

V O L U M E II

N O . VI

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



The New Voice

August 1985

THE NEW VOICE STAFF

EDITOR—Larry Wiseblood
ASSOC. EDITORS—Mel Dahl
Anita Freeman-Soltisyyk
Jerry Peck
Sandy
TREASURER—Howard
RECORDER—Heidi
COPY EDITOR—Gary Carey
PHOTOGRAPHERS—
Chamla Brown Schreiber
OTHER STAFF—Gary Dick
Dave Michael Julie Morgan

Contact the following staff of The New Voice for advertising, classifieds, subscriptions, and articles:

Jerry Peck Omaha 345-2181
Larry Wiseblood Lincoln 475-7740

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THE NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA

P.O. Box 80819
LINCOLN, NE
68501

P.O. Box 3512
OMAHA, NE
68103

Our Turn

Comments and Opinions from The New Voice staff

COVER- DRAWING BY OMAHA ARTIST
LEE BUSSELMAN.

Exactly one year ago The New Voice won a lawsuit that had been initiated by a small newspaper in Southern Lancaster County called the Voice News. The lawsuit had been started out of fear and paranoia and concern that the public would confuse the two publications because of the similarity of the names. However, common sense prevailed and The New Voice won a clear victory that helped us grow, learn from our mistakes and take on new challenges. Shortly after the favorable decision The New Voice filed for incorporation and became a non-profit cooperative.

We currently have plans to seek non-profit tax exempt status with the Internal Revenue Service.

The New Voice is not without its struggles, however. We are

still paying off legal expenses brought about by the lawsuit. We have also lost some staff from moves to other parts of the country and burn-out. In August The New Voice will start a recruitment drive to increase our ranks. We need people to help in advertising, circulation, lay-out and design and writers. We especially need people in Omaha as a couple of individuals are doing a majority of the work.

Lincoln recently saw the introduction of the Star City Bulletin. The New Voice is publishing this events bulletin on a trial basis every two weeks. Let us know what you think. If the calendar proves successful it could be expanded to include an Omaha edition if a staff person could be found to take on the project. Call 475-7740 (Lincoln) or write to P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

EVENTS & ORGANIZATIONS

A Gay Pride Parade Post Script

The exhilaration of the moment, the exuberance that immediately followed the parade as people greeted one another with hugs at the bars on June 29th, 1985, is only the beginning of the story of Omaha's first Gay Pride Parade.

Channel 3 reported a "couple dozen" in attendance. Channel 6 showed live film (including even my face) and interviewed one of the marchers. To my knowledge, Channel 7 ignored the event. The Omaha World-Herald left no question as to the identity of JoJo. She supervises a number of women at a local factory, and facing her co-workers was not something she looked forward to. As of

July 4th, she had not received any negative response at work, but rather support and admiration for the courage of her convictions.

The World-Herald credited us with 60 marchers and 400 spectators (lining both sides of four city blocks two and three deep), and printed a photo of the first few people in the parade.

The interview with Dan was done with his approval in the excitement of the night, and with the after-thought that his parents in Iowa would surely see or hear about his exposure. He drove to his parents on Sunday and "came out" to his parents. His mother believes it is a "phase"

Continued ...

he's going through, but his father is supportive. Hopefully in time, they will see that this is something too prolonged to be a "phase."

The young man that marched to my immediate right was confronted by members of his family in a hostile manner some two weeks following the telecast. He seems to think they will get over it in time.

As for me, my parents' travel delayed my reaction some three weeks. After some 30 years of lies, I "came out" to my parents. Dady said, "You're not telling me anything new," got up and went to get a drink of water. Mom wanted to know if there wasn't a cure for this.

I told her that I didn't want to be cured. After considerable conversation, Dad smile and said, "Confession is good for the soul, isn't it?" I couldn't agree more.

Articles are beginning to appear in the public pulse of the Omaha newspaper. I estimate there were over 100 marchers, and I am sure that there are nearly as many stories that could be told. I look forward to next year's parade when more can participate and experience the joy of being proud of who, as well as what, you are.

--Jerry Peck

If there is anything you want us to know, please contact us, or write The New Voice, P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, Nebraska 68501.

The New Voice needs advertising staff for both Omaha and Lincoln. Call 475-7740 for more details.

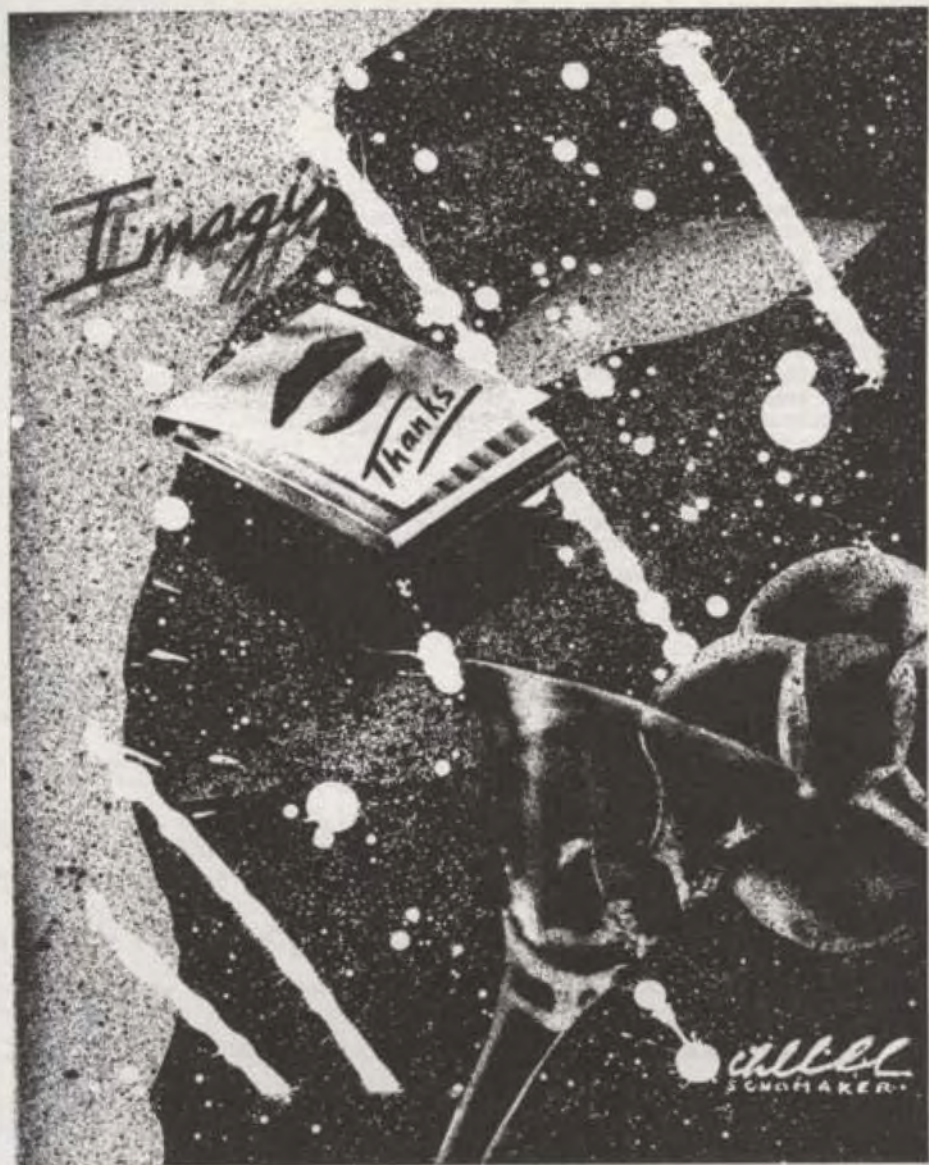
*"Do not judge, that you may not be judged.
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be measured to you."*

- Matthew, Chapter 7, vs. 1-2

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Notes on July 4th Picnic

A typical mid-Western Fourth of July ("hot as _____") found a large number of us getting burned to a crisp at the Warehouse grounds in Carter Lake, Iowa. A lot of beer got drunk (and a lot spilled), volleyball worked up a sweat, hot dogs and sloppy joes got eaten, and several people shinned up the pole and did chin-ups on the

ceiling beams. A number of people got "flushed" and a great time seemed to have been had by all. (Some fool was shooting bottle rockets off into the crowd, but that got stopped real fast). I look forward to seeing you picnickers at the Labor Day Picnic.

--Jerry Peck

Imperial Court News

On Sunday, June 30, Investiture (Prince and Princess Royale Ball) was held at the Max. PR's IV David and Muffy officially ended the reign of the Silver Eagle and White Dove court. After they stepped down, the new PR's V were crowned and ascended the throne. Mr. Ron Minobe is Emperor Gary's Prince Royale and Miss Marsha is Empress Laura Lee's Princess Royale. It proved to be a gala evening. Thanks goes to the Max, Jim Wilson and Scott Rezek for a startling set and the gay community for attending.

We were sorry to announce the cancellation of Gary and Velvet's inner tubing trip, but an AIDS Seminar was set up and held at the Max. A panel of experts, as well as a couple members of the gay community discussed AIDS and answered questions from the audience. It was a learning experience by all in attendance. Thanks go to Don Flowers and Kevin Gallagher for setting up this panel of information.

On August 18, Pat Phalen, Terry Sweeney, and Ken Dillard will be sponsoring a Dinner/Cabaret Revue at Stars/The Alley. Dinner, which consists of roast beef or chicken, vegetable, dessert, and a glass of wine will be from 7 pm to 9 pm. The show will begin

at 9 pm and last for about one hour. The cost of this evening is \$15.00, with all proceeds going to the Labor Day weekend for AIDS.

On September 2, Monday, the 3rd annual Labor Day picnic will be held at The Warehouse grounds in Carter Lake, beginning at 12 pm. The \$3.00 cover includes all of the beer you can drink until 6:00 pm. There will also be drag queen mud wrestling, food booths, game booths, volleyball, horseshoes, and croquet. Also, there will be 25-cent hot dogs, \$1.00 mixed drinks, schnapps and soft drinks. It will be a wonderful day for all. All proceeds will go to AIDS.

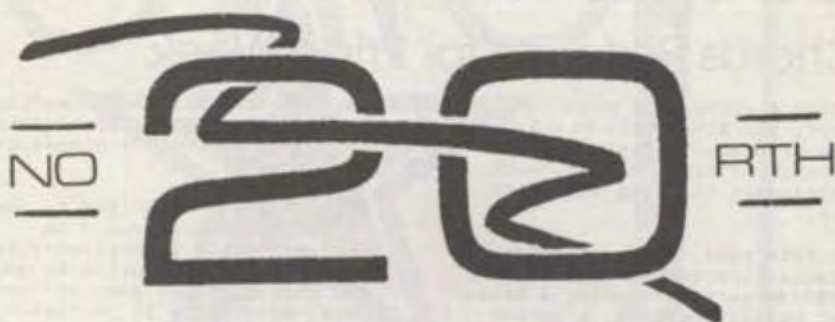
The rest of the Labor Day weekend schedule is included in the insert in your New Voice.

At this time, we would like to thank Mr. Sam Mandina, owner of The Alley Bar/Stars restaurant. Sam has more than gone out of his way to help this organization and others in the endeavors. He receives little recognition, but his efforts are greatly appreciated. Sam just recently opened Stars, in the Old Market area. He serves lunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and dinner from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Cold sandwiches are

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served in between. The food is excellent.

I would like to thank all of you who have helped me (Scott R) in my past year as secretary of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, Inc., and to all who have read this column for the last year. I sincerely hope the new secretary contin-

es this column and continues to keep all of you informed of Court activities.

Thank you.

With all respect,

Gary--Emperor V
Laura Lee--Empress V
Scott R--Secretary, BoG

Chorus Performs for Pride Week

After a successful premiere year, the River City Mixed Chorus of Omaha is beginning its second performance year, with rehearsals starting in September.

At this time, there are three planned concert periods for the 1985/86 year, including a December holiday concert, a spring concert, and a concert coinciding with Gay Pride Week. In addition, the Chorus is looking at possible out-of-town performances, additional small

ensemble events, and attending the summer, 1986 National GALA Choruses Festival in Minneapolis/St. Paul.

All singers are invited to audition for the Chorus. No prepared music is necessary to audition--just a desire to join the Chorus in its goal of "musical excellence in performance."

Open auditions will be held at the Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1023 North 40th Street

continued....

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Group Shots -



Eric Youngberg and Steve Fowler at Political Forum sponsored by GHS/Coalition.



Tasha raises \$250. for missing children's Fund.



Editor Danes at Worker Auction held 6-22 at Imaginations \$170. was raised.



Steve enjoys C.O.G.'s picnic at Van Dorn Park.

in Omaha, at the following dates and times:

Sunday, Sept. 8, 2:00 to 4:00
Monday, Sept. 9, 6:30 to 8:00
Tuesday, Sept. 10, 6:30 to 8:00

If interested in joining and unable to make the above audition times or for more information please phone 455-2334 or 345-5797.

G.L.S.A. Announces Plans

The UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Association will be monitoring a meeting of ASUN (UNL's student government) concerning the reintroduction of the sexual orientation clause by the Special Topics Committee of ASUN in a non-discrimination policy for student organizations. The meeting will be at 6:30 p.m. on August 28 in the UNL City Union. ASUN had previously voted to include sexual orientation in its policy on May 1st. On May 8th, the President of ASUN, Gerard Keating, vetoed the entire bill.

Plans for Lesbian and Gay Education Week, September 16-20 at UNL are presently under way and will be released in the future.

G.L.S.A. will hold its last summer meeting on August 20 at 7 p.m. at 3031 "Q" St #1. The group will resume its fall schedule on August 29th with regular meetings in Andrews Hall, Room 228, at 8 p.m. on Thursdays. An agenda for the entire school year will be available in the future.

Star City Bulletin

The Bulletin will be out twice a month- 1st thru the 15th and 16th thru the 30-31st. Deadline is the 20th and 5th prior to each issue. THE NEW VOICE P.O. BOX 80819 Lincoln, NE 68501

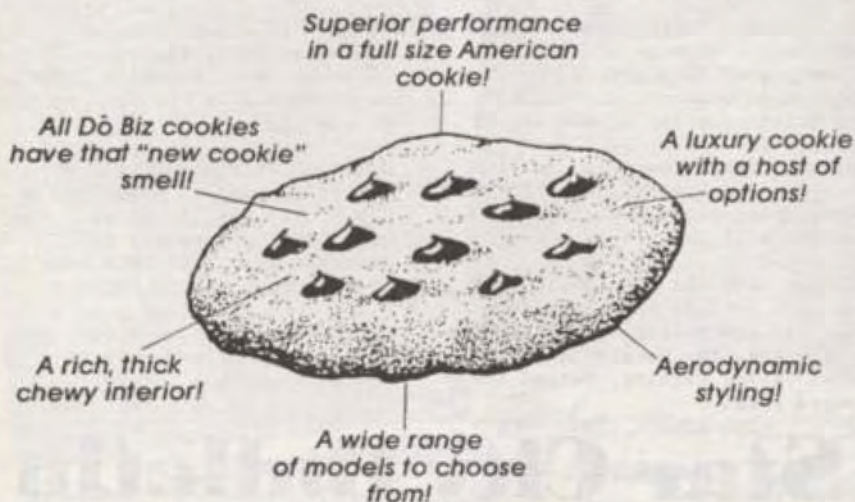
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- Holiday Skate World—48th & "O" St. and 56th & Hwy. 2
- Snack Shoppe—Lincoln Benefit Life Building 13th & "N" St.
- Yellow Submarine—11th & Arapahoe, West "O" St., 46th & "O" St., and Beatrice

Coalition Meets with Governor's Office

On June 25, 1985, John Taylor, Jean Clinchard, and Mel Dahl met on behalf of the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights with W. Don Nelson, Chief of Staff for Nebraska Governor, J. Robert Kerrey. The purpose of the meeting was to establish an ongoing dialogue with the Governor's office on gay and lesbian issues.

Of primary concern to the Coalition was an apparent resistance of the State Health Department to assume a coordinating role in AIDS education in Nebraska. The Coalition Health Concerns Committee has been assured by Nelson of a meeting with the State Health Department Director, Dr. Gregg Wright, to discuss our concerns. Don Nelson has been cooperative with the Coalition in our attempts to gain access to the State's work on the AIDS problem in Nebraska. The meeting between the Health Concerns Committee and Dr. Wright has been scheduled for July 18, 1985.

Also of concern to the Coalition was the problem of lack of protection of state employees from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. Nelson was sympathetic to the issue and suggested that the State and the Coalition should work together on specific training programs for state employees to educate supervisors and management staff in dealing with

gay and lesbian issues in the workplace. Nelson expressed his opinion that the current political atmosphere of the Legislature would not indicate the likelihood of a change in State Statute to extend protection on the basis of sexual orientation. Nelson felt that the net political impact of an Executive Order protecting employees would be negative and should not be pursued at this time. Nelson suggested that the most effective method of dealing with discrimination under the circumstances was to bring the specific cases to the Governor's office and allow them to deal internally with the employee and supervisor to find a solution to the problem. Nelson noted that proper education of supervisors and management on gay and lesbian issues would help to reduce incidents of discrimination.

Finally, the Coalition was pleased to hear from Nelson that he was eager to continue working with the Coalition in maintaining a dialogue on gay and lesbian issues and that we should feel free to contact him with concerns and problems.

Both Jean and John left the meeting with a genuine sense of accessibility of the Governor's office to the Coalition. Mel left the meeting with some reservations.

A Pastoral Chat

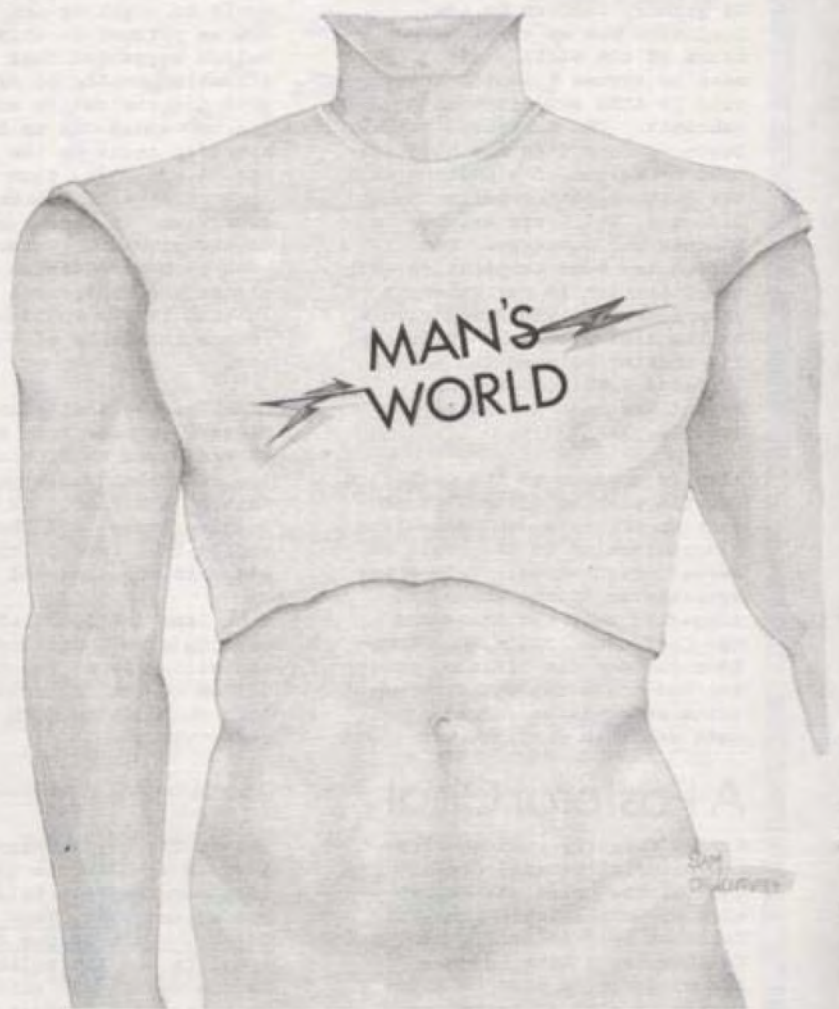
Having recently returned from the biennial General Conference of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches held in Sacramento, California, I have quite a bit of exciting news to share regarding what is happening in our denomination.

What may be the most interest-

ing to the gay/lesbian community, as a whole, is the fact that our one-hour television production, God, Gays, and the Gospel: This Is Our Story is complete and the Fellowship is now working at selling it in 15 major broadcast markets.

We had the opportunity at
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General Conference to view the program, and it is very well done. MCC Omaha has had a donation to purchase a VCR tape of the production, so we will be showing it in the coming months.

Incidentally, we will be presenting a video cassette recording of The Male Couple at our Coffee House, August 24th at 7 p.m. at 420 S. 24th

St., Omaha. Please join us.

Bravo!! to all of you men and women that participated in the historic gay pride march in Omaha on June 29th! I regret that Conference kept me from being with you, but I was there in spirit and in prayer.

--Pastor Jan

Health

Safe Sex Practices

Friends of mine in San Francisco tell me that most of the public transportation there is filled with signs advocating "safe sex"--which is all for the good. I wish far more signs around Nebraska urged the same.

The author of AS IS, the critically praised play about AIDS, which is now on Broadway, said emphatically that he did not write the play for gays in New York City. "I wrote the play," he said, "for gays in Omaha." And by Omaha, of course, he meant any city where gays were too complacent and too uneducated and too unfearing toward AIDS.

Two years ago, seemingly everyone in Lincoln was saying, "It'll never come to Nebraska; it's a 'coastal thing.'" Well, AIDS has hit Nebraska and in a killing way. Three deaths so far this year. Five new cases reported since January 1985. Currently, AIDS is terminal. There's no cure. There's no getting well. It's time we talked about "safe sex."

According to a study in the May 1985 issue of Health, there are suggested guidelines for sexual behavior if one wants to avoid AIDS. The authors of the article are three San Francisco men, and according to them, it is still possible to have homosexual sex and avoid contracting AIDS,

provided one knows what "health-conscious" sex is; note that they don't label it "safe sex" yet, because no one really knows for sure what safe sex is at this point. But knowing what "health-conscious" sex is could perhaps save many lives, including one's own.

According to them, "Health-conscious" sexual behavior is defined as:

1. anal intercourse with condom;
2. coitus interruptus (withdrawing the penis to avoid ejaculation inside the partner's body);
3. mutual masturbation

"High-risk" sexual behavior includes:

1. rimming (oral-anal activity);
2. fisting (insertion of hand/ or forearm into partner's rectum);
3. anal intercourse without a condom;
4. swallowing semen.

Of course, all of this suggested "health-conscious" activity is still in the theory stage. But the gay community is dealing with something as deadly as plague. Monogamy-since-1979, so far, seems to be the only virtually risk-free status. Alternative sexual behavior seems to be the only way to avoid be-
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coming a victim of AIDS. We welcome any articles about safe sex. We've come too far to

become statistics.

--Aaron Woolf

I Hugged an AIDS Patient

On July 14th, I attended a cocktail party at the Sam Mandino mansion in Omaha, Nebraska. The 40-plus guests were people from within the gay/lesbian community who came to contribute to a fund to assist an AIDS patient. The event was co-hosted by Ken Dillard and Gary West.

After mingling for over an hour, Mr. Tim Berry was pointed out to me as the patient in question. Tim is from Sioux City, Iowa. His company has found him a position in southern California where he can receive medical treatment and have support groups which have yet to form here in the Mid-West. I was struck by the appearance of this young man. Tim is a handsome, tanned, muscular man with large warm eyes. Contrary to the image some of us have had of the typical AIDS patient, Tim looks wholesome and healthy.

Sam Mandino advised me that just over \$1,600,00 had been raised, and suggested that I introduce myself. This being done, I fumbled over meaningless words. As a former pastor, I have counseled and consoled many people as they faced possible death. None were ever this young--none so very alive in

appearance. There was no smell of antiseptic or shroud of a hospital gown--and yet there was an overwhelming presence of certain death.

I asked permission to give Tim a hug. He graciously accepted my offer and we held one another long enough for my blurred vision to correct itself as I whispered a prayer that God would indeed send the "comforter" to Tim, whether through an inner peace, or by the presence of those of us who do care.

Tim is to be commended for his willingness to step forward and ask for help from the gay/lesbian community, and to be willing to be recognized. As he moves to California, he will take with him the knowledge that we do care as we support him with our gifts, prayers, and departing hugs. Plans are being made to establish a fund for others who have special financial needs because of AIDS. I hope that we can all find a way to share our finances with these people. We never know when one of us will be next to have to need help.

--Jerry Peck

FEATURES

Gay Couples—Renewing is Final Stage

This is the last article on the several stages of gay coupling. I have talked about five stages, as written about by McWhirter and Mattison. The sixth or last stage they write about is called Renewing. This is the twenty years and beyond period. Because the couples reach this

point have passed through the other stages, their developmental tasks are different now.

Like the other stages, this one does not happen magically at the twentieth year. It is a process, and it occurs around twenty years. Couples at this

continued ...



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— John 15:12

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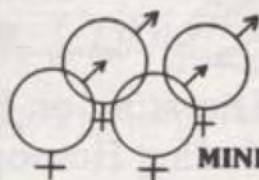


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stage talk about feeling a sense of rejuvenation. They are, in fact, renewing their commitment to each other. Folks celebrating 25, 35, and 50-year anniversaries many times publically renew their commitment to each other. This is achieved by having decided they will stay with each other until one or the other dies.

The earlier financial security problems are better now. They may not be wealthy, but they have established some plan to help them deal with the future. If there are children involved, they may be in the process of moving out on their own or have already left. This allows the couple's efforts to be directed toward each other.

Folks are usually at an age where they begin to look towards retirement and spending time with each other as companions. There is also the realization that one's body is not going to last forever, and there are

more health problems. Sex is not as frequent usually and not as important. Physical attractiveness is in a different category. Some couples, according to McWhirter and Mattison, experience a generation gap between themselves and younger gay folks. This becomes more of a problem as one ages, because the longer a person lives the fewer age mates they have around them. This is especially true for men. Old age in this society brings its own prejudices and discrimination by society. I recently read an article in a professional journal I subscribe to on "The Aging Homosexual." The author felt that because of the discrimination which gay and lesbians have experienced all of their lives, they seemed to deal with the discrimination the elderly receive better than the average population. This certainly makes sense to me.

Couples continue to grow at
continued...



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this stage also. They have spent a long time with each other, and there is usually some need to repair parts of the relationship. Old hurts and disappointments can be talked about differently now with the wisdom of time and new perspectives. This process generates a renewing of the relationship. It is difficult, but very rewarding. This also allows the couple to reminisce with each other and with other folks who take the time to listen. Much wisdom as well as entertainment can be had from listening to couples talk about their lives together.

Perhaps the eminence of one's own or one's partner's death helps couples in this stage to finish some of the work with each other that has been left undone in some of the other stages. Stages are like anything else in life. They do not necessarily run consecutively or smoothly. Part of

the sixth stage is also preparing to say goodbye to one's partner. The evidence of death is more difficult to deny since physical health tends to deteriorate toward the end of this stage. Saying good-bye to a long-term partner means letting go and surviving the loss. Surviving means being able to pick up the pieces and continuing to live an active, useful life after your partner's death. S.A.G.E. in New York is an organization for older gays and lesbians that seems to address some of these issues.

Since this is the last article on stages of coupling, future articles will be on a variety of subjects. If there is something you would like me to address, please contact me through The New Voice. Happy coupling until next time.

--Mike Fitzpatrick

Different Points of View—Should Gay Bars Restrict Straight Patronage

I am not well traveled in the gay world outside of the Midwest. However, I do listen as others tell me of their impressions of various bar scenes. None of the stories reveals our curse-infiltration by heterosexuals.

Recently, I had the misfortune to enter the Max on a Thursday evening. Without exaggeration, three-fourths of the dancers were male-female couples. This is not an indication of their sexual preference, just their dance preference. On another occasion, I visited the Max during the afternoon, and found everyone (except me) discussing the naming of an unborn child who was present, and discussing diaper services, formulas, etc. I have also been in the Gold Crown Room of the Alley when there were more male/female couples than

single or coupled homosexuals. I have been crowded off the dance floor of the Stage Door by male/female couples. My stays were all very short, and my returns have been very infrequent.

There are several explanations being offered for this infiltration. One attempt to justify this is the notion that these three bars have all gone to great lengths to provide an elegant atmosphere for their patrons. In so doing, they have exceeded the elegance that is available at any of the "straight" bars in the Omaha area. We, as gays, have the best, and they want it--and it would seem that many would rather leave than cause problems.

Another explanation bears even more pain of truthfulness.

continued...



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None of the bars mentioned has advertised other than in gay publications. The "straights" have been told about the bars by gays. In many cases, the straights have been escorted into the bars by gays. I was recently told by a gay man that he saw a group of girls leaving the Max, determined that he did not know them, and proceeded to vouch for them to gain them access to the bar.

The question seems to be: Should any bar be exclusively gay or straight? Should we as gays reject heterosexuals, as they have rejected us in their bars? And...What does it hurt to have them there?

I, for one, do not like their presence in the places that I have gone to be myself without fear of rejection or prejudice. I have yet to have anyone speak to me in a negative way; however, these heterosexuals, like gays, do gossip. They may not say anything to me, but should they recognize me from my place of employment, they are very apt to spread the word. I am not "in the closet," but I have not come out to the world at large, either. The gay bars are, for

me, a refuge, not a side show. It is a temptation to put on a show for these intruders, proposition the men and be rude to the girls--but this would only downgrade the establishment. I have also thought of grossing them out by being a sleeze, but that would only encourage their prejudices.

One point which some of the screaming queens may not be aware of is the pain that these people can cause just by being in the bar. I, like many others, erred at one point and attempted heterosexual coupling. The result was just short of disastrous. Watching male/female coupling can stir memories which I would rather put out of my mind.

The management of the bars cannot legally exclude these people. The gay/lesbian population of the bars must somehow make them feel as uncomfortable as they make some of us--or at least not invite and encourage their presence. If it is our "turf," then we must protect it in some way, or surrender it.

--Jerry Peck

Different Point of View

SHOULD GAY BARS RESTRICT STRAIGHT PATRONAGE?

One of the reasons I would make an absolutely wretched politician is that deep down inside I have a strong commitment to consistency and opposition to double standards. I have been accused of a lot of things but I have never been accused of being inconsistent.

In the interest of consistency I find it difficult to imagine that a minority group such as the gay and lesbian community which employs people full time to end prejudice and discrimination would itself condone discrimination based on sexual orientation, provided it is aimed at straight people. If we are to call for the termination of overt acts of dis-

crimination based on sexual orientation, common decency, never mind political pragmatism, demand that we not practice it ourselves. How can we ask straight society to do something for us when we set a bad example for straight society?

Am I enthusiastic about straight people coming en masse to gay bars? No. But then, isn't it really in our best interests to to break down barriers based on sexism and heterosexism by encouraging both groups to spend time together in the job market, the apartment complex, the supermarket and yes, the bars?

It has been argued that certain bars, particularly in Omaha, are in danger of becoming straight bars because of all

continued ...

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the straight people who frequent them due to a lack of nice discos that cater to straight people. If this is indeed so (and I always said nobody can throw a party like we can throw a party) it seems to me that the answer would be for some well-heeled entrepreneur to open a nice disco for straights. There is, after all, nothing novel about gay entrepreneurs making money off straight society.

The gay/lesbian culture is a rich one, rich enough to survive the presence of straight people in gay bars. What is in danger of perishing is our credibility if we do not practice what we preach, as well as the opportunity to have a truly mixed society. Every time gays and straights are together in one place in harmony and showing tolerance it is one small victory for civil rights and one small nail in the coffin of bigotry.

Now, I am not so naive as to believe that straight people who spend time in gay bars are somehow transformed into advoc-

ates for gay civil rights. What does happen is that stereotypes are broken down.

Separatism of any sort is a repudiation of the ideal that humankind is one and there should be peace in the family. I am gay, yes, but more importantly, I am a human being. Nobody loves all of their relatives, true, but the more relatives one loves, or at least gets along with, the happier one usually is.

Life is too short to waste driving people apart. I thought that was one of the basic premises of the gay and lesbian civil rights movement when I signed up.

--Mel Dahl

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Religious Views by Father Glaze

This is a clear and precise message which Christ gives to his followers. Specifically, what he said was, "If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before you." (Jn. 15:18) Christ told his people that as a measure of comfort and "rightness" for what they would have to endure. That message can offer the same comfort to gay people. Hatred. Seen in the faces and actions of the people of the world is a daily experience for a gay person. Take comfort--Jesus Christ was there beforehand. He experienced hatred in the most illustrative of ways. The world set about the business of killing him.

Christ set about the business of establishing a communion of followers--the church--which would be absent of this brutality, this existence built of fear. In the process, he told us that his people who do not fear, people who love God and each other would cause fear in turn. He told us to be ready, that it would manifest itself as hatred. That blind, ignoble, confused emotion. He said that we all should know that he was there first, that he understood and that we should draw upon this and take comfort and strength. There could be no more appropriate group of followers than gay Christians to gain in understanding this message.

It is both ironic and tragic that some of the greatest forms of hatred and lovelessness occur within cults and "churches" that call themselves Christian. Founded by a God-man who suffered as few have or will ever suffer at the hands of a hating world, "Christian" churches (many of them) evolved into social mini-systems void of understanding their founder. No one understands this better than gay people. This is the tragedy. The irony is that in the process the "church" has become the world, embracing its knowledge, finally preaching its knowledge. Scrip-

ture tells us that the knowledge of the world is foolishness, and that in turn, we Christians will appear foolish to the rest of the world. It is scary that "Christian" churches now make sense to the world. It tells me that those which do have abandoned the faithful following of the loving teachings of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said many things. . .but never a lot of things. Both of these notions are equally important. There are fundamental teachings of his which must be kept in mind by any person who would take upon himself or herself the title of Christian:

Do not judge.
Love God.
Love each other.

These are fundamental to following Jesus Christ. They are simple, clear directives. They are often swept under the rug. How sad, what a loss, how pathetic. While the church scrambles to be acceptable to the world, a gentle and wounded population suffers. . .just because some choose not to remember or act upon these simple things. If these can not be accepted as being at the core of Christian existence, then what is the purpose of donning the mask of "Christian"?

Not judging means--NOT JUDGING. Loving God and each other means LOVING GOD and LOVING EACH OTHER. There is no more to it than that. Starting from that point, there is no judgement of who fits and who doesn't. Those who reject that and any portion of God's people fit quite nicely into the world. Those who don't, fit very well into God's kingdom. For those of us who choose the Kingdom of God, there will be hatred. In that instance it is indeed good to be known by our enemies, and to know that a much greater Being than we. . .was there before us.

Father David Glaze
Eastern Orthodox
Priest

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Gulf Coast Vacation

On our Gulf Coast vacation, we had the privilege of visiting the largest cities in Texas: Dallas, Ft. Worth, Houston, and San Antonio. San Antonio, pop. 750,000, is a good example of the flavor of Texas and our favorite. S. A. has a unique blend of cultures (particularly Hispanic/Anglo-Saxon) and the remarkable presence and preservation of history within a very modern city. The best example is the Alamo--with its tremendous historical and symbolic significance for Texas. It is only a few blocks from the Tower of the Americas.

What about the gay community there? If it weren't for our Gay Yellow Pages, we probably would have had a very difficult time finding "our" bars and businesses. San Antonio reflects the overall conservatism of Texas itself; sexual "roles" for (straight) men and women are clearly defined in behavior and dress. As a result, gays and lesbians really aren't even as visible as we are here in Lincoln. The exception is on the Riverwalk, a waterway of businesses resembling Old Market and Venice, where a lot of gay men gather at the cafes. San Antonio has several nice gay/lesbian bars. The Noo Zoo Too (119 El Mio Drive) is a mixed bar/disco, with a fairly

large dance floor. Chic, loud, partyish--fun!

The Bonham Exchange (411 Bonham) is a largely gay male club, but you don't have to be a member to get in. \$4.00 a person will get you in to a dark, quiet bar, a large game room, and a gymnasium-size dancefloor downstairs. Rich and intriguing, the Bonham is the place for an intimate and/or rowdy evening.

The Jezebel (8755 Wurzbach Rd) is a woman's bar with a two-level dancefloor, sunken bar, and excellent sound system. Comparable in size to Lincoln's Boardwalk, the Jezebel is a high-spirited place.

One more item: Padre Island, just off the coast from Corpus Cristi, is not particularly gay-oriented, but it does offer lots of sand, ocean, sea gulls, and privacy. It's a great place to go with your special someone. Go early in May to avoid Gulf storms and on weekdays to avoid the crowds.

Our gay and lesbian brothers and sisters in San Antonio send greetings to you here in Nebraska and welcome you with their special Texas hospitality!

--S.V. and AF-S

Here and There Across the Nation

A lesbian activist, Cindi Lampmann, who was raped at knife-point in 1983 is planning to sue the Racine, Wisconsin police department for anti-gay conduct in their investigation of the incident. She claims an officer made anti-gay comments and acted in an unprofessional manner. The internal department cleared the officer, Paul Preuss, of all the charges.

--Bay Area Reporter,
San Francisco

Two gay men, who were held hostage with 37 other Americans by Lebanese terrorists, returned to their San Francisco home July 7. Jack McCarty and Vic Amburgy talked about the terror they faced including the "Russian Roulette" game. They were on a flight from Athens to Rome as part of an around-the-world tour.

--Advocate

continued ...

Mayor Jon Lindgren of Fargo, North Dakota issued a proclamation for Gay and Lesbian Awareness Week despite opposition from the fundamentalists and some members of the city commission. The proclamation stated that the City of Fargo stands opposed to discrimination and in favor of equal opportunity.

--Equal Time, Minneapolis

The U. S. Navy has discharged a man diagnosed with AIDS and is denying him medical benefits on the grounds that because he is homosexual--and the Navy does not accept homosexuals--he enlisted fraudulently. Discharged was Petty Officer 3rd Class G. Kinney, 28, reported the Evansville, Ind. Courier.

--Gay Life, Chicago

Approximately 50 people recently attended the inauguration of the first gay church in South Africa. The Pretoria Gay Christian Community converted a double garage into a chapel.

--Out Front, Denver

The first week of September marks the debut of The Evergreen Chronicles, a regional literary quarterly featuring new and established lesbian and gay writers. Writers and artists in the Midwest are encouraged to submit their works. Write to The Evergreen Chronicles, P. O. Box 6260, Minnehaha Station, Minneapolis, MN 55406.

--GLA Newsletter, Ames, IA

The American Civil Liberties Union plans to establish a new project aimed at ending discrimination against gay men and lesbians. The Lesbian/Gay Rights project located in the ACLU's national office in New York will begin by challenging the state sodomy laws that criminalize homosexuality and by attacking the various forms of discrimination that these criminal laws engender. The gay rights project will also target discrimination in housing and employment.

--Civil Liberties (ACLU), New York

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BATTERED/ABUSED GAYS/LESBIANS (BAGL)

P.O. Box 8141, Omaha, 68108. 345-5797.

Provides support through mutual self-help to gays/lesbians who have been involved in abusive situations with ones they love.

BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER (BWMT) P.O. Box 31291, Omaha, 68132. 556-9561.

Multi-racial organization, with goal to realize human equality. Engages in educational, cultural, & social activities to further these goals.

DIGNITY OF OMAHA. 341-1460 or 553-2308.

Providing common experience through Mass & meetings for lesbians & gays & their friends. Regular Mass 2nd Sun. of month. Discussion 4th Sun. of month. All faiths. Phone for location.

GAY PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP. 553-2308.

Support group for gay parents who have children. Phone for times/locations.

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA. 342-5710.

Social organization for advancement of gay society. Omaha meeting 1st Mon. of every month, except holidays. Phone for location.

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA BOWLING LEAGUE. 451-1662. Over 50 people bowling weekly on 14 teams. Sun. 4:00 pm at King Louie Rose Bowl. Phone if interested in next league forming.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA. 420 S. 24th St. 345-2563. Chartered church with Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Sun. worship 10:30 am & 7 pm. Wed. eve. Praise/Prayer/Healing 7 pm.

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS (P-FLAG). P.O. Box 3173, Omaha, 68103.

345-2563. Support group for parents, friends, & relatives of lesbians & gays.

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS. P.O. Box 315, Omaha, 68101. 455-2334 or 345-5797.

Volunteer community chorus for gays & lesbians, & gay/lesbian-sensitive men & women. With goal of musical excellence in performance. Rehearsals Mon. eve.

SEXUAL MINORITIES IN THE HEALTH PROFESSIONS. 345-5637 or 341-9448. Gay, lesbian, & bisexual health professionals or students in health professions. Organized to contact peers/role models, to educate sexual minorities about health, & to educate health professionals about selected sexuality issues.

T.W.O. MOTORCYCLE CLUB. 712 S. 16th St. Omaha, 68102. 342-9595.

UNO GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION. Not meeting during summer months

LINCOLN

GAY/LESBIAN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

466-5214. Groups meet weekly.

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE FINE ARTS

Non-profit foundation committed to making positive contribution on behalf of gays & lesbians to Lincoln's cultural life.

COMMUNITY OF GRACE. Box 81645, Lincoln, 68501. Interdenominational worshipping community of lesbians, gays, & those associated with us. Meets Sun. eve. at 7.

GAY/LESBIAN INFORMATION & SUPPORT LINE. 475-4697.

UNI GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION

228 Andrews Hall. Meets Thu. eve. at 8.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP. 472-2597.

Informal discussion group for lesbians, all women welcome. Meets weekly. Contact Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 68588.

LINCOLN COALITION FOR GAY & LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS. Box 94882, Lincoln, 68509.

Advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides educational presentations, publishes a newsletter & sponsors cultural & political programs.

LINCOLN LEGION OF LESBIANS. Box 30137, Lincoln, 68503. Lesbian-feminist collective founded in 1978. Provides a newsletter, confidential referral & support groups for lesbians, & sponsors cultural & social programs.

MINISTRY IN HUMAN SEXUALITY INC. Box 80122, Lincoln, 68501. 476-9913. Non-profit agency providing counseling, education, & supportive action for those seeking growth & understanding in the areas of sexuality & relationships. Contact J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director.

THE NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA. Box 80819, Lincoln, 68501. Staff meets first Tue. of month, alternately in Lincoln & Omaha.

OPEN DOOR MINISTRY. 1319 S. 11th St., Lincoln, 68508. Project of Holy Archangels Orthodox (Old Catholic) Church to specifically minister in a supportive way to the gay community. Mass Sun. eve. at 7:30. Contact Father David Glaze, 474-3390.

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIANS & GAYS -- CORNHUSKER. Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504.

466-1151. Support group for parents, friends, & relatives of lesbians & gays. Meets eve. on 4th Tue. of month.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR GAY/LESBIAN STUDENTS AT NEBRASKA WESLEYAN UNIV. Contact Dr. Mary Smith, NWU, 50th & St. Paul, Lincoln, 68504. 466-2371.

THIRD CULTURE. Non-residential subculture dealing with issues such as coming out, social behavior, the gay lifestyle, suicide, & drug/alcohol abuse. Contact Pat at 474-2213.

CRETE

DOANE COLLEGE GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION. Meets weekly. Contact Dr. Marcia Freer, Doane College, 826-2946, ext. 259, or write: Doane GILSA, P.O. Box 5512, Station C, Lincoln, 68505.

Gail's Hit List

AUGUST

1. Freeway of Love
--Aretha Franklin
 - *2. You Spin Me Around
--Dead or Alive
 3. Into the Groove
--Madonna
 4. Play Me
--Reggie Jackson
 - +5. Dare Me
--Pointer Sisters
 - +6. Problemes d'Amour
--Alexander Robotnik
 7. Perfect
--New Order
 8. I Freak For You
--Carol Lynn Townes
 - +9. Life in One Day
--Howard Jones
 - +10. Rain Forest
--Paul Hardcastle
 - +11. Unexpected Lovers
--Lime
 - +12. So Hot You're Cool
--General Public
 - +13. Lover Come Back to Me
--Dead or Alive
 - +14. Fidelity
--Cheryl Lynn
 - +15. Good-Bye Bad Times
--Philip Oakey/
Giorgio Moroder
- + New Entry
* #1 Last Month

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Unit D, Lincoln Correctional
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Astrology — Virgo the Virgin

Aug 23-Sept. 22

Element: Earth
Ruling Planet: Mercury
Mode of Expression: Mutable
Key Words: I Analyze

The Discriminator

The sixth sign of the Zodiac and the third and final sign of the summer season, Virgo combines the element earth and the mutable mode.

Remember, key words, for the mutable sign is flexibility, for earth—practicality. The practicality of earth can compensate for the lack of persistence in mutables, but can do little for the tendency to worry and/or to exaggerate the negative.

As with all the mutable signs there is an underlying ability for chameleon-like adaption to circumstances and situations. In Virgo this is combined with keen discrimination and an almost infinite capacity for excellence in detail work which makes Virgo one of the best workers in the Zodiac and an asset in almost any organization or business.

In personal relationships the same discrimination and attention to details can create problems. All human beings have

Summer Storm

The letter I wrote last night
Gathered and grew flower-like;
I'd hoped to excite you again
In a rush
With my scratching, cricket song.

I bled my soul white, writing,
Then sat quiet as prayer,
Waiting while memory ignited
In a rush
Your smooth, sudden skin.

New magic
Slithered off my tongue;
A sea crest rose
And broke, in a rush,
And our separate lives
Brushed my cheek.

faults. When concentrating on these or letting them get in the way, Virgo can miss much of the pleasure possible with other individuals.

Virgo desires perfection for self and for others; this leaves Virgo open for constant disappointments. Lovingness, tolerance and willingness to settle for (even small) improvements needs to be cultivated or developed if Virgo is to be happy with self and others.

In relationships, by sunsign, Virgo does not deal with Sagittarius (Fire) and Gemini (Air), also mutable signs. They often have problems with Aquarius (Air) more universal focus or the Arian (Fire) tendency to act without thinking.

Virgo and Pisces (Water), opposed in the Zodiac, can have a positive relationship through balance. If the balance is attained.

Virgo deals fairly with another Virgo if the two are critical of and interested in the same things.

Virgo deals most favorably with Taurus and Capricorn (Earth) and is also compatible with Scorpio and Cancer (Water signs).

Today, I cannot hope
Beneath this crust of sunlight.
My smothered fever crumbles.
My mouth holds blood dust.
I am ill and in hiding,
Brittle with self-denial.

I must wait for night,
Until the sky aches and empties.
I need a moon's mad language
For my warm, wild words,
For my summer flowers to stir
In a rush
My rain-hard memory of you.

--Aaron Woolf

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MISS GAY RURAL
NEBRASKA III.

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Aug. 24 THURSDAY

Aug 30 SATURDAY

Empress V Lovers Lec
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IMAGINATIONS
IN
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Metropolitan Community Church

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Ice Cream Social

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AFTER SERVICE
SUNDAY

SEPT 1 SUNDAY

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Beer

2pm

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Raffles

Games

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*FRIDAY SATURDAY

Diamond
at the
Boys

Aug 29 SUNDAY

MONDAY SEATS

Aug. 24 FRIDAY

• After
Sept the
Beer game

Investigations

9F

SHOW

MEAT PACKERS AND
LINCOLN GUESTS



Foolish
Follies
at the MAX

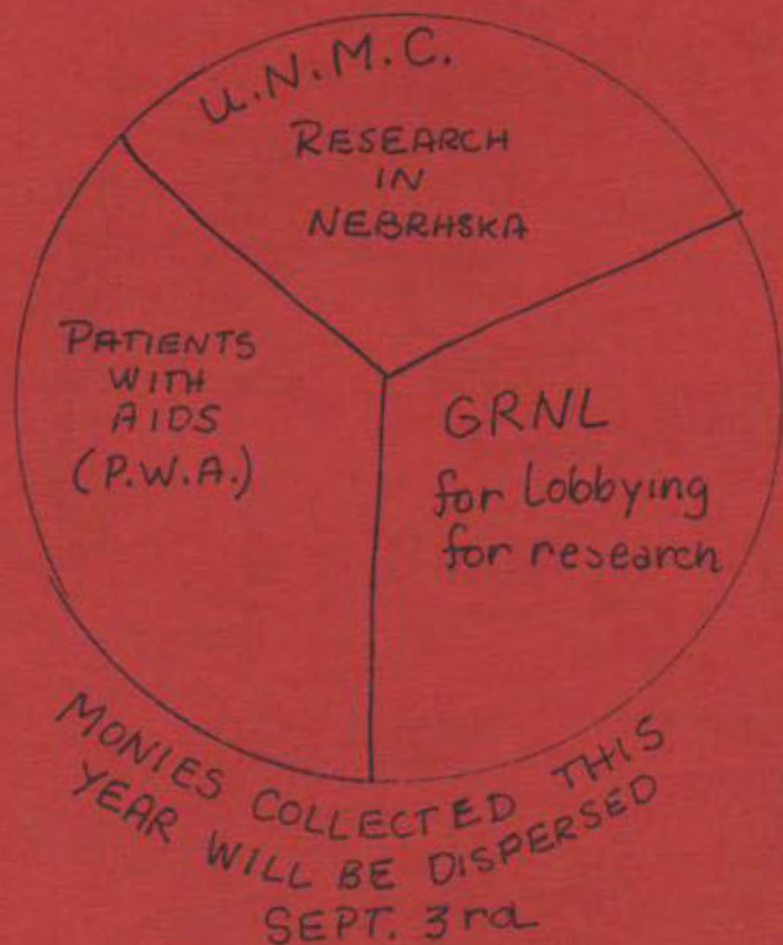
final night 8:00 PM

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big ones



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