

FEBRUARY

1997

The
New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A

I--I **DO** LOVE YOU! I
NEVER WANTED TO ADMIT
IT BEFORE...

OH,
BATMAN...



OUR TURN: Opinions of New Voice Staff

THE TIME HAS COME.....

By Sharon Van Butsel, Editor

"The time has come," the walrus said, "to talk of many things: of ships and sails and sealing wax, of cabbages and kings."

And with this issue the time has indeed come for us to talk of one thing that will affect the community. This issue marks the end of our 13th year of publication for *The New Voice of Nebraska*. The January issue marked the 9th anniversary of the date that *The New Voice* was published from Omaha and marked the beginning of the 10th year of continuous publication for several of us on the Steering Committee.

You know, ten years is a long time to volunteer with any organization and it is an especially long time to be the driving, directing, do-the-hands-on work people. And, speaking for myself, I'm getting pretty tired as are other members of the Steering Committee. Pat Phalen and Terry Sweeney were the driving force that brought the magazine to Omaha in the first place. I came on board a month or two later and became Editor in February 1988. Dick Brown joined us in May 1988, and Carla Petersen has helped with the magazine ever since she and I first got together in the summer of 1988.

We've come a long way since those early days and have survived many, many traumatic events and setbacks, but we have continued to put out a quality publication each and every month. That's really quite a record: *The New Voice* has not missed a single month of publication since it

began with the March 1984 issue. And you can bet that we are proud of what we've done.

But, the time has come.... Other hands and minds must take over the publication of the magazine. Dick and Pat and Terry and I will be resigning as of the February 1998 issue. That will mark my 10th anniversary as Editor and will mark 10 years plus 2 months that the magazine has been published in Omaha. That seems a nice milestone and a good place to take our final bow.

We hope that *The New Voice* will not end with our resignations. We hope that others will step forward and continue the tradition that we have worked so hard to establish. But that will not happen without you. If no one is willing to take up the cause, then the February 1998 issue will be the last issue that will be printed.

We have had some inquiries from people who may be interested in continuing publishing a monthly magazine but no decisions have been made yet. We welcome inquiries from any of you in the community who may have an interest in assuming publication of *The New Voice*. We would hope to see it continue as a volunteer community service but that decision will be made by whoever assumes the responsibility. We do welcome any and all inquiries — just call me at 556-9907 or call Dick Brown at 451-4737 or 453-6688. We'll be happy to meet with you and talk about what's involved.

But, in the meantime, "The time has come to talk of many things....."

STATE SENATOR JIM JENSEN INTRODUCES "NEBRASKA DEFENSE OF MARRIAGE ACT"

Received on the Internet from UFMCC Headquarters:

A proposal that would ban gay marriage entered the Legislature Monday (January 13) will 28 co-sponsors, three more than the number of votes needed to pass. Sen. Jim Jensen of Omaha, the primary sponsor, dubbed the Legislative Bill 280 the "Nebraska Defense of Marriage Act." The bill specifically adds a ban on marriage between those of the same sex to previously existing Nebraska bans on multiple marriages and marriage between close relatives. It states that Nebraska will not recognize such marriages from other states. "It is declared to be the strong public policy of this state to recognize as valid only those marriages from the other states that are between one man and one woman." LB 280 says.

Note from andrewb@navix.net: LB 280 is available from the Unicameral's bill room. Call 402.471.2608 for a free copy. For a free subscription to the legislature's weekly journal "Unicameral Update," call 402.471.2709 or 1.800.742.7456. The Unicameral's website is at <http://www.lcs.state.ne.us>. Write Sen. Jensen at: Senator Jim Jensen, District 20, State Capitol Building, Box 94694, Lincoln, NE 68509.

Editor's Note: If you have never been politically active, NOW is the time to take a stand. If you are politically active, GET TO WORK! Get a copy of LB 280; see for yourself what it says. AND THEN WRITE, CALL, OR E-MAIL YOUR STATE SENATOR, THE GOVERNOR, AND LET THEM KNOW YOUR FEELINGS ABOUT THIS BILL! CALL ALL OF YOUR FRIENDS, FAMILY, CO-WORKERS, ACQUAINTANCES WHO SUPPORT YOUR POSITION AND GET THEM TO DO THE SAME. THIS BILL AFFECTS YOU PERSONALLY. DO NOT LET IT BE CONSIDERED WITHOUT YOUR VOICE BEING HEARD!

I ALSO ENCOURAGE EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU TO CONTACT CFEP AND/OR THE RAINBOW PAC AND SEE WHAT ELSE YOU CAN DO TO COMBAT THIS BILL!

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Who Will?**



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

Steering Committee and Staff
Sharon Van Butsel - Editor (556-9907)

Dick Brown - Treasurer/ Advertising 451-4737(H) 453-6688(W)

Jim Shelling - Secretary

Sharon McCartney - Typist

Pat Phalen - Distribution 455-3701

Terry Sweeney 455-3701

Carla Petersen - Typing & Layout

Kevin W. - Proofreader

Brian Bengtson, Feature Writer

Shelly Roberts, feature writer

Ace Lundon, feature writer

Tom Petersen, feature writer

C. Lichtenstein, feature writer

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CHANGE IN CONTACT NUMBER FOR PFLAG KEARNEY

The New Voice of Nebraska:

Please note in your area resources sections of magazine the change in numbers of the PFLAG Kearney. Call 308-237-7136 or 308-265-7620. Mail: PFLAG, PO Box 427, Hendley, NE 68946. We continue to meet at the same time and place as listed in area resources.

Thanks,
Jan Brown, President
PFLAG-Kearney—Central Nebraska

THANKS FROM THE CHORUS

Dear Editor and Staff of The New Voice:

On behalf of the Board of Directors and General membership of the River City Mixed Chorus, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your staff a Happy New Year and to thank you for your support during 1996. *The New Voice* has been a valuable element of our G/L/B/T Community since your first publication in 1984. Please know that your volunteer efforts do not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

Sincerely,
Ron Carlat
Public Relations Chair
River City Mixed Chorus

LETTER TO GRAND ISLAND RESTAURANT

Ms. Pat Benacek, Manager of The Village Inn, 2624 S. Locust St., Grand Island, NE:

Today, I read a very disturbing letter to *The New Voice of Nebraska* which related that many of the employees of The Village Inn are bragging about being gay bashers. They crack anti-gay jokes, they threaten to "beat the shit" out of anyone they find are gay, they brag about beating up gays with a baseball bat — one even claiming he hit a gay man with a bat and knocked his teeth out.

The letter writer is warning all gays and lesbians to stay away from The Village Inn. I would hope that compassionate and thinking straights would also stay away, and I trust that *The New Voice of Nebraska* will be instrumental in helping in that goal.

I would hope you realize, Ms. Benacek, that as manager of the restaurant you have a civil duty to put a stop to such activities, and if you and the owners of the restaurant do not, you may all be held liable for any injuries and damages done.

I trust that you are a responsible person and will do all in your power to put an end to this outrageous practice on the part of many of your employees.

Sincerely,
Richard A. Kinz
Atascadero, CA

A NEW IDEA?

Dear Editor,

I have an idea that I would like to see materialize. My lovely woman partner (and future wife) and I are planning our Holy Union ceremony this year. There are many parts of this celebration that we want to share with others, but our resources are restricted.

Outside of invitations, we would like to have a way to announce to the community our commitment to one another, wedding celebration as you will.

Well, there is no way that the World-Herald will print this, outside of taking out a Happy Ad in their classifieds! Is there a need in our community to have a column in the *New Voice* for such events?

It could be expanded to include many in Life Transitions, such as: Holy Unions, Partnership Announcements, Births, Deaths, Organization and Leadership Appointments, etc. People could send in their information, perhaps even pictures to correspond to the paragraph or blurb about their event/info.

I realize that informational articles have been written about leadership changes and organization announcements, but this transitions column could be different. It could offer our community some consistency and structured acknowledgment of these very personal life transition/celebrations in a brief format.

There are many different views about relationships and privacy issues to be considered. To avoid legalities, I assume the information would have to be submitted by the appropriate individual(s) involved.

Is there any interest in our community to pursue this? Please contact me regarding this matter, as I would be willing to lend my time and effort to make this a reality.

Sincerely,
Margarita Bodisch

For Advertising Information Contact:

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LINCOLN LAMBDA BUSINESS GROUP ENDS; NETWORK Q CONTINUES

Dear New Voice:

Thank you including Lambda Business in your directory. I would also like to request it be removed at this time. I have stopped the newsletter because though there is interest it is very difficult to get people motivated to do things. Even a simple task of getting a few people to gather for coffee or chit-chat on a monthly basis was unfruitful.

I do not consider this a total loss. I have met many great people I would have not otherwise met. Thank you to all who came to meetings even when no one else showed up, and to those who shared their ideas, and all efforts put forth.

As for me and my husband, we now have a home and two pussies. So I now understand where some of that precious time goes. I do not give up either. I am continuing the Network Q shows on Lincoln cable LCC-TV, channel 20, Fridays at 9:00 p.m. and Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. At least until the tapes wear out, I wear out, or until everyone is sick of them, which might actually be soon. The quality of the newest tapes (last summer) were lacking and I am not sure if there are newer ones available. I feel it is very important to show g/l programs and put us on the map. I will also continue Lambda television Sundays at midnight. Though not necessarily Queer all the time and basically unpublished, we covered the farmers market, Idaho, New Orleans, the big easy, the Pride parade, NCOD '96, the old cars cruising "O" Street, fireworks at Holmes Park, the holiday parade, and much more. Hope you liked it.

We continue to look for new stuff to tape or stuff that is already out there and if permission to show is in writing, we will do it. We are open to anything, but the queerer the better. I still have the same name, box no., and phone. Please find it below. Some things never change.

Lambda Television
Tim Hopkins
P.O. Box 6341
Lincoln, NE 68506-0341

ICON SHARES THANK YOU WITH COMMUNITY

Dear Editor:

The Imperial Court of Nebraska received the following letter of thanks from the Nebraska AIDS Project for the Christmas gifts purchased for 128 area children from the funds raised at the Lincoln and Omaha Toyz 4 Totz Shows in December. We thank each of you who helped us make Christmas brighter for these children and their families. We extend a special thank you to all of the entertainers and to The MAX and Q—their owners and their staffs for all of their support!

In addition to the 3-5 gifts each child received, thanks to the wonderful discounts given to our shoppers at the K-Mart at 132nd and Maple here in Omaha, ICON was also able to purchase over \$250 worth of personal items for PWA's: shampoo, soap, lotion, conditioner, deodorant, etc. If you shop at that particular K-Mart, we encourage you to let Calvin—one of their managers—know how much you appreciate his support in this project!

Dear Members of ICON:

"Thank you once again for the key role you have played in providing Christmas gifts for children with HIV/AIDS and the children of clients who have HIV/AIDS. Your members and volunteers earned the funds to purchase the gifts and then did all the shopping.

"Once again your choices were remarkable. Many of our clients who are on restricted budgets actually came to the office early and picked up the children's gifts—knowing that there would be limited funds in their family this year. Others were openly appreciative when the gifts were delivered to their homes.

"NAP volunteers and Case Managers spent most of Last Friday [Dec. 20] delivering the gifts. We were sure to let them know that the packages were from Members of ICON.

"Thank you to each and every one of you who gave time and energy to make this project successful. You have helped to brighten the Christ of one hundred and twenty-eight children affected by HIV/AIDS.

"Wishing each of you a Special Holiday Season."

Sincerely,
Susan Merrick
Director of Client Services
Richard P. Santee
Director of Ed. & Volunteer Programs"

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EPISCOPAL DIOCESE ENDORSES SAME-SEX MARRIAGES

By a wide margin that surprised even the bishop, the Episcopal Diocese of Pennsylvania voted 176-96 to endorse the blessing of gay and lesbian relationships.

If the resolution is passed by the general convention, a rite of blessing will be devised, although the blessing would have no legal standing unless a state legislature chooses to recognize it.

Rev. David Moyer decried the vote, saying, "It's just one more step in the erosion of Christian morality in the Episcopal Church."

But Rev. Ruth L. Kirk, co-submitter of the resolution, said, "Can God do a new thing? And can God use the Church to do a new thing? For centuries we have condemned gays and lesbians. It is time to support committed, loving relationships."

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ICTLEP APPOINTS ANOTHER FTM TO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Phyllis Randolph Frye, Executive Director of ICTLEP (the International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, Inc.), announces that the Board of Directors has voted to elect Mr. Shannon Minter, Esq., as its newest Director.

Mr. Minter is an FTM, a transgendered male. Mr. Minter is currently employed as the Staff Attorney for the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR).

Recently, he co-authored, along with Ms. Frye, the joint statement from NCLR and ICTLEP, entitled "GID and the Transgender Movement" which has received endorsements from many leaders of the lesbigrat community. (The term lesbigrat is short for lesbian, bisexual, gay, transgender, and is pronounced to rhyme with alligator).

Mr. Minter's duties will be as the Director over Health Law issues to include all health law issues, the ICTLEP Standards of Care, and insurance issues as have been researched and presented in past issues of the annual ICTLEP Proceedings.

As part of his team, he will remain Ms. Lisa Middleton, a highly placed and out insurance executive, who will retain her oversight with respect to Insurance Issues. Also to remain is Ms. Martine Rothblatt, Esq., who is the past Director of Health Law and was the author of ICTLEP

Standards of Care.

With the very positive reaction to the GID Joint Statement from transgendered physicians, it is hoped that with Mr. Minter's guidance, ICTLEP will be able to complete its five year effort to bring about a "marriage of sorts" between transgender strategists within the legal, insurance, activist and medical communities on all issues of Health related law.

Mr. Minter will organize and moderate one of the day long study tracks at the 6th Annual ICTLEP Conference which is to be held July 11-12 in Houston, Texas.

That track is entitled "GID and the Transgender Movement: Moving Beyond the Psychiatric Disability Model".

He will also organize a parallel track dealing with the ICTLEP Standards of Care, Insurance Law updates, and other Health Law issues.

For those who wish to be present in these workshops, please contact Mr. Minter at shanminter@aol.com and be patient. He is a very busy young man.

For those wishing more information on the 6th ICTLEP Conference, contact ICTLEP at ictlep@aol.com or by phone or fax at (713) 777-TGLC. For those on American On-Line, use keyword ICTLEP. For those on the web, our partially completed page is at <http://www.abmall.com/ictlep>.

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FEATURES

GLAAD TIDINGS

by Shelly Roberts

Read this and tell me what you think.

"In the current Warner Brothers movie *My Fellow Americans*, lesbians and gay men play a vital role in saving the lives of two former presidents. James Garner (as the Democrat) and Jack Lemmon (as the Republican) portray the two former leaders who are forced to go on the run over the cover-up of a scandal involving the current president (Dan Akroyd), leads to attempts to assassinate the two.

At one point, Lemmon and Garner duck into a West Virginia gay pride parade to escape the bad guys. When one of the parade participants (who is in a marching band entirely made up of drag versions of Dorothy from the *Wizard of Oz*) befriends them, he arranges for a group of Dykes on Bikes to take them to safety. At the end of the ride, a lesbian gives Lemmon a freedom ring (gay pride) necklace, and Lemmon notes that after spending time with the lesbians, he has rethought the issue of gays in the military and thinks that 'the military could probably use several of those women.' Later in the film, the Marching Dorothy heroically returns.

Please let Warner Brothers know that their non-exploitative and jovial inclusion of lesbians and gay men in *My Fellow Americans* is appreciated."

Transitions are confusing.

There. I've said it and I'm glad.

Or in this case, GLAAD. As in the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, which self-defines itself as "the only national lesbian and gay multimedia watchdog organization. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate, and inclusive representation as a means of challenging all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity."

This is from one of their alerts.

A good and helpful organization overall. But apparently also having difficulty with transitions. Reading their special alerts and operational manifesti, I am lately reminded of the poor TV anchor who has broken the latest disaster, but has too much air time, and no news to follow with. You can practically feel the poor patsy making it up as s/he goes along, inventing details, escalating the importance of minutia, and interviewing random passersby, to fill.

Sometimes it seems GLAAD seeks media gay bashing of major proportions, real or imagined, and escalates its importance to fill its agenda, which is to find discrimination, they slay it. Or laud its absence.

Just on the face of this alert, we have, as I read it, a movie with a parade full of drag Dorothys, leather lesbians on Harleys, and an aging misogynist making bad stereotypical jokes about us.

Am I hallucinating here? Isn't this what GLAAD is usually up in arms about? Don't they usually incite personcotts over these kinds of movies?

Only now we are supposed to cheer Warner Brothers for, what? Oh, yes. "Non-exploitative and jovial inclusion of lesbians and gay men."

I'm confused. Enough so that I went to see this light little flick. Paid my own money. (Although, not wanting to take out a second

mortgage to buy the theater's, I did bring my own popcorn. Shhh. Don't ask. Don't Tell).

And, yup. GLAAD's description is absolutely accurate. Up to and including the fact that the hero is a definite Dorothy. The only difference is that we don't die in the end. That's it. Our most extreme images, our only representation, win the day and save the respective derrieres of the film's big-name protagonists.

Okay, so the film is aimed at Seniors, using cliches and terminologies that 70 or 80 year olds can relate to. For a change, we seem to be on the right side of the dramatic tension for this demographic, which does have the most trouble reversing their long-taught unpleasant beliefs about us.

But did I miss something here? What exactly is it I'm cheering about?

Well, okay, the idea of an Oz marching band playing *Over the Rainbow* is kicky. I hope baton carriers everywhere are rushing to buy bolts of blue gingham. But non-exploitative? Wake up and smell the latte.

In the absence of actual lesbian and gay leadership to tell us what we're really supposed to think as we transition from outlaw underground to mainstream commonplace, GLAAD tells us

this is good. And I admit it. I'm baffled.

About the best thing I can say about this movie is that it's cute. Lemmon and Garner are always a treat to watch, even if the material isn't exactly Mr. Roberts (no relation) or a Polaroid commercial. And, mercifully, most people won't plunk down good bucks to bother.

As I said, transitions are confusing. I can't figure out whether I'm actually supposed to thank Warner Brothers for this cartoon depiction, or picket them. Just because they don't kill me. Especially in an age when I thought what we were after was non-exploitative and jovial inclusion in federal and state laws, not caricature myth continuations with unexpected happy endings, as bones to our own "watchdogs".

One thing I am all concerned about. Although amusing, this is one movie I found with not all that much to be GLAAD about.

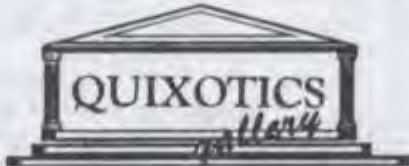
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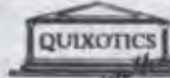


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FROM THE POOP SHEET

by Ace Landon, Nationally Syndicated Columnist



Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns! We have so much to be thankful for, but our GREATEST ASSET is probably our rainbow of colors, shapes and sizes of our people. Red, yellow, brown and white — all are precious in the Creator's sigh!

Our GREATEST LIABILITY may well be that pockets of deeply rooted racial prejudices still exist. Prejudices spawned from one generation to another; prejudices spawned from Belief Systems of "main stream" and cultist natures which exclude a God of love and introduce a God who only loves the robots from that particular Belief System.

The freedom to BE — who we are — what we are — THIS is America! The land of the free and the home of the brave who dare to be free. The brave who dare to be free enough to take a stand against bigotry and prejudice in society. And then there the Native American "Braves" who homeland we inhabit; who only were recognized as being "humans" in 1870!! Hopefully, should there be a time when aliens from another world come for us, it won't take them as long to determine we are no sub-human savages; no matter how savage we may appear in our treatment of one another.

For those of us in the homosexual, bi, and

transgender community, we may also appear as "savages" to those in the hetero community. Although we are their children, there are some parents who either have forgotten this or ignorantly believe we actually are not their seed. Although we may appear as "savages" to some, it may only their inability to see the colors, shape, and size of our rainbow.

We can be thankful that a time has arrived when the issue of our present 2nd class citizenship is being brought to a light. EQUAL rights are at least a probability thus; thanks to education and information being brought to the masses.

We can be thankful when those of us whose parents DO NOT love us, there are "adoptive" parents and friends who DO LOVE. Our unloving parents desperately need our prayers that the Creator of ALL of us might touch their hearts and their "Christianity" might go deeper than the surface. We dare not allow ourselves to fall into the trap they are in and hate them because they hate us, lest our own spirituality also be a sham.

So — Red, Yellow, Black, Brown or White, hetero or homo, bi or trans — let us be thankful for THIS creation we call "us"; this creation of our Creator. Let us be thankful for those who love nonjudgementally and do know a Creator who is love.

ACE SAYS GOODBYE

A TIME TO REST

If I've heard it once, it's been heard 1,000 times: CHANGE IS THE ONLY CONSTANT." Thank you Melissa E. et al. It's that time for me now also. Over the past few years I have been writing this column, hoping it might be an asset in the lives of our gay community nationally. The time has arrived for me to make a change, however, and this the Poop Sheet will now be only another

mention on my bio/resume. I have been honored by your reading of the column, but this will be its finale.

At one point when I checked the potential readership of the column a couple of years ago, it was heartening to learn the potential was near three-quarter of a million from the various combined publications carrying the column. Thank you all!!

Greedily, I have decided to use my energies now to complete two manuscripts which have been progressing at a frustratingly slow pace, and come next spring, I will be secluding myself from all labors and immerse myself into those manuscripts. Hopefully you will be watching for that labor in your local bookstore in the days ahead.

Hang in tough and don't let the bastards get us down!

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

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

WISHING ACE WELL

Fortunately for *The New Voice*, we will be able to continue this column. Ace has graciously offered us two columns over the years and we have these in reserve. We wish Ace well and invite him to advise us when his books hit the bookstore so we can pass on the good news.

So Ace, farewell and thanks for your contribution. It has been wonderful hearing from you over the years and we offer our fond regards to you. Keep up the fight!!







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EMBRACING DIVERSITY — THE BENEFITS

By Scott L. Lowther

I am a white, anglo-saxon, protestant male. A WASP. I'm neither proud nor ashamed of this heritage. It is simply fact. For centuries in the United States, this ethnic group has remained in power over minority groups. Even today, this group wields enormous power in its dominion over politics, financial institutions, religious organizations, institutions of higher learning, and in government and business.

It is unlikely this information is new or surprising to anyone. Perhaps this is so because it is part of our daily experience in this world, rendering it commonplace and unnoticeable. I doubt, however, that a minority person would agree that the impact of this situation on their lives, individually or collectively, is unnoticeable. Instead, they might argue that the commonality of their daily experience is discrimination and oppression at the hands of the elite power structure. Conversely, they may have become numb to this situation, deciding they have no power to change it. Either way, they have a unique perspective on what it feels like to be powerless, oppressed, and discriminated against.

The term minority as used herein is defined as: Any group who, by numeric count or lack of political and economic power, is oppressed by the group who, through numbers or power, impose values, mores and rules on the smaller or weaker group. As it is used here, minorities include the usual groups protected by law, i.e., race, culture or creed, religion, gender, national origin, disability and marital status. As used herein, however, a minority would also legitimately include lesbians, gay males,

bisexuals, and transgender individuals.

I had lunch with a good friend today. She and her husband, both white, have recently adopted two children of Asian descent. As I listened to her talk, I was reminded of her liberal attitudes about life. I was also aware of her newfound experience with the discriminatory attitudes she has recently faced as she now views the world through her children's eyes.

In my own life, I have experienced a transition in society's perception of me and my status by virtue of my decision to come out after being married for more than ten years. In my former, pseudo-heterosexual life, I viewed the world from the perspective of a white, HETEROSEXUAL, married, well-educated, professional, protestant, male. Although I could intellectualize how it felt to be discriminated against, the actual experience was not part of my reality. The pain and fear were not part of my being.

After coming out, I faced the daily tribulations all gay people face. As a member of an "invisible" minority, I had to determine whether I would kiss my partner good-bye as he dropped me off in front of my office, or whether I would display a rainbow sticker on my vehicle, or with which coworkers I would share the intimacies of my personal life. No longer was this a decision limited only to whether I wished to share personal experiences or feelings with coworkers. Instead, it had become a political game with far-reaching ramifications such as whether a new employer would hire me, promote me, or decide to terminate my employment altogether. Suddenly, I

understood what it meant to be a member of a minority when the majority vehemently opposes my being. Suddenly, I felt the hopelessness that accompanies our government's decision to deny lesbians, gays and bisexuals the right to serve our country in the military, the fear of losing custody of my son in a courtroom run by a small-town judge who may not understand my identity or my ability to parent, the anger as I watch certain religious groups hurling verbal epithets at gays in a pride march, and the sadness that accompanies the death of friends dying of AIDS while our religious, political and business leaders do nothing, labeling AIDS the "gay plague."

These experiences have shaped me. I believe they have uniquely shaped all of us, but how can we benefit from these changes?

Native American culture believes gays and lesbians are possessed of two spirits. In essence, this provides these members of their community with a double perspective. They are able to view the world from the position of a man/woman.

Today, I submit that gays, lesbians and bisexuals possess a perspective unique unto us. This is a time when corporations, government, politicians, some religious organizations, educational institutions and other social entities are attempting to incorporate diversity into their training programs and standard operating procedures. Regrettably, many provide this training simply as a means of avoiding expensive legal liabilities. Other, more progressive, organizations or jurisdictions do so because they recognize that a diverse society is a good society.

I believe we in the gay community have historically sold ourselves short. Not now. This is our time. Visibility is at an all time high. Our clout has been demonstrated through the election of President Clinton and others. We have been unified and mobilized as a result of the AIDS crisis. Hardly a day goes by when newspapers do not feature articles on gay rights. Even the long-awaited right to marry is nearly upon us.

Now is the time for us to claim our niche in diversity training and offer our unique perspective. Whether we have experienced oppression throughout our lifetimes due to our race, socioeconomic status, disability, religion, sex, or other characteristics, or whether we have come to this shared experience as a result of coming out, our collective insight about discrimination is unique. We owe it to ourselves and to the rest of society to speak out about it. Often, we feel powerless to impact the majority. We lack their numbers. Power, though, is not necessarily granted only to those with the most votes. Power is the logical result of our cooperative effort to educate others who share our vision of a world where discrimination will not be tolerated.

I encourage each of us to come out, speak up and be proud. You are unique and your life adds its own zest to society's otherwise bland recipe for homogenization. Society can ill afford to simply tolerate or accept individuals. We must wholeheartedly embrace diversity and the benefits it brings. It is our responsibility to teach these benefits to the rest of society, sharing our unique perspective. Just imagine how boring dining out would become if every restaurant served only one dish. Celebrating our differences encourages us to recognize the benefits of diversity.

The group Three Dog Night produced the lyrics to a now famous rock song — "Celebrate! Celebrate! Dance to the Music!" Come on, come out and celebrate your life. Let's start dancing today.

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"OUT IN THE STARS"

Astrological Forecast for February 1997

by C. Lichtenstein

For Entertainment Purposes Only

Do you have a heart on? February is bound to be exciting. Maybe it's because the Sun enters spiritual and romantic Pisces on the 19th. Or maybe it's because aggressive Mars goes madly retrograde on the 6th. Just remember this word to the wise: Don't waste your time pursuing unappreciative or undeserving Valentines.

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) Proud Rams may be strangely lacking in the self-confidence department, but don't worry about being wallpaper this Valentine's Day. Expect fireworks as retro Mars finds ways to roil partners (so be well warned...) but the rest of the planets bring loads of jolly gay friends to the rescue. If romance and harmony are not in the stars, maybe sob sisters with a few beers are.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Stand back, friends; the proud Bull is unleashed and in the china shop! With planets heating up global and professional outings, this is obviously not the time to stay at home and grind that snout on the treadmill. (Mars would stub your hoof anyway.) Keep a wide eye on the big picture cousin and don't seat the small stuff. Take it to the streets. Heck, take it to the world.

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) Gay Twins enjoy a festive party or three, but February brings more mishaps in eh fun department than it's worth. Blame retro Mars if you must and settle for entertainment that's more relaxing. Console yourself with knowing that this Valentine's Day brings more spice than sugar. Sexual cuisine is best savored in some faraway cove, all expenses paid. Check your spice rack.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Home renovations should be put on hold until Mars gets back on track in March. Actions around the home have unintended impact. Knocking down a wall could bring down the roof. Fixing a leak could flood the basement. Pink Crabs are advised to renovate relationships instead. All is possible to a willing heart, dear queer friend. Open the spigot and see what happens.

LEO (July 24 - August 23) Proud Lions are not above belting out a roar when they feel neglected. In February, however, your bellows come back to bite you. Why not mellow out and concentrate on spoiling your partner silly this Valentine's month? Happy surprises are in store for the generous Leo lover. If you're still searching for your dreamboat, cruise the party scene and see who washes ashore.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Pink Virgos feel closeted and unsure in February, but don't hide. Consider this temporary lapse of confidence a learning experience and go forward. Discover the true meaning of the word Pride this Valentine's Day. It couldn't hurt to get yourself a personal trainer and hone that bod, but avoid spending more than you can afford. What price wholesale beauty?

LIBRA (September 24 - October 21) Queer Libras have a way of bursting on the scene this February. Be careful not to knock over the scenery! This may not be the best month to meet new people; your first impression will be memorable to others and regrettably forgettable to you. Still, it's possible to have a good time this month if you allow your creativity to run free in familiar settings.

SCORPIO (October 22 - November 22) Even the most generous of charitable efforts can have an unintended, overbearing effect this February. Your heart is in the right place but Mars is not. No matter dear, queer Scorp, if you turn your attention to home based projects you can't go wrong. How about a Valentine's tete a tete? If you can't get a couple of tetes together, try a bubble bath and a good book instead.

SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 22) The transforming process continues in February as gay Archers strive to reinvent themselves. If you have an itch to dye your hair lavender and don a pair of puce bloomers, you must scratch away? But you may be strutting the boulevards alone as friends cross to the other side of the street. No matter cousin, you have to be you no matter how much the color clash.

CAPRICORN (December 23 - January 20) All the clever calculating in your career could hit a roadblock in February as even the lightest political touch weighs like a sledgehammer. I suggest that gay Caps spend more time counting their pennies and surround themselves with beautiful object d'art instead of sharks in pinstripes. Invest wisely now and retirement may be closer than you think.

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Aqueerians find that travel is more than it's worth this February when great plans run amok and luggage goes astray. But it's still possible to have a robust birthday celebration and enjoy being the center of attention before the Sun moves into Pisces on the 19th. Party hearty while you can cousin but don't overdo. Keep that fabulous bod in fabulous shape.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) Passion plays aren't in the stars this Valentines month. Your best laid sexual plans don't get lucky. Who cares? Pink Fish can expect rainbow karma to shine and good fortune to come their chaste way. Charitable actions lead to huge rewards so volunteer for a worthy gay cause (is there any other?) and prepare for a festive birthday celebration at the end of the month.

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For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant.

For a free calculation of your ascendant, send birthdate, time, place name of this publication and s.a.s.e. to:

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LEGAL FRONT LINE

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SAME SEX PARTNERS

We all felt a little bit more pressure during the holiday season. Constant family and social obligations wiped out our free time. Add a little alcohol to the situation, and tempers can flare. With this added stress, incidents of assault on one's boyfriend, girlfriend, or spouse skyrocket.

If the police are called to a domestic dispute; i.e., one that involves two persons living together in something more than a simple roommate relationship, they have an internal policy to arrest one of the parties, if possible. This includes same sex partners. The police can only arrest a suspect if they have reasonable belief that such person has committed a crime. Reasonable belief must be supported by objective facts. In a domestic violence case, this means that the officer must see some sign that an assault has occurred. Examples would be bruises, swelling, or cuts on the person claiming to be assaulted. Once they can articulate a basis for believing a crime has occurred, they can lawfully arrest a suspect.

Once an arrest has been made, the City Prosecutor reviews the police reports and decides what charges to file against the suspect, if any. Often, the prosecutor declines to file any charges or amends the charge suggested by the police.

In Nebraska, the possible penalty for assault and battery is up to one year in jail and/or a \$1,000 fine. If the person is arrested in Omaha, the City Prosecutor can also choose to file under the Omaha City Ordinance which carries a penalty of up to six months in jail and a \$500 fine.

An assault conviction does not require any physical contact. A technical violation of the law occurs if the victim was in fear of bodily harm and the suspect had the apparent ability to care out a threat of harm. A battery occurs when physical contact occurs.

In years past, one could plan to pay a \$200 or \$300 fine for a conviction under either charge. Recently though, publicity and public outcry has resulted in much stiffer penalties. The Courts are taking domestic violence much more seriously and are handing down 10-, 20-, even 60-day jail sentences for a person's first offense.

Since the possibility of jail time is now more likely with this charge, it is important that a person consult with their attorney. The most important factor that determines if a person goes to jail, besides the facts of the case, is which judge hears the case. Judges differ widely in their sentencing practices and your attorney can help ensure that a more sympathetic judge will hear the case.

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

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

Petersen Law Offices
Legal Column
2712 South 87th Avenue
Omaha, Nebraska 68124

GAY PROGRAMMER FIRED FOR PLAYING WITH STUDS

A gay programmer who worked on a computer game featuring plenty of female "bimbo" characters snuck in a few male "studs" without his boss' knowledge and was fired for his initiative. Jacques Sevin, 33, who worked for Maxis Inc., slipped the unauthorized images into the new action game SimCopter. The male figures in the game were all "really dumpy, little squat middle-aged types," Sevin said, so he threw in some hunks in swim suits, who just walk around — except on certain days of the year. On Friday the 13th, Sept. 30 (Sevin's birthday), and Aug. 22 (his ex-boyfriend's birthday), "all kinds of things happen. There will be boys kissing, there will be a greater number of bimbos, there will be Elvis impersonators. It's really hilarious," he said. Maxis was reportedly not amused.

NATIONAL NEWS

ST. VALENTINE'S MASS GAY WEDDING IN FT. LAUDERDALE

The world's largest mass gay wedding will be held Valentine's Day weekend in Fort Lauderdale, FL. "We want to give couples the opportunity to pledge their commitment to one another in a loving, caring, and sharing way," said Rev. Grant Lynn Ford, who will officiate at the "Love Celebration" on behalf of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC). Other events throughout Fort Lauderdale's Winter Gayla '97 will include a beach party and a massive dance party in the open air atrium of the Museum of Discovery and Science. A portion of the proceeds will benefit MCC in its effort to establish a couple's ministry.

To register for the Love Celebration, call (954) 525-4567; write to Winter Gayla '97, P.O. Box 2467, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33303-2467; or e-mail to aarinc@earthlink.net.

GAY STUDENT SETTLES IN HARASSMENT SUIT

Jamie Nabozny, 21, has accepted a \$900,000 out-of-court settlement from the Ashland (WI) School district. Nabozny's lawsuit claimed school officials violated his rights by not protecting him from years of anti-gay harassment by other students. Nabozny was urinated on, subjected to a simulated rape, and kicked in the stomach so hard he required surgery. "I feel like I have justice and that this means justice for all the other kids out there who aren't sure if they should stay in school or stay alive," he said.

MAYOR ATTENDS GAY WEDDING IN TAIWAN

More than 500 guests, including officials of the Taipei city government, attended Taiwan's first public gay wedding. Wearing a traditional Chinese scholar's robe, Hsu You Sheng exchanged vows and rings with American Gray Harriman. Hsu's open homosexuality is a rarity in Taiwan, where many gays face social stigma and intense pressure from parents to marry. But the wedding has gained mostly positive response in Taiwan, and the Mayor of Taipei sent a letter of congratulation.

BISEXUALS SCHEDULE ANNUAL CAMPOUT

Northwest bisexuals will hold their sixth annual gathering and campout over Labor Day weekend, August 27 - September 2 in the Wenatchee national Forest near Mt. Rainier National Park in Washington state.

The gathering, sponsored by the Bisexual Network of Oregon (BiNet), will be held at a secluded campground between the Bumping the American rivers, 23 miles east of Chinook Pass and Mt. Rainier National Park. The gathering has attracted campers from as far away as Massachusetts and New Mexico. Campers may come for any portion of the Wednesday evening through Tuesday morning gathering. All bisexuals and their guests are welcome. For information contact BiNet Oregon at (503) 703-8013.

HOMECOMING ROYALTY TWO WOMEN

Two lesbians were crowned homecoming king and queen at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Jenn Beland and Joey Zocher were nominated by the 10% Society, the campus gay group, and were elected by the entire student body. When the announcement was made, there was some cheering and some silence, but overall, the couple said, they were well-received.

EUROPE'S FIRST GAY RUGBY TEAM

Europe's first all-gay rugby team, the King's Cross Steelers, has been certified as a member of Britain's Surrey Rugby Football Union. Club chairman Robert Hayward, noting the team colors are green and blue, said, "No, we don't play in pink. And I must say for a collection of gay men we managed to pick the colors very quickly and without too much argument."

ART Grand Duke 16 Bob and Grand Duchess 16 Inga,
The Imperial Court of Nebraska, and
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AWARENESS 8:30 PM
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8:30 PM, Sun., Feb. 16, The MAX

ATTENTION: ICON IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE—Reign 17 Memberships are now on sale.
\$15 gets you the newsletter, free admission to all 3 Picnics, and more! Renewals only \$13. Only Reign 17 Members of ICON
will be eligible to vote in June for the Reign 17 Monarchs and Community Reps.

LICK

By Heather

Lick my fingernail polish.
It's painted blood-red like love,
deep, dark, and alive.

Suck the juices of my day;
taste the last time I went to the bathroom.
Smell my flower

that pumps adrenaline to the tips of all your parts
and makes you solid with yearning.
Shake this feeling off.
Have it come back stronger.

Your lips taste distinct;
your tongue lays soft and familiar on me.
I don't need a touch to get off when I look at you.
I fancy you in the purest way
and I must have you always.

We would like naked.
No shower could wash off my scent;
I mark you as mine like animals in the spring.
My sex burns like the sun when I stand next to
you.
You cannot label this as love.

You were made as mine in your mother's womb;
body chemistries that create an explosion
with shock waves that carry for days.
I will feel you in my knees
from this moment until we meet again.

BLUES STANDARD

By Kelly Connor

I strap this butcher-paper manifesto
to the small of my back
and tense my spine
until it snaps back smirking
and soaked in alkali.
I seal shut this message;
this thimble-pricked needle-drawn message
and toss it in the suitcase
with the rest of them.
I scrape my knuckles raw on every wall;
on every single wall I come across
in this sleeping-long town,
this grey haze town,
this petty, bitching town.
I'm calling for a witness.
I'm going down to Louisiana
to the hot swampy bayou,
to the wet clinging air
and I'm going to sing the blues
on the sloping riverbank
under the sixty-watt moon
until alligators tear me
limb from limb and back
down into the water.

"ALL THE LEAVES ARE MUSH, AND THE SKIES ARE PUCE..."

Brian's Note: Initial response to my new style has been lukewarm at best, but I still have hope. Since I am going on vacation to Fort Lauderdale, I am actually getting this done early. You can almost hear the gasps of shock echo throughout the metropolitan area.

The "Literate Poofter returns"

department: For all my womyn fans (and I know I have some. They told me!), and for those looking for a really good comic book read, DC comics is releasing the *Death: The Time of Your Life* limited series in a complete volume (for those not in the know, fanboys call them "graphic novels"). Written by Neil Gaiman (of *Sandman* fame), this story chronicles the adventures of Foxglove (the newest sensation since Melissa Etheridge), her lover Hazel, and their child Alfie. Oh, the personification of Death is thrown in the mix, too. Next time you are trapped in a comic book store (sometimes it happens!), check it out!

The "How to get poets to send you stuff without getting the law involved"

department: Thanks to the open-mike night at the Book Station (every other Saturday at 7:30 pm.), I finally have some new poets to share with my faithful fans. More importantly, I do not have to write any myself! This month I am featuring the works by two of the regulars, Kelly Connor and Heather. I hope you all enjoy them. If you like what you see, check them out at the next open-mike! I may be there, too, but you know me, anywhere I can read is fine by me! Until next month, take care, and look for your postcard in the mail!!

HOW TO SEND BRIAN SOME POETRY WITH NO VISIBLE SCARS:

- 1.) Send typed poems of 30 lines or less.
- 2.) Send SASE if you want 'em back, or want a comment/critique.
- 3.) Will try to respond within a reasonable amount of time.
- 4.) No jokes about the aged going to Florida, please.

RECENT BOY

By Heather

Young man of verse,
your words tear from my chest.
Where do you hide your heart?

You draw smoke from a cigarette
to ease your nervous body.
You feel so deeply,
the first pain hurts the most,
but I am old with love
and have callused skin.

The words that flow from your eyes
remind me of my younger days.
My pen is no stranger to pain.
I have no wisdom to pass on.

I am just a writer,
there is no adverb to explain.
I push it down on paper just like you

COWARD-WORN DISCIPLINE

By Kelly Connor

So yes, it makes me nervous like some
wrecking-ball arrival
when my muscles clench, teeth grind and
the constriction is calling
your name
almost audibly;
when my fingers trace slow
where the straight of your spine
becomes the nape of your neck
and my blood is summoned emotion-sick.

With my
distant recollections
paralyzed in motion,
I bite my tongue
to stum the words
I am not accustomed to saying.

MEDICINE TO FLINCH

By Kelly Connor

You move sleep-slacked and listless over asphalt,
alcohol's distilled denial thinning through your veins.
Gravel snarls and scuttles under your feet.

The city's churning pistons seize your direction
and your passions sing the echoes of angst
as your thoughts turn toward
her
with keening precision.

When you knew her
she tasted like codeine,
now you see her through a haze of stinging adrenaline.
Now you grip the rusting nail
of the fire escape
and wait for the fire.
Scattered syllables strain against your chest.
You carve her name across silence
slurred and defiant;
and you wait for the fire
as October's swell cleaves cold to your flesh.

Charlie's Cowboy Cloggers
Friday & Saturday, Feb. 14 & 15

Live from Denver, these stars will perform several times throughout the weekend. Tips will be donated to the charity of DC's choice. Don't miss this top-notch show.

Melrose Monday Mania!

Join us for Melrose Place on Mondays at 7 p.m. for drink specials. Prizes will be awarded for best trivia answers asked during the show by none other than Ash -- King of Melrose!

Welcome all bowlers for the 5th annual
Ice Bowl Tournament

Feb. 14, 15 & 16.

Be sure to use your complimentary drink tickets during the weekend.



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Thursday, Feb. 6

Old-Fashioned Box Social

Come one, come all to an old-fashioned box social, sponsored by Czarina Sally and ICON. Auction will begin at 8 p.m., with the show to follow later.

Sunday, Feb. 9 * 9 p.m.

Miss DC's (Roxy) & Friends

Join Miss DC's Roxy, and many other local entertainers for an evening of exciting entertainment. No cover charge.

Friday, Feb. 14

Happy Valentine's Day

DC's presents its 2nd annual Valentine's Day contest. Take a guess at how many candy hearts are in the glass jar and win \$25. Winner will be announced at 11 p.m.

Thursday, Feb. 20

Fiesta Thursday

Hosted by our own Miss DC's Roxy and Empress XVI Phoenix. Tequila shots, margaritas and beer bust. Taco bar opens at 7 p.m., show at 9 p.m. Great entertainers and a 50/50 raffle. Proceeds will benefit Iris Phoenix Scholarship Program.

Sunday, Feb. 23 * 8:30 p.m.

"Gone Country!"

Join Montana and many of her friends as they perform your favorite country hits from past and present.



HEARTLAND RODEO SKATING PARTY

by Shelley A. Foster

On January 4th, we all met at Cheap Skate Roller Rink on 90th and Maple for two hours of fun. We sold 62 tickets for the event, but unfortunately only half of those showed up. I bought extra tickets so I could take our two younger sons skating later in January. However, I wisely decided I didn't need anymore aches and pains so I stayed in my tennies, but I got a lot of laughs out of watching! Charlie taught David how to skate backwards, unfortunately David wasn't a fast enough learner. He fell at least twice during the song and hurt his wrist. But he was a trooper — he recuperated for a few minutes and then went right back out there!

Punkin says that since he's Norwegian, he can't do two things at once, so he stood on the sidelines and did the moves for the "Chicken Dance". Dave showed lots of heart by trying the limbo! On his first pass, his cowboy hat got in the way, the second pass he made it, but he couldn't get low enough for the third pass.

We had some very good skaters out there, some even brought their own roller blades! Burdette even tried skating, but had to give up due to aches in his body (I know just how you feel).

Bessie McClotsky made her first public appearance at the skating party, you will hear more about her in the future. And Norm arrived late, but he did get some filming in. Although we were all wondering what he was filming when he pointed it at the lower half of himself. Guess we'll have to wait two more years to find out!

After the skating party was over, several of us got together for Chinese at the China Buffet, while others went home to get ready for a night of dancing at the bars. I think everyone had a good time, so perhaps we'll plan another skating party for the future. Thanks to those who participated and to Cheap Skate for doing all the work. All profits from this event will be donated to our rodeo fund, to help offset the expense of the First Heartland Regional Rodeo in June.

GAY RODEO IS COMING!!

This is the third in a series of articles to explain gay rodeo.

Heartland Regional Rodeo, sponsored by HGRA, is scheduled for the weekend of June 27-29 in Fremont, NE. The weekend will include parties on Friday and Saturday nights and the rodeo performances on Saturday and Sunday. We expect a lot of contestants and spectators from out of town. HGRA hopes that Heartland Regional Rodeo becomes a successful fund-raising endeavor and a weekend of first class entertainment for our community.

There are a total of 13 events in gay rodeo, divided into four categories: Rough Stock events, Roping Events, Horse events, and Camp events. There are three Roping events: Calf Roping on Foot, Mounted Breakaway Calf Roping, and Team Roping.

This article will describe Calf Roping on Foot and Mounted Breakaway Calf Roping. The next article in this series will describe Team Roping.

ROPING EVENTS, part 1

Calf Roping on Foot

The calf is in the roping chute. The contestant is holding a rope around the calf's nose. Time starts when the chute opens and the calf's nose clears the chute gate. The contestant has one chance to rope the calf and must do so within 30 seconds. The contestant must throw the loop of the rope completely over the calf's head and catch it around the neck or belly. When the catch is made and the calf pulls the slack out of the rope, the contestant releases the rope and a judge signals time end. Fastest time wins. Men and women compete separately.

Mounted Breakaway

Calf Roping

The calf is in the roping chute. The contestant is on a horse in the box next to the chute. Contestant's ropes are secured to the saddle horn with a string. Time starts when the chute opens and the calf's nose clears the chute gate. The contestant has two chances to rope the calf, provided he/she is carrying two ropes. (Contestants may not reuse the first rope.) There is a time limit of 30 seconds. The contestant must throw the loop of the rope completely over the calf's head and catch it around the neck or belly. When the catch is made and the calf pulls the slack out of the rope, the string breaks and a judge signals time end. Fastest time wins. Men and women compete separately.

DES MOINES GAY MEN ARE "DOING IT FOR THEMSELVES"

from Community Alliance

Sometimes all it takes is one person saying, "what if..." to achieve results beyond anyone's wildest imagination. An example of such a result is the Des Moines Gay men's Breakfast Club.

A little over a year ago, Jonathan Wilson, of came-out-as-gay-and-was-defeated-for-School-Board fame, as well as a prominent Des Moines attorney, called a few of his friends and proposed a networking breakfast meeting for the city's gay men. Those friends not only enthusiastically embraced the idea, but also were each able to provide 2-3 names of people they knew, who in turn provided more names, etc.

Today, the group has a mailing list of 220 names and averages attendance of 90 at their monthly breakfast meetings in a downtown Des Moines hotel.

But the group is about more than men getting together — although some of them admit that they had never seen so many gay men in one place at 7:00 a.m. before in their lives!

Each month's meeting features an invited guest speaker from the community. Some of those have included the chief of police, the fire chief, and some elected officials. Not only does the group get to hear the presentation from the guest of the month, but the guest also receives an education by being exposed to a sizable group of openly gay men who are active in the business life of Des Moines.

Another education is about to take place as a result of the group's efforts. Through fundraising efforts, they now have a \$3,000 scholarship which will be awarded to the Iowa high school student who has done the most to fight homophobia during the past year. This offers two opportunities for education. First, letters were mailed to every high school counselor in Iowa asking them to submit nominees for the scholarship. And then, when the winner has been chosen, the scholarship will be presented at that student's Honors Assembly, just like every other scholarship.

And Des Moines lesbians have recently started organizing a similar group for women.

It just goes to show what a "What if..." can lead to.



BREAK BREAD WITH THE RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US FOR
OUR ANNUAL FUN-RAISER

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Sponsored by The Fifth Voice
of RCMC

MARCH 1, 1997

4:00 to 8:00 P.M.

Unity Church of Omaha
9301 West Dodge Road

ALL YOU CAN EAT

Adults \$8.00

Children Under 12 \$3.50

For Advance Tickets Call

341-SING



NAP ORGANIZES AIDS UPDATES

By Larry Bierce,
NAP Education Coordinator

Keeping up with the latest HIV/AIDS information can be difficult, but it's also extremely important for people living with HIV. NAP volunteers a staff, and others in the community who have an interest in AIDS education and prevention.

To help keep the community informed about recent developments and emerging issues in the world of HIV and AIDS, NAP is organizing a series of guest speakers for monthly HIV/AIDS community Update meetings to be held at the new Wellness Center facility at 139 South 40th Street. The HIV/AIDS Community Update series is set for the third Wednesday evening of each month from 7:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m. It will be open to all NAP volunteers, clients, staff, and other interested persons and is free of cost. NAP is also in the process of identifying individuals with other AIDS service and education programs in metro-Omaha to encourage their attendance.

The first HIV/AIDS Community Update meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 19th at 7:00 p.m. featuring Dr. Richard Pollard of the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston presenting a CMV Townhall Forum courtesy of Roche Labs. Dr. Pollard is the chief of the AIDS Care and Clinical Research Program at UTMB, and is a renowned expert in AIDS care. The CMV forum will address the infection processes of cytomegalovirus and the treatment options now available. Dr. Pollard's prepared presentation will be followed by Q & A with the audience. Refreshments will be served.

On March 19th, the HIV/AIDS Community Update will feature a speaker from the University of Nebraska Medical Center who will discuss AIDS Clinical Trials at UNMC, providing an overview of drug trials, discussion of the potential benefits and risks for participants, and how PWA's can enroll in drug studies at UNMC.

Future presentations are now being identified and arranged. Some of the topics we expect to cover in the first half of 1997 include sexually transmitted diseases, HIV and Tuberculosis, and substance abuse as it interacts with HIV disease. Flyers on the community update meetings will be available in the next few weeks. For more information, contact the NAP office at 342-4233, or 800-782-2437.

3 CHEERS ANNIVERSARY PARTY

from Community Alliance

It's been eight great years since the doors first opened at Three Cheers, 414 20th St, Sioux City, IA. Join Gary and all of your friends at the Anniversary Celebration. Check at the bar for date and scheduled events. February 15th — Black and White Ball. You say you didn't go to your high school prom because you couldn't go with the one you love, and Valentine's Day was spoiled when the straight couple at the next couple kept gawking? Forget about it. Dust off the tux, buy your love a nice corsage and spend a night OUT on the town! Be your true, beautiful self with the one you love at Three Cheers' annual **Black and White Ball**. It is THE Sioux City party of the year!

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BACK BAR**

Q CELEBRATES MARDI GRAS AND MORE BESIDES

February starts off at Q with the ever-popular amateur strip night with cash prizes for the best performers. Then everyone needs to rest and save their energy for the second week of February — it will be non-stop. Sunday, February 9, is the step-down show for Miss City Sweetheart. Miss City Sweetheart '96 Barbie Que is one of the most creative and the most loved of all the female impersonators in the Lincoln area. And on this night the petite and perky Barbie Que will be showing her very best talents as she has her final show. Tuesday, February 11, Q hosts the BIGGEST Fat Tuesday celebration this side of the Mississippi. And on Friday, February 14, you are invited to bring that special someone to a romantic dinner. Reservations are recommended.

Sunday, February 16, is the 1997 Miss City Sweetheart Pageant — the oldest running pageant in Nebraska.

The next week, February 23, Miss DC's brings her friends to Lincoln for a show that promises to be incredible. Roxy is a favorite with audiences across the state and she certainly is a star that shines exceptionally bright when she appears at Q.

March starts off with an unforgettable event. Sunday, March 2 is Sheza Mann's Birthday Celebration Show. After all, as Sheza says herself, "The Bitch Ain't Gettin' any Younger!" Happy Birthday, Sheza! You are truly THE diva!

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS: COOKIN' UP SOME FUN

Are you looking for a great meal at a fair price? Are you tired of expensive restaurants and greasy fast food? Well, the River City Mixed Chorus has just the recipe for you! Find yourself a date or grab a few friends and come to RCMC's annual Spaghetti Dinner Saturday, March 1 at Unity Church of Omaha, 9301 West Dodge Road. From 4 p.m. until 8 p.m. we'll be serving up an all-you-can-eat Italian feast for \$8.00 per person (children 12 and under eat for just \$3.50). Mama Mia! Come join the fun and help support the River City Mixed Chorus. If you prefer to "run for the border" be watching for details about our Mexican Dinner on May 17.

The River City Mixed Chorus wishes to thank the members of our G/L/B/T Community who attended "Out Loud!", our 1997 Winter Concert on January 25 and 26. Chorus members invest many hours of hard work preparing a concert program and the support we receive from our Community makes it all worthwhile. We hope to see you all again at our June '97 Pride Concert at Witherspoon Concert Hall on June 14.

While most mixed choruses are made up of four sections: tenors, sopranos, altos, and asses (can you tell that I'm a tenor?), the River City Mixed Chorus is blessed with an additional section. Known as the "Fifth Voice," these non-singing members of RCMC are instrumental in the planning, fundraising, and production that make our performances possible. If you would like to become a member of the "Fifth Voice," or to get more information about this group, please call RCMC's Sing Line at 341-SING.

IN THE LIFE AIRS FEB 1

For its February episode, IN THE LIFE travels south where gay culture and expression are met with both growing acceptance and great resistance. We'll visit Savannah, Georgia which has embraced the flamboyant new celebrity, The Lady Chablis (her legal name), and Louisiana where law and order can sometimes translate into discrimination.

Later in the program, several stories will explore the impact of identity and labels. As more and more images of gays and lesbians appear in the media, a homogenized look of gay America often conflicts with other aspects of personal identity. Included is a look at being gay and Jewish in America.

Also, this episode looks at *Insurrection: Holding History*, a provocative new play seen recently at The Public Theater in New York, that places homosexuality at the center of an 1831 slave uprising in Virginia. Finally, a look at the emergence of a growing market for lesbian and gay fiction by African-American writers.

IN THE LIFE, presented by Thirteen/WNET in New York, chronicles the history and contemporary experience of gay America. It airs on more than 90 public television stations reaching more than a million viewers per episode. In Omaha, it'll air on Nebraska Educable, Channel 16, at midnight, February 1.

REVIEWS BY HEATHER

EARLY EMBRACES: True-life stories of women describing their first lesbian experience.

A collection of real-life stories told by 53 different women. Each story is only three or four pages in length, each in a different voice. Some women tell their stories in graphic detail, others use romantic language to describe their first experience. The book shows that each person experiences and is affected by "the first time" in their own special way. Some of the contributors are professional authors, others are amateurs.

Highly Recommended. The book is edited by Lindsey Eider — Alyson Publications.

MAN OF MY DREAMS: Provocative Writing on Men Loving Men.

A collection of stories by different authors covering a variety of situations from one-night stands to commitment. Some of the stories are told in very plain language, others are abstract. Overall, the book gives the reader a taste of all the different flavors available from gay authors. I especially enjoyed the offerings from Tennessee Williams and Edmund White.

Highly Recommended. The book is edited by Christopher Navratil — Chronicle Books.

Both books are available at The Book Station, 1913 Leavenworth St.

ART - TACOS - BOX SUPPER - PROM ICON BRINGS THESE TO YOU IN FEBRUARY!

Grand Duke Bob and Grand Duchess Inga bring an Art AIDS Awareness/ICON Benefit Feb. 2 at The MAX. Come at 8:30 and enjoy a lineup of entertainment that only Bob & Inga can produce!

Thursday, Feb. 6 Czarina Sally takes us "Back to the 80's" — the 1880's that is. Sally is producing an "old-fashioned" Box Dinner. Everyone can participate. Come with a decorated box dinner for two — you can use a basket, a bag, or even a crate or a cooler. Or come with money. A box dinner works like this — we auction off the dinner and the highest bidder gets to eat with the maker of the box they "buy." Our auctioneer for the evening will be the one and only Jeff F./Rita/??? Oh, yes, there'll be entertainment to "help your digestion!" It'll be great fun. 8 PM at DC's Feb. 6. Proceeds benefit Women's Cancer Research, the Iris Phoenix Scholarship Fund and ICON.

Phoenix and friends repeat Fiesta Thursday, Feb. 20. Come on out for tacos and other treats! Proceeds benefit the Iris Phoenix Scholarship Fund.

It's back to The MAX Feb. 16 for a "Sweet 16 Prom" hosted by Prince Royale Jim and Princess Royale Sharon. You'll dance to the music of the 50's, 60's, 70's, and 80's and be entertained by some of our past Prince & Princess Royales as well as the best of Reign 16.



Cruising the Net?

Check out gay astrology's website
<http://www.AccessNewAge.com/Stargazer>

featuring:
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Show and Pageant
Feb. 9th, 9PM at The Max

Support Ice Bowl and Help Us Crown This Year's Winner

RESOURCE CENTER BENEFIT HUGE SUCCESS

The Resource Center raised more than \$850 at its final fund raiser of the year, "Tools, Toys, and Turkeys: What a Threesome." The show was held at the Omaha Mining Company on Sunday, December 29. It drew an enthusiastic and generous crowd, especially considering it took place in the middle of the holidays.

Those who braved the cold saw yet another memorable show, again under the able direction of Steve Koeller. This time around, Steve surprised us by appearing as his alter ego, Miss Stella Dallas. In return, the Steering Committee surprised Steve with a plaque honoring him for his efforts on behalf of the Resource Center. Thank you, Steve; the Center is much closer to opening the doors due to your hard work.

Thanks are also due to all who performed: Satin (as Joan Rivers and Cher), Heaven Leigh, Ashley Simone, Montana, Michele Korman, Barbra Love, Ron (Mr. DC 96/97), Niecey Braxton, Royal Bush (Emperor XVI), Quincey Valentine (Miss Gay Omaha), Jeff McKenzie (Mr. MAX and Mr. Gilligan's), Margo, and the afore mentioned Miss Dallas. As in past shows, the performers donated their tips in addition to their time and talent.

Those who worked behind the scenes to make the show a success include Carla and Sharon who created the set, Christina Tippit who operated the sound booth, and Michele who sold raffle tickets in addition to performing. Watch for our next show this spring, May 18, at The MAX.

CONVERGING CIRCLES

The Interchurch Ministries of Nebraska JSAT for Ministry with Lesbian & Gay persons and their families, PFLAG and CLGC at UNI, announces a workshop being held in Lincoln on Saturday February 22. The event is titled Converging Circles: A Day to Affirm our Common Ground. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch.

The workshop is aimed at college students and other post-high school adults in Nebraska, Christians and those who have been offended by Christians inside or outside the Church, those in greater Nebraska seeking allies in networking, all who are open to dialogue, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered or Straight.

The program for the day includes: Leadership from youth, Christian and GLBT or Straight; Interest groups, panel, small group discussion, briefing on current legislation; equipping and planning for back home; and a performance by the River City Mixed Chorus.

With this program, there are some people who probably should not consider attending. This includes those who cannot respect others present and therefore not make the gathering a safe haven, those who have all the answers already, and those who are out to "prove" something.

The event will be in St. Mark's on the Campus, situated at 13th & R, adjacent to UNI, campus, from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Free parking is available at the University Square at 14th & P. A registration form is included in this month's newsletter. If you are interested in carpooling with other PFLAG members, call Betty at 333-7064 or call the Helpline at 291-6781.

LINCOLN "INTERGENERATIONAL" COFFEEHOUSE A LESBIAN EVENT

The New Voice has been advised by Sandy Vopalka that Lincoln's Intergenerational Coffee House is only for lesbians.

Aging Gay men are advised to go to PFLAG or form a group and call Sandy Vopalka for space information.

GLAGN HOSTS "HEARTS OF FIRE"

Saturday, February 22, marks the annual "Hearts of Fire" Benefit Show Sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Association of Greater Nebraska.

"Hearts of Fire" will feature GLAGN's special guest, Miss DC's Roxy, as well as favorite performers from all across the state of Nebraska. This event, held on the Adams County Fairgrounds, is always an evening of fun and fellowship.

"City folks" are always welcome at GLAGN events. And if you're thinking that it's just too far to drive, remember that some of the regular members of GLAGN drive 200 miles every month to attend GLAGN's events.

You'll have a great time and meet some wonderful new friends.

Also keep an eye out for future GLAGN events including:

March: Card Party
April: Barn Dance
May: Prom



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FEBRUARY AT DC'S

For the hottest music and the best looking cowboys, be sure to be front and center at DC's during February. Every Monday, join Ashley and the crew at 7pm for Melrose Monday Mania. There will be drink specials and prizes will be awarded for the best trivia answers. See if you can best the King of Melrose, DC's own Ash.

Thursday, February 6, ICON and Czaina Sally present an old-fashioned box social. In case you're not familiar with this tradition, you take a box, decorate it in your most creative way, fill it with a specially chosen and cooked meal for two, and bring it to DC's before 8pm that night. Be sure to put a card on the outside of the box describing the special meal you've prepared. Then, at 8pm, the box dinners will be auctioned off and the person who is the highest bidder for your special creation gets to share that meal with you. After supper there will be a short show, just to top off the evening and to assist your digestion. Proceeds benefit the Imperial Court of Nebraska, the Iris Phoenix Scholarship Fund, and to fund Women's Cancer Research.

Sunday, February 9, Miss DC's Roxy and her friends take to the stage for a fun filled evening. And on Friday, February 14, join in the fun with the 2nd Annual Valentine's Day Contest — take a guess at the number of candy hearts in a jar and get a chance to win \$25.

Also on February 14 and 15 you'll be able to rub shoulders with all of the out of town folks who are here for the annual Ice Bowl Tournament and also enjoy the incomparable Cowboy Cloggers from Charlie's in Denver. These dancers are definitely a "must see" event.

Thursday, February 20, ICON and Empress Phoenix present the first Fiesta Thursday. The Taco Bar opens at 7 p.m. Proceeds benefit the Iris Phoenix Scholarship Fund.

And on Sunday, February 23 at 8:30 p.m. join Miss Montana and her friends who have "Gone Country." Your favorite entertainers will perform the best in country music from the past and the present.

DON'T "BAGG" THIS GROUP!

from Community Alliance

The Bar Alternative Gay Group meets every first and third Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at the Horizon Restaurant, 322 Tri-View Ave. in Sioux City, IA.

For more information about the group and events/activities that are planned for the future, call Terry (712) 255-1890, Sue (712) 258-6167, or Marty (712) 255-8528.



Apply Now To Run for Empress XVII or Emperor XVII

Apply Now for a seat on the Board of Governors

Applications Available at Local GLBT Businesses or from the Imperial Court of Nebraska, P.O. Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68103. Or call 556-9907 and leave your name, address —including your Zip Code, and phone number. One will be mailed to you. All applications are due at the ICON P.O. Box by March 1, 1997. Applicants must be current members of ICON—other requirements apply and will be mailed to all who inquire. Voting on applicants who qualify will be in June by the ICON General Membership.

TacosTacosTacosTacosTacosTacos
Join Phoenix & Friends at DC's for
Fiesta Thursday ----- 8 PM Feb. 20
All You Can Eat Only \$5

The New Voice of Nebraska Classified Ad

Write your ad here:

Classified ads in the *New Voice of Nebraska* are \$4.00 for 20 words or less. Each additional word is \$.20. Ads must be received by the 10th of the month preceding the month you wish your ad to appear.

MAIL TO: NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA
P.O. BOX 3512
OMAHA, NE. 68103

SIoux CITY MEN'S GROUP THRIVING

John Kensington, founder and main administrator of Sioux City's American Business & Professional Guild says the group is doing well — with a mailing list of 45 men and average attendance of 30 at their monthly social gatherings.

The group covers a large geographical area, with members from Iowa, South Dakota, Nebraska and Minnesota. Member occupations range from farmer to doctor to psychologist, pharmacist and other health care, education and others.

John says that in the early days of the Guild, which began meeting in January of 1994, the members were almost all single, but now there are 6-8 couples in the group, some of whom have been together for quite some time. He sees the couples as having a stabilizing influence on the membership and feels that they provide much needed role models for successful relationships.

A future project for the Guild involves a program that was originally developed to help couples cope with the grief of divorce and which a California priest has adapted for gays. John sees this program as providing a valuable service in helping people not only with grieving lost relationships, but also with rejection by parents and even society.

The group meets the last Saturday of each month. If you are interested in learning more about the group, write to: ABPG PO Box 142, Sioux City, IA 51102. —Community Alliance

A WORD FROM G.A.L.P.

By Julie Douglas

Is life and parenthood going so well for you that you can't use a little support? If it is, then you're in the perfect position to maybe help someone else just by talking and sharing.

On the first Thursday of each month, our support group meets and every month I'm warmly greeted by the same five wonderful people. Did I say five? Yes, I did and to think that we have more than 30 names on our membership list makes me feel like those people have either moved or placed G.A.L.P. on the back burner and just forgot about us. Well, guess what? We haven't forgotten about you! We need you!! You might even need us!

We not only have monthly meetings, but we also have family activities like the indoor "Wiener Roast" on February 8th, at M.C.C., 819 South 22, Omaha, along with other activities throughout the year.

G.A.L.P. is there not only to give support to us parents, but also to the kids of our parents. No matter if they're 2, 12, 22, or 42. Sometimes it's really hard being a kid whose parent is gay and if they know they're not alone it makes it a little easier.

Our next meeting is on February 6 at 7:30 p.m., M.C.C. basement level. Please come and join us for a time of sharing and caring.

Hope to see you at our next meeting! Please call if you have any questions, 553-4564.

SMIAROWSKI PLEADS GUILTY TO CHARGES

Mid-January, the Imperial Court of Nebraska was notified by the Douglas County Attorney's office that Ed Smiarowski known as "Eddie B." to the community pled guilty to the charges against him.

Charges were filed against Smiarowski in July of 1994 when Imperial Court of Nebraska learned that funds were missing. Smiarowski was treasurer of ICON at the time.

Sentencing will take place in late February or early March according to a spokesperson at the county attorney's office.

LESBIAN COUPLE WIN IN PATERNITY LEAVE DISPUTE

A lesbian policewoman, "Pia," has been allowed to take paternity leave by Sweden's national social insurance office. Pia's registered partner, "Monica," also a policewoman, gave birth last winter to a daughter conceived by artificial insemination, but attempts to transfer some of her one-year maternity leave to Pia, a practice common among heterosexual couples, were originally rejected. But now the insurance office has declared that the two women have "the same rights as in a conventional marriage."

WARNING: Not Answering These Questions **May Be Hazardous To Your FREEDOM !!!**



The PRIDE Team, after a successful first meeting, wants YOUR opinion. Please fill out the following questions, and send them to us. This will help us know what you are expecting, wanting and needing in YOUR PRIDE Celebration. PLEASE take the time to do this, we want the best celebration ever. Thanks for your help!!!

What did you like about last years PRIDE event?

What did you NOT like about last years PRIDE event?

What could have been better last year?

Would you attend an outdoor street party the night before the event?

What food would you like to have at the event?

Who would you like to hear speak at the event?

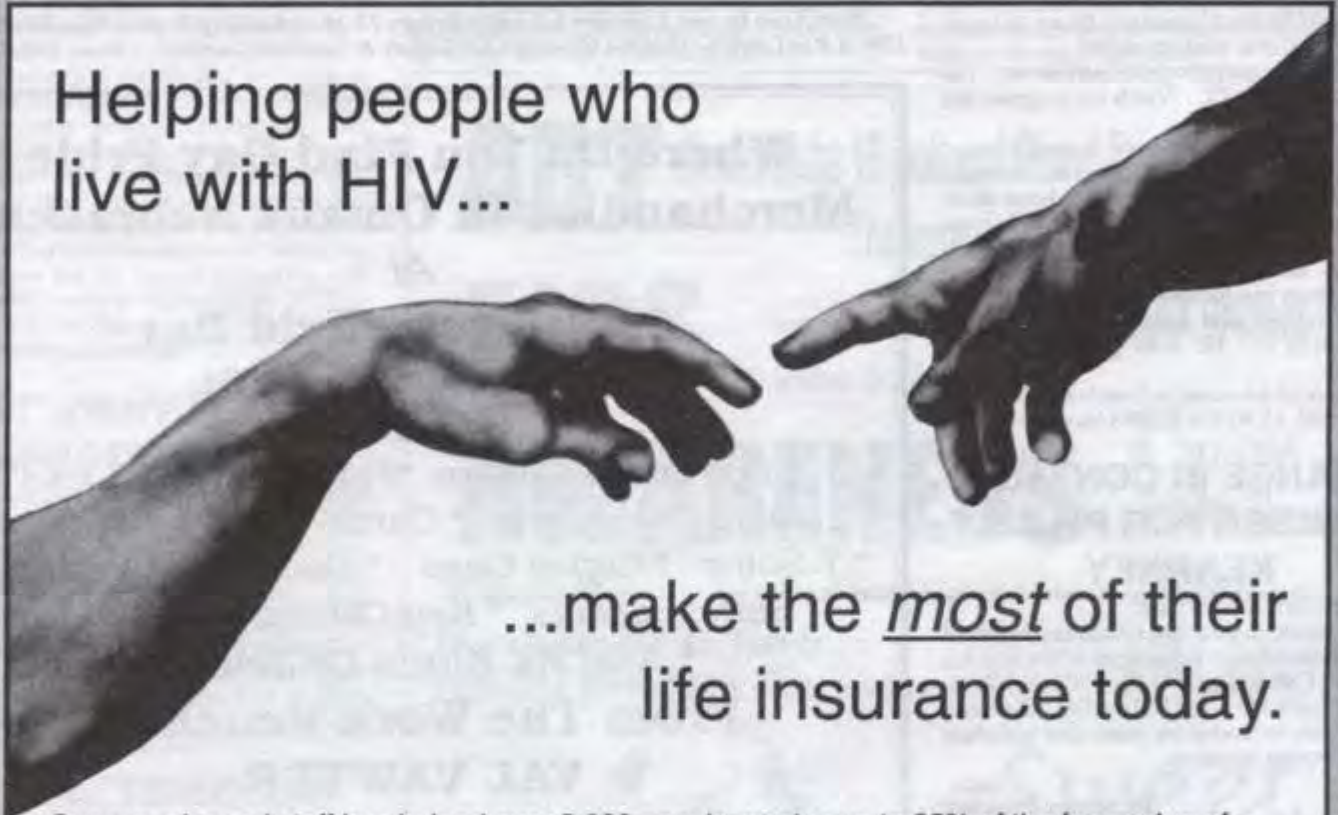
What kind of entertainment would you like to have at the event?

Please send this to: ANGLE, PO Box 8343, Omaha, NE 68108. 558-5303

In Memoriam Of Our Founders, David Scott Reed (1946-1996) and Cecil Ray deLoach (1952-1991)

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CHECK OUT THE GUY ON INTERIOR MOTIVES

by Martin Luther

Put this on your must-do list. Check out the guy on Interior Motives, a weekday program on the Discovery channel.

Hosted by Christopher Lowell, Interior Motives is a hilarious and informative program that teaches viewers about the finer points of interior decorating. It's one of those programs that can grow on you.

TV Guide described Lowell as the only kind of child who would be conceived by Martha Stewart and Richard Simmons. (Scary to imagine, but TV Guide made its point).

Lowell also might be described this way: The queen of daytime TV. Watch his program and you'll understand.

Although entertaining in his mannerisms and quick comebacks, Lowell is also very informative — offering practical insight into home decorating. Some of the recent topics included "Lighten Up" — "Yen for Yard Signs" — "Marvelous Molding" and of course "Fabulous Fireplaces" — a program in which he showed how to take a boring fireplace and make it really "hot" by redecorating it. He even gave a fireplace makeover.

Interior Motives can be found on the Discovery Channel, 11:30AM & 2PM Monday-Friday.

CHANGE IN CONTACT NUMBER FOR PFLAG KEARNEY

The New Voice of Nebraska:

Please note in your area resources sections of magazine the change in numbers of the PFLAG Kearney. Call 308-237-7136 or 308-265-7620. Mail: PFLAG, PO Box 427, Hendley, NE 68946. We continue to meet at the same time and place as listed in area resources.

Thanks,
Jan Brown, President
PFLAG-Kearney — Central Nebraska

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NOW SHOWING AT MARY RIEPMA ROSS THEATER

"Renovating an apartment has never looked as hot as when Gina Gershon, dressed in handyman chic, is doing it in the stylish lesbian thriller *Bound*. "You got a bed somewhere?" neighbor Jennifer Tilly murmurs when she senses just how handy Gershon can be.

Directed by brothers Larry and Andy Wachowski, *Bound* raises the quality of the inexplicably popular killer-lesbian genre. It's a *Reservoir Dogs* with sex appeal, sly humor, arty photography and a finger-chopping scene to show how tough it really is. The movie pulls off a neat trick: It takes two of the worst actresses on the face of the earth — Gershon (the lip-liner victim of *Showgirls*) and Jennifer ("My voice is so teeny") Tilly — and makes them sizzle. Tilly has finally found a role that makes her seem calculating instead of just silly. Violet is a real glamorous dame out of the old school, a Lana Turner with a Postman Always knocks on the Wall Twice kind of come-hither look. Gershon plays just the opposite, with the contemptuous swagger that comes when you wear your sexuality in a tattoo on your arm." — *From Jani Bernard, New York Daily News.*

Bound can be seen February 6-8 and February 13-16 at the Mary Riepma Ross Film Theater, 12th & R in Lincoln (Sheldon Memorial Art Gallery & Sculpture Garden). Phone: 402-472-5353.

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**LINCOLN GOSPEL CHOIR TO
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Fans of gospel music are encouraged to come out the afternoon of Sunday, February 2, to hear some of the best this part of the country has to offer. The renowned Lincoln Community Gospel Choir will be presenting its eleventh Annual Concert at 7:00 p.m. on that date. The location is First Methodist Church located at 50th and Paul Streets in Lincoln.

The Choir, directed by Mr. Oscar Harriott, has performed for many functions in Lincoln over the years and has garnered praise from audiences in our area and beyond. The Annual Concert usually features the full choir singing traditional and newer gospel pieces, and selections by other smaller groups as well. The February 2 Concert is free and open to the public. A free will offering will be taken.

\$15—WHAT A DEAL!

The Imperial Court of Nebraska is excited to announce the Reign Membership Package. For only \$15, members will be admitted free to all three picnics: Memorial Day, July 4th, and Labor Day; members will receive regular newsletters filled with great articles about upcoming events; members will be allowed free admission to two (2) shows of the member's choice (excluding Coronation weekend shows); and members will be eligible to vote in the Reign 17 election. What a deal!

And if you were a member during Reign 16, the deal gets even better. All the goodies above for only \$13. You can't beat that! Membership Applications will be available soon, or you can send your membership fee along with your name, address, and phone number to ICON Membership, P.O. Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68103, and a membership card will be mailed to you!

Only Reign 17 members of the Imperial Court of Nebraska will be eligible to vote for the Reign 17 monarchs and the community representatives to the Board of Governors.

**"LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER"
SUPPORT GROUP FOR SM NOVICES**

The novice sm support group, Learning to Exchange Power, meets on the second Sunday of each month at the Wooden Apple. February brings everyone's favorite topic "Bondage," each presented by experienced players and speakers. As always, we will answer questions and help you understand your fears on the subject of bd/sm. If you have an interest in the bondage or power exchange, this is the place to find out more information about your areas of interest.

Join us at the Wooden Apple, 21st and Martha, at 2pm. The entrance to the private meeting room is on the west side of the building.

For more information contact:

Suzie
P.O. Box 11341
Omaha, NE 68111
voice mail: 402-557-3878

**PFLAG OMAHA 10TH ANNIVERSARY
PARTY AT MAX MARCH 7**

The Omaha Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) will be celebrating its 10th anniversary with a wine and cheese party at The MAX on Friday, March 10. The celebration is from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. The public is invited.

**LESBIAN POET
ROBIN BECKER
AT UN-L MARCH 10**

Robin Becker, lesbian poet, will be reading from her fourth book of poetry, *All-American Girl*, on Monday evening, March 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the English Department Lounge, 228 Andrews Hall, at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Robin Becker, Associate Professor of English at Pennsylvania State University, a 1995-96 Fellow at the Bunting Institute of Radcliffe, also serves as Poetry Editor for *The Women's Review of Books*. *All-American Girl* (Pittsburgh Press), is her fourth collection of poetry.

Ms Becker would be especially pleased if there was a good turnout from the gay & lesbian community. The event is free and open to the entire community.

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Feb. 9th*

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**THE NEW VOICE OF NEBRASKA Salutes
African-American Brothers & Sisters
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**UNITARIAN
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TO FOCUS ON
GAY, LESBIAN,
BISEXUAL,
TRANSGENDERED LOVE**

In a special service entitled "All About Love," designed to coincide with Valentine's Day, the Unitarian Church of Lincoln, NE presents perspectives of love — gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered romantic love, parental love, and the love a community extends to its gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered members.

This service is presented by the Welcoming Congregation Committee of the church, and will culminate in the recognition of the Lincoln church as an official Welcoming Congregation by the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Services will be held at 9:30 and 11:15 on Sunday morning, February 16, at the Unitarian Church at 6300 A Street in Lincoln. Child care is available for both services.

**"THIS ONE'S
FOR YOU"**

Princess Royale 16, Sharon, and her partner, Carla, the newly elected President of the Imperial Court, hosted a fun show at DC's on December 22. The title of the show, "This One's for You," said it all. This show said a rousing "thank you" to the performers and to the staff and patrons of DC's for their support during the year.

The set featured brightly wrapped presents for certain special friends and there were presents for all the performers, all the staff at DC's, and for all those attending the show. The performers donated one set of their tips and kept the other tips. Their generosity raised nearly \$200 which will help HGRA with the Heartland Regional Rodeo in June.

MCC-OMAHA, 819 S. 22

**ASH WEDNESDAY
SERVICE, 7pm, Feb. 12**

LENTEN STUDIES:

What You Should Know About:

- 7pm, Feb. 19: Temptation
- 7pm, Feb. 26: Faith
- 7pm, March 5: Law
- 7pm, March 12: Grace
- 7pm, March 19: The Cross

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It is estimated that there are 1500 persons living in Nebraska who are HIV-positive. More and more of them are adolescents, females and minorities.

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For confidential testing or to find out more, call the Nebraska AIDS Project Hotline.

**1 800 782-AIDS
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The Nebraska AIDS Project is committed to preventing the spread of HIV and to providing needed support services for people living with AIDS-related concerns.

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AGAINST VALENTINE'S DAY

By Richard D. Mohr

Love, like God and pornography, is in the details. Or at least this is true of those loves that take a marital shape.

I don't want to throw a wet blanket over an occasion to party and perhaps I'm just a fuddy-duddy, but it seems to me the conception of love standing behind Valentine's Day is a mistake. On that model, one falls in love of a sudden, as though struck by Cupid's arrow, and then persists eternally in that love, which changes from being thought of as an arrow to being thought of as a high blaze, one which magically requires no fuel and produces its own oxygen. Love here is a pure, mystical, disembodied passion.

Fill out, as you will, the rest of the model with references to souls, stars, *Romeo and Juliet*, and perhaps a Platonic Form or two. Be sure to ease or excuse physical passion as a symbol for spiritual union. And there you have it — romantic love, a heady mix of suddenness and transcendence, one which in its early, tingly phases psychologists sometimes call "limerence".

Been there. Done that. Lasted six months. No T-shirt.

True love cuts a different course — one more mundane. Indeed, it is rooted in the mundane, the ordinary, even if it sometimes has unexpected beginnings.

We met — Bob and I — on Wednesday 24 May 1978. I was an unemployed bum, he a bartender with a spare afternoon. We intersected while cruising one of the continent's great sexual playgrounds — the ravines that make up Toronto's David Balfour Park, like LA's Mulholland Drive, a wilderness lost amid urban bustle. The day was the year's earliest on which one could reasonably sunbathe. After winter's exile, a few gay boys with time on their hands were out reclaiming swatches of the park as gay turf, while also working on their base. Bob and I had each riveted our eyes on the outstretched frame of what could easily have been a ballet star, but oblivious to his admirers, Apollo nattered away with a nerdy friend.

Bob and I settled on each other, drifted bushward, then to my place. Sex, rather than being wild, crazy, wondrous — Wagner's Brangane was not prodding into rapture by singing gloriously from her tower of the dangers of the night — was instead exquisitely attentive. Limerence was no where in sight, but from our patient tendance applied to the material aspects of living sprang the headwaters a marital love. The attentiveness lead to the sharing of meals, the planning of days, and before you knew it, nearly 19 years have logged for our journeying together.

Along the way, we have accumulated the standard debris of daily domestic life in America — sanitary district tax bills, car insurance payments, property tax evaluation reassessment challenges, a mortgage (now burnt), set of dishes, toasters, a post-hole digger, leftover gallons of house paint, stuff like that. In the main, our life together is ordinary, not operatic. But in its very ordinariness lies its marital nature.

For what marriage is — the thing as lived, not the legal monster — is intimacy given substance through the medium of everyday life, the day-to-day. Marriage is the fused intersection of love's sanctity and necessity's demand.

Culturally, we are disinclined to count Great Loves as marriages. Antony and Cleopatra, Tirstan and Isolde, Catherine and Heathcliff — these are loves which burn gloriously but too intensely ever to be manifest in a medium of breakfasts and tire changes. Neither do we count roommates, even "domestic partners", as married if all they do is share the common necessities of lie (food, housing, and the like). Marriage requires the presence and blending of both necessity and intimacy. And life's necessities are a mixed fortune: they are frequently drag, dross, and cussedness, yet they can constitute opportunity, abidingness, and the prospect of nurture. They are the field across which, the medium through which, and the ground from which the intimacies which we consider marital flourish, blossom, and come to fruition.

There is now plenty of empirical evidence to show that gay and lesbian couples fulfill this definition of marriage. And ironically, because gay and lesbian couples are freed from the automatic and weighty social expectations of role divisions along gender lines — breadwinner, homemaker, proposer, disposer, top, bottom — gays and lesbians may well provide the cultural exemplars of married life. For an intimate relationship, as distinct from an impersonal or commercial relation, is one that takes its color from the individuality of its members. Roles fixed, or presumed to be fixed, by nature therefore cut against intimacy. For operating according to roles presupposes that people are interacting as types or kinds, not as

unique individuals.

It is true that gay and lesbian relations generally divide the duties of living between the partners — this is the efficient thing to do, the very first among the economies of scale that coupledom affords. But who does what is in the first instance a matter of personal preference and joint planning rather than of nature and culture. Decisions are made in part with an eye to who is better at doing any given task and who has free time — say, for ironing or coping with car dealerships. But adjustments are made in cases where one person is better at most things — or even everything, here the relation is made less efficient for the sake of equality between partners, who willingly end up doing things they would rather not do — not out of a sense of traditionally assigned duty and role, but out of an impulse to help out, a willingness to sacrifice, and a commitment to equality.

In these ways both the development of intimacy through choice and the proper valuing of love are interwoven into everyday life. Choice improves intimacy. It makes sacrifices meaningful. And it gives love its proper weight. In a gay marriage, the sanctifications that descend instantly through custom and ritual in many heterosexual marriages descend gradually over and through time — and in a way they are

Continued on the next page

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Continued from previous page

better for it. For the sacred values and loyal intimacies contained in a gay marriage are a product of the relation itself; they are truly the couple's own.

Gay folk and straight folk should strike a deal: gays can teach straights how to do it right and straights can give up their monopoly on the benefits of legal marriage. Against that day, Bob and I carry on. Perhaps sedimentation alone is the explanation and perhaps I'm simply deluded, but our love feels ever more deep, robust, substantial — the sort of things that might lead one to believe in permanent non-material objects, traces of the divine, whatever. Our marriage courses on un-

wed — shimmering, if plain, constant and nice.

So let the prospective lovers' lesson be: Send flowers and candies if you wish, but hold the limerence. Don't be the love of my life, be the love of my living. And for sure, don't be my valentine.

Richard D. Mohr is Professor of Philosophy at the University of Illinois-Urbana.

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CABOOSE PRESS OFFERS EROTIC LITERATURE

Caboose Press has set its publishing course into the uncertain waters of sexually explicit fiction. Contending that such writing need not be aimed at individuals reading at a sixth grade level and that those characters portrayed should not be condemned to positions of meat rack expedience, this small publishing house situated in tiny Rocklin, California has set itself the ambitious undertaking of bringing explicit fiction to the attention—and possibly into the appetites—of those not ordinarily inclined toward it. The first volumes in that direction are "Pieces", "Leaps", "Horses", and "Bridges", all from the very fluid pen of Dixon Stalward. Wisely, Stalward chooses not to ignore certain hallmarks of this venerable genre. The result brings to us a wider appreciation of our common humanity while never ignoring the meatier—and celebratory—aspects of the sexual mystery. Stalward's tales are always hotly erotic, but not beyond practices commonly indulged in by the many of the millions. The difference here lies in the style, the verve, the vocabulary, the perceptions and insights—often rueful—found in the writing. Indeed, sexuality on a truly adult basis. Caboose Press and Dixon Stalward seem to have made a good effort; we have here worthy harbingers of more to come.

Author Dixon Stalward is a recovering alcoholic living and working and writing in the foothills, the rolling fields and woods of Northern California. His notion, he says, is to spread the news of the joy to be found in sobriety and, as well, to nurture through word—and sometimes deed—the healthy sexuality that makes us all human.

The Caboose Press books are available at many local gay bookstores nationwide, on the Internet at <http://www.gayweb.com>, or directly from the publisher at P.O. Box 567, Rocklin, CA 95677-0567.

NEWSLETTER FOR BI/GAY MEN WITH & WITHOUT DISABILITIES

Able-Together, an international quarterly newsletter/forum for gay and bisexual men with and without disabilities, is published out of San Francisco, California. Able-Together has postal subscribers across the U.S. and in Canada, the United Kingdom and elsewhere; you can also buy Able-Together at certain gay/progressive bookstores across the U.S. and in the U.K.

Able-Together is co-edited by Mike Maurillo, spinal cord injured, and Peter Hegedus, non-disabled; our shared perspective emphasizes increasing positive experience in relationships as we expand our awareness of how our feelings in relation to our own/others' disabilities can affect us in communicating with each other. Subscribers are encouraged to contribute letters, opinions and articles for publication.

Able-Together costs \$30 for four issues, inclusive of a personal contact ad listing at no additional charge; \$15 for persons with low incomes; or a single issue for \$5 and then "upgrade" to a full year's subscription. Able-Together lists the personal contact ads of full-year subscribers only; contact ads may be box number-coded for privacy. For more information, contact Able-Together at P.O. Box 460053, San Francisco, CA 94146; phone: (415) 522-9091.

LOOKING AHEAD: A Calendar of Events for the Coming Year

March 97

- TBA - GLAGN Card Party
- 1 - RCMC Spaghetti Dinner
Unity Church
- 2 - ICON Snoball Om Mining Co
- 7 - PFLAG 10 Anniv.
Wine & Cheese Party at MAX
- 9 - ICON Benefit for LEO at DC's
- 10 - Poet Robin Becker - UN-L
- 19 - NAP Community Update
"Clinical Trials"
- 20 - PFLAG Viewing of
"The Question of Equality"
- 28 - Good Friday Services - MCC-O
- 30 - Easter Services at MCC-O
- 30 - ICON Easter Bonnet Contest

April 97

- TBA -GLAGN Barn Dance
- 13 - ICON Closet Ball at MAX
- 16 - NAP Community Update
"HIV & Tuberculosis"
- 17 - 19 - NAMES Quilt Display
Iowa Western, Council Bluffs
- 25 & 26 - PFLAG Garage &
Bake Sale

May 97

- TBA - GLAGN Gay Prom
- 17 - RCMC Mexican Dinner
- 18 - Resource Center Show at MAX
- 21 - NAP Community Update
"STD's"
- 25 - Int'l Mr. Leather Chicago
- 26 - ICON Memorial Day Picnic

June 97

- TBA - HGRA/Pride Party
- TBA - Womyn's Supertubing
- 14 - RCMC Pride Concert
- 18 - NAP Community Update
"Chemical Dependency"
- TBA -Desert Plains Drummer
- 22 - ICON Stepping Down
- 22 - Pride Parade & Festival
- 27 -29 - Gay Rodeo - Fremont

July 97

- 4, 5, 6 ICON Picnic & Coronation
- 10 - NAP Community Update
"GLB Service Issues"
- 15 - ANGLE's Slice of Summer
- 18 -20 Int'l Ms Leather San Diego
- TBA - Mr. Nebraska Fantasy Contst

August 97

- TBA - Womyn's Summerfest
Racoon River
- TBA - Int'l Mr. Fantasy Contest

September 97

- 5 - PFLAG Putt-Putt Golf
- 27 - Int'l Mr. Drummer, SF

October 97

- 12 - WRC/ANGLE
Nat'l Coming Out Day

November 97

- 21 - Mr & Ms Leather Nebraska
- 22 - ANGLE Recognition Dinner

December 97

- 1 - World AIDS Day
- 6 - Night of 1000 Stars
- 24 - Hannukah
- 24 - Christmas Eve Service MCC-O

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

WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE NEW VOICE?

We've listed many of the regular distribution points below. If your group or business would like to be included on our distribution list, please contact us.

Omaha:

- Borders (Books-Music-Cafe)
- The Chesterfield
- CR Babes
- D.C.'s
- The Diamond
- Downtown Grounds
- Gilligan's Pub
- The MAX
- Metropolitan Community Church
- Nebraska AIDS Project
- New Realities
- Omaha Mining Company
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
- The Infield
- The Mystery Bookstore
- St. Mary's Tan
- Visions (Custom Framing)

Council Bluffs:

- Adult Emporium

Lincoln:

- The Panic
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
- Q
- UNI. Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
- Women's Resource Center

Kearney:

- GLAGN
- Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Des Moines:

- Blazing Saddle
- Faces

The Garden

- Tacky's
- Chat Noir Cafe

Sioux City:

- Kings & Queens
- Three Cheers

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Bars & Restaurants

Des Moines (A.C. 515)

- Blazing Saddles 416 E. 5th St.
- Faces 416 E Walnut, 280-5463
- The Garden 112 SE 4th St. 243-3965
- Tacky's 515 E 6th 245-9126
- Chat Noir Cafe 644 18th 244-1353

Omaha (A.C. 402)

- The Chesterfield 1901 Leavenworth
345-6889
- CR Babes 1951 St. Mary's 344-2310
- DC's 610 S. 14th, 344-3103
- The Diamond 712 S. 16th, 342-9595
- Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth, 449-9147
- The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110
- Omaha Mining 1715 Leavenworth,
Company 449-8703

Lincoln (A.C. 402)

- Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764
- Q 226 S. 9th St. 475-2269

Sioux City, IA (A.C. 712)

- Kings & Queens 417 Nebr. 252-4167
- 3 Cheers 414 20th St, 255-8005

Sioux Falls, SD (A.C. 605)

- Touchez 323 S. Phillips Ave., 335-9874

AREA RESOURCES

RESOURCES SPECIFIC TO HIV/AIDS

HIV/AIDS EDUCATION, INFO & REFERRAL

**Indicates HIV Testing Available

- AIDS Educ Project**, UNL G/L Resource Cntr, Rm342, NebUnion, Lincoln 68588, 472-5644
- American Red Cross**,
2245 Heather Dr, Crete 68333 (402) 826-3785
1701 'E', Lincoln 68501 (402) 471-7997
2515 St Marys Ave, Omaha 68105 431-4447
- **Charles Drew Health Center**, 2201 N. 30, Omaha 68111 (402) 453-1433
- **Douglas County Health Dept**, 1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750
- **Outreach Center**, 1723 Leavenworth Omaha, NE 68102, Friday 1-4pm, Every other Friday 10pm - 2am. HIV testing, education, support.
- **Equilibria Medical Center**, 544 S. 24, Omaha, 68102 Call (402) 345-2252
- **Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Health Department** 3140 N Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Walk-in tests: The Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tues., Urban Indian Health Ctr, 140 S. 27, 434-7177
- **Grand Island-Hall Co Health Dept**, 105 East 1st St, Grand Island, Mary (308) 385-5175
- **Hastings College Health Center, Hastings, NE 68901-402-461-7372** Ask for Judy
- HIV Clinic**, Univ of NE Medical Center, 600 S. 42nd, Omaha, (402) 559-6681
- Lincoln Cancer Cntr**, 4600 Valley, 483-1872
- **McCook Family Planning**, 111 West "C" St, McCook, 69001, (308) 345-3626
- **Nebraska AIDS Project**
{statewide} (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or info@nap.org http://www.nap.org/Volunteer Services, HIV testing, AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling
- **Omaha Office**: 139 S. 40th, 68131, Administration 342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233,
- **Lincoln Office**: 2123 Winthrop, 484-8100.
- **Central Nebraska Office**: 3423 2nd Ave Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610
- **Northeast Nebr Office**: 304 N. 5 St, Suite C, Norfolk, NE 68701 (402) 370-3807
- **Western Nebraska Office**: 3707 Ave. D, Scottsbluff, NE 69361 (308) 635-3807
- Nebr AIDS Educ/Training Center**, AIDS education to health care professionals. UNMC, 600 S 42 Omaha 68198, (402) 559-6681
- **Nebraska Dept of Health**,
*Kearney 3423 2nd Ave 68847 308-865-5609
**Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395
**NorthPlatte, Craft St. Office Bldg, 200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133
- Nebr Regional Hemophilia Center**, UNMC, 600 S. 42, Omaha (402) 559-4227.
- **Nemaha County Health Department**, 1824 N. Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549
- **Outreach Center**, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha, 342-8716, Testing Sat, 1-4pm; 1st & 3rd Sat Women Only, 2 & 4 Sat Open to Public
- **Scottsbluff Co Health Dept**, Gering, NE 69341 (308) 635-3866
- Siouxland AIDS Coalition**, 2nd Tuesdy, 12 noon Siouxland Chapter of Am. Red Cross, 1512 Pierce, Sioux City, Iowa. Call (712) 252-0722
- Veterans Admin Medical Center**, 42 & Woolworth, Omaha 346-8800; Dean Pierce, x-4119

HIV/AIDS COUNSELING & SUPPORT

- AIDS Care**, Mercy Center, 427 E. Kanesville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503, att: Colleen Kibbe-Vest (712) 328-2609
- AIDS Support Group**: Sponsored by PFLAG, Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437
- Calico II HIV/AIDS Support Group**, Meets 1st & 3rd Tues. 7pm, Alliance For info call: (308) 762-8259
- Douglas County Mental Health -- Outpatient Program**, 4102 Woolworth, Omaha, 68105 Att: Leslie A. Epstein (402) 444-7930
- Family AIDS Support Group**: Sponsored by PFLAG-Omaha, Meet 1st Sunday, 2p.m. 1st United Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha
- Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support Group**, Meet 3rd Tuesday (308) 385-5175
- HIV/AIDS Support Group for Women**, 7-9pm, NAP Office, 2123 Winthrop, Lincoln
- HIV/AIDS Support Group for Men**, Lincoln, Every Other Sunday, 5-7pm, Call Greg 438-3425 or 441-3324
- Harambee Mental Health Services**, Business & Technical Center, 2505 N. 24, Omaha, NE 68110. (402) 451-3913. Mental Health Services to people of color who are infected with HIV, their partners, and their families. Charles Drew Health Center.
- Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group**, 1st Monday, info, Barb (308) 865-5610
- Nebraska AIDS Project**
{statewide} (800) 782-AIDS [2437] or info@nap.org http://www.nap.org/
- North Platte Area Support Grp**, Call: (308) 535-8133
- Western Nebraska HIV/AIDS Support Group**, Scottsbluff, Call (308) 635-3606

RELIGIOUS/SPIRITUAL SUPPORT FOR HIV/AIDS

- AIDS Interfaith Network**, 100 N 62, Omaha Br Wm Woeger 558-3100 (Chancery) Service: 2nd Monday, 7pm, St Cecelia's, Nebraska Chapel, 40th & Webster
- Lincoln Interfaith Council**, 140 S. 27th St., Lincoln 68510, 474-3017, AIDS/HIV Healing Service: 1st Tues, 7pm, St Francis Chapel, 1145 South Street, Lincoln

Please Note:

**Nebraska AIDS Project
Omaha Office has moved
to 139 S. 40 St., Omaha**

LEGAL SERVICES FOR HIV/AIDS AND GLBT RELATED ISSUES

- Sean McFarlin**, Omaha, 333-6000
- Petersen Law Offices**, Thomas M. Petersen Attorney & Counselor, 2712 S. 87th Ave., Omaha, 68124 (402) 393-8080
- Taylor & Wild**, Suite 25, Gold's Galleria, 1033 "O" St., Lincoln, (402) 434-9482
- Nebr Bar Assoc**, 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091
- Nebraska Civil Liberties Union**, Box 81455, Lincoln 68501, (402) 476-8091

GLBT RESOURCES

GREATER NEBRASKA BASED RESOURCES

- Chadron State College Alliance of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Students, Faculty & Staff**, PO Box 924, Chadron, NE 69337, 308-432-404
- Fellowship of Believers**, 812 North 10th, #7, Norfolk 68701, 402-379-9935 Home-based church meets Wed 7pm, Sun 10am Open to all.
- GLB Alliance**, c/o Health Ctr, Hastings, College, Hastings 68901 Judy 402-461-7372 (Health Ctr) 462-2961 (home). For G/L/B Students
- Gay/Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebr.** Box 2401, Kearney, NE 68847 Support, socials, newsletter. Info: Todd at (308) 382-5419, Rod at (402) 879-4650 or e-mail rdeuel@itec.net.
- Panhandle Gay/Lesbian Support Service** Box 1046, Scottsbluff 69363, (308) 635-8488
- PFLAG-Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays** *Kearney: meet 3pm, 3rd Sun, St Luke's Epis. (308) 237-7136 or 265-7620. Mail: PFLAG, P.O. Box 427, Hendley, NE 68946
- PRIDE Group**, Counseling Ctr, Wayne State, Wayne, 68787, Karen or Virginia (402) 375-7321. G/L/B Students

IOWA BASED RESOURCES

- American Business & Prof. Guild**, Box 142, Sioux City, IA 51102, Network of gay business/prof. men from IA, MN, SD, NE, Meet last Sat., Write for info.
- Bar Alternative Gay Group (BAGG)**, meets 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 7:30pm, Horizon Restaurant, 322 Tri-View Ave, Sioux City, IA. For details call Terry (712) 255-1890, Sue 258-6167, or Marty 255-8528
- Community Alliance**, 1301 Villa Ave, Sioux City, IA 51103 (712) 258-4704
- Integrity Prayer Service**, Wed, 6:30pm, St. Thomas Episcopal, 12 & Douglas, Sioux City, IA Al (712) 276-8369 or Rev. Kerr 258-0141
- Iowa Coalition for Human Rights** Box 1222, Iowa City, IA 52244, or call Richard Shannon 319-337-5870, rashanno@sprynet.com
- Morningside College Student Group**, Tim Orwig, Advisor, Student Svcs, (712) 274-5426
- PFLAG-Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays** *Sioux City, IA PO Box 1311, Sioux City, 51102 Meet 2nd Sun, 2pm, Mayflower Congregational Church, 1407 W. 18

SOUTH DAKOTA BASED RESOURCES

- PFLAG-Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays** *Sioux Falls, SD 4th Sat. (605) 334-5508
- Sioux Falls Support Group for Men**, PO Box 1602, Sioux Falls, SD 57101

AREA RESOURCES

GAY, LESBIAN, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER AND RELATED RESOURCES

LINCOLN BASED RESOURCES

- Alcoholics Anonymous, Meetings:**
**Mon. 7:30pm, Rainbow AA, 3rd Floor, "Meeting Place" 28 & S, Lincoln
**Thurs. 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", Lincoln, Info contact V.J. at 477-3526
**Fri. 8pm, 1st Plymouth Church, 20 & D, Lincoln, 438-5214
- Bi Discussion Group, 2nd Tuesday, Gathering Place, 15 & E, Lincoln, Wendy 476-0314**
- Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rts, Box 94882, Lincoln 68509** Advocacy, newsletter
- Gay Men's Support Grp, Counseling & Psych Services, Rm 213, Univ. Health Ctr, UNL, Lincoln, 68588-0618, 472-7450.** Confidential
- Lesbian Discussion Group, Womens Resource Ctr, Room 340 Neb Union, UNL, Lincoln, 68588-472-2597.** Call for meeting information
- Lincoln/Lancaster Drug Projects, 610 "J", Lincoln, 475-5161, Dennis Hoffman, Case Mgr.** O/P chemical dependency treatment while affirming sexuality. Sliding Fee
- Lincoln Women for Sobriety Mtg, Sat, 10am, YWCA, Lincoln. Contact Judith at 472-2598**
- National Org. for Women (NOW) Lincoln** activist org. issues of full equality for women, Box 80172, Lincoln, NE 68501, 477-1226
- Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), Box 30128, Lincoln 68503, 434-9880.** 4th Tues, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", HIV Family Grp, Under 21 Grp same time place
- SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542-2043,** Intergenerational Lesbian Coffee House 2nd Saturday, 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos at 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46th, Lincoln
- Straight Spouse Support Group -- Lincoln.** Call 489-9088 for info.
- Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", Lincoln, NE "A" recognized Welcoming Congregation"**
- UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Ctr, Rm 234 Neb Union, 14 & R, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-5644,** Social, info, referral, library, General meetings Tuesdays, 7pm, during school year
- The Wimmin's Show, 12-3pm Sunday, KZUM, 89.3 FM stereo, Lincoln.**
- A Woman's Place, Lincoln, nonprofit org** dedicated to empowering women.
- Youth Support Group--Lincoln.** Every Other Saturday 4-6pm, Call 434-9880
- Youth Talkline 473-7932, Friday & Saturday 7pm-Midnite, Lincoln.** Emotional support, referrals, AIDS info for callers Age 23 and under, Project of Coalition for G/L Civil Rts
- YWCA Counseling & Education Department, 476-2802, Lincoln.** Information and Referral

OMAHA BASED RESOURCES

- AI-Anon** Fridays 8:15pm, Underwood Hills Presbyterian, 851 N. 74
- Alcoholics Anonymous,**
**Lambda Stag, Sun, 4pm, Lowe Ave Prsbytrn
**Stonewall Grp, Wed, 7:30pm, Mercy High
**Gay Mens Stag "An Alternative", Fri, 7pm,
**Live & Let Live Group, Friday 8:15pm, Underwood Hills Presbyterian, 851 N. 74
- A.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors),** Box 8343, Omaha 68108, 558-5303, Network, raise consciousness, PRIDE activities. Meeting 1st Tues 7pm Internet www.angle.org
- Art/AIDS Awareness Foundation, P.O. Box 461033, Papillion, 68046-1033, (402) 592-7812, e-mail: ezgoing@ix.netcom.com** Group of HIV+ visual artists educating public about realities of AIDS through art.
- The Book Station and Coffee Lounge, Books, Gifts, Coffee, 1913 Leavenworth St., 342-0520**
- Citizens For Equal Protection, Box 55548, Omaha, 68155-398-3027.** Legislative action 1st Thursday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney
- EAGLE-Omaha, Employee Assoc. of Gays & Lesbians US WEST, Pat Phalen, 1299 Farnam, 11th Flr, Omaha 68102 (402) 348-8569**
- Frontrunners/walkers, Box 4583, Omaha 68104, HOTLINE 496-3658, Running/Walking Club (SASE for info)**
- Gay & Lesbian Org of UNO (GaLo), UNO Students - Wednesdays, 4-6pm, Jenkins Rm, Milo Bail Student Ctr, Talk Group 2nd Wed 3pm, Info: Jonathan Raymond 571-8518**
- Gay And Lesbian Parents Group (G.A.L.P.), 1st Thurs, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563** Emphasis on Gay/Lesbian Parent & significant other. Mtgs open to anyone.
- Gay/Lesbian Information & Referral Line.** A service of A.N.G.L.E., Inc., (402) 558-5303
- Gay Lesbian & Affirming Disciples (GLAD) G/LB/Affirming Disciples of Christ 553-2386**
- GLBT Resource Center, Box 8343, Omaha, 68108, Call 558-5303 "AWork in Progress"** Working to establish a GLBT Resource Center in the Omaha area
- Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc (HGRA), Box 3354, Omaha, 68103-0354. Dan 597-1689** Enjoy/support rodeos, country activities. Meets 1st Saturday alternating between Omaha/Des Moines
- ICE BOWL Invitational Bowling Tournament.** Tournament held President's Day Weekend
- Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103** Fundraising organization workign for advancement of G/L/B/T society, Board Meets 1st Monday each month, 7pm. Location varies
- "Learning to Exchange Power" Novice BD/SM Support Grp, 2nd Sunday, 2-4pm, Back Room, Wooden Apple, 22nd & Martha, Omaha**
- L.E.O. (Leather Engineers of Omaha) educational-social grp, Gay Men interested in Leather Lifestyle. Write: Box 8181, Omaha, 68108**
- LinOma Bares, Box 8493, Omaha 68106** Nudist Naturalist Club for gay/bi men
- Lutherans Concerned, 453-7137, 7pm, Mar. 3, June 2, Oct. 6, Dec. 1, 1st Lutheran Omaha**
- Metropolitan Club, Box 8603, Omaha 68108-0603, 3rd Thursdays, Neon Goose, 7pm, gay/lesbian professionals to meet, socialize, network**
- Men's Support Group, Meet Tuesdays 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22 St. Call 345-2563**
- Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563, Mail: Box 3173, 68103, E-mail address: MCCOMAHA@radiks.net. Sunday Worship at 9 & 10:30am**
- National Org. for Women (NOW) Omaha** political/grassroots activist org. issues of full equality for women- Omaha NOW, Box 3325, Omaha 68103-0325, (402) 391-7303, Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney
- Nebraska Zen Center** for all persons, 3625 Lafayette Ave, Omaha 68131, 551-9035
- New Realities, Books, Tapes, Gifts, Old Market Passageway, 1026 Howard, 68102, 342-1863**
- The New Voice of Nebraska, Box 3512, Omaha 68103.** Monthly magazine, (402) 556-9907 or tjrr05c@prodigy.com
- Omaha Meatpackers, AIDS fundraising organization.** Call (712) 366-1791
- Omaha Players Club (OPC), Pansexual education support group Meeting/parties monthly. Send \$5 and an age statement to OPC, Box 34463 Omaha 68134**
- Omaha Women for Sobriety meet Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Omaha YWCA, 222 S. 29 St., Contact Judith at 472-2598 for more info.**
- ONYX IMAGES, Box 31026, Omaha, NE 68132-9998.** Fraternity for African American men. Age restriction for membership. Support for brothers of all ages.
- Parents-Friends of Lesbians And Gays PFLAG Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064, 291-6781** Meet 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Mead Hall, West End, 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, "Program & Sharing", 4th Sunday, 2pm, "Sharing"
- Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, 733-1360 Cleve, Omaha.**
- Proud Horizons Youth Support Group,** sponsor: PFLAG. For gay, lesbian youth & those questioning sexuality, age 13-21. Meets Sat, Omaha, Call 291-6781.
- River City Couples, Social Support for GLBT couples, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, Info Eric. 392-1443, email rccouple@probe.net**
- River City Mixed Bowling League, Sundays, 3pm, SkyLANes, Center Mall, Omaha**
- River City Gender Alliance, Box 3112, Omaha 68103-3122** Message/Hotline 398-1255, Email: sgibbona@synergy.net. For cross-dressers, transsexuals, those wishing to know more. All orientations. Newsletter. Meet 1st Saturday
- River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha, 68103-0267 341-SING (341-7464)** Volunteer chorus for Gay/Lesbian/Sensitive people.
- Straight Spouse Support Grp 7-9pm, 2nd Thursday, 1st Methodist, Room 209, 291-6781**
- W.E.L.T. (Women of Educated Leather Tactics) Box 7083, Omaha, 68107-7083** Educational/social group for women of leather. Omaha/Lincoln 402-477-7741
- Women of the Plains, Box 24355, Omaha, 68124, Bring women's culture back to Omaha**
- Women's Support Group, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd, 345-2563. Meets Saturdays 11am**
- WomenSpace, Box 24712, Omaha 68124-0712,** Quarterly newsletter for lesbian voices & events

Please Check Your Group or Organization's Listing. Send Changes or Updates to: NVN PO Box 3512 Omaha, NE 68103

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

EVERY SUNDAY

EVERY MONDAY

EVERY TUESDAY

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Worship Services, 9 & 10:30a.m.
MCC- Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563
Gay/Lesbian Walking Club, 10am, 38th & South, Lincoln, by tennis courts
Reconciling Worship Community, 7:30 p.m.; Dietz United Methodist, 1423 S. 10, Omaha.

HIV Tests, NAP, 139 S. 40th, Omaha 7-9:30pm
River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha, 7:15pm

Women for Sobriety 5:30pm YWCA, 222 S. 29, Omaha, Call Judith 472-2598
Mens Support Group 7:30pm MCC, 819 S. 22, Omaha

Gay Men Disc Grp, Lincoln 6pm, Contact Luis 472-7450
Fronrunners, 6:30pm, Brownell-Talbot
PFLAG-Lincoln AIDS Support Grp, 7pm, 475-2437
AA, 7:30pm, Mercy High, Omaha
Integrity Prayer Svc, 6pm, St. Thomas Episc, Sioux City, IA
UNO GaLO 4-6pm, Jenkins Rm, Milo Bail Student Ctr, Call 571-8518

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

February 2 (1st Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Memorial Park, Omaha
PFLAG AIDS Family Support Group, 2-4pm, Call 291-6781 for details
Lincoln Gospel Choir Concert, 2pm, First Methodist, 50th & St. Paul Streets, Lincoln
Ms HGRA Fundraiser, Blazing Saddle, Des Moines
Amateur Strip Night, Q, Lincoln
ICON "Art AIDS Awareness" Benefit, The MAX, Omaha

February 9 (2nd Sunday)

Fronrunners, Metcalf Park, 10am, Omaha
Learning to Exchange Power Novice BD/SM Group, "Bondage," Back Rm, Wooden Apple, 22 & Martha, 2-4pm
PFLAG, Mayflower Congregational Church, 1407 W. 18, Sioux City, IA, 2-4pm
"Awareness of Art" Showing & Show, The MAX, Omaha
Miss DC's (Roxy) & Friends, 9pm, DC's Omaha, No cover charge
Miss City Sweetheart Step Down, Q, Lincoln

February 16 (3rd Sunday)

"All About Love" Church Services, 9:30 & 11:15 am, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln
Fronrunner 10am Roberts Park, Middle of Keystone Trail, Omaha
Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha Board of Directors, 1:30pm
PFLAG/Kearney, St Luke Episcopal, 3pm, 2304 2nd Ave., (308) 237-7136/265-7620
Panhandle Mens Group (308)635-8488
Miss Ice Bowl, The MAX, Omaha
Miss City Sweetheart, Q in Lincoln, 9pm

February 23 (4th Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Towl Park, Omaha
PFLAG-Omaha, 2-4pm, Mead Hall, 1st Meth
MCC Lincoln Fellowship Grp 6pm, 477-3215
Portfolio Men dance at The MAX Omaha
Miss Montana's "Gone Country", 9pm, DC's, Omaha
Roxy & Friends, Q, Lincoln

March 2 (1st Sunday)

Fronrunners, 10am, Omaha
ICON Presents Sno-Ball, 9:30pm, Omaha Mining Company, 1715 Leavenworth
Shexa Mann's Birthday Show, Q, Lincoln
Miss MAX 13's first Show, The MAX, Omaha

Feb 3 (1st Monday)

HIV Testing Begins at NAP's New Location, 139 S. 40th, Omaha
ICON Board Mtg, 7pm, MCC-O, 819 S. 22, Omaha

Feb 10 (2nd Mon.)

AIDS Interfaith Service, 7pm, St Cecelias, Omaha

Feb. 17 (3rd Monday)

Blank space for event details.

Feb. 24 (4th Monday)

Blank space for event details.

March 3 (1st Monday)

ICON Board Mtg, 7pm, MCC-O, 819 S. 22, Omaha

Feb. 4 (1st Tuesday)

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

Feb. 11 (2nd Tuesday)

Siouxland AIDS Coalition, 12n, Red Cross, Sioux City, IA
Free/Confidential HIV Testing 5-7pm by Lancaster Co Health Dept at The Panic, Lincoln
HIV/AIDS Support Group for Women, 7-9pm, NAPOffice, 2123 Winthrop, Lincoln
Bi Discussion Group, 7:30pm Gathering Place, 15 & E, Lincoln Wendy 476-0314
Mardi Gras, Q, Lincoln

Feb. 18 (3rd Tuesday)

NOW-Nat'l Org for Women Lincoln 7pm, YWCA, 1432 "M", 474-1960
Omaha: 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney, 391-7303
Grand Island HIV Support Grp, 7pm, (308) 385-5175

Feb. 25 (4th Tuesday)

Blank space for event details.

March 4 (1st Tuesday)

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

Feb. 5 (1st Wed)

Blank space for event details.

Feb. 12 (2nd Wed)

Ash Wednesday Service 7pm, at MCC-Omaha, 819 S 22 St., 345-2563
GALO Talk Group, 3pm, Q's call Jonathan 571-8518 for info

Feb. 19 (3rd Wed)

NAP Community HIV/AIDS Update, "CMV Care & Treatment", 7pm, Wellness Center, 139 S. 40, Omshs
Lenten Study: "What You Should Know About Temptation," MCC-Omaha, 7pm, 819 S. 22

Feb. 26 4th Wed)

Lenten Study: "What You Should Know About Faith," MCC-Omaha, 7pm, 819 S. 22

March 5 (1st Wed)

Lenten Study: "What You Should Know About Law," MCC-Omaha, 7pm, 819 S. 22nd

FEBRUARY CALENDAR

EVERY THURSDAY

HIV Test Site, NAP, 139 S. 40th, Omaha 7-9:30pm
G/L Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A" Lincoln, Call V.J. 477-3526
Univ. of Nebr-Kearney GLBT Support Grp, 4pm, Student Affairs Bldg, info Call Ronnie at 308-865-8488 or 236-5312

EVERY FRIDAY

Lesbian Discussion Grp Lincoln 7pm 488-2043
Youth Talkline, 7pm-12m, For callers up to age 23, 473-7932, Lincoln
Network Q, 9pm, Cable Channel 20, Lincoln
Al-Anon, 8:15pm, Omaha, Underwood Hills Church
Alcoholics Anonymous Omaha:
"An Alternative" Mens Stag 7pm, Lowe Ave
"Live & Let Live" 8:15pm Underwood Hills Presbyterian, 851 N. 74th
Lincoln: 8pm, Plymouth Congregational, 438-5214

EVERY SATURDAY

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

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

Feb. 6 (1st Thursday)
Gay & Lesbian Parents Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha
Citizens for Equal Protection, 7pm, Video, 1st Unitarian, Omaha
Czarine Sally hosts "Old-Fashioned Box Social" 8pm, DC's, Omaha
Bar Alternative Gay Group 7:30pm, Horizon Restaurant, Sioux City, IA, Info: (712) 255-1890/258-6167/255-8528
"Bound" at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater, 12 & R, Lincoln

February 7 (1st Friday)
Womyn's Book Discussion Group, Call Laurie 556-0937
Frontrunners Friday Afternoon Club, Gilligan's, Omaha, 6:30pm
"Bound" at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater, 12 & R, Lincoln

February 1 (1st Saturday)
HIV Testing (Women Only), Outreach Center, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha
River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender community, (402) 398-1255
Open Mike at The Book Station 7pm, Omaha
"In The Life", NETV EduCable, 9pm

Feb. 13 (2nd Thursday)
P-FLAG 1st Methodist-Mead Hall, 7020 Cass Omaha 291-6781 7pm
Straight Spouse Suppt Grp 7-9pm, Mead Hall, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781
"Bound" at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater, 12 & R, Lincoln

February 14 (2nd Friday)
Valentine's Day
ICE Bowl Tournament
Charlie's Cowboy Cloggers, DC's, Omaha
Valentine's Day Dinner, Q, Lincoln
"Bound" at the Mary Riepma Ross Theater, 12 & R, Lincoln

February 8 (2nd Saturday)
HIV Testing (Open to Public), Outreach Center, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha
River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender
Players Club, 2pm Workshop; 8pm Play Party
SAGE Intergenerational Lesbian Coffee House 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos, 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, Lincoln, 488-4178
Velvet Argyle at Book Station, 7pm, Omaha
GALP Weiner Roast 5-9pm MCC-O
"Bound" Mary Riepma Ross Theater Lincoln

Feb. 20 (3rd Thursday)
Metropolitan Club, 6:30pm, Neon Goose, 10 & Pacific, Omaha
GLAGN Support Group, Grand Island, (308) 384-7235
Bar Alternative Gay Group 7:30pm, Horizon Restaurant, Sioux City, IA, Info: (712) 255-1890/258-6167/255-8528
"Fiesta Thursday" Taco Bar 7pm, DC's, Omaha

February 21 (3rd Friday)

February 15 (3rd Saturday)
HIV Testing (Women Only), Outreach Center, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha
River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender
Youth Support Grp--Lincoln 4-6pm 434-9880
ICE BOWL Tournament, Omaha
HGRA Black Light Party, Omaha
Charlie's Cowboy Cloggers, DC's, Omaha
Black & White Ball, Three Cheers, Sioux City, IA
Open Mike at The Book Station 7pm, Omaha
"Bound" at Ross Theater, 12 & R, Lincoln

Feb. 27 (4th Thursday)

February 28 (4th Friday)

February 22 (4th Saturday)
PFLAG-Sioux Falls, SD, 1pm (605)334-5508
HIV Testing (Open to Public), Outreach Center, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha
River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender
Frontrunners Annual Chili-Cook-Off, Call HOTLINE 496-3658 for details
GLAGN's "Hearts of Fire" Benefit, Adams County Fair Grounds, Hastings, NE
"Converging Circles" Christianity & gay/les/bi lifestyle, St. Marks, 13 & R, Lincoln
Jerry Struz Guitar, 8pm, Book Station, Omaha

March 6 (1st Thursday)
CFEP, 7pm, Omaha
G/L Parents, 7:30pm, Omaha
Bar Alternative Gay Group 7:30pm, Horizon Restaurant, Sioux City, IA, Info: (712) 255-1890/258-6167/255-8528

March 7 (1st Friday)
PFLAG Omaha 10th Anniversary, Wine & Cheese Party, 7-9pm, The MAX, Omaha

March 1 (1st Saturday)
River City Gender Alliance, (402) 398-1255
River City Mixed Chorus Spaghetti Dinner, 4-8pm, Unity Church, 9301 W. Dodge
HIV Testing (Women Only), Outreach Center, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha

March 6 (1st Thursday)
CFEP, 7pm, Omaha
G/L Parents, 7:30pm, Omaha
Bar Alternative Gay Group 7:30pm, Horizon Restaurant, Sioux City, IA, Info: (712) 255-1890/258-6167/255-8528

March 7 (1st Friday)
PFLAG Omaha 10th Anniversary, Wine & Cheese Party, 7-9pm, The MAX, Omaha

March 8 (2nd Saturday)
HIV Testing (Women Only), Outreach Center, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha
Omaha Players Club, 2pm, Workshop; 8pm, Play Party
SAGE Lesbian Coffee House 6-9pm, Videos, 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, Lincoln, 488-4178

CLASSIFIEDS

Remember! Classified Ads are now \$4.00 for 20 words and 20¢ for each additional word.

Home Improvement Company, Painting, Wall Papering, Faux Finishes, Kitchens, Bathrooms, Ceramic Tile, Flooring. Michael 344-3262 (Ju97)

SEEKING GAY/LESBIAN IN-HOME CHILD CARE for infant. Hours: 6:30am-4:30pm Mon-Fri. Please send letter of interest or resume to: Childcare, Family Style, 13366 West Maple Rd., Suite 161, Omaha, NE 68164 (Fe97)

Make your Valentine's Day gift something special with a gift certificate from St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740.

Go Online locally with TrianGLE BBS, a Gay and Lesbian computer system. 24 hours. Call (402) 597-2908 with your modem now! (Ju97)

ORGANIZATIONS EVERYONE WELCOME!

Attend the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON) Board Meeting **Monday, February 2**, at **Metropolitan Community Church Social Hall**, 819 S. 22nd, Omaha, 7:00 p.m.

PERSONAL GROWTH GROUP - has openings for serious-minded men interested in self, spiritual growth. (Not a sex club.) Discreet, selective. Ph. 330-2162 after 8pm. Ask for Mark

MASSAGE

The Magic of Touch. Put your body in my hands and experience the "Ultimate Massage." Warm oils. Soft music. Firm, gentle touch. Guided relaxation. Also upcoming: two dynamic workshops. Enjoy the nurturing effects of massage in a supportive, caring, soothing, carefree group setting. What a fantastic way to spend the weekend! Free information packet. Includes informative audio cassette. Recorded details (800) 406-9741 (Fe97)

Full Body Swedish Massage/Reiki. Healing-Nurturing (in a Peaceful Environment) Downtown Omaha. Juan-Carlos, C.M.T. For an appointment, please call (402) 342-1017. (Ji97)

You work HARD and work-out even HARDER! *FULL-BODY MASSAGE will take the EDGE OFF and provide BALANCE* Serving Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bi, & Hetero Communities. Gift Certificates Available. Hours: 6pm-6am. Weekend hours vary. OM/LIN APPT./INFO 342-1964 (Mr97)

FOR RENT

Gay Male wanted to share nice 3 bdr. house in NE Lincoln. Fenced yard, pets negotiable. \$300/mo - no utilities. 402-464-9678 10:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Leave Message. (Fe97)

Seeking WM to share 2 bdrm house in North Omaha. \$200 plus 1/3 utilities. Call 457-6003. Serious Inquiries Only! (Fe97)

Share Home on Lewis Clark Lake near Yankton, South Dakota. Private wooded area. Responsible male, non smoker. Reasonable. 402-388-4394. Message. (Fe97)

PERSONALS Seeking Bi Women

BiWF, 30, seeks other feminine bi-white females for friendship and intimacy. Write to: C.L., P.O. Box 37812, Omaha, NE 68137 (Mr97)

Women Seeking Women

45 y/o GF seeking an end to isolation. Looking for daytime friend. Like walking, talking, sharing. Boxholder, PO Box 38, Creston, IA 50801 (Fe97)

Tired of stereotypes? Want to look your best? Consider a tan from **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740**

GBF, 36, professional, drug free, seeking GF, race unimportant for friendship and/or possible relationship. Enjoy nature, music, poetry & romantic sunsets. Call 402-341-2094 (Fe97)

Middle-aged GW looking for new beginning. Cautious start with pen pal. Will respond to friendly or curious. Boxholder, P.O. Box 38, Creston, IA 50881 (Fe97)

PERSONALS for Men

GAM seeks Gay or Bi Male. Any age. Any race. I'm middle 20's, 5'7" and 160 lbs. Write to P.O. Box 7070, Omaha, NE 68107 (Fe97)

GWM, Sane, Str8 act. 180 lbs, 28 yrs, Blonde, Green, 6' tall, Looking for Straight Acting fellow professional to share the finer things in life. Working out and travel are my forms of relaxation... What are yours? Letter = letter, Photo = photo, Let 97 be your year in the sun and the year you find your "other." Write soon!! Box Holder, PO Box 27103, Ralston, NE 68127 (Fe97)

Attractive young man seeks attractive young lad for sci-fi movie-going. Safe fun for cowards. Box 4824, Omaha, NE 68104 (Mr97)

GWM, 33, 185#, 6'1" Seeking honest, sincere, affectionate, open-minded man for deep, meaningful relationship. No BS or headgames. Send Photo. All letters answered. Friends needed also. Gary C., 7863 So. 83rd, #245, LaVista, NE 68128 (Fe97)

GWM, HIV-, Looking for WELL HUNG GWM 20 - 40 for safe sex. Call 457-4271 (Fe97)

Looking for Sincere, Honest, Open-minded GWM for friendships, fun times. Yankton, S.D. area. I'm 150lbs, 5'9", Brown eyes & hair, 53, Artist 1-402-388-4394 (Fe97)

GWM, HIV pos 15 years, one of the lucky ones, very healthy with no medication, good looking muscular build, 6', 195lbs, Dk Brown hair, Green eyes, versatile, mid 40's look 30's. Seeks Gay or Bi Male any race, 18 - 38 with good body for no strings attached F- Buddy in the aks. area. For more INFO call Gray any time. (402) 689-1871 (Mr97)

Searching for my Soulmate

GWM, 28, 180lbs, Blonde, Blue, Healthy, and Very straight acting. No bars, No smoking, No mind games. I'm looking for straight acting CLOSET to share my life with. I'm not "out" and am looking for same. All letters will get a letter, all photos will get a photo... Your secret is Very safe with me. PO Box 390402, Omaha, NE 68139 (Millard Area) (Fe97)

Bored with the Scene? Try the Singles Dateline Recorded Voice Mail Personals. 1-900-288-0406 Ext 313. \$2.95/min. 18+ T-tone. 24 hrs AVALON COMM. 305-525-0800 (Mr97)

ATTENTION GUYS! EXOTIC HOME OR APARTMENT CLEANING SERVICE NOW AVAILABLE IN OMAHA!

Attractive, in-shape college student will clean your home in the buff while you watch! Your personal satisfaction guaranteed. \$60/hour. 571-0929. Leave message before 10:00 p.m. (Fe97)

Heading for the ski slopes? Get ready for the sun and for the time around the fireplace by tanning safely with a series of ten minute tans at **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Ave. 341-3740**

College educated GWM, 31 - looking for GWM buddies. Varied interests but include desire for leather and SM mentor. Men aged 25 through 45. No drugs or phone sex! Brad 346-6149 (Fe97)

S&M/Leather

COLLEGE BOYS: Been naughty? Out too late? Bad grades? Need a spanking to keep you in line? Daddy available to warm up your bare butt. Box 12094, Omaha, NE 68112 (Mr97)

WANTED: LEATHERWOMEN IN EDUCATING YOURSELVES AND OTHERS ABOUT LEATHER AND S/M. FIND OUT WHAT W.E.L.T. IS ALL ABOUT! CALL (402) 477-7741 (Mr97)

Wanted: Slim, young, passive Bottom. I'm experienced, mature, understanding, passionate, 6'3", 190 lbs and 53. A real deal. 402-483-7388 after 7 p.m. (Fe97)

Got special plans for Valentine's Day? Make sure you put your best "check" forward with an all-over tan from **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Avenue. 341-3740**

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Nebraska

LET'S MAKE AN ALLIANCE The luckiest people in the world. I'm a 38 year old, Gay male, looking for people who like to meet new people. I'm 5'3, and weigh 125lbs. I enjoy conversation, and travel. Talk to me. (Alliance) #23076

FRIENDS AND FUN To introduce myself: I'm 25 years old, 5'8, 150lbs, with Brown hair and eyes. I live in the Central Nebraska area, and I'm looking to find new friends and have some fun. Would you like to be my friend? It could be fun. (Central) #22891

READY WHEN YOU ARE I'm a Gay White male, 5'10, 160lbs, Blond hair, Green eyes. I'm pretty much into anything. I'm looking for Black or White men in my area to have a good time with. (Fremont) #18568

JOIN ME IN OMAHA I'm 6ft, 215lbs, Reddish Brown hair, Hazel eyes. I love going to clubs in Omaha and having a great time. I'd love to hear from you. (Fremont) #6858

JAMMING JOCKBOY Very good looking, extremely masculine, and straight acting. All American man, 30 years old, 6'4, 220lbs, with dark hair and eyes, smooth body and clean shaven. I'm built and bold and need to meet similar hot dudes to hook up and have a good time with. Be good looking and clean cut. Let's mess around. (Grand Island) #21621

PRIVATE TRANSESSITE I hope you know what you're doing, because I have never done this before. I am a Married, White male, 5'9, who is looking for a discreet, special man, who wants to make me his own, personal Transvestite. My blood is surging with anticipation. (Lincoln) #22225

WHATEVER HAPPENS I am 35 years old, 5'7, 160lbs, looking to meet some guys for friendship, fun or whatever might happen. (Lincoln) #31249

NEBRASKA BUDDY I'm 32 years old, 6'1 and weigh 185lbs. A future relationship is possible, but I'm just looking for friends to hang out with right now. Let's get out, see a movie, discuss books, or just spend some time together. Interested? Let's be friends. (Lincoln) #3608

WILD MAN 44 year old, Black, male top from the Omaha area seeks any submissive. White bottom for winter fun, safe sex and good times. Age 44 to 50 preferred. We can party. (Lincoln) #31817

RESISTANCE IS FUTILE Hi guys I'm a Gay, Black male in my mid 40's. I'm looking for submissive, Gay, White bottoms for fun and friendship. Heavy set like me is preferred. (Lincoln) #6216

EARLY RISER? I'm a 35 year old Gay male, 6'2, 210lbs, dark and Gray hair, mustache, hairy, I'm looking to meet guys around my age who are built and ready for a good time. I'm free on the weekend or weekday mornings. (Lincoln) #18595

DISCREET TOP I'm 29 years old with Blond hair and Blue eyes. I would consider myself very good looking. I am a total top looking for total bottoms for safe, discreet encounters. 18 to 30 years of age and in shape individuals preferred. (Lincoln) #20838

IN MY AREA Call me if you live in or around the Lincoln area give me a jingle. (Lincoln) #15809

PROSTATE PATROL I'm 33 years old, Black male, 5'10, 185lbs, very muscular. I'm a top looking for a muscular bottom. (Lincoln) #15541

OMAHA, HERE I COME I'm 32 years old, average build. I'm looking to get together with guys in my area. I get to Lincoln and Omaha quite often. (Lincoln) #13954

YOUNG PUP I'm 6'1, Black hair, Brown eyes, 165lbs, 18 years old, college student. I'm looking for other guys 18 to 25 who are good looking and in shape. (Lincoln) #14046

HUSH HUSH I'm a 31 year old Bi male, 6ft, 155lbs, Brown hair, Hazel eyes, soft skin. I'm looking for other men in my area to have discreet fun with. (Lincoln) #14195

ARE YA GETTING IT AT HOME? I'm 6'1, 165lbs, Blond hair, Blue eyes, mustache, nice smile. I enjoy romantic evenings with very masculine men, preferably Bi or Straight. I love to satisfy my partner. (Lincoln) #13359

CHECK YOUR WATCH It's time to check me out. I'm a 32 year old, Bi male, in the Omaha area. I am looking to meet other guys, for fun and friendship. I'm 6ft, 185, with dark Brown hair, and Gray eyes. I work out a lot, and have a very muscular build. Don't let another second pass. (Omaha) #22646

NEED YOU IN NEBRASKA Gay male, age 50, in Omaha, is looking for other men to hang out with. I like hiking, antiques, the arts, and theater. I'm 5'9, 160lbs of fun. I hope to meet a special someone to share my life with. (Omaha) #22600



CORN FED I'm a 26 year old, White male, 5'11, 200lbs with Blond hair and Blue eyes. I enjoy movies, dining out, and social drinking. I would like to meet an individual with the same or similar interests. I'm always willing to try new and different things. Give me a call. Please no smokers! (Omaha) #1624

CAN WE TALK? I'm a 40 year old Gay White male in pretty good shape but not a fitness freak. I don't like games, don't like bars. I like movies, theater, dinner, and conversation. I enjoy sightseeing, hiking and real people with good conversation. (Omaha) #21573

MUTUAL IN OMAHA Good looking, submissive available for anything you want. I'll show you a really good time. (Omaha) #20116

A STORY IN THE MAKING I'm 27 years old, 6'4, 185lbs, short, Brown hair, Hazel eyes. I like movies, dining out, horror movies, home life, and writing. I'm interested in meeting someone who is fun loving, caring, respectful, and close to my own age. (Omaha) #17081

TALL AS AN OAK I'm 41 years old, 6ft, 190lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I'm good looking and I have a good sense of humor. I like home life, music, movies, cuddling, trying out new restaurants, and dancing. I'm looking for someone in my area who is over 6ft tall. (Omaha) #16769

ORGY TIME I'd like to plan a very intimate get together of my house with several guys. If you want to be a part of this gathering please leave a message. (Omaha) #14979

A REAL PLEASER I'm 5'10, 220lbs, Black hair, Brown eyes. I like to cook, clean, go to yard sales, watch TV, and cuddle. I'm a bottom looking for a man I can please. (Omaha) #9351

FOREVER YOURS I'm a 25 year old Gay White male giving ownership to my body to people who know what I want. Please call. (Omaha) #14064

SAFE 5 & M I'm looking for hot tops. I'm a 35 year old, Gay, White male, 5'11, 170lbs. I'm seeking tops for safe, hot sex. I'm into 5 & M. (Omaha) #13629

CATCH MY DRIFT I'm a Black male, 5'11, 175lbs, nice build, 35 years old. I'm into alot of things. I'm looking for guys who want to connect and have a good time. (Omaha) #49851

SIT BACK AND RELAX I'm 26 years old, 5'9, 170lbs, submissive bottom into anal sex. I'm looking for someone who wants to have some clean safe fun. (Omaha) #13193

WORK HARD, PLAY HARDER I'm a Gay, White male, 30 years old, Blond hair, Blue eyes, 6'5, 220lbs. I'm looking to find some new friends and companionship. I like the outdoors, hiking, biking, camping, and romance. I'm a court try boy, now living in the big city. Interested? (Omaha) #12542

CUM AS YOU ARE I'm a White male, 26 years old, 6'4, Blond hair, Blue eyes, 170lbs, bottom. I'm looking for top men around my age to have some fun with. (Omaha) #12320

AM I BISEXUAL? I'M NOT SURE! I'm a White male, 49 years old, 180lbs. I'm having strange thoughts and feelings. I would like to meet other White Bi men 20 to 30 with similar feelings. Discretion is an absolute must. (Omaha) #12507

ALL IN THE NAME OF FUN I'm looking for guys to go out and have fun with. I like movies, dancing, and friends. I'm 5'7, 175lbs, Black hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for Gay men 19 to 37 for a possible relationship. (Omaha) #7390

ON THE LOOKOUT I'm a 28 year old Black male looking for Black, Latino or Asian males 20 to 28. I would like to get to know you. Leave me a message. (Omaha) #10052

TAKE ALL OF ME I'm a Bi White male looking for men in my area. I'm a submissive bottom looking to explore more adventures. I would love to meet you. Call me today. (Omaha) #10110

SUBMISSIVE HISPANIC I'm a bottom person, Gay Hispanic male, 37 years old, Black hair, Brown eyes, submissive. I'm looking for other Gay men to have fun with. Call me. (Omaha) #9668

ON THE MAKE I'm a 27 year old Gay White male, 6'1, 180lbs, Brown hair, Blue eyes. I like movies, camping, dancing, etc. I'm looking for a Gay White male 24 to 30 with similar interests for friendship and a possible relationship. Call me. (Omaha) #10180

DISCRETION ASSURED I'm looking for clean cut White males 45 to 60 to service on a regular basis at my place. If you are interested please leave a message. (Omaha) #8054

ENERGIZER BUDDY I'm 26 years old, 5'11, 150lbs, Brown hair, Brown eyes. I'm looking for submissive tops who like to party and have fun. I'm very energetic. Call me. (Omaha) #7645

FANTASY FULFILLMENT I'm a Bi White male, 25 years old. I'm into anything and willing to try more. I would like to fulfill your fantasy. Call me. (Omaha) #22008

ROMANCING THE STONES I'm a White male, 27 years old, 5'6, 120lbs, nice muscular build, college student. I like to read, go dancing, coffee, Star Trek Voyager, museums, romance, etc. I'm looking for a White male 25 to 30 who is comfortable being Gay. Call me. (Seward) #12915

BOYS IN THE HOOD I'm 5'9, 145lbs, clean cut and normal. I'm just looking for other guys in the central Nebraska area to meet and have good times with and maybe more. #22172

GOOD TIMES IN NEBRASKA I'm 5'9, 145lbs and full of life. My interest are country music and country dancing. I'm looking for guys to have fun with. #20483

LOOKING FOR THE SAME I'm a good looking, tall, masculine, straight acting, 28 year old. I'm down to earth, mellow and just a regular guy. I would like to meet guys who are my age or younger. Call me. #18035

NEW TO THE LEATHER SCENE I'm 22 years old, 6ft, 250lbs, Reddish hair, Hazel eyes. I'm new to the leather scene. I'm a bottom looking for someone to help me out. #15405

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**ICON's Royalty, Bob & Inga Host a Night Of The Arts With
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February 9

**Can She Really Handle Those Balls In The Cold? Find Out
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February 16

**We Know You Didn't Go To A Party Like This As A Kid!
Princess & Prince Royal Host A Sweet 16 Party
For ICON's Reign 16 Featuring PR's From The Past
And The Best Of Reign 16**

February 23

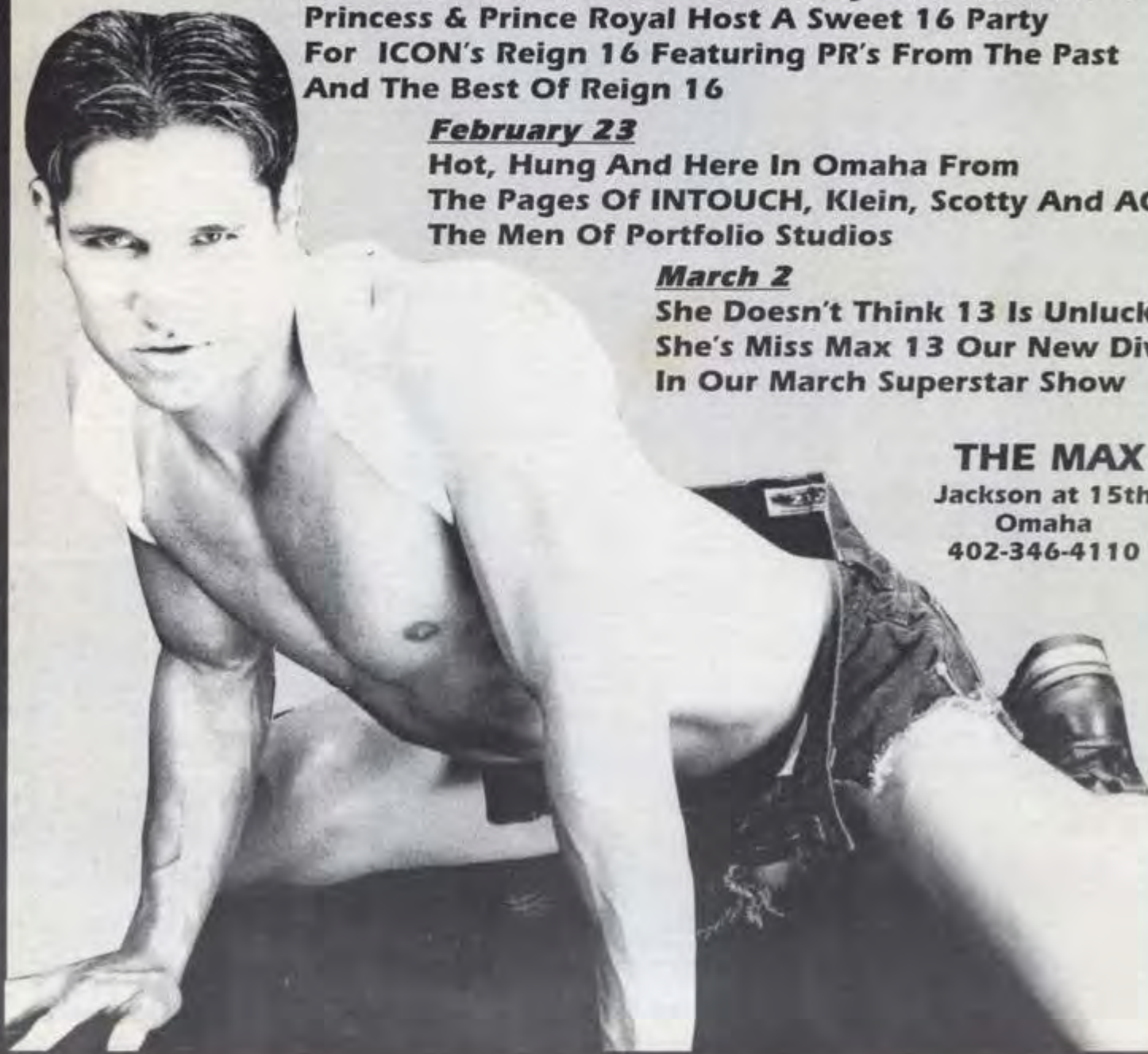
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The Men Of Portfolio Studios**

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**She Doesn't Think 13 Is Unlucky
She's Miss Max 13 Our New Diva
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NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT

wellness center

A diagnosis of AIDS doesn't mean that life is over. It does mean, however, that each day becomes a quest to stay well – a quest that can become increasingly difficult with the passage of time. Changes in health can mean loss, stress and troubled relationships. The absence of meaningful activity robs people of hope, and isolation becomes more devastating than illness. At the Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP), 12 years of serving people with HIV/AIDS have taught us that "wellness" means good health care and self-determination. It also means being part of a supportive community. The Wellness Center of the Nebraska AIDS Project is committed to building that community and to creating a safe, accessible environment that nurtures growth, provides services and that allows individuals to create for themselves the social and recreational activities so essential to life.

Joining the Community February 1, 1997