



APRIL

1996

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A

# OUR TURN: Opinions of New Voice Staff

## "I SAW YOU ON TELEVISION...."

By Sharon Van Butsel

For all of us, there are certain words which set our teeth on edge. For many, it is the dreaded "F" word. For some, it is the word "homosexual." For me, it is "I saw you on television."

Now, I have appeared on television half a dozen times, on talk shows or news segments dealing with social work and health care. I am quite capable of relaxing and answering questions intelligently and insightfully — or stuttering and stammering and making a fool of myself — just depends on the situation. However, being on television is something I never seek out. The idea of being on television brings up inner child thoughts of walking in to a room full of strangers, all of whom turn, stare, and then turn away and talk about you in disparaging terms — being considered and found wanting.

Now that you know the insecurity I cling to despite hard work of therapists, support groups, self-help books, and 51+ years of living, perhaps you will be able to put my reluctance to appear on television into perspective. Besides, I'm a fat old lady and I was very shy as a child! So there! (Amazing the emotion that can be raised by a phrase usually a positive acknowledgement of something most people think is pretty neat.)

Anyway, thanks to Ernie Chambers and thanks to my sweetie, I got to hear that phrase a whole lot more than I wanted to. It all started when Carla learned that LB1260 was coming up for hearings before the Unicameral. "Sharon, would you take off work and go to the hearings with me?" Of course. No problem.

"Sharon, have you ever thought about testifying at these hearings?" No, but I've testified at other hearings so it wouldn't be a big problem.

"Sharon, would you testify on this bill?" Sure, Carla, but why don't you do it?

"Oh, I would have to write it all out first and that doesn't come off as well. Besides, you're better at these things than I am." I don't believe that for a minute, but okay, I'll listen.

"You do such a good job of talking without notes..." Okay, I see the hook but compliments are pretty attractive as bait.

"I really think we should." Okay, if we get a chance. You can't always be sure you'll get to testify just because you go down these, but I'll do it if I get the opportunity. (All the time thinking that I'd get down to the hearings and I'd get her to get up there.)

And so the preparations went. Carla would ask every so often if I'd thought about including one thing or another when I spoke, or she'd ask if I knew what I was going to say. And I, in my typical way of preparing, did a little mental rehearsing and let my unconscious brain organize my thoughts into a speech. (Someday I'll write about my particular style of preparing for a talk or to write an article.)

The big day came. I should have been prewarned because Carla called me that morning to let me know that Channel 3 had called the church looking for a gay couple to interview. She'd referred them on because she knew how much I hated being on television. But I continued

being blissfully naive. Soon we were in the car, headed for Lincoln. We found the hearing room without difficulty and spotted Scott Winkler and others from Citizens for Equal Protection. They had orchestrated the first presentations to be sure the UNO student who brought 60 letters of support was up first. But after that, it would be sort of a free-for-all. But, they emphasized, you have to get right in there because they may limit testimony.

There was one TV camera from public television. Not very intimidating. Then Channel 3 walked in. And then Channel 10 from Lincoln. Soon there were 5 TV cameras. Oh, wonderful! Oh, well! There seem to be lots of people here to testify so they won't bother with me. So I relaxed back into my state of blissful ignorance.

I took CPEP's warning to heart and hopped up shortly after the testimony began. Carla sat beside me in support, but did not testify. The first people to testify had presented thorough, complete testimony including issues of discrimination, so I felt quite comfortable presenting just a personal view, which emphasized the fact that we already live and operate as any married couple would. We own a house together. We have a joint checking account. Our credit cards are in both names. We own our car jointly. We were present when our youngest grandchild was born. And we espouse "traditional" family values. We go to church. We actually tithe and make other donations. We do volunteer work. We've had a ceremony in a church. And so on and so on.

I assure you, I did not say anything profound. And I was not the only one to testify. There were probably 20 who testified in favor of the bill — and about 15 in opposition. The hearing lasted from 2p.m. until after 6. We didn't get home until nearly 8. We watched the 10 o'clock news, switching from channel to channel, finally stopping on Channel 6 whose coverage included the first person who testified in support. Never saw any other coverage. And so, it was off to bed and up the next morning and off to work.

Some people asked how it went and I got to tell my story of the long hearings — and then the first person said, "I saw you on television last night." Over the day, at least a dozen people stopped to make that same comment — some I didn't even know. And, there was coverage in the *World-Herald*. They didn't spell my name right (nor Carla's for that matter) and they thought I lived in Lincoln — but they did quote me fairly accurately, as accurately as one can be quoted when they pull 15 words out of a 10 minute talk. "Our lives are entwined — and that will not change, regardless of what happens with this bill...but it is important to us to have social status. It is important for us to be married." So much for thinking I could get lost in the crowd.

The crowning touch came a couple weeks later when I picked up the *Unicameral Update*, the publication of the Unicameral, which includes stories on the more interesting proceedings. And guess what! They got my name right as they quoted "We consider ourselves to be married."

I don't have any regrets. As expected, the bill never got out of committee. Nothing terrible has happened as a result. No hate calls. No harsh words. Nothing but positive support. And if anyone was laughing at the site of a fat old woman testifying, they haven't bothered to mention it.



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## LETTER TO NEBRASKA FAMILY COUNCIL

Dear Executive Director,

I am writing in regard to your opposition to the bill sponsored by Senator Chambers, LB1260.

I am a Nebraska resident and a citizen taxpayer under the U.S. Constitution of the United States. I was little impressed with the arguments presented by the opponents of LB1260, because without question, their views represented a biased, narrow-minded attitude fostered from their religious prejudices.

... the religious Right would do well to cast out their demons of hate, prejudice, and injustice against the homosexual members of our society... they would do better to see the heterosexual immoralities of unrestricted adultery, prostitution, and sexual sins in their world and lifestyle.

Mr. Patton had stated, "it would be a mockery for the state to recognize same-sex marriages" with words to that effect. On the contrary, the mockery exists in the divorce rate among heterosexual couples married in the Christian church and the adultery of such members. 27 "You have heard that it was said, 'Do not commit adultery.' 28 But I tell you that anyone who looks at a woman lustfully has already committed adultery with her in his heart." **Matthew 5: 27-28 NIV**

Heterosexuals will stop at nothing to violate one of the Ten Commandments, but in the same breath cast stones against the homosexual lifestyle. Apparently, all is not pure and lily-white even in your world, nuclear family, and lifestyles. Frankly, your members cans moralize and theologize to no end, but it will never stifle us in our demand and the gay struggle for equal and civil liberties under our constitutional democracy.

I would like also to tell you something, my faith is between my God and myself. And many more gay Christians will utterly support my view. Above all, my faith, (Christ is the Author and Finisher of our faith) as a gay Christian is between me and my Creator.

I recall you Christians were also persecuted for your faith, and I leave you with this scripture, to which every homosexual and gay Christian can today easily relate to, "8 We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; 9 Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; 10 Always bearing about in in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the lie also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body." **2 Corinthians 4: 8-10 KJV**

The pink and yellow triangles set in the Star of David is a strong symbol for gay civil rights. Because homosexuals were forced to wear the pink triangle in the death camps of Hitler's New Order. Like the Jews, Catholics, and true Christians along with the homosexuals were exterminated in the death camps because of their stand against Hitler, and their struggle against evil, injustice, and religious apostasy.

Your pious and self-righteous attitude, regarding the rights and human dignity of others, would do well to take this lesson from history.

Sincerely,

Alex Wolf

First Americans for Gay Equal Rights  
Lincoln, Nebraska

## TO SENATOR LINDSAY

Dear Senator Lindsay,

I wish to express adamant support for Senator Chambers' legislation, LB 1260, Same-Sex Marriages. I consider the legislation essential to the rights and interests of gay American citizens. I clearly am informed of the pros and cons of the arguments and issues as presented in the hearing deliberations, Feb. 28, 1996. Aside from religious prejudices and position of the Christian Right, I nonetheless support 'same sex marriages' in view of the AIDS threat to Americans of all classes, races, irrespective of sexual orientation.

It is political suicide for states not to accept and recognize the merits of LB 1260, articulated by Senator Chambers. The religious Right by enforcing its views and opinions upon another segment of society, has committed the greatest of offenses against human liberties and justice. If the Christian Right had their way they would feed all the homosexuals to the lions, were it not for the sake of common decency and human rationale.

Senator, you have but 20 or 30 years to live on this planet, and the gay population will survive and continue unabated in their struggle for equal civil liberties, stated in the Constitution, "... right to Life, Liberty and the Pursuit of Happiness..." We remain a biological gene in the human race and inspite of every human endeavor to exterminate us from humanity it is and remains an absolute impossibility. We will repopulate our numbers and regenerate our own members generation after generation without reproduction, or without need of procreation. It is time for Nebraska and their citizens to prepare for the year 2000 AD, and for its members to accept the wind of change, and step into the next Century.

Alex Wolf, Lincoln, Nebraska

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## WHITE SUPREMISTS GET FAVORABLE COURT SITES

Dear Editor,

What has happened to the real working CRIMINAL JUSTICE? How is it that hate filled white supremists are getting friendly venues to have their trials litigated?

People throughout the nation were outraged when the announcement came that the Oklahoma City Bombing trial had been moved to Denver, Colorado, where not only have the people of that state supported amendment 2, but welcomed a new sub-headquarters for David Duke's Ku Klux Klan. How can that judge in Oklahoma honestly look at the people of Oklahoma and say that he believes a fair and honest decision will be rendered?

Yet if that isn't a good enough example, then let's look at Los Angeles' former police officer Mark Furman. It was announced by CNN on February 26th, 1996, that in the civil law suit filed by the family of Ron Goldman against O.J. Simpson, Mr. Furman will not have to testify personally. He will be asked pertinent questions while attending a courtroom in the overly Mormonized town of Boise, Idaho.

It seems to be becoming commonplace in our judicial system that if a white supremacist commits major crimes against society, they are allowed the benefit of moving their trial to a more "friendly" venue, where the people in those towns have either agreed with the beliefs of the supremists, or at least, the people will ignore the horrible feelings of violation that the criminals caused in the lives of many.

If this is JUSTICE, then it is CRIMINAL.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE, today's newest oxymoron. Of course, who knew when they called it shrimp, that someone would come up with JUMBO SHRIMP. Like, when the founding fathers of our great country came up with JUSTICE, who knew today's bench sitters would come up with CRIMINAL JUSTICE.

Just a thought! David L. Hall

## THANKS TO GLAGN

Dear Editor of NVN,

I would like to personally thank Alan and the members of GLAGN for inviting me to headline their show held on February 24 in Hastings, NE. A benefit for NAP, this show raised approximately \$2300. I was deeply touched and honored in the warm welcome that my guests and myself received in Hastings. We worked hard to provide an entertaining show which proved to be very successful.

Also, I would like to extend a heartfelt big thank-you to my special entertainers who gave up their time, talent, and tips for without them this show would have been impossible! Roxy, Katrina Kane, Tim Pedersen, and Buffy Buffet; you all are the greatest! Thank-you! You always give of yourselves whenever asked. And a special thanks to Vadra for coming out of the closet for this special night. We loved you!

Thank-you's to all the people who drove from miles around to attend this show and donate their generous dollars. Very special thanks to Sharon, Carla, Dan Ostergard, and Joel for driving from Omaha to support us.

All of us appreciate your support. I would like to thank ICON for your generous donation of \$260 to GLAGN. This night will be remembered for a long time.

I can only hope and pray that I can be an inspiration to others to continue the fundraising effort to raise the many dollars needed for such a worthy cause. Thank-you!

Phoenix Fallentino, Miss Gay Omaha '95  
Empress XII of ICON

## UPDATE ON GLAGN DRAG SHOW

Received via e-mail:

Sharon Van Butsel: Just thought you would like to know the final count on the drag show held in Hastings on February 24th. We estimated the crowd at 150 people and we raised just over \$2,000 to benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project office serving outstate Nebraska. The Board of Directors couldn't be more pleased...in the past we have never exceeded \$1,000 so this is some major news to us. Thank you for attending and the generous donation from ICON. Speaking of the generous donation from ICON... whom did you say helped raise the money so we can properly thank all those involved. Thanks again.

Kent  
*Editor's Note: Kent, the \$260 donation made by ICON represented the proceeds from a raffle held during the "Heartthrobs and the Broken Hearted" held at the MAX on February 18. This show was coordinated by one of ICON's most loyal supporters, Steve M, who avoids the spotlight at all costs. He put together a wonderful show, which included performers from Omaha, Lincoln, Des Moines, and Sioux City, and donated two large teddy bears to be raffled. The audience did the rest. But, I will pass your e-mail along to Steve and to the ICON Board.*

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Dear New Voice,

Congratulations on a very fine publication...straightforward, direct, bold...all done in conservative Nebraska! I wish you all continued success and many more years of service to the gay & lesbian community of our city and state!

Sincerely, Alex

## THANKS, ICON, FOR LINCOLN PWA DINNER

Dear ICON,

On behalf of two sisters and all the others who enjoyed the fabulous luncheon provided to Lincoln people living with HIV/AIDS by ICON, "thanks." The atmosphere (tablecloths, flowers, servers, etc.) went a long way toward brightening our day. The cake was delicious! It was nice to meet other people (and their loved ones) who are living with HIV/AIDS. We know it was a lot of work and we want you to know it is appreciated.

Thanks again, Cynthia and Marta Hartley

### LETTER POLICY

The New Voice will publish only those letters to the editor which include full name and either address or phone number so we can verify authenticity. You can request that your name not be published but we must be able to contact you for verification.

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# POETRY: Edited by Brian E. Bengtson

## THE POWER HAS GONE TO HIS HEAD!!

Good morning, everyone! This past month, as I have been out and about carousing and searching for the perfect night spot, many people have walked up to me and asked why I haven't been printing any of my stuff lately (well, it was a couple of people, but I digress.)

So being someone who is a slave to public demand (it all started with that "peer-pressure" thing back in High School. How was I to know that it would spiral into a life of fads, fashion, and more haircuts than you could shake a stick at?), I have decided to print some of my own pieces this month (plus, I haven't sold any pieces to any other magazines in a while, and I am starting to go into "publishing withdrawal".) It's my page, and I can do what I want!!!! Bwaaaa Haha!!! I am the master of my domain!!! It's mine, I tell you!! Mine!!! No one can stop me (well, Sharon can, but I would have to do something really bad to warrant that.)!!!

Anyway, here is a sampling of some of my newer pieces. I hope you enjoy them. If you do, you could always **buy my book!!!!**

Until next month, when I will have other poets sharing their works and we will not have to watch me go off the deep end, take care of each other.

Brian

## VERY FIRST

By Brian E. Bengtson

During this time of year,  
the first few days of the summer,  
when the afternoon teases me,  
daring me to embrace the heat,  
I think of the very first times.

I look up at the sharp-blue sky  
as it lies above the humidity;  
wonder if the scant few clouds  
are just here to check on our progress  
as we trudge through a day's sweat.

I remember a tangy aftertaste  
of hot nights in dim bars, where smoke  
melts in three a.m. mist and sound  
is just a forgotten prop left backstage  
not needed for this dress rehearsal.

I think of my innocence peeled off  
like a shirt peppered with a salty grime  
and I sometimes bask in a selfish glow  
of often-told stories; let the laughter  
cool my thirst in these long days.

## HIV MEDITATIONS:

By Brian E. Bengtson

### I: Waiting to Get the Results

I let the first bus pass me while I smoked,  
like the passage of nicotine outweighed my next  
destination. I watch the people around me, as  
the Omaha skyline accepts another sunset; a  
small furry man with crumpled army fatigues  
wanders from person to person, reciting his  
soliloquy for quarters. He smells like the coffee  
plant down by the banks of the Missouri.

I mumble a half-assed apology when it's my turn,  
and watch three kids, with torn shirts and shaved  
heads,  
attempt skateboard tricks on the curb. I start to  
feel  
the afternoon press on my shirt in waves of  
nervous  
sweat. Two hours, two more hours until some  
volunteer gives me one of the biggest "yes" or  
"no"  
answers of my life. I try to change the subject  
by studying the derelict passed out on the next  
block.

A later bus comes; I scramble to make a positive  
face,  
create a little dress-rehearsal as I drop three  
quarters,  
a dime and a nickel down the metal chute. I  
thought,  
*it shouldn't hurt this bad*, and sat in the side seats,  
saved for the old and weak. I watch spring  
struggle  
to be seen in those pieces of lawn between the  
sidewalk  
and the curb; my eyes close in silent prayer.  
I follow an old woman who struggles off the bus.

### II: Bloodletting at the Clinic

The eyes never seem to make it to my face  
as I join them on the quarterly march to a room,  
or a paper-covered table, or the chair made  
to help with the blood-draw, but I don't see them  
either.

My past hiccups at me, and fumbles  
for an apology as the scenes of my history  
are laid out for me again, like my favorite Sunday  
funnie,  
or the lights from the city on my bus ride home.

The men with the newly-minted opening lines,  
and the boys who needed prodding, the guys  
who just guessed right, or the ones  
who I decided were just for not having  
to go home alone, recite their names in the back  
of my head as I make the fist and turn away.

Curtains scraping on the floor excuse  
themselves for slamming me face-first back  
to that first gloryhole, the first wistful  
taking in of anxious breath, as I wish  
for the full picture on the other side.

I'm eight and a half again, praying to a God  
to prove that he's around and make the toy  
in my pocket disappear. I look at my chart,  
avert my gaze, and wonder if I left it outside.

### III: Looking Through the Closet

I have spent days deciding which pair of pants  
are past the point of hiding the weight loss, like  
reaping the wheat in October's late harvesting.  
Only three years ago, I would brag about this  
quest to friends at the bar, now I see this as  
another mark on my checklist of acceptance.

In the mornings, before anyone is awake,  
I watch my medication melt in a glass filled  
with lukewarm water. My body does not  
want this, and tells me with each spasm  
as I take another sip, and watch the dawn.

I watch each snuffle and sneeze like it is  
the climax of a movie and the detective  
has decided to share his secrets and clues  
with the innocent bystanders before the credits  
roll up the screen. I marvel at my fear now.

I remember the busride, and on those days  
when I feel my muscles betray me, I wonder  
if the answer would have been different  
if I smoked one less cigarette. I wonder  
if my pants would still fit, if my mornings would  
be quiet.

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- 4.) **Buy my book already!!!!**
- 5.) If you don't eat your asparagus, you can't have jell-o for dessert.

## PLEASE LIST SUPPORT GROUP

Received via e-mail:

Just a little bit of information. Kent with GLAGN came to our support meeting and he had some copies of *New Voice*. There was a mention of the support group in the March issue which will be really helpful. But I also think if we are listed under resources, it will be helpful as well.

We want to help as many students here as possible. This area of the state is so unlike Omaha or Lincoln. The community seems to be so homophobic that not even family members will come out to other family members. This we are hoping will be a positive step in dealing with myths and stereotypes that the straight community has formed due to lack of education.

Again, thanks for your support.

Ronnie  
Secretary and PR

*Editor's Note: Ronnie, we will be happy to list your group, but, please write out the things that you think are important — like the Name of the group, the address, a contact name and phone number, and when your meetings are held.*

## ART DISPLAY IN LINCOLN

Gallery 9, located in the Mission Arts Building at 127 South 9th Street in Lincoln, will feature a display of art entitled "My Life — An Introspective Exhibit of Recent Work" by Pummel. The exhibit opens on April 5 and runs through April 28.

## AKIRA KASAI AT BLUE BARN

The Blue Barn Theatre is proud to announce that, at 7 p.m. on April 1, Akira Kasai will appear in *Seraphita — Redefining Butch*. Admission to these events is \$10 for adults and \$5 for Students and Seniors. For further information and for reservations, call 345-1576.

## COOKBOOK TO HONOR THOSE LOST TO AIDS

Did someone you love die of AIDS? Is there some special dish that they prepared? Or was there some special dish that you just love to cook that was the very favorite of someone who died in the epidemic? A Virginia man is collecting these recipes to include in a very special cookbook that will include not only recipes but also first-person essays about the loved one. Similar to the NAMES' Quilt Project, the cookbook will allow parents, children, siblings, spouses, friends, lovers, neighbors and co-workers to remember those who they have lost to AIDS. Each recipe will also be accompanied by a first-person essay about their loved ones. This will allow so many wonderful memories, and recipes, to be remembered and shared with others. The proceeds from this book will be donated to the care of persons living with AIDS.

Contributors are asked to include their name, their love one's name and favorite recipe, and a brief essay (or a special memory) about their loved one. A late 1996 publication date is planned. Send all correspondence to: David R. Oliver, 205 W. 38th Street, Norfolk, VA 23504.

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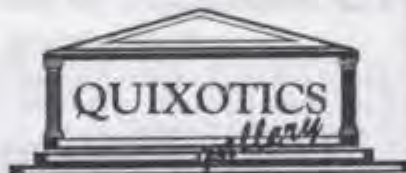
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## ON THE **LEGAL FRONTLINE**

by Thomas M. Petersen, J.D.

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### WHEN THE AXE FALLS

Many people have been fired from a job at one time or another. Termination from one's job can be traumatic and devastating. Often, people want to get even with their former employer. A person can feel that they have been unjustly terminated.

Employees may be classified into three groups: those with employment contracts, "at-will" employees and those without contracts but with some promise from the company that they will be employed for a period of time.

Persons with contracts are those with a written employment contract signed by the employer and employee. Generally, it will be signed before the person begins working and will specify such things as hours, wages, benefits, and length of employment. It is important to obtain a copy of the contract for future reference or in case of difficulty.

Persons without such a contract may still have some protection because a contract may be implied from an employee manual, past practices of the employer or from specific promises by the employer. A contract is more likely to be implied

if promises or terms of an employee manual are specific, definite and the employee has relied on them.

If a person doesn't fall into one of the above two categories, a person is considered an at-will employee. At-will employees can be terminated with or without cause at the whim of the management except for specific reasons.

However, an employer cannot fire a person because of the following: race, color, sex, creed, religion, national origin, disability (or mental impairment), age, or marital status. Those only apply if you work for a business with 15 or more employees. Notice that "sex" does not include sexual orientation.

Likewise, it is illegal for an employer to discriminate against an employee for filing a charge of discrimination, challenging and unlawful practice, or refusing to carry out an unlawful act.

In addition, state and federal law make sexual harassment in the workplace illegal. An employer cannot terminate, fail to promote, or demote a

person for refusing sexual advances. A sexual advance is making unwanted comments, contact, or gestures by an employer or co-worker. The harassment must be sufficiently severe so as to interfere with a person's work performance or create an intimidating workplace. A person must also show that the employer knew or should have known of the sexual conduct and failed to take remedial action.

Sexual orientation is a completely unprotected class of citizens in Nebraska. In other words, it is entirely legal to refuse to hire, fire, demote, or fail to promote someone based on his or her sexual orientation.

If a person feels that he or she has been discriminated against, they should contact the Nebraska Equal Opportunity Commission within 300 days of the last act of discrimination. If a person is successful in a claim for discrimination, retaliation, or sexual harassment, they may be entitled to damages. This can include back pay, out-of-pocket costs, reinstatement at their job, lost benefits, attorney's fees, and other damages.

A word of caution. This column is for informational purposes only, and is not for the replacement of your attorney. Each case has different facts which can produce different results, so please consult your attorney for advice relevant to your needs.

If you have any feedback, specific legal questions, or requests for an article on a specific topic, please write to us at:

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### ROBERTS' RULES: If not now, when?

by Shelly Roberts

It was something in her eyes. Or rather it was something that wasn't in the eyes anymore. Terror. Fury. Tears.

For five decades, she had been speaking her story. So perhaps the healing in the telling had surgically separated emotion from her side of the podium. It had not, however, lessened her impact.

A Polish Nazi prison camp survivor, she had come to teach us. Expecting the worst, most of us learned more. The devil was in these details in a far more forceful way than any book, or movie or docu-footage, which could never bring you close enough to absorb the realities. The knowledge that to stand in front of the soup-line was to risk a bowl of thin, warm water as your nourishment. That the opposite end offered both the promise of the life-giving, sparse vegetables from the bottom but also risk the empty pot. That survival might hinge on frontliners and backliners combining meager portions so that all might continue. Horror after horror. Detailed after detailed indignity.

I had come as a volunteer for training to join the *Survivors of Shoah* (the Hebrew word for Holocaust) *Video Project*, begun by Steven Spielberg, to capture the testimony of holocaust survivors. These depositions will be digitally transformed into a multi-media computer archive available to scholars and researchers worldwide. I'd held a microphone before. So I signed on to learn the delicate discipline of permissive, non-intrusive interviewing that assists the remainees to express their experiences.

And it was impossible to sit through the lecture about the fateful chronology, and not think of you.

"How is it possible," asked Professor of History, Alan Berger in his orientation presentation, "for a modern nation-state to carry

out the systematic murder of a whole population, not for any crime, but for the mere crime of the condition of their birth?"

I know that he speaks for people born Jewish, but I also know that he, now more than ever, speaks of people born homosexual who were once the most despised of the bunkmates. And who, even now, without order or cogent organization, are the most vulnerable to the extremes of the kinds of scapegoatism that history has shown can result from foundering economies, and extremists occupying the power.

Professor Berger detailed a national logbook that once did, and could once again, have your name carved on it. He refers to "Jews." I ask you to transpose "homosexuals."

"The Jews," he said, "were diabolized, demonized. Judged less than human. In demonization, the victim is banished from your world, the victim is *outside* the universe of moral obligation. If you think that someone is not human, sub human, anti-human, a virus, a vermin, that you owe that thing, nothing. *In fact, it is your duty to kill it.*"

Later he added that, "the act of being born was all it took to be eligible for extermination."

For the first time in history, birth itself was considered a crime punishable by death. At Dachau after the word "*crime*" was written the word "*Jew*." (And, we know, "*homosexual*.")

The good Doctor also outlined for us, other than fate, the kinds of factors that might well have meant the difference between extermination, and protection, support and survival.

"The prewar status of Jews determined their fates under Nazism. Acculturation, strong kinship ties, economic tolerance, *good interpersonal relationships with non-Jews*, all of these were

factors in determining if you lived."

The Danes, who gave up none of their Jewish citizens, said, "We helped the Jews because they were known to us as our fellow citizens."

Now, I wonder how there can be a single soul of us left who still prefers to live in hiding? I wonder how she or he, knowing the rising tide of current extreme religionists working toward government domination, can think that the pulled curtain is preferable or even viable? Who doesn't fathom that to declare yourself in the normal course of your business or industry, without fanfare or undue attention, and to work toward the normalization and legalization of our lives, creates a familiar safety that can never be achieved in hiding. That it works directly to deflect the danger that could someday again require our having to secret ourselves, not in closets, but in holes under floorboards or in cellars.

We say, frequently, in the Out Community, that no one can hate you if they know you.

The Jews say, "Never again." So should we. Let's not be left of of history again.

If you are a Jewish gay or lesbian holocaust survivor, and you understand the benefit of having your experience on record, please contact the Shoah Foundation at 1-800/661-3092 or 818/777-7802. If you are a non-Jewish gay or lesbian survivor, or know someone who wished she or he had a place to leave a record of what happened, please contact the foundation as well and strongly request that your voice be added to the documentation.

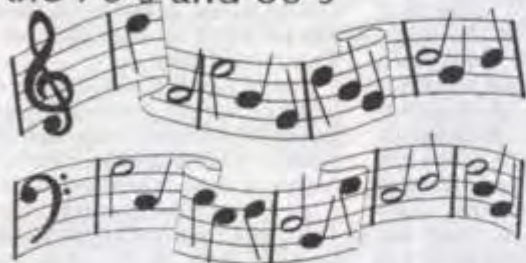
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# FEATURES

## FINDINGS: SURPRISING AND OTHERWISE

by Joseph Schuman

A researcher who recently completed a study of deaths among a group of men with AIDS in San Francisco found some of her own results surprising. I thought *those* results were pretty obvious - but some of her *other* results, which she didn't highlight, knocked me out.

According to newspaper results, the researcher, Dr. Molly Cooke, is active in Project Open Hand, the meals-on-wheels organization for people with AIDS. So you'd expect she'd have had some exposure. Still, she apparently thought assisted suicide was most typically "spurred by burned-out, angry or depressed caregivers," instead of what she actually found: that it was "motivated by a commitment to give [give] the best care" possible.

According to the study's abstract, the researchers followed a number of couples at least one of whom had AIDS. During the study, 136 men in the group died of AIDS-related causes. Of those, "66 received a medication increase immediately prior to death." In 17 cases, the increase was "definitely intended to hasten death."

The 17 cases where death was intended represent 26% of the medication increases and 12.5% of all the deaths. They are the focus of Dr. Cooke's study. I, on the other hand, am fascinated by the 49 cases where medication was increased

immediately before death, but which the researchers do *not* treat as cases of assisted suicide - the cases where they assumed that the medication increase was just for symptom control.

Of course, in some cases, people will increase medication because the patient's illness takes a turn. In those cases, both the medication increase and the death are caused by the downturn. But I don't believe that explanation accounts for 49 or 166 cases. In most of the cases, I bet the caregivers (and the patient, in cases where the patient was conscious) knew that death would follow from the increased medication and accepted that result.

Some of the 49 cases may have been "wink and nod" cases, where the intent was to shorten the dying process was clearly understood but never stated out loud. The abstract doesn't explain how the researchers separated the 17 cases which they treated as assisted suicide from the 49 other deaths that followed medication increase. They interviewed the caregiver after the death and asked about the purpose of the medication. Did they take the caregiver's answers at face value? Despite assurances of confidentiality, people may fudge a little when somebody asks them if they've been engaging in many felonies lately.

Besides, I don't want to quibble. I don't think there's a very important difference between doing

something which you *intend* to hasten death; and doing something which you *know* will hasten death, accepting that result. The decision is the same: "Now is the time; I'm ready." In some sense, death may not have been *intended* - but it was *chosen*.

One of the classic arguments against doctor-assisted suicide is the possibility of abuse. Abuse is a serious question. But criminalization is not the answer. Criminalization drives decision-making underground where it is made secretly, without review, at best by the family and patient with the doctor's consultation, and at worst by the doctor unilaterally.

As a member and chapter officer of the Hemlock Society, I was hardly unfamiliar with these ideas. Nor was I surprised to learn that the practice of using pain medication to shorten the process of death is widespread. But widespread is one thing and omnipresent is something else. This study suggests the latter. Sixty six of the these 136 men - 48.5% - chose the time of their dying. Now *that* is a surprise.

*Joseph Schuman is a Chicago attorney. He concentrates his practice in wills, trusts, estate planning, and probate administration. Copyright 1995, Joseph Schuman.*

## SMOKIN' HOT REVIEW

By Al S.

### Jewel

As usual, my late night travels took me to - surprise! - the Ranch Bowl. On Valentine's Day I saw a gem of a show. Singer/songwriter/guitarist Jewel showed her many faceted talents on 19 tunes. She began with her most notorious song, "Pieces of You," which is a litany of stereotypes, including a verse about "faggots." In the song, she is asking if you hate "them" because they're a piece of you. Then she told a story about a high school she played at where the principal asked her to leave for being prejudiced. It turned out he is gay and thought the song put down homosexuals.

Another song, "Breaking Up," had a good line in it: "I never get lonely - I enjoy masturbating. I'm celebrating." Then after singing "Valentine's Day," about a break-up, she said

"F---k Valentine's Day." The audience exploded with applause of recognition.

Jewel reminded me of 3 people: Tori Amos without a piano, Joni Mitchell minus 30 years and Tatum O'Neal in "Little Darlings."

### Sexy Shorts

**March 3rd** - Nils Lofgren's guitarist was young and cute with a dark blond pageboy haircut, wearing tight, light blue jeans and a dress shirt. By the encore, the shirt was totally unbuttoned, exposing the sexiest line of hair you ever saw, from his chest down into his jeans. I think he played the guitar pretty good, too!

**March 13th** - Strutter, one of the best KISS-offs, featured Dino Pileggi as Paul Stanley. If you like hairy chests, this guy looked like he has

on an Angora sweater. Andrew French, as Peter Criss, is a little cute hairless guy with a nice build. All the guy's fights were, shall I say, eye-catching. Many of the 250 or so would like to have gotten a little "kiss" out of any of them.

**March 14th** - Opening for Handsome (they were) and The Deftones (definitely deafening) was local band Trailer Park. They mix punk rock with heavy metal thanks to new guitarist Sean. He is knock-out handsome, worth seeing anytime. The real feature of his show was the crowd: lots of boys moshing, which always looks like an excuse for hot, sweaty, half-naked, intimate contact (albeit in a violent sort of way.) It's hard to find yourself among a sexier bunch of bodies except maybe in the Lancer's locker room after a big game.

Have fun this month - and keep it hot!

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## RUN TO THE BORDERS

by Diane L. Moore

Whew!! Is it really April? Thank the Goddess, Spring has sprung! It is time for much new Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Trans material to be released. So, in this edition of "Run to the Borders", I will give you an idea of upcoming Lesbian book titles (sorry, guys — this one's for the Ladies.)

Finally! Publishing has caught up with the hype. About 2 years after being declared "chic" and "in", publishers are starting to feature more books by, for, and about us! I am really excited by this season's crop of lesbian non-fiction, an area that has really lagged behind the boom in publishing for gay men.

### FUN STUFF TO LOOK FOR THIS SPRING:

by Kate Jackman

**SO YOU WANT TO BE A LESBIAN** by L. Tracey is a fun, humorous look at lesbian life. It is designed in the fashion of the old Preppie Handbook (everyone remember that one?) and, of course, the more recent Unofficial Gay Manual. This is going to be a fun one, probably the strongest seller in the section this season. Out in time for pride month, June. Paperback, \$10.95.

**GIRLS NEXT DOOR** is by two of my favorites, Lindsay Van Gelder and Pamela Robin Brandt. These two wrote a funny, informative guide for lesbian couples traveling in Europe called *Are You Two Together?* (now sadly out of print). This new book could be called "Travels Through Lesbian America". I am anticipating a humorous travel narrative/cultural studies book on the great variety of life for lesbians in America today. Hard cover, \$23.

**NEW OUR RIGHT TO LOVE** by G Vida — At long last, this classic is back in print. A backlist standard for years to come. Due out in May. Paperback, \$14.

New in paperback: *Two of Three Things I Know for Sure* by Dorothy Allison; *And Say Hi To Joyce* by columnist Deb Price and her partner Joyce Murdoch, a second edition of *Different Daughters* by Louise Rafkin; and novelist E. Donoghue's look at lesbianism in 18th century Britain, *Passions Between Women* coming out in paperback.

**Great Stuff!** Enjoy this wonderful time of year, I look forward to seeing you at the Borders!

## HEARTLAND AA ROUNDUP APRIL 26-28

Heartland Roundup '96 "Recovery Through Unity" will be held at the Ramada Inn Airport in Omaha April 26 through April 28. The Roundup begins with Registration at 6 p.m. on Friday, April 26. Speakers begin at 8:00 p.m. and continue through 12:00 p.m. on Sunday, April 28. Featured speakers include Griff from Omaha, Carl from Des Moines, Edie from Sacramento, California, and Joyce from Prescott, Arizona. There will be several workshops, a dessert buffet, and evening banquet, a continental breakfast, lots of entertainment and even more fellowship. Registration for all events including the banquet is \$29. Registration for just the speakers, workshops and the continental breakfast on Sunday is \$16.00. Registration for just the Saturday Buffet and entertainment is \$13.00. You may register by contacting the Heartland Roundup Association, P.O. Box 573, Omaha, NE 68101-0573.



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# ELECTIONS ARE COMING! ELECTIONS ARE COMING!

By John D'Emilio

Now that Iowa and New Hampshire are behind us, you can bet the media will sharpen their focus until almost nothing but election news is in view. This year's campaigns seem especially important. Not only will gay and lesbian issues surface directly — witness the Marriage Protection Rally in Iowa — but the whole tone and content of the campaigns could decisively shape the political context in which we do our work for years to come.

Elections like this one, in which extremist candidates are running for office, raise interesting questions about whom we support and don't, about how we decide who is for or against us, and about the calculus of politics that we each carry in our heads. Sometimes the decision is easy: what self-respecting lesbian or gay man would do anything but actively oppose Helms, Dornan, or Buchanan, who have made attacking us their mission? By the same token, how can we be anything but happy when Barbara Boxer, a Senator from California, runs for re-election?

Most candidates fall somewhere in between these two poles and, in a two-party system where we don't have many choices, we face interesting dilemmas. If Sam Nunn, a middle of the road sort of guy on most issues, had chosen to run for re-election, what would gay Georgians do? After all, he did lead the charge in support of the military's exclusion policy. On the other hand, would an untested Republican opponent, from a region in which the party is deeply homophobic, have been better?

Or, take another Georgian — Newt Gingrich.

I've heard many say that, with a lesbian half-sister, he can't be all bad, and that, since becoming majority leader, he's quieted his antigay rhetoric and kept the House "extremists" in line. Yet, at the same time, he has been the architect of the so-called Republican Revolution which threatens the viability of programs such as Medicaid and which has created a climate hostile to civil rights of any sort. He also allowed the House to hold the antigay hearings on schools, which Lou Sheldon requested. How can Gingrich's reelection possibly be good for us?

The question of whom to support becomes especially fascinating when we look at the field of Republican presidential hopefuls in the wake of Buchanan's victory in New Hampshire. Shortly after the primary, the Log Cabin Republicans said that, in contrast to the extremist Buchanan, four other candidates had "potential": Dole, Alexander, Forbes, and Lugar.

The response puzzles me. Certainly, if Buchanan is your point of reference, those other candidates look good. But let's sharpen our lens. Forbes, for instance, avoided the "social issues" for a long time. But when Republican Christian extremists in Iowa made his silence an issue, he spoke out against same-sex marriage and gays in the military. Dole and Alexander are making a big deal about Buchanan's extremism after his New Hampshire showing, but both of them were willing to sign on to a hate-inspired anti-gay "Marriage Protection" rally in Des Moines.

But there's a larger issue that's being ignored. "Moderate" Republican presidential aspirants are

not running solo. They are the candidates of a party which is able to make a bid to become the majority party precisely because extremists have flocked to the GOP. Without the Christian extremists, without the crusaders for "traditional family values," the Republican party wouldn't have a chance in hell of electing a president or controlling Congress. Whoever runs for President as a Republican will need the intolerant hate-mongers in order to win, and therefore be in debt to them. And in most states, the same is true of Republicans running for the Senate, the House or for state office.

Then there's Clinton. He leads the party in which the strongest support for gay rights is to be found. But he, too, opposes same-sex marriage and gave us "don't ask, don't tell". On the other hand, he's been good on appointing us to government positions, supports the bans on discrimination in employment, and employs a political rhetoric of inclusion and tolerance. All in all, a mixed record.

In the end, deciding who to support this year will involve a lot more than simply assessing the words and deeds of particular candidates, although that can be a starting point. It also requires, especially in races for national office, that we scrutinize who a candidate is willing to run alongside, what political environment he or she is choosing to call home, and whose support they require in order to win.

John D'Emilio is Director of the Policy Institute of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.



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# "OUT IN THE STARS"

by C. Lichtenstein

## Astrological Forecast for April 1996

If we are banking on April showers to bring those May flowers, be prepared to dig deep and dirty into the soil and plant a big one where it will bloom. We have the usual movement of the Sun through Aries and Taurus this month, but the addition bonus is taskmaster Saturn which changes signs from dreamy Pisces to pioneering Aries. Let's take a top view of this planetary push this month.

**ARIES (March 21 - April 20)** Learn your lessons well, proud Ram, the planets emphasize your relationships to others this month whether it's in first impressions or in your career. Don't be hampered by a lack of self-confidence — that's just not your bag anyway. Instead, reappraise how you appear to others and make some... shall we say... enhancements on perfection.

**TAURUS (April 21 - May 21)** Intuition may be a little fuzzy and off, but no matter. Proud Bulls are a fairly conservative lot and I know you won't take any drastic action based on a stray whim and hazy thought. Use this time to recharge and expand your vista. Meditate and recharge. Then get out there, do some good deeds for our community and build up the karma points.

**GEMINI (May 22 - June 21)** Although gay twins are a fairly sociable lot, there are times when even you take friendships for granted. No more! The planets have decided to focus the heat on your platonic support systems to strengthen the ties that bind. (Some people like it like that...) Who loves ya baby? Put all relationships to the acid test. Radical transformations will separate the wheat from the chaff.

**CANCER (June 22 - July 23)** As if life wasn't difficult enough, now all stress and strain focuses on professional concerns. Don't worry pink Crab; it's time you went for the gold in your career, relying more and more on your innate knowledge and superb training. You know you've proven yourself on the day to day job. Your success just need to be presented to the powers that be so they can see it clearly.

**LEO (July 24 - August 23)** Well the good news is that your love life will pick up considerably with the movement of the planets. You'll wind up with a queer partner indeed! The bad news is that legal entanglements will get you by the short hairs if you haven't done your homework. Study hard regal and proud Lion, it's time to put your advanced knowledge to the test and see what the jury decides.

**VIRGO (August 24 - September 23)** Even shy Virgos have physical desires. If the planets turn up the heat, it may be to teach you a stern lesson on the balance of your inner needs with the needs of others. Your future reads like a cheezy romance novel; lonely nebbish dressed in pantaloons fights dragons and other assorted nasties to rescue trapped prom queen. Be sure to ask for cab fare in the morning.

**LIBRA (September 24 - October 21)** A life of balance and harmony gets a dead weight placed on one side of the scale. Review your one to one relationships and see if they are providing you with everything you need to feel happy and fulfilled. If you can cope in your present arrangement, be prepared to make concessions. If not, toss off the extra weight and seek other, greener pastures.

**SCORPIO (October 22 - November 22)** Roll up your sleeves queer Scorpion, it's time to get to work in a big way. There are lessons to be learned on the job, particularly in the way you treat underlings; the chickens have not only come home to roost, they are rotisserieed. You have been reviewing what is and is not important in terms of money, possessions and personal values. Now apply what you have discovered about yourself.

**SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 22)** Gambling will no longer be the blissful pastime it once was to all happy gay Archers. Now you'll learn how to earn money the old fashioned way (steal it?... no earn it!). Indeed, everything having to do with fun and frolic will

have an underlying moral lesson. It's all part of your personal transformation. Tomorrow you may decide to dye your hair lavender, but only if it fulfills the true inner you.

**CAPRICORN (December 23 - January 20)** It's time to tackle all unresolved projects around the house. Anything that needs repair and sprucing up must get your attention now, while the desire and energy is hot. You are primed and ready to turn your home into a showplace from which you can throw fabulous parties and have great fun. Do your homework on home repairs; it will go much faster and more to your satisfaction.

**AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19)** Although Aquarians are always more than pleased to share their opinions with others, I advise you to think carefully before you speak. Your communication may have an unintended effect and may take you out on a tangent from which you dare not return. Don't speak. Learn and absorb knowledge like a sponge. You'll have an opportunity to squeeze yourself out at another time.

**PISCES (February 20 - March 20)** It is good to have goals and aspirations, but be sure that they mesh with your most personal value system. All that you hold near and dear will undergo an inspection. It may come from the most unlikely of sources — a stray intuitive thought or a kindness from a stranger. Don't ask why, just keep a look out for opportunity and be grateful to your gay guardian angel. Career prospects open wide — go for the gold!

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# FROM THE POOP SHEET

by Ace Landon, Nationally Syndicated Columnist



Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns! Ol' Tommy Jefferson said a mouthful, didn't he! "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Quite a mouthful, huh? And to think it came from the mouth of Thomas J. who was far, far from being angelic with his treatment, er MIS-treatment of women and his stable of slaves. I guess this shows-to-go-ya there's so much good in the worst of us and so much bad in the best of us that it's hard to tell which of us ought to reform the rest of us, huh?!

Jefferson did tune into reality however in stating that IF you and I as world citizens are to be free, we must be eternally vigilant. Vigilant that freedoms citizens deserve are granted to them and vigilant that freedoms already gained are not taken away from us. A truth for any human on the planet and a further truth we all must deal with is: THERE IS A PRICE TO PAY PLUS AN UPKEEP COST!

Why must this vigilance be? Aren't we an intelligent people? Yes, but vigilance must be because not all humans mature at the same rate and not all humans progress in intelligence at the same rate. Progress is a determinable factor resulting from education or lack thereof. Ignorance causes decent people to become planetary buttheads... and buttheads must be live with until...??...

"Decent people"? Yeah, you know, like a lot of us have folks who are decent people, and, they're real pains in the neck or some lower extremity because their ignorance ALLOWS them to be bigoted, prejudiced or even hateful as a

result of their small-mindedness. It all comes to light maybe after they found out we are homosexuals. We thus have problems with many of our normally very decent parents and relatives because of their ignorance regarding the subject of homosexuality.

Now, heteros don't have a corner on the ignorance market however. One may find the same ignorance amongst members of our own gay and lesbian community. Have you tuned into some TV Talk Shows lately featuring our own!? We have many of our own who think of themselves as being superior White or Black or whatever elitists who see other Races as being inferior.

Now, if these dear brothers and sisters were educated, they would know that Science has provided us with facts; facts which reveal we are races with One source; Red, Yellow, Black, White, Brown, Albino, etc. —ONE SOURCE! Thus we are all related to one another as any family group would be. We are all cousins, no matter what color our skins, of probably a 55th generation. If we truly knew scientific facts we would realize there might be sibling rivalries rather than bigotry and prejudice exhibited even in our gay and lesbian community.

Now what would happen if our dear, DECENT fellow heteros knew the history of homosexuality? Knew the history? YES, there IS A HISTORY OF EVERY physical OR philosophical present. If they knew that when we tell some figure of ancient history was, as we would say, "gay"; what we are actually saying was that they were involved in same-sex activities. "Gay" wasn't even used to denote homosexuality until 1969ish and "homosexuality" wasn't even a word until 1869ish...and we may know this but maybe they don't. We know that same-sex relationships were even totally acceptable societally for century after century. We know because we have taken time to study history; but do they know? We know it became unacceptable to have same-sex relationships because it became politically profitable to condemn it. The Religious groups didn't even condemn it until later when they realized it could be a profitable move on their part

as well. My word! You mean it wasn't the Fundies who first spouted hatred on the same-sex relationships way before the word "homosexuality" came into existence!? Well kiss ma' grits! That's positively correct?

And how do we know all this? We can know by erasing ignorance through education. IE: HISTORICAL RESEARCH. It's all available in Archives around the world for anyone seeking release from the bondage of ignorance...gay and straight archives. Needless to say, but I will anyway; this is not an overnight educational process; becoming erudite is never overnight. But for those straights and gays who don't want to appear as the south end of a donkey going north, it should be a goal. SO where might one start? Fortunately for you and me there have been some wonderful latter-day publications this past quarter-century; which makes our starting point much easier than it was for our closeted and uncloseted predecessors as well as the straight community-at-large.

My first suggestion would be Yale professor Dr. John Boswell's 1980 U. of Chicago Press book titled: *Christianity, Social Tolerance, and Homosexuality: Gay People in Western Europe from the Beginning of the Christian Era to the Fourteenth Century.*

Secondly: a 1994 Alyson Publications book edited by Kevin Jennings titled: *Becoming Visible - A Reader in Gay and Lesbian History for High School and College Students.*

These two publications will put your feet on the ground running. IF you desire to bring yourself from ignorance to educated. And what is more, you can go from your safely-at-home studies into the brave new world of Museums and Archives into a world of strength through knowledge.

And that's the straight poop from the Poop Sheet!

Mr. Landon is former Mg. Editor of *Zipper Magazine* and *The Coast to Coast Times*. His autobiographical legacy: *The Closets Are Empty... The Dining Room's Full is in hardcover by Ponderosa Publishing House. Visa/MC orders: 800-356-9315.*

## LEATHER MUSEUM

The Leather Archives & Museum, founded in 1992, finally has a home of its own. LA&M board members Chuck Renslow and Tony DeBlase presided over a ribbon ceremony, opening the first museum exhibit devoted to the history and development of the Leather/sm/fetish communities of North America.

You can find the exhibit at 5007 N. Clark St. in Chicago. The Leather Archives & Museum occupies a storefront a few doors away from the Chicago Eagle. And it shares a canopy inspired by the leather pride flag with the adjacent Eagle Leathers. Museum hours are from 4PM to Midnight every Saturday and by appointment. Phone (312) 275-1570 for further information.

The current exhibit features items from the LA&M collections including books, magazines, posters, run pins, friendship pins, club colors, promotional items, photographs, original art, titleholder sashes, trophies commemorative and memorial pieces, and leather items including a collection of leather roses by a variety of artisans. Some of the more significant items on display are The first issues of *Matachine Review* (1957), *The Advocate* (1967) and many other periodicals significant in the struggle for sexual liberation.

## CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY AND NAP CO-SPONSOR SPEAKER

David Hilfiker, M.D. to speak at Creighton April 1

David Hilfiker, M.D., Medical Director of Community of Hope Health Services and Joseph's House, a home for men with AIDS who were formerly homeless, will speak on his work on April 1 at 7 p.m. in Walsh Hall of the Rigge Science Building at Creighton University. A reception for Dr. Hilfiker will follow his address.

This presentation is co-sponsored by the Nebraska AIDS Project and the Creighton University Center for Health Policy and Ethics and Center for Justice and Peace.

Dr. Hilfiker is the author of two books, *Healing the Wounds* and *Not All of Us are Saints*. The latter work won the 1995 Christopher Award. Both books are about his own work as a physician.

For further information please call the Creighton University Center for Health Policy and Ethics at 280-2017.

## SO. ILLINOIS GROUP CELEBRATES 25TH

The Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Friends (GLBF) is celebrating its 25th reunion as a registered student organization on April 12-14. In honor of its silver anniversary, GLBF will be hosting a "Gay-la" celebration.

Originally named the Gay Liberation Organization, the group gained recognized student status in the Spring of 1971. The group changed its name to the Gay People's Union in 1975, the Gay & Lesbian People's Union in 1980, and, finally, the Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Friends. The group has undergone a long evolutionary process, striving to reflect inclusiveness and diversity of the Southern Illinois University community.

The Gay-la celebration weekend will include an art show by GLB alumni entitled "Something Queer's Going On," and afternoon picnic, an evening banquet and dance, a champagne brunch, and a tour of the campus. Registration is \$30 for alumni & friends. For more information, contact GLBF at Mailcode 4425 Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois 62901; phone 618-453-5151; e-mail glbf5151@siu.edu

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# PAST/OUT

BY DAVID BIANCO

## Was Barney Frank the first gay congressman?

No. Frank was the first congressman to come out as gay by his own choice, but there have been several other gay and probably-gay members of Congress over the years. Some were exposed while in office (usually because of an arrest for public sex), and some came out after retirement.

Some examples of members of Congress who were exposed for pursuing gay sex while in office:

- New York Democrat Fred Richmond, who was charged in 1978 with paying a 16-year-old boy for sex.

- Right-wing Republican Jon Hinson, who pled not guilty in connection with his two arrests for public sex while in office: one in 1976 at the Iwo Jima Memorial and again five years later in a House office building. The Mississippi representative later admitted, "I look back now and see that I was a gay man trying to lie to myself."

- Fellow right-winger Robert Bauman, a Republican from Maryland, who lost his bid for re-election in 1980 in the face of publicity about his arrest for soliciting sex with a 16-year-old boy. Bauman at first denied being gay and claimed to be cured of his "homosexual tendencies," but a few years later he came out publicly, ultimately writing a book detailing his life as a closeted, anti-gay congressman.

Other members of Congress came out or were revealed as gay or bisexual after they retired. One example is Republican Stewart McKinney of Connecticut, who in 1987 became the first former member of Congress to die of AIDS. Thus far, no female member of Congress has come out in office or after leaving Washington, although many gay activists in the capital can privately name several who are lesbian but "discreet."

There are currently three openly gay members of Congress serving in Washington, each with an interesting story:

- Massachusetts Democrat Gerry Studds, who in 1983 was censured by the House for having sex with a 17-year-old male congressional page not long after he was first elected to the House in 1972. Studds responded to the censure by proudly affirming his homosexuality - and has been re-elected six times since coming out.

- Frank, also of Massachusetts, who came out in an interview with the *Boston Globe* in May 1987. Frank was involved in a scandal a few years later involving a former prostitute who worked for him and claimed he used Frank's Washington home as a base for prostitution. Frank was reprimanded by Congress in 1990, and has since been re-elected three times. Last year, Frank was in the news because House Majority Leader Dick Armey had "accidentally" referred to him as "Barney Fag" while speaking to reporters.

- Steve Gunderson of Wisconsin, who is the first openly gay Republican member of Congress. In 1991, a gay activist confronted Gunderson in a suburban Washington bar, throwing a drink on his face when he refused to commit to coming out publicly. The incident was reported in the media both in the capital and in Wisconsin, and Gunderson slowly moved toward greater support for gay-rights issues as well as increased openness about his own sexual orientation. By 1994, he had come out publicly in the *Advocate*, and was returned to office in the Republican sweep that November.

Neither Studds nor Gunderson is running for re-election this year, so it is possible the Congressional Gay Caucus will be down to one member next year. However, two new openly

gay Democratic candidates have reasonably good shots at being elected to seats in the House this November - State Senator Dale McCormick of Maine and attorney Rick Zbur of Long Beach, California.

## When was the first gay church founded?

In 1956, gay rights pioneer Chuck Rowland started the Church of ONE Brotherhood. The "ONE" in its title referred to an important early gay rights magazine and organization. Rowland's Los Angeles church was significant because it represented an early attempt by gays and lesbians to organize their spiritual lives in a gay context, but it was short-lived, barely lasting a year.

There were no gay churches or synagogues in the late 1950s or early 1960s, although other gay institutions expanded significantly during that time. In fact, it wasn't until 1968 that Rev. Troy Perry and about a dozen gay Christians founded the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), again in Los Angeles. Since its founding, MCC has aimed to be a non-denominational church inclusive of gays and lesbians of all religious traditions.

In its early years, Los Angeles MCC had difficulty finding a location that would allow it to rent space to hold services. Perry, along with leaders of the Metropolitan Community Churches springing up in other cities, responded by raising money to purchase or build buildings of their own. While this initially provided MCC worshipers with a "safe space" for prayer and fellowship, it also provided a target for those who hated gays but especially loathed the idea of a gay church. Arsonists were blamed for massive fires at MCC San Francisco in 1972 and MCC Los Angeles in 1973.

MCC has grown rapidly in the nearly 30 years since its founding, and now boasts more than 32,000 members in close to 300 churches in 45 states and 16 countries.

*David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history and politics at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. If there's anything about the history of gays and/or lesbians you've always wondered about, contact him care of this newspaper or through his E-mail address: aribianco@aol.com.*

## SAME-SEX MARRIAGE GETS HEARING

by Scott Winkler, Citizens for Equal Protection

On February 28, the Judiciary Committee of the Nebraska Legislature held public hearings on LB 1260. This bill would legalize and recognize same-sex marriages in the state.

The hearing room for the testimony was filled to capacity and the overflow crowd was able to monitor the proceedings on screens in the hallway outside the hearing room. As with the workplace nondiscrimination bill, the gay and lesbian community was very well represented by people from Lincoln, Omaha and the surrounding area.

By far, the majority of those in attendance supported the bill. Senator Ernie Chambers of Omaha, the bill's sponsor, introduced LB 1260 and testified first in favor of the bill. Because gay and lesbian couples cannot be legally married, Chambers said, they are denied the legal rights and benefits given to heterosexual married couples, such as joint insurance policies, tax advantages, the right to make medical decisions for a spouse, retirement benefits and hospital visitation rights.

Voluntary relationships between homosexuals, he said, hurt no one and are no one else's business. Chambers stated that as long as

he was in the legislature, issues relating to homosexuals would continue to be discussed, even though many people are opposed to such discussion.

Other than Chambers, 16 people testified in favor of LB 1260. Many were gays and lesbians who said they were involved in long-term monogamous relationships. Kristen Job of Lincoln, a lesbian involved in such a relationship, said the issues of same-sex marriages was "a basic civil rights issue."

Sharon Van Butsel (editor of *The New Voice*) testified with her partner of eight years, Carla Petersen and said they own a home and car together and had credit cards together. "We live a normal married life," she said. "The God we believe in knows we are married. Our lives are entwined - and that will not change, regardless of what happens with this bill. But it is important to have social status. It is important to us to be married."

Matt LeMieux, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union in Nebraska, said he believes the state had no rational basis for prohibiting same-sex marriages. Such a prohibition, he said, seems to violate the 14th

Amendment of the U.S. Constitution, which says that no state shall deny any person equal protection under the law.

Eight people spoke in opposition to LB 1260. Among them were Doug Patton of the Christian Coalition and Guyla Mills of the Nebraska Family Counsel. Those in opposition could do little more than play upon stereotypes of sexual behavior - a usual tactic of religious political extremists such as these organizations.

Jim Cunningham, executive director of the Nebraska Catholic Conference, continued the Catholic Church's hard line of religious oppression aimed at gay and lesbian relationships. Cunningham told Senators, "Not to be misled by the rhetoric of individual rights and equality." The issue of same-sex marriage, he said, is one of institutional definition and not of civil rights.

The Catholic Church or any other religious institution, does not have the right to define, in its own terms, civil and legal relationships under the jurisdiction of the state.

As of this writing, the Judiciary Committee had not yet voted on LB 1260.

*Editor's Note: LB 1260 was not voted out of Committee.*

## ANATOMY OF A GAY PAT BUCHANAN SUPPORTER

Justin Raimondo is an openly gay man who believes that, "Pat Buchanan is absolutely the best thing for America." A longtime activist in conservative and Libertarian circles, Raimondo headed Buchanan's operation in San Francisco in 1992 and is volunteering for the 1996 campaign.

"I see no conflict between my political beliefs and my personal life," said Raimondo, 44. "Being homosexual is not like being a Libertarian or a socialist."

Raimondo's political affiliation flies in the face of the views of many gay people who consider Buchanan a bigot and hater. Buchanan has said he would keep openly gay people out of the top White House positions if elected. But, according to Raimondo, the candidate knows and apparently doesn't care that his San Francisco supporter is gay.

"The whole gay agenda is just a sham," Raimondo said. "The whole thing they say that Pat Buchanan wants to round us all up and send us to concentration camps is just a bunch of crap. It's a lie and a smear. He welcomes gay workers in his campaign. He does not think that homosexuality is all that great a thing. But I don't need his approval. Why does any gay person need anyone's benediction?"

Raimondo said a person's sexual orientation should be a private matter and that gay or lesbian people should not "force their sexuality on an unwilling public."

Raimondo, a New York native who has lived in San Francisco for 24 years, does not agree with

Buchanan on every issue. "I am pro-choice, but I agree with so much that Pat stands for. He has really gone beyond right and left to revitalize this country." Buchanan did write the foreword to the second edition of Raimondo's 1993 book, "Reclaiming the American Right: The Lost Legacy of the Conservative Movement."

His perception of Buchanan's stance on gays does not sit well with San Francisco Supervisor Tom Ammiano, who is gay. The executive director of Log Cabin Republicans, Richard Tafel, is urging gay Americans to help defeat the conservative commentator. "The Republican party is beginning to reap the harvest of pandering to the far right," Tafel said. "Buchanan's irresponsible rhetoric about gays and lesbians should cause all Americans to shudder. Stopping Pat Buchanan now should be the goal of every gay and lesbian American."

You can contact Justin Raimondo at his e-mail address: [raimondo@antiwar.com](mailto:raimondo@antiwar.com) or visit his web site at <http://www.raimondo.antiwar.com>

## ADVERTISE IN PRIDE GUIDE

If you want to increase your business by reaching 6900 readers, showing your pride, and supporting the GLBT community, call Lynn Marie at 491-4065 to advertise in the 1996 Pride Guide.

## AFFIRMING THE ONES YOU LOVE

### Des Moines Conference for Families/Friends of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals, Transgendered Persons

On Saturday, April 13, Plymouth Congregational Church will host an all day conference targeting the families and friends of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered persons. The goal of this conference is to answer questions and help those attending to be confident enough to be affirming of those they love.

The keynote speaker, Charles Briem, M.Div., and Associate Conference Minister of the Iowa Conference of the United Church of Christ, and active PFLAG member, will speak on "How Scripture Affirms." Workshop sessions will include several choices from such titles as "Substance Abuse and Suicide," "Deciding to Have a Family," "Becoming a Family," "Affirming Your Gay Parents," "Legal Situations," "Social, Workplace, and Family Occasions," "Adults Affirming Adolescents," "Affirming Your Fellow Students," "But I Don't Know What to Do," and "AIDS and Sexually Transmitted Diseases."

Registration is only \$3 for the day. You may also purchase lunch for \$4 or you may bring your own. To register for the workshop write "Affirming the Ones You Love" 4126 Ingersoll Ave., Des Moines, Iowa 50312, or call (515) 255-3149.

This workshop is made possible through the Earl M. Willits Foundation, Plymouth Congregational Church, First Unitarian Church of Des Moines, Supportive Straights, and PFLAG.

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# NATIONAL NEWS

## SPONSORS WITHDRAW FROM S. DAKOTA EVENT

Arch-conservative politicians in South Dakota may have successfully gotten an anti-gay marriage law off the ground and onto the books, but their efforts may have seriously deflated a major international ballooning event in the state.

The success of the Governor's Cup, a popular event featuring top national and international balloonists, has been threatened by the passage of HB1143 into law. The event was scheduled to be held this June. HB1143 bans the recognition of same-sex marriage in the state — it was signed into law by Governor Bill Janklow.

South Dakota natives Jacques Soukup and Kirk Thomas, longtime partners, philanthropists, investment consultants, internationally recognized balloonists and NGLTF members, canceled support of the Governor's Cup in protest.

In a sharply worded statement to the Cup's organizing committee, Soukup and Thomas said, "We cannot in good conscience be associated with a government that has just passed a mean-spirited and hateful piece of legislation that hurts us, hurts the 60,000 gay and lesbian people of South Dakota, hurts members of our families and ultimately the people of South Dakota."

Soukup and Thomas are major figures on the international sport aviation scene. They have won numerous race awards and ballooning citations and played a key role in the creation of the South Dakota Governor's Cup. They founded the Soukup and Thomas International Balloon and Airship Museum in Mitchell, SD. The list of their work for the gay community goes on and on.

The two had planned to serve as Cup officials and event organizers before the bill passed. "There will probably be no measurers, stewards, judges, meteorologists or jury members," said Soukup and Thomas. "Since we know most competitive balloonists worldwide, we will inform them of the actions of the South Dakota government and will discourage anyone from attending this event held in such an inhospitable state."

## THREE STATES FIGHT PRIVACY ISSUES

Tennessee and Montana gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens have scored major victories in the struggle for the right to privacy. Courts in both states found sodomy laws to be unconstitutional. Generally, sodomy laws criminalize anal or oral sex between consenting adults, even in the privacy of their homes, heterosexual adults included.

A January Tennessee appeals court decision ruled the state's sodomy law unconstitutional because it infringed on a citizen's right to privacy under state constitution. Tennessee's sodomy law, the Homosexual Practices Act, specifically targets same-sex, consensual sodomy. The measure remains enforceable pending an appeal.

In Montana, a district court found the state's sodomy law unconstitutional and granted a permanent injunction against the law. Like Tennessee, the court found the law in violation of a citizen's right to privacy under the state constitution. The victory in Montana is especially significant as it came only eleven months after right-wing legislators used the state's sodomy law, the Deviate Sexual Conduct Statute, as justification for a "gay registration bill". The bill was defeated after massive public outcry.

Meanwhile, the Kentucky gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community is battling amendments to two bills that would recriminalize sodomy. The Kentucky Supreme Court struck down the state's sodomy law in 1992 as unconstitutional.

According to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force's Right to Privacy Map of the U.S., five other states — Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, and Maryland — criminalize sodomy only between persons of the same sex. Fifteen other states have enforceable sodomy laws on the books pertaining to both same-sex and opposite-sex partners. Twenty eight states are "free states"

To receive an updated NGLTF sodomy map, send \$2 to NGLTF/Publications, 2320 17th St NW, Washington, DC 20009.

## "BLUE VELVET BALL" TO BE HELD IN ST. JOSEPH, MO

### "The Prom You Never Had"

The Midland Empire Task Force on Gay & Lesbian Concerns based in St. Joseph, Missouri will be holding the first annual "Blue Velvet Ball" on Saturday, April 13. The "Blue Velvet Ball" will be "the prom you never had" but certainly dreamed about. This will be your opportunity to attend a Prom with the same-sex partner of your choice (or not), complete with all of the dance music, punch, paper streamers, mirrored ball, and other Prom decor.

METF President Randall Cupp commented that "This is the first event of this type to ever be held in St. Joseph. This will be a unique opportunity not only for the local gay and lesbian community, but also guests from other communities. It is our goal for the "Blue Velvet Ball" to be an annual event on everyone's social calendar." The "Blue Velvet Ball" will be a fundraising event to support the projects and activities of the Midland Empire Task Force, organized three years ago as a local response to the proposed anti-gay statewide petition. Since that time the group has shifted efforts to community projects and activities in the area.

The "Blue Velvet Ball" is open to members of the gay/lesbian/bi community and our supporters. Tickets are \$12.50 each and may be purchased in advance only (tickets will not be sold at the door). Tickets may be ordered by sending a check or money order, along with your name and address to Midland Empire Task Force, P.O. Box 8233, St. Joseph, MO 64508. Orders must be received by April 3. Tickets and detailed information on the location will be mailed to the address you provide, by first class mail. For overnight or express delivery, please include an additional \$20 per order to cover shipping charges & handling.

For membership information on the Midland Empire Task Force or the "Blue Velvet Ball," please call (816) 364-8376 and leave a message.

## JIMMY CARTER CRITICIZES REPUBLICANS

Former President Jimmy Carter has written a commentary in the *Los Angeles Times*, criticizing the Republican presidential campaign's attacks on gay and lesbian Americans.

In the commentary, Carter said, "We must make it clear that a platform of 'I hate gay men and women' is not a way to become President of the United States."

Kerry Lobel, Deputy Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, wrote the former President thanking him for his commentary in the *LA Times*. "We applaud you for modeling the principled moral leadership that we should expect from those holding or seeking elected office. We commend you for recognizing that there are some who would attempt to use old fears and prejudices to whip up homophobic, sexist and racist hatred. As you know, the myths, stereotypes and lies associated with this kind of legislation can cause harassment, intolerance and even violence."

## Gay ... Some Assembly Required

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Brian E. Bengtson



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— Steven Blaski

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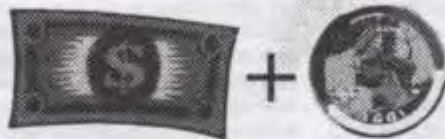
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# LOCAL NEWS

## TESTIMONY FOR JOB PROTECTION

February 5, 1996 Before Nebraska Business & Labor Committee -- Text Provided by PFLAG

**KARL OLSON:** Good afternoon, my name is Karl Olson. Karl is spelled with a "K" and Olson is spelled with an "s-o-n". (Exhibit D) Martin Luther King says, "We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality... tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly, affects all indirectly. This is the interrelated structure of reality." Whatever affects me directly, affects you indirectly, and here's some of the things that have affected me directly. This is real time. In 1990 I began working for a nonprofit, human service organization in Lincoln. I was thrilled to get the job. It was the perfect opportunity. My position allowed me to be creative, to use customer service skills I had honed over time to create change and improve the quality of life for thousands of youth and adults in this community. And the pay wasn't that bad, either. The organization did have an antidiscrimination policy, but sexual orientation was not among those categories for which one is protected from workplace discrimination. In 1991, my supervisor, in a weekly staff meeting, informed the staff that he would never knowingly hire gays and lesbians in his department, that gays and lesbians were not appropriate for this work. And there I was, a gay person doing this work. There was no shame or shyness on my supervisor's part. His informal hiring policies were perfectly legal. I wish you could experience what I was feeling then, not that I want confusion and pain to visit your house, but so that this experience could inform you as you make your decision regarding LB 903. I, of course, informed my supervisor that I disagreed with his hiring policy and asked that he at least reconsider the value that gays and lesbians could bring to his department. In 1992, a gay and lesbian religious group had contracted to use our organization's facilities and services. This contract was processed through my office. After the event, my supervisor informed me that gays and lesbians did not fit into our organization's

value system; that I was no longer allowed to let gays and lesbians use our services; that if they did inquire that they were to be told that nothing was available to them even if it really was. I wish that you could experience this as you consider LB 903. I informed my supervisor that I did not understand how this blatant form of discrimination fit in with our mission. I told him that I could not conscientiously discriminate against any group of people, that I would have to refer these inquiries to him, and I asked him to reconsider. In 1994, I participated in a public forum. I wrote a letter to the editor of the *Daily Nebraskan* on the issue of gays and lesbians being hired by a 4-H camp, a hot topic at the time. I expressed my support of the university's nondiscrimination policy for gays and lesbians, and I did not make reference to my workplace. The day after it was published, both my supervisor and I were called to meet in the CEO's office. The CEO and my supervisor proceeded to tell me that what I had done was inappropriate. That by name recognition alone, I was representative of the organization that I worked for. They questioned my relationship to the organization's mission, and, ultimately, they questioned my suitability for this job I had worked for over three years. We thought things were going well, my supervisor said, but now we are compelled to re-evaluate your future with this organization. I wish that you could experience this as you consider LB 903. I informed both the CEO and my supervisor that I had no intention of relinquishing my right to the public discourse and that speaking on behalf of justice, equity and compassion, I felt that I had done something that was good. This time I did not ask them to reconsider anything. I dealt with this confrontation in the way I had been trained, with common sense, integrity, and even warmth. In early 1995 I was voted employee of the year for the year 1994. Two months later, I turned in my resignation. My tenure with this organization was any-

thing but inappropriate. My resume is not abnormal, sick, or immoral. Between 1990 and '94, my program's income increased almost threefold. One program alone that had been serving 300 persons when I arrived was serving nearly 2,000 persons when I left. I supervised up to 20 part-time college-aged staff, maybe your kids. And, if one of those had car trouble and couldn't make it to work, I would pick them up. I held workshops at regional conferences and had articles published in trade publications. I put my work pants on one leg at a time just like everyone else. Yet, I was told repeatedly, in ways that were subtle yet unmistakable, that because I was gay, I was of less value. If I would play by their rules and engage in unethical practices, I would be accepted. If I would keep my mouth shut, I would be rewarded. If I denied this integral part of myself, I could find a place at the table. My lie as a gay person is not inherently miserable. I have wonderfully supportive friends, but friends do not contribute to my retirement fund.

I belong to a church community that affirms and celebrates my sexuality, but church doesn't pay my rent each month. My mother loves me like all her children, straight or gay, and she would run to my defense if I would let her, but even mom can't give me professional certification or get me that promotion. With LB 903, you have the chance to offer me the protection I need so that I can do the work that I am qualified for so that I can serve the society that I'm a part of so that you can benefit from my productivity. I shouldn't have to worry about what will happen if someone in the workplace finds out that I am gay. I don't believe it is a proper expectation to sit silently while my supervisor degrades my brothers and sisters. Do I need to make the decision between eating tomorrow and standing up for my dignity. Does Nebraska's economy need me to make the decision to lie here or have pride in my work? Does the city of Lincoln, where I live, growing at a rate of 1.33 percent, need me to do that? By supporting LB 903, you will save my right to a livelihood and the livelihoods of thousands of gays and lesbians. Let us be productive without having our self-respect destroyed. Let us work without fear. And thank you for letting me put a face on this bill.

**SENATOR VRTISKA:** Thank you very much. Are there questions? (Clapping) We'll not have scenes of demonstration from either side. I want to make that clear. I appreciate what you're doing, but this is a hearing.

**SENATOR CHAMBERS:** I have one question. In addition to having a discriminatory policy against gays, this person whoever he or she was that was your supervisor, would have compelled you to lie, also, to carry out or implement that policy?

**KARL OLSON:** Yes.  
**CHAMBERS:** So, if you were a liar, you would appropriately fit with the company and what it was doing, but, if you were honest and acknowledged your orientation, then you have to go?

**KARL OLSON:** Yeah.  
**CHAMBERS:** Okay, that's all that I had.  
**SENATOR VRTISKA:** Any other questions? No, I thank you, again, for appearing.  
**KARL OLSON:** Thanks.



**Jonathan D. Cole**  
Omaha Playhouse Music Director

### Night Love

... a jazz cabaret

May 2, 3 and 4

10:00 pm

The Omaha Playhouse

Bibbbeck Hall

\$7.50 with current season ticket stub

\$9.00 general admission

Limited reserved seating

call 557-0800 for reservations

and information

Cash bar, nonalcoholic beverages and desserts available

by Brando's Catering

## A NEW ANGLE IN NEWS

By Stan Brown

The next few months will be very busy for ANGLE members as we host fundraising events and get ready for the Pride Parade and Rally in June.

On Thursday April 25, Phoenix Fallentino will be hosting another benefit show at The New Run Bar starting at 9:00 p.m. Please join Phoenix and her friends for another great show. We really appreciate Phoenix's help with fundraising for Pride this year.

Join us late Saturday, May 4, or actually early Sunday morning from 1 - 4 a.m. for ANGLE's first After-Hours Party and Dance, "Salsa A Go Go." We'll be celebrating Cinco de Mayo and getting "fired up" for Pride in June. The event will be at Downtown Grounds, 1117 Jackson, with a \$5.00 cover benefiting ANGLE's general fund.

Friday, May 10, ANGLE will host a night at The Dundee Dinner Theatre, 5021 Underwood. Join us for a great dinner, socializing, and play for only \$25.00 per person. Dinner is served at 7:00 p.m. and the play, "Lend Me a Tenor," will start at 8:00. Please call the theatre, 558-8535, for reservations by Wednesday, May 1, and let them know this is for the ANGLE benefit.

As always we encourage everyone to attend our monthly meeting the first Tuesday of the month, UNO Religious Center, 101 N. Happy Hollow, at 7:00 p.m. For more information about any of our events please call the Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line, 558-5303. Look for more information about our Pride Events in another article in this issue.

## SPECIAL EASTER SERVICES AT MCC

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha will observe the Holy Days of Easter with several special services.

On Thursday, April 4, Maundy Thursday service will be held at 7 p.m.

On Good Friday, April 5, a solemn Service of Darkness will be held, beginning at 7 p.m. Following the Service of Darkness, members and friends of MCC-Omaha will hold a prayer vigil which will last until 6 a.m. Sunday morning. Persons of all denominations are welcome to join in this 36 hours prayer vigil.

Sunday morning, April 7, at 6:30 a.m. a Sunrise Service will be held at MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22. The community is encouraged to join in this Easter tradition and to remain for a continental breakfast following the service.

The Easter celebration will conclude with a worship service at 10:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday. Please join us for this celebration of our faith.

## GROUP HOSTS EASTER EGG HUNT

The Fellowship Committee of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha is joining with the Gay and Lesbian Parents Group to host a traditional Easter Egg Hunt for children at 2 p.m. on Saturday, April 6. All community children are invited to join in this event, which will include refreshments, games, coloring, and the traditional search for hidden eggs in the church garden at 819 South 22 Street, Omaha. For more information, call the church office at 345-2563.

## HGRA

In May, HGRA will start selling raffle tickets for a portable boombox with CD player. The winner will be announced at the Omaha Pride Parade on June 30. One of HGRA's members from Council Bluffs is also donating an afghan he is making which will have the colors of the Gay Pride flag and will be offered as 2nd prize in the raffle.

HGRA has set the date for its Board of Directors election and Awards Banquet. It was such a success last year, that they want to do it again. So mark October 5th on your calendar for the HGRA Awards Banquet. October 12 will be the date of the HGRA Royalty competition this year, which will be held at DC's. And a beer bust is planned to be held at Babe's on August 24th.

## GLAGN BARN DANCE III

Dust off your dancing boots because once again anyone who is anybody will be a dancing fool at the Gay and Lesbian Association of Greater Nebraska's Barn Dance III on April 13th. Journey on out to Gregg L.'s barn 5.5 miles south of Hastings on Highway 281, near mile marker #39. At 9:00 p.m. the tunes begin spinning in the hay mow where you can dance until 1:00 a.m. Snacks and other barn-like adventures await you in the old milking room. There is a \$4.00 charge for GLAGN members and a \$6.00 charge for non-members. Please note that this event is B.Y.O.B. and always remember to drink responsibly.

-GLAGN Newsletter

# The Imperial Court of Nebraska presents...

Application Deadline: April 10, 1996

Come Catch  
Our Bounce in...

It's a  
Springy  
Thingy

THE NEW  
RUN BAR

Sunday, April 28  
8:30 PM, \$2 Cover



Male to Female --  
Female to Male  
Transformations  
by the  
absolute newest  
impersonators  
in the area!

Hosted by  
Mr. Closet Ball '95  
Mr. Rusty Shield

# CLOSET BALL

A Contest Like No Other!

Sunday  
April 21  
The MAX  
8:30 PM

## KATE CLINTON RETURNS TO OMAHA

Are you already tired of hearing the political ads on television? Well, **Kate Clinton** will be back in Omaha on April 27 to put some laughs back into the race for President. Kate believes that every politician — especially Republican — needs a lesbian half-sister to balance things out. And when it comes to the tough political questions of our times ("Shouldn't Newt's last name be Ging-really, really rich?"), it's without a doubt that Kate has all the answers. Her favorite shirt has "Hilarity Clinton" emblazoned across the front.

Kate's special brand of humor appeals to all. Although openly lesbian (the one you'd like to take home to meet the family), her audiences include gay men and an ever increasing number of heterosexuals. In the running to become the Madame President of Comedy, her platform includes political material as fresh as the daily news, savvy send-ups of modern family relationships and her illuminating perspectives on life as a gay American. Her current show is entitled "Impure Thoughts" and is dedicated to Jocelyn Elders.

Aside from touring, Kate has been burning the midnight oil to complete her first book, tentatively titled "CommuniKATE," to be published by Ballantine in '96. Based on her past and present monologues, it's filled with thoughts both insightful and riotous.

She recently debuted a monthly column titled "Unplugged" in *The Progressive*, a magazine politically skewed to the left. In this space she waxes philosophical about the state of our nation and those who have put us in such a state.

Her one-woman show "Out is In" was a smash hit in both Los Angeles and New York and had the *New York Times* reviewer "in tears from laughing so hard." If you've ever attended one of Kate's concerts, you can relate to that feeling.

Kate Clinton is being brought to Omaha by WomenSpace. The concert will be held at the Witherspoon Concert Hall, 8:00 p.m. on April 27.

Tickets are \$15 in advance and \$17 at the door. They are available at New Realities, 1026 Howard, in Omaha's Old Market and in Lincoln at The Way Home Music and Books, 3231 S. 13th St. in the Indian Village Shopping Center. They are also available by mail from WomenSpace, PO Box 24712, Omaha, NE 68124. For further information, contact Joyce at 493-8811.

## ICON BEGINS MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The Imperial Court of Nebraska is taking a bold step as the Court begins its first membership drive.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in the affairs of the court and, for a nominal membership fee, you can join the number one gay and lesbian fundraising organization in the state.

With your official membership card, you will receive \$2 off admission to ICON's picnics, a subscription to the quarterly "Court Report", entries into "Members Only" raffles and cocktail parties, as well as having your ballot for Emperor and Empress mailed directly to your home.

For more information, or to become a member of ICON, see the advertisement in this issue of *The New Voice*.

## NEW GROUP ACCEPTING MEMBERS

Leather Engineers of Omaha, or LEO, is Omaha's newly formed leather club for men. LEO begins accepting membership applications on April 1. To ensure that each new pledge gets appropriate guidance, and to keep the sense of brotherhood within the club which only slow growth can maintain, we are currently setting a limit of five new pledges. Due to the large number of interested men we've heard from so far, the pledges will be selected from a pool of names kept by the club. Each pledge will be sponsored by two of the current ten full members. For more information on membership, please write: LEO, PO Box 8181, Omaha, NE 68108.

As far as the club activities go, the Leather Engineers are currently gearing up for our trip to the International Mr. Leather competition to be held in Chicago on Memorial Day weekend. This will be our first out of town function as a club. We are all excited about it and look forward to a great time.

Additional club news that may be of interest to the community at large: Leather Engineers of Omaha has recently obtained non-profit corporate status and officers have been elected. LEO's President is Chuck Wilson, Vice President is Jim Gau, Treasurer is Bob Ewing, and Secretary is Rick Noss. Dustin Logan will be the club's Road Captain.

The Leather Engineers of Omaha will, as much as possible, keep the community posted on club activities in the months to come.

## ICON TO HOLD CLOSET BALL APRIL 21

On April 21, the Imperial Court of Nebraska will host the 12th annual "Closet Ball" at which newcomers to the area of male/female impersonation will have their chance to compete for the title of Mr/Miss Closet Ball. This event has proved to be the launching point for many of the very best area performers. So if you have ever had a desire to try your hand at male or female impersonation, pick up a Closet Ball application and complete rules at local bars or at MCC. Applications must be received by April 10.

## NEW BOOK "FARM BOYS" FEATURES IOWA FARMER

Will Fellows new book *Farm Boys* to be published in August, will include a feature on Logan, Iowa farmer Harry Beckner. Harry and his partner Bill Hogan responded to an article in *The New Voice* and were able to meet author Will Fellows last year. *Farm Boys* features gay men who have grown up on Midwest farms, so Bill was not eligible to be included in the book since he grew up on a farm in the South. However, as a lifelong Iowa farmer, Harry was chosen to be interviewed.

As part of the advance publicity for *Farm Boys* Will Fellows will be presenting the "Farm Boys" slide show in a number of Midwestern Cities. This presentation has been received with considerable interest and enthusiasm. It includes more than 130 photos that span about 80 years of Midwestern farm life and gives a thoughtful and entertaining overview of the "gay farm boy" experience. The "Farm Boys" slide show will be shown in Omaha on Wednesday, May 1, at 7:30 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney and in Lincoln on Thursday, May 2, at 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Church, 6300 "A." The audience can plan to meet not only the author but also our new found local celebrity, Harry Beckner, at the Omaha presentation.

## OMAHA PHYSICIAN TO SPEAK AT MCC ON MEN'S HEALTH CONCERNS

The Christian Social Action Committee of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha is pleased to announce that Dr. Mark Goodman, a diplomat of the American College of Family Physicians and Associate Professor at Creighton University, will be the featured speaker at a forum on men's health concerns, with an emphasis on early identification of prostate cancer and other issues of special interest to men. This forum is free of charge and open to the public. It will be held in the Social Hall of MCC-Omaha beginning at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 28.



Shana, Karen, Wendy, Amy, and Pat are among the approximately 150 who attended GLAGN's Hearts of fire Benefit show for the Nebraska AIDS Project in Central Nebraska

## NEWS FROM THE COURT — THE IMPERIAL COURT

By "Her Most"

The month of March was a busy and productive month for ICON. The first weekend found Annie, Gerald, Gary, Mae, and Phoenix in San Francisco, representing ICON at the Coronation ceremonies of our Mother and Founding Court. What a beautiful city by the Bay! There were approximately 1000 people in attendance. And, as always, ICON was well represented and made a regal appearance. All of those in attendance agree that our Coronation festivities have a lot to offer and it's good to hear that many of our out of realm courts plan to visit us in June. Our hospitality here in Nebraska truly ranks among the best!!!

Many of our Monday nights in March have been booked with our regular meetings and some special meetings being held in preparation of upcoming Coronation and some new and exciting changes ICON is making. We encourage all of you to become involved in our community. We recognize that everyone has a choice, but we hope one of your choices might be ICON. Watch for upcoming news flashes in *The New Voice*.

Roxy, our Empress XIII and presently Miss Gay Omaha, put on a wonderful Snoball benefit March 10 at The MAX entitled "Rewind and Push Play." This found many of your favorites doing your favorites. Also on this night Josephine Empress XV crowned her new Princess Royale XV, Miss Red Essence from Lincoln. (This was done in light of ICON regretfully accepting the resignation of Princess Royale XXV Sheza Mann.)

Congratulations, Red Essence. ICON looks forward to working with you.

We thank all our members, friends, and entertainers for making this annual Snoball benefit a success! Thanks Roxy!

Our Monarchs, along with some board members were busy on St. Patrick's Day, not only enjoying the many bars and organizations who served corned beef & cabbage, but put on a little green apparel and pride to participate in the Pride Show held at DC's. Thanks to Emperor XV Annie and Empress XV Josephine for supporting the worthy causes here in the Nebraska.

The end of March brought on a challenge to all of us. March 31, we enjoyed hors d'oeuvres and cocktails at 6 p.m. at the New Run Bar and then participated in "Fools Fall In Love" hosted by Phoenix Fallentino. This proved to be a fun show and raised money for our worthy causes. A special thanks to Stella Dallas for providing the poster and flyers and doing a good job of advertising. A big thank-you to all our entertainers who began their "drag-a-thon" even before the sun went down! Because at 9 p.m. sharp, we packed up our gowns and glitter, strapped on the high heels and thanked Terry and the staff of the New Run Bar for hosting ICON that evening and headed towards the MAX for Prince Royale 15, Gary's "Bevy of Bogus Barbies," a benefit for ICON and for the American Cancer Society for Breast Cancer Research. And again ICON proved that we are #1 in fundraising. This show was truly a success. For you Barbra Streisand fans this truly was your night. I personally have never see so many "Barbies" running around in one evening. A delightful idea & show! Thanks, Gary! And thanks to all the entertainers who proved "you too can be Barbra Streisand for a night."

Well, don't forget Closet Ball is coming up in April so all you wannabe's let's see you strut your stuff! Pick up your application at any of the bars or from an ICON member. Also, applications are out for the position of Emperor XVI and Empress XVI.

Also in April, you'll want to be sure to catch

Emperor Annie's show "A Springy Thingy" at the New Run Bar on Sunday, April 28. Be sure to check this one out!

Happy Springtime and Easter to all of you. And start to make your plans for Coronation coming up in June.

Well, this month I'm off to pack for Denver's upcoming coronation.

See you in court — the Imperial Court!  
"Her Most"

## SPRING EVENTS IN THE PANHANDLE

Panhandle Gay and Lesbian Support Services (PGLSS) of Scottsbluff will be hosting the following events: "Homosexuality and the Bible" on April 11 at 7 p.m. Our Spring dance will be May 25th at West Nebraska Arts Center at 8 p.m. Admission will be \$2 for members and \$4 for non-members. This will be a BYOB event. For more information, call our voice mail at 308-635-8488.

# GILLIGAN'S PUB



## AFTER HOURS

**FRIDAY & SATURDAY NIGHT  
SERVING FOOD UNTIL 4:00 A.M.  
(NO COVER CHARGE)**

*Gilligan's  
Grille*

### NEW HOURS

MONDAY - THURSDAY

4:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

FRIDAY - SATURDAY

2:00 P.M. - 4:00 A.M.

SUNDAY 2:00 P.M. - 10:00 P.M.

**APPETIZERS ... GILLIBURGERS**

**SANDWICHES ... SALADS**

**Build your own BAKED POTATO**

*Check Out Our Specials!*

**OPEN 2 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

**HAPPY HOUR 2 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

**PARKIES KARAOKE**

**IN BACK BAR**

**Thursday Thru Saturday**

**9 p.m. to 1 a.m.**

**Sunday 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.**

**DAILY DRINK SPECIALS**

**GILLIGAN'S 1823 Leavenworth 449-9147 Proper ID Required**

**PRIVATE  
PARTIES  
AVAILABLE  
IN  
BACK BAR**



## 12 NEBRASKANS CHOSEN TO CARRY OLYMPIC TORCH

### Jack Saltzman, Night of 1,000 Stars Volunteer, Among Those Chosen

Volunteers from across America will help carry the Olympic Torch to Atlanta, Georgia this summer. Among those torchbearers will be 12 Nebraskans, one of whom is a dedicated fundraiser for the Nebraska AIDS Project. 5500 individuals were nominated for the honor — 100 word essays were submitted for each candidate and 12 were selected from this pool. Formal announcement of the selection was made at the annual United Way meeting which honors volunteerism throughout the state. The audience included businesses, hospitals, churches, schools, the arts, and government. The candidates vary widely in their interests and include people from all walks of life.

Among those chosen was Mr. Jack Saltzman, who was described as a "one-man fund raising machine" in his efforts on behalf of the Nebraska AIDS Project. He has hosted events at this home for the past three years as part of the Night of 1000 Stars celebration. Mr. Saltzman also volunteered with the 1995 Omaha Display of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt and is the designer and creator of the "Circle of Friends" quilt honoring those lost to AIDS in Nebraska.

The other Nebraskan chosen to carry the Olympic torch are Ruth Amen, Rita Camp-Ashmun, Kris Rutford, Don Coleman, and Ken Kirshenmann of Lincoln, J. Scott Zana of Grand Island, Timothy Hughbanks, Tom McCann, Jana Peterson, and Lee Smith of Kearney, Jim Kubik of Norfolk, Michael Royal of Omaha, Jeremy Domingus of Table Rock, and John Jones of Wymore.

## GLBT COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Steady progress is being made for the GLBT Community Resource Center. Goals and Objectives are being met. The dream of a 1996 opening is becoming a reality. Newly elected officers are Darrin Greenlee, Chairman, and Jim Morford, Secretary. Jay Tremont was elected to the Steering Committee. Congratulations to the new officers and committee member. Thank you to the previous officers for their guidance in the developmental stages of the Community Resource Center. Without the talents of these leaders, the reality would still be just a dream. During the March meeting some additional positions were filled. More information in the May edition.

Our message is that your help is needed. The dream can only become a reality with your help, so again we ask for your involvement. As we move for dream to reality, we encourage you to share your gifts. We need your skills, talents, and financial contributions. **Make this the month that you ACT!**

### HOW CAN I ACT?

\*By calling the Information Line. Offer your talent or ask what can I do to help.

\*Write the P.O. Box and offer your assistance, financial support, or your availability.

\*Contact a member of the Steering Committee, inform them you are ready to HELP!

Our next monthly meeting will be held Sunday, April 21, 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Community Church. Everyone is encouraged to attend. If you are interested in obtaining additional information about the Community Resource Center, please call the Information and Referral Line number (402) 558-5303 and leave a message for Becky. You may also contact the GLBT Community Resource Center by mail at P.O. Box 8343, Omaha, NE 68108.

## 2ND ANNUAL MISS Q TO BE HELD APRIL 28

April will be a busy month for patrons of Q in Lincoln. The month kicks off with Sheza Mann presenting a very special show on April 7. At 9pm, Sheza, along with the best Lincoln talent, will take to the stage with a show which will raise funds to help in the fight for Equal Rights and Empowerment in Adoption for Foster Parents with HIV. Be there for this very special event!

On April 14, it will be Miss City Sweetheart '95 Barbie Q headlining a presentation that's labeled "Off, off, off, off Broadway." This petite bundle of energy truly is a "Sweetheart" and wears her crown well.

April 21 brings the '96 edition of Lip-Schick "I Sync, Therefore I am" to the stage under the able direction of Lincoln favorites Freida Lae and Beth Mueling.

And then, on April 28, it is the 2nd Annual Miss Q pageant. Plan to be at Q early because it will be standing room only as the best of Lincoln's talent compete to be Miss Q. Be there!

## APPLICATIONS DUE APRIL 15TH FOR ICON EMPEROR & EMPRESS

It's countdown to campaign time as the Imperial Court of Nebraska prepares for the campaign for Emperor and Empress XVI. Official campaigning will begin with the Introduction of Candidates throughout the weekend of May 10 - 12 and will continue until the official voting in June. If you are interesting in running for Emperor or Empress, pick up an application form at local bars or at MCC. Applications must be postmarked by April 15.

# ANGLE INFORMATION UPDATE

Phoenix's  
PRIDE Benefit  
April 25 at the  
New Run  
Show starts at  
9:00 PM.

Come to Downtown  
Grounds on May 4th,  
from 1 am to 4 am  
(Sunday in the AM)  
and celebrate Cinco de  
Mayo as we raise funds for  
ANGLE's general fund.  
Enjoy free Nacho's and  
soda and dance into  
the morning!!!

LEND ME A TENOR  
playing May 10th at the  
Dundee Dinner Theatre  
call now to reserve your  
seats...558.8535 Proceeds  
will go to ANGLE, Inc.  
See this show, it's funny!

angle

Clear your schedule NOW for PRIDE '96!!!  
Celebrate "A New Era Of PRIDE" June 30th, 1996!!!

## METRO CLUB

The next meeting of Metro Club will be Thursday, April 18th, at the Neon Goose Downtown. Please join us as we sample the delectable desserts by Bjorg, the Goose's new European pastry chef. Social hour will be at 6 p.m. with a presentation by Bjorg at 7 p.m.

## PRIDE UPDATE

### The 1996 Pride Theme

"Pride, Ride the Tide." (good if you want rhyme, said its author, Tony) was one of many replacement themes proposed due to the uncertainty that 1996 marks a decade of pride in Omaha. This year may be the eleventh or twelfth year of pride celebrations.

Prompted by that uncertainty, the Pride Team unanimously voted on February 28 to change this year's theme from *A Decade of Pride* to *A New Era of Pride*. Other suggestions included, *Over a Decade of Pride*, *People of Pride*, *Voices of Pride*, and *Pride without Prejudice*. The national theme is *Pride Without Borders*.

### Heartland of America Park

*A New Era of Pride* is an appropriate theme for the 1996 Pride Parade and Rally in that, amid other improvements, this will be the first centered at the Heartland of America Park.

More than pretty enough to be the subject of postcards, the new park has other assets such as a triangular stage seventy feet wide, a sound system, electrical outlets, a convenient parking lot, and real toilets.

## FOUR TIME OLYMPIC GOLD MEDALIST DIVER GREG LOUGANIS TO SPEAK AT UNL APRIL 10

The University Program Council in cooperation with the Nebraska AIDS Project and the Athletic Department present four time Olympic gold medal diver Greg Louganis. His many triumphs despite his struggles is the topic of his lecture.

He will speak at the University of Nebraska on April 10 at 8 p.m. in the Centennial Ballroom of the Nebraska Union, 14th & R Streets in Lincoln.

At 16 he won a silver medal in the 1976 Olympics. He won two gold medals in diving at the 1984 Olympics. After a nearly disastrous injury at the 1988 Olympics, Louganis became the first man to win double gold medals in two consecutive Olympics.

Greg Louganis is the world's greatest diver; he is also an outstanding individual. He broke free from a lifetime of silence and isolation when he announced that he is gay and HIV+ last year in his autobiography *Breaking the Silence*. His book also brought attention to difficulties with dyslexia, depression, racism, substance abuse, and domestic violence.

Since the 1988 Olympics, Mr. Louganis has been pursuing his lifelong dream of acting. He is also active in breeding and showing dogs and a volunteer for Pets Are Wonderful Support (P.A.W.S.), a group that helps people living with AIDS with their pets. For more information about the Greg Louganis event, contact the University Program Council at 402-476-8146 or e-mail [upc@unlinfo.unl.edu](mailto:upc@unlinfo.unl.edu).

*Breaking the Surface*, Greg Louganis' autobiography is now available in paperback from Plume Publishing. This new edition includes a new epilogue by Louganis detailing his experiences following the publication of his book.



Greg Louganis, author of  
*BREAKING THE SURFACE*  
(Plume, March 1995)



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## THE MAX NEWS!

Every month things just get better and better. April is here and we know that great weather and great entertainment can always be expected. We have a full summer of the best shows, entertainers, and celebrities for the loyal patrons of the number one night club in the Midwest, The MAX.

The Stars of U.S.A. bring their collective talents to The MAX stage on Sunday, April 7. Laura Gray, Dorian Drake, and Muffy Rosenberg are just three of the talented performers who have worn the U.S.A. crown. Athena & Jesse, the promoters of Miss Gay Nebraska U.S.A., are very excited for the new M.G.N.U.S.A. to represent Omaha and THE MAX at the U.S.A. finals this year. I know you'll be here to show your support!

Some Stars endure forever — Kathryn Hepburn, Liz Taylor, Lassie. How about — Jennifer Jett? Yes, Omaha's number one glamour kitten headlines our April Superstar Show on Sunday, April 14. Jennifer's career has spanned several show directors, numerous bar closings, and four presidents! Enough kidding aside, Jenny is one of the top entertainers in the country. She's the best and Omaha and The MAX love her. Find out why on April 14.

Closet Ball is back. We expect this I.C.O.N. classic to be bigger than ever in 1996. Last year for the first time a woman won this once all Male, er, um, Female, um, Trans something, oh hell! This Drag title. Cindy Bookout/Rusty Shields captured the crown. What a sight, a lesbian in a rhinestone tiara, the boys are ready to be girls and the girls are ready to be boys, so don't miss a second. It all starts at 8:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 21.

Have I got a show for you. Do you like your men hard with chiseled muscles? Do you like

your men young and lean? Do you like your men sensual, wild, and nasty? You'll find all three at The MAX on Sunday, April 28, as we welcome for their Midwest premier, Mount-N-Men. These three guys will give you a show like you've never seen before. It's not just a strip show but a series of erotic fantasies come to life before your eyes. I guarantee it will be a night that Omaha will never forget.

Don't forget, when you're out enjoying the Big O, you stop in and enjoy the BIG M, The MAX. We got it all for you! Stosh's Saloon has the best country music and country dancing. You can hear your favorite crooner on the best sound system in Omaha and watch your favorite country videos while two steppin' with your cowhand! Lisa's wait'n to teach ya'll how to two step, swing & sway.

Experience it all out for yourself every Friday & Saturday. When you're ready to start your summer nights off right, stop in for a happy hour cocktail with The MAX's own, Miss Annie. She's got the friendliest smile and the best Happy Hour Special in Omaha. It's all here in Omaha at 15th & Jackson. Do yourself a favor. Stop in!

## PERFORMERS WANTED

Looking for groups or individuals to participate in this year's spring fundraiser for the P.W.A. Assistance Fund. This show is scheduled for Mother's Day, Sunday May 12, at the MAX. If interested, please contact Tracy at 346-4939 or see me at the MAX on Tuesday or Friday nights. Numbers are limited but variety is the main goal. Thanks!

## HELLO DES MOINES

### A Retreat for Gay Men Sponsored by Church of the Holy Spirit MCC

Whether it's a move from the bustle and excitement of New York to the quieter climes of Des Moines; or simply a recognition of being No Longer Young and Done Some Maturing, the transition can bring new challenges and concerns. This is especially true for many gay men as they shed the delight of youth, and move into middle age. Church of the Holy Spirit MCC of Des Moines has designed a weekend retreat that will be a fun, relaxing event for gay men.

This weekend retreat will be held at the Raccoon River Resort, just off I-80, 20 miles west of Des Moines, from May 10th through May 12th (Friday afternoon through Sunday afternoon). The cost varies with accommodations listed.

In the cabin — \$50 per person (no single rooms because space in the cabin is very limited)

Camper Vans/RVs — \$15 per vehicle plus \$25 per person (lots of space for campers/RV's)

Day Visitors — \$8 per person per day

Facilities include private beach, 100 acres of woodland, hot tub and sauna. For more information, call Paul Whiting at (515) 284-7940. To Register, send name, address, phone and a check for the full registration price to: Paul Whiting, CHSMCC, PO Box 8426, Des Moines, IA 50301. Make checks payable to Church of the Holy Spirit MCC.

There'll be opportunity for walking, discussion, massage, spiritual reflection, plus some structured workshops. The focus of the weekend is for gay men over 35, but if you're interested in the concept, age won't exclude you.



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April 5 - Good Friday Service of Darkness 7pm  
Prayer Vigil 12M Good Friday - 6am Easter  
April 7 - Sunrise Service 6:30 am  
Continental Breakfast Following  
April 7 - Sunday Service: 10:30 a.m.

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## NATIVE AMERICAN FESTIVAL WILL BEGIN WITH TALK ON HIV ISSUES THAT AFFECT GAY NATIVE MEN

Craig Womack (Oklahoma Creek-Cherokee) will give a presentation on Friday, April 5, at the Native American Community Development Corporation, 2451 St. Mary's Ave., Omaha, on current efforts to get positive HIV prevention messages out to the Native American community. Womack, a poet and fiction writer, teaches in the English Department at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. The talk will begin at 7:30 p.m. Womack will address issues of cultural sensitivity in regards to HIV prevention, ways the disease is impacting Indian Communities, and resources available for Native men living with AIDS.

The conference continues the following Friday, April 12th, with Laura Tohe. Tohe will give a reading at Noon at the Milo Bail Student Center, in the Dodge Room, on the campus of UNO. In the evening, Tohe will give another reading at 7:30 p.m. at the Native American Community Development Corporation. Tohe, Navajo herself, was raised on the Navajo Reservation and currently teaches at Arizona State University. She completed her Bachelor's degree in Psychology at the University of New Mexico, then her MA and Ph.D. in English at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln. Her poetry and fiction is widely anthologized in important collections of Native American creative work including *Songs From This Earth on Turtle's Back; Blue Dawn, Red Earth; These Hearts, These Homes; All My Grandmothers Could Sing*, and many others. She has a chapbook of poems entitled *Making Friends With Water* (1986). She has read many papers and given presentations at major conferences, as well as published broadly on Native critical studies.

The festival concludes Friday, April 19th, with Adrian Louis giving a reading at Noon at the Milo Bail Student Center, room to be announced (just follow the posted signs), and then an evening reading at 7:30 p.m. at the Native American Community Development Center. Adrian C. Louis is an enrolled member of the Lovelock Paiute Indian Tribe and was born and raised in Nevada. He is the former managing editor of the *Lakota Times*, the largest American Indian newspaper in the country. Since 1984 he has taught English at Oglala Lakota College on the Pine Ridge Reservation of South Dakota. He has written several books of poems, including *Fire Water World*, honored by the Poetry Center at San Francisco State University as the best book of poems of 1989. His novel *Skins* is a starkly realistic and comic account of life at Pine Ridge. He has received fellowships from the Wurlitzer foundation, the South Dakota Arts Council, the Bush Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts.

### PFLAG LINCOLN

Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays will meet in Lincoln on April 23 at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, at 7:30 p.m. The program topic for April is "History of Homophobia." All community members, family, and friends are welcome to attend.

## PFLAG TAKES ROOT IN SIOUX CITY

On Sunday, January 14, at Mayflower Congregational Church, the first meeting of Sioux City PFLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) was attended by 21 people, 8 of whom were parents of gays or lesbians. Two speakers from the Omaha chapter of PFLAG came and shared their experiences with the group. Everyone who attended seemed to be excited about the prospect of having a continuing group in Sioux City.

Meetings will now be held on a regular monthly basis, on the second Sunday of every month, from 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. at Mayflower Congregational Church. Things which will need to be worked out in the near future are electing people to leadership positions and establishing a post office box and a phone line.

Invite your family members to attend and to receive the support and understanding that comes from knowing that they are not alone.

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# HATE AND MARRIAGE

By David Clarenbach

In February, a veritable *Who's Who* of religious extremists held a rally in Iowa to kick off their "National Campaign to Protect Marriage." As GOP Presidential candidates tripped over each other in their rush to sign the group's homophobic "Marriage Protection Resolution," Melbourne Mayor Bill Crews (an openly gay, church-going Republican) led a candlelight vigil to protest the politics of hatred and fear.

This same scene — professional politicians pandering to a meanspirited minority while an openly gay elected official appeals to the fair minded majority — is now being played out in legislatures across the country. Same-sex marriage is the Radical Right's latest call-to-arms, and openly gay and lesbian officials are on

the front lines against this hateful assault on our community. As Wisconsin's openly lesbian state representative Tammy Baldwin told reporters, "This isn't about Gay marriage. It's about stirring up hatred and fear for the sake of political expediency."

Bills prohibiting same-sex marriage have already been introduced in 20 states (including Iowa), and more are in the works (including Nebraska). Although most of the bills are blatantly anti-gay, some legislators are experimenting with a stealth approach. A Rhode Island state representative recently introduced a "Solemnization of Marriages" bill to recognize marriages performed in other states as long as they "comport with and meet all conditions and requirements" of Rhode Island law.

When Rhode Island's openly gay state senator Will Fitzpatrick asked the purpose of this vaguely worded legislation, the sponsor indicated it was aimed at nullifying marriages between first cousins wed in another state. In fact, Rhode Island is one of the few states that allow first cousin marriages. Fitzpatrick immediately contacted human rights activists and the press, calling the bill "a wolf dressed in sheep's clothing" and suggesting that the sponsor should "Come clean with his real reason for submitting this bill." The sponsor finally admitted that the bill was filed in response to the likely legalization of same-sex marriages by the Hawaii Supreme Court, and the House Judiciary Committee abruptly shelved the bill, for the time being.

The marriage battle makes it crystal clear that electing qualified openly gay and lesbian officials must be an integral part of our struggle for equal rights. As the Rhode Island case shows, our gay officials are an early warning system when anti-gay attacks are imminent. Because they have a place at the table, they can use the legislative process to diffuse an attack; by stalling a bill until lawmakers have time to examine the consequences, for example, or by shepherding a bill into gay-supportive (or at least less hostile) committees. And they can help neutralize the other

side's anti-gay propaganda by keeping the public and press focused on what the real issues are.

Even more important in the long run, openly gay legislators are in a unique position to educate the public and their fellow lawmakers on what homosexuality is and isn't. No matter how gay-friendly a straight legislator is, when the debate turns to gay marriage, he or she can never stand up and say, "You're talking about me." When openly gay officials personalize the debate in this way, it has an amazing effect on their colleagues. As California's openly lesbian state Assemblymember Sheila Kuehl notes, "Having to confront this issue with a real person there, face to face, is causing my colleagues to really think about this at a level that used to be just kneejerk."

All the polls show that people who know someone gay are less likely to support anti-gay legislation, so the high visibility and positive public image of openly gay officials make it much harder for professional gaybashers to demonize our community. Because their personal and community values are consistent with those of the average American (values like hard work, civic responsibility, and respect for others), each of our openly gay and lesbian officials is a living, breathing contradiction to the Radical Right's stereotype of homosexuals as antisocial deviants.

Unfettered by the traditional values they pretend to preach, religious political extremists are exploiting the same-sex marriage issue to legislate hatred and bigotry. The good news is that our openly gay and lesbian state legislators are doing everything they can to put an end to these political hate crimes. The not-so-good news is that of the 7,600 elected officials currently serving in state legislatures, only 17 are openly gay or lesbian, and they hold office in just 12 of our 50 states. Arizona, California, Maine, Minnesota, Missouri, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Texas, Washington and Wisconsin.

The challenge we face is unequivocal. We must elect qualified openly gay and lesbian legislators to every state house and every state senate in the country. The greater the number of openly gay and lesbian legislators, the sooner we can stop the superbigots and their never-ending battle for untruth, injustice, and the un-American ways.

*David Clarenbach is the Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, a national organization dedicated to increasing the number of qualified openly gay and lesbian officials.*

## INTRODUCTION TO ZEN

On Saturday, April 13th,  
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Ref. Kyoki Roberts will conduct  
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It will include an introductory  
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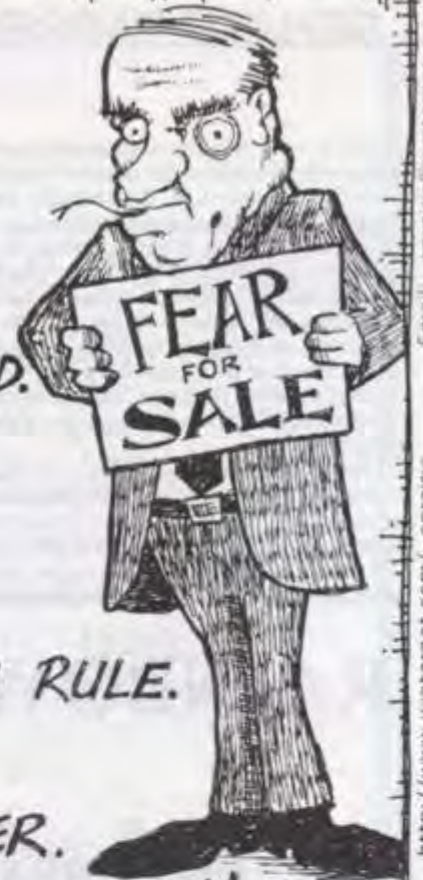
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# SENATE PASSES REPEAL OF HIV DISCHARGE IN MILITARY BUT WILL THE HOUSE GO ALONG?

The U.S. Senate has unanimously agreed to an amendment to repeal the discriminatory HIV-discharge provision of the recently enacted Department of Defense authorization.

Led by Senators William Cohen, R-Maine, and Edward Kennedy, D-Massachusetts, 56 Senators had agreed to co-sponsor the repeal legislation, but decided to put it forth as an amendment on a stopgap spending measure with the agreement of the Senate leadership.

That measure, the Omnibus Rescissions and Appropriations Act, funds many parts of the U.S. Government.

The amendment repeals the provision that singles out HIV-positive service members for mandatory discharge and cuts off health benefits to their families. Senators John McCain, R-Arizona, Sam Nunn, D-Georgia, Alfonse

D'Amato, R-New York, and Alan Simpson, R-Wyoming, were among the bill's co-sponsors, according to the Human Rights Campaign, which has been leading the effort to repeal the provision.

"The U.S. Senate closed ranks with the Pentagon, veterans and military organizations to overturn this pernicious and discriminatory measure," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's senior health policy advocate.

The discriminatory measure, authored by Rep. Bob Dornan, R-California, forces discharge of the 1,049 HIV-positive service members currently in the armed forces. A similar effort to repeal it in the House had more than 145 co-sponsors.

Focus now shifts to the conference committee that will hammer out differences between the House and Senate versions. "Given the unanimous support of the U.S. Senate, the prospects are good

for the repeal amendment to prevail in the conference committee," said Stachelberg.

The Dornan provision singles out service members with HIV and treats them differently from those with other chronic medical conditions. Prior to its enactment, service members with HIV the virus that causes AIDS, were allowed to serve their country as long as they could perform their duties, but they were not deployed overseas. The same policy applies to service members who have other chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease, or cancer. But those service members are not subject to immediate discharge.

The Pentagon has said that about half of the HIV-positive service members are married and, on average, have served for a decade. Nearly 20 percent of them are officers.

The repeal effort has the support of Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. John Shalikashvili, Secretary of Defense William J. Perry, Secretary of Veterans Affairs Jesse Brown, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Air Force Association.

In addition, Barry Goldwater and conservative columnists Charles Krauthammer and George Will oppose the Dornan provision.

The VFW in its statement asserted that, "to forcibly separate HIV-positive personnel while other service members with equally serious medical conditions are allowed to remain on duty seems unfair, punitive and unjust."

Gen. Shalikashvili and Secretary Perry have dubbed the Dornan provision "both unwarranted and unwise," and "unnecessary as a matter of sound military policy."

In addition, President Clinton has characterized the discharge provision as unconstitutional, and has put the full force of his administration behind the drive to repeal it.

"It's looking like just about the only person who doesn't want Bob Dornan's mean-spirited measure repealed is Bob Dornan," commented Stachelberg. "Like troops with other chronic medical conditions, HIV-positive service members should be allowed to continue performing their duties as long as they are able — and that decision should remain in the hands of military experts, not political extremists."

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## LOOKING AHEAD: A CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS DURING THE COMING YEAR!

To add an event to this calendar or to the Community Calendar,  
write: *The New Voice*, P.O. Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103 or call (402) 556-9907.

### May

23-26 MCC District Conference,  
27 ICON Memorial Day Picnic

### June

2 - ICON Stepping Down Show  
8, 9 - RCMC Concert  
14, 15, 16 - ICON Coronation  
22 - Mr. Nebraska Fantasy  
22 - PrideFest (Tentative)  
30 - Pride Parade & Rally  
TBA - RCMC Garage Sale

### July

4 - ICON Picnic  
7-15 - RCMC at GALA Festival  
20, 21 - Int'l Ms Leather-Philadelphia  
21 - ICON Investiture  
25 - Int'l Gay Rodeo Convention

### August

23, 24 - Int'l Mr. Fantasy Contest

### September

4 - ICON Labor Day Picnic

### October

5 - HGRA Awards Banquet  
11 - National Coming Out Day  
12 - HGRA Royalty Contest  
TBA Fall Harvest Cedar Rapids, IA

### November

10 - ICON Food 4 Thought  
10 & 17 - All Iowa AIDS Benefit

### December

1 - PFLAG Holiday Gathering  
7 - Night of 1000 Stars  
8 - ICON Toyz 4 Totz

**Let Us Know About YOUR Events so  
we can include them in the calendar!!**

### WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE NEW VOICE?

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Metropolitan Community Church  
Nebraska AIDS Project  
New Realities  
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays  
Retro  
The Infield  
The Mystery Bookstore  
The Run  
St. Mary's Tan  
Visions (Custom Framing)

#### **Council Bluffs:**

Adult Emporium

#### **Lincoln:**

Nebraska Book Store  
The Panic  
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays  
Q  
UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center  
Women's Resource Center

#### **Kearney:**

GLAGN

Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

#### **Des Moines:**

Blazing Saddle  
The Garden  
The Playpen  
Shooters Lounge  
Chat Noir Cafe  
The Side Saddle Cafe

#### **Sioux City:**

Three Cheers

#### **Rapid City**

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The Play Pen 424 E Locust 243-9626  
Shooters Lounge 515 E 6th 245-9126  
Chat Noir Cafe 644 18th 244-1353  
The Side Saddle Cafe 418 E 5th  
282-7041

#### Omaha (A.C. 402)

Babe's Street 19th & St. Mary's Ave  
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The Chesterfield 1901 Leavenworth  
345-6889  
DC's 610 S. 14th, 344-3103  
The Diamond 712 S. 16th, 342-9595  
Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth,  
449-9147  
The Infield 1401 Jackson, 346-3030  
The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110  
The New Run 1715 Leavenworth,  
449-8703

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Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764  
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#### Sioux City, IA (A.C. 712)

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## HIV TESTING\*

\*We urge you to inquire about anonymity & confidentiality before testing.

**Charles Drew Health Center,**  
2201 N. 30, Omaha 68111 (402) 453-1433

**Douglas County Health Department,**  
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

**Outreach Center,** 1723 Leavenworth Omaha,  
NE 68102, Open every Friday 1-4pm, Every  
other Friday from 10pm - 2am. HIV testing,  
education, support.

**Equilibria Medical Center,** 544 S. 24,  
Omaha, 68102 Call (402) 345-2252

**Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Health Dept** 3140 N  
Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling  
Walk-in tests: The Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tues  
Urban Indian Health Ctr, 140 S. 27, 434-7177

**Grand Island-Hall Co Health Dept,** 105 East  
1st St, Grand Island, Mary (308) 385-5175

**Hastings College Health Center, Hastings,**  
NE 68901 402-461-7372 Ask for Judy

**McCook Family Planning,** 111 West "C" St,  
McCook, 69001, (308) 345-3626

**Nebraska AIDS Project,** 3610 Dodge, Suite  
110, Omaha 342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-  
342-4233 or (800) 782-AIDS [2437]

**Nebraska Dept of Health,**  
Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847, 308/234-8183  
Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm Bldg #16,  
(402) 370-3395

**NorthPlatte,** Craft St. Office Bldg,  
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

**Nemaha County Health Department,**  
1824 N. Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

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**Mowbray, Chapin, & Walker, P.C.,** 910 "L"  
St. Lincoln 68508-2228 476-3882. Jim

**Nebr Bar Assoc,** 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091  
**Nebraska Civil Liberties Union,** Box 81455,  
Lincoln 68501, (402) 476-8091

## AIDS ADVOCACY

**AIDS Coalition for Empowerment (A.C.E.),**  
Box 31305, Omaha 68131. For anyone living  
with HIV & those interested in AIDS advocacy  
Call Nebraska AIDS Project at 342-6367

## PASTORAL CARE

**AIDS Interfaith Network,** 100 N 62, Omaha  
Br Wm Woeger 588-3100 (Chancery)  
Service: 2nd Monday, 7pm, St Cecelia's,  
Nebraska Chapel, 40th & Webster

**Lincoln Interfaith Council,** 140 S. 27th St.,  
Lincoln 68510, 474-3017, AIDS/HIV Healing  
Service: 1st Tues, 7pm, St Francis Chapel,  
1145 South Street, Lincoln, Public is invited

## INFORMATION & REFERRAL\*

\*More info call Neb AIDS Project 342-6367

**AIDS Educ Project,** UNL G/L Resource Ctr,  
Rm 342, Neb Union, Lincoln 68588, 472-5644

**American Red Cross,**  
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1701 "E", Lincoln 68501 (402) 471-7997  
2515 St Marys Ave, Omaha 68105 431-4447

**Community Prescription Service AIDS Info,**  
medicine, supplies by mail, 1-800-677-4323

**Douglas County Health Department,**  
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

**Grand Island/Hall Co. Health Dept,**  
105 E. 1st, Grand Island (308) 385-5175

**HIV Clinic,** Univ of NE Medical Center,  
600 S. 42nd, Omaha, (402) 559-6681

**Lincoln Cancer Cntr,** 4600 Valley, 483-1872

**Lincoln-Lancaster Co Health Dept** 3145 N,  
Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling

**Nebr AIDS Educ/Training Center,** AIDS  
education to health care professionals. UNMC,  
600 S 42 Omaha 68198, (402) 559-6681

**Nebraska AIDS Project**  
(statewide) (800) 782-AIDS [2437]  
**Omaha Office:** 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131  
Volunteer Services, Administration 342-6367;  
AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV testing,  
AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling

**Lincoln Office:** 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100.  
**Central Nebraska Office:** 3423 2nd Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610

**Northeast Nebr Office:** 304 N. 5 St., Ste C,  
Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807

**Western Nebraska Office:** 3707 Ave. D,  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361, (308) 635-3807

**Nebraska Dept of Health,**  
Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847,  
(308) 234-8183  
Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm  
Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395  
NorthPlatte, Craft St. Office Bldg,  
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

**Nebr Regional Hemophilia Center,**  
UNMC, 600 S. 42, Omaha (402) 559-4227.

**Nemaha County Health Department,**  
1824 N. Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

**ScottsBluff Co Health Dept,**  
Gering, NE 69341 (308) 635-3866

**Siouxland AIDS Coalition,** meets 2nd Tuesdy  
at 12 noon at Siouxland Chapter of American  
Red Cross, 1512 Pierce St., Sioux City, Iowa.  
Call (712) 252-0722

**Veterans Admin Medical Center,** 42 & Wool-  
worth, Omaha 346-8800; Dean Pierce, x 4119

## HOME HEALTH CARE

**LINK-ON,** 1318 S. 16, Lincoln, 68502, (402)  
477-8439, Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm, counseling,  
teaching of HIV infected individuals, people  
with AIDS, and others; Rick Swank, Director

## RESIDENTIAL HOSPICE

**The Franciscan Motherhouse,** 1052 Park  
Avenue, P.O. Box 8393, Omaha, NE 68108-  
0393. Telephone (402) 344-4557, Residential  
Hospice Care for Persons With AIDS

## COUNSELING & SUPPORT

**AIDS Care,** The Mercy Center, 427 E.  
Kanesville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503, att  
Colleen Kibbe-Vest (712) 328-2609

**AIDS Support Group,** Sponsored by PFLAG,  
Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437

**Calico II HIV-AIDS Support Group,** Meets  
1st & 3rd Tues. 7pm. **Alliance** For info call:  
(308) 762-8259

**Family AIDS Support Group:** Sponsored by  
PFLAG-Omaha. Meet 1st Sunday, 2p.m. First  
United Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha

**Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support  
Group,** Meets 3rd Tuesday, (308) 385-5175

**Harambee Mental Health Services,** Business  
& Technical Center, 2505 N. 24, Omaha, NE  
68110, (402) 451-3913. Mental Health Services  
to people of color who are infected with HIV,  
their partners, and their families. A program  
developed by Charles Drew Health Center.

**Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group,** 1st  
Monday, info, phone Barb (308) 865-5610

**Nebraska AIDS Project**  
(statewide) (800) 782-AIDS [2437]  
**Omaha Office:** 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131  
Volunteer Services & Administration 402-342-  
6367; AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV tests,  
AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling

**Lincoln Office:** 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100  
**Central Nebraska Office:** 3423 2nd Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610

**Northeast Nebr Office:** 304 N. 5 St., Ste C,  
Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807

**Western Nebraska Office:** 3707 Ave. D,  
Scottsbluff, NE 69361, (308) 635-3807



**North Platte Area Support Grp,**  
Call: (308) 535-8133

**Western Nebraska HIV/AIDS Support  
Group,** Scottsbluff, Call (308) 635-3606

# RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## \*\*\*\*\*LINCOLN\*\*\*\*\*

### Alcoholics Anonymous, Meetings:

\*\*Thurs. 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", Lincoln, Info contact V.J. at 477-3526

\*\*Fri. 8pm, 1st Plymouth Church, 20 & D, Lincoln, 438-5214

**BiPALS (Bisexual People/Alternate LifeStyle)** Box 80913, Lincoln, 68501, 1st Mon. 7:30pm, Cornerstone (upstrs) 640N 16. All sexes welcome.

**Ecumenical Catholic Church of America**, 2201 N. 31 St., Lincoln 68503. (402) 464-0270. Pastor Jim Arling, Deacon Gary Balch; Prayer Meeting: Sun. 11am. Open Communion. Please Call with Questions/Prayer Requests: All Are Welcome.

**Gay Men's Support Group**, c/o Counseling & Psych Services, Rm 213, Univ. Health Ctr, UNL, Lincoln, 68588-0618, 472-7450. Confidential

**Lesbian Discussion Group**, Womens Resource Ctr, Room 340 Neb Union, UNL, Lincoln, 68588-472-2597, Call for meeting information

**Lincoln Women for Sobriety Mtg**, Saturdays, 10am, Gathering Place, 15th & "E", Lincoln, Contact Judith at 472-2598 for information

**National Org. for Women (NOW) Lincoln** - political/grassroots activist org. in issues relating to full equality for women - meets monthly, Lincoln NOW, Box 80172, Lincoln, NE 68501, 477-1226

**Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG)**, Box 30128, Lincoln, NE 68503-0128, 434-9880. 4th Tuesday, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A". Group for family of people with HIV, and G/L Youth Group meet same time & place

**SAGE**, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542-2043, Info, Conference Updates, Education for older Gay people, Intergenerational Coffee House 2nd Saturday, 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos at 7:15pm, at 3319 S. 46th, Lincoln, All welcome.

**UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Ctr**, Rm 234 Neb Union, 14 & R, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-5644, Social, info, referral, library, General meetings Tuesdays, 7pm, during school year

**The Wimmis Show**, 12-3pm Sunday, KZUM, 89.3 FM stereo, Lincoln

**A Woman's Place**, Box 67035, Lincoln, 68506, nonprofit org dedicated to empowering women

**Youth Talkline** 473-7932, Friday & Saturday 7pm-Midnite, Lincoln Emotional support, referrals, AIDS info for callers Age 23 and under. Project of Coalition for G/L Civil Rts

**YWCA Counseling & Education Department**, 476-2802, Lincoln. Information and Referral.

## \*\*\*\*\*OMAHA\*\*\*\*\*

### Alcoholics Anonymous,

\*\*Stonewall Grp, Wed, 7:30pm, Mercy High

\*\*Gay Mens Stag "An Alternative", Fri, 7pm,

\*\*Live & Let Live Group, Friday 8:15pm

**A.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors)**, Box 8343, Omaha 68108-0343 Phone: 558-5303, Networking, consciousness raising, PRIDE activities throughout the year.

**Citizens For Equal Protection**, Box 55548, Omaha, 68155. (402) 398-3027, Legislative action - eliminate discrimination for g/l/b employment, housing, education, public accommodations. 1st Thursday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney

**EAGLE-Omaha**, Employee Assoc. of Gays & Lesbians. US WEST. Contact Pat Phalen, 1299 Farnam, 11th Flr, Omaha 68102 (402) 348-8569

**Frontrunners/walkers**, Box 4583, Omaha 68104, HOTLINE 496-3658, Running/Walking Club (SASE for info)

**Gay And Lesbian Organization of UNO (GaLo)**, for all UNO Students & sponsors, Meet Mondays 4-6pm on UNO Campus, Milo Bail Student Center, 3rd Floor, Board Room, Information call Jonathan Raymond (402) 571-8518 or Diallo Mudd (402) 554-3492

**Gay And Lesbian Parents Group (G.A.L.P.)**, 1st Thurs, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563. Emphasis on Gay/Lesbian Parent & significant other. Mtgs open to anyone.

**Gay/Lesbian Information & Referral Line**, A service of A.N.G.L.E., Inc., (402) 558-5303

**Gay Lesbian & Affirming Disciples (GLAD)** G/L/B/Affirming Disciples of Christ 553-2386

**ICE BOWL Invitational Bowling Tournament**, Box 3622, Omaha 68103-0622, Tournament is held President's Day Weekend each year.

**L.E.O. -- The Leather Engineers of Omaha**, An educational and social group for Gay Men with an interest in the Leather Lifestyle. For info write: L.E.O., P.O. Box 8181, Omaha, 68108

**Lutherans Concerned**, 453-7137, 7pm, Mar. 3, June 2, Oct. 6, Dec. 1, Meet at 1st Lutheran Church, Omaha

**Metropolitan Club**, PO Box 31484, Omaha, NE 68131-0484, Meet third Thursday of month, For gay and lesbian professionals to meet, socialize, and network with others.

**Men's Support Group**, Meet Tuesdays 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22 St. Call 345-2563

**Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha**, 819 S. 22 Street, Omaha, 345-2563, Send mail to: Box 3173, Omaha, 68103, Children/Adult Christian Ed.; Worship Service 9 & 10:30am

**New Realities**, Books, Tapes, Gifts, Old Market Passageway, 1026 Howard, 68102, 342-1863

**National Org. for Women (NOW) Omaha** - political & grassroots activist org. issues of full equality for women - Omaha NOW, Box 3325, Omaha 68103-0325, (402) 391-7303, Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney

**Omaha Meatpackers**, AIDS fundraising organization. Call: (712) 366-1791

**Omaha Players Club (OPC)**, PO Box 34463 Omaha 68134, (402) 451-7987, Leather/SM education & play group. Men's & women's group.

**Omaha Women for Sobriety** meet Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Omaha YWCA, 222 S. 29 St., Contact Judith at 472-2598 for more info.

**ONYX IMAGES**, Box 31026, Omaha, NE 68132-9998. Support/Social Fraternity for African American men. Age restriction for membership. Support for brothers of all ages.

**Parents-Friends of Lesbians And Gays PFLAG** 2912 Lynnwood Dr., Omaha, 68123, 291-6781. Meets 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Mead Hall, West End, 2nd Thurs, 7pm, "Program & Sharing": 4th Sunday, 2pm, "Sharing"

**Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns**, 733-1360, Cleve, Omaha

**River City Mixed Bowling League**, Sundays, 1 & 3pm, Skylanes, Center Mall, Omaha

**River City Gender Alliance**, Box 680, Council Bluffs, IA 51502 Hotline: 398-1255, leave message. For crossdressers, transsexuals, & those wishing to know more. All orientations. Newsletter. Meet 1st Saturday, Omaha

**River City Mixed Chorus**, Box 3267, Omaha, 68103-0267. 341-SING (341-7464) Volunteer chorus for Gay/Lesbian/Sensitive people.

**7th Day Adventist Kinship Inc**, Support/Info Les/Gay College Student 800-4-GAY-SDA

**Straight Spouse Support Grp** 7-9pm, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781

**Women of the Plains**, Box 24355, Omaha, 68124, Bring women's culture back to Omaha

**Women's Support Group**, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd, 345-2563. Meets Saturdays 11am

**WomenSpace**, Box 24712, Omaha 68124-0712, Quarterly newsletter for lesbian voices & events

**Youth Support Group**, sponsor: PFLAG. For gay, lesbian youth & those questioning sexuality, age 13-21. Meets Sat., Omaha, Call 291-6781.

## \*\*\*REGIONAL/STATEWIDE\*\*\*

**American Business & Professional Guild**, Box 142, Sioux City, IA 51102, Network of gay business/professional men from IA, MN, SD, & NE, Meet last Sat. of each month. Write for info.

**Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rts**, Box 94882, Lincoln 68509 Advocacy, newsletter

**Community Alliance**, 1301 Villa Ave, Sioux City, IA 51103 (712) 258-4704

**Fellowship of Believers**, 812 North 10th, #7, Norfolk 68701, Ph: 402-379-9935 Home-based church meets Wed 7pm, Sun 10am Open to all.

**GLB Alliance**, c/o Health Ctr, Hastings, College, Hastings 68901 Call Judy 402-461-7372 (Health Ctr) 402-462-2961 (home) For G/L/B Students & Friends - safe place to meet, discuss & learn

**Gay & Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebr.**, Support, social events, newsletter. Info: GLAGN, Box 2401, Kearney, NE 68848-2401 or call: (308) 472-3249

**Heartland Gay Rodeo Association (HGRA)**, Box 3354, Omaha, 68108-9998. Info: Dan 344-3103 All who enjoy/support rodeos & country activities. Meets 1st Saturday DC's, Omaha

**Imperial Court of Nebraska**, Box 3772, Omaha 68102 Org. for advancement of G/L/B/T society, Board Meets 1st Monday each month

**Integrity Prayer Service**, Wed, 6pm, St. Thomas Episcopal, 12 & Douglas, Sioux City, IA. Call Al (712) 276-8369 or Rev. Kerr (712) 258-0141

**Lincoln/Lancaster Drug Projects**, 610 "J", Lincoln, 475-5161, Dennis Hoffman, Case Mgr. O/P chemical dependency treatment while affirming sexuality. Sliding Fee

**LinOma Bares**, P.O. Box 8493, Omaha, NE 68108 Nudist/Naturalist Clubs for gay/bi men

**The New Voice of Nebraska**, Box 3512, Omaha 68103 Subs. \$19/year. Deadline: 10th of month

**Internet Address: tjrr05c@prodigy.com**

**Panhandle Gay & Lesbian Support Services**, Box 1046, Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1046 Telephone: (308) 635-8488

**Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays**

\*PFLAG, Kearney - meet 3pm, 3rd Sun, St Luke's Epis. (308) 382-0752 or 995-5490. Mail: PFLAG, 1320 8th Ave., Holdrege, NE 68949

\*PFLAG, Sioux City, IA 2nd Sun, 2pm, Mayflower Congregational Church, 1407 W. 18

**PRIDE Group**, c/o Counseling Ctr, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE 68787. Info: Karen or Virginia (402) 375-7321 G/L/B Students. Meet people, discuss issues, provide community service, educate, raise awareness.

# APRIL CALENDAR

## EVERY SUNDAY

Worship Services, 9 & 10:30a.m.  
MCC- Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563  
Gay/Lesbian Walking Club, 10am, 38th & South, Lincoln, by tennis courts  
Ecumenical Catholic Church, Prayer Mtg, 6pm, 2201 N. 31, Lincoln, 464-0270  
River City Bowling League, 1 & 3pm, SkyLANes, 42nd & Center, Omaha

## EVERY MONDAY

Network Q, 3:30pm, Cable Channel 20, Lincoln  
GaLo UNO Student Grp, 4-6pm Milo Bail, 3rdFloor Board Rm, 571-8518/554-3492  
HIV Tests, NAP, 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, Omaha 7-9:30pm  
River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha, 7:15pm

## EVERY TUESDAY EVERY WEDNESDAY

Women for Sobriety 5:30pm YWCA, 222 S. 29, Omaha, Call Judith 472-2598  
Mens Support Group 7:30pm MCC, 819 S. 22, Omaha  
Study Groups, 7:30 pm, Ecumenical Catholic Church of America, Lincoln

Gay Men Disc Grp, Lincoln 6pm, Contact Luis 472-7450  
Fronrunners Run, 6:30pm, Brownell-Talbot, Omaha  
PFLAG AIDS Support Grp, Lincoln 7pm, call 475-2437  
Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30pm, Mercy High, Omaha  
Integrity Prayer Svc, 6pm, St. Thomas Episc, Sioux City, IA

## SUNDAY

## MONDAY

## TUESDAY

## WEDNESDAY

### April 1 (1st Monday)

ICON Board Mtg, 7pm, Stosh's Saloon at the MAX, Omaha  
Dr. David Hilliker speaks on work with homeless PWA's, Creighton Univ., Omaha

### April 2 (1st Tuesday)

AIDS Healing Service, 7pm, St. Francis Chapel, South & 11th St., Lincoln  
ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, UNO Religious Center, 110 N. Happy Hollow, Omaha

### April 3

(1st Wednesday)  
Gay & Lesbian Parent Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha  
Pride Team Mtg, 7pm, 3923 Farnam, Omaha  
Everyone Welcome!

### April 7 (1st Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Regency, Omaha  
Family AIDS Support, 2-4pm, 1st Meth, Om  
Lutheran Concerned 1st Lutheran 7pm Om  
Stars of Miss Neb USA at The MAX, Omaha  
"Suicide Show" DC's, Omaha Q, Lincoln

### April 8 (2nd Monday)

AIDS Interfaith Service, 7pm, St Cecelias, Omaha

### April 9 (2nd Tuesday)

Siouxland AIDS Coalition, 12n, Red Cross, Sioux City, IA  
Free/Confidential HIV Tests by Lancaster Co Health Dept 5-7pm The Panic, Lincoln  
P-FLAG Omaha Board Mtg, 7:30pm, 1st Methodist

### April 10 (2nd Wed)

Deadline--May New Voice  
Last day for applications for ICON's Closet Ball  
Greg Louganis speaks, UNL Nebraska Union--Centennial Ballroom, 8pm

### April 14 (2nd Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Ford Birthside, Om  
MCC PSC Circle, 6pm, 477-3215 Lincoln  
PFLAG, Mayflower Congregational, 1407 W. 18, Sioux City, IA, 2-4pm  
Jennifer Jett--Superstar Show, The MAX

### April 15 (3rd Monday)

IRS Day! Taxes are due!  
Last day to turn in applications to run for Emperor or Empress of The Imperial Court of Nebraska

### April 16 (3rd Tuesday)

NOW-Nat'l Org for Women  
Lincoln: 7pm, Women's Club, 407 S. 14th, 477-1226  
Omaha: 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney, 391-7303  
Grand Island HIV Support Grp, 7pm, (308) 385-5175  
Fronrunner Annual Banquet, For Details, call 496-3658

### April 17 (3rd Wed)

Pride Team Mtg, 7pm, 3923 Farnam, Omaha  
Everyone Welcome!  
SNAP Productions "Raft of the Medusa" 7:30pm, Upstairs at The Rose, Omaha, 342-9053

### April 21 (3rd Sun)

Fronrunners, 10am, Laura Dodge Schl, Om  
Community Resource Center Development Mtg, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 2-5pm  
PFLAG/Kearney, St Luke Episcopal, 3pm, 2304 2nd Ave., (308) 382-0752/995-5490  
ICON Closet Ball, 8:30pm, The MAX  
SNAP "Raft of the Medusa" 7:30pm, Upstairs at The Rose, Omaha, 342-9053

### April 22 (4th Monday)

### April 23 (4th Tuesday)

PFLAG, 7pm Program: "History of Homophobia" Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln, 467-4599  
Fronrunners Monthly Mtg, 6:30pm, Omaha, 496-3658

### April 24

(4th Wednesday)

### April 28 (4th Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Metcalf Park, Om  
Dr. Mark Goodman speaks on men's health issues, 2:30pm, MCC-Omaha  
MCC PSC Circle, 6pm, 477-3215 Lincoln  
Q Review Cabaret, The Q, Lincoln  
Springy Thingy, The New Run Bar, Omaha  
Mount-N-Men, The MAX, Omaha  
Brittany Brooks, Touchez, Sioux Falls, SD

### April 29 (5th Monday)

### April 30 (4th Tuesday)

### May 6 (1st Monday)

ICON Board Mtg, 7pm, Location TBA, Omaha

### May 7 (1st Tuesday)

ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, UNO Religious Center, Omaha  
AIDS Healing Service, 7pm, St. Francis Chapel, South & 11th St., Lincoln

### May 8 (2nd Wednesday)

### May 5 (1st Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Burke High, Omaha  
"Inga Does Tampa" -- Benefit for River City Mixed Chorus Show, 8:30pm, The MAX, Omaha

# APRIL CALENDAR

## EVERY THURSDAY

**HIV Test Site, Nebraska AIDS Project**, 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, West Door **Omaha** 7-9:30pm

**G/L Alcoholics Anonymous**, 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A" **Lincoln**, Call V.J. 477-3526

## EVERY FRIDAY

**Network Q**, 1pm, Cable Channel 20, **Lincoln**  
**Outreach Center**, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**  
**Lesbian Discussion Grp** **Lincoln** 7pm 488-2043

**Alcoholics Anonymous Omaha: "An Alternative"** Mens Stag 7pm, Lowe Ave "Live & Let Live" 8:15pm Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 411  
**Lincoln**: 8pm, Plymouth Congregational, 438-5214  
**Youth Talkline**, 7pm-12m, Support/ Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932, **Lincoln**

## EVERY SATURDAY

**Lincoln Women for Sobriety**, 10am, Gathering Place, **Lincoln**, Judith 472-2598  
**Womens Support Grp**, 11am, MCC-**Omaha**  
**Youth Support Grp**, 291-6781, age 13-21 gay, lesbian, or questioning sexuality, **Omaha**  
**Youth Talkline**, 7p-12m, 473-7932, **Lincoln**

## THURSDAY

**April 4 (1st Thursday)**  
**Maunder Thursday Services**, 7pm, MCC-**Omaha**  
**Citizens for Equal Protection**, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, **Omaha**  
**NOW Program Night**, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney, **Omaha**

**April 11 (2nd Thursday)**  
**P-FLAG** 1st Methodist-Mead Hall, 7020 Cass **Omaha** 291-6781 7pm  
**Straight Spouse Support Group** 7-9pm, Mead Hall, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781  
**PGLSS "Homosexuality & the Bible"**, Scottsbluff, NE

**April 18 (3rd Thursday)**  
**Metropolitan Club**, 6:30pm, Neon Goose, 10 & Pacific, **Omaha**  
**GLAGN Support Group**, Grand Island, (308) 384-7235  
**SNAP Productions "Raft of the Medusa"** 7:30pm, Upstairs at The Rose, **Omaha**, 342-9053

**April 25 (4th Thursday)**  
**Phoenix Fallentino presents Pride Benefit Show**, The New Run Bar, 9pm, Benefit for '96 Pride Activities

**May 2 (1st Thursday)**  
**CFEP**, 7pm, **Omaha**  
**G/L Parents**, 7:30pm, **Omaha**  
**NOW Program Night**, **Omaha**  
**"Night Love - a jazz cabaret"** **Omaha** Playhouse 10 pm  
**"Farm Boys" Slide Show**, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 6300 A, **Lincoln**

**May 9 (1st Thursday)**  
**P-FLAG** 1st Methodist-Mead Hall, 7020 Cass, **Omaha** 291-6781, 7pm  
**Straight Spouse Support Group** 7-9pm, Mead Hall, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781

## FRIDAY

**April 5 (1st Friday)**  
**Craig Womack** speaks on HIV and Native American Men, 7:30 p.m., Native American Development Ctr, 2451 St. Marys, **Omaha**  
**Good Friday Service of Darkness**, 7pm, MCC-**Omaha**, 819 S. 22.  
**Prayer Vigil**, MCC-**Omaha**, until 6am Easter Sunday.  
**Outreach Center**, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**  
**"My Life" Art Display** opens, Gallery 9, **Lincoln**

**April 12 (2nd Friday)**  
**Frontrunners Friday Afternoon Club**, The New Run Bar, 6:30pm

**April 19 (3rd Friday)**  
**Womyn's Book Discussion Group**, Call Laurie 556-0937 or Beth 435-2418  
**Outreach Center**, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**  
**"Escape to Reality" Comedy Show, Raffle, Silent Auction to Benefit Nebraska AIDS Project**, 7pm, Great Hall Depot, Haymarket, 201 N. 7th, **Lincoln**  
**SNAP Productions "Raft of the Medusa"** 7:30pm, Upstairs at The Rose, **Omaha**, 342-9053

**April 26 (4th Friday)**  
**Heartland AA Roundup, "Recovery through Unity"** **Ramada Inn Airport, Registration 6pm, Speakers begin at 8pm**, For Information, write: Heartland Roundup, Box 573, Omaha, NE 68101-0573

**May 3 (1st Friday)**  
**"Night Love - a jazz cabaret"** presented by Jonathan Cole, **Omaha** Playhouse Hitchcock Hall, 10 pm, gen. admission \$9, 558-0800 for reservations

**May 10 (2nd Friday)**  
**Deadline for the June issue of The New Voice**  
**ANGLE Night at Dundee Dinner Theatre**, Dinner 7pm, Show (Lend Me a Tenor) 8pm, tickets \$25/person, call theater for reservations by May 1st

## SATURDAY

**April 6 (1st Saturday)**  
**River City Gender Alliance**, for Transgender community. Box 680, Council Bluffs 51502  
**Easter Egg Hunt for the kids**, MCC-**Omaha**  
**Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc, DC's, Om**, 6pm  
**Prayer Vigil**, MCC-**Omaha**, continues  
**Experience the Divine**, prize most outrageous costume, Kings & Queens, **Sioux City, IA**

**April 13 (2nd Saturday)**  
**Affirming the Ones You Love, Seminar**, Des Moines, IA  
**SAGE Coffee House** 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, **Lincoln**, 488-4178  
**"Blue Velvet Ball"** St. Joseph, Missouri, Call (816) 364-8376 for details  
**GLAGN's Barn Dance III**, Hastings

**April 20 (3rd Saturday)**  
**SNAP Productions "Raft of the Medusa"** 7:30pm, Upstairs at The Rose, **Omaha**, 342-9053

**April 27 (4th Saturday)**  
**American Professional & Business Guild**, **Sioux City, IA**, For Information, write: ABPG, Box 142, Sioux City, Iowa 51102  
**Kate Clinton**, **Omaha**, Presented by WomenSpace Productions  
**Heartland AA Roundup, "Recovery through Unity" Ramada Inn Airport**, For Information, write: Heartland Roundup, Box 573, Omaha, NE 68101-0573

**May 4 (1st Saturday)**  
**ANGLE "After Hours"** Downtown Grounds, 1-4am, **Omaha** (begins after midnight Saturday)  
**River City Gender Alliance**, **Omaha**  
**Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc, DC's, Omaha**  
**"Night Love - a jazz cabaret"** **Omaha** Playhouse Hitchcock Hall, 10 pm

**May 11 (2nd Saturday)**  
**SAGE Coffee House** 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, **Lincoln**, 488-4178

# CLASSIFIEDS

**1996 Midwest Camping Weekend** for straight-acting men. Experience fun in the great outdoors. For information, send \$5 to: Roger Van Meeteren, 4104 Valhalla Blvd., #31, Sioux Falls, SD 57106. Real men only, 18+ (Ap96)

**Gay Video \$16.95** for \$45 shipping included. Send order to AMADS, P.O. Box 23233, Phoenix, AZ 85063. Check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, Discover. Include Expiration Date. Or Fax 602-848-6780 Credit Cards only. (My96)

### TYPING NEEDS?

493-4075/493-2308  
Will handle all, very reasonable rates; documents, correspondence, term papers, other office work including mail processing. (My96)

**Adult Videos and magazines.** Would like to trade or sell them. If interested, please write to: Steven, Box 5705, Lincoln, NE 68505 Selling Price \$2.00 each for videos. (Au96)

### SPORTS & ENTERTAINMENT FANS!

Get latest Las Vegas 5 Star Pick, Scores, Horoscopes, Soaps, Stocks, & more Now!  
1-900-776-0700 Ext. 6509  
\$2.99 min. 18+ Serve-U (619) 645-8434

**Home Improvement Company.** Painting, Wall Papering, Faux Finishes, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Ceramic Tile, Flooring. Michael 344-3262 (Au96)

Do April showers hide the sun? Not at St. Mary's Tan. 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740

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### ORGANIZATIONS EVERYONE WELCOME!

Attend the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON) Board Meeting **Monday, April 1**, at The MAX, 1415 Jackson, Omaha, 7:00 p.m.

**PERSONAL GROWTH GROUP** has new openings for serious-minded men interested in self/spiritual growth. Discreet, selective. Ph. 330-2162 after 8:30p.m. Ask for Mark (Ap96)

### MASSAGE

**Full Body Therapeutic Massage:** Serving the Bisexual, gay, lesbian, and hetero community. Swedish Massage. Reserve your appointment! Lincoln, 402-477-0138 (My96)

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**OVERWORKED? UNDERPAID? STRESSED OUT? RELAX!** Pamper yourself with Swedish Massage in the privacy of your home. Nationally/state licensed. Call 553-8657 for information/appointment. (Ju96)

**The Easter Bunny may be cute in soft white fur** but wouldn't you rather be gleaming and gorgeous with a golden tan from St. Mary's Tan. 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740

**"Your Hour"** Treat yourself to a total body rub. Warm oils, relaxing vibrations, tender nurturing touch. Evenings & Weekends. 491-3176 No calls after 10:00 p.m. (Ju96)

### FOR RENT

**FOR RENT, CARRIAGE HOUSE,** 307 N. 41 Ave., two bedrooms, hardwood floors, washer, dryer, off street parking, \$500, 553-0238 (Ap96)

**Fun-loving GWM will share house,** non-smoking environment, \$225/month plus 1/2 utilities, Norfolk, 402-379-1295. Leave Message. (My96)

### PERSONALS for Womyn

**An attractive, professional, discrete, and outgoing GWF** seeks gay, bi, or married white females for friendship and possible relationship. Enjoy sports. Must be slender to average, non-drinker and no drugs. Age no problem. Please write to: P.O. Box 34014, Omaha, NE 68134. (My96)

**Bi-Female, 5 ft, 101 lbs,** seeks other Bi females. Send picture. Will return same. P.O. Box 3101, 124 Pacific, Omaha, NE 68108 (Ap96)

**Planning an Olivia Cruise this summer?** There will be a whole shipload of lean, lovely lesbians. And you'll be looking your best thanks to St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave. 341-3740.

### PERSONALS for Men

**GWM 39, HIV Neg, 6', 160#,** Looking for males 25-40 for safe, fun times — Looking for well endowed men. I'll be waiting to hear from you. 402-457-4271 (Ap96)

### MEET THAT SPECIAL PERSON

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**GWM, 22, 6', 160 lbs,** Nice guy with warped sense of humor. Still somewhat awkward at this whole gay thing. Hope to meet some cool, kind people. Write me. I will reply! PO Box 241534, Omaha, NE 68124 (Ap96)

**Bi/W/M 40's, HIV -, into leather fetish.** 6'4", 187, lean legs, nice buns, long hair. Seek Bi W/female HIV- into leather fetish. Must be lean with nice legs/buns. Desire lasting relationship. Send photo, full name, address, phone no to: (435-0414) Stan Balderson, 1534 "E" St., #26, Lincoln, NE 68508 (Ju96)

**GWM, 39, HIV -, looking for GWM 25-45** for fun safe times. 5111", 185#. I'll be waiting to hear from you. 402-455-2511 (Ap96)

**Discreet bi curious W/M, 5'9", 160#,** seeks couples, bi females, bi curious 18-21 males. Interests, video, phone freinds, watching, fantasies. Disease & drug free! Bill, P.O. Box 4034, Omaha, NE 68104 (Ap96)

**GWM, HIV-, Seek Caring Life Partner** who also is educated, intelligent, ambitious. 6'1", 225#. CALL NOW Bill 551-1239 Let's Talk (Ap96)

**GWM, 39, 6' 1", 280#,** Br/Br, well-educated, sex-hungry bottom seeks professional G or BMW, 30-50, good-average shape, well-endowed, sex-crazed top. Give me room in your life, heart & home, and will fulfill your wants & needs tenfold, plus cook, clean, wash, & and help keep your busy life in order. Serious love, & loyalty awaits the seriously loving & loyal inquiry. Write to: AMP, JR/ 908 Avery Road West, Bellevue, NE 68123-4001. Include info., ??photo??, return address and/or phone #. (Ap96)

**DESIRE LONG TERM SUBMISSION.** White male beginner, 35, 6'7", 250#. Blonde, 8 inches — needs masters/tops. If you enjoy putting boy thru his paces, please train me! Seeking experienced couples, Black/White, 30-60, well hung preferred. Dildo wearing Rubesque lesbians also serviced. My fantasies are heavy b/d, s/m, leather, c/b, t/t, forced French/Greek, oral servitude, spanking, entertaining your friends, and new ideas? Call J.P. anytime. (402) 597-3654 (Ap96)

**GWM, 37, 5'10", 185#,** brn/brn with trimmed full beard. Professional — R.N., straight acting, non-smoker. HIV negative. Enjoy music, movies, & romance. Looking for compatibility for a monogamous relationship, with similar interests. Call 402-362-1733 or write: John S., 639 E. 10th St., Apt C-205, York, NE 68467-1932 (Ap96)

**Been thinking about experimenting with black leather?** The best leather in the world won't make up for a pale, washed out look. And bikini lines really distract from a leather jockstrap! Tan all over in complete privacy at St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Avenue, 341-3740.

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### Nebraska

**OLDER MEN A TURN ON!**  
GWM, 36, dark hair, medium build, seeks older guys, 30+, for fun, friendship and more. (Craig) #19950

**COMPANION FOR LIFE.**  
GWM, 5'6", 110, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks others for fun, friendship and companionship. Call me. (Lincoln) #49569

**ALL AROUND NICE GUY.**  
GWM, 5'6", 135, blue eyes, blonde hair, goatee, hairy chest, seeks same for fun, friendship and possibly more. It will be nice to hear from you. (Lincoln) #48003

**MIKEY LIKES IT!** GWM, 22, 6'3", 180, blonde hair, blue eyes, into alot of things including dancing and theatre, seeks others for fun and friendship for now. Please be masculine and attractive. Call me if this is you. (Lincoln) #47302

**ANIMAL LOVER.** GWM, 5'6", 130, long brown hair, blue eyes, goatee, 35, seeks GWM's only, for pleasure. Call me! (Lincoln) #47305

**SAFE AND SANE.** GWM, medium build, good sense of humor, seeks other men, 18-45, for safe, sane and consensual fun. (Lincoln) #32099

**HERE I AM, WHERE ARE YOU?** GWM, 25, 6'4", 200, blonde hair, blue eyes, football player's build, clean shaven, HIV-, seeks others, disease/drug free and 20-35, for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #32963

**BIG GUY SEARCH.** GWM, 34, 160, seeks stocky and heavy set men for good conversation and more. Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #31659

**READY TO PLAY?** GWM, 43, professional, dominant and hairy, seeks submissive and open minded boys who are ready to play. Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #23767

**LET'S MEAT.** GWM, 33, variety of interests, seeks others for friendship and whatever! Please leave a message. (Lincoln) #18733

**LET'S GET TO KNOW EACH OTHER.** GWM, 23, 6'2", 180, blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks other guys for friends and more. (Lincoln) #20388

**CHURCH GOER.** GWM, 26, 110, brown hair, blue eyes, student, varied interests, seeks other guys for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #18490

**LET'S SHARE.** GBM, 28, seeks local guys for fun and possibly more. Leave me a message. (Omaha) #48445

**AN EDUCATED PROFESSIONAL.** GWM, 33, 200, 6'1", brown hair, stache, into alot of things, seeks same for fun and friendship. Call me soon. (Omaha) #48872

**THIS IS MIKE.** GWM, 27, 175, 5'11", brown hair, blue eyes, seeks local guys for fun and adventure. Give me a call. (Omaha) #49016

**I'M REALLY CURIOUS.** Bi Curious WM, 57, 180, no experience, seeks same, young and slim only, for learning experiences. Call me and let's learn together. (Omaha) #49042

**TUBE RIDER.** GWM, bottom, seeks top men, well endw'd only, for pleasure. Give me a call. (Omaha) #30105

**LET'S MEAT.** GWM, 30's, 5'9", brown hair and eyes, medium build, hairy body, varied interests, seeks same with similar qualities. Let's talk! (Omaha) #48203

**THIS MAY BE IT!** GWM, 35, 5'7", 165, not into smoke or bar scene, seeks others for fun, friendship and possibly more. (Omaha) #31249

**LOOKING FOR HORSES.** GWM, 39, HIV-, 6", 160, seeks others, 25-40, for safe and fun times. You must be well endw'd! Please leave a message. (Omaha) #34290

**MY NAME IS CODY.** GWM, 5'9", brown hair, green eyes, hairy, into camping, cuddling, movies and more, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #32252



**PLEASURE PATROL.** GWM, 32, 5'10", 175, seeks others for fun and adventures. (Omaha) #33147

**CONFUSED BUT WANTS YOUNG GUYS.** Bi Curious WM, not really sure, 5'9", 180, seeks others with similar feelings and tendencies. Please be discreet, drug/disease free, young and slim. (Omaha) #32982

**I'M A FUN GUY.** GWM, 5'4", well built, 140, 31, short thinning hair, attractive, seeks others, who are versatile and attractive, for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #31421

**NAUGHTY IN NEBRASKA.** GWM, 25, 5'10", 175, submissive, seeks masculine and well built men, husky preferred, for bar hopping, pleasure and more. Please leave a message. Discretion/Smoke/Drug free a must! (Omaha) #28022

**LOOKING FOR CUB SANDWICH.** GWM, 52, bear, seeking other cubs for hibernation and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #27100

**LET'S MEAT SOON.** Bi BM, 33, 185, good shape, seeks Bi/GWM's, 18-35, for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #27494

**SHY GUY.** GWM, lonely, 30, 6'1", 300, brown hair and eyes, shy, varied interests, seeks others, 20-40, for fun and more. (Omaha) #24223

**CREATIVE AND PLAYFUL.** GWM, blue eyes, 38, 190, 6'1", thinning salt/pepper hair, seeks playmates, under 40, for friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #18459

**FRIEND SEEKER.** GWM, blonde hair, blue eyes, good shape, 5'10", 160, versatile, varied interests, seeks others for good times and friendship. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #20785

**LET'S MEAT SOON.** GWM, 32, 6", 190, blue eyes, brown hair, seeks others for companionship and friendship. Please leave a message. (Omaha) #21150

### Colorado

**THIS IS DANA.** GWM, 21, 165, 6'1", brown hair and eyes, seeks others, 18-24, slender and athletic, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Aurora) #19281

**COLD IN THESE PARTS.** GWM, 200, 6'1", good shape, 34, seeks others for fun and more. Please leave a message. (Colorado Springs) #33807

**QUALITY AND QUANTITY TIME.** GWM, 52, 6'4", 245, HIV-, smoker, varied interests, seeks others, 30-50, with similar qualities, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Colorado Springs) #24503

**LOOKING FOR FRIENDS.** GWM, 28, 5'10", 160, short brown hair, hazel eyes, variety of interests, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. Leave me your number. (Denver) #48981

**CUSTOMER SERVICE WITH A SMILE.** GWM, 6'4", 205, excellent body, clean, single and HIV-, into opera and camp lives, seeks married men, for fun and pleasure. Call me today! (Denver) #48123

**BI BUDDIES.** Bi Curious WM, 29, 6", 180, large and trim build, brown hair, blue eyes, hairy, beard/stache, seeks Bi or Married WM's, 18-35, for experimentation and more. If this interests you, leave a message. (Denver) #48045

**COLD IN COLORADO.** GWM, 32, top, 6'2", hairy chest, varied interests, seeks others for fun, friendship and more. Please leave a message. (Denver) #32297

**DENVER DUDE.** GWM, 20, brown hair, blue eyes, seeks others for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Denver) #31802

**THIS IS JOE.** GWM, 30, 165, blonde hair, blue eyes, varied interests, seeks others, 25-35, for fun, friendship and possibly more. Please leave a message. (Denver) #30013

**TOPLESS IN COLORADO.** GBM, 5'11", 210, seeks top men for romance, partying and more. Please leave a message. (Denver) #26522

**VERY CURIOUS.** Bi WM, 28, 6", 180, brown hair, blue eyes, beard/stache hairy, seeks other Bi WM's, single, married or divorced, 18-35, for first time experience. Please leave a message. (Denver) #18634

**NEW KID ON THE BLOCK.** GWM, 21, 5'11", 160, dark brown eyes and hair, very new to the area, seeks others for fun and friendship. Call me soon. (Grand Junction) #47941

**DADDY/BOY SEARCH.** GWM, 40, handsome, Daddy, seeks others, 18-30, great body and masculine only, for fun and more. (Grand Junction) #31574



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**Returns With**  
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**Sunday, April 14**  
**This Sunday It's A**  
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