

V O L U M E II

N O . II

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



LA SORTIE —

# The New Voice

April 1985

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# Coming Out to Family, Friends & Yourself

## . . . Steven Michael Moeller

It has been many years since I came out of the closet. I still can remember the time that I had trying to accept the fact that I loved men instead of what society said I should love. The love that dared not speak its name had come to me and I (at that time) did not want to face what that all entailed.

Looking back (as hindsight is always infinitely more valuable than foresight), I have been actively gay for 26 of my 32 years. I realized that I was different, that I liked things that were not the same as the rest of my family. I hid in those years and took my changes as they came along and took them I did. All through high school and college, I tried to say that I was the way I was because it was a stage that I was going through. It wasn't until after college, that I finally admitted to myself, to another human being, and to my Higher Power, that I was a homosexual, that I am gay.

That was 10 years ago. The more that I live and learn from this world and our society, I find that I am constantly going through a continually ongoing process of coming out, that my self-awareness is growing all the time.

## . . . Jerry Peck

Inasmuch as I have reached my prime and have been gay since my high school days, many young people have asked what it was like being gay back in the Dark Ages. Well, children, being gay was very much the same. I enjoyed sex with other boys, and I had no particular interest in girls. I lived in a small town and the idea of "coming out" never occurred to me. I was lucky enough to have a few close friends who enjoyed the same sexual activities, and we did what we did in private.

In my day, no one was disturbed by my inclination for privacy. Some talked of their sexual exploits, but most of that was known to be bragging in exaggeration. By my silence, I allowed others to

I had the opportunity to go to a Valentine's Day Dance in Ames, Iowa, last month. In Ames, there are no gay bars, there is 1 adult bookstore, and various cruisy spots, but if you are gay, open and out, there is very little to do in this town. The amazing thing that I found at this dance, is that the masks that we all wear in the bigger cities, these masks were almost non-existent. I could see mirrored in the eyes, body, and talk of the participants, all the phases of my gay life, both in the closeted and open phases. It was refreshing to see people as people, not bar figurines on display. People who were able for the first/second/third time in their life to be openly honest with themselves and others about who/what/where they are . . . would like to be.

I saw myself and was refreshed. You see, it is too easy I feel to become jaded in our society, in our world, in ourselves. This is our community's 16th birthday to celebrate gay rights. We have a right to feel proud. We have a right to be whatever we want to be. Use that right! Remember that our self-awareness does not end with our coming out of the closet.

small children think they know what makes a person a "recognizable gay." We, as gay people, cannot remain in the closet without suffering apprehension about every move we make. This can make a person paranoid. As we carry our sexuality with us beyond the confines of our bedrooms, we must be prepared to "come out" to that segment of society that we are exposing ourselves to. We must individually determine how important their acceptance of us, based upon this single aspect of our humanity, is to us.

The most difficult "coming out" is often our "coming out" to ourselves. We must objectively examine ourselves and accept what we are. If we are offended by our

continued on next page....

assume what they would, and most assumed that I was extremely heterosexually active. I have never been a shy person; although, many mistook my quiet nature as a sign of shyness. It never occurred to me that I could or should let everyone know my sexual desires and have them champion my cause. If I was sexually aroused by an individual -- my apparent shyness vanished.

Discovery was not a threat to me since there were no gay bars to be seen going into, and no Jerry Falwell trying to expose all gays. As a gay person I was fortunate in spotting "like kinds," but the witch hunt wasn't on as it is today. Homophobia existed, but in their ignorance, they couldn't find us.

Today, things are different. Even

self image -- we cannot expect others to be accepting. I don't believe there is one answer to the question of who you should or should not "come out" to. We are each gay in our own way, and to just say that you are gay allows room for a lot of misinterpretation. At 45, I am not "out" to a lot of people. Some whom I have "come out" to have rejected me totally as a person, some ignore my being gay, some accept me despite my gayety, and other gays welcome me. Don't risk more than you are willing to pay in the way of relationships. "Coming out" may be fashionable, but remember that the door to the gay closet is a one-way door. Once you have "come out" there is no going back. If the trip is worth it, or necessary for you, go for it. I wish you the best of luck.

## . . . Julie Morgan

Letting go is never easy.  
Letting go is hanging on  
to something new that fills  
a space you left.

She is having a difficult time coping with the loss of a relationship. One that spans over 2 decades and resulted in a lot of sharing and caring . . . and children.

Alone, she thinks about the people in her life, the decisions that brought her to this point in time, and the uncertainty of her future.

Surrounded by books and enveloped in music from her radio, she stares silently into a half-empty cup of cold coffee, while smoke from her cigarette spirals hypnotically toward the ceiling of the small apartment.

The isolation of not being allowed to talk to or see the one person who had meant so much to her for so long, only serves to intensify the overwhelming pain and hurt that keeps growing inside her like a cancer. Only the few hours of sleep she falls into offer relief. But even then there are fitful dreams of other times and other places . . . and the face of her former mate and friend.

It's part of the cost of coming out. Part of the payment she is told she must make for being herself. However, it's only one item on a lengthy list for payment due for being true to herself, for being honest enough to say to the world . . . "This is me, these are my feelings!"

The road to coming out was tough traveling. Winding through an uncharted, unsympathetic landscape, festering with hazards. Obstacles encountered had to be overcome, Detours marked by abuse of various chemicals, suicidal depressions, strangers who used her and others who tried to help.

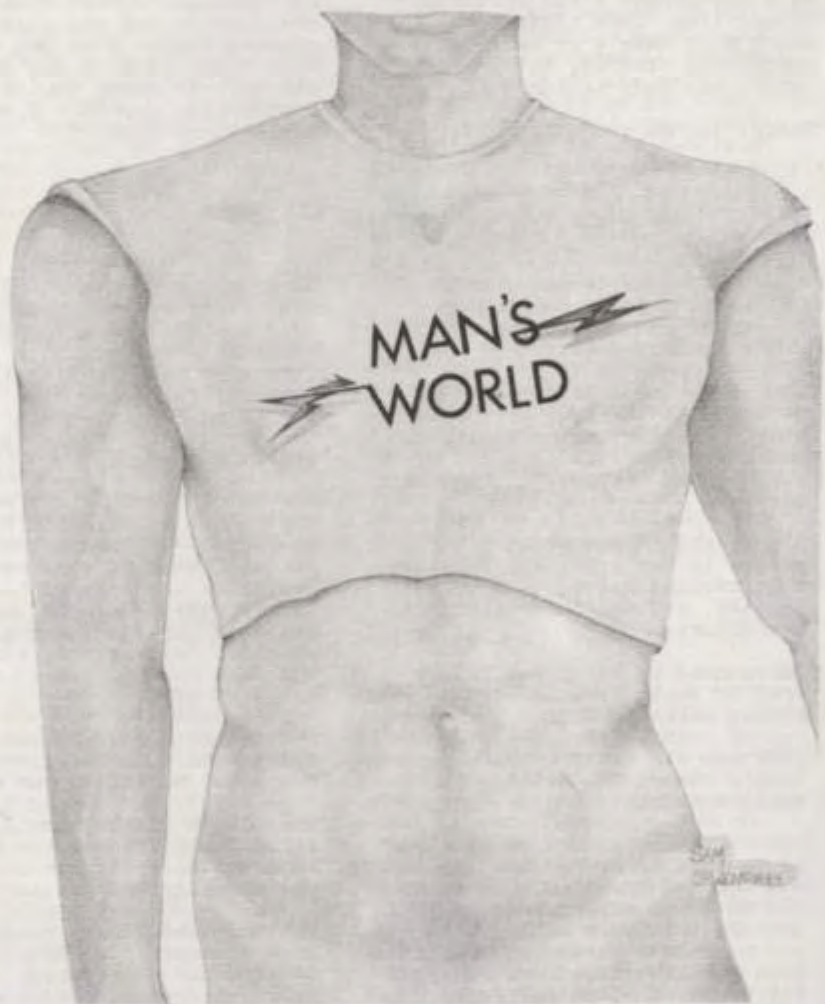
She thinks of her friends and senses their incapability to reach out and touch her new life.

She thinks of her family, who know of her changes and speak of love and support, but yet, can't really bridge the distance.

She has herself and really nothing more. Is that enough to give her the courage and strength to continue on another day? Pondering that question, she lets her eyes slide toward the telephone, hoping to hear its brash ring and the soft voice of the one person who

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could touch her. But the phone remains silent, a monument to her grieving.

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## . . . Mel Dahl

Let me tell you a secret, dear reader, something just between the two of us. Of all the columns I have enjoyed writing for The New Voice, this one is a column that I have looked forward to writing with eager anticipation for months. I am sitting here at my typewriter with joy in my heart and a smile on my face as I prepare to deal with a subject I find to be sheer delight.

Coming out. For me, the coming out process did not end when my family and friends became aware of my gayness; it began when my family and friends became aware of my gayness.

I grew up in a church and a society that taught me that my life, talents, body, sexuality and everything else are for the good of others. I learned a silly little ditty in Sunday School that goes: "Lord, help me live from day to day/ In such a self-effacing way/ That even when I kneel to pray/ My prayer shall be for others." Indeed, the bedrock, the very foundation of a repressive society is the notion that I belong to somebody other than myself.

The part of the human psyche that plays the greatest part in the coming out process is the

continued on next page.....

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ego, because in acknowledging that my sexuality is for my use and not for the pleasure of society, the gay person makes an utterly selfish statement: "I belong to me." I am firmly of the opinion that the primary reason society has such a strong aversion to homosexuality is that the gay person has made a statement that society has no claim to govern his sexuality, the most intimate part of his life.

Coming out of the closet, then, was for me the first step in learning that the world has no claim to my life. I can be celibate or promiscuous, charitable or selfish, ego-centric or altruistic, but the choice is mine.

True civil rights means the right to make choices for myself without coercion from anybody else. When some groups talk about freedom, they mean freedom for themselves at the expense of the civil rights of somebody else. That is not freedom; that is banditry in respectable garb.

## . . . Gary

I had never before spoken to anyone about my feelings. They were kept inside.

Then, I met my first love. After an extended friendship, our relationship built into something more. But I still hadn't verbally "come out" to anyone. (Without saying it, however, I had expressed myself to him.)

About three months later, it was a cold January evening. I had been out of town, visiting my best friend and his wife. Tonight I would return home, without telling them what I ached to tell someone, about my preferences. I didn't know if I would be accepted or rejected, I had never before spoken to anyone about my feelings.

It was almost like a signal from God. The weather worsened, it began snowing, the wind picked up, and I found myself in my friends' home in the middle of an Iowa blizzard. Stay overnight, they suggested . . . they'll understand at work. I knew they would understand, so I stayed.

My friend went to bed early as he had to be up earlier than usual, considering the weather. His wife stayed up, and as we often did, talked about everything under the sun.

I have never understood how a gay person can be a socialist. In addition to the fact that socialist countries all have wretched records in terms of human rights in general and gay rights in particular, the fact also remains that sexual freedom is diametrically opposed to the basic premise of socialism which is that the individual exists for the good of the whole. Nonsense. The individual exists for the good of the individual. Personal tastes like a preference for jelly over marmalade or homosexual behavior over heterosexual behavior are expressions of the right of each individual to be himself, and to express himself without the permission of the Exalted Collective.

I am me. My life is worth living. Furthermore, I am having fun living my life. I live in a nation which contains more individual freedom than most. I am a rational creature not bound by anyone else's opinion or standard of sexual, economic, or philosophical morality. This, for me, is "coming out."

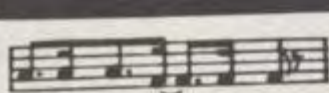
Eventually . . . well after midnight . . . the conversation somehow got around to love. Whether I subconsciously steered it that way . . . whether she intended to get around to this . . . I don't know. After we spoke of love for awhile, and I kept referring to "someone" and "people" . . . I think she was beginning to catch on.

She spoke of friends of hers who were . . . different. She said she had become very close to some gay people. Then she said she didn't even know how I felt about the subject. No, I said, you have no idea how I feel! She looked into my eyes and asked if she could ask me a question. I was shaking, almost crying, and meekly said go ahead.

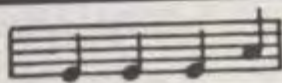
She asked.

I said yes, I was gay. She said she still loved me . . . nothing changed.

I suppose I expected angels to come forth with trumpets blaring and harps floating through the air, but all I got was a very warm feeling. The secret I had held -- the thing I had spent so much energy all these years holding back -- had now been shared with someone.



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## . . . Larry Wiseblood

Growing up in an Air Force community with a Jewish mother and a Catholic step-father made it very difficult to find and accept my sexual feelings during my adolescent years. Even though my parents were not overly religious, they still had high expectations and wanted me to fit into their mold. My mom wanted me to be a businessman, get married, and provide her with some grandchildren.

I always knew that I was attracted to other males since I was very young, but I also knew it was wrong to have these feelings as told to me by my peers and family. I developed a good denial system for several years and hoped and prayed that I would be like everyone else. I tried dating, boasted about my sexual exploits, and like my friends, I made fun of queers and faggots. To be accepted, I had to pursue masculine interests, and I joined the Boy Scouts and learned to play baseball and tennis. However in high school, I noticed changes in myself and found that I was staying to myself more often. I was getting involved in my class studies and started to learn to play the piano. As I reflect on this now, I realize that to compensate for feeling "different," I was living in my own little world.

In college, I did the direct opposite. I was involved in so many organizations, activities, and jobs I never had time to worry about sex or relationships. Nobody questioned me about dating because everyone assumed that I was wrapped up in my education.

My first sexual experience

occurred when I was 17. I just had graduated from high school and was seduced by a former classmate and friend whom I worked by at a local shopping center. (He recently won a national leather contest). I felt a great amount of guilt, yet I realized that I enjoyed what I had done. Over time, I decided that if I was a bisexual, maybe I would have more acceptance from society. In 1971, this seemed like the "in" thing to do during the sexual revolution. However, I still wasn't being honest with myself, and I was trying to please everyone else.

My coming out started in 1977 when I was 21 years old. I went to the gay bars in Omaha by myself and started meeting several new people. It was scary yet adventurous. I finally admitted to myself that I was gay and I needed the love and companionship of other gay men. I started a long-term relationship, told my sister and mom about my lifestyle, and eventually disclosed myself to friends and co-workers. I did not always get acceptance, but I felt better for being honest and not playing my silly games anymore.

Full disclosure came this past year when The New Voice was thrown into a lawsuit by The Voice News of Southern Lancaster County.

I was forced to testify in court and the news story made several local papers. If I have learned anything from my experience, it has been that my fears and paranoias were completely unjustified. My biggest wish is that my mom will become more accepting of me and not still want to change me.

## . . . Anita Freeman-Soltisyk

The "coming-out" process is one that many gays and lesbians experience, in various forms, throughout our lifetimes. Most of us will come out to at least one other person we know: a parent, a friend, or some other relative--someone who cares or someone we feel a need to tell. If we do, and the coming-out process works itself through, the results can be very positive. It is important to have someone close to you who knows about your sexuality and understands your perspective. It's wonder-

ful to have someone who can share the joy of relationships and the pain of separations.

But not everyone will be able to tell our parents or friends, and the straight "facades" must continue. Often, it involves a denial of association: from calling a lover "a roommate" to condemning homosexuality when parents or straight friends are around. This annoys some of the gays and lesbians who are more open about their sexuality. They resent what they see as

continued.....

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compromise and low self-esteem in more closeted homosexuals. They don't understand or accept the reasons why some gays and lesbians must go on "living a lie" and "being ashamed" of who they really are.

Lies, unfortunately, are a part of life for the more closeted gays and lesbians, but the shame is not in the lie--it is in the need to lie at all. Our society promotes and legitimizes heterosexuality (only) to the point that relationships can be lost if a person's homosexual orientation is disclosed. We are seldom taught that there are many expressions of sexuality so that when the realization comes, it is a shock just to ourselves and then to our parents or friends if they find out. The shame in living a closeted lifestyle is the wary real risk we take if we share this one aspect of who we are as human beings.

There is pain, too, in the lies. We want to celebrate life like everyone else does, by sharing life with our parents, friends, and lovers. But when one part is cut off, and we cannot share it openly and freely, we are fragmented by the separation. We divide ourselves into roles to suit each part, never living the real person, never feeling whole. The pseudo-stability in the lie is momentary and uncertain at best. There is the haunting possibility that someone will find out, and relationships once close and love-filled as the circumstances allow may be altered forever.

Coming out should be a healthy and relieving experience--one that brings with it new understandings. For some gays and lesbians, it is. For others, it is not even a possibility. In time, with education, parents and friends may someday accept homosexuality as a normal and small part of who we are. Until then, we need to support our friends who must stay closeted and try to understand their needs.

## A Letter Home

Mom and Dad,

It wasn't easy to tell you that I am gay, and I probably could have said it better, but I've told you. I didn't tell you to hurt you, make you feel guilty, or to embarrass you; I just wanted to be honest with you, and I was beginning to hate the fact that I was trying to keep something from you.

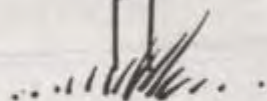
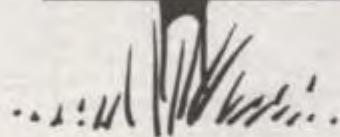
With you, Mom. I suppose I picked about the best time to tell you. Even though it was a whopper of a birthday present. The only bad thing I saw from telling you was that you seemed to be disappointed in not having any grandchildren from me. You sort of knew I was gay all along, I think.

And with you, Dad. It could have been a lot better of a situation. You had pieced it together (pretty much) that I was gay, just like Mom had. But there was a lot of myth behind what you thought about me and homosexuality. For one point: Homosexuality is not a club or an "in" fad. I have no idea where that could have come from. No one forced, persuaded, or twisted me to "become" gay.

I can remember being "different" ever since first or second grade in Iowa. So this was not new to me. It's just that I came to terms with myself and realized I wasn't going to cover for my sexual preference anymore. I felt so relieved by coming to this conclusion. I never felt so good in my life. I made this "decision" all by myself--before I knew any gays or that some of my friends were gay. All my life I have been called: Stephanie. In Iowa, I was called fairy, fag, gay, queer, and so on. In elementary school, I was harassed, ignored, always last to be chosen for activities and mimicked. I never did anything to hurt anyone; I never did anything wrong to deserve these degrading actions. And so it continued through Middle School and right up through High School. I asked your advice and was told to ignore them--then they would get tired and give up picking on me. Well, I ignored them for nine years. It wasn't until college that I escaped the ridicule and accusations. In college, no one knew me; I was able to start fresh. This was a great feeling. I was finally meeting people who were nice to me and doing things with people--going to dances and having fun driving around with friends.

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But not everything was clear. I still was trying to cover up my preference for men rather than for women. I did tons of thinking. And at the end of my sophomore year in college, I told the truth to myself. I am gay. Then I felt I wanted to talk to someone. I chose Ken since he was my best friend. So I told him, which was a scary experience. I didn't know how he would act. If he would hit me, if he wouldn't be my friend anymore, or if he'd tell everyone else or what. But as it turned out, he is gay also--which was a major shock to me. I would have never guessed. So I talked about people, hatred, discrimination, and stuff; and he talked about how he felt also.

It was a week or two later that I met Derrick. I was helping a girlfriend move and he was also helping. I met him again at the gay bar in Kearney, and we talked more. We dated all that summer.

Derrick helped me learn to love again. All those years of hate had made it hard for me to show love and affection. But Derrick was kind and very understanding. Derrick never forced anything upon me. He always wanted to know how I felt about our relationship. The first time I made love was with Derrick. It was very special, and I'll never, ever forget it. And I

asked myself the next morning what I thought about all that was happening and said, It feels natural and good. My feelings were never so clear or good. I knew this was what was right for me.

I know this must be pretty hard for you to understand. But I want to be honest and open with both of you.

I've given this present to you out of love--not hate. Please remember that. All that I've said in this letter has been what I have been wanting to tell you both for years. So please take my thoughts to heart. Listen before you judge. Please just try to have an open mind while reading these books, don't close me out. I've read both of them; and before I chose them, I searched for the best, accurate information for you. I want you to know more about me and to come closer to understanding my thoughts and my lifestyle.

I love you both (although I don't show it most of the time) and hope you understand.

Love always,  
Your son,  
Steve Sadler

## Say Goodby to Say Hello

Several years ago, a young man told me the story of how he chose to throw God out of his life. He said that he knew that the day he "came out" was the day he would have to forget God. So, he tried it. It would be years before he was willing to look God in the face and see Him for Who He really is--infinitely loving, compassionate, alive.

As a priest, I have now heard this story (in different variations) far, far too many times. People who are tormented by being who they are and believing that God hated them for that. It is so understandable that "coming out" has become the breaking point with God for so many gay people.

The most disheartening part of my ministry is dealing with wounded people who have been twisted and tormented by their Churches in the name of a loving God. Torn between their own love of God and their need to simply be, they reach a critical point

at which they can't take it any longer and kiss God off and acknowledge who they are. How thoroughly sad, how totally shameful, that they are ever forced to this point at all.

It is a stain upon the Church that yet another innocent group of people suffer at the hands of twisted Gospel interpretations. But then, the Church (in its broadest sense) has a not-too-glamorous history of doing that. It wasn't all that long ago that the Church sanctioned slavery and it was an even shorter time ago that it sanctioned open racial discrimination and segregation. Thank God for those people who had the courage to both love the Church and to tell her that she was wrong . . . for those people who kept their focus on the truly loving God and worked so hard to expunge the stain of shame from the Church and to undo the wretchedness she had inflicted upon innocent people. Such is the case today with the wounded, innocent children of God who are gay.

continued . . .



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It is difficult, in the face of open oppression by "loving" Christians, to remain focused on the love of God, but I virtually beg people to do just that. We who know the truth of Who God is can never allow misguided others to dissuade us or deprive us. Those who contend that "lifestyle" is something we choose, are correct. How we choose to live life is a decision made by both straight and gay people. Being the person God created us to be, however, is not a matter of choice, but a starting point from which we make choices.

For those trying to "come out," there are many choices to be made about the

type of life they will live as a gay person. Let us hope that those who have always been close to God in their lives will remain so and not be intimidated by the opinion against them.

We who know God to be the loving, involved Person He is have our own obligations: to have the courage to say what we know to be true, to ensure that those we know who are "coming out" do not say "goodby" to God just because they are finally saying "hello" to themselves.

--Father David Glaze,  
Orthodox Priest

The Imperial Court of Nebraska will be selecting Emperor V and Empress V during May with Coronation to take place on June 1. The New Voice of Nebraska welcomes campaign advertising. Since campaigning cannot begin prior to one month before the Coronation, and following acceptance of the application by the Board of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, the deadline for the May issue of The New Voice of Nebraska is April 20 for typesetting, etc. May we

suggest that candidate hopefuls prepare a "photo-ready" ad which can be submitted immediately following acceptance as candidates. This means that all lettering, art work, etc., must be done just as it is to appear in the magazine. Rates and other information are available by calling Jerry in Omaha at 345-2181 or Larry in Lincoln at 475-7740. You do not have to disclose your name to get information. Let's help make this a great election and campaign.



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# In Defense of Closets

Let's hope that coming out never gets to be trendy, or too theatrically "in." Closets should be like wombs--healthy places to grow in until we are strong enough to be our real selves--our gay selves. And we do need to be strong--and healthy--when we come out, for no matter whom we come out to first, there's always the small chance that that person may not be able to accept our talking about being gay.

Even if we confide in someone who probably "suspects" that we're gay, it's one thing to "suspect"; it's another to hear about it--aloud in words.

Many straight people are uncomfortable when a gay person begins talking about his sexuality. He will be speaking openly and honestly about his sexuality, and how many straight people have examined their own sexuality as openly and honestly as gay people have? Not many, I suspect.

When we come out, we are wearing no masks or facades. We are being nakedly honest. It may be scary to us, but straight people have told me that a situation like coming-out scares them too. They've never had to be as courageously straight-forward about their sexuality. We're showing an honesty and

a courage that they rarely see in the straight world.

The stronger we grow into our gay identity while we're in the closet, the easier our coming out will be, and the easier it will be to decide not to laugh at gay jokes or allow suggestive remarks to be tossed around in our presence.

Closets are necessary. Closets are where we learn to be increasingly easy with our gayness, where we can talk about our sexuality with other gay people, where we can ask questions, and where we can explore the gay lifestyles available until we discover a unique gay identity for ourselves.

In the closet, we learn self-respect; we learn to laugh with other gays. We can talk about our insights and about our misconceptions, and we can realize how very rich a gay identity can be.

We all want to be able to come out someday, but we owe it to ourselves to live and grow in the nurturing security of our "closet" until we can come out and feel natural about being gay, until we can live easily as gay men and women, loving ourselves and respecting ourselves, and ready to love some one as special as we are.

--Aaron Woolf

## Nate & Eric—Coming Out — fiction

"I'm sooo sorry," stammered Nate. He thrust all his cash into Eric's hand. "Here, take this, and I hope you can clean it," then dashed out of the bar. How could he have been so socially offish as to have spilled his cocktail on this wonderful man?

Once home, he packed his overnight bag and decided to drive to his hometown, Hoggsfeet Valley, the next morning. He did not sleep well that night.

Nate had just unpacked when his younger sister Buffy be-bopped into the room. "Guess what? Granny, Aunt Zelda, Uncle Leon, and Spike are coming for dinner tonight!" "Great," sighed Nate, "Queen Victoria, Marie Antoinette, the Pope, and Attila the Hun will be

breaking bread with our Donahue liberal family."

That afternoon, Nate watched ball with his dad, helped his mom clean the basement, and was now chauffeuring Buffy and her best of best friends, Tina Sue, around town. Nate didn't mind. This gave him a chance to see alot of Hoggsfeet Valley and some of the old gang. As he was pulling out of the Golden Arches, Tina Sue screeched at the top of her adolescent lungs: "It's HIM! It's HIM! He is sooooo cute!"

Nate slammed on the brakes of the sedan, sending Buffy into the dash and Tina Sue over the back of the front seat. Walking into the dry cleaners was the blond he had poured rose on at the bar last night!

continued ....



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***A Reception will follow the concert.***

Tina Sue crawled up from the floor, readjusted her headband and began to babble. After the shock of seeing HIM began to wear off, Nate realized that Tina Sue was giving a biography of the blond hunk.

"What did you say his name is?" Nate casually inquired. After removing her head from the glove box, Buffy smiled. She knew that Nate was gay and that was OK with her. "She didn't," she teased.

"It's Eric Ibsen," Tina Sue cooed. Nate did not remember the drive home or even the start of dinner.

The dinner conversation began pleasantly enough with Spike giving a blow-to-blow description of how he and a thing called Bubby Knogg had terrorized the Boys Glee Club. Next, Nate learned of Aunt Zeida's latest Reader's Digest illness ("I am Jane's Mid-Life Crisis!"). Then Granny began her weekly dissertation on the lack of morals of today's youth. Nate faded all this out while he thought of HIM. But was shocked back when Granny said: "... and to top it off, the Homosexuals need to be taught a lesson." "They are damned to hell!" added Leon. "There was this queer boy at school..." started Spike, when Nate said softly: "I'm gay."

Buffy's eyes widened as she looked around the table. As the Grand Inquisition raged on, Nate shouted, "I'm Gay!"

"You faggot," spat Spike. Nate slowly rose from the table. "I'm sorry, Mom, Dad. I wanted to tell you differently, but I can't sit here and listen to this," and he ran out of the house.

"Damn queer. Knew he was strange," Spike hissed. "Strange!" Buffy seethed, "You and your twisted mind are the strange ones. Nate is my brother and he is no different than anyone else except for his sexual preference! And if you can't understand that, I pity you and your kind!"

Buffy ran after Nate and found him walking. She put her arm around him and held him tight. "Let's go for a walk, Sis." Tears were in his eyes. They walked around Hoggsfeet Valley for thirty minutes without saying anything. They had reached the

Jukebox Cafe when Buffy said: "Buy you a coke, Sig Boy."

Nate was looking over the menu when asked, "May I join you?" He looked up to find Eric towering over him. "I promise not to let my shirt get in the way," he added.

Nate blushed and mumbled a weak "Sure." Buffy beamed.

"I went after you to give your money back, but you were out of there in a flash." Nate blushed again and quickly made introductions. Buffy saw a friend of her's and exited, giving Nate and Eric time to talk.

Nate told Eric about what had happened and soon felt much better. Buffy kept an eye on the two and could tell that something wonderful was happening. All those nights of "Love Boat" had not gone to waste.

Eric gave them a ride to their home. The house was dark. Buffy jumped out and ran inside. Nate thanked Eric and started to get out when Eric stopped him. "Would you mind if I called you tomorrow?" Nate's day had been made. "Sure," and exchanged numbers with Eric.

The next morning, Nate rose early and packed his bag in the car. He had decided to leave early. He walked into the house to get a glass of juice only to find his mother sitting at the table of doom reading the Sunday paper. He drank his juice in silence and started to leave when his mother said, "You know, I never did like Leon and Zeida." Nate couldn't help but laugh. He turned to see his mother's smiling face. He ran to her and hugged her for the first time in years.

"I know you have a lot to talk to us about. I may not understand yet, but I'm willing to listen and learn. When you are ready, we'll talk." Nate just smiled and nodded his head. He gave his mom a kiss and a hug, then left. He had never felt better in a long time.

During the drive home, he remembered that Eric was going to call that night. He started to sing.

--Tom Pasco

# EVENTS & ORGANIZATIONS

## GAY/LESBIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION DOINGS

We, as the gay students of UNL, are hereby declaring April as Gay Student Month and are writing this statement to increase awareness about gay students, promote a membership drive, raise funds, and educate the public on gay/lesbian issues.

We are asking for your support of our fund-raising activities for the month of April:

Monday, April 1: Costume Contest at Imaginations (12 Midnight) \$2 cover, and prizes for the best costumes.

Saturday, April 13: Movie Afternoon at the Boardwalk (4-8 pm) Movies: "Midnight Cowboy" and

"Cruisin'"; \$1 cover.

Wednesday, April 24: (8:30 pm) Premiere fundraiser: "An Evening with Lynn Lavener." A cabaret act with comedy about gay/lesbian lifestyle.

Tickets will go on sale April 1st. \$3 General Admission; \$2 for students with student I.D. Tickets can be purchased at Dirt Cheap, UNL Union Desk, The Boardwalk, Cherchez La Femme, and Imaginations. Proceeds from these events go to benefit UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Association and its educational efforts on campus.

--

Michael Sinn, President

## B - A - G - L

B.A.G.L. (Battered/Abused Gays/Lesbians) is now meeting on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month at the

meeting room of The Alley 1113 Howard (rear entrance) Omaha starts at 7 p.m. for more information contact—

B.A.G.L. P.O. Box 8141 Omaha, NE 68108 345-5797

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## Women's Studies Conference in Lincoln

Reserve April 18-20 on your calendar for the Midwest Region Women's Studies Conference. The theme for this year is "Holistic Feminism" and it will be held at UNL. Conference activities include a coffeehouse on Thursday evening, two full days of workshops and discussions, plus a keynote address by Pat Parker and a presentation by Mary Daly. The conference will conclude Saturday evening with a concert by Lindsey & Fink and Debbie Fier.

Reservations for the conference may be made in advance or at the door. The conference fees are on a sliding scale, with no woman turned away for inability to pay. The sessions will speak to both community and academic issues. This conference will offer great stimulation for the Lincoln (and Midwest) feminist community.

For details, call the WRC at 472-2597.

## Celebrate Women's Week April 14-19

Women's Week will be held on April 14-19, 1985. Women's Week is an annual event sponsored by the Women's Resource Center/University Program Council to recognize women. Many community and university groups participate in developing

programs addressing the needs and interests of women and their experiences.

This year, many of the events and activities will overlap with the Midwest Women's Studies Association Conference, April 19 to 20.

## Womanquest Inc. Announces Plans

Womanquest, Inc., which has been offering backpacking, canoeing, camping, and biking trips for women the last three years, is taking the winter season off for Jean to do graduate work. There will be a full offering of trips this summer beginning with a backpacking trip in the Grand

Canyon, May 18-26. Other trips will be canoeing in the Ozarks, backpacking in Colorado and Wyoming and a Minnesota cabin stay for women over 40. If you would like to receive a trip schedule, or have questions, write:

Womanquest, Inc., P.O. Box 95092 Lincoln, NE 68509.

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### DYLAN AT DIRECTORS' THEATRE

The magic and mystery of poet Dylan Thomas will be the subject of the next production at the Nebraska Directors' Theatre. Dylan, by Sidney Michaels, will open on Thursday, April 11 and continue through Sunday, April 14. All performances will be at 8:00 p.m.

The play is directed by Lindsay Reading Korth, an MFA graduate of UN-L. Korth says, "The play is the legend of Dylan Thomas in America. It captures the magic and the mystery of the man, and his demise. It highlights the uncommon qualities that common people possess."

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# FUN, SURPRISES, ENTERTAINMENT

## River City Chorus Coming to Lincoln

The River City Mixed Chorus will be performing in Lincoln on Sunday, May 5, at the Wesley House--UMHE at 640 N. 16th in Lincoln. The performance will begin at 2 p.m. Proceeds from the event will be divided between The New Voice magazine and the River City Mixed Chorus, co-sponsors of the event.

An awards presentation will also be

held during the intermission. Lincoln men and women who have contributed to the community will be recognized at the People of the Year ceremonies.

Tickets will be available at local bars and from The New Voice staff. A reception will be held following the concert for the River City Mixed Chorus.

## River City Chorus Performing Soon

The River City Mixed Chorus has announced its spring concert for 1985. The concert will be presented Sunday, April 21, at 3 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church of Omaha, 3114 Harney Street.

The Chorus will be celebrating spring through several themes, and songs presented will range from popular showtunes to classical pieces.

Tickets are available in advance from any RCMC member, by phoning 455-2334 or 345-5797 (in Omaha),

or by writing the River City Mixed Chorus, P.O. Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68131. Tickets will also be available at the door.

The River City Mixed Chorus is a member of the Gay and Lesbian Association of Choruses (GALA Choruses), an information clearing house for nearly forty choruses across the nation and in Canada. GALA Choruses include mixed, men's, and women's choruses whose goals include performing in a variety of settings and stimulating pride within their communities.



## Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha

*"If you haven't seen us lately, you haven't seen us!"*

Sunday Worship Services — 10:30am and 7:00pm

Monday: Men's Rap Group — 7:30pm

Wednesday: Bible Study — 7:00pm and Praise  
& Healing — 7:45pm

*This is my commandment, that you love one another."*

— John 15:12

Rev. Jan D. Kross, Pastor/ 420 So. 24th — P.O. Box 3173  
Omaha, NE 68103/ Ph. (402) 345-2563

## GLIS Spring Benefit

With the coming of spring, GLIS, Gay and Lesbian Information Support Line, is planning its second annual fund raiser for Sunday evening, April 28 at the Rogers House, an Historic Preservation project in the Emerald Hill District. Stroll through the house and patios while enjoying the music of popular local musicians and partake of a banquet of exotic desserts catered by Desserts 222.

The GLIS line was created to provide information about agencies and support groups which provide services to the gay/lesbian community, friends and relatives of gay and lesbian people.

This benefit is designed to fund the line for the 1985-86 fiscal year and continue its excellent quality of service. The hours of the line are:

Sun-Thur: 8 pm-12 am  
Fri-Sat : 8 pm- 1 am

and can be reached by dialing

(402) 475-4697.

For more information on the Spring Benefit, call Darrell at 475-3667.

Please set aside this date to help an organization that is here to help you.

--Darrell

## Out and About

--The Stage Door continues to change with additional new lighting on the Disco side. Love the new lights above the bar!

--Upon occasion the bartender at the Diamond has been observed serving in a studded leather posing strap and motorcycle boots. I do wonder where he buys his boots?

--The Stars Restaurant at the Alley is getting closer to opening!

--The Chesterfield Bar hosted an MCC fund raiser that brought in more than \$400.00. Congrats!

--The Run Bar is hosting the MCC Bingo Game once a month. I hear they could use a few more players. Payoff is not real big, but it isn't peanuts either.

--The MCC has set a May 26 date for their talent show at the Alley. Good luck! Kevin is directing --

so don't hide your talent under a basket.

--Gay Hill at the Central Park Mall has sprouted sunbathers. Just another reason to spend time downtown!

--The trees are budding and the camouflage of foliage will soon cover Mandan, Elmwood, Hanscom, Mt. Vernon and all the parks in the area!

--The Imperial Court of Nebraska is working up teams for golf and volleyball for the summer. Need a reason to get some sun?

--Be advised! A major department store at one of the shopping centers in Omaha has hired homophobic security that have been known to get both physically and verbally abusive with gay men found in the johns!

--Jerry Peck

## Imperial Court News

We had a wonderful turnout for our "Closet Ball." The sponsors and contestants gave us a nite full of fun and entertainment. The evening started out with the contestants appearing as males, and they had one hour to be transformed into their female attire. Thanks to everyone for a wonderful time.

Also, Princess Royale IV Liesa Durant has stepped down, and a new

Princess Royale was crowned. Congratulations, Muffy Rosenberg--the new Princess Royale IV. We would like to thank Sam and the crew for letting us have our contest at the "Alley." A Big Thank You to Thom Cheque for a (as usual) wonderful set.

Respectfully,

Empress IV Velvet--Vinci Percy  
Emperor IV--Gary West  
Secretary--Scott R., BofG

continued ....

We, with the cooperation of the U.N.O. Med Center will be co-sponsoring the HTLUB ANTIBODYS blood tests again. The tests that we have had in the past were a great success--Keep your ear out for additional information.

Empress IV Velvet will be attending the Coronation of "The Rocky Mountain Empire" in Denver, Colorado. The week of coronation will consist of a "Royale Brunch," an "Out of Towners Show," a "Victory Show," and many more functions. We all wish Velvet a fun, safe, and successful trip. (Bring us back some good ideas from Denver.)

While on the subject of Coronations, Nebraska's Coronation is just around the corner. On June 1, 1985, the Imperial Court will host Coronation VI--A Nile on the Nile. The theme this year is Egyptian. We suggest you dress in the theme; it will be a gala evening to remember.

The applications for Emperor and Empress will be available the first part of April; also, the deadlines for The New Voice and the M.C.C. Newsletter for May are coming up very soon. Any prospective candidates should be sure to get any ads in before the deadlines are upon us. Good luck, everyone!

## FEATURES

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### Book Review--Walkin' Matilda

First of all, Walkin' Matilda doesn't limp or walk. It soars. And it reads as though all the Carol Burnett shows, the I Love Lucy re-runs, every Carol Channing musical and the distilled essence of Joan Rivers were tossed with gay abandon into a Cuisinart.

Walkin' Matilda is outrageous, mildly dawdy, thoroughly high camp--and just plain funny. Its author has one of the fastest, two-edged tongues in action today, and he's made life in Lincoln, Nebraska, dazzle in a wacky, mile-a-minute laugh riot. Believe it. We're talking Fourth of July time--every day.

The fireworks center, more or less, around Carson Giles--a good looking ("looks that could kill") owner of a chichi and ultra "in" Pet Cemetery (a Petuary). Carson little suspects that his small, small world of kitty corpses and chicken caskets is about to be brought to new life by Paul--an orphaned (and gay) Australian soccer player with a wooden leg named Matilda.

Paul is about to be adopted by Carson's wild and wimpy brother Dick and Dick's bright-eyed spouse Cathy

. . . if they can convince brother-in-law Carson to co-sponsor the bushy, brown-haired hunk. Well, one look at Paul over a bowl of fruit salad, and you can guess how that chapter ends. But you'll never guess what happens during a TV taping, a trip to Roca, and an honest-to-God funeral for a Peke pup named Cubie. Nor have you ever seen the likes of a spaced-out pussy cat ("Kittums") owned by Daddy Dick and Mom-Cat Cathy. Clearly, Kittums was sired by Paul Lynde. If for no other reason, read the book for the cat's sake. He's an American original.

Walkin' Matilda is a new kind of gay novel; it isn't smutty and it certainly isn't suicidal, and thank God, it doesn't make A Grim Gay Statement. It's literally gay--happy gay--and its gay characters are warm and loving and always on-balance while everyone else is ricocheting off each other's bizarre zaniness. Rejoice! At last we have a novel about gay people that celebrates life filled to the hilt with laughter till it hurts. Walkin' Matilda begs for a sequel.

--Aaron Woolf

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#### ANNOUNCEMENT!!!

The Coalition Speakers' Bureau is in the process of reorganizing. It needs speakers and invitations for speakers. An informal meeting of Coalition

speakers will take place in the near future. Interested persons should contact Pat Wall at 464-7213.

# AN EVENING WITH LYNN LAVNER

. . . is plenty

*"Her material, although mostly gay orientated has such universal appeal that anyone with a sense humor and open mind can enjoy her free and refreshing style."—The Advocate*



## LYNN LAVNER

April 24—8:30 p.m.

UNL Nebraska Union Ballroom

Tickets on Sale April 1st at UNL Nebraska Union, The Board Walk, Dirt Cheap, Cherchez la femme, Imaginations, mail order and student representatives  
Send check or money order to Gay/Lesbian Student Association UNL Nebraska Union  
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# Aids—Threat or Reality

AIDS is no longer restricted to the gay populace of New York City and San Francisco. There are people here in the Midwest who have been diagnosed as having AIDS. You hear the jokes in the bars and people laughing about it, never thinking it could hit home. It's no joking matter.

The major tragedy of AIDS is that there is no known cure as of yet. One aspect of being an AIDS victim is the problem of living as a diagnosed AIDS patient. There is no organization for these people to utilize. They have undoubtedly faced prejudice against being gay. Now a disease, which primarily targets gay people, threatens their life. These people have been a part of a society where many measure love primarily according to sexual compatibility. The first thing that a patient is told to do is to curtail all sexual activity immediately.

Once one adjusts to the reality of being alone and having their life shortened, they must attempt to live as long as possible. Be truthful with yourself when you answer the question, "What would you say to a friend who had just told you that he had AIDS?"

Diagnosed AIDS patients need support and counseling. As a friend you can help mostly by staying a friend. A physical and emotional change takes place in an AIDS patient. The last thing

that they need is a social change to happen also. Friends are needed the most in a crisis. That is a proven fact, and the AIDS patient is still human. Not everyone can counsel these people. It takes someone who is up to date on all the latest information on the disease and the changes that happen in all aspects -- physically and emotionally. This service is being offered now in our community. We have specially trained people (members of the community) ready to help answer any questions or concerns that the public may have. This service is set up mainly as a guidance and listening center. We will refer any person who may need medical attention and work with these people through the period of testing to determine if they do have AIDS. We are still in the setting up process, and we do ask that you be patient with us.

At this time we do not have an office or 24-hour phone manning. However, Metropolitan Community Church has agreed to be our contact. If you have any questions or are concerned about the threat and want some preventative information, please call 345-2563 anytime and leave your first name and a number where you can be reached. We will get in touch with you. If Rev. Kross is in the office, she will be glad to give you a number to call to get in touch with us direct.

--Kevin G. & Jerry P.

## Personal Profiles—Tim Sindelar

In 1974, Congress passed and sent to President Nixon a proposal for the creation of Legal Services Corporation, a corporation which would provide legal assistance to poor people. Three years ago, Congress passed the McDonald Amendment which prevented Legal Services from doing anything to seek the legalization of homosexuality. Five years later, Congressman McDonald was killed in a plane crash (the Soviet shooting of KAL 007), and the McDonald Amendment died with him. I recently had lunch with Tim Sindelar, Executive Director of Legal Services for Southeast

Nebraska, to talk about his organization, where it has been and where it is going.

Sindelar, who was also a member of the Commission on Human Rights during the 1982 Gay Rights referendum, told me that he had wanted to work for Legal Services since law school, but instead he practiced criminal law and taught in Boston. "Somehow the practice of law doesn't seem like honest work," he said, "because it is based on talk and words, not labor." Nevertheless, the practice of law appealed to him more than biochemistry, which





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originally was his major, and besides, he didn't like lab work.

According to Sindelar, the McDonald Amendment didn't greatly restrict the work of Legal Services since they are precluded from practicing criminal law anyway, and there was no ban on accepting gays and lesbians as clients. More troublesome are restrictions placed by Congress that keep Legal Services from initiating class action lawsuits, lawsuits for non-therapeutic abortion, draft resistance, and school busing. More recently, Legal Services has survived four Reagan budgets which have consistently asked Congress to deny funding to Legal Services Corporation altogether, as well as presidential appointments to the Board of Directors of Legal Services who are the rough equivalent of appointing Anne Gorsuch Burford and Rita Lavelle to protect the environment.

The way Legal Services currently works is that they accept clients below the poverty line, which is currently a monthly income of \$560.00 per month for a single person. Assets are also taken into account to determine qualification for the program. If an applicant is accepted as a client,

Legal Services will take any civil action on his/her behalf, such as divorce, child custody, landlord/tenant disputes, and so on.

Tim Sindelar told me that one of the greatest problems currently facing Legal Services Corporation is the current climate of "do nothing controversial," which has been devastating for the morale of some of the activists within the organization. Forty executive directors have left the organization in the last three years. The Reagan administration has also been more inclined to carefully regulate local organizations, and this has hampered the work of Legal Services.

The political mood of the country continues to change, though, and Tim Sindelar isn't too worried about the ultimate future of his organization. In the meantime, he is leaving Lincoln to become Executive Director of Legal Services in Morgantown, West Virginia, a southern state with some progressive trends. West Virginia is the only southern state which has neither a sodomy statute nor a death penalty, and it also has a popularly elected state supreme court.

--Mel Dahl

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## Gail's Hit List

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. New Attitude<br>Patti La Belle            | 10. Neutron Dance<br>Pointer Sisters            |
| *2. Material Girl (remix)<br>Madonna         | *11. One Night in Bangkok<br>Murray Head        |
| 3. The Men All Pause<br>Klymaxx              | 12. Do You Want It Right Now?<br>Siedah Garrett |
| 4. Please Don't Go<br>Nayobe                 | 13. Born to Love<br>Claudja Barry               |
| *5. Rhythm of the Night<br>Debarge           | *14. Boy<br>Book of Love                        |
| *6. I'm No Angel<br>Madleen Kane             | *15. Motion<br>Deodato                          |
| 7. Lovergirl<br>Teena Marie                  |   |
| *8. Crazy for You<br>Madonna                 | * = #1 last month<br>* = new entry              |
| *9. Putting the Night on Hold<br>Lauren Grey |   |

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Well, people of the gay community of Nebraska -- based upon the mail received -- there is no one out there who wants to do anything with other gay people other than those who they already know. I am still willing to put people in touch with others; however, I can-

not do anything unless I hear from someone. Is anyone looking for someone to go canoeing, backpacking, camping, water skiing, bird watching? Write to me c/o The New Voice of Nebraska.

--Jerry Peck

**GLIS**  
L I N E

*Fundraiser!*



## *An Historic Event*

Dessert Buffet by Desserts 222  
at The Rogers House  
2145 R St.

April 28th, 1985 5 p.m.-9 p.m.  
Music by Kathy  
\$10 RSVP by April 22nd  
\$15 Door

Gay/Lesbian Information  
and Support Line

P.O. Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509

Call Darrell 476-3667 or GLIS: 475-4697

# Astrology—Taurus the Bull

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In astrology, there are four (4) signs which share the same "Mode of Expression" (Cardinal, Fixed, or Mutable), and three (3) signs of each element (Fire, Earth, Air or Water). There is no Zodiacal sign which combines the same element and Mode of Expression as any other. That is: there are four (4) signs that share in general a way of responding to and acting on their environment and three (3) signs which share the same general temperament or emotional sub-structure. However, due to the differences in the combinations, the over-all reaction patterns are different.

All of the earth signs are practical, but each expresses this practicality differently.

All fixed signs deal with Will and Power, but differently.

## Taurus--The Bull

April 21 - May 20

Ruling Planet: Venus  
Element: Earth  
Key Words: I Have  
Mode of Expression: Fixed

### "The Concentrator"

Taurus: Second sign of the Zodiac and the second spring sign. As a fixed sign, Taurus is a Power Sign; in Taurus, the power is latent, not yet in full expres-

sion. Fixed signs manifest Will, and Taurus is the most consistent and persistent of the signs, seldom obvious and always difficult to discover (these people don't reveal their motivations readily), may be even harder to uncover with Taurus as self-analysis is a stranger to most Taurians and what you don't know, you can't tell.

Earth sign practicality and the physical/material affairs with which they deal, manifests in Taurus as the ability to accumulate and manage money and other material and in an almost endless patience and loving willingness to build slowly, but for eternity.

Taurus is least compatible with Leo (Fire) and Aquarius (Air). Taurus and Sagittarius (Fire) share little in common on which to build a relationship. This can cause problems.

Taurus is most compatible with the other earth signs, Virgo and Capricorn, and with the water signs, Cancer and Pisces. With Scorpio, the other water sign and opposite Taurus in the Zodiac, if a balance can be achieved, the relationship can be good. Libra, sharing the rulership of Venus, is also compatible. Taurus-Taurus relationships can be good, bad, or dull.

--Phoenix

# Travel—Topeka's Lambda Bar

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Let's take a tour of Topeka, Kansas's first gay bar.

We have arrived in the heart of downtown, precisely at 524 Kansas Avenue. The address is deceiving because the bar is actually located in an alley behind the avenue, thus creating a rear entrance. If you'll notice, there's no sign or bright lights designating the fact that it is there. Upon entering, we are greeted by the doorman. His job is to check for membership. Since Kansas is not a liquor-by-the-drink state, you must carry a club card or pay a cover

charge. Also, you must show proof that you are 21.

Passing the doorman, we can see the bar, pool table, big screen TV, and assorted tables for quiet mingling. If you've noticed the decor of the newly painted steel blue walls and rust-colored carpeting, then you've noticed the wall opposite the bar as being made of native rock.

Passing through this area, we enter a hallway leading to the dance floor. Notice the new cruise rails and carpeted bleachers surrounding the

continued on next page....

dance floor. They are located for those of us who enjoy watching and/or participating in the nightly festivities.

The dance floor is constructed of parquet wood and of reasonable size. At the top of the bleachers, the DJ spins timely disco with accompanying light show.

From opening at 4 p.m. until around 11 pm, business is steady, but picks up as the night grows toward morning. Closing is at 3 am.

One of the newer additions is the drink specials. At one time, the Lambda was the only gay bar in town. However, with the addition of 2 more bars in Topeka, the competition is up, and during the course of the evening, the bartenders will announce drink specials for the next 1/2 hour.

Hope you have enjoyed your evening. Join us for our next tour of another Topeka gay bar.

--Heidi & Cham



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The New Voice of Nebraska survives primarily on its advertising revenue. We welcome all ads, large and small. We do not have paid salespeople to solicit customers. If you know someone with a product or service that needs exposure, let us know or have them contact us. (Merchants, Avon, Sarah Coventry, Amway, Tupperware, Mason Shoes, etc.) In Lincoln call Larry at 475-7740, or in Omaha call Jerry at 345-2181.

I am looking for a roommate. If you have a home with a spare room or would like to look for something in Omaha east of 72nd St., or Council Bluffs, call Bryan after 5 at (402) 289-4075. Must be stable and self-supporting and please, no drugs or excessive alcohol.

Neohippie turned pseudoyuppie wishes to meet wismin for conversation, friendship and/or dating. No born-again, racists, or Reaganoids, please.

Write M.J., Box 4054, Omaha, NE 68104

## Gay Research Being Conducted at UNO

Certain staff at the University of Nebraska at Omaha Medical Center are conducting a research project to help clarify the supposition that homosexuality in men is genetically based.

This study is important to the gay community. Conclusive evidence of genetically based sexual orientation would relieve a lot of guilt for those parents and families that ask, "What did we do wrong?" or possibly help some gay men better accept their own homosexuality as "natural," or

at least biological, and perhaps help society at large accept homosexuality and homosexuals. Disproving this theory would discourage those who might have some idea of "curing" gay men through genetic or chemical alteration.

You can be a part of this research and receive money (\$40) for your participation.

If you have additional questions, please contact Kevin through M.C.C. at 345-2563 (we are using M.C.C. as a contact only) anytime.

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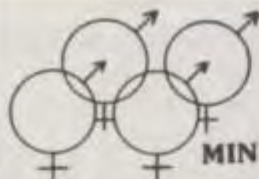
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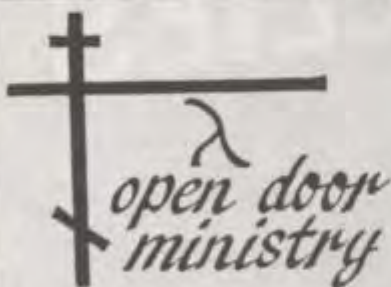
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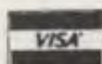
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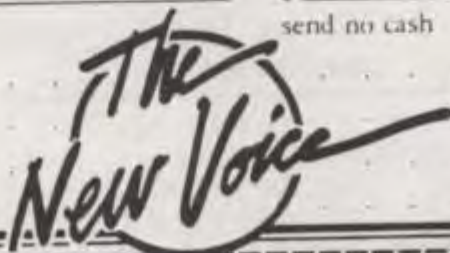
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## OMAHA

- \*Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous 345-9916 WEEKLY MEETINGS:  
Fridays: 8:15 pm. Lutheran Medical Center, 3rd Floor. Open to all.  
Saturdays: 1:30 pm. Omaha Chapter House, 216 North 48th. Open to all.  
Sundays: 4 pm. Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church 1023 N. 40th  
Men only, please
- \*B.A.G.L. (Battered/Abused Gays/Lesbians) P.O. Box 8141 Omaha, NE 68108 345-5797  
Providing support through mutual self-help to gays/lesbians who have been involved in abusive situations with ones they love.
- \*Black & White Men Together (BWMT) 556-9561 P.O. Box 31291 Omaha, NE 68132  
Multi-racial organization, with goal to realize human equality. BWMT engages in educational, cultural, and social activities to further these goals.
- \*Dignity of Omaha 341-1450 or 553-2308  
Providing common experience through Mass and meetings for lesbians and gays and their friends. Regular Mass 2nd Sunday of month. Discussion 4th Sunday of month. For all faiths. Phone for location
- \*Gay Men's Rap Group MCC Omaha, 420 S. 24th St. 345-2563 or 345-5797  
Community rap group, combining planned format with general discussion. Other activities planned. Meetings every Monday at 7:30 pm
- \*Gay Parents Support Group 553-2308  
Support group for gay parents who have children. Please phone for meeting times and locations.
- \*Imperial Court of Nebraska 342-5710  
Social organization for the advancement of gay society. Omaha meeting first Monday of every month except when falling on holiday. Phone for location.
- \*Imperial Court of Nebraska Bowling League 451-1852  
Over fifty people bowling weekly on 14 teams. Sunday 4:00 pm at King Louie Rose Bowl. Please phone if interested in next league forming.
- \*Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha 420 S. 24th St. 345-2563  
Chartered Church with Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Sunday worship 10:30 am & 7:00 pm. Wednesday Bible study 7:00 pm. Wednesday Praise, Prayer & Healing, 7:45 pm -- Rev. Jan D. Kross, pastor
- \*Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) P.O. Box 3173, Omaha NE 68103 345-2563  
Support group for parents, friends and relatives of lesbians and gay men. Phone for information.
- \*River City Mixed Chorus P.O. Box 3173, Omaha, 68103 455-2334 or 345-5797  
Volunteer community chorus for gay & lesbian, and gay-sensitive men and women to sing together with musical excellence in performance.
- \*T.W.O. Motorcycle Club 712 S. 16 Omaha, NE 68102 or call Diamond Bar for information (402) 347-9585
- \*U.N.O. Gay and Lesbian Support Group 554-2730 or 556-2355  
Meetings every other Tuesday at 8 pm in U.N.O. Milo Sall Student Center. Please phone for more information.

Are you looking for a roommate, have a personal message? Then place a classified ad in THE NEW VOICE. The cost is only \$2.00 for 20 words or less.

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# LESBIAN/GAY RESOURCES

## LINCOLN

- \*American Foundation for the Fine Arts. A non-profit foundation committed to making a positive contribution on behalf of gay men and lesbians to Lincoln's cultural life.
- \*Community of Grace  
Box #1645 Lincoln Nebraska 68501  
An interdenominational worshipping community of lesbians, gays, and those associated with us. Meets weekly on Sunday evenings at 7 pm.
- \*Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous  
466-5214. Groups meet weekly.
- \*Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line. Call (402) 475-4597
- \*UNL Gay/Lesbian Student Association. 278 Andrews Hall, UNL  
Meets Thursdays, 8 pm.
- \*Lesbian Support Group 472-2597  
Informal discussion group for lesbians, all women welcome. Meets weekly. For more information, contact the Womens Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 68588
- \*Lincoln Coalition for Gay & Lesbian Civil Rights. Box 94882. Lincoln, NE 68509  
An advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil rights, provides education presentations, publishes a newsletter and sponsors cultural and political programs
- \*Lincoln Legion of Lesbians  
Box 30137 Lincoln, NE 68503  
A lesbian-feminist collective founded in 1978. Provides a newsletter, confidential referral and support groups for lesbians and sponsors cultural and social programs.
- \*Ministry in Human Sexuality, Inc.  
Box 80122 Lincoln, NE 68501  
476-9813 -- A non-profit agency which provides counseling, education and supportive action for those seeking growth and understanding in the areas of sexuality and relationships. Contact: J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director
- \*The New Voice of Nebraska Box 80813  
Lincoln, NE 68501  
Magazine staff meets the 1st Tuesday of the month in Lincoln, 2nd Tuesday in Omaha
- \*Open Door Ministry 535 F St.  
Lincoln, NE 68508 474-3390  
A project of Holy Archangels Orthodox (Old Catholic) Church to specifically minister in a supportive way to the gay community.  
Mass: Sunday evening at 5:30 pm at 535 F Street. Contact: Father David Glaze 474-3390
- \*Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays-Cornhusker Box 4374 Lincoln, NE 68504 466-1151  
A support group for parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians and gay men. Meets in the evenings on the 4th Tuesday of the month.
- \*Support Group for Gay/Lesbian Students at Nebr. Wesleyan Univ.  
Contact Dr. Mary Smith NWU, 50th and St. Paul Lincoln, NE 68504 466-2371
- \*Third Culture. Contact Pat at 474-2213  
A non-residential subculture that deals with issues such as coming out, social behavior, the gay lifestyle, suicide and drug & alcohol abuse.

STATE, NEBRASKA

- \*Doane College Gay/Lesbian Student Association.  
Meeting weekly. For information contact: Dr. Marcia Freer/ Doane College/ 826-2946 ext 259 or  
Write: Doane GILSA P.O. Box 6617,  
Station C. Lincoln, NE 68505

