

Vol. VII No. 11

February 1991

# The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



**Mardi Gras**



## OUR TURN

### ★ A DAY IN THE SUN

by Maureen Van Nessel

Carla and I recently had the opportunity to visit Orlando, Florida, courtesy of a cruise held last fall by MCC-Orlando. The visit to Orlando was wonderful, not only because of the sunshine it was sunny! No, I don't mean the sunny days of central Florida. I mean the sunshine found when you walk out of the closet and take your place in the sun.

While in Florida, we stayed with Dave and Dennis, former Oklahomans who have moved to Florida and operate a bed and breakfast in downtown Orlando. These kids always had a quiet attitude, helping to place Florida Paradise, and serving as presidents of the River City Mixed Chorus for at least two years. So it seemed only natural that I would move to Florida and be active in the community.

Last year, Dave founded the Orlando Gay Men's Chorus, which now has 91 members. They held their first concert last June, performing for well-attended crowds on two consecutive nights in an auditorium that seats over 700 people. The local paper got word of the Chorus's formation and contacted Dave for an interview. The

result was that Dave's picture and the main article were on Gay Chorus appeared on the front page of the "STYLE" section of the Orlando daily paper. Naturally, Dave's boss at the local bank saw the article. The only response was to get articles to the attention. Consequently, the article and news to talk to Dave about it. This comment: "We didn't know you were gay."

Dave and Dennis are not in their neighborhood the lady next door was just started as a position as a Circuit Court judge and have an open, relaxed relationship with them all. They're out at work. They're not at the gym they attend. They are able to walk in the bookstore.

That's nice, you may say, but it can't happen here. That's Florida, this is New Mexico. Maybe not, but I'm not at work and it's a tremendous distance to my job. Carla is married to a different partner, just like any other person. She volunteers at the hospital and comes to sports events with me regularly. There are no pruned fingers, no rude comments.

Maybe it just happens here... but maybe, just maybe it could. It's awfully hard to see the sun here from behind the closed doors.



### ✍ 'PEN' - PAL?

December 22, 1991

#### News Gleanings

I pray the following will discover everywhere in the land of truth, as well as spins. For myself, doing well.

No doubt you are wondering if the purpose behind this letter. It's explicit as clearly as I can, but to the point of brevity.

A friend from Lincoln, which is here with me gave me your address, he only stated you might be able to assist in obtaining correspondence. Actually I'm seeking a penpal or at least that would care to write.

As you can tell from my address, I'm presently incarcerated, and will be for another six months, maybe less. I'm originally from Sacramento, Calif., wherever folks and their families reside.

After completing two years of college with the Union of Pacific in Berkeley, Calif., I was employed until holiday time, everything was going well, including a two year relationship with Jeff. During a return flight from Atlanta, Jeff was killed coming over Palm Springs.

Over night, everything went down the drain. I got up with a cold, everything I could say, gave it away. For about two weeks I went on a drinking and traveling spree. I ended up in Dubuque, Iowa, with my Aunt.

Remaining with her for four months, with only a few days left before returning to Calif., she died of a massive heart attack. I found myself back to square one... I might state under other names. Dennis Dubuque and Waterloo, I saved \$2,000 dollars worth of checks. With the aid of my attorney and A.A. members, I'm now undergoing treatment. I'm glad this took place. Otherwise I would of destroyed myself. So here I am!

I enjoy reading, writing, chess, music, outdoor cooking, all sports, yucky, which I write, along with all people from different walks of life.

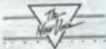
I'm 28 years old, 5'07", 130 pounds, have green eyes, chestnut brown hair, dark complexion, an tattoo on wrist, as well as being good humored. I'd open for any type of correspondence.

I believe in good news communication, good communication is a good feeling back to a good friendship.

I would explain a bit more about myself. I'm not sure I'd get a response. For now I'd like. I want to thank you for taking the time to reading this letter. I hope to hear from you in the near future. Please have a better day upon entering a New Year of 92.

#### Focus: Progress & Prosperity.

James K. Wilson  
706777 - 5251  
Hwy. 218 South  
St. Paulsen, Iowa 50171



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## PERSISTENCE

Dear Reader:

Well, our German reader is persistent. Here's another request for long distance friendships.

Edwin

Dear Sir:

Please publish the following personal ad in your next issue:

It's 0'30" - doublets addressed EUROPEAN seeks friendship with serious commitment + intelligent GWM (man, 5ly 24). Medical doctor, academic and businessman welcome. Should have answer for the ans and be willing to correspond. Long-term relationship welcome, but not pre-conditional. Sexuality is more important than your background! Write in plaintext or call (privately - my local 0161-62814/Cheltenham St. 32/W-400 Munich 70/GERMANY. Tel: 01-49-89-77616

Thomas

Edwin Cuba

## LINCOLN PFLAG

The First Vice of Illinois

Please include the following closing announcement in the February edition of the magazine. Thank you very much.

February 26, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Tuesday, 7:00pm, Lincoln Unitarian Church, 630 A Street, Springfield, 1903, 1907.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kinsbury, PFLAG

## ESSENCE SILENCES THE VOICE OF BLACK LESBIANS & GAYS: AN OPEN LETTER

November 25, 1991

Dear Friends:

Black Gays and Lesbians are involved in a struggle for visibility. We need your assistance today! Help us spread the call, send

shortage and clear that we will not remain back in the shadows, that we will not be ignored or silenced.

On November 4, the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum (BGLLF) received notice from Essence magazine, probably the nation's most widely read Black Women's periodical, that our full page Black Gay/Lesbian visibility advertisement had been pulled. Threatening pictures of various Black Lesbians and Gay men, was deemed "unconventional" by Essence's publisher Ed Lewis.

This act, which was to appear in the January 1991 issue of Essence, was similar to Gay Pride ads which have run nationally in newspapers and magazines including the Los Angeles Times, Newsweek and Newsweek. By portraying African American Gays and Lesbians from many walks of life, BGLLF hoped to show the diversity in our community while publicizing the upcoming fourth annual Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference.

Phil Wilson, founder and director of BGLLF, commented with Essence's Los Angeles sales representative who acknowledged the name of the organization, its purpose, the concept of the advertisement, and accepted the advertisement and check

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

6/20/78/36

As a result, WCLLF continued to ad lib and harass and did not attempt to give our community ad in other national Black media. It was not until completion of this costly ad that Essence, without discussion or prior warning, pulled the ad.

Essence recently published its 20th anniversary. It has portrayed, harassed, and teased the youth and lives of various Black, some (mis)educated, some ill-used, running circles which have been satirical, while others speak to assimilation. In those same twenty years, articles/stories on limitations as gay life have been: how and how serious. In its 20th issue, Essence has retained our community morale by failing to address our concerns and the concerns of our families. Even when featuring 'openly' lesbian activists and writers like Aubrey Little, Beverly Gomez, and Barbara Smith, Essence hypocritically fails about 90 percent portrayed by glossing this major part of their identities and lives as minimizing its impact.

Has Essence been sending African American lesbians and gay men a message all of these years we strongly overreacted or didn't get? Does Essence want to appeal to all Black women, as its old-time suggests, Essence For Today's Black Women, or only to

homosexual Black women?

The Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum held simultaneous press conferences in New York and Los Angeles to Take Back Our Voice, to show our strength, and to confront Essence on its blatant homophobic, WCLLF-financing for support and action from the Gay and Lesbian community.

This incident is homophobic/homophobic and discriminatory. It amounts to that a magazine which year after year, page after page brings the oppression of Black people to forefront attention and encourages Black people would turn its back on tens of thousands of Blacks by not allowing our community a voice. How an oppressed group could so brazenly turn its back on us is truly beyond us. Homosexism is just as ugly a disease as cancer, and just as deadly as venem.

This action is not acceptable. Further Black action the 1980 civil rights bill and Essence Magazine practices of discrimination. Violence against Black People is on the rise and Essence discrimination against Black people. Black women are fighting to protect reproductive rights and Essence thinks it's O.K. to discriminate. We don't and we know you don't either! Together we can help Essence retreat or to minimize and live

up to its press/activist potential!

WCLLF who free you:

- Write Essence. Tell them it's homophobic that's homophobic!
- Respond to your local media's coverage of this issue.
- Repeat this article in the next issue of your organizational publication.
- Tell other organizations and individuals about this incident and encourage them to write Essence and local media.
- Attend the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Conference and Cultural Arts Festival, February 11 - 25, 1978.
- Write WCLLF and show your support.

Our address is:

WCLLF  
324 W. Sunset Blvd.  
Suite 81  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

If you have other ideas to Take Back Our Voice, or questions, please contact the Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum at (213) 661-1691.

Write to the Magazine,  
Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## JEWISH FRIENDS PLAN SPRING ACTIVITIES

by Gary

Mitzvahat Chaverim, "A Family of Friends," Omaha's gay/lesbian Jewish organization, has its February meeting scheduled for Saturday the 9th at 8pm, Thru 5:11-5:12 for the meeting location. Members will discuss presenting a book on gay/lesbian laws to the local Jewish community, participating in a series of community activities on issues of interest for Jews, and the upcoming International Gay/Lesbian Jewish Conference in San Francisco.

Mitzvahat Chaverim has been talking with Environmental Howard and members of Omaha's MCC regarding a joint Passover Seder this spring. No date plans have been made yet.

Coming up in early March will be the second annual Purim/Comedy Party, which this year will also be a potluck for members and friends. Friends from other area gay/lesbian religious organizations will be invited to attend. Information on this event will be completed before the next New Year's edition; please 781-8723 for details.  
(Student)

## NEWS FROM ICON

Hi Everyone,

I thought you'd like to see a letter from me. I'm here with Christmas and all, it's not the whole to find a part with me. As for I found one. News, it's so remember how to write. All I think's remember now... "Wow!" I can have a lot to patch you up...

First of all, I would like to thank those of you who attended the Food For Thought and Top For Tots dinner. Food For Thought raised \$22. The proceeds were donated to the MCC Food Pantry and NAF. At NAF the money was used to provide PWA's with a good Thanksgiving dinner and food basket.

Top For Tots was quite successful, if you wanted a whole Christmas. I guess Mother Nature just didn't think I was any funny and had to shut me out. As you, we raised \$22, which was split between Omaha's Crisis Center and NAF.

On Monday, February 11, we will be having Blue's Night at the MAX. This is your chance to come down and cheer off your best buddies again. The following night, Tuesday, February 12, again at the MAX, we will have the annual Maf' Gaze party. Come on down and join us at the Boutique Street Bar. A silent auction and costume contest will be part of the festivities. Prizes of \$75 and \$25 will be awarded for the first and second place in each contest. Anyone interested please contact Gerald, Joe, or Danny at 781-8723 for details.

Continued: All to being presented for June 1984 at the Karmada Inn Airport. The theme for this year's event will be Renaissance of Unity: God of the Future. A lot of presenting is being done you will see for this event. We had Emperor X - the emperors and Gerald Brown (Emperor XI - the 1st), traveled to Europe (Emperor XII) for their coronation. They along with Emily (Empress XI), Dawn (Empress XII), and Debra (Empress XIII) traveled to Hawaii in February. Both Texas courts assisted Tahoma with open arms and an

planning to attend our Commission in Iowa. Another thing planned, what's coming up for the Commission. It's also an important to going, contact Joe or Gerald for further details. This is a great way to visit new friends and promote our Commission in Iowa.

We continue to extend an invitation to anyone in the community to attend our monthly meetings the first Monday of each month at 8:30pm in the Valley Bar at the MAX. Please to see you February 4. Thank for your continued support.

## RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS PLANS FEBRUARY CONCERT

Omaha's River City Mixed Chorus, under the direction of Jonathan Cole, announces the year's Winter Concert, "Legis Chorus," on Sunday, February 5, 1984, at 7:00 pm, in Bryan's Performing Arts Center on the Campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, 6th and Dodge.

The concert will include the title song "Legis Chorus," an American Shaker song, "The Jew's Blessing," by Omaha resident and Chorus member John Can (and former member Raymond (Hudson)), "How This Winter Wind," by John Barry, a solo arrangement of "Ain't No Heavy Metal" by Brother's and then "On This Evening I'll be Reunited."

Three five-minute annual winter concert performed by the Chorus, and the first concert to be directed by Mr. Cole. Accompany to be the evening in Nick's bar.

Tickets are available from TIX, from any Chorus member, or by calling 482-731-1701.

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## KEARNEY GROUP MEETS

by Tom Galt

We have just had our second Gay & Lesbian Support/Ray Group meeting and we wanted to let you know's meet well. We were too busy each how busy to expect that still being a new group, people forgetting to come, conflicts in schedules, Christmas parties, and a '00' wind still factor. We hoped for a bunch too were prepared for two or three. We had 2 total of the group! Our first meeting brought out a total of 11.

We spent time going over the general nature of the group, had a "get to know" each other for breakfast, did a survey to assess the group's needs and general make-up, and finally worked up with an agenda and contact each time.

Comments from those in attendance were very favorable. Several commented they really felt good that there was now a place that they could get together and just open up. Our plans of meeting weekly okay for the size of group we had but contingent plans are being made for if and when we grow.

We are now also starting to put together a NEED LIST. As much as possible, we would like to provide our local members in the process of bringing in the needed items but sometimes we must seek outside help. I'm probably not the best person to solicit other people but I'd like to bring for something myself. So if you with varied feelings that I see you and/or your groups help in bringing us and the needed items together. Should you not wish or be able to help us, I will remain understand.

Enough, right now, we are looking at an "idea" working expense of \$120 a month. This covers the costs for on-going advertising, computer paper, ribbons, printing special event items, phone bills, stamps. Since this is a total volunteer group, we have no intention to consider. The support group is not affiliated with any in town, religious, economic, or political group.

The NEED LIST follows. Before you get into other things, could you volunteer to let us know if you and/or your groups can help us out.

### NEED LIST

- ✓ Books/Magazines of a non-pornographic nature that deal with gay/lesbian issues
- ✓ Videos/Cassettes Tapes of a non-pornographic nature that deal with gay/lesbian issues
- ✓ Blank video tapes
- ✓ Blank cassette tapes
- ✓ A lockable file cabinet (2 or 3 drawers)
- ✓ Stamps, envelopes
- ✓ Money
- ✓ Groups to contact A FUND RAISER for the group items
- ✓ If I order supplies that you might be able to provide??

The books and tapes will be for use in Support/Ray Group participants. The money will make it easier to do more advertising, thus reaching many seeking support. We also want to stay connected with other important groups and professionals. We also like to use the money for office equipment to grow.

Items may be sent to Support/Ray Group, P.O. Box 2395, Kearney, NE 68841 or phone (308) 234-8266.

## CHORUS ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS, PLANS PROJECTS

by Cary

The River City Mixed Chorus is seeking music in many ways. During this rebuilding year for the Chorus, its summer performance is being planned, a terrific fund-raiser is scheduled for April, the group is contracting with a variety of talented musicians, and the very foundation of the Chorus - its Mission -

is being reviewed.

If you've thought about joining BCMC, now is the time to audition! Stop by Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, 2023 North 40th Street, between 6:30 and 7:00pm either Monday, February 4, or Monday, February 11. Auditions are just singing and you'll have the chance to join a great group of people. You'll need to commit to rehearsals every Monday night along with the summer Friday concerts. Want more information? Phone 733-1703.

Most events for the June Pride community Omaha and Minneapolis have been selected. There will be joint concerts with One Voice Mixed Chorus from the Twin Cities. BCMC appears there will be an Omaha contingent "Chorus Group" who will be coordinated.

In recent weeks, South members have worked on reuniting the BCMC Mission in a step-by-step way what the Chorus and other local area members is really helping progress along. The Board has also emphasized the many commitments which do the best for some work.

Once the restructuring and the process is complete underway in the upcoming fundraiser at The Mix, in cooperation with the Imperial Court of Nebraska. It's scheduled for April, and will be unlike anything the Chorus has ever done. The arrangements are still in BCMC members, to call 733-1703 if you want to participate. More details next month.

## MARTINA IN OMAHA

Martina Nazzari and Zita Carrionetti last year's Miss Nebraska finalist - will be in Omaha for an exhibition match February 19 at the Civic Auditorium. ConAggs, Inc., is the main sponsor of the match, which is billed as the "Heathly Choice Challenge."

Ms. Nazzari will be at Brecker's Five Jewels, another sponsor of the match, which will be at the prior to the match. Contact the Civic Auditorium for ticket information.

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## MCC HEADLINES

by Carol P.

We invite you to join us Sunday, February 3, during the Morning Blessing Service at 10:30am to hear the message delivered by Reverend Butera Daniel, the District Coordinator for the Mid-Central District of UMACC. Rev. Daniel will be visiting us from her district office in Topeka, Kansas. Contact the Church Office at 343-2963 if you are interested in attending other special activities during her visit.

During February a group of MCCO's began a 12-week training period for the Deacons. This training is being conducted by Reverend Howard. Rev. Howard is also busy preparing for a class beginning in March that he will teach through Lawrence College. This class, entitled Sexuality Studies, is a requirement for Student Clergy to be licensed as clergy, and we are hoping that it will draw into Omaha Student Clergy from around the region (Kansas, Iowa, Colorado, Oklahoma, etc.).

**Attention Beesmen!** Your ads in the MCCO Newsletter are about to begin. Watch the mail for details on receiving. And all of you Non-Beesmen... why not consider placing a business ad in our newsletter? The cost is minimal: \$1.00 per issue. A Bee-man Ad is a great way to advertise your business, introduce a friend, or thank a supporter. The only catch is that Beesmen Ads can only be 27 characters and they must be purchased for either six months or one year at a time. You can contact me at the Church Office (343-2963) for more details!

January gave most of us a chance to bid adieu to our first and lastest December. The Prayer Group named us again on Wednesdays. MCCO sponsored a picnic at the community. NO NEED TO REPENT. The Story of Sam, Jim, Greening. Then on January 23, we celebrated our Sixteenth Anniversary. The choir and support groups met as usual. Our staff members of the Columbia trip that was funny and I flew out

to Orlando to be on the staff of the new and old and renewed health center for the beaches are in January. How do Dave and Dennis' bed and breakfast is out of course, what the Omaha MCC is like.

We invite you to join us this Friday for worship. Our services are at 10:30am and 7:00pm.

## NAP SPONSORS CUT-A-THON FUNDRAISER

Who says the AIDS\* disease is a thing of the past? Omaha will soon have the opportunity to get their hair styled by the city's most prominent and well-known stylists for just that price.

The Nebraska AIDS Project (NAP) is sponsoring a Cut-a-thon to raise funds to support services provided through the Project's office. The cut-a-thon will be held Sunday, February 20, 1991, from 10am to 5pm at both the south and west locations of Capital School of Hairstyling. The south location of the school is at the Sakspeaks Plaza (33rd and L Street) and the west location is at Westwood Plaza (125th Street just west of Center). No appointments are necessary. Haircuts for adults will be \$15.00 and for children will be \$5.00.

Because of the generosity of many people, all proceeds will go to the Project. Promoters include Steve Nelson, all other Omaha hair stylists and their services for this effort and will be assisted with transportation by the Capital students, also volunteers. Life and Judy McGary are allowing use of their schools without their usual Student Beauty Supply is donating all of the hair products for the cut-a-thon.

The Nebraska AIDS Project hopes to raise \$10,000 to maintain our services and continue raising public awareness of AIDS in our community. If you wish to volunteer, have any questions, please call Barbara Shadle at 343-3289 or Denise Oley at 343-3287.

## T.W.O. NEWS

TWO WHISKEYS OF OMAHA at their January 1991 meeting and combined 1990 Christmas party have decided that this year is going to be a GREAT year for the city of Omaha and the surrounding area.

January 19 T.W.O. will be The Mouse at the Raging Badger Inn and games to be held but is a demonstration of "sticking" appreciation.

In February some of the members are going up to Minneapolis to see other of BLACK PANTY models to see. Ladies in March to the park, Bays, and applications for their annual race to be held Jan 7, 8, and 9. This year's annual promenade is to be fun and exciting. Summer has it (T.W.O. is there, isn't it?) that those may be there to this year's event, give a change in the atmosphere in games. If you have been to previous T.W.O. affairs, or know of people who have been, you already KNOW that we ALWAYS have FUN FUN FUN!

May has some of our members going to LOST WAGES in, I mean Las Vegas to the Seymours out and then come will go to the Knights of Lullaby run the first weekend in June. And that is just the first half of this year's BUSY BUSY BUSY!

The other BC comes this year to be, Gay Nebraska, October 10. We hope that this year we will have plenty of costumes.

Keep your eyes open, ears tuned in, and ASK QUESTIONS if you think you have missed something. T.W.O. is alive, well, and living in the Omaha area. We hope to see you out and about, especially at functions. Remember to play safe!

Jeffy White, Rusty Capelan

WANT TO SEE THE NEW VOICE MOVE FROM "GOOD" TO "EXCELLENT"?

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## ◆ FIRST GAY TRAVEL VIDEO PRODUCED

**BOSTON** - In an effort to encourage gay and lesbian travel, a Boston lesbian and gay travel guide company has begun production of a series of gay and lesbian travelogues. Beginning in May of 1991, *PrizeTime* traveled to Montreal, Quebec, St. Louis and Key West, Florida, and Provincetown, Massachusetts in the series. These videos were chosen for their clear appeal because of their popularity among the gay and lesbian community.

These full hour video-tapes *PrizeTime* Travelers are produced by Kennedy Publications and will be shown on cable in 14 cities in the United States and Canada in January and February of 1991.

*PrizeTime* Travelers recently profiles a community enjoyed by lesbians and gay men. Each shows features:

- a video tour of the city
- highlights of the gay and lesbian areas
- visitors' knowledge of government, government agencies, restaurants, and other businesses
- lesbian and gay performers
- interviews with residents, business owners, and visitors
- comparative information
- and the gay and lesbian history of the area.

Each episode of *PrizeTime* is hosted by Jim White and Cynthia Page, both of Boston.

"The response to *PrizeTime* has been extremely warm," said Page. "Each place we have visited has been enthusiastic to be chosen for this kind of program."

Car-hire Jim White added, "The idea of a gay and lesbian video travel guide has been a long time coming and well worth the wait."

"There are many gay and lesbian travel guides in print," said *PrizeTime* Traveler producer Mary Kennedy, "but actually seeing a community on television is an important, previous step in traveling."

To order a video tape or register where the program will be shown call 1-800-338-0333.

Editor Bruce DeWitt Landerbach and Key West videos are available for viewing by your group or organization here in Omaha. Contact Lee Drachman at 573-1544-8700.

## ◆ TOTO TOURS TAKES OFF

**THIS TOWN, I.E.** is now offering exciting travel excursions for "Friends of TOTO." The new travel company has been established by Dave Ward and Arthur Johnson of Chicago to enable small groups of gay men to travel together to exciting destinations they might not normally choose to visit on their own or with other tour groups.

"There are so many terrific places in the world to see," said Ward, president of the new venture, whose background is in public relations and the graphic arts. "I had done my share of traveling to gay areas all over the world in Florida, Provincetown, and Key West. I was ready to leave on an adventure and exploring new horizons, but I knew that I wouldn't feel entirely relaxed in a traditional, diverse sex group. I wanted to be able to be my best down on a vacation and not have to spend unnecessary waking moments. Guess other gay men who felt the same way, and traveling with fellow adventure Arthur Johnson to form Toto Tours.

"Our idea," explained Johnson, secretary/treasurer of Toto Tours and General Executive Secretary of The Commercial Club of Chicago, "is to do the all-around research and planning that will enable gay men to participate together in an organized vacation in the middle of the original 'Friends of Dorothy.'" Like the Commodore Club, we'll find courage remaining in the unknowns like the Tostitos, an 800-number our hosts through across the beauty and glory's highest artistic experiences, like the Bahamas, we'll work out issues while interacting with diverse environments, cultures, and people. Whether the guest, client will find a Toto Tour that will leave their spirit and their budget. All journey's end we want each

adventure to feel by her arrival home attached in heart, mind, and spirit."

"Our job won't be over even when the tour is completed," adds Ward. "We plan to maintain regular communication bonds with Toto Tourists by means of a regular newsletter and e-mail. We want our clients to feel like they're part of our family."

Toto Tours began organizing in the fall of 1990. Tours are now being marketed nationwide and will commence in June. "Our Mission Voyage, June 15-18, 1991, will be a highlight of New Dorothy began her journey to Oz," said Johnson. "Our house is a 12-person luxury homestead will pull away from its surroundings and glide through the sparkling waters of Lake Zurich in southern Ohio. It will be a magical journey through one of the most open and beautiful parks in America."

Subsequent vacations in 1991 include Cape Town, an exciting week-long sail on the Commodore Club to the Grand Canyon (July 18-21) (Flight Two Aboard Friday 22-25), Toronto's visit of Basil's Provincial Park in Canada followed by three days of touring Jasper National Park and Lake Louise August 2-10, French Togo, a 10-day luxury excursion through the Burgundy Valley in France followed by three nights in Paris (September 4-14), and Big Ben, a week-long treasure trip in London, with day trips to Bath, Southampton, and the Cotswolds (October 18-21).

"We're planning our own unique results in the future," said Ward. "The cost of each group will be around \$2,000 so the vacation price for high-quality experiences for each participant." One of us will accompany each tour to ensure that every detail of the trip, including transportation, food, and accommodations, meets our high standards. Each trip will provide food incentives for a lifetime.

For a detailed brochure on wonderful tours, write: Toto Tours, 823 West Central Avenue, #101, Chicago, IL 60637, or call: (312) 935-9555.

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# ◆ FEATURES

## ◆ THEY'RE RECRUITING AGAIN

by Jean Marziano

Most everybody has something that bugs them to death, and every town in this state seems to have a little mouse about it. I want to take this opportunity to vent my spleen on one of my favorite pet peeves.

I'm a subscriber to the *Midwest Eye*, and sometimes I wonder if maybe that isn't such a good idea. There are a lot of national news items in it and I tend to get all worked up over most of them. Like the case in Chicago. Back in July, I remember reading about a certain power which was to appear in the city's buses and trains. The power was part of the *Art Against AIDS* series, and it honored the slogan, "Wearing Dances' Kill AIDS and Infections On." The power also featured photographs showing adults couple a female couple, and an inter-racial before couple.

Some of the Chicago Transit Authority board members thought it was a disgusting poster, even though they did defend the First Amendment right to place it on public transportation. One of the City Council members, however wanted to keep "such

repulsive advertisements" from being exhibited because the ad "seems to be directed at children for the purpose of recruitment." State representative Marjorie Davis said, "I think this invites children in a particular lifestyle. We don't need to give our children any additional items to be confused about... It might make [young members of the same sex] a new kid."

Directed at children? Where do they get that idea? The poster says something to hold print school ground and indifference. That doesn't sound much like, "Hey, little girl, want some candy?"

Recruitment? Oh, for crying out loud, people. Think like adults, will you?

A newsworthy? Likeball women lip-suggers, perhaps?

Well, I guess hard to describe very wordy items sometimes. Only they could take a poster which was aimed at distributing information about AIDS and twist it into a child-recruiting device. That takes an enormous amount of imagination, more than most normal people have.

I guess that is the main thing, causing the judgment of people like Marjorie Davis, Jane Illinois, Rev. Lou Sheldon, et al. That must be something they cling to like an old security blanket they use to be comforted with

their childhood. That is the thing that catches the dwelling children come alive under your feet, an obvious example of how you really can feel the imagination. And, finally, what a stretch of imagination they took with this poster issue.

How can they call that poster "recruiting" without stopping to look at what's on it? And in some towns these days? They must be completely blind. Talk about recruitment. With all those examples of human homosexuality, it's a wonder most of us don't stay home and think of us as the only way to be through plenty of us too.

Heaven knows I was brainwashed by long enough. Even though I was already being something for my grade-school girlfriends, society had put enough blinders on me to keep me thinking, "If only I were gay, I'd want to take her on." I had been so overwhelmed by some examples that it never occurred to me that I could be anything but a closeted or perhaps lonely person. I had been effectively recruited into acting like a homosexual, even though I was against my best interests.

When I started dating trying to be like the other gals I knew, I'd go out with a man and find myself thinking, "So what's the big deal? This guy is supposed to be a man, not a

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holding giddy that for love?" (Below: glenn/clay/valentines.com. Is just worse "you")

Then I had my first experience with a woman and thought, "Oh, THIS is what it's all about. THIS is what turns me into a puddle of melted Jell-O."

Frankly, I'd have been a lot less confident and wouldn't have wasted those years if I had seen pictures of women kissing. Funny thing, I can't remember ever having seen a picture of two women kissing anywhere at any time in my childhood, which is especially not good in unimpeachable years.

So how did I get "corrected"? Maybe I read something in a book which somebody would think should have been burned. Clips that I am entirely different per person.

## ◆ LOVE NOTES

by Sharon Van Rued

It just couldn't be February without at least one article on Love and Affection in honor of St. Valentine. That good man deserves our recognition. After all, his last day has probably done more to help the United States economy than anything since Christmas adopted the celebration of the

winter solstice and called it Christmas.

It was three years ago, on St. Valentine's Day, that Carla and I made our first public commitment to each other as we celebrated a "Year of Blowing." We celebrated our Holy Union 13 months later. It's worth noting on January 13, our second anniversary. Since then, we have worked hard on being a couple.

Being a couple is a mixed blessing. You don't have to worry about who will go home with you. You always have a date for Sunday night. You can have a couple without it being a social catastrophe. But you won't be able to watch your favorite movie those times in our weekend. Nor will you be able to leave your dirty underwear lying in the middle of the bedroom until the stack is higher than the bed. Nor will you be able to take off to Kansas City for the weekend without telling anyone where you're going. Not if you want to remain a couple.

No longer will you have a name of your own. You will no longer be "Sharon" or "Carla" or "Joe" or "Alma." Instead you will be "SharonCarla" or "JoeandAlma." And when you meet new people, it will take at least a month before they can remember which of you is which. Sometimes you will need to develop ways for people to remem-

ber what to write. One of my favorites was when a couple introduced themselves as, "Sharon and Travis." Just remember Sharon is short. Travis is tall.

Being a couple isn't perfect. But on a Sunday morning, while Carla reads the paper and I type, I wouldn't trade it for all the independence in the world. Carla knows me better than anyone has ever known me, and she loves me. I spent the whole day yesterday either yelling or crying about something I wouldn't even blame it on (PMT) and at the end of the day she put a movie in the VCR, got pillows, set the stove on the couch next to her and said, "Now, just let me hold you for a while. It will be OK." And she was right... it was OK.

So, on this fine day of St. Valentine, put a movie in the VCR, get out the soft pillows, set your special someone down, and hold that person close to your heart. As you listen to the sounds of his or her breathing or feel a pulse beat under your fingers, remember that the greatest gift is love.

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# ◆ FEATURES

## ◆ HOW ARE WE DOING?

In November we published a survey asking for your comments on the New Voice of Nebraska. 930 surveys went out with the magazine. 11 surveys were returned. While this is definitely not a statistically significant sample, we'd like to share the results with you, along with a few editorial comments.

Overall, most of you rated the New Voice as "Good" (8 out of 11). One person ranked the magazine as "Excellent", one as "Average", and one as "Very Poor."

Eight of you felt that the New Voice represents gays and lesbians of Nebraska, while one (one's) vote and one replied with a definite "no."

With regard to articles, poems, and advertising, five of you thought they were "timely", one thought they usually were, one was undecided, and three thought they were not timely. Eight of the 11 responding thought articles, etc., were "interesting", one was unenthusiastic, and two felt they were not interesting. Six thought the articles were "Well-Written", one thought they usually were, and I said they were not. A few respondents felt that articles, poems, and advertising were "In Great Taste", while one did not.

Those responding felt there should be more of the items listed below. The number of responses for a particular item appears after the item.

Local Events.....	4	Fiction.....	2
Features.....	4	Gay News.....	1
Men's News.....	2	Religion.....	0
Political News.....	3	Women's News.....	0
7-1/2 It's local.....		Poetry.....	1
National News.....	3	Puzzles.....	1
Sports News.....	0	Interviews/Serialized.....	1
AIDS News.....	1	Photography.....	1
Local News.....	1	An Work.....	1
Humor.....	1	Television.....	1
Editorials.....	3		
Letters (Desirable).....			
Open Forum.....	1		

about AIDS and its progress. 1

"After all you felt that the print style and size weren't to read, while one did not. None of you also felt that the New Voice is readily available but one of you commented that "Subscriptions should be sent out earlier, I have remained without the DV for months."

None of you felt that the subscription rate is reasonable, but one (one's) is a subscriber and that "several friends" have split the cost is too high.

Those of you support the business

which advertise in the New Voice frequently, six do so sometimes, and two seldom do so.

You indicated your favorite part of the New Voice is:


News, local news.....	3
Letters to the editor.....	2
Comedy.....	1
AIDS news.....	1
Resource section, calendar.....	1
Features.....	1
The cover.....	1

"I read virtually every page periodical in the country and NVN is the most amusing regional mag."

Your least favorite part of the New Voice is:

AIDS News.....	2
Tom Jones article on AIDS and religion.....	2
Comedy.....	1
Celebrity birthdays.....	1
Bucky Jones to column.....	1
I like it all.....	1
National News.....	1
Dear David, Sam (already read elsewhere).....	1
One indicated that the New Voice of Nebraska should:	
Stop printing the weekly resource.....	
Continue editorial/political/publication and content.....	


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**Please Drink  
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Every copy of the good work.  
Maybe add a professional "business card"  
(optional).

Lower subscription price.

Be more available.

Continue to print whatever it goes with  
very little commentary.

Be more visible in the community.

Send us your comments to help with the  
New Voice in the following ways:

Writing Articles \_\_\_\_\_ 2

Local Reporting \_\_\_\_\_ 2

(S. Kearney area)

(S. If you need any help in becoming  
a cover events, etc., I would be glad to  
help)

Fund Raising \_\_\_\_\_ 2

Seating Committee \_\_\_\_\_ 1

Other - typing, word \_\_\_\_\_ 1

Other comments included the following:

"If you need something, call."

"With it could help, no time available."

"With these weeks more advertising.

Would like to do business with more gay  
professionals/businesses."

"You do a great job!"

"I'm amazed the NVN keeps going and  
growing month by month. In the three years  
I've been around, I've seen vast improve-  
ments. Good job, Editor (P.S., I Love HX)!"

"I'd like to write a column for NVN with  
news from Washington. If you have any  
interest, please call me."

As Editor of the New Voice I'd like to say  
thank you for your comments. I realize that  
we'll not be able to please everyone. How-  
ever, we will strive to give you more of what  
you want and in a more timely fashion.



## ATTENTION SHORT PEOPLE

Most people get vision to live. In an  
Ohio study of normal deaths, the shorter  
proved to survive the longer. Each additional  
inch in height corresponded to a reduction of  
1.2 years in the average age of death. In fact,  
an average 1 inch difference in height was  
associated with a six-year difference in long-  
evity. An earlier study showed an average  
age of death of 82 for men less than 5 feet 8  
inches and age 77 for those more than 6 feet.

Courtesy of Omaha  
Profraternum/Walkers

## SINUS PROBLEMS

Are you or someone you know plagued  
by sinus trouble? If so, here's a sinus solu-  
tion remedy that soothes naturally.

- Put a handful of dried chamomile flow-  
ers in a bowl.
- Pour boiling water over the flowers until  
a vapor forms.
- Put a bath towel over your head so that it  
forms a tent.

Close your eyes, place your head over the  
tent, and breathe in the steam. Be careful  
not to burn yourself by getting too close to  
the bowl. It's best to test the temperature  
gradually.

This remedy may also help minor skin  
infections and pimples because it has an  
antibacterial effect.

From The Family Herbal  
Courtesy of Omaha  
Profraternum/Walkers

Happy Valentines Day  
From the New Voice

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Presents:

# BLACK NIGHT

A Levi/Leather Evening

Monday, February 11, 1991

AND

# MARDI GRAS

Tuesday, February 12, 1991

Watch for further details

# ★ NATIONAL NEWS

## ★ OBSCENE ART GUIDELINES FOUND TO VIOLATE RIGHTS

The Los Angeles Daily News

LOS ANGELES - A federal judge in Los Angeles has struck down restrictions under which the National Endowment of the Arts had sought to deny taxpayer-funded grants for artworks it considered obscene.

The restrictions, applied to NEA grants awarded in fiscal year 1989-90, barred federal support for materials that depicted sadomasochism, sexual exploitation of children, and other acts the agency could find to be objectionable.

But jurors had no pledge that they would abide by guidelines and not produce obscene material.

U.S. District Judge John Davies found the guidelines unconstitutional. He ruled in a 28-page opinion that content limits could chill the free-speech rights of performers subsidized by the government.

If artists choose not to be bound by the restrictions, Davies said, the NEA's influence might mean such artists "will not be able to obtain (additional) private funding" and

would be worse off than if they had not applied for an NEA grant.

"This is the type of abstract in the path of the exercise of fundamental speech rights that the Constitution will not tolerate."

Davies' ruling decided two lawsuits brought against the NEA last year by the Bella Lewinsky Dance Foundation, a Los Angeles dance troupe, and the Newport Harbor Art Museum.

Both organizations had received more than \$1 million in NEA grants since 1972 but halted last year when NEA officials imposed the obscenity restrictions.

Other artists and groups have filed lawsuits challenging the NEA rules, but Davies ruling is the first time a judge has declared the obscenity restrictions unconstitutional, attorneys said.

"It's a great victory for the arts community and for the NEA," said James Felix, an attorney who represented the Newport museum.

"It's a victory for the NEA, because it took the NEA from outside pressures that had obstructed it from its mission, which is nurturing and supporting the arts."

NEA officials declined an interview.

Both organizations expect that they will receive money.

## ★ PASSAGE OF MASSACHUSETTS HATE CRIMES BILL

Gay and lesbian activists are celebrating the passage of the Massachusetts Hate Crimes Reporting Act (S.1985). The act mandates the state's Department of Public Safety to collect statistics concerning acts of violence or harassment directed against people on the basis of their religion, race, sexual orientation, handicapped status, or ethnicity. The act also provides for police training in recognition and reporting of these crimes and a public information campaign to direct citizens to their rights and those in reporting such crimes.

"The gay community goes a large share of the credit for pushing this bill through in 1985," says Andrew Feld, a lobbyist with the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights. "Mobilizing the large grassroots network developed last year to battle the final passage of the Massachusetts gay rights law, the Coalition orchestrated a campaign that brought the bill through the executive legislative session in record time."

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★ FIRST ANNUAL  
STONEWALL AWARDS

The Anderson-Pruitt Foundation honored three individuals for their contributions to the gay and lesbian community by awarding each of them with the Foundation's historic (and annual) Stonewall Award and a personal check for \$25,000.

The Anderson-Pruitt Foundation, established by Chicagoans Paul Anderson, Anne Bruce public, attorney, and individuals who have contributed their energy and resources toward the concerns of the gay and lesbian community.

This year, the Stonewall Awards were presented to:

• **Martin Delaney** of Progeny Institute in San Francisco for his pioneering efforts to provide AIDS patients not only with more treatment options, but with the quality of life.

• **Tom O'Connell** of the Howard Street Memorial Clinic in Chicago for his founding of the exceptionally successful Chicago Municipal Social Service Agency, a group of hospitals for AIDS patients; and

• **Ursula Vaid** of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) in Washington, D.C., for her national grassroots leadership in advancing the full range of gay/lesbian rights.

Widely acknowledging the honor made by the Stonewall Award, Martin Delaney remarked, "These awards are symbolic because there are so many others in this field who are worthy of recognition."

Beginning in 1985, the Foundation intends to honor individual achievements in the gay and lesbian community each January. "Achieving goals through hard work and determination has always been a part of our American character. These awards honor the gay and lesbian community and I feel privileged to pay tribute to a select group of leaders whose achievements have so much to contribute. I look forward to building this program for many years to come and recognizing many more of our 'Stonewall' and Paul Anderson."

The Anderson-Pruitt Foundation issued a total of \$75,000 this year to express the appreciation of the gay and lesbian community for the hard work of these three individuals. There are no stipulations or requirements as to how the money must be used.

The Anderson-Pruitt Foundation is a non-profit charitable and educational organization committed to acknowledge and reward individuals engaged in exceptional community service, race or ethnic origin, age or gender, whose activities have improved the quality of life for the gay and lesbian community. Each year, awards will be made to individuals selected from the general public who are active in a broad range of activities

including scientific research, medicine, education, social services, the arts, and all other charitable and educational activities that affect the gay community.

★ BLACK AND WHITE MEN  
TOGETHER (BWM)

BWM Detroit will host the 1991 edition of the National Association of Black and White Men Together (NABWMT) on June 22 - 26, 1991. About 300 people are expected to pack the Ford St. Regis for a week of workshops, guest speakers, entertainment, and special events that will explore the theme: Living, Loving and Working Together.

NABWMT was formed ten years ago to break down racial barriers between gay people and provide a multicultural political and social forum. NABWMT is a nationwide organization for over 20 chapters nationwide of Black and White Men Together, Men of All Colors Together (MACT), Men of All Cultural Colors Together (MACTC), and People of All Colors Together (PACT). Among its many activities, NABWMT is the sponsor of the National AIDS Task Force, which provides AIDS education to communities of color throughout the United States.

Registration here for the event on:  
Jan. 2, 1991 - Apr. 1, 1991: \$65.  
Apr. 2, 1991 - June 1, 1991: \$95.

There are to be a \$25. last fee added to registrations made during the week of the convention. No personal checks will be accepted after June 1, 1991. For more information about the convention, or to obtain registration forms and brochures, write to:  
BWM Detroit, Convention '91  
P.O. Box 24-802  
Detroit, MI 48224

★ RANDY KLOSE ELECTED  
CO-CHAIR BY HRCF  
BOARD

Randy Klose, a long-time activist and teacher in the lesbian and gay community, was elected co-chair of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) Board of Directors at the Board's Silverstein Meeting in Philadelphia. Klose, who resides in Washington, D.C., and an English teacher, a member of the HRCF board for the past three and a half years.

Klose was among those arrested in front of the White House during a 1987 civil disobedience calling attention to the failure of the Reagan Administration to address the AIDS crisis. "Over the years, he has raised hundreds of thousands of dollars for lesbian

and gay rights and AIDS organizations and has continued to work as an activist.

A gay person with AIDS, Klose has taken a particular interest in the HRCF's work on AIDS research, education, and case legislation. In 1988, he provided the funding for its public relations and lobbying campaign that helped to pass S.1232, the Kennedy AIDS Research Bill, the first federal AIDS education and research legislation.

"I believe beyond developing new sources of income to address the lesbian and gay rights agenda," Klose states. "There is no reason why our community's voice in Washington should not be the strongest. We are the most concentrated community in America and we need to be successful to make sure that Congress listens to us," he says. "That takes money. Lesbian and gay Americans have to recognize our own personal responsibility to give something back to our community."

★ MOST GAY & LESBIAN  
COUPLES POOL INCOMES

SEATTLE - Financial interdependence was widely observed among the 1,200 gay and lesbian couples surveyed by Family Foundation for Gay of Lesbian Couples. Fully 85 percent of the male respondents reported that the female couple shared 43 or more of their incomes. In addition, the same couples had been together the mean study they were in their twenties.

The statistics were released in the May/June issue of the publication. The publication, which developed the survey, published its response in Q&A and 1989.

"As their management of household income continues to evolve, it may appear to show a primary relationship with married heterosexual couples," said Dennis G.D., who edits and publishes the bimonthly newsletter with 60,000-year-old Steve Ryan. "These survey results provide you another reason to ask why the law typically treats same-sex couples differently than heterosexual couples. 89 believe gay and lesbian couples deserve the same financial support enjoyed by married couples."

In the February study, some of the information surveyed here also in what will be the most comprehensive financial interdependence for partners was available to the parents of income and its percentage mean.

A few summary of results from the national survey may be obtained by sending a self-addressed, stamped, business-size envelope to: Patricia, Box 1000, Seattle, WA 98101. A detailed analysis appears in the newsletter's May/June issue, which may be ordered for \$250. A year's subscription (1990-92) subscription may be made of Steve Ryan at a Denver at Q&A 784-1019.



# ★ NATIONAL NEWS

## ★ COORS SPONSORS GAY SPORTS EVENT

BOSTON - Coors has become the title sponsor of the 1991 Gay World Series, to be held here next year.

Revenue for the \$20,000 sponsorship, the Coors Light logo will be displayed on all World Series promotional materials and must be featured one night of the series. In return for \$20,000 and \$7,000 contributions from Miller and Budweiser, Coors here will be featured on other nights, according to Boston's Bay Window.

Regarding Coors sponsorship, Bayview's former League commissioner Michael Lomonaco said, "We all wanted with it. Four or five years ago Coors wanted to sponsor the World Series, but we turned them down. But the intent was about employment policies, not where the Coors family money is being spent."

During the early 1980s a number of labor, "progressive" and gay groups organized a boycott of Coors to protest its hostility to unions and its allegedly antigay hiring policies. Those policies were subsequently reversed, and organized labor pulled its boycott. Earlier this year a Boston city committee suggested the termination of the boycott by local gay bars after Coors made contributions to local gay and AIDS organizations.

## ★ YOUNG LESBIANS TO MEET

A Gathering of Young Lesbian Separates and Our Radical Feminist League (seeds in Our Farms and Towns) will meet the weekend of March 22 - 24, 1991, in Chicago. The gathering is part of the ongoing networking between a new generation of lesbian making radical choices. "We will be able to connect, imagine, connect, discuss, believe in and prevent to face discrimination, isolation, fear and hate to come through strong, clear, and together."

Diets of queer colors and costumes are already included in the networking. More information will be provided about accommodations, sliding scale registration as low as \$0. As part of our commitment to violence free spaces, lesbian barrens and s/r are not welcome.

Write to Waging Consent, 2625 North Lincoln, Apt. 2N, Chicago, IL 60641-5028 for more info about the gathering, upcoming events and projects, and just to let us know you're out there!

## ★ THIRTYSOMETHING SUPPORTS AMFAR

The women's thirty something and MCM/UA Television have donated the advance for their sponsoring book, *Thirty something stories*, to The American Foundation for AIDS Research (AMFAR). The book is a collection of essays from the first three seasons of the award-winning program. *Thirty something stories* will be distributed into public libraries each episode, and each story will be introduced by the individual writer.

"We all wanted to do something unique with this book," said Richard Entine, the show's producer and one of the writer/directors. "We are happy to be supporting AMFAR's significant efforts to fight AIDS."

## ★ WHITE SUPREMACISTS GUILTY

Last May, two members of the Aryan Nation - Robert Winslow, 26, and Stephen Patton, 20 - were arrested by FBI agents in Seattle for plotting to detonate a bomb at Neighborhood, a Seattle gay bar, and a various Black and Korean businesses and burn it at a Jewish synagogue. A third Aryan, Proctor James Baker, 26, was arrested in Idaho as an accomplice.

The three were found guilty the week of October 13 of knowingly making, receiving, or possessing bombs or grenades, carrying firearms in relation to a crime of violence, and causing state fires to commit a crime.

Winslow and Nelson face up to 25 years in prison and Baker faces up to 17 years. They will be sentenced January 31.

The FBI had been monitoring the Aryan Nation for the past five years and now accused the bomb plot through FBI informant Ron Bonville Valentin.

During the trial, Bonville Valentin attempted to prove that Valentin talked up the whole bombing idea and the plan to bomb Neighborhood, etc., was just "right-wing fantasy talk."

The FBI's role in the plot was never fully revealed in the trial, under government orders, all FBI documents, audio and video tapes inferred during the trial were instead sealed from public view by the government. Valentin also indicated the Ex-Click Klan in Tacoma.

## GAY SIBLINGS ANTHOLOGY:

Seeking manuscripts especially in the form of narrative or interview telling significant, humorous events or poignant stories of lesbians and gay men with their gay siblings. Nonfiction most of all types will be considered. EASE. Deadline July 1, 1991. Don and Molly Martin, 1014 E. 7th Ave., Olympia, WA 98501.

## TELL 'EM YOU READ ABOUT IT IN THE NEW VOICE!

## SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

## COME OUT TODAY

## PLAY SAFE!

## HAVE YOU SUBSCRIBED TO THE NEW VOICE YET? DO IT!

## NEED INFO BUT DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO? CHECK OUT THE RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## SMILE IF YOU'RE GAY



DEADLINE FOR ALL SUBMISSIONS IS THE 15TH OF THE MONTH

## ● ED STEARNS - GOD'S SPECIAL CHILD

My son, Edward Stearns, died September 13, 1990. He had AIDS. On his marker was put "God's Special Child."

Ed worries about and the day they told us he was dead they also told us he was one of God's special children. But in later years, when we found out Ed was gay, we know he was indeed God's very, very special child.

He was a sweet, gentle person who went through life smiling. Ed never complained about the AIDS. He simply accepted it the same way he had accepted his death. He taught us the meaning of the word "courage."

Over the next three years, while Ed battled with AIDS, he touched the lives of many people. Ed was loved by everyone. That sweet smile of his melted their hearts. Today at least one hundred different people are no longer attacked by homosexuality because of Ed and they no longer think AIDS can be picked up off a toilet seat. And because of my son, they all became better people.

All my beautiful memories of Ed are kept in my going. I washed his beautiful cup in a plastic bag because I didn't want to lose his smell. Sometimes when I'm having an exceptionally rough day, I wear the cap around the house. Other times I hold a small amount I found in his personal belongings. Oh so often the bed where he used to sleep and ponder what he lacked like lying down, seeing his beautiful smile. One day I thought I found him in the house and that comforted me more than anything.

Every night after I put my prayers, I have a conversation with Ed in my language. "I love you honey and I love you. Oh how I wish I had spent more time with you. How proud I was of you." And as I am speaking to him, tears stream down my cheek. He's smiling.

He's at your side.

Linda Hines

Linda has been a PRN laborer/volunteer for three years.

## ● CLINICAL TRIALS HANDBOOK AVAILABLE

**NEW YORK** - The American Foundation for AIDS Research (AFAAR) has released a new publication for HIV-infected people and their care providers. The **AIDS/IV Clinical Trials Handbook** covers the most frequently-asked questions about participating in clinical trials to stay or understand, understand, understand, and understand which is easily available to most readers.

The handbook was designed as an educational tool to assist primary care physicians and other care providers in counseling HIV-infected people about the risks and benefits of participation in clinical research. The handbook addresses their concerns about the rights and responsibilities of people in clinical trials, and participation in a clinical trial might affect someone's daily life.

For information on obtaining the handbook, contact AFAAR at 1315 Broadway, Suite 560, New York, NY 10018-6401, (212) 719-0033.

## ● SITUATION UNACCEPTABLE

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization, has called on the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to expedite the approval of two promising AIDS treatments.

In a letter to FDA Commissioner David Kessler, Tom McFadyen, Executive Director of the Campaign Fund, urged the commissioner to "expedite a decision on the licensing of ddI and ddC to the treatment of HIV disease." Although both drugs are available through expanded access programs, neither treatment has been authorized for licensing by its corporate sponsor.

"As you know, both of these drugs have been in trials here for several years. During that time, reputable scientists at the FDA and elsewhere have continually spoken encouragingly of the progress for both of these drugs as HIV treatments," McFadyen writes. The lack of action on licensing for the drugs, despite numerous requests of their sponsors for treatment, "is unacceptable," McFadyen noted.

The delay in availability of the drugs "has created an exceedingly high level of frustration for people with HIV infection who currently have no access to adequate treatment. This includes thousands of people who cannot tolerate AZT, or for whom AZT does not work, or no longer works," McFadyen wrote.

"The delay in releasing these promising AIDS treatments sends the unacceptable message that this is business as usual," McFadyen stated. "The many lives at stake for us to remain silent while these treatments remain unlicensed."

THANKS TO ALL WHO  
COMPLETED AND RETURNED  
THE NEW VOICE SURVEYS.

## ● LESBIANS WITH AIDS

In the first survey of lesbians with AIDS, the Centers for Disease Control reported that from 1980 to 1989 a total of 79 women with AIDS had sexual contact exclusively with other women. During that same period, the number of women with AIDS, HIV, also used IV-drugs. The remaining 3% of the lesbians had received transfusions with blood containing HIV.

According to the report, in the November American Journal of Public Health, "Prevention of HIV infection in the lesbian community will require efforts to prevent and reduce IV-drug use - the major and most direct means of transmission to this population."

## ● SALUDOS Y ABRAZOS DESDE PUERTO RICO (GREETINGS AND HUGS FROM PUERTO RICO)

Amigos:

We greet you from Puerto Rico. We bring you all a group of young men and women preparing and distributing information on the terrible disease of AIDS. We try to gather people (especially those at high risk) and inform them about what we know about this deadly disease. By informing these people, we feel that we can try to slow the spread of the HIV virus. There are many who will never reach about the virus. We also can tell you all that we write to be without. On every communication and help for that reason we write to you regarding your help in the following:

- condoms
- partners
- signs and HIV journals
- newspaper-clippings
- brochures
- VHS videos
- business, international, monetary, etc. specifically in Spanish.

We do not bring to you information by foundation, therefore it is much more difficult for us to purchase these materials. The work we do is limited by a small group of volunteers trying to do something for someone knowing that we are HIV-infected. We hope and pray that you can help us in our cause. May God bless you all.

If any of your contacts are able to help us, please let us know. We are grateful for any help you can give. Thank you for your support and friendship to Carlos Samartín L.R., Calle de Bay St. #14, Villa Carolina, PR 00982.

# AWARENESS

## LESBIAN AND GAY AWARENESS MYTH VERSUS FACT

### MYTH

*Gay People and Lesbians choose to be the way they are. Their lifestyle is an optional one.*

### FACT

Millions of nature and the causes of sexuality have yet to produce a definitive answer as to why people are either straight, gay, lesbian or bisexual. What is known is that our sexuality, in most of who we are going to relate to and bond with, is set in early childhood, well before school age. In most before we venture much beyond the door of our homes our gayness or lesbianism has been determined.

For lesbian and gay people, the choice comes in deciding whether or not to live openly. Fear, oppression and hatred, including that oppression and hatred of self, often make that choice a difficult one.

Using the word *lesbian* in relation to affectional orientation is incorrect. *Lesbian* is something you create with income and choice, it changes with age, social status, physical abilities, interests and many other variables.

Discussed herein something which does not occur in nature. In fact, sexual activity and behavior between members of the same sex has been documented in every animal species. It has been found in many rac, chimps, apes, seals or aquatic mammals. The fact that it is in the nature, that is, the majority behavior, does not make it unnormal, only rare. It is analogous to left handedness in that regard. Authoritative studies of the incidence of same sex orientation set the rate at between 4 and 14 per cent for males and 3 per cent for females. It commonly referred to as 10 to 20 per cent. None by itself these estimates are considered low.

### MYTH

*Lesbians and gay women are the way they are because they hate or fear men and gay men are the way they are because they hate or fear women.*

### FACT

Gay people and lesbians are the way they are because the are attracted to and form bonds of love and affection with members of the same gender, and not because they hate or fear their opposite gender. Many gay people and lesbians have strong, loving and supportive relationships with people of the opposite gender.

It is true the bisexual women by men has attracted the love of many women, and

lesbians avoid sexual refusal to why on or associate with men, many lesbians and gay women describe their sexuality as an affirmation of women and a rejection of men.

### MYTH

*Lesbians and gay people pay on children in order to find adults as their way of life since they cannot have children of their own.*

### FACT

Many lesbians and gay people do have children, either by choice, from former marriages or by adoption.

As for paying on children, the statistics gathered by police departments across the nation show that sexual abuse of both male and female children is perpetrated in the vast majority by heterosexual, white males.

### MYTH

*Gay people and lesbians who raise children, will inevitably raise them to be gay or lesbian.*

### FACT

Lesbian and gay parents show that sexuality cannot be taught or learned, it is an innate or inborn drive. Most lesbians and gay people were raised by straight parents who brought them up to be straight, yet eventually their true natures prevailed. About 10 per cent of the children raised in gay or lesbian households turn out to be lesbian or gay people.

### MYTH

*Homosexuality is a sin.*

### FACT

For some it is a sin. The bible it is not. The Constitution of the United States says that religious beliefs cannot be the basis for legal discrimination. It defines a clear separation between church and state, between religious belief and civil law. So while some people regard it as sin, that belief cannot and should not be the basis for discrimination or discriminatory, public accommodations, access, policies or law.

### MYTH

*Homosexuals are evil and they are to be avoided.*

### FACT

In medieval times gay people and lesbians were seen as evil and were accused of being witches and heretics. In some modern times they were labeled sexual deviants, deviants, deviants and eventually it. In 1972 the American Psychiatric Association removed

homosexuality from their list of mental disorders and no longer considered homosexuals to be an ill class to itself.

### MYTH

*Homosexuality is a recent phenomenon and is a consequence of the sexual revolution.*

### FACT

History is full of evidence of gay and lesbian activities dating well back into recorded time. In ancient Greek culture such as love was considered to be honorable and noble. Many great warriors, leaders, athletes and poets were involved in same sex relationships. In the intervening centuries there were many references to people who lived in gay or lesbian relationships. Among the notable gay and lesbian people are: Michelangelo, Raphael, Leonardo, Tom Swales, Adriano, Gerardo, Antonio, the Count, Virginia Woolf, Nancy Smith, May Sarton, Walt Whitman and Susan S. Anthony.

### MYTH

*Homosexuality are responsible for AIDS and it is God's punishment on them.*

### FACT

Chances of a human condition. We do not know people with other diseases for the disease itself. No one knows Jews for Tan Tasha disease, African Americans for Sickle Cell Anemia or Longmenites for Legionnaires' Disease or babies for Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. In fact the idea of blaming these people seems absurd.

There is that disease is used by God as a punishment is too rare. In biblical times disease and congenital physical conditions were often viewed as God's curse on an individual. For today few people believe that a child born with a deformed hand or leg has been cursed by God, or that tuberculosis or cancer is God's punishment. Why then should AIDS be different? AIDS is a killing, mostly heterosexual people in this country, as it is in some African states, to say would be suggesting that God hates and punishes straight people.

Ironically, the myth, if true, would be proof of God's love of lesbians, as they represent of the lowest infection rates of any population.

**DO YOU WANT SOMETHING IN  
THE NEW VOICE?  
THE ARE OUR OWN  
REPORTERS.  
IF WON'T APPEAR  
UNLESS YOU WRITE IT.**

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2**

Coalition For G/L Civil Rts  
1st Saturday Event, 7-10pm  
Cornerstone-640 E 16-Lincoln

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3**

New Voice Steering Committee  
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24, 3 pm

GLSO Gay/Lesbian Student Org  
Call for Location 391-0494  
or 558-8121, Mtg at 6:30pm

"SIMPLE GIFTS", Concert by  
River City Mixed Chorus,  
Strauss Performing Arts Ctr  
UNI Campus, 56th & Dodge  
7:05pm, Ticket Info 733-1702

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4**

ICOM Board of Governors Mtg  
The Max-1417 Jackson-6:30pm

Open Auditions, 6:30-7:30pm  
River City Mixed Chorus  
Low Ave Presbyterian Church  
1023 North 40 St, Omaha

Support Group for Bisexuals  
Open to all Sexes, 7:30pm  
Cornerstone (Upstairs),  
840 N. 16 St., Lincoln

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5**

L.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New  
Gay/Lesbian Endeavors) 7pm  
UNO Religious Center  
101 S Happy Hollow, Omaha

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8**

Affirmation/Omaha, 7 pm  
Call 556-7701 for info

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9**

Nightmarket Chaveria, 2pm  
Call 551-0518 for info

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 10**

Parents-FLAG/Omaha, 3 pm  
1st North 7020 Cass, 292-4791

Omaha Wen (OWEN) Mtg, 1:30pm  
Writer Box 3706, Omaha 68103

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

Open Auditions, 6:30-7:30pm  
River City Mixed Chorus  
Low Ave Pres, 1023 N 40th

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11**

AIDS Interfaith Network  
Service, St Cecelia's, 7 pm  
40th & Webster, Omaha

"Black Night" Leather Event  
The Max, 1417 Jackson

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 12****MARDI GRAS!!**

MARDI GRAS Celebration  
Sponsored by Imperial Court  
of Nebraska, 8:30pm  
The Max, 1417 Jackson

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 13****ASH WEDNESDAY**

Ash Wednesday Services, 7pm  
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24, 345-2563

Lincoln P-FLAG AIDS Support  
Grp, 7pm, Info Line-475-2437

**THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14****VALENTINE'S DAY****FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 15**

CHINESE NEW YEAR  
(Year of the Goat)

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20**

Parents-FLAG, Kearney, 3pm  
St Johns, 2nd Ave at 13rd St  
Call for info: (308) 237-0876

GLSO Gay/Lesbian Student Org  
All Students Welcome! 6:30pm  
Location: 558-8121, 391-0494

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 17**

Gay/Lesbian Coalition, 7:30pm  
St Marks, 13 & S, Lincoln

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24**

Lincoln AIDS Interfaith Service  
St Marks, UNL, 13 & E, 7pm

**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26**

Parents-FLAG-Lincoln, 7 pm  
Call 435-4488 for information

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 27**

P-FLAG AIDS Support Group  
Lincoln, 475-2437, 7 pm

**WEEKLY EVENTS****Monday**

Metropolitan Community Church  
of Omaha, 420 S 24, 345-2563  
Worship: 10:30am, 7pm

Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers  
Running/Walking Club, 10 am  
Various Locations

River City Bowling League  
King Louis Room Bowl, 3 pm  
1100 Northwest Radial Way

The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha  
Shows at 9:20

**Monday**

Alternate Text Site, 7-10 pm  
NAP, 3624 Leavenworth, Omaha

River City Mix Chorus Rehears  
Low Ave Pres 1023 N 40, 7pm

**Tuesday**

Gay/Lesbian Support Group  
MCC-Omaha 420 S 24, 345-2563

**Wednesday**

Omaha Frontrunner/Walkers  
Ford Birthsite, 6:30 pm  
32nd & Woolworth, Omaha

MCC-Omaha Prayer Group, 7pm  
420 S 24, Request--345-2563  
(WILL NOT MEET DURING LEVY)

**Thursday**

Alternate Text Site, 7-10 pm  
NAP, 3624 Leavenworth, Omaha

UNI Gay/Lesbian Student Org  
Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 8pm

**Friday**

Gay/Lesbian Alcohol Anonymous  
Pella Lth, 303 S 41, Omaha  
345-9916, 8:15 pm

**Saturday**

Women's Support Group, 11 am  
MCC-Omaha, 420 S 24, 345-2563

# CLASSIFIEDS

**ROOMIES?** Roommates. We match Ladies with Flavors in Omaha, Lincoln, and all major cities nationwide 1-800-272-8372, 1pm/8pm.

Attractive Bimale TV seeks same (or drag or TS) for friendship, fun, and more. Send photo, get answered first. Tee-Vee, P.O. Box 2361, Lincoln, NE 68502.

Attractive, bisexual couple in mid 20's seek attractive bisexual female for fun and friendship. Must be intelligent, discrete, safe, and fun-loving. Photo and phone suggested. Write: W., P.O. Box 84943, Lincoln, NE 68529.

**INTRODUCING** Personally Speaking, the Midwest adult consents publication for gay, lesbian, and bisexual men and women. Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and NOW ADDING NEBRASKA! Sale discrete. FREE Info Pack and FREE Ad with statement of legal age. Box 16792, WYOMI, KS 67215.

**CELEBRATE OUR CULTURE!** Shop the Lesbian/Gay marketplace. Free catalog. Write "G", 3624 N.E. Anaworth Street, Portland, OR 97211.



To all the **NICE PEOPLE** who come into Digger's: Happy Valentine's Day. Alise

Jerry F. Koch - I hope all the happiness you have given me, returns to you. Rick

Carl, You have brought joy and love and security I've never known. Thanks for being part of my life. Love You! Shanon

Semi-retired drag queen, kind of dweebie, not violent, has sat on some benches, among other things. Looking for Mr. Right to be his Valentine. Kansas, The Parks of the Reign

K.C. Thanks for all the great times we have spent together. I cherish every moment. Love, R.P.

Rob - Not I nor 500 years will be enough to satisfy my love for you. Always, K.

Steve: You are the love in my life and the joy in my heart. I love you, want you, and need you. Darryl B.

Dan: You're still the hunk of a man I fell in love with 7 years ago. As always "TELL THE WHEELS FALL OFF." Your manbow Gary

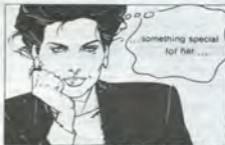
Omaha G.B. wishes Lincoln G.B. Happy Valentine's Day; "Let's make outlaws together."

Steve, Thanks for all the Men Size Love. Mark/Markie

G.W. Wishes S.K. A Happy Valentine's Day. Love ya so much!!

Rob, THANKS for your love. Jerry

Sweet Pea, You Know!



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## DARLINS



# The New Voice RESOURCE DIRECTORY

## LINCOLN

460 Lexington - Executive Offices  
Call 402-478-5214 A.S. Central office for resources

**City Men's Support Group**  
City Community Center - Lincoln  
402-474-3967 - (open 11am - 6pm) - group for gay men

**Lincoln Support Group**  
Lincoln Support Center (6001) 1700 - Westgate Plaza (2nd, 3rd, 4th) - 402-474-3967 - (open 11am - 6pm) - address weekly activities - 6001

**Lincoln Coalition for Lesbians**  
402-476-2945 - Lincoln, NE 68505 - Lesbian-interest coalition, newsletter - support - activities - referrals, & more programs

**Safe - Relationship Fund for Gay Lesbians Available for**  
5001 - Lincoln, NE 68505 - 402-474-5214 - New project - Relationship fund - financing of telephone counseling

**New Living - Lincoln**  
402-478-0252 - Single-sex community, address - groups - classes - self-help - meeting - with - weekly - sex - partying - 4th - Westgate - Plaza

**Key Providers**  
Health-care - information - needed - 724-3922 - 402-474-3967

**Open Door Ministry**  
402-478-5214 (Lincoln - central - counseling - 11 - 6 - Tues. - 11 - 6 - Thurs.)

**Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLBG)**  
See National - Information - listing

**Support Group For Battered**  
Sisters - 402 - 478 - 5214 - No - charge - 11 - 17 - Thurs. - 11 - 13 - Thurs. - 402 - 478 - 5214

**UW - Gay and Lesbian Students Association, Inc.**  
New - 402 - 478 - 5214 - (open - 11 - 6 - Tues. - 11 - 6 - Thurs.) - addresses - & - partial - weekly - 11 - 13 - Thurs. - 402 - 478 - 5214 - 402 - 478 - 5214

**UW - The Lesbian Resource Center**  
402 - 478 - 5214 - (open - 11 - 6 - Tues. - 11 - 6 - Thurs.) - weekly - activities - referrals - self - support

**The Whipped in Chains**  
Help - in - short - term - therapy - on - 426 - 24 - 402 - 478 - 5214

**Women in Gender-Advocates**  
800 - 424 - 6265 - Lincoln, NE 68505

## OMAHA

460 Lexington - Executive Offices  
402-478-5214 (Omaha, NE 68505) - Financing - counseling - Relationship - information - and - PFLBG - information - The - quarterly

**AGEEL - Omaha**  
401 - 634 - 4100 - Omaha, NE 68104 - (open 11am - 6pm - Tues. - 11am - 6pm - Thurs.)

**Association of Parents/Friends**  
1700 - Westgate - Omaha, NE 68104 - (open 11am - 6pm) - Weekly - Support - Group - in - 1100 - 1700 - Westgate - Plaza - 402 - 478 - 5214 - (open 11am - 6pm - Tues. - 11am - 6pm - Thurs.)

**Wagner Support Club**  
614 - 2715 - Omaha, NE 68102 - (open 11am - 6pm) - financing - information - of - PFLBG - information

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## NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

460 Lexington - Executive Offices  
402-478-5214 (Omaha, NE 68505) - Financing - counseling - Relationship - information - and - PFLBG - information - The - quarterly

**Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLBG)**  
See National - Information - listing

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**Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLBG)**  
See National - Information - listing

**Bars & Restaurants**  
**Omaha**

Gay - 402 - 478 - 5214 - (open 11am - 6pm) - 402 - 478 - 5214

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Gay - 402 - 478 - 5214 - (open 11am - 6pm) - 402 - 478 - 5214

**Lincoln**

Gay - 402 - 478 - 5214 - (open 11am - 6pm) - 402 - 478 - 5214

**Grand Island**

Gay - 402 - 478 - 5214 - (open 11am - 6pm) - 402 - 478 - 5214

**KEY FESTIVAL**  
"Weater our way" - how to integrate alcohol responsibly and profitably before leaving.

**Omaha State Health Center**  
220 - S. 36th St. - Omaha, NE 68105 - (open 11am - 6pm) - 402 - 478 - 5214

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**ADDSIV RESOURCES**

**INFORMATION AND REFERRAL**

**Adoptive Health Center**  
220 - S. 36th St. - Omaha, NE 68105 - (open 11am - 6pm) - 402 - 478 - 5214

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**LEGAL**

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You'll Find Fun In  
February At  
THE MAX

Sunday, February 3  
Diana Hutton

Miss Gay U.S.A. 1988

Thursday, February 7  
Phoebe Tate U.S.A. benefit

Sunday, February 10  
The Widow Max Contest

Monday, February 11  
Black Night

Tuesday, February 12  
Mardi Gras Night

Thursday, February 14  
Lonely Hearts - Swinging Singles  
Max Out Party

Sunday, February 17  
Amethyst

Sunday, February 24  
Miss Gay Omaha, Jennifer Jett

The Max

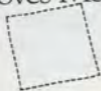
Omaha



He Loves Me.



He Loves Me Not.



Using a condom every time you have sex is the best way to prevent AIDS. And please don't use one too.