their tendency of being ill and having much less energy than a younger person." Also, "unless you can really motivate them or they have a basic intrinsic interest, (they) only come to a meeting to be entertained."

**ECOLS (Eugene, OR)** also offered to put an Omaha group under their tax exempt umbrella, but they want

25% of all incoming donations received. They are supported by ten major gay organizations within their own community. ECOLS appears to be a very solvent and businesslike organization.

**GLOE (San Francisco)** began in 1982 with a \$16,000 grant from the San Francisco Commission on the Aging. Much more professional than I had anticipated for Omaha. The 1986-1987 contract is for \$60,000.

**GLOW (Gay and Lesbian Older Washingtonians)** was formed by two women who found there really was no one their age to socialize with. They have experimented with several different formats for meetings and activities. They emphasized community education about aging, development of social services for those who are just beginning to grapple with their identity as a gay people, and social events as mixers for all those groups. GLOW has developed a very successful series of conferences centering on legal planning issues which arise for individuals who wish to make sure that their wishes are carried out when they are incapacitated.

**GLOW (Philadelphia)** also expressed dismay in outreach to gay and lesbian seniors. For example, a large number of older gay people in their community are used to leading very private lives. They have a circle of friends they've had for years. But they rarely go out to community events and usually do not read the local community newspaper. Therefore, conventional gay information outlets are not wholly successful in the outreach process. *continued*



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**GLOW** advised that in order to reach out to the gay and lesbian seniors, we would need to find our way to the social worker level and we will see the payoff. They have been in existence for five years, and in that time saw many changes. Once an operation with over 200 members, it has dwindled down to almost nothing. Once an organization for men and women, the men lost interest and it became totally women. At first it was for seniors 60 years and older; it is now for women 35 years and older.

**LEGACY** (Chicago) was formed by a small group of highly motivated people who saw the need for a social and service organization for senior gays and lesbians. They have two working committees: a social committee which plans at least one social function per month, and a direct service committee which tries to help senior gays and lesbians who are in some kind of real trouble -- financial, health, public aid, isolation, etc.

**OMEGA** (Rochester, NY) started out two and one half years ago, and met as a committee for several months before beginning to get in

touch with their constituency because they wanted to think through what they were about. They initially advertised openly, which they felt was a mistake, since aging homosexuals are very paranoid. With 75 members, attendance at events is from 33 to 37 people. The mean age is 50, with most between 40 and 60.

**Operation Concern** (San Francisco) appears to operate in Cooperation with the National Association of Lesbian and Gay Gerontologists. Their main purpose is to serve as a clearing house for information regarding gay/lesbian seniors. They publish a bibliography of services throughout the country, including films, articles, books, etc., which sells for \$7.00. Operation Concern is a United Way Agency in San Francisco.

**Project Rainbow** (Los Angeles) has been in existence since 1980. They have an emergency food program, monthly socials on Sunday afternoons, a gerontology lecture every other month and weekly rap sessions. Project Rainbow has membership cards, a newsletter, a home visitation program and buddy sys-

tem, and a referral agency resource where anyone can be directed to known assistance. Project Rainbow has suggested that if I were interested, to develop a local chapter of the mother organization. In that way they could supply us with membership cards, brochures, newsletters, and other means of assisting us.

**SAGE** (New York City) began in 1977 with 13 volunteer in someone's living room, and became the first organization to address the special needs of older lesbians and gay men. Ten years later they have seven full-time staff members and more than 250 active volunteers.

After hearing from these groups, I realized what a large undertaking was facing me. It would be nice to see a very active group in our area, but am I ready for this? Is Omaha ready for this? From what I've observed in other organizations here, there are many who are willing to sing and dance along, but very few who are willing to play in the orchestra.

--Garry Griffith

## Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha



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Worship Services—10:30am and 7:00pm

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# Features

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## Goddessharvest

This has been an exciting and frightening experience. When the editors first asked me to write a vegetarian cooking column, I was delighted. Then, doubts moved in. I am hardly an expert on nutrition and cooking, so this truly is a little overwhelming. Also, it's hard to give away a recipe. Silly as that may sound, it's true. It seems to me that cooking requires the same type of energy that is involved in any creative undertaking. So, it is hard to offer one's creation to public scrutiny. There is, however, one very positive side to all of this: if one gives away a loaf of bread then the gift is short-lived, but if one gives away the ability to bake, the gift lasts a very long time.

As stated above, this is going to be a vegetarian cooking column. In order to spare you my long-winded explanation of the politics of vegetables (!) I refer any interested reader to the first pages of a cookbook called **Laurel's Kitchen**.

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## PFLAG Booknotes

Summer vacation has taken its toll, not on reading but on writing about what I have read! When I travel I make it a point to go to bookstores -- gay bookstores, feminist bookstores, alternative bookstores, and used bookstores. They are usually pretty easy to spot when you read the yellow pages, having names that are generally imaginative and self-descriptive. In July I attended the PFLAG meeting in Denver, because I've heard so much about how big they are and how well organized, but also because Virginia Mollenkott, author of *Is the Homosexual My Neighbor?*, was the guest speaker. An audio cassette of her talk is available and will be in the PFLAG Cornhusker library. She was very good and I recommend the tape as being worth listening to.

In lieu of discussing a single book this month I thought I would tell

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## *No explanation of "the politics of vegetables."*

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It is my hope that over the coming months these columns will combine to create a simple, basic cookbook. I encourage readers to send their suggestions, ideas, and criticisms. Since food is something we all have in common, it is something we all can share.

Also, I should state that I do not pretend that all of the recipes I will offer will be one hundred percent original. While some of them are my own creations, others will be my variations on others' ideas. As you use what I offer, I encourage you to add your own style and make my recipes yours.

To conclude this first column, I thought it would be a good idea to give you a general pantry list so that you will be aware of the types of foodstuffs that will be used in my recipes.

### Herbs, Spices

basil  
black pepper  
caraway seeds  
curry powder  
dry mustard  
garlic powder  
lemon juice  
onion powder  
oregano  
parsley  
rosemary  
sage  
salt  
thyme

### Vegetables

cabbage  
carrots  
celery  
garlic  
green pepper  
onion  
peas (frozen)  
potatoes

--EJS

### Dry Goods

corn meal  
oatmeal  
pasta  
rice  
rye flour  
sugar  
whole wheat flour  
white flour  
active dry yeast

### Cheeses, Dairy

cottage cheese  
milk  
parmesan cheese  
cheddar cheese  
milk  
mozzarella cheese  
yogurt

### Sauces, Oils

margarine, butter  
olive oil  
soy sauce, tamari  
vegetable, nut oil  
red wine vinegar

you what new books have been added recently. I saw **Parents Matter**, by Ann Muller, on display at the PFLAG meeting so I went to the recommended bookstore, Category Six, the next day and bought it. It was excellent and I shall review it next month. Other recent purchases were: **Mobilizing Against AIDS: The Unfinished Story of a Virus**; **Home Before Dark** by Susan Cheever, a biography of her father John Cheever; **When Someone You Love Has AIDS**, by Betty Clare Moffatt; **AIDS the Spiritual Dilemma** by John Fortunato, author of **Embrace The Exile**; **The Condom Book: The Essential Guide for Men and Women**; and a collection of magazine articles on AIDS compiled into a loose-leaf notebook. On a lighter note, **Tales of the City** is one of several by the same author that have been recommended for future purchase. Please let us know if there are particular books that you think are worth putting in the library.

We would also be happy to receive donations.

The PFLAG library is available to our members and contains novels, biographies, and anthologies of the gay life experience. Reading is the only way many of us (parents, families, friends) can even begin to appreciate some of the pains as well as some of the joys of being gay. For gay people it is a way to learn that you have a history and that your stories are being told. Audio tapes, and magazines are also included, and videos are an addition that are often shown at meetings. I urge you to come to PFLAG and explore our library.

--Jean Durgin-Clinchard

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ICON's Board of Governors invites  
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Day.

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## The Christian Gay

Recently a friend shared with me the joy of hearing that God loved him. My friend was born into the Roman Catholic Church, and for 37 years he had heard that if he wanted to be a Christian, he must prove his love for God; he never heard that God loved him. This revelation came to my friend as he attended a Dignity mass.

While living in Ohio I met a pastor who had based four years of sermons on the scripture, "For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son..." (John 3:16). That pastor's philosophy was that no one can be told too often that they are loved. His congregation was ever growing and always working in love. As gay men and lesbians, we know the need to know that we are loved.

The Bible is filled with messages that God is Love. Often this message is presented with the word "love" as a noun (naming an emotion) and needs to be declared as a verb (describing an action). The concept of God is difficult to develop, especially in our materialistic and visual world. As David wrote the Psalms, he declared his understanding of the loving nature of God. Since there are few Davids in this world God took the form of a person called Jesus to express love.

God, through Jesus, loved his neighbors as we should, and we are also neighbors to Jesus. Jesus loved Mary and Martha so much that Lazarus was raised from the dead. Jesus loved a tax collector so much that he became a disciple. Jesus loves even you so much that he ended sacrificial worship by his death on the cross.

The question remains, "How do I know that God loves me?" As a husband of eleven years I was often disturbed by my wife's questioning my love for her. Acceptance of the action of love is a matter of faith; accepting that love is present and active, and not questioning any loving that comes our way. So often we hear, "If you loved me you would . . ." God's love for us is unconditional, and we cannot make demands on that love. God's love is a gift which we must accept "as is."

Scripture often refers to God as our parent. We know that not all parents are loving, but God as parent (our creator) is more than what we can conceive of as a parent. God knows us, and knows why we are the way we are. What is even greater is that God knows our potential, and want us to reach that potential. The first step in reaching that goal is to acknowledge his love for us, accepting that we are loveable, regardless of what society, organized religions, or individuals may say.

As I count my blessings (good gifts from God), I know that he does not disapprove my natural (God given) state of being. As a gay man, I am most adept at loving people of my own gender. For God, the important part is that I am able to love. It is the unloving which offends God.

Yes, God loves you, and in that love hopes for you to be able to accept his love, to love yourself, accept the love of others, and to develop the ability to love others. God is love in action. Accept God's love -- it feels good!

--Jerry Peck

## Legal Briefs

### Attacker of Nebraska Man Arrested

The fourth of four men who attacked a Lincoln man last November has finally been arrested, according to the victim's attorney, Randall F. Smith of Lincoln. The June issue of *The New Voice* reported that Tim Irwin, 24, was still at large fleeing charges of felony criminal conspiracy.

--Mark Wojcik

### Gays Can't Use the Word Olympics

The Gay Olympics Games cannot use the word "Olympics" under a Supreme Court ruling which allows the United States Olympics Committee to selectively choose which organizations may use the word Olympics. In *San Francisco Arts and Athletics, Inc. v. United State Olympics Committee*, 55 U.S.L.W. 5061 (U.S. 1987), the court rejected arguments about discriminatory enforcement.

Dr. Thomas Waddell, who founded the Gay Olympics, blamed a homophobic double standard for denying use of the word to gay groups. In a United Press International story he said: "The police can have their Olympics, the Armenians can have their Olympics, rats can have their Olympics, but if you're gay, you can't."

Dr. Waddell died last month of complications related to AIDS. He had been included among those who began treatment with AZT last February.

Last year's "Gay Games II" included the individual sports of boxing, cycling, golf, marathon, physique, powerlifting, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, triathlon, and wrestling (for men).

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Team sports included basketball, billiards, racquetball, soccer, softball, and volleyball. More information on the Gay Games can be obtained from San Francisco Arts and Athletics, 650 Castro Street, San Francisco, CA 94114. Gay Games III is scheduled for 1990 in Vancouver.

--Mark Wojcik

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## National Spotlight

### AIDS Project Definitive AIDS Text

AIDS Project Los Angeles previewed the definitive AIDS information text, **AIDS: A Self-Care Manual**, on July 9. The 320-page comprehensive guidebook, which has taken two years to compile, is the organization's authoritative resource for medical, sexual, psychological, and practical aspects of AIDS management.

Among those presenting the reference book was co-editor and publisher Betty Clare Moffatt, whose previous book, **When Someone You Love Has AIDS**, is a chronicle of her late son's battle with AIDS. For more information, contact Andy Weisser at (213) 738-8230

--Focus on AIDS

### ACLU Files Appeal

The ACLU this week filed an appeal challenging the denial of a share of student activities funds to the Gay and Lesbian Students Association of the University of Arkansas. The U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit will decide if the university's denial of student funds to the gay group, while it awarded funds to all other eligible groups that applied, violated the gay group's rights to free speech and equal treatment under the U.S. Constitution.

The appeal seeks the reversal of an earlier U.S. District Court ruling. That court held that no constitutional violation occurred because the denial was a "mere refusal to aid," not discrimination, and because the state can properly treat different groups differently.

The gay student group is being represented by the ACLU Lesbian

and Gay Rights Project. Project Director Nan Hunter argued in the brief filed this week that the University's actions constituted "blatant discrimination based on viewpoint," which was impermissible under the First Amendment's protection of free speech and expression.


The gay group's case centers on events in 1985 when it requested \$165 to fund three events, **Before Stonewall**, the award-winning documentary, and two campus workshops on prejudice -- one on racism and one on homophobia.


The student senate discussion of this funding revealed extraordinary prejudice and ignorance about homosexuality. Some students said that giving money to the gay group would be "against God." Many argued that such funding would support homosexuality, which students believed to be "illegal" because of Arkansas's law prohibiting acts of "sodomy." When a representative

*continued on page 22*



## BENIFITS for LAMDA HOUSE

 BAR-B-Q AND KEG AT PANIC  
AUG. 20 - 7-10

 BENIFIT SHOW AT BOARDWALK  
AUG. 31 - 10 PM

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Phil Hogan  
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of the gay group spoke, senate members expressed surprise at how "normal" she looked. The chair of the finance committee testified that the sentiment in the Senate was "totally against" the gay group "when they came in." The gay group was the only one which met all the criteria which the senate voted not to fund. Among the funded groups was the Air Force ROTC which received money for a disc jockey for a formal dance.

In response to the gay student group's appeal, the Vice-Chancellor of the University refused to alter the student senate's allocation of funds. He urged the group to work harder to change attitudes.

The earlier history of the gay group's request for funds had revealed similar bias. In 1982-83, discussion in the student senate focused openly on not wanting to use money to support a homosexual rights group. About this time, a member of the Arkansas legislature introduced two resolutions, one urging the university not to assist

"in any manner the gay community on campus," and one urging university officials to take measures "to stem the tide of homosexuality on campuses of our colleges and universities."

During the 1984-85 school year, the head of the gay student group received death threats and other group members were repeatedly harassed. The school's Human Relations Committee proposed a campus program on racism, stereotyping, and prejudice that contained a three minute segment on gay and lesbian students. University Chancellor Gatewood informed the Human Relations Committee that "no state money" would go to the workshop if "one word" on gays and lesbians was included in the program.

"Forcing universities to accord equal treatment to lesbian and gay students is an important legal issue and an important investment in our movement's future," said the ACLU's Nan Hunter.

## Trivia

1. Who said, "Bisexuality immediately doubles your chances for a date on Saturday night?"
2. In what decade did the American Psychiatric Association reverse its opinion that homosexuality is an illness?
3. According to *Women's Wear Daily*, what is an F.V.?
4. Which young man went to court to prove that he polished Liberace's candelabra?
5. What gay resort is at the tip of Cape Cod?
6. Who was the lover of Alice B. Toklas, inventor of the hash brownie?

(Answers appear elsewhere in this issue.)



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# Classifieds

## Lambda House Needs Items

Lambda House needs: dryer; garbage disposal; lamps; bedside tables; occasional chairs; lawn mower; book cases; volunteers to assist house management with electrical wiring, plumbing and fixtures. Call Pat or Dave at 474-1205 in Lincoln.

## Hairy Men/Admirers!

Bears, fur-lovers, trappers. Hot, uncensored nationwide ad listings. Infopixpak \$3.00: MAN-HAIR, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

## Air Conditioner For Sale

220 window air condition unit; Good condition; \$100.00. 2 twin beds; like new; \$100.00 for both. Omaha, 453-6500, evenings.

The Board of Governors of ICON invites YOU to The Warehouse Labor Day.

## The New Voice

**WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS!**

**Upcoming Theme Issues.**

- **SEPTEMBER**  
Welcome Back
- **OCTOBER**  
Planning Your Future

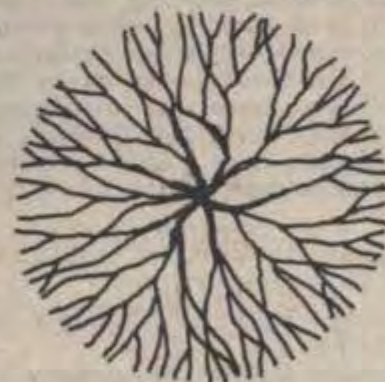
## Space Available During Farm Aid

Anyone needing a place to over-night during the Farm Aid III concert should contact Gideon at Lambda House at 474-1205. \$5.00 a night.

## Gay Wrestling Contacts!

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 The Diamond, 712 South 16th St., 342-9595  
 The Max, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110  
 The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703  
 Sack's Landing, 3018 North 93rd, 571-0790

### Lincoln Bars, Clubs, and Lounges

The Boardwalk, 20th & O, 474-9741  
 Cherchez la femme, 200 South 18th (lower level), 474-9162  
 The Club, 116 North 20th, 474-5692  
 Panic, 200 South 18th, 435-8764



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*Mailed discreetly in a plain brown envelope.*



# Gay/Lesbian Resource Directory

## Nebraska Statewide

- Affirmation of Nebraska.** Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. Meets alternately in Omaha and Lincoln, second Friday of the month. ☎ 476-9913.
- Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights.** Box 94822, Lincoln 68509. Advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides educational presentations, publishes a newsletter and sponsors cultural and political programs.
- Imperial Court of Nebraska.** Box 3772, Omaha 68102. Social organization for the advancement of the gay society. Omaha meeting first Monday of each month, except holidays. ☎ 733-1924.
- Nebraska AIDS Project.** Box 3118, Omaha 68131. Center for information, support, and coordination of AIDS related community efforts. Call in Omaha ☎ 342-4233 or toll-free statewide, ☎ 1-800-782-AIDS.
- The New Voice of Nebraska.** Box 80819, Lincoln 68501. Monthly magazine serving the gay/lesbian community. Staff meets in Lincoln the first Wednesday of each month. ☎ 475-7740 or ☎ 345-2181.
- Presbyterians For Lesbian/Gay Concerns.** Organization meeting scheduled for February 28. ☎ 733-1360 (Cleve).
- UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center.** Room 342 (Mail: Room 222), Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Hotline: 472-5644. Social activities, AIDS education project, roommate referral, support groups, and library.
- Viral Syndrome Clinic** University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE. Jonathan Goldsmith, MD, ☎ 559-6202. Ann Lamb, MSW, ☎ 559-4420.

## Lincoln

- Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous.** Group meets every Tuesday and Friday. Call the AA central office for location, ☎ 466-5214.
- Capital City Couples.** Organization to promote positive aspects of alternative lifestyle relationships, create stability in those relationships, and to share and socialize with other gay couples. ☎ 423-1374.
- Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line.** Box 94882, Lincoln 68509. Referral and support phone line staffed by peer counselors ☎ 472-4697 in evenings.
- Lambda Resource Center.** 2845 R St. Meeting rooms, outpatient counseling, group activities. ☎ 474-1205.
- Lesbian Support Group.** Contact Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Informal discussion group for lesbians, all womyn welcome. Meets weekly. ☎ 472-2597.
- Lincoln Legion of Lesbians.** Box 30317, Lincoln 68503. Lesbian-feminist collective providing a newsletter, confidential referral, and support groups for lesbians. Sponsors cultural and social programs.
- Ministry in Human Sexuality, Inc.** Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. Non-profit agency providing counseling, education, and supportive action for those seeking growth and understanding in the areas of sexuality and relationships. J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director. ☎ 476-9913.
- New Directions Center.** Short term individual counseling, support groups, classes, and workshops dealing with coming out, relationship issues, parenting. Sliding fee scale. ☎ 476-2802.
- Open Door Ministry.** To provide orthodox spiritual counseling to all people in need at no charge. ☎ 474-3390.
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays.** Box 4374, Lincoln 68501. Support group for parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Meets fourth Tuesday of the month. ☎ 435-4688.
- Third Culture.** Non-residential subculture dealing with issues such as coming out, social behavior, the gay lifestyle, suicide, and drug or alcohol abuse. ☎ 474-1205 (Pat).
- The Wimm'n's Show.** KZUM Radio 89.5 and 99.3 FM. 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. every Sunday.
- Woman's Journal-Advocate.** Box 81226, Lincoln 68501. Monthly feminist publication.

## Omaha

- Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous.** Group meets weekly, Friday at 8:15 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 420 S. 24th St. ☎ 345-9916.
- Gay/Lesbian ALANON.** Group meets weekly, Sunday at 4 p.m. at Lowe Ave. Presbyterian Church, 1023 N. 40th St. ☎ 556-9907.
- Dignity of Omaha.** Providing common bonds through Mass and meetings for gays and lesbians and their friends. Regular Mass second Sunday of the month, 7 p.m., St. John's lower level. ☎ 341-1480 or 345-9426.
- Gay Parents Support Group.** Support group for gay parents who have children. ☎ 553-2308.
- Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon.** Group meets Fridays at 8:15 p.m. at MCC. ☎ 556-9907.
- Lutherans Concerned of Omaha.** Society of gay Christians and friends together to foster within a church climate of understanding, justice, and reconciliation among all women and men. ☎ 592-1209.
- Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha.** Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Sunday worship at 10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday evening Bible study at 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday Mid-week Program at 7:30 p.m.; Adult Sunday School at 9:10 a.m. ☎ 345-2563.
- Omaha Business and Professional Club.** Box 3124, Omaha 68103. Networking organization of business and professional persons. Meets third Wednesday of each month. ☎ 493-3343.
- Omaha Meatpackers.** 2116 N. 16 Apt. 8, Omaha 68110. Scott Cruea, secretary ☎ 341-4233.
- PACT (People of All Colors Together).** Box 3683, Omaha 68103. A gay/lesbian interracial organization that offers educational, political, and social activities. ☎ 895-0865.
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG).** Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Support group for the parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. ☎ 556-7481 (Ruth).
- Project CONCERN.** Box 3772, Omaha 68102. AIDS related information. Speakers, brochures, posters, and VCR tapes. ☎ 455-3701.
- River City Bowling League.** Dean Vanderpool, secretary. ☎ 344-3821.
- River City Mixed Chorus.** Box 315, Omaha 68101. Volunteer community chorus for gay/lesbian and gay/lesbian-sensitive men and women with the goal of musical excellence in performance. Rehearsals Monday evenings. ☎ 342-4775.
- Two-Wheelers of Omaha (TWO) Motorcycle Club.** 305 Turner Blvd. #8, Omaha 68131.

# National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights



For Information, Checks Payable to: MARCH ON WASHINGTON, INC., P.O. Box 7781, Washington DC 20044

To date a staggering 37,867 people have been diagnosed with AIDS. 58% have died. Many more have ARC. Our government has ignored demands for full funding of the AIDS crisis. Five years of neglect tell us this is a dire political crisis, as well as a major health epidemic.

March for all people with AIDS/ARC. Stop the criminal neglect and genocide of our people.

## Oct. 11th

ASSEMBLE: 9:00 am at the Ellipse, 17th St. & Constitution Ave. (Behind the White House) March starts 12 o'clock pm. Rally at the Capitol, West Terrace

Harvey Milk, openly gay supervisor of San Francisco, was assassinated by an anti-gay racist, sexist bigot in 1978.

March for Harvey, so that homophobia can't kill again.

Merle Woo, Asian American lesbian and socialist feminist, won reinstatement at UC Berkeley after being fired because of her sexuality, politics, sex and race. She is now battling a second termination.

March for Merle. March so that discrimination can't rob anyone's job.

# 37,867\*

\*as of July 10, 1987.

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Jan, Odessa, and Kate are a lesbian family in Seattle. Gay men and lesbians have a right to keep and raise their own children. Governmental bureaucracy, courts and other agencies should keep their hands off our children.

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# SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Aug. 9th White Costume Party
- Aug. 16th Sabel: Miss Max '87
- Aug. 23rd Velvet's "Just For Fun"
- Aug. 30th Miss Gay Nebraska Fund Raiser
- Sept. 7th Omaha Meat Packer's Labor Day  
Fund Raiser
- Sept. 13th Male Dancers
- Sept. 27th Kim Meske Presents:  
"Screaming Meemies"

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# LABOR DAY

# BASH '87

## Schedule of Events - 4 Big Days

**Friday - September 4; 5-7 p.m.**

Hors D'oeuvres During Cocktail Hour at The Max  
Donations to Aids Projects Accepted - CATERED and  
Hosted by Richard Will

**9:30 Show at The Diamond**  
Hosted by Frank & Stella

**Saturday - September 5**

**9:30 Show at The Diamond**  
Hosted by Frank & Stella

**Sunday - September 6**

**9:30 Show at The Diamond**  
Hosted by Frank and Stella

**Monday - September 7**

**Noon to 5 - LABOR DAY PICNIC**

The Warehouse - Carter Lake  
\$5.00 Admission - FREE Beer and Pop  
Booths Available for Organizations -  
Contact any Board of Governor.

**9:00 Meat Packer Benefit Show at The Max**

\$3.00 Door Cover - Money raised will go to ICON - PWA  
Special guest DOLLY and your favorite Meat Packers.

***Watch for information on additional events.***

**Thanks for your support,  
The Board of Governors**

All events will help to provide funds for use and research on AL721  
at UNMC in Omaha, unless funds are specified to AIDS projects.

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