

Vol. VI No. 12

February 1990

# The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



1990 PRIDE WEEK  
LOGO CONTEST!  
SEE PAGE 11

# OUR TURN *views and opinions by staff*

## THERE ARE WOMEN'S ISSUES

As a member of Omaha's gay and lesbian community, and one of those attempting to remove the inequities between men and women, I am compelled to respond to the Our Turn in January's issue.

Being a member of the New Voice of Nebraska steering committee, I am concerned about the comments expressed in Our Turn. First, I must address the steering committee. I am disappointed that my suggestion to focus February's issue on Women's Issues was not accepted by more of the women. It was my suggestion that we hold two steering committee positions for women. Today there are four women on this committee. Success and growth.

In my work at US WEST, I am daily working within the corporate structure which treats women in a sub (male) standard. Our traditionally female positions earn less money than the male positions. Women in non-traditional jobs frequently experience harassment and sexist behavior from their male co-workers. I am distressed by this. However, it is the status quo.

My real concern, however, is within the comments in Our Turn. A women, a lesbian, is suggesting there are no "women's issues." When women earn 65 cents to each dollar a man makes, it is a women's issue. When, of the 500 Fortune 500 companies, only one is headed by a woman, it is a women's issue. When, of the 10,000 Board seats in our corporations, only seven are held by women, there is a problem. Women's issue? When we continue to create laws, as they have for over 2000 years, that prohibit women from

having control over their bodies, their lives, I believe we have a problem.

In our society, women most often are the care takers of our children. Increasingly the financial burden to provide care for children lies with women. This situation negatively impacts women in the chance, ability, to advance as their primary responsibility is the financial care of children. School teachers, a traditionally female career, is one of the lowest paid positions, yet they have the future in their hands. Is child care a women's issue?

Not in my lifetime will we have equity between all people. Pessimistic? No, realistic. Gays and lesbians have issues that are particular unto themselves. Blacks, hispanics, specially challenged, Native Americans--all have issues that they "own", that are personal. Not until pride is instilled, confidence developed and love for ourselves will we see equity. I believe that all individuals must care for others, but it is common sense that we relate and share concerns more closely with people like ourselves. We need the support of others with the same concerns to be able to express and extol our issues. There are Women's issues, People of Color issues, and Gay and Lesbian issues. Not to imply indi-

viduals or groups should not care for others. We must. It will always be those closest, affected most, that will need to take a stand, be vocal, join others in taking the "issues" to heart. Then one day, we will not need a women's issue of this magazine. But until then, we need to "wake up and smell the coffee", become committed to ourselves and create change.

Pat Phalen

THANKS  
TO  
TOM W.

The Staff of the New Voice wish to extend a heartfelt "thanks" to Tom W. who was one of the people responsible for bringing The New Voice to Omaha and served as our typesetter for 18 months. Tom has resigned his position on the steering committee. We wish him the best of luck with his future ventures.



The New Voice is published and distributed each month by a dedicated volunteer staff. The magazine is completely financed by donations, subscriptions, and advertising. Copyright 1990. All rights reserved.

Publication of the name, photograph or likeness of any person, business or organization is not to be construed as an indication of the sexual orientation or preference of such person, business, or organization.

Opinions expressed herein by columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of The New Voice Staff.

Subscriptions: 1 year - \$19; Classified Ads: \$3 for 20 words or less with \$0.20 for each additional word. Display rates given upon request. Deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication.

The New Voice of Nebraska  
P.O. Box 3612  
Omaha, Nebraska 68103

### Steering Committee and Staff

Sharon Van Butzel - Editor (556-9907)  
Pat Phalen - Production Manager  
Larry Wisablood - Lincoln Distribution  
Jean Mortensen - Feature Writer  
Joe B., Nate H., Rick, Steve, Gary, &  
Terry Sweeney - Typing

Dick Brown - Treasurer/Advertising (481-4737)  
Terry Sweeney - Secretary (465-3701)  
Rich & Nate H. - Typographers  
Rodney Bell - Lincoln Correspondent  
Sharon McCartney - Distribution Manager

Steering Committee - Dick Brown, Sharon McCartney, Amy Marie Meek, Jerry Paik, Pat Phalen, Carl Peterson, Terry Sweeney, & Sharon Van Butzel

### ABOUT THE COVER

In the Judeo-Christian traditions, Wisdom is portrayed as a woman. The woman we have chosen for the cover stands above the clouds, dropping petals of wisdom to any person who will recognize them. In the same way, we hope this issue will leave you with new knowledge and awareness of the issues which concern the women of our community.

# Letters to the Editor

I'd like to take a minute to address the letter by Carla printed in "Our Turn" Views and Opinions by Staff. Although I agree in basic premiss that all issues affect us first as members of the human race, I do not agree that there are no women's issues. Denying certain issues as basically women's issues, releases me as a woman for any responsibility for make positive changes in day to day life. If I did not raise my voice in support of what I call "women's issues", e.g. child care, ERA, minority discrimination in hiring practices, from what quarter would come the impetus for change?

Kathryn Pratt

---

After reading these viewpoints, this reader is also in a quandary. How does one respond to a view which is produced such unsettling, uneasy, even angry feelings in me? "To speak or not to speak" is certainly understood. This quandary is, however, "To respond or not to respond."

My decision is made. Therefore, please share my thoughts.

- Wonder why it is necessary to write four paragraphs of apology to preface the views and opinions expressed?

- Wonder if one writes "apologetically" and assumes the reader will be offended if one doesn't really have clarity around or belief in their views?

- The idea that women issues are not women issues and that there exists only people issues suggests that this writer finds the discrepancies in wages acceptable...maybe.

- Does this writer know that in most situations day care is the responsibility of the women? Where, what, how are generally defined by the woman. Men agreeing to pick up or drop off children only are not active participants in the issues of child care?

- "Several of the groups have done something to express their concern and to resolve the problems they see." Positions on a steering committee, scheduling shows primarily for women, soliciting women's input, social events for women, publications dedicated to women's issues!!! That's great, may be some early steps.

- Somehow it feels that because it is necessary to make extra effort, to define women's participation, to have a need to acknowledge problems in groups says that there are many unresolved issues related to women. When extra effort is eliminated and not directed to women, when social events are men and women events, when positions are not "set aside" for women...when this behavior is a norm, not any special effort to be applauded, women issues may then be people issues. Let's wait and see.

- An article in which the reader is continually reminded that the writer's view or opinion may not be accepted is offensive. State the view or opinion. Allow the reader to form their own reaction.

- There are women issues. Because this writer believes people issues is a more appropriate definition is not offensive. Are each of us not entitled to our own opinion? You bet. Please don't tell me that I will be offended. Let the reader decide to be offended on their own.

- Finally! Editor's note...To print a silly, cutesy comment feels inappropriate. Is this spouse so wonderful that the writer was granted permission to be published? Or were the writer's views important on their own merit?

Kathy McBride

---

## A MATTER OF JUSTICE AND COMPASSION

"A Matter of Justice and Compassion: Serving Gay and Lesbian Youth" is the theme of a conference to be held February 23 at Drake University in Des Moines. Contact: Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, 4211 Grand Avenue, Des Moines, IA 50312; (515)-277-1454.

---

## FIFTH ANNUAL RURAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The Fifth Annual Rural Women's Conference will be held February 17-18 at the Fort Des Moines Hotel in Des Moines. The theme is "Harvesting Our Potential: Sharing Our Strength." Child care will be provided free of charge. Contact: Prairiefire, 550 11th St., Des Moines, IA 50309; (515)-244-5671.

After reading Carla's column in the January issue, I felt I had found a trigger of sorts to speak out on this, a topic near and dear to my heart. I agree that, ultimately, there is no such thing as a "woman's issue" or a "black issue" or a "gay issue." As long as we all share this planet, whatever affects one individual eventually affects others, including those who wear different labels. But, in order to make progress, I think we need to look deeper at the whole process of labeling, and what it signifies in our society.

These labels come to exist because the first to raise voices about a problem are those who are feeling the most direct and immediate impacts of that problem. The future of our whole planet is impacted by reproductive rights, but it is the oppressed women who feel the first and most immediate effects of decisions on that issue. Therefore, women were the first to speak out on the problem and this has been classified as a "women's issue." The future of our planet is affected by the AIDS virus, but in the United States it was gays who felt the first and most immediate impacts of the virus. They were the first to demand attention to it, and so it had at one time been labeled in this country as a "gay issue."

But, I have also long believed that labeling is a function of oppression, a smoke screen behind which we can silently sort out the "them" from the "us" in any category. Of course, you might protest, isn't oppression a pretty strong word for it?

Let's face it, oppression can only exist when one group believes it is superior to another. As long as we can neatly sort people into labeled slots, we can pretend that somehow "we" are different from "them." In our zero-sum society, that means "we" are better than "them." "Our" problems, concerns or ideas are automatically more important, more valid, and more far-reaching than "theirs."

The real danger is that labeling a problem as "theirs" indemnifies "us" from having to face it, work on it, or even admit that it affects "us." Like labeling a section of the newspaper the "Women's Section", we imply that no one else need be interested in the contents. In fact, the presumption is that if someone of

-> Letters, page 4

# Monthly Columns

## LET'S TALK LEATHER

Dustin Logan

Once again, Omaha, Nebraska will be the place to be this summer. Plans are already underway for "Fantasy '90" to be held the weekend of July 20 & 21, with the majority of the events held at The Max.

"Fantasy '90" will be sponsored this year by Dustin Logan and Bob Ewing, with the Leather Journal (a national publication) acting as co-sponsor.

Plans are to make "Fantasy '90" twice as big as '89. With all of the national coverage "Fantasy '89" received, we are expecting people from all areas of the country to be here.

A few of the celebrities already confirmed to be here are Brian Dawson, Mr. Drummer '89; Jan Lyon, Ms. National Leather Association and Leather Journal's Woman of the Year; Dave Rhodes, Publisher, Leather Journal; Patrick Sullivan, Mr. Oklahoma Leather.

There will be a meeting at The Max on February 7th at 6:00 pm for anyone wanting to help with this event. It should be one wild leather weekend!

The International Ms. Leather '90 contest will be held April 5-7 at the California Club in San Francisco, CA. For tickets or contestant information, call (916)-446-3744 and leave a message. Someone will return your call within one week. From what I've heard, this is one weekend the womyn in leather don't want to miss. You may remember International Ms. Leather '89, Susie Shepherd from "Fantasy '89".

The Leather Journal has announced its awards for 1990: Man of the Year, Dustin Logan, Omaha, NE; Woman of the Year, Jan Lyon, Seattle, WA; Businessperson of the Year, Tony DeBlase, Publisher, Drummer Magazine, San Francisco, CA; Organization of the Year, Gay Male S/M Activists, New York, NY. These are national titles, and you can expect to see these people at "Fantasy '90".

Until next month, Play Happy, Play Safe, Play in Leather.

## FIGHT FOR OUR RIGHTS

Jim Roche

4,500 people were marching and yelling on one side of Fifth Avenue in New York City, separated from the traffic by a line of police fences, when suddenly a group from the opposite side of the street breaks out and stops traffic. Stops cars, busses and trucks, and just lies down on the pavement. All hell breaks loose, the police are caught unaware but within a few moments they begin picking up each of the protesters on orange stretchers and flipping them into a waiting police bus. Moving to the bus I looked up at the window and asked the very young woman how old she was, "I'm twelve." As the bus drove off to the 17th Precinct to book all those on board, this young woman yelled out her window, "Fight for our rights, our right to control our bodies."

This past Sunday saw a massive anti-church demonstration outside St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York. "Stop the Church" was the call of the from members of ACT-UP and WHAM (Women's Health Action Mobilization). At least three times the police arrested demonstrators who staged die-ins both in the church sanctuary during the service and later on Fifth Avenue. Over 100 were arrested. Spirits were high. Outside the church the atmosphere was festive with costumed protesters and giant balloon condoms. The political lines were clearly drawn and the people sought to make it known that this time the church had gone too far. Their posters called out: "Stop the church, I want to get off," "Keep the church and state separate" or simply "Curb your dogma."

Not everyone is comfortable with this kind of confrontation. Some worry that protesting at the church and disrupting worship service will only alienate Catholics in general. Some even called this an "anti-Catholic" protest instead of pro-choice or pro-gay rights. They worry that middle of the roaders will be pushed over the edge and there will be more minds closed than opened. They say calm down, try talking instead of yelling. Negotiate. Could they be right? Should we be stopping traffic on Fifth Avenue as one person put it "pissing more people off with our method than our message?"

Members of ACT-UP and WHAM rightfully point out it was the Cardinal who encouraged physical and psychological violence against women by urging all "good Catholics" to

increase their illegal attacks on abortion clinics and other women's health care facilities. It was the Cardinal who said he would like to take part in Operation Rescue attacks which deny women basic constitutional health care. Further, it's the Cardinal who heads the church which actively seeds to ban education about safe sex in our schools while the reported rate of teen/AIDS cases increases by 40%, and finally, it is the Cardinal who actively opposes anti-discrimination legislation against gay and lesbian people, calling them "harmful to society." Through his statements the church actively takes part in the bigotry that has seen a 300% rise in attacks on gay men and lesbians in the past five years. About all this the Cardinal only says, "As the archbishop of New York I must preach what the church preaches, teach what the church teaches."

Will this kind of confrontation turn people off? Not if people realize the issue isn't about political politeness or interfering with a sacred Catholic Mass. It's about the Church and its interfering with secular rights. It's about interfering with rights to free speech by attempting to silence political candidates. It's about the church interfering with our right to health care by attempting to forcibly close women's health care facilities. As one protester said, "Some people can do without church services but few can do without health care." Finally, it's about the church trying to take away our rights to equal protection by working against anti-discrimination legislation and actively denying employment and services to gay and lesbian people.

There was time not long ago when John F. Kennedy was running for President, a crucial issue to many who wanted to vote for him but were hesitant by the possibility that he would be controlled by the church. That he would answer to the Pope, or to a Cardinal. That the Catholic Church would have undue influence on the workings of our government. He denied that this would happen, and finally made a public statement on national television making clear that he would above all else stand by our constitutional doctrine of separation of church and state. Now it seems that the Catholic Church is openly overstepping our constitutional bounds. If the why's and but's of all this isn't clear, there's a twelve year old girl we can talk to.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

**ARE YOU BREAKING THE LAW AND NEED HELP?**

M.R. Scott

In the last several months there have been several people calling the "New Voice" asking for information on counseling organizations which can help in stopping their sexual desires toward children. Since the "New Voice" is read by people in two states and several cities, I will list some general things a person needs to know in finding the right kind of help.

The first place to look for help is in the phone book. Look in the yellow pages under "Mental Health Services". There should be several listings for your area. Call several of them. Don't be afraid to ask them questions. Some of the important questions that should be asked are

1. Ask the counselor if there is any difference between a homosexual having sex with a child (and give the child's age), and a heterosexual having sex with a child (of that same age). The answer should be "no difference". The only difference is the sex of the child compared to the sex of the adult. If you are uncomfortable with their answer, find a different place to obtain counseling.

2. Ask them if they have a program for child molesters. Use those words too (child molesters) even if you don't feel like you fit into that categorization. A good place will have individual and group counseling sessions. Avoid places that don't offer both.

3. Find out their prices. Counseling does not have to be expensive. Many places are funded through the State and offer reduced rates. The place I prefer is "Operation Bridge" in Omaha. Their phone number is 346-7100. The contact person is Betty Nelum. If you do not want to leave your number with them, you should call on Tuesday nights between 6:00 pm and 7:00 pm. This counselor fits all the needs of a responsible therapy services for people with sexual assaulting problems.

It is very important, for the people that are breaking sexual assault laws, to get help from a competent source. It is not wrong to be a homosexual; however, it is wrong for an adult to have sex with a child under the age of eighteen. When an adult prefers this age of sexual partners, there will be problems in their life and in the life of their sexual partners. Neither of them will live a full, happy, and content life until they get help.

**Letters (continued from page 2)**

an "other" group is interested, their motives are questionable at best, subversive at worst.

This is hardly a new concept, and is one which is regularly expressed in the literature of virtually every oppressed group. So, why do representatives of oppressed groups persist in using phrases like "women's issues", "gay issues", "Lesbian issues", "black issues", ad nauseam? Because the labels are convenient, they are expected in our society, and because the labels identify the first victims of the problem.

I would love to find a solution to this; a way to acknowledge the special effects being felt by the immediately oppressed, without labeling the whole issue as being owned only by that group. I haven't found that solution, yet. In the meantime, try to look at labels like "women's issues", "gay issues", and "black issues" as identifiers which tell me which group is feeling the most immediate oppression or pain from the problem at hand, rather than as titles of exclusive ownership. In other words, these are the first victims. Ultimately we all are.

Doris Goembel

# Forecast: IT'S RAINING MEN.

Nebraska's newest and hottest all-male talk line. Forget the personal ads, when you can talk to other men now.

The Men's Club.

Try our **FREE** Line first: 558-6391.

If it's busy, call...

# 1-976-MALE

(1-976-6253)

49c/min. plus any tolls  
Teleproductions, Inc. (303) 893-9513

# Features

## THANKS, ANN

Jean Mortensen

February being the month of Valentine's Day, I felt it appropriate to comment on something Ann Landers covered in her syndicated column last November. She invited her readers to write in their views on legalizing same-sex marriage.

The response was so overwhelming that she devoted two days' worth of her column to printing samples of the letters she received. The ratio of those against legalization to those for it ran about two-to-one. I felt a little surprised that there were that many folks in favor of legalizing same-sex marriage. Surely twenty years ago, even ten years ago, we would have seen more people opposing the idea. That seems an indication that we are gaining ground in getting heterosexual society to recognize our gay and lesbian relationships as loving and legitimate.

But hold on there. Before we break out the party hats and noisemakers, let's look at what some of the responses said. Ann commented that there were no moderates when it comes to this issue. Here are a few samples:

On the up side, from Baton Rouge: "It is time America stopped being afraid of (and feeling

threatened by) people who are different...Same-sex couples should be allowed to marry."

And from Raleigh, N.C.: "...since I have been in a monogamous same-sex relationship for ten years, I certainly would like to see a tax break. I am in the 30% bracket because I am considered single."

But on the down side, from Miami: "Why give this special privilege to a segment of society that has given us AIDS?"

From Jackson, Miss.: "You are sure to be swamped with letters from every queer in the country. I hope enough normal people write so that you will get an accurate reading of what decent folks think."

From Eau Clair, Wis.: "The notion that members of the same sex should have the rights and privileges of normal couples is outrageous...homosexuality is morally wrong...Those faggots should go back in the closet where they belong."

And from Milwaukee, Wis.: "I think all the gays should get married and go live in California. It would be another Sodom. Then when God decides to do away with them as he did in biblical times, they would all be in one place."

Too bad this last writer doesn't understand that he/she has grossly misinterpreted the biblical story of Sodom, but that's another story.

There you have it, a two-to-one ratio sampling. Obviously, those against same-sex marriage are vehement about it, while those for it have stated their position in a calm and quiet manner. Maybe that's why we've only achieved a two-to-one ratio. Maybe it's time to get as vocal as our opponents. Perhaps then we could have a one-to-one ratio, or better.

We may be slowly gaining ground in overall acceptance of our relationships, but it is apparent that those who are against it are staunchly bigoted and prefer to remain that way. While this is the case, we will never be looked upon as "normal" by a goodly portion of our heterosexual neighbors. Gay-bashing is on the rise; I feel too inhibited by such bigots to freely hold my lover's hand in a restaurant. God forbid I should actually kiss

her. Does anyone else feel as angry at the unfairness of it all as I do?

We've still got a ways to go before we can take our sweethearts out for a candlelit Valentine's Day dinner and propose marriage without all those nasty heterosexuals throwing steak knives in our direction. The way, I think, to accomplish acceptance is to abolish bigotry. That's going to be a big egg to crack. But maybe if we keep chipping away at that hard shell, encouraging tolerance of people labeled "different," reminding folks that different doesn't automatically mean bad...

Ann Landers wrote in her column, "I must say again that I was appalled by the intolerance and viciousness of so many readers." She laid it on the line there, and risked alienating two-thirds of her readership. Without her readers, her syndicated column would be dropped from newspapers across the country, so she was sticking her neck out on our behalf when she wrote that. Got to give her credit for that. Thanks, Ann.

AIDS SURVIVOR  
REV. STEVE PIETERS  
TO SPEAK IN OMAHA

SEE PAGE 11

SUPPORT OUR  
ADVERTISERS

The  
**Chesterfield**  
Omaha

Mon — Fri 3pm — 1am  
Sat — Sun noon — 1am  
1951 St. Mary's



**BJ's LTD.**  
A HAIR SHOPPE

8510 PLACE  
NORTH 30TH STREET  
453-6688

CALL

for your appointment  
with Kathleen

## THOUGHTS FROM A LESBIAN MOTHER

Tracy L. Shirk

In our lifestyle not everything is fair and just. We all know that it affects our families, but there is a small segment of our community that this hits even harder. This segment is the gays and lesbians who have young children. We have to fight every day. Some are lucky to have their children live with them, while others—like myself—are not.

The reason why I do not have custody of my child is not because I am an unfit parent, nor my sexual preference, but financial problems. Not only do I have to fight the fact that people think the reason why I do not have custody is because of my lifestyle, but also fight the stereotype because I am a mother. I could have been selfish and kept her with me, but because of all the expenses, she wouldn't have been able to enjoy the life she now has living with her father. I have never missed a child support payment, nor a visitation. It's too important to her.

My ex-husband knows about me, but it is a very stressful situation. His grotesque thoughts and bitterness cause many problems from harassment to threats of not being able to see my daughter, except on his terms. So far I have been able to talk him out of restricting my seeing her. Even though all of this happens, I have never spoken badly to her about him, because in her eyes he is the best daddy in the whole world. She is too young to see it all.

The sad part of it all is that there is not much I can do if he does restrict or deny me visitation. The judicial system here in Nebraska does not have a very good percentage of cases which have protected gay parents' rights. We have a system with a lot of older judges. If I were to take it court, I would probably lose more than I would gain. It is a very scary thought that troubles a person everyday. In the straight world, both parents can fight. In our world, we must fight within ourselves. It's strange to me how you can be married to a person for five years, and when you come out to him a year after the divorce, all of a sudden you are incapable and a bad influence.

My family knows about my lover and me. They accept us and welcome us. The one thought that helps us is that if I were neglected visitation, I can always depend on them to get my daughter for a period of time

so I can see her. This does provide some relief. My lover is just like another parent. She understands the situation. Since my daughter is only three years old, when she stays with us, she sleeps with me, and my lover sleeps in the spare room. This is done because my ex-husband asks her a lot of questions. Since she is so young, she is very truthful. I pray that she will always continue to be that way. I never want her to have to lie to protect me.

The next thing we have to face is when to tell her, how to tell her, and if she will accept it. She is already asking why daddy and I don't live together like other mommies and daddies do. I feel that if she sees the openness, honesty, and truthfulness that we try to instill in her, she will accept us. If she doesn't, we'll have to handle it when it happens. Someday she will see all that we went through to keep her visitation rights and why everything is the way it is.

We never kiss or cuddle in the presence of our daughter. Not only would it get back to her father, but we do not want to confuse her at this point. It's not something that you can explain to a child of her age. The one thing we always try to accomplish is to let her know that we love her and we are always there for her.

There are so many problems caused by being a noncustodial parent in the gay community, but through all the heartaches and problems, I will never regret coming out, nor being married to my ex-husband, because I was given the most precious gift the Lord can give: a beautiful child.

## OutWrite '90

SAN FRANCISCO - OutWrite '90, the first National Lesbian & Gay Writers Conference, set for March 3-4, 1990 is seeking to hear from interested writers, editors, publishers, booksellers, critics and other potential participants.

"This is the first time ever that lesbian and gay writers are being brought together to meet, to share their talents and their interests," said Jeffrey Escoffier, one of the organizers.

"We want to draw as diverse a representation as possible from around the United States and other countries."

"Conference panels, workshops and informal meetings will promote the development of the lesbian and gay writing community," said organizer, Dorothy Allison, "and help authors, editors, publishers and others get to know one another."

Suggested workshops range from the practi-

-> OutWrite, page 10

## OUR LIVE TALK LINE...

- is only .50¢ per minute. You can't beat that anywhere!
  - has only one phone number to dial. It's the easiest to use!
  - will not show up on your phone bill. Your privacy is assured!
  - has no connection charges. It's always .50¢ per minute!
- (Even the first minute.)



For the convenience of voice mail, call  
**1-900-860-GAYS**

62 to connect/81 for each additional minute (42/17)

For free information on live talk at only .50¢ per minute, call  
**1-800-866-2663**

For Customer Information call 1-800-866-2663.

LET'S GET FRIENDLY

I've always been pretty good about speaking to people when I see them, even if I can't remember the name or only met them briefly; but I got to wondering one day what would happen if I just spoke to everybody I ran into whether I knew them or not. The reactions were really interesting, ranging from pleasant surprise to "who the hell are you?"

Some people will even start a conversation if you say hello, while others look at you suspiciously and walk away.

Younger people, say middle teens to early twenties almost always respond with some kind of "Hi" or "how are ya doin'". Older men are generally not very responsive. Kids usually smile or giggle, except for the one I said hello to at the Supermarket. He was about 14 or 15 and followed me. Everywhere I went he was there. It was obvious he was not buying anything, and was alone, and I got a little nervous because I think I know what he wanted from old Auntie. Well, I wasn't about to take the chance of getting arrested no matter how cute the kid was. Can you imagine me in jail with all those sex starved inmates. My word, anything can happen. HmMMM, that's a thought all right. Some-

Don Longmore

body could smuggle a gross of condoms. Wonder if I could find that kid again.

The ones who are really receptive are the senior ladies. You see a lot of them at the store on Thursday when the bus brings them to shop. I say things like, "Do you ever use this brand of prune juice?" Well, it just goes on from there. They live alone in the low-income high rises and just love to have someone to talk to. One even told me about her operation. There is one there all the time and by now I know her family history. The most interesting and surprising one was a little lady that I struck up a conversation with, and pretty soon she said "Aren't you Don Longmore?" It turns out we went to grade school together. I went away feeling a helluva lot better, just for the fact she recognized me after all those years. I must still have that sweet baby face, however, the girth is not baby fat. These seniors really poke along, (what am I talking about, I'm one of 'em'). But after awhile they really have to shag ass or that damn bus driver leaves them there.

Anyway, you might want to try it, it's amazing how many interesting people you meet.

BEING GAY IN TODAY'S WORLD

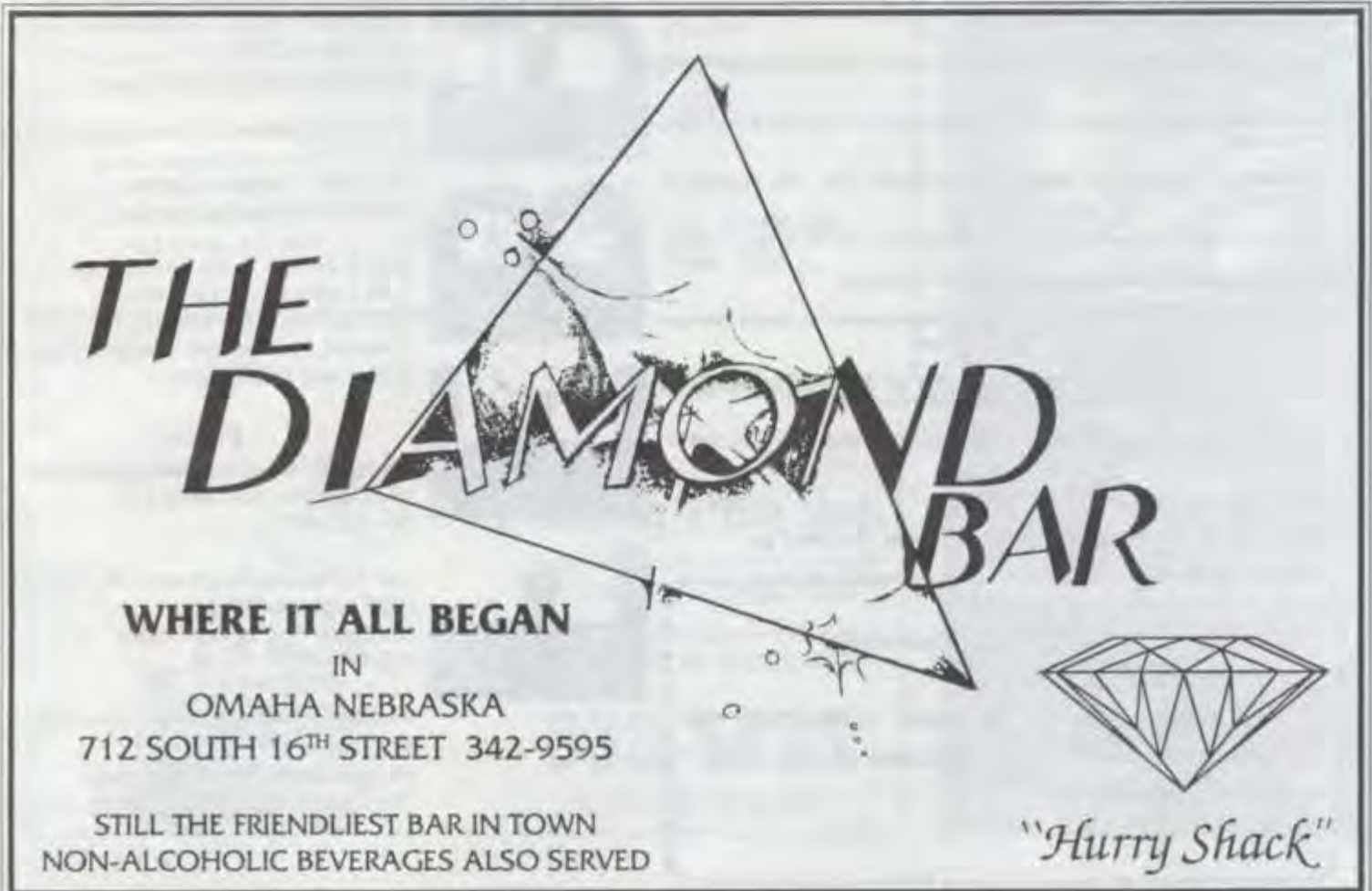
James Drake

Primitive and essential things have great power to touch the heart! I mean such things as two men laying in bed with one another; being homosexual in today's business world; two homosexuals adopting a child; a homosexual being discharged from the Marines.

Things such as these are the best themes for being homosexual in today's world. Strictly they are not so old as the hills, but they are more significant and eloquent than the hills. Hills will outlast them; but hills are of little account. Nature is interesting only because of us.

And the best symbols of us are such sights as I mentioned - sights unalterable by fashions of time or place; sights that in all countries always were and never will be. Two men or two women should choose each other for life. A long life is barely enough for gay men and lesbian women to understand each other; and to understand is to love.


The man who understands one man or the woman who understands one woman is qualified to understand pretty well everything.



**THE DIAMOND BAR**

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN  
IN  
OMAHA NEBRASKA  
712 SOUTH 16<sup>TH</sup> STREET 342-9595

STILL THE FRIENDLIEST BAR IN TOWN  
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES ALSO SERVED



*"Hurry Shack"*



# Community Calendar

## WEEKLY EVENTS

- 2 **Friday Gay/Lesbian Jewish Goup: Sabbath Dinner**, 6:30 pm, Call 551-0510 for information.
- 4 **Sunday New Voice Steering Committee**, MCC-Omaha, 420 S 24th, 4 pm. All interested parties welcome.
- 5 **Monday Imperial Court of Nebraska**, Board of Governors meeting, The Max, 1417 Jackson, 6:30 pm.
- 6 **Tuesday ANGLE** (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors), W. Dale Clark Library, 15th & Douglas, Meeting rooms 2 & 3, 7 pm.
- 7 **Wednesday Fantasy '90 Planning Meeting**, The Max, 1417 Jackson, 6 pm.  
P-FLAG AIDS Support Group, Lincoln, 7 pm. Call 435-4688 for location.
- 9 **Friday Affirmation/Omaha**, 7 pm. Call 556-7701 for location.  
Valentine's Dance, sponsored by Metropolitan Club. Call 449-9377 for information.
- 10 **Saturday Submission Deadline!** All articles, classifieds, art work, poetry, and letters must be received by this date for consideration for the March issue of the New Voice.  
People of All Colors Together, Business meeting followed by dinner, 7 pm. Call 341-4078 for information.  
Valentine's Party, MCC-Omaha, 420 S 24th, 7:30 pm.  
River City Mixed Chorus Annual Quiche Dinner, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1023 N 40th, 7-9 pm. Call 341-0763 for information.
- 11 **Sunday P-FLAG/Omaha**, First Methodist Church, northeast entrance, 69th & Cass, 3 pm.  
Dignity, St. John's, Lower Level, Creighton Campus, Mass, 7 pm.
- 12 **Monday AIDS Interfaith Network**, St. Cecelia's, 701 N 40th, Prayer service, 7 pm.  
Gay/Lesbian Student Organization, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Milo Ball Student Center, 3rd Floor, Board Room, 7 pm. All students welcome!
- 14 **Wednesday Happy Valentine's Day**
- 18 **Sunday Affirmation/Lincoln**, Write for time and location, PO Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501.
- 20 **Tuesday Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights**, Boardwalk, 20th & O, Lincoln, NE 7 pm.
- 21 **Wednesday P-FLAG AIDS Support Group**, Lincoln, 7 pm. Call 435-4688 for location.
- 24 **Saturday P.A.C.T.** (People of All Colors Together), 7 pm. Call 341-4078 for location.
- 25 **Sunday Dignity "Gathering"**, Call 895-2856 for information.
- 26 **Monday Lincoln AIDS Interfaith Network**, Healing service, St. Mark's Episcopal Church, UNL Campus, 13th & R, Lincoln, NE 7 pm.  
Gay/Lesbian Student Organization, University of Nebraska at Omaha, Milo Ball Student Center, 3rd floor, Board room, 7 pm. All students welcome!
- 27 **Tuesday P-FLAG/Lincoln**, Panel of teachers RE: Issues, 7:30 pm. Call 435-4688 for location.  
Mardi Gras!, ICON, The Max, 1417 Jackson.
- 28 **Wednesday Ash Wednesday Services** at MCC-Omaha, 420 S 24th, 7 pm.



### Sunday

Metropolitan Community Church  
420 South 24th, Omaha  
Sunday School, 9 am  
Worship Services, 10:20 am & 7 pm

The Max  
1415 Jackson  
Show at 9:30 pm

### Monday

Alternate Test Site, 7 to 10 pm  
Nebraska AIDS Project  
3624 Leavenworth, Omaha

River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, 7 pm  
Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church  
1023 North 40th Street

### Tuesday

Gay/Lesbian Support Group, 7:30 pm  
MCC-Omaha, 420 South 24th

### Thursday

Alternate Test Site, 7 to 10 pm  
Nebraska AIDS Project  
3624 Leavenworth, Omaha

UNL Gay/Lesbian Students Organization  
8 pm  
Room 342, Nebraska Union  
University Nebraska/Lincoln

Nuts & Bolts & Brass Tacks, 7 pm  
Pella Lutheran, 41st & Farnam  
Call NAP 342-4233 or Steve 346-1556  
Alcoholic Anonymous Group dealing with alcohol and AIDS issues

### Friday

Adult Children of Alcoholics, 6:30 pm  
MCC-Omaha, 420 South 24th  
346-0561

Gay Alcoholics Anonymous, 8:15 pm  
Pella Lutheran Church  
303 South 41st Street, Omaha  
345-9916

Women's Friday Afternoon Gathering  
5 to 7 pm  
(to foster networks and have fun)  
The Club, 116 North 20th Street, Lincoln

THIS IS YOUR CALENDAR.

SUBMIT INFORMATION ON UPCOMING EVENTS BY THE  
10<sup>TH</sup> OF THE MONTH TO BE INCLUDED IN THE NEXT  
MONTH'S CALENDAR.

# Books, Books, Books

OCTOBER OBSESSION BY MERIDITH MOORE

Looking for a nice escape? This book will help you forget the mundanities and let your mind wander about a world of fantasy for a while. It is written in the time-tested form of a story within a story.

The framework story, written in the third-person voice, concerns Laura Westmoreland's role in helping determine what has happened to her missing aunt. Aunt Josie has become "a little bit eccentric." But Laura always believed her to be a completely rational person. At least until she mysteriously disappears in October 1982, on the eve of the full moon. Laura takes up temporary residence in her aunt's house, searching it diligently for clues to Josie's whereabouts. A note hidden and left specifically for Laura leads her to Josie's personal journal.

Written in the first-person voice, this journal comprises the main body of this book. If you are willing to suspend your rational disbeliefs, this journal will sound completely convincing, even though it is what most people would

term as fantasy. Imagine, after all, what Laura (a professional psychologist) would make of her aunt's confession of a 28-year romantic relationship with Selene, goddess of the moon.

Reading this journal, Laura learns about a side of her aunt she'd never before seen. She reads of Josie's deepest feelings and erotic pleasures. And she is surprised to find she is not so shocked by such feelings after all.

Aunt Josie records in her journal that the immortal goddess appears to her only in dreams during the full moon phase of eleven months, but during October, Selene appears in a tangible form for several nights' worth of the most fulfilling love Josie has ever known. And during this 28-year love affair, Selene prepares Josie for joining the immortals, promising her an eternal spiritual life together, a life Josie must earn during her mortal life on earth.

This is Meredith Moore's first novel, and she has handled a difficult concept brilliantly. by

Amazonia

using the first-person voice in the journal entries, we find ourselves reading the journal just as Laura does. It pulls us in closer to the action of the story. Whether or not the story in the journal is believable, you might, as a reader, find yourself at least wishing it could happen. This book forces the reader to ask: what is reality, really? Is it something established by the majority, or by the individual?

My suggestion, of course, is to read the book (it reads quickly and easily), and pay special attention to the final chapter. Then decide for yourself if Aunt Josie was off her rocker.

Available from: The Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302

WANT TO HELP BRING THE  
QUILT TO NEBRASKA?  
SEE PAGE 13

## AN ALTERNATIVE TO THE OTHER DANCE BARS



DANCE FLOOR OPEN  
FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY  
8:00PM TO 1:00PM  
HAPPY HOUR

MONDAY THRU SATURDAY  
5:00PM TO 9:00PM

PRESENTING NIGHTLY DRINK SPECIALS  
NEVER A COVER CHARGE

WHERE WE ALWAYS PLAY WHAT  
YOU WANT TO HEAR!

1823 LEAVENWORTH 449-9147

PROPER ID REQUIRED

## JOE AND THE SHOW QUEEN BY LARRY HOWARD

Sharon Van Butsel

It was a hot summer day and we were on vacation. As the Bronco raced along Interstate 70 we realized that one cornfield looks very much like another. So we shared our journey with two delightful friends, Joe and Alec (aka The Show Queen).

In his first novel, Larry Howard takes a light-hearted look at our differences and the games we play as we seek Mr. or Ms. Right.

Joe was into running, the gym, big pecs. If it was macho, he was for it. Alec loved musicals, the theater, and cooking. His closest friends fluttered around so much that Joe called them "the birdies". Their paths might never have crossed except that Joe found himself without a place to live when he had a major fight with his lover. Alec just happened to have an apartment for rent.

The rest of the story is a little predictable but, like the *Odd Couple*, delightful entertainment. The story is well-written and the characterizations complex and all too familiar.

For an enjoyable evening, curl up in front of a fire with Joe and the Show Queen. Available from Knights Press, P.O. Box 454, Pound Ridge, NY 10576.

## CATALOG LISTS GAY BOOKS

New York--Paths Untrodden, a gay-owned/gay operated mail order book service for literature pertaining to male homosexuality and the gay liberation movement has released a 1989 catalog, listing hundreds of titles in a subject classification that includes 46 areas.

Paths Untrodden specializes in hard to find books, out of print, small press and imported titles. The first part of the catalog focuses on the erotic element in gay literature and the second part consists primarily of titles never before listed as well as books relating to men's issues and sale books. A special tribute to gay activist Ed Murphy is included.

The catalog, a 32 page bibliography, is available for \$3.00 from Paths Untrodden, P.O. Box 459, Village Station, New York, NY 10014-0459.

## DREAMS AND SWORDS BY KATHERINE V. FORREST

Amazonia

Is anybody out there a science-fiction fan? Anybody like short stories in the Ray Bradbury tradition? If you do, then you'll enjoy this collection of short fiction.

In these ten stories, Forrest weaves a little scheming with a little bit of fate to create some memorable tales. A few will send a chill down your spine with their quiet and subtle horror, while others will leave you smiling.

One of Forrest's characters, detective Kate Delafield of Amatuer City and Murder at the Nightwood Bar, makes an appearance to help solve a mysterious disappearance. "The Gift" builds suspense as a lesbian couple wonders if they've made the right decision concerning their daughter and some apparently beneficent aliens. "The Test" offers some social commentary on a reversal of the world we know. "Xessex" reinforces the lesson of not judging a book by its cover. Two of the stories are written in the first-person voice: "Mandy Larkin" relates her experience of being a successful singer who can hear in her own head the thoughts of her fans (reminiscent of some Twilight Zone tales), and "Mother Was An Alien" will leave you with a warm feeling.

But most notable in my opinion is the story "O Captain, My Captain." Have you ever wondered what sex would be like in the weightless environment of a spaceship? The captain proves she can handle her ship efficiently in an asteroid belt, and her female passenger with even more finesse. But why is she so steadfastly mute about her past?

Why don't you pick up the book and find out?

Available from The Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302

### Lambda Rising BOOK REPORT

A Contemporary Review  
of Gay & Lesbian  
Literature

Subscribe Now!

12 issues for \$18.00

24 issues for \$28.00

Send check/money order to:

BOOK REPORT DEPT# 533

1625 Connecticut Ave., NW

Washington, DC 20009

To charge by phone, call:  
(202)462-6969.

## MATLOVICH: THE GOOD SOLDIER

The sergeant who defied the Air Force's homophobic personnel regulations comes off as a personable, unassumingly courageous common man in this deft biography. Based upon extensive interviews with Leonard Matlovich before his June 1988 death from AIDS, and with his attorneys, his friends, and fellow gay activists, the book traces his development from the son who adopted Dad's profession to the Goldwater Republican who came out to champion gay civil rights within the military. Matlovich's experiences as a race relations instructor catalyzed this change, but his insistence upon speaking his mind was what ultimately drove him. His case against the air force was settled out of court but spurred a succession of other litigation by homosexual soldiers that may yet achieve reform. Matlovich subsequently tried his hand at politics, business, and AIDS activism. He remained "the best poster boy the movement ever had," says a friend. "Something about him made mainstream people feel comfortable." In this book that something still shines through.

Available from Alyson Press, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118, \$8.95.

## OutWrite (continued from page 6)

cal to the theoretical and include: organizing writers, the double marginalization of writers of color, censorship, erotic versus pornographic material, genre writing, money matters, closeted writing, how to create a book proposal, writer's block and how to deal with it, what sells and what doesn't, self-revelation in fiction and poetry, journal writing and the economics of publishing.

The two day conference opens March 3, 1990, at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco. Attendance is \$15 for one day, or \$25 for both days.

The planning committee for OutWrite '90 includes Allison, Escoffier, Roberto Bedoya, Lew Ellingham, Amber Hollibaugh, Bo Houston, Kevin Killian, Richard Labonte, Meredith Maran, Michael O'Loughlin, John Preston, Amy Sholder, and Matias Viegner.

For further information: Contact Jeff Escoffier, (415) 626-7929.

# Local Organizations

## AIDS SURVIVOR TO SPEAK

The AIDS Interfaith Network and Metropolitan Community Church are pleased to announce that the Rev. A. Stephen Pieters, a long term Survivor of AIDS, will be in Omaha on April 7,8,9, to speak about his recovery which is an inspiring example of healing and hope.

Rev. Pieters was diagnosed with AIDS in April, 1984, with Kaposi's Sarcoma and lymphoma. Following a 39 week treatment with an experimental anti-viral medication, Rev. Pieters was found to be in complete remission from his cancers and has continued to be "clinically well in all respects" according to his physician.

Rev. Pieters will conduct a workshop on April 7 for those how are HIV Challenged and other interested persons. On April 8, Rev. Pieters will give the sermon at the morning service of Metropolitan Community Church. On April 9, Rev. Pieters will speak at the AIDS Interfaith Network Service at 7pm at St. Cecilia's Cathedral.

## PRIDE WEEK LOGO CONTEST

ANGLE (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors) is looking for a Logo to represent the 1990 Gay/Lesbian Pride Celebration. This year's theme will be "Open the Door to the Gay 90's."

If you have an idea which illustrates the theme and supports the concept of Gay/Lesbian Pride, submit your idea to ANGLE no later than February 26th, 1990. Your submission must be a black and white design no larger than 8" x 10" and suitable to be reduced for use on buttons and patches.

All entries must include your name, phone number and address. The winning entries (1st and 2nd place) become the property of ANGLE. All other entries will be returned if you enclose a self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Judging will be done by the members of ANGLE at the March 6th meeting. The person submitting the winning entry will be featured in the New Voice, if they so agree.

The winner will receive a free subscription to the New Voice of Nebraska plus other prizes.

Submit your ideas by February 26, 1990, to:

Angle c/o Box 3512  
Omaha, Ne. 68103

## IT'S A CHANUKAH PARTY!

R.J.

Yes, it was a Chanukah Party to be remembered! The newest kids on the block, the Jewish Gay/Lesbian League opened their hearts and their homes, and threw a Chanukah (or Hanukkah) party for all other local gay religious organizations. P-Flag, Affirmation, Presbyterians for G/L Concerns, and Dignity were all represented. The Jewish Gay/Lesbian Leagues' Rabbi was also there.

Fourteen of us met that evening, for songs, eats and sharing. If no one has ever tried, latkes, they are delicious potato pancakes. Traditional songs were sung. There were songs of the dreydls, tops made of clay with Hebrew forms on the side. "Don't Let the Lights Go Out", "Oh Chanukah", and "Rock of Ages" were sung. The Jewish "Rock of Ages" is not to be confused with the Christian "Rock of Ages". Same name, but the words and music are totally different. A most delightful song was "Latkes", which has a kernel of truth in it. After all, who can fight on an empty stomach! It was a delight to hear M. play the guitar, and to hear very fine singing voices.

The highlight of the evening was the lighting of the menorah. There are eight candles plus the candle called shammos, or servitor candle, for a total of nine altogether.


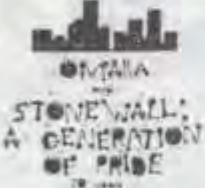

After the cleansing of the temple, only one small jar of purified oil, enough for one day, could be found to light the "Eternal Flame". Miraculously, this oil kept the "Eternal Flame" burning for 8 days, giving enough time to purify more oil. It was an honor to be asked to take part in this ancient tradition. The shammos, or ninth candle, is also endowed with a special meaning. The flame gives of itself to create an additional flame without losing any of its own brightness. Thus man and woman give of their love to their fellow humans without losing anything of themselves.

The party broke up late, with some very tired, but happy people. It was a great party, a great time of fellowship and sharing. A very big "Thank-you" and "God Bless You" to the Jewish Gay/Lesbian League. May we have more of such activities.

1990 GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE WEEK

OPEN THE DOOR TO THE GAY 90'S

LOGO CONTEST

WILL YOUR DESIGN BE NEXT?

We need a logo to show our pride as Gays and Lesbians and to illustrate the 1990 Gay/Lesbian Pride Week theme, Open the Door to the Gay 90's.

Submit your ideas by February 26, 1990, to:

ANGLE  
Box 3512  
Omaha, NE 68103

Entries must be black and white, no larger than 8" x 10" and suitable for reducing for use on buttons and patches. You must include name, address, and telephone number; winning entries become the property of ANGLE. All others will be returned if a self-addressed, stamped envelope is enclosed; the winner's name will be published only with their permission. Judging will be done by members of ANGLE at the March 6 meeting. The winner will receive a free year's subscription to the New Voice and other prizes.



## JEWISH GROUP PLANS DINNER

Gary

The February meeting of Omaha's gay/lesbian Jewish group will center around a Sabbath dinner, Friday evening, February 2, at the home of one of the members. The menu will include kugel, challah, spiced fruit, and a "mystery main dish." New members are welcome, but should call ahead for directions and to assure enough food will be prepared.

The major hurdle for the group appears to be selecting a name. Because Hebrew reads right to left, the name "Ak-Sar-Ben" was mentioned, but the members thought it might have already been used somewhere. A number of other options are available, and by next month, a name could be chosen.

Tentative plans for March include a traditional costume party revolving around the holiday of Purim. April brings the Passover Seder, which will be observed by the members. There will be more information on these events in next month's issue of The New Voice.

In January, the members met in a lively discussion on articles entitled "Homosexuality and Halakhah" and "Jewish Attitudes Towards Homosexuality: A Review of Contemporary Sources". Members of the group are also reading the book "Twice Blessed: On Being Lesbian, Gay, and Jewish".

The organization is in touch with the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Organizations, and some of the members are considering attending a Leadership Conference in New York City this month, and the Midwest Regional Conference in Toronto this summer. In addition, members have contacted L'Cha Dodi, the Kansas City gay/lesbian Jewish organization.

New members are welcome. For information about the organization, please phone 551-0510 in Omaha.

## LOOKING AHEAD

The New Voice is constantly looking for new contributors. If you have something written on any topic, please submit it by the 10th of the month. We are especially looking for articles related to various feature topics in upcoming months:  
**March** - Lesbian and Gay Youth  
**April** - Elections  
**May** - "I Remember..."

## MCC HEADLINES

Carla P.

Our Anniversary Celebration the weekend of January 20 was a renewing experience for all who participated. Saturday evening the Board of Directors treated the congregation to an Appreciation Dinner at the church. Special music by Steve, Peggy and Matthew delighted our ears as did the many thank-you's and words of praise from the Board of Directors. Each of the Sunday worship services was special. During the morning service time was set aside to rededicate many of the items we regularly use in worship. The congregation also rededicated themselves to continuing the work of God here in Omaha. The evening service was a special time for those music lovers in the congregation. We spent our worship time enjoying a song service. Both Special services were planned by the Worship Committee.

Rev. Howard announced that he will be leading a ten week Bible study starting in February. The Bible Study will meet on Monday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the church. There is a \$10.00 charge for materials. The first meeting will be February 5. Everyone is welcome.

Again some physical changes are taking place at MCCO. This time a slight change in the seating greeted the congregation in January. The organ was moved to an adjacent corner to allow room for the ever-growing choir to have space to sit together. Believe it or not, but this actually allows us greater seating capacity.

January 10th, the Social Committee met to plan activities for the upcoming months. For details on the activities planned, check our weekly bulletin, the monthly newsletter, or call the church office (345-2563). Everyone is welcome to attend.

Both Parish Family Groups got together. The Wednesday night group is having topical discussions on alternating Wednesday's. The Monday night group is meeting for dinner and then joining the Monday night Bible Study. Both groups welcome newcomers. For details contact the Church Office.

January's night Out found several MCCer's at The Run. In February we'll be at the Chesterfield. If you'd like to join us for a good time, meet us at the church at 10:00 p.m. or just join us there. Remember, our night out is the first Friday of each monthly. Mark your calendars.

Coming up in February, we'll have our regular Sunday services at 10:20 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. In addition to the regular activities, the Church plans to have an information booth at Mardi Gras. We'll also be celebrating Valentine's Day in a special way.

Until next month -- See you in church! We'd love to have you join us.



# METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA

**Pastor Matthew Howard**  
**Sunday Worship**  
 10:20am and 7:00pm

**Gay / Lesbian Support Group**  
 Tuesdays at 7:30pm

**Service Address**  
 420 South 24th Street

**Mailing Address**  
 P O Box 3173  
 Omaha, NE 68103  
 402/345-2563

## The New Voice

### NEBRASKA AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT PROJECT

Jean Durgin-Clinchard  
PFLAG Cornhusker President

The Nebraska AIDS Memorial Quilt Project, a committee of interested people who have held a series of organizational meetings in Lincoln, is pleased to announce its plans to bring the Quilt to Nebraska in the Fall of 1990. We have been in contact with the Names Project in San Francisco and the organizers of the Waterloo, Iowa AIDS Memorial Quilt Display. This committee envisions the possibility of placing Quilt displays in more than one location in Nebraska, such as Lincoln, Omaha, Kearney, and cities farther west, if there are interested people in those locations. We also plan that there will be substantial related educational and awareness activities prior to and around the display itself. This is an ideal medium to personalize the impact that AIDS has on all of our lives.

The Nebraska AIDS Memorial Quilt Project welcomes individuals and groups working together: planning, spreading the workloads for volunteers, fundraising, publicity, and the many other myriad of tasks that need to be done to make this a successful effort. This is a time when we need to reach out to one another and to involve the total community that is Nebraska at large. The greater the involvement of a broad based nature that we are able to marshal the greater the impact will be.

If you or your organization are interested in participating please write to: The Nebraska AIDS Memorial Quilt Project, c/o Red Cross, 1701 "E" St, Lincoln, NE 68502, or call 800-782-2437.

### P.A.C.T. News

P.A.C.T. (People of All Colors Together) will be meeting twice this month. Those dates are February 10 and 24. Both meetings will be held at 7 pm.

We introduced the idea of gay bingo to raise money for our group. This hopefully will be done toward the end of the quarter. This month we would like to have a game night and an admission will be charged. Drinks and food will be sold at a minimal price. We hope that you will attend and join in the fun.

On the 10th of this month, we will have a small general meeting to discuss the finalization of our first fundraiser. Afterward, we will have a dinner night and enjoy each other's company. Please come and join us and see what the group is all about.

Happy Valentine's Day to one and all and if you are interested in our organization or any events mentioned please call 341-4078 for more information.

HAPPY  
VALENTINE'S  
DAY

FROM THE STAFF OF  
THE NEW VOICE

### LOVE AND QUICHES ON FEBRUARY 10

The River City Mixed Chorus presents a slightly altered version of a popular community event on Saturday, February 10.

For four years, the Chorus presented the "Quiche Off" quiche-baking contest and dinner. But this year, the Chorus is taking a break from holding the contest, and placing all their energies into presenting a delicious quiche dinner.

The Annual Quiche Dinner will be served from 7 to 9 p.m., and will include quiche, salad, and beverage. Desserts will also be available. As in previous years, dinner will be available in the social hall of Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1023 North 40th Street.

A \$7 donation is being asked for the dinner. Tickets are available from any Chorus member, at the door, or by phoning 341-0763.

Love and quiches...from the River City Mixed Chorus.



DRIEDS  
SILKS  
AND  
PERSONALIZED DESIGNS

Steve Barton  
2578 Harney — 341-5590



### Printing Plus Inc.

"JUST WHAT YOU'VE  
BEEN LOOKING FOR"

LOW COST - HIGH QUALITY PRINTING  
FREE PICK UP & DELIVERY

333-5935

2431 S 120 ST

## A DUET FROM THE RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

Lacking a format for this article, we decided to pretend it was an interview. We are Annie Zinn, Chorus Vice President, and Tanith Korravai, Treasurer.

First, let us make it clear that the opinions expressed here are solely those

of the speaker and do not represent the Chorus as a whole or anyone else in it.

*Q: Why did you join the chorus?*

ANNIE: Because I don't play softball.

TANITH: To meet women I have something in common with.

*Q: What do you like best about singing in a mixed chorus?*

T: Two things, really. I like the sound of male and female voices blending and counterpointing each other and I like being in a group where men and women feel comfortable and have fun together. The friendships I've made

here, female and male, are very important to me and make my life a lot richer.

A: We laugh a lot, and I like the possibility of 8-part harmony with a 4-octave range. And when I have a cold, I can sing bass.

*Q: What was it like when the chorus went to Seattle last summer?*

T: Stunning. The GALA festival was definitely a peak experience for me and a constant source of inspiration for the Chorus. Some of the effects of GALA were visible even in our holiday concert, such as varying our clothing, memorizing half of the music, and adding movement and props. We plan to continue this trend. Probably the most profound effect that GALA had on me personally was to make it very clear to me that I am part of a large, far-flung, diverse, creative, and joyfully gay community. The memory of GALA is a constant reminder of what is possible when lesbians and gay men work together in joy to create beauty.

*Q: What does the chorus mean to you?*

T: I firmly believe that the arts are a powerful force for social change, in ways complementary to more overt political activity. Creating a freer, more just world to live in requires not only challenging and dismantling what is stifling about our culture, but also creating an alternative, even in the midst of oppression. It's so easy for me to become depressed and bitter any time I'm faced with another instance of hatred aimed at women, gays, blacks, Jews, etc. For me the Chorus is a way to begin creating an alternative world. When we sing together and blend our varied voices and energies, we are truly "gay" as we celebrate our lives, our passions, our cultures, and our joy in being a community.

*Q: Are there "Women's Issues" to be addressed at RCMC?*

A: Of course. It's a good place for women, but there are still opportunities for growth. First, the feminization of leadership is an issue. RCMC is hospitable to having women serve in leadership positions. In fact, we were probably the first mixed chorus to have a

-> Duet, page 17

## River City Mixed Chorus

Annual Quiche Dinner  
Saturday, February 10, 7-9 P.M.  
Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church  
1023 North 40th Street

Suggested Donation—\$7.00

Tickets available through any Chorus Member, by calling 341-0763, or at the door. Our contributors who donated \$25.00 or more to RCMC this season will receive two complimentary tickets to the Dinner along with our thanks!

Singing Valentines by Chorus Members will be available during the dinner at an additional cost.



The River City Mixed Chorus 1989-90 season is made possible with the support of the Nebraska Arts Council.



**NEWS FROM THE MONARCHS**

The White Tiger Empress IX and Athena II from Oz are pleased to be working with the White Teddy Bear Emperor IX serving you, the gay community of Nebraska and SW Iowa.

Here's the itemized report on "Toys for Tots" that we promised.

Door: ..... \$549.00  
 Tips: ..... \$558.00  
 Raffle: ..... \$207.00  
 Donation: ..... \$25.00  
 Total Income: ..... \$1339.00

ICON PWA Fund: ..... \$632.00  
 (NAP Christmas Dinners)  
 Children's Crisis Center: ..... \$316.00  
 UNO Speech Pathology Clinic: .. \$316.00  
 Budgeted Expenses: ..... \$75.00  
 Total Disbursements: ..... \$1339.00

Thanks to all of you from all of us at ICON. Again your generosity enabled us to help those in need in our community:

"Ice Crystal Dreams" (Snow Ball '90) highlighted January. Congratulations to the King and Queen of Snow Ball '90 who earned their

titles by selling the most raffle tickets. Thanks! We appreciated your interest and support. Hope that you had as much fun as we did. Way to go Vanessa, Dean, and Charlie. You did a super job! We'll have a complete report of our earnings from that fundraiser next month.

Plans for an exciting Mardi Gras are underway! You won't want to miss a thing:

Sunday, Feb. 25 - Widow Max  
 Monday, Feb. 26 - Black Night at The Max  
 Tuesday, Feb. 27 - Mardi Gras at The Max

Check out our flyers and the ad in this magazine for more details. See you there! All three nights promise to be packed with fun for everyone! Don't wait til the last minute; make your plans today and schedule an early vacation! You'll want to take in all the action!

Gloria, thank you for giving us a great year as Miss MAX, but no thanks for the cake - only kidding! We look forward to working with you through the rest of our reign.

Announcement Time: Coronation 1990!  
 We've picked a theme: 1990: The Start Of A

New Wave. Watch next month's column for dates and places.

Again we'd like to repeat our request for people to design and build posters and sets for shows. We're also always looking for new performers: singers, dancers, impersonators, etc. If you have talents you'd like to share with the community, contact one of the monarchs or anyone on the Board of Governors. Speaking of the Board of Governors - there are openings on the Board. Here's an excellent chance for you to have an impact on behalf of Nebraska's lesbian and gay community. Contact a monarch or one of the current Board of Governors members for details and an application.

Until next month, we encourage you to support those in the community who support the community!

Joe, Felice, and Carla

**KEY TO LISTING CODES**

★	VERY POPULAR	LG	MUST WEAR AT LEAST A LEATHER G-STRING
C	ANYONE CAN COMPETE	LV	LEVI
CC	COSTUME CONTEST	M&W	MEN AND WOMEN
D	DANCING	OM	ONLY AT THE MAX
DQ	DRAG QUEENS COME AS YOU ARE	P	PAGEANT
E	LIVE ENTERTAINMENT	S&M	A NIGHT FOR THE STAND AND MODEL MEN TO BUTCH IT UP
FB	FOOD BOOTHS	WMT	TIME: 9:30 P.M.
G	GAMES	LNT	TIME: 9:30 P.M.
CT	CASINO TABLES	MGT	TIME: 9:30 P.M.
IB	INFORMATION BOOTHS	WL	WEAR LEATHER
LF	COME SEE YOUR FAVORITE LEATHER FANTASY		



# National Spotlight

## LESBIAN AND GAY FILM FESTIVAL

FRAMELINE is now accepting entries for the 14th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, June 15-24, 1990. Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the Festival brings together the best in feature, documentary, and short films and video works by and about lesbians and gay men.

Awards will be presented to outstanding works in several categories. Formats accepted include 35mm, 16mm, and Super-8 films; NTSC 3/4", and 1/2" VHS videocassettes. The deadline for entries is March 31, '90. For more information and entry forms, contact FRAMELINE, P.O. Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114, or call (415) 861-5245.

## INSURANCE COMPANY TO STAND TRIAL FOR DISCRIMINATION

A Sacramento, California, Superior Court judge has turned down a request by Farmers Insurance Company to dismiss a lawsuit alleging discrimination against a gay couple. The couple, Boyce Hinman and Larry Beaty, filed the suit after Farmers refused to sell them a joint "umbrella" liability policy.

Farmers has taken the position that they will only issue Hinman and Beaty separate policies -- at twice the cost -- because they are not married. State law does not permit lesbian and gay couples to marry. In the suit, National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) contends that Farmers has violated both the Unruh Civil Rights Act and the anti-discrimination provisions of the insurance code.

"Boyce Hinman and Larry Beaty have lived together for eighteen years," commented NGRA Executive Director Leonard Graff. "They own a home, two cars, and all of their furniture together; they share the common necessities of life and are each other's primary beneficiaries in their wills and insurance policies. Farmers has already issued them joint homeowners and automobile insurance policies. Making them buy two separate umbrella policies, at twice the cost, is, quite plainly, arbitrary discrimination."

RCMC QUICHE DINNER  
FEBRUARY 10  
SEE PAGE 13

## HOLMES OUT OF COMA

(reprinted from the Seattle Gay News)

Matt Nagle

Diana Holmes, the brutally mutilated transsexual lesbian activist, is regaining her strength and relearning how to eat, speak, and write.

One year ago, Holmes' life took a grotesque turn when a man broke into her home in Hawaii and attacked her head with a machete. Why he did it remains unclear, but his actions were more than likely due to the fact that Holmes was becoming a strong political voice in Hawaii, representing the oppressed, a group she calls the "rainbow people."

In 1987, Holmes ran for county council in Hawaii and won 1,000 votes. She ran again in 1988 as a completely out-of-the-closet transsexual lesbian of both Native and Black American heritage. The attack (temporarily) ended her campaign.

Holmes has been described as "colorful." As a friend wrote, "Diana is not your average dyke. She's 6 foot 3 inches and bald with ears like Spock. She was born genetic male and gender female and was fired from her job six years ago for having her body realigned (to woman.) She's into God and women as a way of life."

Holmes has few visitors and is taken care of by close friends. She recently wrote the following letter to her supporters. It took her over a week to write the ten pages, the words were printed in large, shaky letters with only about five words per line. She wrote one page a day, as writing saps the little physical strength she has:

Dear Friends,

I thought that you might enjoy getting a letter in my own handwriting, or rather printing, as it is easier for me to print than to write. It takes me so long to write, often more than a week for a single letter.

I did have one (article) published in the newspaper about gay and lesbian marriages. Feel free to make copies and send them to any publications. I would also appreciate some feedback on your thoughts, I refuse to live in a closet even if it means writing my thoughts from a hospital

I am also writing a book on the Bible as interpreted for lesbians and gays as a positive part of God's creation. My bottom line in life

is to have society recognize our relationships.

I guess Diana is a good name, for if you look her up in the encyclopedia, you will find that she was the goddess of slaves as well as of the forest.

About us being slaves in our own society, I say like Moses spoke the word of God to the Egyptians, "Let my people go" so Diana is the proper name for me.

I am continuing to improve. July made one year since my attack and that I've been in the hospital. I sit in a wheelchair three days a week. It's then that I write. Today, I am sitting up in bed. Also, this week I ate and drank for the first time. I have a tube going directly into my stomach. That is how they have been feeding me and giving me medicine. But soon I hope I'll be able to eat all my food. Joy, who is working with my eating, is my speech therapist as I also must learn to talk again. However, I plan to eat, talk, and walk my way out of here, by the grace of God.

I haven't forgotten about any of you, although I have no memory from the time of my attack until about December, about six months. I believe the power of God made the difference. I believe that God has great plans for me. It is a miracle that I am even alive.

My prayers are with you. God bless all of you.

Love, Diana

What happened to Diana is beyond an outrage. She needs to have her community behind her, to support her and help her make it through what must be a living hell. She was mutilated for speaking up for us; now it is our turn to speak up for her. Her address: Diana Holmes, c/o J.W., P.O. B. 22012, Seattle, Washington 98122.

Due to "a lack of evidence," the police have suspended their investigation of the attack.

FANTASY '90  
PLANNING MEETING  
FEBRUARY 7  
SEE PAGE 3

Duet (continued from page 14)

female majority on the Executive Committee. But the presidential spot has eluded women. I'd like to see that change. And I'd like to see more use of consensus decision-making.

T: Even though the board officially operates by parliamentary procedure, in fact we do reach consensus for most of our decisions — which may be one reason why board meetings tend to be long, but it's usually worth the time.

A: I'm sharing my second issue as an example of how my feminist sensibilities are being nourished at RCMC. John Kelly, our music director, and I once had a discussion on the importance of using women composers in our programming. There are not many well-known women composers out there, but John always finds a couple of things by women librettists/arrangers/composers. And it makes me feel good to know RCMC is supporting some woman in a non-traditional occupation. A third issue has to do with the women's small group. It's nice to have the opportunity to sing with just the other women. But precisely it's our strong point that needs to be examined. We always sing lovely, sweet, serene, celestial melodies, and I'm afraid that just perpetuates lovely and sweet stereotypes about women. I want to sing something angry, something lustful, something selfish — something that goes contrary to the stereotypes of what women are supposed to think and feel. Then, right after that, we can sound like angels again. But we need the balance.

T: Personally, I'd like to see the men and women sing two or three separate pieces per concert, so that we can express a fuller range of our own experiences, and our differences as women and men, as well as our similarities. Diversity is a beautiful and creative force when it is openly expressed. It's only when it is suppressed that it becomes a source of division and antagonism.

A: A fourth issue relates to what is called "womyn's music." Loosely defined, this has to do with music of the women's movement, as opposed to women composing traditional music. Those of us who went to Seattle were exposed to lots of womyn's music; even some of the men's choruses performed womyn's music. I'd like to include womyn's music in our repertoire.

T: I like most of the music we do a lot, especially the variety of styles, but I have

noticed that it's mostly mainstream music with lyrics that often don't have much meaning for me as a woman and a lesbian. I think (I hope!) that this is mainly the result of unfamiliarity with women's music. The GALA Festival this summer did a lot to remedy this lack of knowledge, and I hope that will be reflected in future concerts.

A: There are other women's issues — for example, the use of inclusive language, the concept of socio-economic classes, either facilitating or hindering participation in the chorus or its leadership, coupled with the fact that women tend to earn less than men do, the lack of financial support from the women in the community — obviously, we can't discuss them all here.


T: Oppressions are not separate, distinct patterns; they are linked together. I see the very existence of a gay and lesbian chorus as a stand against homophobia, and therefore by implication against all other forms of oppression, especially sexism.

A: The point of discussing these women's issues is to start demolishing woman-hatred, which is such a large part of homophobia.

T: Like most organizations, the Chorus is what you make of it. You get back what you give and then some. Check us out, we have a lot of fun together.

SUBSCRIBE TO  
THE  
NEW  
VOICE

**EAGLE**



Employee  
Association  
for  
Gays and Lesbians  
a US West Resource Group  
Sharon McCartney — 402/422-5131

## LESBIAN CONVICTED DESPITE SELF-DEFENSE PLEA

West Palm Beach - A jury has found a Florida Lesbian guilty of second degree murder in the slaying of her lover of 10 years, rejecting her defense that she was the victim of battered spouse syndrome.

The conviction of Annette Green, 30, in the shooting death of her lover, Susanne Julio, 32, is believed to be the first case in which a lesbian had used the battered spouse syndrome as part of her defense.

The syndrome is sometimes used by women in heterosexual relationships when they are physically inadequate to defend themselves or escape the relationship. Green said that the victim, Julio, outweighed her by 30 pounds and often beat her and her two 14-year-old daughters.

Defense attorney William Lasley told the Jury, "We're talking about a history of 10 years, when someone was beaten with ball bats. Because one time she defends herself, she is guilty of first-degree murder?"



**dignity  
Omaha**

Lesbian and Gay  
Roman Catholics  
and Friends

Mass 7pm, 2nd Sunday, monthly  
St John's Church — lower level  
Creighton University Campus

341-1460                      P.O. Box 31312  
895-2856                      Omaha 68131

Check this out  
Now serving beer and wine!

the  
**Downtowner  
Cafe**



breakfast  
lunch and dinner  
after hours

619 South 16th Street  
341-0751

"The *GAYEST* in downtown Omaha"

# AIDS News

## THE THINGS I COULD NOT TELL HIM

As the coordinator for and a counselor at the Alternate Test Site, I have told a number of persons that they tested positive for HIV antibodies—that they have, at least, been exposed to the virus believed to cause AIDS. The most painful and agonizing of these experiences happened recently when I faced telling a long-term acquaintance of his positive test results. A handsome man in his early thirties, he was finally building the kind of stable relationship with another man that he had wanted for so long. He was well on his way towards putting his life in order after some years of too much of most everything.

We cried; we discussed medical issues; we talked of telling his partner; we hugged and cried some more. He left to start his new life.

I could not share with him details of that new life. The initial shock of hearing that his test results were positive would not permit him to hear much else. It rarely does. Besides, his new life required that he discover its reality in

his own way and in his own time.

What I could not tell him was that, from that night on, even a simple cold would cause a panic reaction that he was suffering a more serious symptom of AIDS. I could not tell him that, never again would a cold sore, unsuspected bruise, or other skin blemish be merely a temporary annoyance over a marring of his looks. Never again would waking up feeling clammy or sweaty mean only that the thermostat needed adjustment.

I could not tell him that fear of infecting his partner would, from that night on, overshadow his desire for physical intimacy—regardless of how safe the sexual activity was planned to be.

I could not tell him of the loneliness and bitterness he would experience as he struggled with the decision of trusting others with the truth of his status.

Initially, the need to even question family, personal, social, and work relationships once considered secure would jolt him. This need alone would raise doubts about these relationships. This need, of itself, would cause a sense of alienation, of separation. He could hide the truth and let his secret falsify those relationships, as all secrets will do. Or, he could

risk the truth and hope in the strength of those relationships. To take that risk would mean that he would first need to face his own sense of shame and guilt and his own feelings of somehow being "unclean". If he risked and won, the issue of initial doubt (and any need to make a decision is ultimately based on doubt) would require resolution to restore the relationships. If he risked and was rejected out of ignorance, irrational fears, or bigotry, he would need to find the emotional stamina to withstand the loss, the betrayal, and the isolation. He would need the stamina to risk again—to reach out for compassion and closeness.

I could not tell him that anxiety and worry would always be present even after he gained an emotional perspective on his status. I could not tell him that the highly publicized, dramatic milestones of the virus' progression, as life-threatening as they are, are specific upheavals he may or may not face. The harsh reality would be the slow, daily drain on his emotions and psyche caused by the frustration and anger with a lack of medical answers to so many seemingly simple questions and the constant uncertainty of the when's, if's, and how's of his own body's reaction to the virus.

As these days since I told my acquaintance of his test results have become weeks, I have found myself becoming angry. I am angry specifically with those individuals who insist on continuing high risk behaviors, of whatever sort, in spite of their awareness of the risk to themselves and others.

It is for you who may not yet be infected that I have written. You have the information to

? Risky Sex ?  
? Multiple Sex Partners ?  
? Casual Sex ?

You may be at Risk  
for AIDS Infection

## AIDS

### Information — Referral

and  
Testing

Lincoln Lancaster County  
Health Department  
402/471-8065

For other testing sites, call:

Douglas County	402/444-7214
Grand Island Hall County	308/381-5175
Nemaha County	402/274-4549
North Platte	308/534-6780 ext. 134
Scotsbluff	308/635-3866

## BARS CLUBS & LOUNGES

### Omaha

The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Avenue  
The Diamond, 712 South 16th Street 342-9595  
Gilligan's, 1823 Leavenworth 449-9147  
The Max, 1417 Jackson 346-4110  
The Run, 1715 Leavenworth 449-8703

### Lincoln

The Boardwalk, 20th and O Streets 474-9741  
The Club, 116 North 20th Street 474-3692  
Panic, 300 South 18th Street 435-8764

### Grand Island

Chessino, 4th and Walnut 308/382-0236

reduce your chances of exposure. You demonstrate as much in the pre- and post-test counseling sessions. Some of you have friends who are diagnosed with AIDS or friends who have died as a result of AIDS. What more will it take for you to use that information? What more will it take before you are truly convinced, deep inside yourselves, that you are not immune or invincible? What more will it take for you to honestly care enough about yourselves and those you say you love to protect yourselves and them from infection?

(The Alternate Test Site is confidential and anonymous. My acquaintance requested that I give him his test results. He also read and gave me permission to submit this article for publication.)

---

---

### BRAZIL FINDS HIV AMONG CHILDREN

Brazilian agencies that deal with street children are finding high percentages of HIV infection among minors. A state agency reported that over 500 minor children have tested positive since the end of 1987, with six of them infants born to infected mothers.

The major cause of infection is believed to be from contaminated needles used in injecting drugs.

---

---

### NEW YORK TOPS LIST

New York has more reported cases than the next four largest cities combined. According to Dr. Stephen Joseph, New York's commissioner of health, the epidemic is moving swiftly through drug abusers, minorities and the poor.

New York's reported cases exceeded 20,000 with estimates of 200,000 people with HIV infection. Nearly 11,000 New Yorker's have died from the HIV related diseases and estimates are that sixty percent of the intravenous drug users are infected.

In 1988, blacks and Hispanics totaled nearly seventy percent of reported AIDS cases in New York.

---

---

### NEW COLLEGE STUDY REVEALED

A new study conducted by the American College Health Association and the Centers for Disease Control estimates 25,000 college students may be HIV positive. Based on random testing of 17,000 students with 19 colleges participating, 2 out of every 1000 students were found to have the antibodies for HIV.

GOT TIME ON YOUR HANDS?

CONSIDER BEING A VOLUNTEER.

THE COMMUNITY NEEDS YOU!

# LET'S TALK... MAN TO MAN

## ALL NEW... ALL MALE.

### TOTALLY LIVE ONE-ON-ONE CONVERSATION. JUST YOU AND HIM.

TRY OUR FREE LINE FIRST---558-6523

IF IT'S BUSY, THERE'S SOMEONE WAITING ON THE LINE FOR YOU...  
SO CALL...

# 1-976-2MEN

(1-976-2636)

ONLY 75¢ PER MIN.  
(Plus tolls if any)

MetroComm (303) 534-1836

# Classifieds

## "MOTHER, MOTHER": AN AIDS BENEFIT

Jean Durgin-Clinchard  
PFLAG Great Plains Regional Director

The film "Mother, Mother" explores the complex relationship between a young gay man with AIDS and his mother, and their inability to understand or accept each other's lives. Through the compassion and support of those around them mother and son begin a journey of self-discovery as they come to understand the meaning of unconditional love and forgiveness as a way of healing the heart. "Mother, Mother" is unique because it was created solely to benefit AIDS organizations by providing the film free for fundraising and consciousness raising efforts. Every penny will go to fight AIDS.

"Mother, Mother" stars Polly Bergen, Piper Laurie, Bess Armstrong, and John Dye. The cast and crew donated their time, talents, and energy in the belief that the power of a film can make a difference in the fight against AIDS. The music is by Henry Mancini, the theme song is by Chris Williamson and performed by Kenny Rankin.

The fundraiser will be held at the State Theater in St. Paul, MN at 8:00 pm on March 3. The premiere showing of the film is \$25 per person. A pre-movie reception with the stars will be held at a cost of \$100 per person.

The recipients of the money raised will be Grace House (an AIDS Hospice in Minneapolis); Every Penny Counts (an organization that gives direct aid to persons with AIDS).

GWM 27, 5'6", 140 lbs, brown, hazel, mustache. I am looking for friendship and maybe more. Write PO Box 5705, Lincoln, NE 68505.

-----  
Charcoal gray female feline needs a home. 9 years young, aloof, yet endearing; very attractive. Spay, declawed, and vaccinations current--cat only household, or non-harrassing dogs. Please call 558-9900.

### THE PEOPLE CONNECTION

To answer an ad, put your reply in a stamped, blank envelope. Then place that envelope in a larger envelope and mail to:

New Voice People Connection

Dept \_\_\_\_\_ (from specific ad)

PO Box 3512

Omaha, NE 68103

We will forward your letter on to the person who placed that ad. The rest is up to you.  
\*\*\*\*\*  
Black male 23 yrs wishes to meet same age persons for good time. Dept 2-A.

-----  
and the Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays Regional AIDS Education Program (MN, IA, NE, SD, ND, MO, KS make up the PFLAG Great Plains Region).

For further information call the Parents FLAG Helpline in Minneapolis (612)-458-3240.

## SEVEN WARNING SIGNS OF HOMOPHOBIA

This article was taken from a pamphlet published in Portland, Oregon.

1. You laugh at "queer" jokes.
2. You believe lesbians should be "cured".
3. You'd rather your daughter elope with Darth Vader than the girl next door.
4. You think lesbians are looking for "recruits".
5. You believe women become lesbians because they can't get a man.
6. You think you can spot a lesbian a mile away.
7. You think lesbians hate men.

\*HOMOPHOBIA: Irrational fear or hatred of homosexuals.


The fact is, homophobia isn't funny because it affects people--real people.

Thousands of lesbians live and work and pay taxes in our community. We make important contributions to our economy, families, civic and religious organizations, and neighborhoods. We value good citizenship.

Lesbians want the same things as everyone else in our community: a loving family, a good job, a nice place to live, a safe neighborhood, and close friends.

Queer, isn't it? We're more like you than you thought.

(Paid for by the thousands of lesbians who live in our community.)



Order your one year subscription today by mailing \$19.00 to:

**The New Voice of Nebraska**  
P.O. Box 3512  
Omaha, Nebraska 68103

name \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_  
city, state, zip \_\_\_\_\_

The New Voice is mailed in a plain brown envelope.

**THE NEW VOICE PEOPLE CONNECTION**

write your ad here: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Ad Cost & Frequency:**

Charge for 1 month \$8.00 \_\_\_\_\_  
Multiply by \$0.20 per word over 20 words \_\_\_\_\_  
Total for first month \_\_\_\_\_  
Multiply by number of months ad should run \_\_\_\_\_  
TOTAL price for Ad \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send check or money order, payable to **The New Voice of Nebraska**

Forwarding Info

name \_\_\_\_\_  
address \_\_\_\_\_  
city, state, zip code \_\_\_\_\_  
phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature (mandatory) \_\_\_\_\_

You must sign your ad request. Your signature attests that you are of legal age and that you are placing the ad yourself. It also attests that your request to meet others is at no expense to them.

# Resource Directory

## NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

## AIDS RESOURCES

### Affirmation of Nebraska

Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501  
402/556-7701 in Omaha  
United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian concerns. Meets monthly in Omaha and Lincoln

### Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights

Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509  
Advocacy/lobbies for Gay/Lesbian civil rights, educational presentations, newsletter, and cultural programs.

### Imperial Court of Nebraska

Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68102  
Social organization for advancement of gay society.

### Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns

402/733-1360 Cleve

### Midwest Transvestite-Transsexual Hotline

206/329-TVTS (8887)

### The New Voice of Nebraska

Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103  
Monthly magazine for the Lesbian/Gay community.

### UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center

UNL Campus, Lincoln, NE 68588 402/472-5644  
Nebraska Union, Rm 342 - Meetings (Mail Rm 222)  
Social activities, AIDS education, roommate referral, groups, library

### Seventh Day Adventist Kinship, Inc.

P O Box 31351, Omaha, NE 68131 402/558-1186  
Meetings, information, & support for Lesbians/Gays

### Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)

Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504 402/435-4688  
meets 4th Tuesday  
Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103  
402/331-5188 or 291-6781  
meets 2nd Sunday

### Information and Referral

**Nebraska AIDS Project**  
3624 Leavenworth Street, Omaha, NE 68131  
402/342-4233 or 800/782-AIDS (2437) (statewide)  
AIDS Hotline, HIV Testing, Support Groups, Practical Support, AIDS Awareness programs and literature.

### Veteran's Administration Medical Center

42nd & Woolworth, Omaha, NE 68105  
402/346-8800 - Dean Pierce (ext 4119)

### Viral Syndrome Clinic

University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, NE  
402/559-6202 Dr. Jonathan Goldsmith

### Lincoln Cancer Center

64600 Valley Road, Lincoln, NE 68510  
402/483-1872 Barb Morton

### American Red Cross

1701 "E" Street, Lincoln, NE 68501  
402/471-7997  
3838 Dewey Avenue, Omaha, NE 68131  
402/341-2723 Confidential Testing

### Confidential Testing

**Nebraska Aids Project**  
3624 Leavenworth Street, Omaha, NE 68131  
402/342-4233 or 800/782-AIDS (2437) (statewide)  
Alternate test site; anonymous testing Monday and Thursday 7pm to 10pm

### Douglas County Health Department

4th Floor Civic Center, Omaha, NE 68102  
402/444-7214

### Lincoln-Lancaster County Health Department

2200 St. Marys Avenue, Lincoln, NE  
402/471-8065  
Counseling and Support

### Counseling and Support

**Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Aids Support Group**  
call 402/435-4688 for meeting locations in Lincoln  
1st and 3rd Wednesdays 7 pm

### Brother William Woeger

c/o Omaha Archdiocese  
100 North 62nd, Omaha, NE 68123

### Open Door Ministry-Lincoln

402/474-3390 Fr. David

### AIDS Interfaith Network

1104 North 36th, Omaha, NE 68131

### Legal

**Nebraska Civil Liberties Union**  
633 South 9th Street, Lincoln, NE 68508  
402/476-8091 John Taylor  
402/346-5025 - Omaha

### Mowbray, Chapin & Walke, P.C.

201 North 8th Street, Suite 242, Lincoln, NE 68508  
402/476-3882 Jim

## LINCOLN

### Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous

call 402/466-5214 AA Central Office for location

### The Wimmie's Show

Noon-3pm every Sunday on KZUM radio at 89.3 FM stereo

### UNL Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association

mail: Room 222, Nebraska Union, UNL, 68588  
402/472-5644 Rodney Bell II

### Committee Offering Lesbian and Gay Events (CO-LAGE)

c/o University Program Council, Rm 200, Nebraska Union,  
UNL, Lincoln, NE 68588.  
402/472-2454

Programming organization for cultural, social and educational needs of UNL's gay/lesbian community.

### Women's Assistance Emergency Fund

Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

### Women's Journal-Advocate

Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

### Lesbian Support Group

Women's Res. Center, Rm 117, Nebraska Union  
University of Lincoln-Lincoln, Lincoln NE 68588  
402/472-2597

Informal weekly discussion group for lesbians

### Lincoln Legion of Lesbians

Box 30317, Lincoln, NE 68503  
Lesbian-feminist collective, newsletter, support, confidential referral, cultural and social programs.

### New Directions Center

402/476-2802  
Short term counseling, support groups, classes, workshops dealing with coming out, parenting and relationships. Sliding scale fee.

### Open Door Ministry

402/474-3390  
Orthodox spiritual counseling to all in need.  
No charge.

### UNL Gay and Lesbian Alumni/ae Association, Inc

PO Box 30681, Lincoln, NE 68503  
402/464-0371  
Social, educational and political organization for UNL's gay/lesbian alumni/ae, faculty, staff and students. Publication: The GALA Nebraskan.

### Gay Men's Support Group

UNL Counseling Center, Rm 226, Administration Building,  
Lincoln, NE 68588.  
402/472-3461  
Vernon Williams-Director.  
Confidential Support Group for gay men.

## OMAHA

### DIGNITY / Omaha

402/895-2856 or 402/341-1460  
Mon 7pm 2nd Sunday monthly; St John's (lower level) on Creighton University Campus  
Roman Catholic lesbians / gays & friends.

### Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous

402/345-9913 Weekly meeting on Friday at 8:15pm  
Alcohol and AIDS issues group 7pm Thursdays, call Steve at 346-1556 or NAP 342-4233

### Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha (MCC)

mailing address: P O Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103  
service at 420 South 24th Street, Omaha, NE 68103  
Sunday worship at 10:20am and 7pm; 402/345-2563

### Metropolitan Club

Box 3124, Omaha, NE 68103 402/449-9377  
Networking organization of business / professionals

### River City Bowling League

402/345-5118 Scott OR 402/493-6118 Charlie

### Two Wheelers of Omaha (TWO) Motorcycle Club

PO Box 3216, Omaha, NE 68103

### River City Mixed Chorus

Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101 402/341-0763  
Volunteer chorus for Gay/Lesbian/sensitive people

### UNO Student Group

Box 134, UNO, Omaha, NE 68182-0320  
Heidi at 402/391-0694 / Wes or Rick at 402/558-1186  
Lesbian and Gay student social/support group

### Gay/Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics

402/346-0561 KAREN JENSEN PO Box 1143  
Support group for adults raised in alcoholic or dysfunctional homes

### FACT (People of All Colors Together)

402/341-4078  
A social / support group

### EAGLE - Omaha

c/o Sharon McCartney, 1314 Douglas on the Mall, 8th Floor, Omaha, NE 68102

# MARDI GRAS AT THE MAX



## THE WIDOW MAX

(THE BEST OF SKAG)

February 25

(★, CC, D, E, DQ, OM, P, SD, M&W, WMT)



## LEATHER NIGHT

(AN S&M FANTASY)

February 26

(★, D, E, LV, LF, LG, LNT, OM, SM, WL)

SEE PAGE 15 FOR KEY LISTING CODES.



## MARDI GRAS

(A NEW OMAHA TRADITION)

February 27

(★, CC, D, E, FB, DQ, G, GT, IB, MGT, OM)

## • FEBRUARY AT THE MAX •

4 • UNO BENEFIT    8 • JUST SAY "MOO"    11 • JERRY HALLIDAY  
16 • COCKTAIL STRIPPERS    18 • CHICAGO MEATPACKERS  
25 • WIDOW MAX PAGEANT    26 • BLACK NITE    27 • MARDI GRAS

## 7 Lesbians in the Fight against AIDS

In 1989, the total number of Americans to die of AIDS passed the number of Americans who died in combat in the Vietnam War.

Although lesbians have not been as drastically affected by AIDS as their gay male counterparts, the emotional cost has been great. Lesbians across the nation have risen to the challenge, donating endless amounts of time and money to the gay community in its hour of need. These are a few of those women.

### 1. CATLAIN RYAN

Ryan co-authored *AIDS: A Public Health Challenge*, the first major review of state AIDS policy. The report was commissioned by the U.S. Public Health Service in 1985.

Two years later, as a result of her work in the field of AIDS health care, Ryan received the highest honor the field of social work gives its members — the National Social Worker of the Year award.

### 2. INES RIEDER

Rieder co-edited the book *AIDS: The Women*, which includes moving articles and personal stories about the toll AIDS is taking. Contributors include such lesbian authors as Louise Raffin, Deborah Stone, Lea Sanchez, and Cherie Pies.

### 3. CARY NORSWORTHY

One of many women fighting the battle for AIDS services at the local level, Norsworthy ran the San Francisco AIDS Foundation Food Bank for five years.

### 4. ELIZABETH HARRISON

As president of the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights, Harrison has been lobbying the Food and Drug Administration for quicker testing of experimental drugs and access to experimental medication for people with life-threatening illnesses such as AIDS.

### 5. SUZANN GAGE

Gage has been involved with feminist health care since the early 1970s. She is co-founder of the Women's AIDS Project in Los Angeles.

### 6. & 7. SHADOW MOHTON and SKY RENFRO

Through their efforts, these two women raised eight thousand dollars for AIDS organizations in the first year of the Ms. Leather contest.

## 5 Lesbians Who Married Gay Men

### 1. CARSON McCULLERS, 1917-1967, American novelist

Carson McCullers had a tempestuous relationship with Reeves McCullers; she married him in 1937 at an early age, divorced him a few years later, and married him again a few years after that. The first break-up came when she discovered they were both in love with the same man.

But jealousy over lovers wasn't their only problem. Reeves was obsessed with Carson's growing acclaim as a writer and with his own homosexuality. At one point, he threatened to kill them both. Carson was able to escape and left him; he committed suicide a short time later.

Known for novels about outsiders, Carson herself publicly admitted having at least one lesbian affair. She was also close friends with lesbian writers Elizabeth Bowen and Edith Sitwell.

### 2. VITA SACKVILLE-WEST, b. 1892, English author

Vita Sackville-West married Harold Nicolson while in her early twenties. Although they produced two children, were devoted friends throughout their lives, and never divorced, the marriage as such was short-lived.

### 3. BRYHER, 1894-1983, English novelist

Although she was already living with the poet H.D., who was nearly a decade older, Bryher asked writer Robert McAlmon to marry her when her wealthy family tried to force her in return home to be a proper British lady. As McAlmon was also gay, living with him gave them both a cover. Bryher gave him an allowance and he visited her parents to put on a show of respectability.

Using Bryher's money, McAlmon founded Contact Editions which published Bryher's lover, H.D., as well as Gertrude Stein and Hemingway.

"Bryher" is the pen name of Winifred Ellerman.

### 4. KATHARINE CORNELL, 1893-1974, German-American actress

Married to Broadway producer and director Guthrie McClintic, this "First Lady of the American Theater" quietly had her own female attachments with women such as Eugenie Leonovitch, who starred in the Broadway version of *Grand Hotel*, while McClintic had his own boyfriends.

### 5. ROMAINE BROOKS, 1874-1970, American-French painter

Romaine Goddard married John Ellingham Brooks at an early age but cut off her hair, donned male attire, and left him soon thereafter. Being possessed of a small fortune, she gave him an annuity upon divorce.

## 6 Odd Brushes with the Law

### 1. AUGUSTA MAIN

In 1867 Miss Augusta Main, spinster farmer of Berlin, New York, was held on one thousand dollars bail for assaulting a male neighbor with intent to kill. Miss Main did all the farm work herself and allowed no men on the premises. When needing extra hands at harvest time, she hired "strapping young women."

In her defense, Miss Main said she "never sees men or dogs but what she aches to kill them."

### 2. EVA LE GALLIENNE

An actress, Le Gallienne was named in a 1950 alienation of affection lawsuit filed by a New York socialite against his wife, Josephine Hutchinson. During the trial, the husband stated that Josephine preferred the company of Le Gallienne "morning, noon and night."

### 3. & 4. PATRICIA "MIZMOON" SOLTYSIK and CAMILLA HALL

When the Symbionese Liberation Army gained national attention by kidnapping Patty Hearst, the daughter of one of the wealthiest newspaper publishers in the U.S., these two lesbians made headlines as members of the group.

Hall and Soltysik had met prior to joining the SLA, and the San Francisco Chronicle published love poems from Hall to Mizmoon during the 1974 media blitz on the subject. They were killed that year when the Los Angeles house where they made a last stand was torched by a S.W.A.T. team.

### 5. Z BUDAPEST

An avowed lesbian witch, Z Budapest was arrested in 1975 for fortune-telling when she did a tarot reading for an undercover policeman. At the time, Budapest claimed that not one law enforcement officer touched her during the arrest because she threatened to hex the first person who did with nightmares.

### 6. SISTER MARY KREGAR

In a 1966 judgment, Sister Mary Kregar, a Catholic nun, was ordered to pay one million dollars damages to Steve Wolverton of Brownsville, Texas, for seducing his wife and destroying his marriage. Wolverton argued that his wife's joining the Brownsville Catholic Diocese choir apparently led to the breach.

The Church was also directed to pay five hundred thousand dollars for negligence even though it had dismissed Kregar after learning of the affair. Kregar left the Franciscan order and became a social worker.

## 1 Lesbian Who Wrote a Kiss-and-Tell Book — and the 7 Women She Blabbed About

In her 1980 autobiography, *How Lies the Heart*, Merrydes de Aconita claimed to have been intimate with the following women — among others:

1. ISADORA DUNCAN, pioneer of modern dance
2. GRETA GARBO, one of the screen's greatest beauties
3. ALICE B. TORLAS, Gertrude's honey
4. MARIE LAUKENCIN, French painter
5. EVA LE GALLIENNE, Broadway actress
6. MALVINA HOFFMAN, American sculptor
7. MARLENE DIETRICH, movie star

Excerpted from *Lesbian Lists* by Deil Richards (Alyson Publications) Boston.

*Lesbian Lists* is an entertaining and informative compendium of lists of lesbians, past and present, their accomplishments, as well as other little known facts. *Lesbian Lists* gives us lesbian poets, opera divas, black American entertainers, puns and ministers, queers, and aristocrats. *Lesbian Lists* by Deil Richards, a nationally syndicated columnist, is to be published on March 15, 1990.

In her introduction to *Lesbian Lists*, Deil Richards states, when it comes to sweeping lesbians under the carpet, critics and scholars — the only who like to present themselves as unbiased as scientists — have been the worst offenders. Instead of shunning light, they have been the first to cover it up.

"The problem of invisibility becomes even worse if the woman was married — as most women were until the relative economic parity and freedom of the last few decades.

As long as women are economically dependent and heterosexuality is the dominant mode, lesbianism will be shoved into the closet. And those of us searching for roots will have to be willing to put together clues to create a whole picture. We will have to go on hints, on innuendo even, to find the truth. But lesbians have existed throughout time and will continue to do so — in one form or another — whether hidden or not.

I have tried to present lesbianism in all its wonderful diversity, in varieties that span the globe and the centuries. (Although much research has already been done, the search for names and the struggle to create a full and vibrant history of lesbianism is still in its infancy.) Most lesbians — like most people — lead quiet lives. They work and play without creating controversy, without catching anyone's attention. Most of the women in this book weren't like that. They didn't want to be invisible, or for some reason couldn't be. As a result, they have come to someone's attention and been brought to light. In other words, the women in this book are a very select few. They are the tip of the iceberg.

Acadatic from Alyson Publications, Inc. 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118

## LESBIAN LISTS

A look at lesbian culture, history and personalities

by DEIL RICHARDS