

V O L I

N O. VII

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



The New Voice

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Welcome Back Students

Gay Student Life in Omaha

There are well over a dozen Institutes of Higher Education in metropolitan Omaha. Most cater to specific interests--trades, nursing, cosmetology, etc. A few are community colleges. But two are universities--Creighton, and University of Nebraska-Omaha. Apparently, the only organized activities for gay students are based at Creighton and UN-O.

What Creighton University offers is its on-campus church (or at least the basement there) for the monthly meetings of Dignity, the local organization for gay and lesbian Catholic persons and their friends. There appears to be no other organized gay activities on campus, which may be logical as Creighton is a Catholic institution.

So that leaves us UN-O, and a fellow named Tom Cristo.

The UN-O Gay and Lesbian Support group had existed twice in the past. Each time, according to Cristo, it failed . . . basically because UN-O is a very apolitical place. UN-O is a place to go for classes, not to live. It's a commuter campus, so students don't feel as much a part of it as a campus with dormitories.

In the fall of 1983, Cristo felt there was a need for the group to reform. He envisioned it as a place to share experiences, such as coming out. So he personally filled out the paperwork to have it reinstated as a recognized student organization. The UN-O Student Senate approved it, and last fall the UN-O Gay and Lesbian Support Group was reborn.

Last academic year, the group gave a presentation to the UN-O Human Sexuality class. They viewed a video from PBS, The Word Is Out. They were the subject of a story in UN-O's campus newspaper, The Gateway. They showed the movie Berserk on campus. And they received no harassment.

In fact, the only negative reaction which the UN-O group seemed to get was when they approached the Student Senate for permission to use Berserk as a fundraiser. In November of 1983, the question came up as part of a blanket approval for student organizations. However, one Student Senator, Steve Hofmaier, questioned this particular grant. According to The Gateway, Hofmaier said, "I think it's kind of sickening that there is such an organization," and he attempted to have the petitions by various groups voted on separately. That motion failed, and all were approved.

According to Cristo, that helped give the UN-O Gay & Lesbian Support Group new determination.

Tom Cristo has wondered lately if his energies could be better used on some other service or for the gay and lesbian community. Nevertheless, the group's first monthly meeting for the upcoming academic year will be Tuesday evening, September 11. For time and location, phone the UN-O Women's Resource Center, 554-2730, or Cristo at 556-2355. Anyone interested--UN-O student or not--is welcome to attend. The program will include a video from the America Undercover Series on the lives of gay and lesbian people.

Tom Cristo is a UN-O senior from Washington County. He is majoring in Education. Cristo invites anyone to attend their meetings; they often have students from Creighton in attendance.

--Gary

UNL-Gay/Lesbian Student Association sets Plans

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Gay/Lesbian Student Association (GLSA) is planning an organizational meeting the weekend of September 8th.

GLSA has been helping UNL students to better understand their sexuality, promote cooperation, and establish a sense of community among gay men and lesbians. A gay/lesbian university organization has been at UNL for over ten years.

For more information, contact Jay L. Allen, UNL-Student Group, P.O. Box 30694, Lincoln, NE., 68503, or write GLSA, Box 222, Nebraska Union, The University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE., 68588, or stop by the GLSA office at 345-17 in the Nebraska Union.

Nebraska Wesleyan Support Group

The Gay/Lesbian Support Group at Nebraska Wesleyan University provides an opportunity for lesbians and gay men to share concerns and experiences in a safe, supportive environment. Topics for discussion will be determined by the group, and outside speakers and resources will be utilized. The group meets weekly and is not limited to Wesleyan students. For further information, call Prof. Mary Smith, Nebraska Wesleyan University, 466-2371, ext. 220.



TO THE EDITOR:

I would like to use the columns of your fine publication to extend my thanks to the many brothers and sisters of the community who extended their expressions of support and understanding to me in the recent and sudden, untimely death of my oldest son.

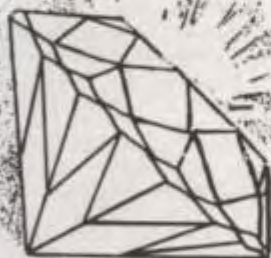
May God bless you all.

--Gerry O.

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Our Turn

Comments and Opinions from The New Voice staff

AN OPEN LETTER

To the Wimmin of the Community:

When Larry Wiseblood asked me if I would be interested in joining The New Voice as an Associate Editor (for Wimmin's Issues), I wondered what I have to offer. I had been reading The New Voice, and I was concerned about a recent editorial on pornography; as a woman, my interest in wimmin's issues is based on personal concern and experience. However, my ability to express these shared interests has not been tested.

I also had to examine my principles. I will not allow myself to be involved in situations where I serve only as a token--be it as a woman or a lesbian. I will not compromise myself under circumstances in which I believe my stand is correct. I am devoted to the liberation of all wimmin and to exposing the inequities we all suffer. I also hope that someday men and wimmin, gay and straight, can live together as mutual beings.

I am very much like everyone else on the staff: I am in no way a professional at this business. I have a degree in English and some experience in writing, but my only real asset here might be my desire to make The New Voice a publication for gays and lesbians. The other staff members are willing to learn from past experiences, listen to the community, and incorporate energy and effort. I am going to join them in this effort, but I need to hear from the wimmin in the community. I cannot and will not attempt to speak for all of us; therefore, I am asking you to make a contribution: your ideas, comments, and concerns. The November issue of The New Voice will focus entirely on wimmin's issues and issues of the wimmin's community. I need your contributions (articles, poetry, etc.) if we want this issue to reflect our interests.

I want The New Voice to be our voice too.

Anita Freeman

People, it is time for us to face reality. The New Voice (OUR publication), is very proud to state that we are growing with each and every issue. In fact, we have gone from our original 12-page issue in March of this year, to 50-plus pages in our August issue. We had received a lot of support from Omaha and consequently expanded our coverage. We realized that a joint effort between the 2 major cities of Nebraska could better serve the gay/lesbian community of the state. Thus, The New Voice of Lincoln became The New Voice of Nebraska. Through this growth, we have found that in order to distribute effectively to the community, we need to make a few changes. The cost of mailing The New Voice to our

subscribers has gone from approximately 35 to 55 cents per issue. Our staff has had to make the decision to either raise the price of a subscription, lower the number of issues we publish and distribute free of charge to the community, seek financial support to cover additional costs, or compromise to satisfy as many people as we possibly can.

We came to the conclusion that subscription rates will have to be raised to cover the increased cost of mailing, the number of copies published would not be decreased and due to our current legal battle, all funds contributed shall be used to maintain our right to publish under our name, The New Voice of Nebraska.

In order to compromise, we will not raise the subscription rate until October 1, 1984. YOU now have the chance to subscribe at what is the very reasonable rate of \$6.00 for a one-year subscription. As of October 1, subscription rates will be raised to \$10.00.

The advantages are that subscribers always receive EVERY issue within one week from the day it comes off the press. New subscribers also receive one free classified ad of 20 words or less.

We appreciate the community and want to maintain our position as THE NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA. Remember that we are your magazine and you are our most valuable asset.

--Tim K.

BY RANDY JULER

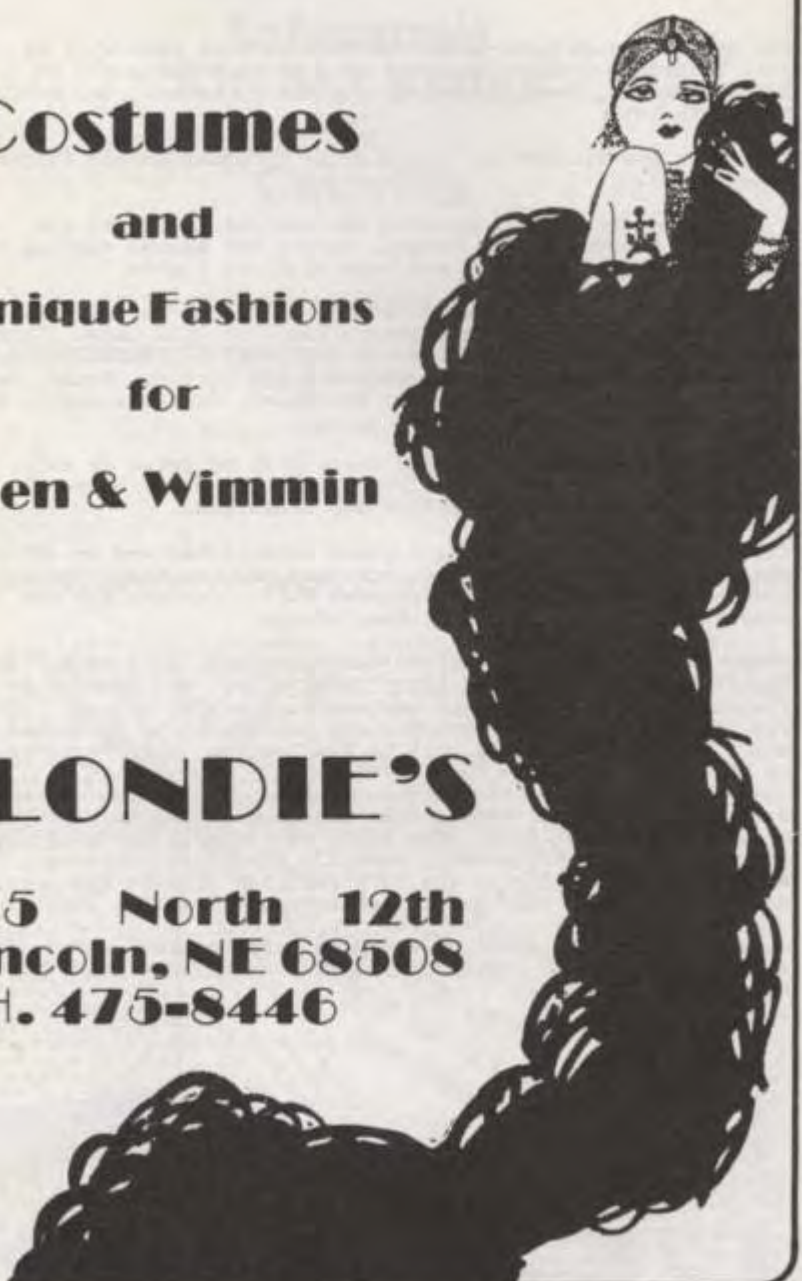


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EVENTS - GLIS Sponsors Annual Book Fair

The second annual Alternative Lifestyles Book Fair will be held Saturday, October 20, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., and on Sunday, the 27, from 12 noon to 7 p.m. at Commonplace, UMHC, 333 North 14th.

This is a benefit for the Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line (GLIS).

A first peek-tease will be held the weekend before at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, during the annual meeting of the Lincoln Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights.

Nebraska Bookstore is supplying the books from an extensive list compiled by Rodney Life and Andrew Rust for GLIS Line. There will be a wide range of primarily gay/lesbian literature, including: health, history, coming out, American gay history, humor, religion, and science fiction, as well as mysteries, fiction, plays, and calendars.

Life and Rust pointed out that there will be twice as many selections as last year's fair and that an extensive search to find quality lesbian literature was undertaken.

There were problems getting a place established and an office was turned down by one place, but they did say that they were pleased to have Commonplace support GLIS. Commonplace has long supported the gay community, they added.

Asked about Nebraska Bookstore's involvement, Rust said, "Nebraska Bookstore is very excited about doing this," and added that "they /Nebraska Bookstore? put no restrictions on the orders." The books will be classified into groups, and there will be a trained, knowing staff to help. Reorders will be available in the event that any of the books sell out.

Both Life and Rust stressed that now is the time to save your money for the Book Fair. The books offered will be good gay/lesbian literature that people can't normally find in bookstores. They also added that going to the Book Fair can relieve the tension and put people at ease about purchasing gay/lesbian literature.

Anyone interested in volunteering to help may call Andrew Rust at 475-1378 or call the GLIS Line at 475-4697 and leave your name and phone number.

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Board-Walk Announces

The Board Walk has scheduled a gala celebration for Thursday, September 20, in honor of their grand opening as Lincoln's first gay-owned gay bar.

"Tell everybody, tell the whole gay community that we want them to come to our party," beamed co-owner Phil Hogan. There will be door prizes and lots of champagne "to show how good we feel about our opening."

On August 6, City Council approved both a liquor license for the bar and a managerial license for Michael Maguire with no mention of the fact that it is a gay bar. The 7-0 council vote means approval by the State Liquor Control Board is virtually assured.

--Mel Dahl

Board Walk co-owner Phil Hogan has asked bar patrons to ignore the fundamentalists who have been passing out anti-gay literature in front of the bar Saturday nights. Pointing out that these types thrive on attention, Hogan has asked his patrons to simply pretend they are invisible.

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accessories

The New Voice Wins Lawsuit

The New Voice magazine won a major victory on August 23, when Judge Jeffre Chevuvront denied an injunction sought by William F. Bryant, publisher of The Voice News of Southern Lancaster County, a small weekly newspaper based in Hickman.

Judge Chevuvront's decision was based on several factors outlined in his ruling. The defendant Larry Wiseblood testified that those who advertise in and subscribe to The New Voice of Nebraska know that the magazine is gay-oriented and that to the best of his knowledge, no advertiser or subscriber has ever confused their magazine with the paper published by the plaintiff. The Voice News' managing editor, William F. Bryant, testified that there is a possibility of confusing the two publications because of the similarity in the names, and that the public might believe that there is a connection between the two. Further, identification of the plaintiff's paper with the gay rights movement would have a negative effect on the publication. Judge Chevuvront stated that there was no evidence of actual confusion introduced at the hearing.

Preliminary injunctions are issued only upon a clear showing of probable success on the merits and possible irreparable injury to the party or sufficiently serious questions going to the merits of the case which are fair grounds for litigation and a balancing of hardships which tips decidedly in favor of the party requesting the relief.

Although one is a weekly newspaper and the other a monthly magazine, both are news publications of general circulation, albeit aimed at divergent societal groups. There is a slight overlap of trade areas, particularly in Lincoln, although the main trade areas of each publication is separate. In actuality, it is unlikely that the parties are in competition with respect to their subscribers or readers. They may be in competition with regard to advertisers which account for a substantial percentage of the plaintiff's revenue. Certainly, there is a phonetic similarity between the two names, "The Voice News of Southern Lancaster County" and "The New Voice." Usually, the names and the publications are quite distinct. The plaintiff has shown neither a significant distinctiveness in its use of the name nor use over a sufficient period of time.

The ultimate question is whether there is a reasonable likelihood of confusion among the customers served by these publications and the public generally. The critical words here are "voice," "new," and the matter of usage. As such, it is much more difficult to establish the exclusive right to their use. The plaintiff has shown neither a significant distinctiveness in its use of the name nor use over a sufficient period of time.

Under all of the circumstances, the court does not believe that the plaintiff has met its burden of proving that there is a likelihood of confusion in names sufficient to warrant the issuance of a temporary injunction. On balance, and upon a review of a number of cases involving similar trade names, this case, at this stage, does not evidence a probability that the plaintiff would succeed. It may be possible to sustain this burden of proof with additional evidence; however it has not been done at this time. Thus read several segments of the ruling.

A Pastoral Chat

One of the questions I am asked frequently in phone calls or in being introduced as pastor of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha is, "What kind of a church is MCC?" Knowing that there are a variety of questions embodied in that one question, my initial response is that we are a Christian church.

We are not a non-denominational church because the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches is a denomination with over 200 congregations in nine countries at present. We are not an interdenominational church for the same reason, although we blend the traditions, liturgies, etc., of many other denominations.

It has been said that MCC is eucharistic, evangelical, and ecumenical: Eucharistic in that we offer the sacrament of Holy Communion every Sunday at both services; Evangelical in that we also emphasize the preaching of God's word; Ecumenical in that potpourri of traditions that are found in our worship services.

MCC is trinitarian in its statement of faith. Our brief statement of faith contains main-line Christian doctrine.

One thing, however, that sets us apart from many churches is what we believe about love. We believe that God's love is for all people, that God does not discriminate among people on the basis of such things as skin color, age, physical abilities or sexuality. We are a church family that welcomes all people.

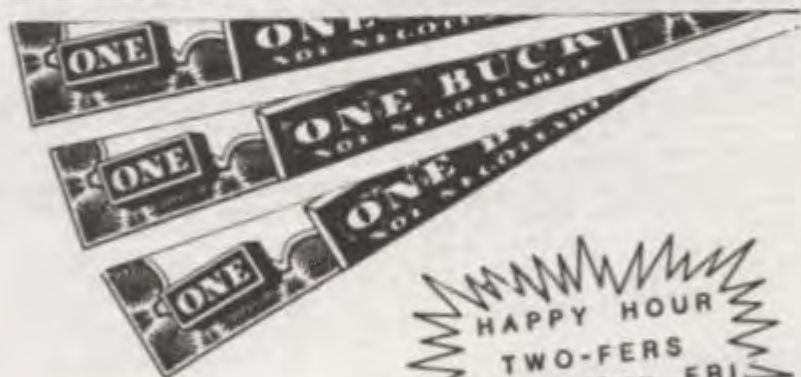
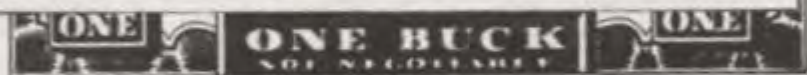
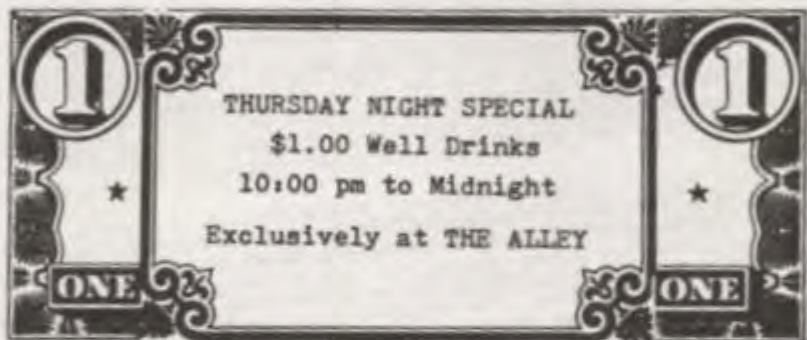
We are not a GAY church; we are a Christian church, but if you are a gay man or a lesbian woman who does not know that God loves you, MCC is a good place to learn that truth.

On October 7, we will be celebrating the anniversary of the founding of UFMCC 16 years ago. MCC Omaha will be celebrating the future as we join with many other MCC's in presenting our founder, the Rev. Elder Troy Perry, in a taped message. Rev. Perry is a dynamic preacher, and we hope you will make it a point to worship with us on that Sunday. You are always welcome. Services are at 10:30 a.m. and at 7:00 p.m. at #20 South 24th St., Omaha.

--Pastor Jan

THE ALLEY

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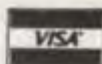


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In Good Company

At times, I have wondered how many Bible-thumping fanatics have clutched their King James version to their breasts and denounced homosexuality--not knowing that King James himself was gay.

I remember one of my history teachers introducing us to James I and stammering that James ". . . was . . . well, misunderstood." Then he talked about James' troubled parents, of James being more Scottish and French than English, and finally about the fact that James was gay. Until he said the electric word "gay," the class had been staring either out in space or out the window, but that word sharpened their pencils, and everyone was suddenly taking notes.

James has received poor press in the history books--and not because of his gayness--but simply because he followed Elizabeth to the throne of England. Elizabeth was not as easy act to follow. Most of the English people could not remember when Elizabeth had not been queen. She was power with a capital "P." In contrast, James was nice. He was quiet. He compromised. He was not rash and bold; he was not an aggressive macho type. He preferred peace to carving out yet another piece of the world for England.

It is true that James carried the taint of his family to the throne. His mother was Mary, Queen of Scots, who riled Elizabeth, but who did her best to govern her country. His father was one of the most handsome French men ever seen in Scotland; the portraits of him show him sporting elaborate codpieces and smiling like he was headed for Hollywood stardom. Unfortunately, one night, there was an explosion in his house, and the bodies of Darnley and his bed partner were picked up outside the house. His bed partner was not Mary. It was their page boy. James' late, handsome father was only twenty-one.

James was crowned when he was a year old. He was brought to the Scottish parliament when he was 5 and was annoyed by a hole in the tablecloth. Great things were prophesied for him. He became learned in the classics, in theology, and in manners and diplomacy. He learned from his father's example not to trust the "lords" who haunted his presence. Just such lords were responsible for murdering his father and his Italian page boy.

James' flaw, if it may be called that, can be found in his need to be loved. He was known for his deep, insatiable affections, and he was constantly frustrated because he was as homely as his father was handsome.

In particular, James was fond of a French cousin who visited Scotland; Esme, the cousin, charmed James until James appointed him Lord Chancellor. They did away with Regent Morton, who was a source of much annoyance. And together they ruled--happily ever after--for some time, approximately a year. But there were those who whispered that Esme was secretly trying to advance the Catholic cause when he had sworn to maintain the spirit of Protestantism. Finally, the "whisperers" captured James and forced him to send Esme into exile. On threat of death, James compromised. He was only sixteen, but the love of his life had been torn from him. Soon afterward, Esme died in France, but his heart was embalmed and was sent to James.

Before James was twenty, then, he had learned to play politics, as well as the game of love in dangerous, life-threatening circumstances. He was never again to allow his enemies traitorous power over him. He married Anne of Denmark to satisfy the populace and lived and loved prudently, but he lived on his terms--that is, he lived as a discreet gay man--with a wife--but, foremost, he was king. His fame was never equal to that of Elizabeth. Elizabeth, however, is remembered as the Virgin Queen; she never tasted the heights that James did.

And about that Bible? It was translated in accord with the Hampton Court Conference and was dedicated to the likable, respected James I of England, who reigned until 1624, an era which marked the beginnings of English colonization in North America.

Remember Jamestown, Virginia? 10 to 1 says you know more now about its namesake than your fifth grade history teacher.

-- Carey

Personal Profiles - David Landis

He is the state senator who is one of the most supportive, if not the most supportive, of gay issues than any other senator.

He is the man who helped organize the visit of the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus two years ago, and after the performance was over, went home to his wife, Melodee, and two children, Matt and Missy, whom he loves very much.

He is the actor who plays a young priest in the play Mass Appeal who staunchly defends the gay relationship of two seminarians, yet holds to the church's tradition.

Above all, he is the warm, charming gentleman who entered politics almost by accident, but appears to be a future force to be reckoned with in the Unicameral.

The son of a lawyer and insurance executive, David Landis was born in Lincoln 35 years ago. At age 22, he was elected to his first public office--the Soil and Conservation Board. Though he himself is a licensed attorney, he has chosen not to practice largely because of a sense of personal responsibility for the outcome of a case. ("At least with 49 senators a bad outcome is not necessarily yours.")

With this moderate-to-conservative background, Landis became aware of the humanity of gay people "because I knew so many warm, caring human beings who happened to be gay." His current commitment to gay and lesbian civil rights is based on a firm conviction that all people are entitled to basic civil rights, and gay people are no different than anybody else.

While admitting that in Nebraska, support for gay civil rights could become a political liability, particularly in light of Charles Thone's attempt to portray Governor Kerrey as a homosexual because of Kerrey's support for gay civil rights, Landis remains convinced that his position on gay civil rights is the proper one, so "I just have to gulp and take my chances." That gamble didn't pay too shabbily last time around; he won his last bid for re-election by a 3-1 margin, almost the same percentage by which the so-called Gay Rights Referendum was defeated only six months earlier.

He likes his work in the legislature and plans to stay there awhile. It gives him an opportunity to work hard at leaving his mark on Nebraska state government for six months a year, while at the same time leaving him with a private life and a chance to spend time on other things that are important to him: the theater, music, education, and particularly his family.

A final question for the senator: What would your gut-level reaction be if one of your children grew up to be gay? There is a long pause, after which he responds, "Telling a parent that you are gay isn't like telling him that you got an A in Biology. It would certainly be an intense experience, though not necessarily a negative one. No child of mine will ever walk out of my house believing that I do not love him or that he is not welcome because of who or what he is."

--Mel Dahl



Here and There

by Larry Wiseblood

The Berkeley (California) City Council, meeting on July 17, approved a law to extend benefits to domestic partners of all city employees. Berkeley became the first municipality to move toward granting health care and other benefits to live-in lovers, including gay men and lesbians. It is similar to a law passed by the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1982 and later vetoed by Mayor Dianne Feinstein.

--ADVOCATE, San Mateo, CA

Claudia Jane Elliott, 38 of Little Rock, Arkansas claimed that she did not know that her husband was a woman, and she was granted an annulment. The bride said she did not realize that her spouse was a woman until two days after the marriage.

--Dallas Voice, TX

The U.S. Supreme Court has paved the way for Timothy Curran, who is gay, to sue the Boy Scouts of America. The would-be troop leader, an Eagle Scout who attends the University of California at Berkeley, began the suit in 1981. It is the first time that the Scouts' anti-gay membership rule has been challenged.

--PATLAR GAZETTE,
Sacramento, CA

A support group is meeting in Ames, Iowa, for married bisexual men. Women who are married to gay or bisexual men are also forming a group. To contact either group, call (515) - 292-4279.

--GLA, Ames, Iowa

Pages from the Past

by Larry Wiseblood

10 YEARS AGO

The Rev. Fred Zydek and his associate submitted their resignations in September 1974, as pastors of the First Metropolitan Church of Nebraska. Their resignations came reportedly after considerable pressure in the community, sparked after MCC-Omaha experienced a sharp decline in membership and attendance. Bob Arthur was appointed to the position of worship coordinator.

Gail's Hit List

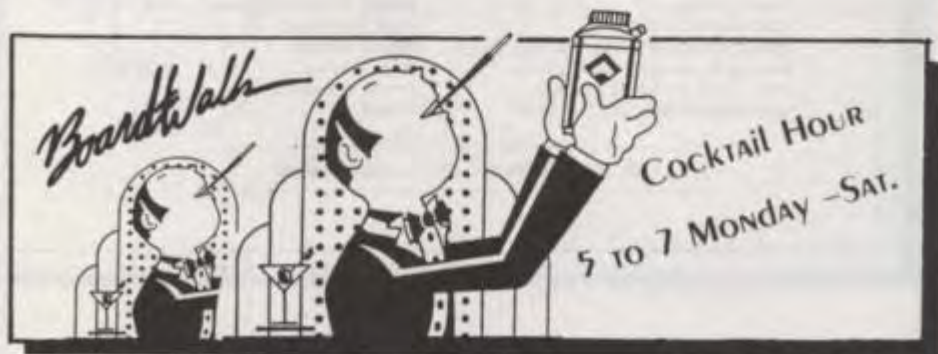
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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Dynamite | Jermaine Jackson |
| 2. When Doves Cry | Prince |
| 3. The Glamorous Life | Sheila E. |
| 4. Let's Go Crazy | Prince |
| 5. Cruel Summer | Bananarama |
| 6. She-Bop | Cyndi Lauper |
| 7. Infatuation | Rod Stewart |
| 8. Black Stations, White Stations | M & M |
| 9. Strut | Sheena Easton |
| 10. Right by your Side | Eurythmics |
| 11. Jump | Pointer Sisters |
| 12. Breathless | Richard James Burgess |
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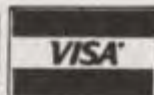
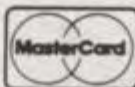


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Anti-Gay Unknowns Distribute "Tracks"

When my four siblings and I were growing up, we used to play a game called "Daddy likes me more than he likes you." It was a fairly simple game and went something like this:

"Daddy gave me a cookie but he didn't give you one. Nyah, nyah, nyah, nyah!" This game usually ended in tears and angry words, and nobody ever really won at it, least of all daddy.

For three weeks, as this goes to press, three charming young men (all right, so I have no taste; three young men) have been playing a variation of this game outside the Board Walk. Their version goes something like this: "God likes us better than he likes you because you are a bunch of fairies." Armed with copies of Wounded Children, a tract which alleges that gay people have demons sitting at their elbows governing their lives from early childhood and that homosexuality is caused by early exposure to pornography, masturbation, and bad sexual experiences with the opposite sex, they have been preaching their gospel that gay people will all someday be burnt offerings.

They decline to state their church affiliation, but indicated that they have also been passing out literature at Valentino's and the Douglas Theater. (Perhaps Valentino's is a good place to preach to sinners since the Bible condemns gluttony in no uncertain terms. In fact, the leader of the group would do well to take personally what the Bible says about gluttony.)

Among the delightfully stupid quotations they gave me:

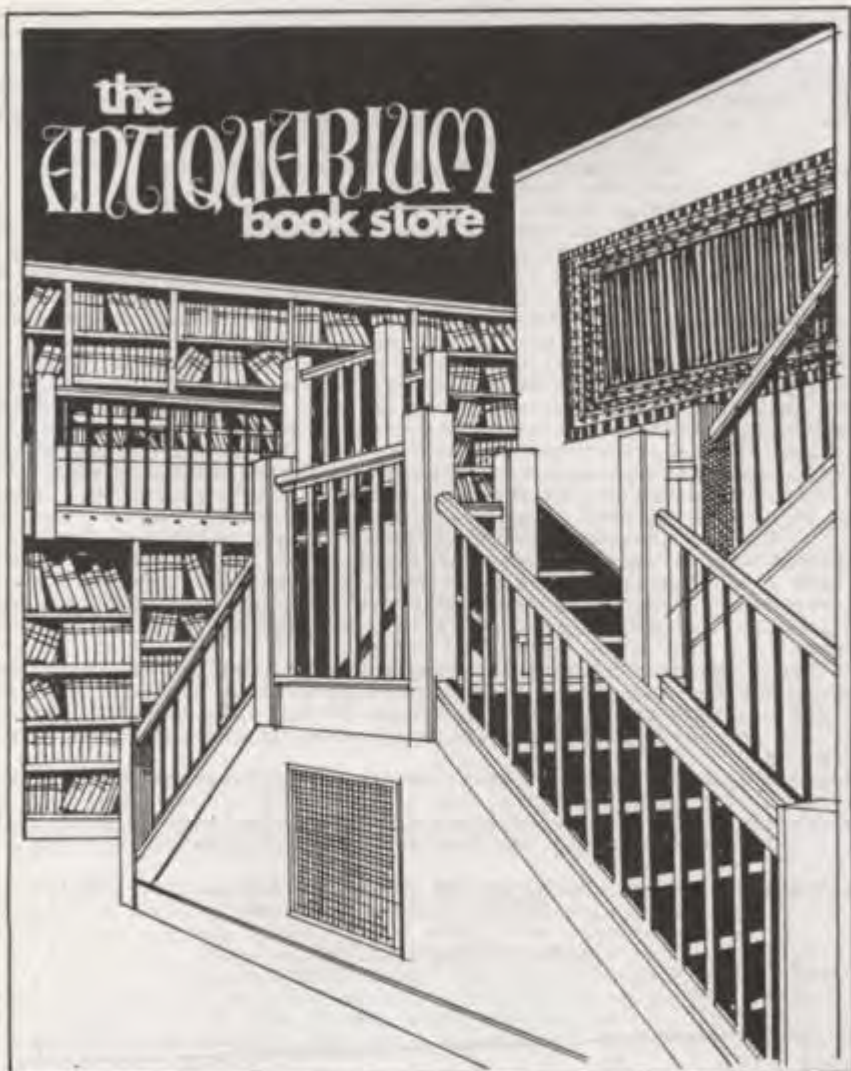
"I have never lusted after anybody since I found Jesus, not even my wife."

"As far as God is concerned, homosexuality is the same as murder, witchcraft, child molesting, and idolotry."

They also cited Paul Cameron (and one must admit that compared with Wounded Children, Cameron does look almost scholarly) as a resource. Contacted by your reporter, Cameron pled ignorance concerning the three evangelists. (Not that there is nothing else concerning which Cameron ought to plead ignorance, mind you, but the three evangelists were the subject under discussion.) Cameron said that he would prefer that people have his permission before they use his name, but "when one is a public figure like I am," these things happen.

As the evening drew to a close, the group leader asserted that there is no such thing as a happy homosexual and declined to shake hands with two happy homosexuals who happened to be standing within earshot. The three then raised their hands in blessing over the beer garden and left. I suppose that if the other gay bars in town ever fold, it will be because the Board Walk received a blessing. May God bless us all by preserving us in this day of ignorance.

--Mel Dahl



Dedicated to an appreciation of Books, Art, coffee and Conversation

1215 HARNEY STREET

Astrology — Libra

A VIEW FROM THE STARS

LIBRA -- the Scales
September 22-October 21

by
Phoenix Rising

Element: Air
Ruling Planet: Venus

Key Words: I Balance
Mode of Expression:
Cardinal

Life Task: To balance the (material) world of "reality" and the (non-physical) world of the spirit... To go from the "me" consciousness of previous signs to the "we" consciousness of relatedness ...Through experiences of full cooperation and unity.

Venus here grants great charm, grace of expression and a strong desire for approval and popularity. An air sign, Libra is predominantly mental and requires mental as well as social stimulation. Poised half-way between strictly personal (exemplified by Aries) and impersonal/spiritual (Pisces), Libra deals with relationships and relatedness--other people and relationships are very important in the life. In relationships, there is great charm, sweetness and warmth; many, perhaps most, Libras would be surprised to observe how very dominating and self-willed they are underneath. The "iron hand in a velvet glove" is a very Libran phenomenon.

As Libras usually see both sides of an issue (clearly unless emotionally involved, and somewhat then), it is difficult for them to take sides (unless one side is heavily weighted) or to make clear-cut decisions. Libras work to strike a balance mentally and emotionally, though achievement of this aim for any length of time is rare.

Very diplomatic, with a strong sense of justice, the level of evolution a Libra has reached can, to some extent, be measured by whether the individual works for "peace at any price" (unfair to self and others), or is uncompromising where ethics/principles are concerned.

Libra needs a harmonious atmosphere or illness can result.

Negatives: Indecisive, diplomatic (to the point of dishonesty), dominating, self-willed, manipulative.

Positives: Great charm, social presence, diplomatic, gracious, friendly, strong sense of justice.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Libra!

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Television Review — Brothers

Brothers is a new series on Showtime Pay Cable TV. Its strongest point is the strength of the writing. It should be strong . . . the writers come from such previous hits as The Mary Tyler Moore Show, Cheers, and Taxi.

The acting varies from person to person, but the ensemble does work well together. Dialogue is very fast-paced, and one-liners and "comebacks" are fired fast and furiously.

So what makes this program of particular interest to the gay and lesbian community? Brothers involves the lives of three brothers, the youngest of whom is gay. The first episode centered around his coming out to the other two brothers. The second episode (the last available one to view before deadline) and, one assumes, future episodes build upon this theme.

When the humor works--and make no mistake, this is a comedy--it works very well. Many of the jokes are either blatantly or subtly about homosexuality.

Paul Regina plays Cliff, the gay brother. He plays him fairly butch--probably the best way to portray this particular character in his situation. Robert Walden is the middle brother, Joe. You may remember him as Rossi in Lou Grant. Brandon Maggart is the older brother, Lou, who has the hardest time dealing with Cliff's gayness. The other regular lead is Philip Charles MacKenzie, who plays Donald. Donald is rather . . . well . . . flamboyant. Donald gets the most laughs. And Donald is the one bittersweet element I find in Brothers.

There is nothing wrong with a gay person leaning towards the effeminate. The problem, in this reviewer's opinion, is that many of the straight viewing audience will key in on Donald as the "average gay." He hits many of the stereotypes on the mark.

The viewer may or may not see the struggle Cliff is going through. Or the struggles his brothers are going through, trying to accept Cliff in their own ways. But you can't miss Donald. Donald is the gay version of Lucy on stilts . . . of Klinger in a dress.

Great lines are the high point of Brothers. Joe is talking to Donald and says, "This gay stuff . . . it's all Greek to me." Donald does a great "take." Joe asks, "How does it work?" Donald retorts, "Very well, thank you." Someone refers to gays as "fairies." Donald shoots back, "We prefer 'hobgoblin'." Such lines remind this reviewer of one of Jody's lines on Soap. When being questioned on the witness stand, he was asked, "Are you a practicing homosexual?" And Jody replied, "I don't have to practice . . . I'm very good at it."

So many lines are used as--pardon the expression--straight lines for the next actor to play off. Such rapid-fire humor has, in the past, made great television.

One or more of the commercial networks thought Brothers was too advanced for 1984 television, so Showtime picked it up. If you have cable and Showtime, do try it. Brothers is currently on weekly, Thursdays at 9 p.m. and repeated at various times through the week.

--Gary

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la femme*

*Spirits
and
Atmosphere*



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PHONE: 474-3390----- Father David,

Counseling / Sacraments

River City Mixed Chorus Organizes

Great cities like San Francisco, Minneapolis-St. Paul, and Chicago have gay and lesbian choruses. There's no reason why Omaha isn't great enough for one, too!

That's one personal thought from a founding member of the new River City Mixed Chorus. The Chorus is planning a meeting for interested new members Monday, September 24, at 7:30 p.m., at the Unitarian First Church of Omaha, 3114 Harney.

The spark that originally set off the Chorus was a trek to Des Moines last spring to hear an on-the-road performance by the Twin Cities Men's Chorus of Minneapolis. That experience touched several Nebraskans deeply. Deeply enough to consider an attempt at bringing T.C.M.C. to Omaha or Lincoln in 1985, and also an attempt at starting a local chorus.

After a less organized start, a small group of Omaha singers attended several months of rehearsals, presented two benefit shows in an Omaha bar and a Good Friday program in MCC Omaha, and then started drifting apart. An invitation to sing at the Imperial Court Coronation had to be turned down, because, at the time, the group was not prepared to sing again.

But, if at first you don't succeed . . .

In July of 1984, a core group of five members once again met to reform the Chorus. This time, they decided to organize first, then assemble singers, then sing. The River City Mixed Chorus emerged. Planning has included forming a founding Board of Directors, choosing a music director, finding a rehearsal space, and announcing the first general meeting--September 24, 1984.

The River City Mixed Chorus is a volunteer community chorus, organized to provide the opportunity for gay and gay-sensitive men and women to sing together. The primary purpose of the Chorus is musical excellence in performance.

For those living in Omaha (or within a reasonable distance to travel), there are openings for singers in all vocal ranges. For those who cannot sing, there will be a "Friends" support group.

If you're planning on attending the September 24 meeting, a phone call is appreciated. Or, call for more information.
345-0939. 341-8429. 345-5797. (All are Omaha numbers.)

Therapeutic Community Offers Health & Strength

When most people hear the word "therapeutic," they think of healing and strengthening. A therapeutic community then would be a community which provides health and strength.

According to Therapeutic Community facilitator Pat Wall, that is precisely the goal of the Therapeutic Community. The gay and lesbian community certainly has its fair share of less than healthy individuals, and even those who are relatively healthy (emotional health is, after all, a relative term) are in need of continued growth and support.

Meeting every Monday night in Wall's apartment, the group seeks to identify the root causes of behavior, needs that the individual members may have that particular evening, and anything else that may be pertinent to the well-being of the group as a whole or any member individually. Using transactional awareness (TA) as a modality, the group seeks to identify what is happening internally and in the interpersonal dealings of one person with another. This method can be used to resolve issues as relatively minor as gossip or as major as suicide.

Mental health and wellness, like nutrition, are something that must be maintained, according to Wall. It is therefore imperative that people who wish to be healthy surround themselves with others who will assist them in things like self-awareness, positive strokes, and responsible venting of emotions.

The Therapeutic Community meets every Monday evening at 7:30. Persons interested should call Pat Wall at 474-2213.

--Mel Dahl

GLIS Receives Grant

The Nebraska Gay/Lesbian Information-Support Line has recently received a first-year operational grant for \$3,300.00 from the Chicago Resource Center.

Money raised from fund raising activities in 1984 will be used for second-year expenses.

The Chicago Resource Center is a foundation that is concerned with gay and lesbian issues, and in 1982, it funded two conferences in Nebraska, one in Omaha and one in Kearney, for pastors on counseling gay and lesbian people.

Ever hear of a Printing Company That's Open Until Midnight?



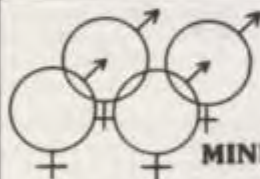
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The advertisement for Maxwells is enclosed in a decorative border with ornate corner flourishes. The logo features the name 'Maxwells' in a large, stylized script font, with 'Authentic French Baking' written in a smaller, italicized serif font below it. The menu items are listed in a clean, sans-serif font.

Values Discussed at GLIS Forum

by Randall Barron

Carolann Arrants, A.P.C. Counselor at the Independence Center spoke July 18th at a pot luck picnic at Antelope Park. She spoke to the Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line (GLISL) and others who chose to attend.

She addressed the issue of Sexual Values vs. Guilt. She stated that "if behavior and values are in conflict, this will produce guilt." In the gay culture, when a gay individual engages in behavior of having multiple sex partners, and this is in conflict with his value system, it will elicit guilt.

GLISL will sponsor more speakers in the near future.

Open Door Ministry

Father David of The Open Door Ministry has been ordained a Presbyterian in the Eastern Orthodox Church. Father David was ordained August 1st and his expanded duties are those of any priest. He has the authority to hear confessions, perform marriages, conduct funerals, and consecrate masses.

Father David said of The Open Door Ministry that it is, "A place and a time that /gays/ can always go to and worship." He added that the turnout is surprisingly good among the community.

Masses are traditional Catholic and are in English. The Open Door Ministry also provides free counselling.

For more information, please call The Open Door Ministry at 474-3390. Mass is at 6:00 p.m. on Saturdays at The Open Door Ministry, 535 F Street, Lincoln.

Wish List —

The New Voice magazine needs many items to be a more successful publication. Donations of items will be acknowledged in the magazine. Help us make dreams come true!

Telephone answering machine
Photocopier
Typesetting Computer
Miscellaneous office supplies
Postage meter
File cabinets

Electric typewriters
Office space
Stationery, envelopes
Reporters, including more women
Staff photographer
Layout table

M.C.C. Coming to Lincoln

Metropolitan Community Church of Lincoln will hold its first meeting on Thursday, September 13, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be half worship and half organizational meeting.

Serving as worship coordinator of MCC Lincoln will be Mel Dahl. Dahl, an ex-seminarian who was expelled from Bible School because of his sexual orientation, says he is excited about the new work:

"There are thousands of gay people out there who have been told by the established churches that God hates them because of who they are. The simple truth is that when Jesus said, 'Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest,' he did not breathe a word about only heterosexuals being welcome."

A decision to launch a Metropolitan Community Church in Lincoln was made at a meeting in Omaha, August 5, between Dahl, Howard Gunn, and the Reverend Bonnie Daniel, District Coordinator for MCC. Gunn had been serving as music director at MCC Omaha, but will now be concentrating his efforts at helping organize MCC Lincoln. Further discussions are expected at a District Conference for Metropolitan Community Church to be held Labor Day weekend in Kansas City.

Metropolitan Community Church started in 1968 as the result of an advertisement placed in The Advocate by Troy Perry, a Pentecostal minister who had been defrocked by his church for being gay. Perry, author of The Lord Is My Shepherd and He Knows I'm Gay, saw a need in the gay and lesbian communities not being met by the established churches. Today, MCC has nearly 200 congregations in nine countries, including underground work in South Africa.

Persons interested in attending MCC or needing further information should call 464-0902 evenings.

--John Mark Roberts

An open letter to the organizations of the gay/lesbian community of Nebraska:

We know you are out there, and we at The New Voice would like to know more about you. We want to share your knowledge with all of the community, but are not always able to do so. We need your help in getting out information about your events, meetings, and happenings.

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

Tom P.

*"To win the fight,
We have to unite."*

*As a result of our
legal battle,
we are now seeking
the financial support
of the gay/lesbian
community of Nebraska.*

*Please, help us by
attending some of
our upcoming fund-
raisets.*

*Contributions can
be sent to:*

*Legal Defense Fund
% The New Voices
P.O. Box 80819
Lincoln, NE - 68501*

A Real Man

All I need is one real man
To kiss me gently or hold my hand
A man who's strong and subtle and wise
A man I can trust, one who never lies
A man that's real and knows how to care
A man that's sensitive and not afraid to share
A man I can trust when I leave him alone
A man who's honest about who's on the phone
A man of power, a man of wealth
With beautiful teeth and in excellent health
A man with a house and a boat and a car
A man who buys drinks when we go to a bar
A man that's funny yet knows when to stop
Who knows how to party but won't drink till he'll drop
A man with talent a man with dreams
Who doesn't wear dresses and never screams
A man that's my size (though I need to lose)
With a wonderful wardrobe and good taste in shoes
A man who's flawless a man with class
Who won't get bitchy or be a pain in the ass
A man who's a man that can honestly say
"I'm a man who is proud of the fact that I am gay !"

-Tim Kuntz

Classifieds

WELCOME BACK, STUDENTS! Jamie and the gang have moved to the Board Walk, 20th & "O."

The Board Walk presents *Dynasty* parties on Wednesdays and Football Saturday Parties 11 a.m., Saturdays.

DEAR THURSDAY BI-GROUP,

Thanks so much for your continuing love and support. Understanding brings acceptance.

Love, Larry & Susan

ARTWORK: Posters, Calligraphy, Programs, Flyers, Etc.
Quality work/ Reasonable rates.
Call: Tim at 435-5973

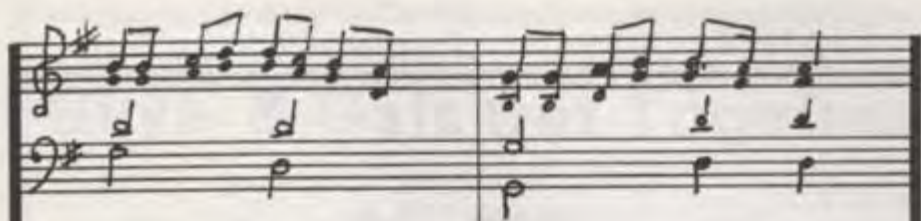
Roommate wanted--to live with gay couple. Responsible, mature individual who likes cats. \$130 mo., includes utilities.
Call: 475-7740

See MASS APPEAL at Howell Theater
with Rex McGraw and David Landis

Subject Matter: Homosexuality and the Catholic Church
Dates: August 31, September 1, 6, 7, and 8
Price: \$4.00 (Benefit for Graduate Students)

Call 472-2073 for reservations.

WANT TO WRESTLE? Write P.O. Box 80733 68501



ANNOUNCING

THE RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

A New Choral Society

MEETING FOR PROSPECTIVE

NEW MEMBERS

♂ All Omaha singers welcome ♀

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 1984

7:30 pm

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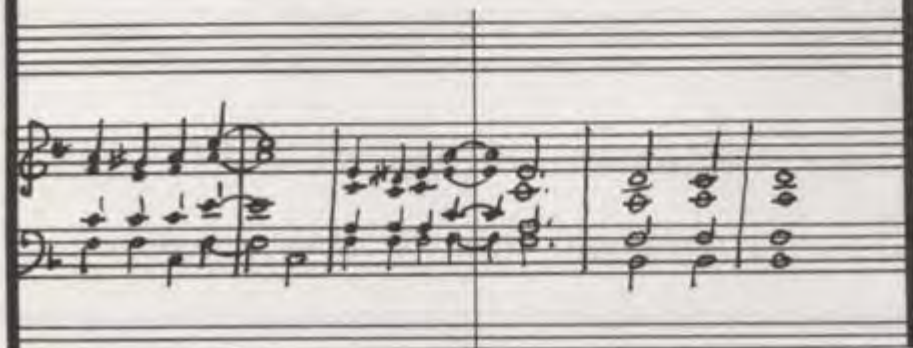
OF OMAHA

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Omaha

If you're planning on attending, a
phone call is appreciated. Or, call
for more information.

345-0939 .. 341-8429 .. 345-5797



T.J.'s Corner

Dear T. J.,

Recently, I got into an argument with a couple of friends. They are both straight and were engaged to be married this fall. Sally and Dan (not their real names) broke up because of his violent temper last spring. A couple of weeks ago, they started seeing each other again. Sally was living with me, and I had told her that if she started going out with him again to stay away from our apartment. A few weeks ago, we agreed that he was not welcome when I was home. Last week, she came home with him. I told her that I did not want him in the house, but she let him in anyway. A terrible argument preceded what eventually became a fight, and Dan hit me. We have not spoken to each other since. I have known Dan for about ten years and Sally for three years. My problem is this: I want to remain friends with them, but have very strong feelings that they were in the wrong. Should I make the first move or wait for them to apologize?

--Name Withheld by Request

Your problem is a very common one that I have experienced before myself. You want their friendship, but are not willing to swallow your pride. Judging from your letter, you are not ready to budge. I suggest that you and your friends plan a get-together with someone that you all feel will be impartial. Approach a mutual friend of yours and ask him or her to set up the time and place. Keep me posted; I'd like to know how things work out for you. Good luck!

Love,

T. J.

If you would like to write me with your personal problems, send correspondence to: "T. J.'s Corner," The New Voice, P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501. All letters will be printed (and are subject to editing) unless specified otherwise. "T. J.'s Corner" and the views expressed therein do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor and/or staff of The New Voice.

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THE OFFICE LOUNGE 1705 "O" St.	474-9298
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New Voice
Benefit Show
at the Boardwalk, Sunday, Sept. 9
Performers and
Hors d'Oeuvres
9:00 PM.

GAY/LESBIAN RESOURCES

OMAHA

BLACK & WHITE MEN TOGETHER (Need contact person, contact NEW VOICE)

DIGNITY OF OMAHA, 345-5637

Providing common experience through Mass and meetings for Catholics who are Lesbian & Gay or their friends. Regular Liturgy each second Sunday of the Month at 7 PM; regular gathering each fourth Sunday of the Month. Call for location.

GAY AND LESBIAN ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 345-9916 WEEKLY MEETINGS:

Fridays, 8:15 pm, Lutheran Medical Center, 3rd floor, open to all

Saturdays, 1:30 pm, Omaha Chapter House, 216 N. 48th, open to all

Sundays, 4:00 pm, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian Church, 1023 N. 40th, men only--please

GAY AND LESBIAN BOWLERS (need contact person, contact NEW VOICE)

GAY MEN'S RAP GROUP 345-2975, MCC Omaha, 420 South 24th St.

Community rap group, combining planned format with general discussion. Other activities planned. Meetings every Monday at 7:30 pm. at MCC Omaha.

GAY PARENTS SUPPORT GROUP 553-2308

Support group for gay persons who have children. Please phone for meeting times and locations.

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBRASKA 455-3701

Omaha meeting first Monday of each month, except when falling on holiday. Phone for location.

MEAT PACKERS (need contact person——contact NEW VOICE)

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 420 So. 24th

Chartered church with Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Sunday worship, 10:30 am and 7:00 pm. Wed. Bible Study, 7:00 pm. Wednesday Praise, Prayer, and Healing, 7:45 pm. Rev. Jan D. Kross, Pastor.

MID CITY CHORUS 345-0939 420 S. 24th

Gays and Lesbians singing together in a social environment. Future performances are possible. Meetings Tues., 7:30 pm at MCC.

PARENTS & FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS 345-2563, P.O. Box 2173, Omaha 68103

No formal organization at this point. Support group for parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians and gay men.

UNO GAY AND LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP 556-2355

Constructive, supportive environment for gays & lesbians. Open to everyone. Monthly meetings on or near UNO Campus. Please call for time and location.

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

Volunteer community chorus for gay — sensitive men and women to sing together. For more information, phone 345-0939 or 341-8429.

WANTED: people to contribute articles for consideration of publication in The New Voice. If it is in good taste and tastefully done, it has a chance. Contact The New Voice, P. O. Box 80819, Lincoln, NE, 68501.

Boardwalk

Grand Opening Celebration
for Lincoln's first and
only Gay **owned**
and operated bar.

Thursday, September 20th at 8 pm



20th & 'O' St. Lincoln, NE PH. (402) 474-9741

LESBIAN/GAY RESOURCES

LINCOLN

GAY/LESBIAN ALCOHOL ANONYMOUS Groups meet weekly. Call 466-5214
LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP, 472-2597.

Informal discussion group for lesbians; all women welcome. Meets weekly. For more information, contact the Women's Resource Center, Room 117 Nebraska Union, Lincoln NE 68508. 472-2597

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

An advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides education presentations, publishes a newsletter and sponsors cultural and political programs.

LINCOLN LEGION OF LESBIANS, Box 30137, Lincoln, NE 68503

A lesbian-feminist collective founded in 1978. Provides a newsletter, confidential referral and support groups for lesbians and sponsors cultural and social programs.

MINISTRY IN HUMAN SEXUALITY, INC., Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501, 476-9913

A non-profit agency which provides counseling, education and supportive action for those seeking growth and understanding in the areas of sexuality and relationships. Contact J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director.

THE NEW VOICE, Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501

Monthly magazine with emphasis on creative literature and promotion of local organizations and activities. Meets the 1st and 2nd Tuesday of each month at Commonsplace UMHE, 333 No. 34th st., Lincoln.

OPEN DOOR MINISTRY, 535 F St., Lincoln, NE 68508, 474-3390

A project of Holy Archangels Monastery to minister specifically to Lincoln's gay and lesbian communities. Weekly Mass on Saturdays at 6 pm. Father David

PARENTS/FRIENDS OF LESBIANS AND GAYS—CORNHUSKER, Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504

A support group for parents, friends and relatives of lesbians and gay men. Meets in the evenings on the forth Tues. 466-1151

SUPPORT GROUP FOR GAY/LESBIAN STUDENTS at Nebr. Wesleyan Univ.

Contact Dr Mary Smith, NWU, 50th & St. Paul, Lincoln, NE 68504, 466-2371

UNL GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION Meets Thurs., 8 pm, 228 Andrews Hall, UNL

PHOENIX RISING, Box 30694, Lincoln, NE 68503

Provide recreational, educational and social services to the homophile community. Opportunities for self improvement of the individual and positive community growth is emphasized.

GAY/LESBIAN INFORMATION AND SUPPORT LINE CALL (402) - 475-4697

AMERICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE FINE ARTS

A non-profit foundation committed to making a positive contribution on behalf of gay men and lesbians to Lincoln's cultural life. Sponsors arts events

COMMUNITY OF GRACE BOX 81645, LINCOLN, NE 68501

An interdenominational worshipping community of lesbians, gays and those associated with us. Meets weekly on Sunday evenings at 7:00 pm.

Gay & Lesbian Volleyball League (Need contact person, contact NEW VOICE)



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