

SEPTEMBER

1993

*The
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A

STOP THE



VIOLENCE!

OUR TURN: VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF THE NEW VOICE STAFF

RIBBONS OF RED, RIBBONS OF PINK

By Sharon Van Butsel

As I attended the General Conference of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in Phoenix this summer, I was introduced to a new "Awareness Ribbon." It is red on one side and pink on the other, so when it is folded into the traditional shape, one half shows red but other half shows pink. The meaning is simple. The red is for AIDS Awareness but the pink is for the other killer in our community — breast cancer among lesbians.

Both diseases have reached epidemic proportions in the gay and lesbian community. While the statistics on AIDS are well known, not many people are aware that by the year 2000, it is estimated that 1 in 3 lesbian women will have breast cancer.

Lesbian women have three times the risk of the heterosexual population based on 5 correlated risk factors: no pregnancies, alcohol consumption, overweight, higher education levels, and lower health screening rates.

Having never been pregnant doubles the risk of breast cancer. Drinking 2-3 alcoholic beverages per day also doubles the risk. Higher rates of breast cancer are associated with being overweight, having higher levels of education, and with having fewer health screenings. Statistically, more lesbians have never been pregnant, are more likely to drink alcohol on a

regular basis, are overweight, have higher educational levels, and have fewer health screenings than the heterosexual population. These factors combine to indicate that one in three lesbians will develop breast cancer.

However, lest the men think "I don't need to worry about this — it won't happen to me," let me point out that men also get breast cancer. Denial has kept some people in the lesbian community from getting tested for HIV because they think only gay men and heterosexuals get AIDS. Don't let denial keep gay men from learning the warning signs for breast cancer. Just like HIV, which invades both male and female blood streams, breast cancer invades breast tissue whether that breast tissue is in the pectorals of a male or in the soft breast of a female.

Like AIDS, this epidemic is real. And also like AIDS, there are things you can do to reduce your risk of developing breast cancer. (Next month's issue will discuss ways to avoid and to treat breast cancer.) And, as the red ribbons have for AIDS, the pink ribbon for breast cancer can help increase the community's awareness of the other epidemic which we face. So it is that I will continue to wear the red ribbon for all my brothers and sisters who face AIDS and HIV infection, but I will also wear a ribbon of pink for my sisters and brothers who face breast cancer.

DEFENSIVE LIVING

By Sharon Van Butsel

"Is the *New Voice* going to write something about Greg Kowal?"

"What can we do about this violence?"

"How can we make sure the police don't just let it drop?"

"How can we get people to be more careful?"

"Have they found that guy down in Lincoln yet?"

"I heard that the police are frustrated because no one will press charges."

"I don't think the police will do anything."

"I've never had any problems down in the run."

"What's going on, anyway?"

"Isn't there anything we can do?"

The questions have been coming fast and furious. People stopping to talk when I'm at the bar, calls at home, calls at work — everyone is talking about the sudden increase in violent crime involving the gay community.

Hate crimes are certainly alive and well in Omaha and Lincoln. I have been told of 10 different incidents in just the last two weeks.

What caused this sudden increase? I have no answer for that question. It could well be influenced by the President's decision on Gays in the Military — after all, that was just one more way of saying that gays are not worthwhile. It could be influenced by the economy — angry people often need scapegoats. It could be a spill over of the gang violence that has rocked Omaha this last year. But whatever the reason, GAY MEN AND LESBIANS MUST TAKE ACTION.

First and foremost — Be Careful!! Do not become another statistics on a crime report. Do not go walking alone. Do not go home with people you don't know. Do not flash big wads of money around. You know the DO NOTS — they can all be reduced to this one phrase — Don't be stupid, be careful.

Second — if you are the victim of a crime — INSIST ON COMPLETING A REPORT. File charges. Don't let the criminals walk away free.

Third — Get involved in community action projects that help establish our rights. Contact Citizens for Equal Protection and get involved working on legislation that would establish our rights as gay and lesbian citizens.

Fourth — Speak Up! If you have any information about any Hate Crime, contact the police. Your information may be the one piece that's needed to find or to convict the criminals..

Fifth — Contribute to CrimeStoppers or one of the other reward funds being established.

Sixth — Contact the Mayor's Office and the Chief of Police. Let them know that we want the violence stopped.

But most of all, Be Careful! Our community does not need martyrs or dead heroes. We have lost far too many friends to AIDS and breast cancer. We do not need to also lose friends to acts of violence.

CORRECTION: IT'S PENA NOT PEPIA

Re: August Issue, page 14

The Transportation Secretary's name is PENA not PEPIA (!?!?)
Someone of that quality deserves a correction!

Name Withheld

You're right!! Transportation Secretary Pena deserves a correction and here it is. Have no idea how that happened — not once but twice in the same article.



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**DON'T LET CRIMINALS
WALK AWAY FREE
REPORT ALL CRIMES**

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

GAYS/LESBIANS: CONSIDER REPUBLICAN PARTY

Dear Editor:

We have been betrayed yet again by the Democratic Party and their leader Bill Clinton. This is the third promise that Clinton has broken to the Gay/Lesbian community. Clinton promised he would permit HIV+ Haitians into the United States and stop their interdiction at sea, promise broken. Clinton promised he would let HIV+ individuals visit the United States, instead he signed legislation keeping the ban, promise broken. Next, our friend Clinton promised to lift the ban on Gays/Lesbians in the military, promise broken. Instead we got "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue." What wonderful policies our friends the Democrats gave us.

How was Bill Clinton able to betray us? The simple answer is that the leadership and a great deal of the Gay/Lesbian community are shackled to the Democratic Party. Democrats know that no matter what happens they do not need to keep their promises because our own leadership will make excuses for the lack of progress by the Democrats. Republicans, on the other hand, know that no matter what they do, they will be condemned by the Gay/Lesbian community. A perfect example of this is Gov. Arne Carlson of Minnesota. Governor Carlson, risking the wrath of the Religious Right, lobbied for and signed a gay rights law - the strongest in the nation. In return, the Gay/Lesbian leadership and their minions in Minnesota have downplayed the Governor's help and aid. What they say is "He is great on our issues, but a Democrat would be

better for us." This after having a Democratic governor and legislature for twelve of the last fourteen years who supposedly supported Gay Rights.

The question begging to be asked then is this: "If the Democrats are going to betray us and the Republicans ignore us, what can we do?" Well, first off, we can break our shackles to the Democratic Party. Next we need Gays/Lesbians to join and come out in the Republican Party. Only by being active in both parties can we guarantee our rights progress and not regress or stay stagnant. Finally, we need to support our friends and punish our enemies in both parties.

For those who wish to go into the breaches and take our fight to our strongest opponents on the Religious Right, join the Log Cabin Federation (a group of Gay/Lesbian Republicans and their supporters). Here in the Midwest, people can join Log Cabin by writing to 2518 Blaisdell Ave. South, Apt. A, Minneapolis, MN 55404-4228 or call (612) 871-2509.

Shawn A.P. Dorisian
Midwest Regional Director
Log Cabin Federation

PRISONER REQUESTS MAGAZINE AND AD

Hi *New Voice* Staff:

I am Richard Skoda and I am doing time in the Nebraska Penal Complex for driving on a 15 year suspended license. I am without funds at the present time but I would like to receive a copy of the *New Voice*. I enjoy reading it very much as I am gay. I would also like for you to publish me an ad if you please will. I am at the work-release center right now and after I get work-release, I'll make sure I send you a generous donation to compensate the expense of *The New Voice*.

Thank you very much.

Pen Pals wanted:

I am doing time at the Nebraska Penal Complex, work-release center and would appreciate some letters as a friendly gesture and/or possible relationship after my release. Will answer all letters I receive.

Richard Skoda # 44136
C.C.C.
P.O. Box 2200
Lincoln NE 68542-2200

PRO-CHOICE RESPONSE TO MR. SULLIVAN

Dear Mr. Sullivan,

I've read the crap you've written on two occasions now and feel obligated to respond at least to the August release.

I find it truly amazing how one can say that the gay and lesbian community is "jealous of heterosexuals because they can have babies" and gays/lesbians can't. Equally astonishing is how you contest that most heterosexuals find abortion abhorrent. From all of the gay/lesbian friends I have, NONE of them are jealous of heterosexuals' ability to have children. Furthermore, from all of the studies I've ever seen and from personal experience - MOST HETEROSEXUALS FAVOR A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOICE!

The gay/lesbian community is open and accepting of all people. They are not the "narrow-minded people" with "reactionary politics" as you would have them to be. Perhaps if they were less inclusive, the readers of the *New Voice of Nebraska* would not have to read the garbage you put out. But, no, you are given your fair say.

I would be interested to know why you feel you deserve such great credit for everything? Or why you deem it necessary to unfairly accuse the gay/lesbian community of being cowardly, dumb, unbalanced, alcoholics and subscribers to a fatalistic view of the world? Does it make you feel like more of a man?

And, finally, in response to the last full paragraph of your letter. How dare you compare a woman's right to an abortion to Hitler's ruthless slaying of babies in the crib? And how dare you compare a woman's choice to spare a child from a place where no love exists to domestic violence, sexual harassment, and rape? And who the hell do you think you are comparing a choice as difficult as abortion on an unborn fetus to gay-bashing?

Well, if you really want to get into comparisons, I have a few for you.

Perhaps you could compare limiting a woman's right to an abortion to limiting an individual's right to privacy concerning their sexual orientation. Or perhaps we could nominate Randall Terry for President and outlaw abortion and homosexuality.

Make sense? Didn't think so.

Hear from you soon,
Andrew Hasenauer



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TODAY'S HOLOCAUST

By Andrew Hasenauer

It seems odd that a group of people who preach the "unconditional love" of Christ are the same group of people who carry the signs proclaiming "God hates fags" and "Gays, Go to Hell!" If unconditional love is about hate and persecution, then I want none of it.

My best friend is a lesbian and she has feelings, pain, hope, and love in her life. She is a living, breathing human being and no one has the right to judge her morality and tell her she is going to Hell. We believe in a God that sees past race, creed, sex, national origin, political beliefs, weight, sexual orientation, or handicap. In other words, we believe in a God who loves and His/Her children for what they are worth...equal to one another yet divinely different in Yahweh's image.

I could sit back with them and condemn you because you are different than I, because you sleep with the same sex while I sleep with the opposite, because you part your hair on the right and I part mine on the left, but why do I have the right to judge another when God said, "Judge not lest you be judged?"

If I am to be called "fag" and to be ridiculed for my stance, then so be it. And while you're at it, call me "nigger" "spic" "dyke" and all the other terms which symbolize hatred, persecution, fascism, and intolerance. And while you're at it, throw me in a death camp, work me until I collapse, starve me until I am skin and bones, and then send me to my death in a gas chamber. And let's do that will all of those who are different than the accepted norm. The only problem is who decides that "norm." You? Me? Now it begins to get complicated.

And when we do decide on the one who can decide such things, then do we just eliminate all those who disagree with "the one?" And what if everyone disagrees with "the one?" Then should all but "the one" be destroyed? If yes, then who will destroy all of them? Certainly not "the one" considering the ratio. You see it gets quite complicated when you try to single out a "divine race," for we are all "divine races" in and of ourselves.

Whether we be gay or straight, black or white, man or woman, Jew or Gentile, Republican or Democrat, we are all equal and we are all made in God's image.

OPTIONS 2nd COMING OUT NON-FICTION CONTEST

We are looking for submissions of our coming out or other relevant, life-affirming occurrence that has happened to you. We ask that your submission be typed, double-spaced, or very neatly handwritten, and not exceed 1,000 words. No napkins, scrap paper, grocery bags, and the like.

Mail them to *Options*, P O Box 27444, Providence, RI 02903. Deadline is October 1, 1993. The top three submissions will be published in up-coming issues.

-Options

LETTER POLICY

The New Voice will publish only those letters to the editor which include full name and either address or phone number so we can verify authenticity. You can request that your name not be published but we must be able to contact you for verification.

MARRIED GAY NEEDS COMMUNITY

To The Editor:

After reading Scott Lowther's *Making Allies of Married Gays* in your July issue I feel compelled to write. For me anyway, this was unbelievably timely and topical. I am 34, have been married for 13 years, have two children, and came out to my wife on the 20th of June. Strangely ironic (or perhaps fate) that the first time in my life that I am able to read *The New Voice* openly one of the first articles I happen upon is Scott's.

I, too, have read much of the research, and know the statistics, but it was reassuring for me to read a personal account at a time when I needed it most. I don't want to view myself as just another statistic! Most poignant (other than Scott's telling of his personal journey) was his line "...I think we need to love, support, and care for our newest members, regardless of the method of their arrival." I too like McNaught's phrase "making allies of married gays" - and it is necessary - what I want right now more than anything is to feel a part of the community - to know that I'm accepted. While I have come to terms with my sexuality, and am extremely comfortable in who I am, I do feel somewhat isolated since coming out to my wife, even though for the time being I am still living with my wife and children. Most of my reluctance to leave stems from this lack of anywhere to go - choosing to leave behind my "straight" life is one issue. Having no other life to go to - no community - and just a few friends is another issue entirely, and extremely frightening one, which brings me to my purpose in writing (took long enough to get to the point!)

The whole idea of *Making Allies of Married Gays* is admirable, but my one question is **HOW?** I can think of no other group who are more deeply closeted. I would love to have allies, but how does one begin this process? For the most part my straight friends know nothing about my "situation", and my gay friends view me suspiciously, and as confused at best.

I am hopeful that as I begin this stage of my journey I will develop these alliances, and, as stated earlier it helped just reading Scott's article. Writing this article has also helped immeasurably, I'm sure you'll understand that for now I can't have my name published out of respect for my wife. Thanks for reading and thanks to Scott for the article. I look forward to *The New Voice* each month.

Name Withheld By Request

SO-DO-MY NEVADA FRIENDS

On June 16th, Governor Bob Miller of Nevada signed a bill to repeal his state's sodomy statutes. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1986 that homosexual sodomy was not protected under the constitution.

The Nevada ruling is an important victory in that it is the first time a state legislation has repealed a sodomy statute since the '86 Supreme Court decision.

Rhode Island and twenty-one other states continue to carry anti-sodomy laws on their books.

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A GAY FATHER'S DILEMMA

by Scott Lowther

As a gay male who continually strives to improve the person I would like to become, and as one who, admittedly, has made at least my share of mistakes in this process, I try to remain open to feedback from others who are (or who have been) significant in my life. I believe these individuals can share insight and wisdom that I, left alone to my own interpretation of the reality of life, might overlook or disregard.

Of course, this openness to the opinions of others must be tempered by an awareness of my own values, beliefs and judgments. Herein lies the difficulty in life — knowing how to balance the opinions shared by others with those I possess myself, and using this combined information to inevitable form a modified opinion which, hopefully, more closely fits the needs of the situation at hand.

I experienced this very dilemma when my behavior and values directly conflicted with someone else's values and my 10-year-old son found himself caught in the middle of the battleground. The story began as my son, Nicholas, informed me that the T-shirt he had won in a raffle drawing during the "March-on-the-Market" celebration was thrown away by his mother (my ex-wife). The T-shirt was simple — white with black lettering which said simply: "EQUAL NOT EXTRA."

It is important not to overlook some salient facts in this scenario. First, although my ex-wife and I are divorced and she has remarried, the existence of a child born of our union necessitates that we maintain at least some type of contact with one another for many, many years. Also, although I am certain that most parents routinely disagree on a great many things about raising children, the fact that my ex-wife and I disagree about whether my being gay is an acceptable characteristic for a parent puts us in an adversarial stance with one another no matter what else we're able to agree upon.

In this case, I felt her message to myself as well as to my son was unmistakably clear, perhaps for the first time since my divorce. I interpreted her message to say that "being gay isn't o.k. and I don't want our son to learn that it is."

I felt hurt and attacked in a way I've not felt before. This wasn't some corporation telling me they don't like the way I cut my hair, or that some obscure board that doesn't like my interpretation of 'family values.' Rather, this was a person with whom I had shared 10 years of marriage, who knows the values I possess and have long attempted to instill in our son, and who, presumably, knows that just because I now am comfortable with who I am as a gay male, that I have not abandoned the values I previously possessed and demonstrated.

As we discussed our respective positions on this "issue", I was told it was disrespectful of her values by "forcing" her to allow "those kinds of items" into "her home". When I explained that I feel that failing to teach a child about the injustices of discrimination and prejudice is wrong, and that this is the responsibility of every parent in 1993, I was told I was insensitive to "how this affects Nicholas." I was told that my appearances on television or in the newspaper were "embarrassing to him" and that I "didn't even care."

I must admit that these comments, along with others during this two-hour-long conversation, have caused me to take a step back from my previously-held position in order to find a new, hopefully more suitable, solution to this dilemma. I would be lying if I said that I wasn't concerned about my previous commitment and focus on

pride activities, lobbying, and education might have somehow, inadvertently, caused pain to my son. No father with any conscience would willfully hurt his own child.

It is said that we receive the information we need through the mysterious wisdom of our "higher power." I happened to watch (for the 10th or 11th time) *Torchsong Trilogy* on video 24-hours after the ill-fated conversation with my ex-wife took place. At one point in that movie, Arnold, the lead character, told his mother that he learned to sew, cook, clean and to repairs, all so he would not have to ask anyone for anything. He went on to tell her that he only asked two things of the people in his life and those were "love and respect". He told her that "anyone who couldn't give him those two things had no place in his life."

I agreed with Arnold. I understand that other people are affected by a gay person's decision to "come out" to themselves and to the rest of the world. I understand that the images other people have of us are altered, at least temporarily, during this process; but, I have to wonder what kind of father I would be if I allowed myself to succumb to the pressure to stay-at-the-back-of-the-bus versus teaching self-respect, acceptance of the diversity in people, and that the world isn't always fair. I have to wonder what kind of father I would be if I allowed my child to believe that when someone disagrees with his beliefs or values, we will confiscate or destroy any property in his possession which does not happen to meet with our approval.

I have taken under advisement the information that some of my public appearances might cause my son some embarrassment or difficulties. I can reduce those appearances to cause him less trouble, and in that way, I feel I have been open to the input presented to me by someone else. I will not, however, discontinue my attempt to change my little corner of the world by standing up for civil rights. I also will not stop trying to educate Nicholas about equality, acceptance, and the appropriate treatment of other people. I believe that is my responsibility as a father and, whether it is "embarrassing" to someone else or not, I plan to meet that responsibility to the best of my ability.

TORN ALLEGIANCES: The Story of a Gay Cadet

Jim Holobaugh brings the effects of the military's anti-gay policy to a personal level in *Torn Allegiances: The Story of a Gay Cadet*. After Holobaugh told his command officers that he is gay, the army denied him his commission and demanded repayment of his ROTC scholarship. Written with *Cody* author Keith Hale, *Torn Allegiances* details Holobaugh's efforts to remain in the military and serve his country. *Torn Allegiances: The Story of a Gay Cadet* by Jim Holobaugh with Keith Hale. An original trade paperback; 241 pages; \$9.95 ISBN 1-55383-216-4.

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UNCOMMON REALITY

An Interview With The Owner and The Managers of New Realities and Downtown Grounds

By Maggie M. Zenger

Money. It's not a topic Cindy Beck, owner of New Realities and Downtown Grounds, absorbs herself with these days. The thought of it is not a driving factor in either of her two businesses. The one time stock broker now offers peace of mind and good coffee to Omaha.

Cindy entrusts her "babies" to the care of Johanna McCreary, manager of New Realities, and Tracy Scott, manager of Downtown Grounds. Though she is a watchful mother, many of the day to day decisions are made by these managers. Trust, I was to learn, is something that is incredibly evident between Cindy and all her employees.

In the calm and relaxing atmosphere of Downtown Grounds, I learned a lot about trust, the true value of money, and our teachers in life. **Question:** How did New Realities come about? **Cindy Beck:** At 23, I graduated from the University of Nebraska-Omaha and went into the brokerage business. After three years in the business I found myself burned out. Wanting to learn more about myself, I went into therapy with a wonderful therapist here in Omaha. I said, "What a grand idea. Why not offer this to everyone?" Within a few months, New Realities opened in two hundred and fifty square feet of space.

Q: What is the premise behind New Realities? **Cindy:** My store is based on self-help, self-improvement, and positive thought. Our motto is "Where thought goes, energy flows." It's all about spirituality and being all that you can be. The answers are inside everyone.

Johanna McCreary: The store offers different paths in a positive direction. Everyone wants serenity, balance, and to feel good about themselves. Instead of offering only one tool, let's offer many different tools to get you headed in a positive direction.

Cindy: We are planting seeds of awareness, of different tools, and, hopefully, whatever you need, we can supply you with those tools.

Johanna: It's [New Realities] about the Tao. Everything has a part to play in the big picture.

Q: You have made it clear that you have complete trust in Johanna and Tracy. Are you always that trusting?

Cindy: I have a pretty good trust in people overall. When I expanded New Realities to larger space, Johanna kind of appeared, and we have worked together ever since. I really trust her. When I opened the coffee house, I officially made Johanna the manager. Businesses are like babies and you have to learn to let go a little. Johanna is like my day care. Tracy is a good friend. As in

all good friends, I know a lot about her and I trust her.

Q: How involved is Cindy in the business?

Johanna: I talk to Cindy every day. There is nothing that I do that she doesn't know about. She doesn't just sit back.

Cindy: It goes back to trust and the integrity of your managers. Johanna and Tracy have done wonderful jobs. If there is a decision to be made concerning the coffee house, then I talk to Tracy, and likewise with New Realities and Johanna; however, I do not release all responsibility. Communication is the most important thing for a business. You have to communicate constantly to let people know where you are coming from.

Q: What are the plans for Downtown Grounds' espresso cart? Where is it going?

Tracy Scott: We're not sure right now, but it will be great wherever it goes.

Cindy: Someplace wonderful! We have a lot of opportunities. People have actually come to us and asked us to put it in their space.

Q: Any special goals for next year?

Tracy: Growth! Just wonderful art and wonderful musicians and terrific coffee. We're very open minded to anything that will be of benefit to the public and make it [Downtown Grounds] a great place.

Cindy: Because both businesses are very service oriented, we want to continually meet the community's needs, also to become computerized, so our jobs will be much easier.

Johanna: We are certainly bringing new titles into the store. We are planning to expand our book sections by adding an "alternative fiction" section and "healers/healing" section. In addition, we are expanding our music section. We are always on the lookout for new and unusual gift items to bring to Omaha.

Q: Who do you feel your advertising has reached successfully?

Tracy: Everyone from eight to eighty. You name it. They've all been in here and they'll be back. We are not commercialized, and we don't want to be. Downtown Grounds is a place that not everyone knows about yet, but, hopefully, will know about soon.

Q: Any major obstacles in the near future?

Cindy: Obstacles?! We don't have any obstacles. (laughs)

Tracy: Everything runs oh so smoothly on a day to day basis. (unanimous laughter)

Q: What about more national acts coming to Downtown Grounds?

Cindy: Maybe. We generate a lot of enthusiasm for the local talent. This is one of the reasons I opened the coffee house; to provide a gathering place for people. An alternative to the bar, where people can talk with their friends and feel comfortable. A place for musicians to show their talent and artists to exhibit.

Q: I know this is hard to define, but what is success to you? Money?

Johanna: Why do we continuously have to measure everything by money? How sad. New Realities is not about money. New Realities is about people who are in need of something or looking for something, and hoping we have that available. Success for me is having someone come into New Realities and they're smiling when they leave. I would not work at New Realities if it was a money motivated business.

Cindy: Money is not everything. It's what you feel inside and what you are all about. That is your success. Of course, you have to make your bottom line. You have to survive. Money as a driving force, however, messes people up. You have to work hard and play hard, but enjoy yourself.

Tracy: [Success is] a happy day!!!

Q: Do you think you have succeeded, because you are not motivated by money?

Cindy: All I know is, that I put something good out there, and I get something back.

From here we got into a long discussion on labeling. New Realities and Downtown Grounds both have a "nondiscriminatory" policy. This means that everyone is welcome.

Last Question: Does anyone have any embarrassing stories to share?

Again laughter broke out. This time about memories. No one could really recall any specific incident. Just that they laughed a lot together; about their jobs, bonding, and business trips. **Tracy:** You have to enjoy your work.

Johanna: We have all spent time in jobs we absolutely hated. If you find something you really like, then why not have fun with it. That's just the way it's got to be for me.

Interviewer: I've learned a lot from you women today.

Johanna: You never know what your teacher is going to look like. They come in all shapes, sizes, and forms.

Cindy: Do you understand that?

Unanimously: Yes.

Where thought goes, energy flows.

—Cindy Beck

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CLEANING OUT MY CLOSET: LESBIAN CODE

by Shelley Roberts

Because lesbians never used to say the word out loud about each other. And because every one of us always knew who every other one of us was talking about. And because now *Time Magazine* has made "Lesbian" a proper noun. And now that your mother, and your President can both say the word out loud along with a whole list of words nobody ever used to say in polite company, and on tv, like "Anal Sex" and "Condom." Before it's all lost and we forget. In the interest of Lesbian visibility. And with an enormous amount of assistance from Alix Dobkin's personal research, I herewith offer for our herstorical preservation, for the nostalgic indulgence of my FOF's ("Friends Over Fifty"), and the enlightened edification of my FUTT's ("Friends Under Twenty Three"), the most recently compiled list of euphonious euphemisms for lesbians ever uttered in public over the years to distinguish ourselves from the ordinary people.

Initially, we are **BD's** (Baby Dykes). **PD's** (Possible Dykes). And then **DD's** (Definite Dykes). She is **POU** (Positively One of Us). She's an **MOT** (Member of the Tribe). She has a high **LP** (Lesbian Potential). She suffers from **PLT** (Pre-Lesbian Tension). There is no cure.

She could be a **D.O.T.** - Dyke of Today Or Tomorrow. Or she could be a **D.L.T.** - Dyke in Training. Or an **FDA** - A Future Dyke of America. In any case, she's always a **VT** (a Visual Treat) to see, especially when it's **DL** and **DR** (Dyke to the Left and Dyke to the Right).

She **Speaks In Tongues**. **Has Dutch Boy Fingers**. She **Dines at the Y**.

She's as **Campy As A Row of Tents**.

She's a **Lesbyterian**. Is **Of The Faith**. Is A **Member Of The Church**. A **Holy Sister Of The Inclination**. Or at least she **Sings In The Choir**.

She's **Got Her ID Card**. She **Looks A Little Bit Sus** (peet).

She's **Lithuanian**. **Lebanese**. And **Lesbionie**. A **Lesbo**. A **Lassie**. A **Lemon**. A **Lasso**. A **Lash**. She's **Like That**. And she **Crosses the Lesbicon** every chance she gets.

She **Wears White Pants**. She **Wears Comfortable Shoes**. She **Shops At The Mall**.

She's **Gifted**. **Elite**. She's **Capable**. She **Gets A Hundred Points**. **Has Earned Her Degree**. **Has Got Herself A Gold Star**.

She **Enjoys Life**. She **Has A Tan**.

She **Drives A Bus**. She **Rides The Bus**.

She's **Bookish**. A **Librarian**.

She's a **First Class First Grade Teacher**. She **Teaches Kindergarten**. She's **Quite A Prof**. She **Goes To D U** (Dyke University).

She is a **Gardener**. A **Carpenter**. A **Camp Counselor**.

She's a **Bowler**. She **Plays Softball**. She **Plays Hardball**. She's **Definitely On The Team**.

She's a **WannaBe**. A **GottaBe**. She's **One Of Us**. **Our Kind Of Gal**. She's **With Us**. She's **One Of The Girls**.

She's **On The Committee**. **In The Club**. A **Member Of The Lodge**.

She's a **Betty**. She is a **Friend Of Dorothy's**. In **Kentucky**, she's a **Lima Bean**. In the closet, she's a **Canned Bean**. A **Baby Dyke?**

She's a **Green Bean**. If she's now with a guy, that's right, she's a **Has Bean**.

In **Fresno**, she's a **Fresbian**.

In **Australia**, a **Kiwi**. (Fruit, my friend, fruit.) She **Sings Womyn's Music**.

She is a **Lizard**. She is a **Giraffe**. (They have the longest tongues of all.)

If **She Ain't, She Oughta Be**. She **Colors Outside The Lines**.

She's **Family**.
Somebody's grandchilden will want to know what we meant by that. Now you can tell them. Now that you know the code.

**Much of this list came from Alix Dobkin's wonderfully funny song, "Lesbian Code" ©Alix Dobkin 1990, from her latest album "Love and Politics. A 30 Year Saga." © Alix Dobkin 1992, Womens Wax Works, Distributed by Lady Slipper Music, Inc., or from her additional personal collection shared with a hundred Gifted Women At LB's Eatery in Coral Gables, Florida, February 1993. If you don't know her music, you should. Alix Dobkin is Our Kind. She's definitely One of Us. She has been Singing Womyn's Music since before Meg. Or Chris. Way before KD. Or Melissa. Her music is thoroughly Lesbianic.*

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Shelley Roberts is a nationally syndicated columnist, the author of *The Dyke Detector*, Paradigm Publishing, and Host of *AlterNet*, Gay and Lesbian Radio for South Florida.

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STUDDS: WE WILL FIGHT ON IN CONGRESS AND THE COURTS

Congressman Gerry Studds issued the following statement in response to the President's announcement of his policy on lesbians and gay men in the military:

"Before commenting on the policy directive issued by the Secretary of Defense, I wish to pay tribute to the courageous men and women who have made such sacrifices for the right to serve their country with honor and pride. We have waged this battle together for many years, and I share their pain and anguish at this difficult moment.

I also salute the first President in the history of the United States who cared enough to try to make their dreams — and ours — a reality. In accepting this challenge President Clinton showed a degree of courage and leadership that is all too rare in politics.

Having worked so hard to end this cruel and wasteful policy, we have watched with growing concern as opposition in the Congress and the military made some kind of "compromise" inevitable. Despite our misgivings, I continued to work with the Administration in the hope that the policy eventually adopted by the President would afford lesbians and gay men a reasonable level of dignity and freedom in their private lives.

The directive issued today is an improvement over the earlier drafts. The policy it announces may make life slightly more tolerable for those who are prepared to abide by the rules of silence and social isolation that have been laid down. However, it continues to subject lesbians and gay men to investigation and separation from the military merely for speaking privately about their

sexual orientation or engaging in private consensual relationships. This perpetrates a situation in which gay men and lesbians are denied the security, dignity, and openness in their private lives which their comrades-in-arms take for granted. I believe, as I wrote the President on Friday, that such a policy is insupportable.

Gay people everywhere — and those who care about them — will feel anger and pain at the President's inability to fulfill his pledge. I share such feelings. Nevertheless, it is important at such times to remember what the struggle has been all about. This is the last great unfinished chapter in the long history of civil rights in this country. We will lose some battles, as we have today, but we must never doubt our ultimate victory in the struggle for justice.

We must also do all we can to see that our understandable feelings of anger and betrayal are not misdirected. I continue to believe that the President has shown leadership and courage in raising this issue to the forefront of the national agenda. He has stood for reason and decency in a political environment that was supercharged with hysteria and the most cynical opportunism. He must not be condemned for the bigotry and intransigence of others.

Even now, some with the Congress will try to undo this modest step by attempting to reinstate the ban. Whatever the outcome of this struggle, we will continue to fight on — in Congress and in the courts — until the final chapter has been written and all Americans are truly free."

NGLTF ON CLINTON MILITARY POLICY

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force rejects President Clinton's, "don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue" policy for gay and lesbian service members. NGLTF views the proposal as an unworkable codification of the current discriminatory policy.

"This policy is simply a re-packaging of discrimination," said Torie Osborn, NGLTF executive director. "It enforces the closet, which is an exhausting exercise in half truths and blatant lies. The policy is completely unacceptable."

"We are angry and disappointed that President Clinton failed to exercise moral leadership on the major civil rights issues of the 90s," Osborn added. "However, this day marks a commitment to our unfinished struggle for equality. This issue will not go away, and the gay and lesbian civil rights movement will not go away."

"The 'don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue' proposal is inconsistent, ambiguous and unenforceable," said Tanya Domi, former Army captain and director of the NGLTF Military Freedom Initiative. "It does not allow a 'zone of privacy' as the Administration states. In fact, it allows individual commanders to continue pursuing and discharging gay and lesbian service members based merely on private statements of their sexual status. It will lead to arbitrary and selective enforcement."

"This is only the first skirmish in a war that we will win, because we have justice on our side," Osborn said. "We will take this fight to the courts and to the streets. We will continue to come out, tell the truth and fight for fairness."



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AN OPEN LETTER: GAYS IN THE MILITARY

by Daniel T. Osborn

As a concerned American and a veteran I would like to express my opinion and comments on the issue of Gays in the Military.

First of all people I do not understand why all the fuss over gays in the military. For gays have served in the armed forces from the beginning of time and will serve this country to the end of time. For their service of the Armed Forces of the United States of America, gays have served this country as a veteran proud and brave and have given their blood for the freedom of this country.

Freedom holds no prejudice or discrimination, on the blood that has been shed, for in her light we are all of the same, a veteran. For gays come from all walks of life. They are from families of our most financial elite to our most poor. They are our teachers, doctors, lawyers, brothers and sisters and the list goes on. They are a group of American people for we as a people all have one thing in common. We are Americans, the free and the proud of the United States of America.

Gays are among us all in most of American families and the families don't even know it. Gays come in all shapes and sizes and colors and ages. Gays are our children, co-workers, parents, friends, colleagues, and our classmates and yes our veterans. For the sexual preference of being gay has nothing to do with what a gay "is" or what they can give or have given this country. For they will and have given of one thing — their commitment to serve their country for the freedom that we as all Americans hold so dear. For we, who as a people call our gays of this country "immoral and sinful," will cast that first stone.

Look hard and deep at our selves and look at what we see. We are that of hypocrites to put

labels on mankind to justify what is in our minds. For that is immoral, "abuse", "gay bashing" towards a group of people call it what you will, but it is still immoral and sinful behavior of prejudice and discrimination.

It is time that we start to think before we speak and act and to rebuild upon a new framework of attitudes towards our classes of people of differences. To rebuild our behaviors towards each other and start walking in the path and practicing what we preach.

It seems we as a people and our attitudes and behaviors toward sexual prejudice and discrimination is going backwards in time.

I remember reading something of this and also talking to another group of people that went through the same ordeal of a different light, that of prejudice and discrimination. Most of it is still going on, that of our women and Blacks in this country. At one time in history American women and Blacks of this country were also banned from serving in the armed forces. The officers of authority in that day came up with many reasons why a man of color could not serve his country in the armed forces. Reasons were that a man of color was weak of the mind and he would run away from a battle for a man of color was a coward and could not handle the stress of combat.

Our officers also said that a man of color was immoral, less than human and could not be trusted and would have to be trained and treated from the rest. That a white man should not have to live or serve or lay down his arms next to a man of color. This is what the offices of that time in history reason of theory of concept of attitudes and behaviors toward our American Blacks serving this country in the armed forces. Oh how wrong they were. For our American Blacks played a very important role to this country and as a veteran of our history. Our military officers were wrong then and officers of our military of today are of the same wrong.

And as for women of today in our armed forces across this country, for the stories speak for themselves. Our women in the military of our armed forces to this day are still facing sexual prejudice and discrimination in the so called man's army. I thought by now we as a people and our military officers would have figured it out that the color of one's skin or sex and their sexual

preference has nothing at all to do with what a person carries within ones self. What he or she and our gays can do in the service to benefit us all regardless of age, race, sex, or sexual preference within our country. It just seems that we as a people and some of our military officers have not learned anything about how to deal with the ignorance of sexual prejudice and discrimination. The hate of sexual preference and differences among our people and gays is total ignorance.

In the past women and Blacks were the issue of our armed forces. Today the issue is that of our gays. Now we as a people and our military officers can stand up and say that this is different and a new issue. How? I would like to hear the answer to that. The only difference is the issue of the past was that of color, then women. Today it is our gays. But the reason, questions and answers are all still the same. The ignorance of the issue of prejudice and discrimination.

Our gays are among us all and are here to stay in this country and our world, like it or not. That is a part of life and our gay men and women and our teenagers deserve just as much respect and life to live in this country free from the ignorance of sexual preferences and from prejudice and discrimination. That we as Americans all deserve and have the right to hold.

Our forefathers of this great country, the United States of America, gave us all the "Bill of Rights", the right as Americans to live life as we see fit, free from prejudice and discrimination to us all. The Bill of Rights is the structure of our Constitution, the contract to each of us an American the freedom, the independence to be our own individuality and to live life our own individuality of individualism. That is why our forefathers wrote the Bill of Rights. That we as Americans will of endure discrimination and prejudice. That our rights as a people will never be dissolvable.

The time has come for our United States Supreme Court to rule on the issue and to set the record straight of our gays in the military. The issue of discrimination and prejudice is against the Bill of Rights and the Constitution that the United States of America stand on and was founded on.

This writing is part of "For the People" Chapter of "Gays in the Military."

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CLAIM TO BE.
BUT WHO ARE THEY
TRYING TO
CONVINCE
THEIR FRIENDS OR
THEMSELVES?
UNRESOLVED
IS BUYS CAUSE
ANGER!**

LABOR DAY WEEKEND

FUND RAISING
FOR
AIDS

SEPTEMBER
5

3:00-7:00 BEER BUST
\$2.00 with 50¢ Refills

4:00-6:00 Mud Wrestling

7:00-1:00 A Night of
EXTRAVAGANZA

A Line-Up of Top Stars
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Peaches, Tasha, Brooke, the Omaha
Meatpackers, just to name a few)

1:00-4:00 Breakfast &
DANCING

4:00-6:00 TENT OUT

SEPTEMBER
6

COME AS YOU ARE PARTY

6:00 BAR OPENS
Drink Specials

8:00 CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST

10:00-6:00 MiniFair

A. Jell-O Wrestling with YOUR
FAVORITE QUEEN

B. PIE IN YOUR FACE with YOUR
FAVORITE QUEEN

C. Keg of BEER

D. PENNY DRAWS

4:00-7:00 MANY MORE FUN ACTIVITIES
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SNACKS
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2 - 5

Sunday's

BEER BUST
4 - 7
\$3.00 with 25¢ Refills
SNACKS

SEPTEMBER
12

BENEFIT SHOW
FOR
FAWN MITCHELL

Hosted by
CHAMPAIGNE

1st RUNNER-UP Miss Club 2001

10:00

\$3⁰⁰ COVER
BACK BAR

SEPTEMBER
19

BENEFIT SHOW
FOR
Link-On

Hosted by
FREIDA LAE
Best Show '93
"Parallel Galaxy"

10:00

\$3⁰⁰ COVER

SEPTEMBER
26

**AMATEUR
Strip
Night**

10:00

\$2⁰⁰ COVER
BACK BAR

PAGAN BABIES

They grow up together as Catholic misfits. They are soulmates and far-too-young lovers. But as the 1960's fade into the 1970s, Clifford Bannion's intensity takes him someplace Janice Rungren can't follow: into the fevered world of gay discos. Though they are almost lost to each other several times, Janice and Clifford's friendship survives, even when both fall in love with the same man. *Pagan Babies* sweeps through the sexual revolution and into the age of AIDS with all its powers of revelation intact. How the Catholic Church lingers on in the lives of ex-Catholics is also well depicted. An impressive, insightful first novel from Johnson, whose short story collections

Johnson, Greg, *Pagan Babies*, Dutton, Feb. 1993. ISBN 0-525-93560-6. \$20.

B.M.O.C.

The college hunk has been an erotic staple for many years, showing up in each crop of books and films with remarkable regularity. Now, Lars Lightner, one of gay erotica's freshest talents, has gathered together his tales of college life for the first time in *B.M.O.C.* (Badboy); January, 1993. \$4.95 US \$5.95 Canada; ISBN: 1-56333-077-6.

From a bittersweet last encounter before leaving home for school, to the unusual stimulations of dormitory "bull sessions", Lightner explores some of the best years of life in a uniquely straightforward and provocative manner. The men who pursue their studies—and their fellow students—in Lightner's *Athens in the Southwest* are certain to make the honor roll through a winning combination of talent, libido and utter insatiability.

DAMRON ROAD ATLAS

It's no secret that the lesbian and gay travel industry is one of the hottest markets in America. Since the *Washington Post's* feature story brought gay travel out of the nation closet, the industry has grown dramatically. To keep on top of this market, the Damron Company released its *Damron Road Atlas*, a lesbian and gay guide destined to be the hottest travel item of the season.

"The road atlas is the only lesbian and gay travel guide with full color maps on the market. That fact alone makes it a must for the lesbian and gay traveller," said Gina M. Gatta, president of Damron Company. Asked why she redesigned the successful guide, Gatta replied, "I wanted this atlas to be more than just an upscale road map. I wanted it to be as indispensable to our readers as their luggage."

Gatta tailored the latest edition of the *Damron Road Atlas* to the needs of frequent fliers like herself. She explained, "The atlas literally covers the reader's basic travel needs from the moment the plane lands to the moment it takes off at the end of their trip. The new overviews have phone numbers for public transit, taxis, even directions on how to get from the airport to the areas highlighted on the maps."

Readers familiar with Damron's other publications, the *Damron Address Book* and *Women's Traveller*, will also find the Road Atlas filled with concise listing for lesbian and gay-friendly accommodations, bars, restaurants, publications, travel agencies and more. Large color- and number-coded maps make it easy to find favorite bars or accommodations.

For sales information, call (800) 462-6654 or write, Damron Company, P.O. Box 422458, San Francisco, CA 94142-2458.

THE UNKINDEST CUT?

Two cases of botched infant circumcision highlight the need to re-examine this routine practice, says a man who has studied the issues extensively.

On June 23, a Miami infant bled to death following a routine circumcision, while in Marin County, Calif., surgeons had to reattach the tip of a baby boy's penis after it was accidentally cut off during the procedure.

But safety is only one reason to abolish routine infant circumcision, according to author Bud Berkeley. "Why parents are willing to risk the lives of their newborn sons by allowing for this unnecessary amputation is beyond comprehension," said Berkeley, whose book *Foreskin: A Closer Look* examines historical, sexual, and hygienic aspects of the practice. "Yes, some people prefer the appearance of a circumcised penis, but isn't it time each male adult be allowed to make his own decision?"

Foreskin: A Closer Look will be released in August by Alyson Publications, 40 Plympton Street, Boston, MA 02118. The publisher notes that the paperback book will be sold with full cover flaps intact. Readers who prefer the flapless books will have the choice of cutting off the flaps themselves.

GAY TRAVELLER INT'L

The first edition of "Gay Traveller International" contains poetry, prose and pen pal ads with an emphasis on international travel and cross cultural relations. Free sample copies are available by writing the publisher and enclosing a stamped, self addressed envelope. Submissions of prose, poetry, artwork and penpal ads are sought for the second edition which will be available in Spring, 1993. Write: G.T. International, Box 14358, Albuquerque, NM 87191-4358.

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BEV MAVIS OF DOUGLAS COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT TALKS ABOUT The StoreFront Program

by Sharon Van Butsel

Not so long ago I received a call from one of the HIV educators working for the Douglas County Health Department. He stated that Douglas County had several HIV related programs that they were very excited about and they wanted to let more of the community know about these programs. He referred me to Bev Mavis for the first of several articles we'll be running about the various programs which make up the HIV Risk Reduction Program.

Sharon: Bev, just what is your position?

Bev: I'm the Supervisor for Health Education with the Douglas County Health Department.

S - So, what do you do?

B - I am responsible for a number of programs of the Health Department, including Cardio Vascular Health, an Information Specialist who does our publications, Program Planning for multiple programs, and our HIV Risk Reduction Program.

S - Which programs do you want to talk about?

B - I'd like to talk about HIV. The other things are important, but right now we have exciting things going on with the HIV program.

S - Such as?

B - First and foremost is the storefront program. We call it that for lack of a better name. I guess outreach program would be more official.

S - Just what is that?

B - It's a new program. We started with the concept about a year ago after we'd received a letter from a young man who thought he was infected as a result of high risk activities at after hours at one of the bars. He wanted to know what we could do about it. At the time, we couldn't do anything because it's not our job to regulate the bars, but we started talking about what we could do.

The Health Educator at that time, who was Roseanne Mastio, came up with the idea of going into the bars during after hours time. We decided not to have her do that for safety reasons but decided to have us go to outreach through a storefront. It then became the need to find a space. It wasn't easy because all of our programs are low budget programs, with some grants from the state.

Roseanne found a place which the owner would donate until it could be rented. The location we ended up with was around 17 & Leavenworth by the fish market. Then we talked to Gary George, Executive Director of the Nebraska AIDS Project, and invited them to be part of this project. It started out in February with health education and counseling every other Friday night. Our goal was of becoming an alternate test site.

In May, we finally cleared all the hurdles the State puts up to become a test site. We work with 8-10 volunteers from NAP who are trained to do counseling and are out doing education in the streets and in the bars talking with the folks. We've been open for testing since the first of May. During that time we've tested 40 people which is very exciting. Demographics tell us we're reaching a very high risk population who won't make it into regular test sites.

The great thing is about the program is the cooperation between the Health Department and the Nebraska AIDS Project. It's something neither one could pull off on their own.

S - Is it still every other Friday?

B - Yes, it's still every other Friday, but we are in some danger of losing our property. The owner has a chance to rent it, so to stay there we have to find a way to rent the property. However,

regardless of the location we'll continue at least with education until we can find a new location for a test site.

S - What is the rent?

B - I checked with the realtors and I believe they're asking \$215 a month.

S - How is this project funded?

B - It's only minimally funded. We got it off the ground with some excess money we had at the end of the year in a state grant for HIV risk reduction. Currently, the only funding is the salary for the part time health educator for the Health Department and for test supplies which also come through the State. Everything else - furniture, people, everything - is either volunteer or donated.

S - Do you need funding?

B - We are looking right now at least for paying the rent on a more permanent basis. We've always known there was a chance the location would be rented. As a matter of fact, originally we were in the store next door but it was rented just before we opened. So in the last few days before opening, we had to move. Also, Nebraska took a big hit on the federal level on funding and they're passing on cuts to everyone that they're funding.

S - Are you getting very many positive HIV tests at the storefront site?

B - I can't tell you the rate right now, but we know that the test site is running above average for positivity rate.

S - Positivity Rate?

B - Testing folks who are HIV positive. When numbers were smaller I could keep track but as they get larger I'm losing track.

S - What is the age group that you see?

B - We're seeing people from teenagers, 17 or 18, up to someone in their 40s. Mostly it's younger people. The reason we're open from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. is to get some of the teenagers who are hitting the after hours.

S - I understand that you work with hustlers.

B - Some of the clients we've tested are those who are out working as hustlers. In the early days, when volunteers were just doing education, they went out and talked with people on the streets about how they need to be tested due to high risk activities. I think that established a comfort level so the people out on the streets would come in to the center. In the early days, the volunteers also went out to the bar with educational materials and condoms and talked to folks.

S - If someone would like to help, what do they do?

B - Contact either myself or Gary George at the Nebraska AIDS Project. My office number is 444-7227, or call Gary at 342-4233.

Donations are always welcome. I can't emphasize enough that it is a joint project with NAP. The County just doesn't have a good mechanism for accepting donations but NAP does, so if anyone wants to make donations they can contact the Nebraska AIDS Project. Or if someone has property they'd like to donate on a long term basis, that's always an alternative.

We're just so excited about the Storefront program. Besides the education and the testing, we've gotten a lot of good feedback from the folks we're working with. We've been able to use the folks as a "test market" for educational materials and to get feedback on some of the things we're doing.

The Storefront program is only one of many

things that we do in the area of HIV Risk Reduction, but it's very important.

S - What are some other things you have going on?

B - We've been working in the jail for the last 5 years educating inmates. We've now providing or at least offering monthly education sessions for all persons in the correctional centers, both adults and youth. That same AIDS educator also works with the homeless at the Francis House and the Sienna House. The county has a strong commitment to HIV Risk reduction. There are about ten of us working with HIV in test sites, epidemiology, or other work. Only 3 are state funded but the rest of us are all county employees, totally funded by Douglas County. So, in the long run if federal funding dwindles, we still have a commitment to HIV Risk Reduction at the county level so something will still continue.

S - Now, I know the Storefront Program is open every other Friday night, but I have trouble keeping it straight which Friday night that is.

B - Well, we're open August 6 and on August 20. We'll be open somewhere at least for education. Actually we may not be in the present location by the time this comes out, but Gary George is looking into other sites. I just got the call the day before yesterday and we just have until August 13 before it's rented.

S - So, if our readers want to find out where the Storefront program is located?

B - To find out the location call NAP or the Health Department.

S - I know we didn't get to talk about the other HIV Risk Reduction Programs. How about I call you in a few weeks and we'll talk about the programs in the jail and at the Francis and Sienna Houses?

B - That sounds good. Then maybe sometime we can talk about some other programs that your readers may not be familiar with, like the Sexually Transmitted Disease Program.

S - It's a date.

PWA'S: BE CAREFUL WHEN HANDLING FOOD

The handling of food for the person with AIDS requires some special care (though these rules actually apply to anyone.)

The person with AIDS can eat virtually any food that might seem appealing (the healthier the appetite the better). However, there are some guidelines that need to be followed to protect the persons with AIDS from diseases and infections to which they may be susceptible.

- Avoid raw (unpasteurized) milk.
- Never serve raw eggs. Remember that they may be present in homemade mayonnaise, hollandaise sauce, homemade ice cream, fruit "smoothies", as well as other foods that might seem healthful. It is important that foods are fully cooked. There are also some other precautions you can take during preparation to avoid cross-contamination. This is especially important when you are handling uncooked poultry and meats.
- Wash your hands before handling any food, and between handling different food items.
- Wash utensils before reusing with other foods.
- Keep uncooked food juices (such as blood from meats, water from shrimp or other seafood) from coming in contact with other foods.
- Use a plastic cutting board rather than a wooden one, because a plastic board is easier to clean.

NATIONAL NEWS

COURT DECISION BLOCKS AMENDMENT 2

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) hails the decision by the Colorado Supreme Court upholding the injunction against Amendment 2. The measure would have voided existing civil rights laws in Aspen, Boulder and Denver, and prohibited other Colorado cities from enacting similar protections for lesbians and gay men.

By a 6-1 majority the Court blocked Amendment 2 by declaring, "fundamental rights may not be submitted to a vote." In a strongly-worded decision, Chief Justice Luis Rovira said that the U.S. Constitution "protects the fundamental right to participate in the political process, and that any legislation or state constitutional amendment which infringes on this right by 'fencing out' an independently identifiable class of persons must be subject to strict judicial scrutiny." This means that the state must now provide "compelling" justification for its discriminatory law, an almost insurmountable burden.

Rovira concluded by stating, "Amendment 2, to a reasonable probability, infringes on a fundamental right protected by the Equal Protection Clause of the United States Constitution." The state has decided to appeal this decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, postponing a trial on Amendment 2 itself which was scheduled to begin in Denver in October.

IN THE PINK: PINK TRIANGLE CHECKS

In The Pink, a Washington-based organization formed to demonstrate the spending power of gays and lesbians in the United States, has launched a movement to protest the Pentagon's current exclusionary policy by having gays and lesbians throughout the country pay their income taxes with special "gay checks." The group is coordinating the printing and distribution of personalized checks decorated with the gay "pink triangle." Then, "activists and arm-chair activists alike" can use the checks to pay their federal, state, and local taxes; in the words of Muller, "to let our representatives know they can't take us for granted anymore." Foremost on the minds of the group is using the checks to show the federal government their displeasure with the Pentagon's policy of excluding gay men and women from military service. The group's larger goal, however, is to have the checks become a permanent part of the gay-rights movement's repertoire of ways to show its solidarity and strength: Order your personalized checks today. Enclose a voided check and deposit slip from your existing check supply. Indicate any printing changes and starting check number. Enclose a check made payable to In The Pink for \$19.95/order + \$2.50 shipping. Mail to: In The Pink, P.O. Box 5794, Dept. 921, Bethesda, MD 20814.

If you have any questions at all about your order, call 202-547-2342. 200 checks per box. Please allow 6-8 weeks for delivery.

DALLAS G/L SPORTS FEST

Team Dallas will host the Team Dallas Sports and Cultural Festival, October, 1993, expected to bring over 1,500 athletes to Dallas to participate in the four day event. The festival would be held Columbus Day weekend October 8-11, and include competition in at least nine sports events. The festival will also include cultural events with performances ranging from choruses, cloggers, and band to theatre. "We are planning it as a warm-up event for the Gay Games in 1994, bringing in people from all over the United States," Team Dallas president Rom Faucett said. Current sports scheduled for Team Dallas Sports and Cultural Festival are bowling, billiards, darts, golf, softball, swimming, tennis, volleyball, and a 5 and 10K run (with a rollerblade division.) Organizers are also planning several parties and other social events. For a Sports Festival brochure, write to: Team Dallas, PO Box 190712, Dallas, Texas 75219 or call either Phil at (214) 821-1653 or Tom at (214) 942-0866.

NEWSLETTER FOR G/L HEARING IMPAIRED

A newsletter geared toward Gays and Lesbians who are hearing impaired or are concerned about the hearing impaired community is being planned. Submissions for the first issue are now being sought (stories, cartoons, poems, art). For more information, contact What! Queens! 831 Scott Street, San Francisco, CA 94117 or call (415) 922-5191 for voice or TTY.

HAPPY HOUR
3:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.

the
RUN

1715 LEAVENWORTH OMAHA, NE 68103
LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DRINK SPECIALS YEAR ROUND

the
RUN

1715 LEAVENWORTH OMAHA, NE 68103
LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DRINK SPECIALS YEAR ROUND

AFTER HOURS
EVERY FRI, SAT,

COME SEE THE NEW RUN BAR

"Free Beer" *
icy-cold
*10 Cans / 5.00
Tues, Thurs, Fri, Sat 7pm-12mid
(17 days... Free Sept. 93)
Proceeds Benefit... m.c.e. Food Pantry... THANK YOU!!!!!!

COCKTAIL BUST
9:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT

SUN-NITE
Shows....

BUSH BEER BUST
5:00 P.M. TO 10:00 P.M.

AIDS/HIV RESOURCES AND NEWS

HIV TESTING*

*We urge you to inquire about anonymity & confidentiality before testing.

Charles Drew Health Center,
2201 N. 30, Omaha 68111 (402) 453-1433

Douglas County Health Department,
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-6875

Equilibria Medical Center, 544 S. 24,
Omaha, 68102 Call (402) 345-2252

Lincoln-Lancaster Health Dept, 2200 St
Marys Ave, Lincoln 68502 (402) 471-8065
Alt. test site at Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tuesday

Grand Island-Hall Co Health Dept, 105 East
1st St, Grand Island, Neb (308) 381-5175

**Native American Community Developm
Corp,** 2226 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-8471

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth,
Omaha 342-4233 or (800) 782-AIDS [2437]

Nebraska Association of Farm Workers,
4939 S. 24, Omaha, 68107 (402) 734-4100

**Nebraska Department of Health, Norfolk
Regional Ctr, Admin Bldg #16,** (402) 370-3395

Nemaha County Health Department,
1824 N. Auburn, 68305 (402) 274-4549

COUNSELING & SUPPORT GROUPS

AIDS Care, The Mercy Center, 427 E.
Kanesville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503,
Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437

**AIDS Support Group- Sponsored by Parents/
Friends of Lesbians & Gays-Lincoln (PFLAG),**
Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437

**Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support
Group,** Meets 3rd Tuesday, (308) 381-5175

Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group,
Meets 1st Monday of each month, For more
info, phone Barb (308) 234-8183.

Lincoln Caseworker, (402) 474-4243

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth,
Omaha, Individual counseling, support
groups-confidential locations. (402) 342-4233

North Platte Area Support Group,
Call: (308) 535-8133

**Western Nebraska HIV/AIDS Support
Group, Scottsbluff,** Call (308) 635-3606

HOME HEALTH CARE

LINK-ON Home Health Care, 2118 South St.
#B, Lincoln, 68502 (402) 435-0574, Mon-Fri
8am-4:30pm, care, treatment, counseling,
teaching of HIV infected individuals, people
with AIDS, and others; Rick Swaink, Director.

AIDS ADVOCACY

AIDS Coalition for Empowerment (A.C.E.),
For anyone living with AIDS or HIV and those
interested in AIDS advocacy. Call Nebraska
AIDS Project, 342-4233, for details.

PASTORAL CARE

AIDS Interfaith Network, 100 N 62, Omaha
Br Wm Woeger 558-3100 (Chancery) 7pm,
Service: 2nd Mon, St.Cecelias 40th & Webster

AIDS Interfaith Network, 215 Centennial
Mall So., Rm 411, Lincoln 68508, 474-3017,
Services: 7pm, 4th Mon, St Marks, 14th & R

INFORMATION & REFERRAL*
*More info call Neb AIDS Project 342-4233

AIDS Educ Project, UNL G/L Resource Ctr,
Rm 342, Neb Union, Lincoln 68588, 472-5644

American Red Cross,
1701 'E', Lincoln 68501 (402) 471-7997
3838 Dewey, Omaha 68131 (402) 341-2723

Community Prescription Service AIDS Info,
medicine, supplies by mail, 1-800-677-4323

Douglas County Health Department,
1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-6875

Grand Island/Hall Co. Health Dept,
105 E. 1st, Grand Island (308) 381-5175

HIV Clinic, Univ of NE Medical Center, 600
S. 42nd, Omaha, (402) 559-6681

Lincoln Cancer Ctr, 4600 Valley, 483-1872

**Lincoln-Lancaster Health Dept 2200
StMarys, Lincoln 68502, 471-8065** Testing,
counseling

**Nebr AIDS Educ/Training Center, AIDS
education to health care professionals. UNMC,
600 S 42 Omaha 68198, (402) 559-6681**

**Nebraska AIDS Project
{statewide} (800) 782-AIDS [2437]
Omaha Office: 3624 Leavenworth, 68105
342-4233 AIDS Hotline, HIV testing, AIDS
awareness, practical support, counseling
Lincoln Office: 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100
Central Nebraska Office: 3423 2nd Ave
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 234-8183**

**Nebr Dept of Health, 3423 2nd Ave, Kearney
68847, Call Sharon (308) 234-8709**

**NE Dept of Health, Craft St Office Bldg, 200
So. Silber, NorthPlatte 69101 (308) 535-8133**

**Nebr Regional Hemophilia Center, UNMC,
600 S. 42, Omaha (402) 559-4227.**

**People of Color Consortium Against AIDS
2226 Leavenworth, Omaha (402) 341-8471**

**ScottsBluff Co Health Dept, County Admin
Bldg, Gering, NE 69341 (308) 635-3866**

**Veterans Admin Medical Center, 42 & Wool-
worth, Omaha 346-8800; Dean Pierce, x 4119**

LEGAL

Mowbray, Chapin, & Walker, P.C., 201 N.
8th, Ste 242, Lincoln 68508-476-3882; Jim

Nebr Bar Assoc, 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091

**Nebraska Civil Liberties Union, Box 81455,
Lincoln 68501, (402) 476-8091**

CLINTON RETREATS ON CAMPAIGN PLEDGE

During last year's presidential campaign, Bill Clinton repeatedly pledged to lift the exclusion of persons with HIV under U.S. immigration laws. Days after Clinton's inauguration, the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) announced that it was prepared to lift the exclusion.

Unfortunately, Senate Republicans responded to the HHS announcement by introducing an amendment—which would make the HIV exclusion permanent law—to S.1. The National Institutes of Health Revitalization Act.

Despite this move, the Clinton Administration took no action to oppose the amendment or to defend its decision to lift the HIV exclusion. After an inflammatory floor debate, and the defeat of a compromise amendment offered by Senator Edward Kennedy that would have temporarily retained the exclusion pending further study, the Republican amendment, introduced by Senator Don Nickles, passed by a vote of 76-23.

The entire NIH bill, with the approved amendment, passed the Senate on February 19 by an overwhelming 94-3 vote.

On the House side, efforts to introduce hostile amendments to the NIH bill were ruled out of order as not germane to the bill. However, Representative Thomas Bliley was able to introduce a non-binding motion to instruct the House conferees to accept the Nickles amendment during House-Senate conference on the bill.

Very few Democrats spoke against the motion to instruct, and it passed 356-58. The NIH bill was passed by the House, 282-131.

On May 20, a substitute amendment, which would make the exclusion permanent, without language requiring further studies and other potential changes in the immigration law (as in the Nickles amendment) was adopted by the conference committee.

The House and Senate voted to adopt the conference report. As of press time, the NIH bill remains pending before President Clinton, who is expected to sign it.

As the bill now stands, the HIV immigration exclusion remains a permanent part of immigration law unless and until Congress repeals the exclusion.

Unfortunately, many individuals living with HIV and seeking a change in their immigration status will be harmed by this new amendment. While waivers of the HIV immigration exclusion are available to some, many immigrants and refugees cannot and will not be able to adjust or change their immigration status.

HIV service providers should encourage clients with questions about the HIV exclusion to seek legal advice. The Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights and Services may be contacted at 415-243-8908 for more information; for referrals regarding HIV and immigration-related legal services, call the Bar Association of San Francisco's Immigrant HIV Assistance Project at 415-267-0795.

**HAVE YOU BEEN TESTED??:
YOU DON'T KNOW UNTIL YOU
GET TESTED. NAP TEST SITE
MONDAYS & THURSDAYS
6:30-9:30PM**

GAY GAMES IV QUESTIONS

by Roz Quarto, Director of Operations, GGIV

VIDEO REVIEW

by Dick Brown



"The Art of Touch II" A Taoist Erotic Massage

This video contains exceptional technique in 3-D production. (The glasses provided with this video are not necessary for viewing). The erotic massage shown will tantalize anyone's innermost desires and is a MUST SEE TO BELIEVE! For order information, call 1-800-959-9843 or Write Greenwood/Cooper Home Video, 7033 Sunset Blvd., Suite 204, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

ART SHOWS SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 1994

Thanks to Howard Buford and Robby Browne, the Gay Games Cultural Festival will be able to highlight the works of two major gay artists in June 1994.

Howard has arranged with the largest private collector of the works of Keith Haring to exhibit a large part of his collection during the Cultural Festival.

Haring was a New York painter who started his career as a graffiti artist before becoming world famous for his simple, colorful representations of our common humanity. He died of AIDS-related causes in January 1991. He gave generously to both AIDS and gay and lesbian causes. As probably the most widely known gay artist of the period since Stonewall, it is very appropriate that his work should receive a major exhibition during the Cultural Festival.

Board member Robby Browne has been talking to the Guggenheim Museum about the possibility of mounting another major exhibit during the period of the Cultural Festival.

Gail Harrity, Deputy Director of the Guggenheim, says that the Museum is very excited about the possibility of doing a blockbuster show featuring a controversial gay artist in June 1994. "I can't tell you the name until it's officially announced in our calendar," she says, "but it's sure to spark a great deal of enthusiasm, as well as some criticism!"

As we are beginning our countdown to Gay Games IV, staff and volunteers are actively gearing up for registration. This means our sports chairs are busy finding tournament structures, preparing rules and determining their volunteer equipment and officiating needs. At the same time, the office is working closely with both the New York Mayor's office and the Parks Department. I know that many of you are beginning to get anxious. Let me answer the most frequently asked questions I get.

Will participation be limited? We have been conservatively estimating 15,000 athletes. Many of the 32 sports must limit the number of registrants to insure a smooth tournament. I have asked each sports chair to make a determination as to the capacity they are able to handle. Limitations will only be put into effect when time, venue and human resources require it.

When does registration open? Registration will open in late summer and will be on a first come, first served basis. To be fair, we anticipate mailing international registration books in early September, following two weeks later by the West Coast of the United States, and then the rest of the United States a week later.

How will the registration process work? We anticipate registration will take place in one phase and will be open until December 31, 1993. We will reopen registration in sports that have not reached their limit. Any application received after December 31, 1993 will be considered "late" and will probably be charged a \$50.00 late fee. Registrations will be accepted only in United States dollars...sorry.

How do I register if I am playing in a team sport? If you are playing in a team sport, your registration form must be sent in a single package that contains your team's roster and each member's individual registration.

May I register for more than one sport? We discourage participation in one than one sport in order to avoid scheduling conflicts and logistical problems. However, we have decided to allow athletes to register for up to two sports. Any athlete who registers for two sports will have to pay the sport fee for both sports as well as a non-refundable second sport surcharge to be determined. If you enter a number of events within a single sport, it only counts as one sport (i.e., track & field).

When will I get the rules for my sport? The registration books will contain all information essential to registration. Most sports will be using international rules whenever possible, or United States sanctions body rules with certain modifications. All other participants will be responsible for getting the rules on their own.

What will registration cost? Fees have not yet been determined. We anticipate each athlete will pay a base "participation" fee plus an individual sport fee based on the anticipated cost of their sport. Please be aware, however, that your registration fees will cover less than one quarter of the actual cost of staging this event.

When will I find out more detailed information about my sport? We plan to have one mailing in early spring of '94 for each sport that will provide more specific information for you.

What about hosted housing? We recognize the importance of a hosted housing program, but limited human and financial resources will require us to wait until the fall or winter to begin matching athletes and hosts. You can, however, call Pride Tours at 1-800-368-8412 to find out information about dorm rooms and low-cost hotels.

Has the World Cup booked all the local hotels? Do not fear. Pride Tours, our official travel supplier, has booked thousands of rooms in hotels throughout New York City at various rates.

Where is my sport being played? We are currently negotiating with many venues and should be making some announcements soon. All venues are either in the heart of New York City or in close proximity.

Will the Games provide transportation? If a venue is not accessible by public transportation, arrangements will be made to accommodate athletes, perhaps at an additional cost. We hope to arrange for reduced fare cards with the City of New York.

Can I have the sports co-chairs phone numbers? Tournament structures, rules and events are still in the process of being finalized. We will release contact numbers as soon as possible.

How can I help? You can help us by actively working to raise awareness about the Games (i.e., marching with our contingents in Pride events, signing up friends, etc.) and by helping raise money for the Games (throw a party benefiting the Games, ask for donations from friends, etc.)

What are the final sports scheduled for Gay Games IV? Aerobics, Badminton, Basketball, Billiards, Bowling, Cycling, Diving, Figure Skating, Flag Football, Golf, Ice Hockey, In-Line Skating, Judo, Marathon, Martial Arts, Physique, Powerlifting, Racquetball, Soccer, Softball (slow pitch and women's fast pitch), Sports Climbing, Squash, Swimming, Table Tennis, Tennis, Track & Field, Triathlon, Volleyball, Water Polo, Wrestling.

How can I get more information? Get on the mailing list. Write to: Gay Games IV, 19 West 21st Street, Suite 1202, New York City, New York 10010, or call: 212-633-9494.

MORE POETRY By Brian E. Bengtson

Once Upon

He was the prettiest boy,
with a day-job perfect tan and a butt
that could tip over a troll
and bring down his barstool
on trash disco night.

he had the softest eyes,
that could show you the color of
his bedsheets with a blink.

His "please, oh please...PLEASE" come hither
voice could melt
the glue off a queen's lashes
and make her forget the tips
after that last Liza medley.

His skin, softer than the track lighting
that they turn down before the end
of happy hour.

and each night, he would come to me
between pages forty-eight and fifty-six.

C. H.

You place your finger on my lips,
letting the night silence me,
making my eyes plead the words.

Another walk around the bar,
and this would have already been said.

I place my head on that chest of yours,
and try to imagine the answers myself.

I feel your weight on top of me
and your eyes place invisible fingers,
and your breath answers for you.
Remember me

CLUB: OVERVIEW

A small man with a dirty winston hard-pack grin,
takes your money and your ID, and hands you
a warm towel through the three inch plastic.

The smell and the sounds of the steam room
glisten your face, as you try to make out
the moving shapes in the fog.

That balding older gentle man who has trouble
keeping the knot on his side, pretends not
to see or hear the doors slam; as his eyes
plead down the hall.

The little guy on the third floor, assumes
his best helpless and asleep position each
time someone walks by.

You can look through the gloryhole, and see
that couple again, you know
they usually find some poor soul,
and tag-team until they pass out.

One might tell you his name,
one might nod to you on the outside,
one might keep you warm on the nights
you can't make cover.

Three a.m., and your twelve hours are up.

WORKING BOY

A beat-up dodge creeps up the corner,
and you think of that guy who just wanted to talk,
and you can't believe he still paid.

you remember the guy who brought you home,
and showed you his Jeff Stryker
after he threw you in the harness.

you think you see the one
that just handed you the money,
and pulled your head down in one fell swoop.

you watch the fist-fight two doors down,
and are too tired to guess who did what

you count the pretty older boys
as they stumble out to the lot.

you slide to the bus depot vending machine,
buy a Baby Ruth with your emergency bus change,
and laugh about a man

who gave you an oil massage
wearing rubber gloves and two condoms.

you list the ones you wish hadn't seen you.

you have your 3 a.m. breakfast
with your eyes half closed.

Watch for the DC's NEW Location!! It will be bigger and better than ever!!



DC's

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Omaha, NE 68108
(402) 344-3103



Plenty of FREE Parking North Entrance

Beer Busts every Tuesday & Thursday

\$3.00 and 25¢ refills 8 PM - Close & Sundays Noon - 6 PM

Join us Saturday, September 18, at 3:00 p.m. for our

2nd Annual Indoor Rodeo

You Won't Want To Miss This One!!

On Sunday, September 19, at 9:30 p.m. Get Your Favorite Uniform and Join the

MILITARY MADNESS

Featuring The Best of Live Performance and The Best of Lip Sync

Proceeds Help Metropolitan Community Church's Lawsuit Against the Military Ban.

Open Monday - Thursday 2 PM - 1 AM and Friday - Sunday Noon - 4 AM

LOCAL NEWS

HONOR BOUND: A Gay Naval Midshipman Fights to Serve His Country

Joseph Steffan, born and raised in a small Minnesota town, embodied the idea of the wholesome, all-American boy. A high achiever in athletics and academics he was accepted as an "ideal candidate" by the intensely competitive U.S. Naval Academy of Annapolis. One fourth of his classmates eventually dropped out as a result of the grueling mental and physical routine, but Steffan flourished. He was consistently ranked at the top of his squad and in his last year was appointed battalion commander, with direct responsibility for eight hundred classmates. He sang the national anthem at two nationally-televised Army-Navy football games.

As he reveals in his book, *HONOR BOUND: A Gay Naval Midshipman Fights to Serve His Country* (Avon Books, August 1993; 0-380-71501-5; August 1993; \$10.00 US/\$12.00 Canada), it was six weeks prior to graduation when Steffan was called into the commandant's office where he was humiliated, stripped of his rank, and told to resign or face expulsion. A rumor that Steffan was gay had reached the administration and, abiding by the academy's honor code—"A midshipman doesn't lie, cheat, or steal"—Steffan refused to deny the rumor and was forced to leave the academy.

After his forced resignation, Steffan was initially ashamed, then he became angry. The Navy had never claimed to conduct offense (i.e., improper sex with another midshipman); they had thrown him out solely because he said he was gay. Since when did people get punished in America for what they said or thought? Why, at least, didn't the Navy let him walk away with the undergraduate degree for which he had worked so hard?

In December 1988 Steffan filed a lawsuit in federal court requesting that he be granted his diploma, that he be reinstated in the military to continue his career, and that the military's policy of excluding homosexuals be declared unconstitutional. Several weeks later, a summary judgment was granted in favor of the military. Steffan and his lawyers are appealing, and the case is likely to continue through the courts for several more years. Meanwhile, Steffan's experience has inspired others in the military to come out of the closet to challenge the blatant prejudice and injustice of the ban—Colonel Margarethe Cammermeyer, who won a bronze star in Vietnam and was named Veteran's Administration Nurse of the year in 1985, and Naval Lieutenant Tracy Thorne, a top-ranked navigator/bombardier to name a few.

To Steffan his discharge taught him how vulnerable we all are when it comes to discrimination and how this "concept" can become a cold reality and literally change our worlds. Yet, with the struggle of fighting for gay rights he still believes in his country. "Although you might expect that my experiences have left me embittered and pessimistic, I can assure that they have not. I still believe in the idea of America, the idea of freedom. The past few years have simply opened my eyes to the reality that freedom is not a gift or an inheritance, it is a struggle that we undertake every day." *Honor Bound* is a thorough and much needed account of a landmark case in the debate over gays and lesbians in the military.

DIRECTOR NORM FILBERT REFLECTS ON THE NORMAL HEART

Though cloaked in the tapestries of the gay world, Larry Kramer's stunning drama, *The Normal Heart*, is more a study in frustration from forcing the world to understand in the early 80's that AIDS, then little recognized by the public, the politicians, the media, the medical profession, and the gay community itself, was a mushrooming epidemic that would continue to flame across sex, age, and social strata for decades to come.

A near-autobiographical sketch of Kramer, this is story telling in its highest form, a gritty, R-rated, compassionate, and compelling piece of moving theater that will affect mature, sensitive people of all backgrounds.

The show, to run for six performances opening September 19th at the Firehouse Dinner Theatre in Omaha's Old Market, is being presented live, on stage, with a dozen of the finest local performers available. All proceeds from this show, produced by SNAP Productions, are to benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project.

You may not "like" this show which is both poignant and moving. From a director's point of view, it must touch each viewer with a universality of emotion, since human disasters of this nature are non-selective in their destruction.

SNAP Productions is one of the few recognized, fund-raising support organizations for the Nebraska AIDS Project. Their focus is to produce performing arts offerings which help to create community awareness of AIDS related issues. Last September, SNAP presented *Bent*, as its inaugural production, followed by *Safe Sex* in February. I hope you will support them while becoming involved with a truly marvelous piece of stage literature.

I think you will be awed; I'm looking forward to working with this caliber of actors, and I salute SNAP for the foresight and their ingenuity in speaking to the public in the fight against AIDS from the stage.

"...at the heart of *The Normal Heart*, the element that gives this powerful political play its essence, is love - love holding firm under fire..."

Norm Filbert
Director of *The Normal Heart*

NEBRASKA Ranks 43rd in Medicaid Share of Budget

A report published recently in *Healthcare Bottom Line* indicated that Nebraska ranked near the bottom in a state-by-state analysis of states' Medicaid expenditures compared to total state budgets. According to the report, Nebraska spent 94.8 percent of its total budget on Medicaid programs in 1991. The highest ratio was recorded for New Hampshire, which reportedly spent 20.19 percent of its budget on Medicaid, followed by Tennessee at 19.95 percent. The lowest ratios were reported for Wyoming (4.62 percent) and Hawaii (4.89 percent). The report also indicated that Medicaid's share of Nebraska's budget rose by 2.9 percent from 1990 to 1991.

PRIME TIMERS OF OMAHA IS FORMED

There's a new organization in Omaha! Just what we need, you say? Well, if you're a middle-aged or older gay or bisexual man, we DO need this new organization! It's a pleasant alternative to the bar scene for older men and those younger folks who are attracted to older men.

Prime Timers is an international organization designed to help meet the needs and wants of older gay or bisexual men, including social, educational, cultural, emotional, recreational, health, security, sexual and relationship needs. We meet once a month for a general meeting to discuss general issues of interest and socialize. We also plan to have at least one social event each month—our first was a wine and cheese party at a member's home. Activities planned for the future include dining out, a chili supper at a member's home, having a speaker on HIV issues, and a trip to Kansas City.

Prime Timers promises its members that their privacy will be strongly protected. We do not call or correspond with a member without his written authorization. Our mailing list will NEVER be given to outsiders, and members are expected to keep the membership roster confidential.

For more information about Prime Timers of Omaha, please write to Robert at 13908 "S" Plaza, Box 1088, Omaha, NE 68137, or call (402) 895-9599.

Come on! Give us a try!

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*****Sunday, Sept. 5*****

Pre-Labor Day

Sponsored by **Picnic**
the Imperial Court of NE



Progressive Park

Take 13th St. south to Missouri Ave. Turn left & cross the South Omaha Bridge.

Just past Screamers turn right onto gravel road. Follow it to the Park.

Noon-5:00 p.m.

Adm. \$7.00

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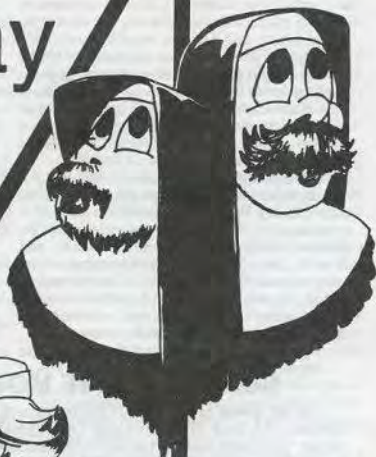
**MONDAY,
SEPT. 6**

at The MAX 9:30 p.m.

The Annual PWA Benefit Show
by the

**Omaha
Meatpackers &**

The Babes Behind Bars



A benefit for the PWA Assistance Fund

FREE Bus Rides from Gilligan's



HGRA NEWS

By Pat & Phil

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association met on August 7th in Hastings, Nebraska, at the home of Larry E. Approximately 20 men and women were in attendance, many from the Hastings, Grand Island, and Kearney area. The monthly meeting was preceded by an afternoon of fun in the sun around Larry's festive swimming pool. For those of us from Omaha who rarely make it west of the Platte River, it was a great chance to make new friends. After basking in the sun for several hours, we recessed to Larry's entertainment den for the formal meeting.

The meeting's agenda began by welcoming 5 new members to HGRA (bringing our total to 32). Charley W. gave an update on the IGRA convention in Billings, Montana which will be attended by Charley W., David B., Todd R., and Brad G. Other business included a report on the submission of HGRA's articles of incorporation, clearing the way for our members to now compete in upcoming rodeo events and allowing our delegates to vote at the IGRA convention.

Upcoming events to watch for include the

Mr., MS, and Miss HGRA contest to be held later this fall. This entertaining evening will be coordinated and hosted by the illustrious Diva of Omaha, Inga. On September 12th a dart tournament will be held at the MAX, with a \$20 bar tab going to the winner. On September 18th at 3 p.m., D.C.'s will be hosting its second indoor rodeo. For those of you who missed the first rodeo challenge between D.C.'s and Sidekicks from Kansas City, you won't want to miss this one.

If you are interested in becoming a member of HGRA or interested in obtaining more information about the organization and upcoming events, monthly newsletter are available at the bars and applications may be picked up at D.C.'s.

After the mental exhaustion from our meeting, we enjoyed a wonderful potluck barbecue and picnic with some more fun and frolic. Our next monthly meeting is scheduled for Saturday, September 11th at 6 p.m. at D.C.'s. Ya'll are welcome!

Thanks for readin'.

SUMMER SHOVE MOVES TO SEPTEMBER

The 4th Annual Summer SHOVE (Six Hours of Volleyball Excitement) is scheduled for Saturday, September 25, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Once again it will be held at Racquetball of Omaha, 68th and Grover. As in years past, the purpose of Summer SHOVE will be having fun and raising \$\$\$\$. Proceeds benefit the American Red Cross HIV/AIDS Network and the publishing of the Nebraska AIDS Update. Although there are no trophies, there will be prizes and surprises, and plenty of free food and drink. Instead of charging a team entry fee, each individual is asked to collect a minimum of \$25 in pledges in order to participate in the event. Every player who raises the minimum will receive a souvenir t-shirt and an opportunity to win other great gifts. This year's goal is to raise over \$4,000. Last year's team winner of the fund-raising prize was Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. Their team members raised over \$900. Anyone who would like to participate can get more information, team rosters, and pledge sheets by contacting: Terrence Scott, American Red Cross, 11626 Nicholas Street, Omaha, NE 68154-4490.



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PRE-LABOR DAY PICNIC A GO FOR SUN., SEPT. 5, AT PROGRESSIVE PARK

by Carla

Yes, you heard it right! The water is down; the grass is up; the beer is ordered—so is sunshine!

The Imperial Court of Nebraska invites you to join them for their biggest fundraiser of the year—The Pre-Labor Day Picnic. This is a fundraiser for PWA/AIDS. Board members have been selling those \$1 raffle tickets for our big raffle: 1st prize—2 airline tickets from KC to Dallas, 2 nights of accommodation, & \$100; 2nd prize—2 nights at Ramada Central with lunch and dinner, and 3rd prize stained glass item. There's still time to get tickets. We will sell them up to drawing time, which will be Monday, Sept. 6, at The Meat Packers Show at The MAX.

The Pre-Labor Day Picnic features several ways you can help in the fundraiser. ACE (AIDS Coalition for Empowerment) will have the food booth at the picnic—so come hungry! The Royal Families of Connie and Roxy will be holding small raffles during the picnic. Tickets will be \$1 each, and there'll be loads of prizes—bring lots of money! Of course, our gates receipts after expenses, etc. will also benefit PWAs—so come to the picnic and bring a car load of friends. Admission is only \$7 per person and that entitles you to beer and pop and access to the park. Do bring those IDs; we'll be checking them again, but leave your pets at home. The Park allows no pets! Sorry! Other booths will be available: a kissing booth, a dessert booth, and more—all will be donating a portion of their proceeds to the fundraising. There'll be music, volleyball, basketball, horseshoes, and lots of time to visit with friends and time to make new friends.

Picnic time is noon til 5:00 Sunday. Free bus rides are available from Gilligans. Join us for a great day of fun in the sun! Progressive Park is easy to find: Follow 13th St. to Missouri Ave. Turn east and cross the S. Omaha Bridge. Once you get to Screamers, just take the next right and follow the gravel road. Just 1/4 mile past the bend you'll find the park entrance. We'll be waiting there to see you! Here's a great chance for you to support the PWA Assistance Fund and have fun at the same time! See you there! Don't forget your checkbook!

SNAP PRODUCTIONS RECEIVES HONORS

SNAP Productions, a fund raising support organization for the Nebraska AIDS Project, was given two special awards at the recent Theater Arts Guild (TAG) Annual Awards Dinner. The first award received was for "Outstanding One Act Play", *Safe Sex*, produced by SNAP at the Firehouse Dinner Theatre in February, 1993. A second special "President's Award" was given to SNAP for using theater as a vehicle for creating community awareness of AIDS-related issues and for its on-going fund raising efforts. The Twenty Sixth Annual TAG Awards Dinner was held at the Omaha Marriott Hotel on Saturday evening, August 14, 1993. The gala presentation honors excellence in the Omaha area theater community. This year's event was hosted by Dave Webber, sports anchor for WOW-T Television. SNAP Productions presented its inaugural production, *Bent*, in September, 1992 and will mount Larry Kramer's *The Normal Heart* in September of this year. SNAP believes that the performing arts deliver a unique source of enjoyment, enlightenment, therapy, and a celebration of life. All of its performances benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project.

MEATPACKERS EXTRAVAGANZA HAPPY HOLIDAYS, DARLINGS!

By Miss E.Z. Does It

Well, it's that special time of year again. Miss Does It really gets into the swing of gift receiving, choraling, and hanging mistletoe over every door. Huh?...What?... Labor Day? Of course I know it's Labor Day. (Hey, Ma, you can come down off the roof now.) She's busy hanging up Christmas lights. It's amazing how spry she is at 75. I can't hang upside down like that from a ladder. Now, where was I? Oh, yeah.

The Omaha Meat Packers (a study group of guys) will be performing their annual (are you sure it's Labor Day?) Labor Day Extravaganza. Come and let the Meat Packers fulfill your every Fantasy (Oops! Sorry, that's Miss Flowers' party afterwards).

Come celebrate with us as we salute the men and women who work hard (every try flagging down a bartender during happy hour?), are dedicated (who else would spend so many hours patrolling wildlife at the local parks and truck stops), and are into hard labor (we'll leave this one to the ladies!).

This year we will look at two of the forces that were at the forefront on gay and lesbian issues during the past several months — the Armed Forces and the Religious Forces.

Speaking of the military, I took home the cutest Army man the other night. His name was Private William O'Dell Parts. Playing with cute Private Parts was about the most fun I've had in a long time. It gave a whole new meaning to "standing at attention."

I have come to the conclusion that the military needs the gay community. I mean, good heavens, have you seen those barracks they live in? Not a black velvet picture of James Dean or Madonna in sight and no shag carpeting. Not a stall of a shower curtain to be seen!! I don't know about you all (Well...maybe I know about a few of you), but when it comes to bodily functions and ablations I demand (in most circumstances) complete and utter privacy. Hey, I won't look at yours if you don't look at mine!

Those drab olive green fatigues have positively got to go. Let's get those butch men and women into some fun colors. Something in the RAINBOW spectrum, perhaps?

As far as the Religious Uniforms are concerned, I've always look fabulous in floor length basic black. Black is very slimming and with just the right accessories it can go from casual wear to elegant, formal, evening wear (with the right beads, of course).

Reverends Matthew and Brian jazz up their clerical garb with snappy pastel colored shirts. They're such fashion plates.

Performing with the Meat Packers will be the vivacious, the luscious, the Packettes, Carla and Sharon. They will bring to the stage their own peculiar (my therapist would say "deviant") sense of style and humor.

The delightful, the delectable Babes Behind Bars will also be strutting their stuff on stage that night. Be forewarned, Babes, the Meat Packers are going for the Gold in the breast augmentation competition. So be prepared for the mother of all cleavage battles!!

There will also be an auction during the show. As usual, there will be wonderful items to bid on. Buy that certain someone you love a gift that says you care.

You all know the saying "Give till it hurts," right? The Meat Packers are asking you to "Give while you laugh." The proceeds from the show will go the the P.W.A. Assistance Fund. The money you give will help our community.

The show starts at 9:30pm, or whenever Miss Flowers and I quit fighting over who's going to wear the red dress that night!!

So expect to see you all at the MAX, Labor Day. I'll be looking for you.

Come early to get a good seat (the better to see moi). I'm sure you'll have a great time.

Hugs and Kisses Till Then
Miss E.Z. Does It
(AKA Michael DeVore)

YOUTH TALKLINE UPDATE

by Pat Greene

The phone continues to ring as the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Youth Talkline enters its third year of service to the young people of Lincoln and the surrounding area.

A dedicated and caring staff handles calls about coming out issues, loneliness, safer sex, religious questions, AIDS/STD information, isolation, and many other areas of concern for the most at-risk and vulnerable members of our community.

This year we mailed flyers to every public junior high and Senior High School in Nebraska in an effort to alert counselors and youth about Talkline. This has resulted in numerous calls from outside the Lincoln area.

Summer projects include condom and flyer distribution in bars and cruising areas, as well as planning our third Talkline volunteer training session September 11 - 26.

Youth Talkline staff members receive approximately 20 hours of training from a number of Lincoln's finest professionals, helpful videos, panel discussions, and a dynamite manual.

In addition, they achieve a wonderful sense of camaraderie, and the personal gratification which comes from being involved in a crucial outreach for gay, lesbian, and bisexual youth.

We are currently accepting applications for the September training session.

To find out to apply, call Pat at 435-1441 and leave a message or write Youth Talkline, PO Box 94882, Lincoln NE 68508.

TALKLINE NEEDS DONATIONS

The Gay/Lesbian Youth Talkline is almost out of money! We desperately need your support.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

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COMMUNITY LOSES STILL ANOTHER TO AIDS

by Carla



Rev. Brian J. Hanlon died early Monday morning, August 16, 1993. Many in the community did not know Brian, but everyone connected to MCC over the past three years knew Brian quite well. Brian's sense of humor and his uncontrolled enthusiasm for whatever was set before him will long be remembered by me. I shared (as much as one can "share" with a former Army captain) an office and desk with Brian. Some days we quarreled over where the extra pens should be stored, but the next day he helped me delete the two extra copies of our mailing list I'd somehow put into the computer files, and I'd pick him up from his appointment at the VA and take him home.

Then there were the bridge games. We learned about the same time and from the same people, but none of us could ever figure out where on the "cheat sheets" Brian ever got the idea he could bid Four No Trump with nine points in his hand. Yes, he and I failed our bids more than once, but Brian always had an explanation (and most had more than a little logic to them). Meanwhile Sharon and Michael (Brian's partner in life) never got to play their truly wonderful cards! Of course, there were many times that Brian and I did make his bids. On those wondrous occasions we would gloat until Sharon and Michael were ready to take him and I out on a dark, country road and leave us there. Even after Brian became blind as a result of AIDS, we plotted how we could continue our bridge games. Unfortunately we never found the time to get together—Brian and Michael were busy going nearly as much as we were. I think I'll keep playing and learning as much as I can; I'm sure we'll play that game of bridge in the hereafter, and if I'm going to be Brian's partner, I'll have to

protect myself the best I can.

Brian spent the last months of his life doing the things he loved most. In July he was at the UFMCC General Conference, and he was a witness to Rev. Howard receiving his ordination; he befriended a newcomer to the city; he was working on the upcoming EXCEL of the Midlands retreat; he traveled to Chicago for a family reunion. All of this since July 23.

Fortunately I was spared Brian's greatest vice: tickling. Brian loved to tickle, and he didn't care who his next victim was. Watch out all you saints and heavenly hosts, a tickler has been loosed on you! Brian made me smile, and sometimes Brian made me just want to mutter and shake my head, but Brian was someone very special to me and to many of us at MCC-O. We shall miss him, but we praise God that his pain and suffering have ended. We know we shall meet up with him again, and we feel the impact of his life as we see the influence he has had on so many in our congregation.

Brian and his partner Michael came to Omaha just shortly after Rev. Howard arrived. Brian had been in Rev. Howard's congregation in Pueblo, and after his medical discharge from the U.S. Army, Brian chose to work to become clergy in the UFMCC. To do that, the "student clergy" must work under the supervision of a licensed clergy. Brian wanted to work under Rev. Howard and thus Omaha became his home.

While working for licensure as clergy, Brian started and pastored the MCC in Sioux City. A year or so ago, his health made him give up that pastorate, and he worked as the Christian Education Leader at MCC-O until his death. Brian was licensed as UFMCC clergy at District Conference in Billings, Montana, in May of 1992. He completed his goal though he spent much time in and out of the VA Hospital. Brian was responsible for starting the MCC HIV/AIDS Support Group. In June of this year Brian received Special Recognition at the 3rd Annual ANGLE Recognition Dinner for his "personal achievement" in becoming a licensed clergy.

OPENING NIGHTS

By Brian E. Bengtson

I love opening nights. There is a feeling of uncertainty, an air of nervousness that you can't find anywhere else. I like to watch the opening night performance of a play because that polish isn't there yet, so the acting is real. Maybe I just like to watch the actors sweat it out.

Soap Scum

Earlier this summer, I got to attend two such opening nights. Omaha David Brink premiered two of his original works at the Omaha Magic Theatre July 9th. In *Soap Scum*, Brink gives us Angel, a tragic hero of the "television as a babysitter" generation. Actress Christy Nipe gave a beautiful rendition of a woman so absorbed with antics of her favorite soap opera, that her dog has to take care of the household finances by selling drugs. Manda Panda, portrayed with a fine sense of slapstick by Kelly Coughlin, is forced to endure her owner's "air soaping," much like all the kids that try to emulate their favorite rock and roll star.

During the intermission, I got to enjoy the musical ravings of the Arlington Over 60 Center Kitchen Band as they played a wide range of classics such as the NU fight song and *Alley Cat*.

Floating Milkpods

David's second offering, *Floating Milkpods*, gave us the larger-than-life world of Inetta, played by Loretta Jayne Heasler, who wishes the world could be just a little more like the Disney cartoons she loves, much to the disdain of her husband Carl, played by Larry Tarkington. Inetta has tried to make her tabloid trailer home a bit more

animated by installing a sound effects man in her living room. The Sound Man, played by Eric Frieberg, is there to add accent to Inetta's woes, as she shares her views on how Walt Disney has touched us all, some more than others. David has created a southern Swan Song with a magical overlay. The cast worked well together, giving the audience a romp only rivaled by the Three Stooges.

Artist Sara Kimberlain created projections that gave the necessary color to each show, from a soap opera update so the audience could follow Angel's home grown myths, to wonderful quotes and pictures that added to the mystic ramblings of a woman who wishes her world was drawn a little better. Jo Ann Schmidman, artistic director of the Omaha Magic Theatre, should be commended for giving local playwrights such as David a chance to show their wares. David has a great command of the ironic, and hopefully we will see more in the future.

The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me

On July 16th, I was in the audience for the Omaha premier of *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me* by David Drake, presented by the Blue Barn Theatre. I consider this an important milestone for Omaha in many ways. It was a chance to see new Gay theatre almost as it is happening in the much more "cosmopolitan" cities. It was also an opportunity to see Gay theatre written for gays and lesbians, as opposed to some of the muck that is filled with the usual stereotypes that tends to make me cringe.

Drake masterfully gives us the world of the gay "baby buster" (born on the day of the Stonewall Riots), and how gay life has evolved with the onset of HIV/AIDS, personal ads, and even phone sex.

Drake has created a real person through these ten monologues, which give the audience insight into development of this gay man. By the use of humor (you walk out of the performance with brand new respect for the Village People), Drake shows a "brave new world," a state of mind that even the straight world can appreciate. We are exposed to the fears and frustrations we all face as we try to make our way in the world.

Of the ten monologues, my personal favorite was "12 inch single," which portrays the clash between the clones and the stereotypes in the dating world. I think everyone can identify with the downward drunken slope of cruising, and finding the "GWM" fits our formula.

Hughston Walkinshaw gave a great performance, without relying on the traditional mannerisms that most people, and unfortunately, most actors use when portraying gays. One man shows can either be great, or a real pain depending on the actor, and this was a night of good theatre.

This piece is not a fruits and berries, as real issues are presented. To quote the last line of the show, "The truth will set you free, but first it will piss you off."

Like I said, I love opening nights. Hopefully Omaha theatre will keep up the good work, so I can enjoy more than the nervous actors, and also see some good work.

GILLIGANS

Sunday, September 5

Pre-Labor Day



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BLAZING SADDLES' DART TOURNAMENT SEPT. 17, 18, 19

Blazing Saddle, Inc. of Des Moines, Iowa proudly announces the IOWA CHALLENGE I Dart Tournament. This Amateur Open Cricket Tournament will be held on September 17 - 18 - 19, 1993 in Des Moines, Iowa. This tournament will consist of Double Elimination Team Cricket. Each round will include 5 games of Cricket (4 games with 2 members of each team and 1 game with all 4 members of each team.) CASH PRIZES (determined by the number of entrants) and trophies will be awarded for first and second place.

The host hotel will be Holiday Inn, located at 1050 Sixth Avenue, zip code 50314, in downtown Des Moines, Iowa. Please mention the IOWA CHALLENGE when making your reservations by calling (515) 283-0151 or 1-800- HOLIDAY. August 20 was the deadline for the block of rooms.

The entry fee is \$40.00 per team (\$10 per team member.) Entry forms must be submitted by September 5, 1993.

The tournament will include teams from throughout the Midwest. At the time of this

release, teams from Des Moines, Kansas City, and Saint Louis have entered this year's tournament.

For further information, please contact:

IOWA CHALLENGE I
Joe Bean - Director
1015 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50316
(515) 266-4093

OMAHA FRONTRUNNERS/ WALKERS HOST LABOR DAY WEEKEND

The Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers will be hosting members from Frontrunners of Chicago, Dallas, Denver, Kansas City, Milwaukee, St. Louis, and Minneapolis, for a weekend of sporting and social activities this Labor Day.

These Frontrunner clubs rotate sponsorship of Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends as an opportunity to get together for fun and sun with fellow runners and walkers. These weekends give everyone a chance to meet new faces and visit with some old friends, while building stronger communication between the clubs.

The out-of-town guests will be treated to challenging run/walks, picnic brunches, afternoons by the pool, and late-night parties during their stay.

Officers of the clubs will get together to share ideas on membership activities and club directions.

The Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers is dedicated to promoting health and fitness for members of the gay and lesbian community of Omaha and surrounding areas. Members meet twice a week for scheduled club runs/walks and get together for frequent social activities. Membership information is available by writing to:

Omaha Frontrunners/Walkers
P.O. Box 4583
Omaha, NE 68104

THE MARRIAGE ZONE

By James Drake

1993 was the year. Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha was the place. Reverend Matthew Howard was the master of ceremonies. First it was Char and Tina. Then it was Vance and J.R. Next came Greg Hicks and R.N. Hedges. Now, Colleen Aken and Annette Dickman.

You have now entered "The Marriage Zone." Who will be next to enter a world of love and matrimony?

To enter into this zone you must first love someone, then take time to decide if marriage is possible, then the Holy Union.

You do not - Hear my words - need to be a member of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha to partake in such rituals. It's just that every one I've been to (4 this year) has turned out, not only successful, but emotional as well.

Until the next episode, stay tuned for upcoming events at MCC-O.

This is your host for this article saying "until the next time, take care and remember to watch 'The Marriage Zone' coming soon to a publication near you."



THE
NORMAL
HEART

SNAP PRODUCTIONS
PRESENTS

"THE NORMAL HEART"

by

Larry Kramer

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All proceeds benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project

GAYLA HOEDOWN

Women Space Productions announces Gayla Hoedown to be held on September 25 at the Livestock Exchange Building's South Ballroom. Scheduled from 8:00 - 12 Midnight.

Gayla Hoedown is open to all members of the community and will feature Maile Klein and Marina Hodgini, the country western dance duo that has been featured at many of the women's music festival for the past several summers. Maile and Marina will begin the evening from 8 - 9 with country dance lessons and open dancing will start at 9:00. Snacks and a cash bar will be available.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Proceeds from the evening will benefit the Teen Talkline in Lincoln, which is open to young people from across the state.

Come and pick up some "Country Attitude" from Maile and Marina — two "Singing fillies" who will get everyone's toes tappin'...we guarantee it! To paraphrase a story in *News and Info* from *Bon Vivant*...As you watch Maile and Marina turn a big roomful of shy, nervous folks into sassy, two-steppin' swingers within fifteen minutes, you know they have magic.

The long, lean cowpuncher and the petite, graceful cowgal work every square inch of the crowd to teach country dancing. Pull on your boots, Birkenstocks or sneakers for a foot-stompin, fun-filled good time learning the nation's most popular country line dances. And add your own flair to some 2-stepping, waltz and turn patterns! See you there!!

Tickets for Gayla Hoedown are available by mail from WomenSpace Productions, PO Box 24712, Omaha, NE 68124-0712, from New Realities Bookstore in the Old Market, or from the Albino Rhino, 101 North 14th St. in Lincoln.



Maile Klein and Marina Hodgini,
country western dance duo

GAY AND LESBIAN SENIORS: THESE ARE FOR YOU!!

By RJ

PRIME TIMERS

This hot, muggy Sunday afternoon I finally tracked down Prime Timers. I had heard this was a club for Senior Gay Men. This afternoon's meeting saw a good strong turnout. Most of the afternoon was spent on getting organized, discussing issues, laying out a path to follow. There was literature to take and study.

The Prime Timers are nation wide. If one travels, one can lay out an itinerary through Prime Timers and visit other chapters across and around the country.

The dues for a year are real reasonable — only \$15 a person or a special rate for couples living together. Even I can afford that, being on a fixed income as I am. And the company I work for makes sure my income stays very fixed.

My initial reaction to this club? I think it is great. I just hope the Senior Gays will support this club. We really need something like this. If one doesn't go to the bars, and doesn't go to church, what else is there? For too many years the gay scene has been mainly for the young. We older gays were ridiculed and called "Trolls." Now, damn it, it is our turn. **Aunties, Unite!**

Are you a middle-aged senior gay? Are you tired of sitting home staring at the boob boob? Can't stand another night alone with your cockateil? Would you like to go out and socialize with other senior gays. Then grab that phone of yours and call (402) 895-9599. This club definitely should be checked out. And the nice part is you can attend two meetings without joining to see how you like it. After two meetings though you are expected to join, which is only fair. After all, there are expenses to be met.

If you join, please try to support the club with your presence at the meetings and the social gatherings. Events like these can only succeed if there are people present. I have seen some good causes go down the drain because of lack of interest and no attendance. I really do think this club deserves a chance.

**IS THERE SOMETHING GOING ON
THAT YOU THINK IS SPECIAL? WHY
NOT WRITE AN ARTICLE FOR THE
NEW VOICE? SOMEONE ELSE
WANTS TO HEAR ABOUT IT, TOO**

LINCOLN COFFEE HOUSE

A coffee house has been started in Lincoln for Senior Gay and Lesbian people. An arbitrary age of 40 was set, but this is not carved in stone. For more information, call 488-4178.

The gathering this evening was a pot luck with everyone bringing something so there was plenty to go around. Seven people gathered together this evening, to share just being together and socializing. It was a good gathering of gays and lesbians.

The coffee house will meet the second Saturday of every month at a designated place in Lincoln. There is a real need for this. One gentleman, who is 72, drove over 70 miles from his home in a small rural town just to attend the coffee house. Sandy is to be much complimented in addressing this need and getting it off the ground. So, senior gay and lesbian people, here is a gathering place for you to meet in a safe environment. It is for you and cannot continue without you. Call that number. Attend the gatherings. Let's keep this going and not let Sandy's work be in vain.



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*Dietra Snow, Miss Gay Great Plains America '93
being crowned by
Valerie Lore, Miss Gay America '91
and Leslie Raige, Miss Gay America '93*

MALE SPACE

By Stan Balderson

Male Space meets the first Thursday of every month from 7 - 8:30 p.m. Male Space is a discussion and social group all in one. We use as our focus gay and bisexual men's lives as the discussion group discusses topics such as coming out to becoming a senior citizen. The group is all ages of men, young to old. Wymin of all ages may attend both the discussion group and the social group. Membership in the Male Space is \$10.00 per quarter. The Male Space Group is planning an October discussion and pot luck dinner. The time and place have not been set yet. For more information contact: Stan Balderson at 1534 "E" Street, #26, Lincoln, Nebraska 68508. Individuals may also come to my place on Sundays from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m. to talk to me about the group.

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IN BLACK AND WHITE: MISS GREAT PLAINS 1993 IS DIETRA SNOW

By B & G

From the moment Dietra Snow stepped onto the stage to display her choice of sportswear in the 1993 Miss Great Plains Pageant, she took command of it. She acted, constantly, as a seasoned veteran of female impersonation and, in our opinion, put on the best "show" Dietra has ever done. This all explains, we guess, why she became "Miss Great Plains 1993" at the MAX on July 24, 1993.

Steve Lucart brought in some heavy hitters with the likes of Miss Gay America '93, Leslie Raige; Miss Gay America '91, Valerie Lord, Melinda Ryder (as one of the judges); Veronica O'Rourke and Kim Meske as hosts; and the Max's own Gloria Ravelle to help with the pageant. It also needs to be mentioned that the five contestants all did outstanding jobs in the sportswear, evening gown, and talent competitions.

The other contestants who competed very well in all categories were: Sammi Bennett, who showed us how a Bob Mackey gown should really be worn; Monica West, displaying great energy with her Miami Sound Machine Dance mix; Kathy Klein, who was named 1st Runner-Up and did a fabulous job doing Annie Lennox Numbers *Missionary Man* and *Would I Lie to You*; and Gloria Diamond who landed 2nd Runner-Up and, in our opinion, did the best job in talent doing the script from the Lucille Ball show "Vitameatavegamin."

Veronica did a great job of moving the show along at a steady pace. It was nice to see her out and we hope to see more of her talents in the near future.

The special talent presentations from Leslie Raige and Valerie Lord were very entertaining with lots of high energy but one of the high points was the talents of Gloria Ravelle doing a comedic version of K.D. Lang's *Constant Craving* (complete with eating pizza, burrito, and chicken), and then going into the number *Big-Boned Girl*. Melinda Ryder also did a great job on an Aretha Franklin medley.

We witnessed many talented performances on the stage between contestants and special performers. However, there were many performers in the audience who we thank for supporting this show.

We were privileged to sit at a table with the dressed down Amy Zahn who was giving us a "run-down" on some of the fashions worn by audience members — it was a pleasure, Amy. Other "dressed-down" performers in attendance were: Laura Lee, Phoenix I'Alentino, Amanda Foxx, Jasmine, Viktoria Towne, Felice Whitney, Lafayette, and Muffy Rosenberg. Dressed to the 10's were Eva Destruction, Jennifer Jett, Kendra, and the gorgeous Dorian Drake. It's nice to see these performers supporting the show.

As stated earlier in this article, Dietra owned this stage (again, in our opinion) from the moment she walked on it. From her choice of sportswear to talent to evening gown, we feel she will do Omaha proud at the Miss Gay America pageant, and our hopes, prayers, and every expectation go with her.

Thank you, Steve, for a great pageant. (Next time let us see Miss Mae.)

Thanks also to Tom Cech on lights and a beautiful set, Gary on sound, and, of course, Gloria, Stosh, and The MAX for another great show.

Congratulations, Dietra!

ANGLE SEEKS VOLUNTEERS FOR '94 PRIDE PLANNING

A.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New Gay and Lesbian Endeavors) is seeking volunteers to participate in planning the Omaha Council Bluffs Pride Celebration for 1994.

Qualifications include a willingness to work independently and in groups to complete talks necessary for events to occur next year.

Applications for the Committee Chair are available at local bars, at Metropolitan Community Church, at the Nebraska AIDS Project, and by calling the Information and Referral Line (558-5303) and leaving a message with a name and phone number asking that someone contact them regarding the Pride Celebration Chair.

Applications for Committee Chair accepted until Friday, September 10.

HIV PANEL AT LUTHERANS CONCERNED

Lutherans Concerned saw a good turn out at their August meeting for the program "The Life (and Faith) of People Living with HIV/AIDS."

Three people were serving as panelists. They gave their views on what it's like living with HIV/AIDS. But first there was a short business meeting to discuss old business, current business, and future business and to begin the search for a new Moderator.

This group, the only active group of religiously concerned gay and lesbian people in Omaha who are seeking to change their specific denomination's views on gay and lesbian people, continues to have good support with 18 people present. There was a good showing of clergy as well.

The main program started off with panelist number one telling how HIV/AIDS has affected this person's life. He was a cradle Catholic, a very religious person, and had attended seminary for two years. However, he had some bad experiences with priests concerning his AIDS problem, and was turning off the Mother Church as well.

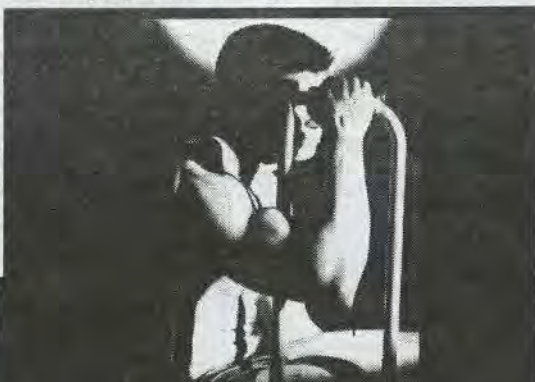
Panelist number two, also with AIDS, hadn't worked in a year because of bad health problems and with failing eyesight. This person told how one's priorities change — how one lives each day as it comes.

Panelist number 3 gave her story. Her husband had died of AIDS in April. She, herself, was HIV+. They had four children — all negative. She pointed out that people living with HIV/AIDS need something to live for. This is true for all people but, especially, for someone with HIV/AIDS. So far this panelist had a good positive outpouring of love and caring — of support — from family, friends, and from her church. Panelist number one pointed out, despite problems with some clergy within the Mother Church, he had good positive support from some excellent friends and from his family. Panelist number two also sounded like he was getting good support from family and friends. All in all, it was a most positive evening. AIDS sure ain't going away, folks. It is here to stay and we might as well get used to living with AIDS. Two million people, worldwide, have died of AIDS so far. And it is said, in another 7 years 6 million more will have died of AIDS.

Lutherans Concerned is to be congratulated on presenting a program on this vital, life-destroying issue and how various people are coping with this disease. I'm glad that a "straight" person was willing to come forward. For the AIDS virus is an equal opportunity virus. It can, and does, infect anyone, anyone, whose blood stream it can invade.

ICON'S MEMORIAL DAY GRANTS GIVEN TO FIVE AREA ACTIVITIES WITH A FOCUS ON WOMEN

The Imperial Court of Nebraska is pleased to announce the five recipients of grants from the Memorial Day Picnic proceeds. Those groups include: River City Mixed Chorus \$100 for lesbian films for their Coming Out Day Film Fest set for UNO October 9 & 10; Feminist Free Press \$278.38 for assisting to purchasing publishing rights to "Dykes to Watch Out For" — a comic strip that touches on political topics, relationship issues and community conflicts; Friends of the Commission \$150 to sponsor two workshops entitled "Building Alliances" — a workshop that helps lesbians and heterosexual women understand each other better; Women's Support Group \$250 to assist members of the group in participating in the Stonewall 25 Celebration in New York next June; Womenspace \$200 to help with the production of a Gayla Hoedown Fundraiser for the Youth Talk Line in Lincoln. Each group requesting assistance received a grant in some amount; however, we were unable to completely grant the requests made. We encourage the community to get behind each of these groups as they continue their fundraising efforts to complete these projects. As determined at the same meeting the proceeds of the Labor Day Picnic will go to PWAs. We hope all of you will join us for the Pre-Labor Day Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 5, from noon - 5 p.m. at Progressive Park.



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NEWS FROM THE COURT: THE IMPERIAL COURT

by Carla

A message from Emperor XIII, Connie: "The month of June passed by so quickly and the impact of Coronation and the title of Emperor 13 still has not quite hit me. As one of the monarchs of the Reign of Eternal Light to the State of Nebraska, I want to say thank you, and I will endeavor to listen and work with all of you. Ideas and suggestions will always be welcome as we begin to learn that sometimes traditions have and will change from time to time, so please always feel free to confront me as I am out and about, as I love to meet and greet old and new friends."

ICON is pleased that the Pre-Labor Day Picnic will take place as originally scheduled. See a related article in this issue. August found us very busy with picnic preparations. We hope you will join us at this event—**Sunday, Sept. 5, noon-5 at Progressive Park!**

In other activity, the Board of Governors welcomes Don N. to our ranks! We also say goodbye and a big thank you to Paul P. (Sammi Bennett), who has served on our Board for the past couple years! Thanks, Paul! At the August meeting we also set the dates, theme, and tentative location for Coronation 14: June 10-12, "A Chinese New Year," and the Ramada Inn Airport. Plan now to attend! It'll be another fun weekend!

An audit has been in process since the burglary, and we are hoping to complete it this month and send it for publication in *The Times* and *The New Voice* in October. However, delinquent accounts payable are keeping the auditors from completing their task. The audit is a natural part of ICON's financial checks utilized each time we change treasurers, but it has particular importance to the community this time due to the burglary and the removal of our treasurer. Duane S. has been elected interim treasurer to complete the term.

With regards to the burglary, a warrant has been issued, but no arrest has been made. The former residence of the suspect has been under surveillance, but the suspect has not been seen in the area. Since the suspect has no job and no vehicle, the police have very few ways to find him. We are in weekly contact with the detective investigating the case and will keep you updated as things develop.

Dates have been set for **Food for Thought and Toys for Tots**, two of our bigger fundraising shows of the year. Mark those calendars now: **Food for Thought will be Sun., Nov. 7, at The MAX.** Empress Roxy and her royal family will be hosting the event. **Toys for Tots has been set for Sun., Dec. 5, at The MAX.** It will be hosted by Emperor Connie and her royal family. You won't want to miss these great shows!

Meanwhile the Board will be busy revising by-laws, inventorying our storage shed, identifying nominees for officers for 1994, preparing a budget, etc. That should keep us occupied the second half of September and the first half of October! You, too, could serve the gay and lesbian community of Nebraska. You could be a member of the Board of Governors. To find out how—call 556-9907 or write ICON, Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68102.

Our next meeting is Monday, Sept. 13, 6:30 p.m. in Stosh's Saloon at The MAX. The community is always welcome. We invite you to join us. For now that's it. See you in Court!

NEWS FROM NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT

Several changes and new activities have been keeping the staff at the Nebraska AIDS Project very busy this summer. The NAP staff has employed two new persons, Doug Wagner and Wendy Wells. Doug comes to NAP after being the director of Equilibria for eight years. His new position at NAP is Development Director. Doug will be responsible for grant writing and contributing to financial generation for the Project. Wendy Wells, our newest employee, is a recent graduate of Colorado State University in Fort Collins, Colorado and has been hired for a Case Management/Care Coordinator position for the panhandle of Nebraska. Wendy will be working in an 11 county area, focusing on direct care to persons with HIV/AIDS, establishing medical and health care referrals, and networking with local resources. Wendy's funding was made possible by Ryan White monies contracted through the State Health Department. With the addition of her coming aboard, she becomes the fifth Case Manager for the Nebraska AIDS Project. Currently there are two managers in Omaha, one in Lincoln, one in Kearney, and now Wendy located in Scottsbluff.

Suzie Miller Schoen who has been the NAP Case Manager in Lincoln since 1990 moved into a new office space in early June. Prior to that time she was working out of her home. Suzie's office is located in Lincoln, at 3818 Sheridan Blvd. Her direct office number is 484-8100.

Our neighbors at the corner KWIK Shop (36 and Leavenworth), sponsored a car wash benefiting the Nebraska AIDS Project on June 12. KWIK Shop employees' efforts provided around \$150.00 for general operations of NAP programs. Thanks so much to Jay and the other car washers who helped organize this function.

The Junior League in their continued support of the AIDS Project is now participating in Blitz Night every Tuesday. The junior leaguers help with mailings, organize test site files, and other clerical needs as they arise in the office. Thank you so much for all you do!

NAP sent two women who are licensed massage therapists to the 5th National Conference on AIDS and Massage. In the next few months we will be establishing a massage service for persons with HIV and AIDS. The massages will either be given in the NAP office, or if the individual requesting the service is home-bound, the therapists will be going to the individual client's home. The massages will be given as a free service to NAP clients; however, donations will be gratefully accepted. Please be watching for a formal announcement which will get the program off the ground.

The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me, by David Drake, which was at the Blue Barn Theatre was an enormous success. Houghton Walkinshaw performed the drama which was humorous, painful, uplifting, and affirming. There was a benefit show for the Nebraska AIDS Project. The amount received will be published next month.

Lastly, we would like to pause and remember Mr. Wayne Tietfort, who passed away June 12, 1993. Wayne helped raise thousands of dollars for his fellow PWAs. He also worked as an AIDS educator, speaking to various groups across the state. We at NAP will miss our friend Wayne. His presence always cheered the office and his laughter brightened the days of many.

NAP Case Management Census June 1993	
Open Cases as of 6-1-93	249
New Cases	16
Clients Deceased	4
Cases Closed	2
End Total as of 6-30-93	261
NAP Case Management Census July 1993	
Open Cases as of 7-1-93	261
New Cases	15
Clients Deceased	5
Cases Closed	7
End Total as of 7-31-93	264

If you know someone who is HIV+ or has AIDS, feel free to refer them to the Nebraska AIDS Project. If you would like to volunteer, call Audrey for an application: 800-782-2437.

A NEW "ANGLE" IN NEWS

by Stan Brown

Be sure to mark October 10 as National Coming Out Day (NCOD) in your calendar! Besides our Pride month activities in June, this is another special time to celebrate being a gay man, a lesbian, or a bisexual. It's a time to come out to a friend, co-worker, or family member and let them know who you really are as a person.

A few activities are planned in the community especially for National Coming Out Day. First ANGLE will be paying for two billboards here in Omaha to promote National Coming Out Day. The locations of these billboards will be listed in next month's issue of the *New Voice*.

If you would like to make a personal donation to help with the cost of the billboards, please send your check to ANGLE, P.O. Box 31375, Omaha, NE 68131. All donations will be put to good use showing the whole community that gay men, lesbians, and bi-sexuals exist right here in "River City."

On Saturday and Sunday, October 9 and 10 the River City Mixed Chorus is producing a gay and lesbian film festival at UNO. Look for the ad and additional information about this event in this issue. It will be a great chance to see films made by gays and lesbians. Most of us in the Midwest have not seen the films being offered.

To help support both of these activities Inga will be back on the stage of The MAX on Sunday,

October 10, 9:30 p.m. Please join Inga and Company for an entertaining evening with a variety of live, comedy, and lip-synch performers. The proceeds from the door will be split between ANGLE for the NCOD billboards, and RCMC's Film Festival. Hope to see you all there! Also, check the calendar in next month's *New Voice* for other activities for NCOD.

Reservations for the New York Bus Trip have been trickling in. There's still time for you to join in on the fun. The Stonewall 25 Celebration will be a history-making time for gays and lesbians. You can be a part of that. The trip will also overlap the Gay Games. Call the information line and ask for Becky to return your call if you want more information (558-5303).

Don't forget the first Tuesday of each month is ANGLE's general meeting at 7:00 p.m., UNO Religious Center, 101 N. Happy Hollow Blvd. A few new people have been attending the meetings and everyone is always welcome and needed.

Elections for 1994 will be coming up soon! Applications are now available for the 1994 Pride Chairperson. Check for one at any g/l bar, NAP, or MCC-Omaha.

For more information regarding any of ANGLE's many activities, call the Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line, 558-5303.

WORSHIP SERVICE ADDED BY MCC-OMAHA

by Carla

Inflation has hit! Our congregation has grown, and now we must add another worship service to our Sunday schedule to meet the growing need.

**Starting Sunday, September 19,
Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha
will have a
9:00 a.m. and a 10:30 a.m. Worship Service.**

Evening Services will also change in September. Starting Sunday, Sept. 5, there will be one evening service a month. This will be on the first Sunday of the month. It will be preceded by a 5:00 p.m. Potluck Dinner. The Worship Service will be at 6:00 p.m.

We invite everyone to join us as we grow and "Celebrate Life in Christ." MCC-Omahara is located at 819 S. 22nd St.

While at General Conference our representatives pledged \$500 towards the Fellowship's legal fund for suing the U.S. Government to allow gay/lesbian chaplains in the armed forces. To raise that pledge, MCC-O will be hosting "Military Madness" on Sun., Sept. 19, at DC's. You won't want to miss this evening of fun!

August brought us 10 new members. Praise God! We welcome those in our community who are making MCC-O their home. Jim, one of our friends, took over 723 food items to flood victims in Des Moines. The 13 boxes of goodies were given to the MCC in Des Moines for distribution from their food pantry! Thanks go out to Jim, to the patrons of The Run—who donated much of the food items—and our MCCers who helped in this project! That's what family is all about—sharing what you have with those in need!

Our thanks go out to Fantasy Productions for making the stained-glass windows a priority and a beneficiary of the Fantasy Weekend. Thanks to Dustin and Bob and all of you in leather who help to make the weekend a success!

The mid-month Spaghetti Dinner provided quite a tasty treat. Thanks to the Social Committee and those in charge of fund-raising for our Handicap Accessibility Fund for making such a good time possible.

The tragedy of AIDS struck many of us MCCers a little closer to home as our good friend Rev. Brian died August 16. We will miss him dearly. MCC-O does now have an HIV/AIDS Support Group meeting every other Monday evening. MCCers have always been active supporters of HIV/AIDS fundraisers, but our ministry in that area continues to expand. We pray for the time when HIV/AIDS will only be a bad memory.

Labor Day Weekend (Fri-Sun) a group of MCCers will be camping out at Two Rivers. For details about this or any activity at MCC-O, call the Church Office at 345-2563.

Preparations are underway for the EXCEL weekend September 10-12. If you wish to be a part of this Exercise in Christian Living, now is the time to send in those registration forms. EXCEL of the Midlands will give you an opportunity to deepen your relationship with our Creator. Hope you will join us for this time of spiritual growth and sharing.

Remember MCC-O offers a non-alcoholic activity the first and third Saturdays of each month. Join us for the Deacons' Coffeehouse. Sometimes we C/W dance; sometimes we play games—cards, scrabble, etc., but always we offer a good time for a good price—\$1 or a canned good for the food pantry. Light refreshments are available at no charge. Come—join in on the fun!

The friends and member of MCC-Omahara invite you to join them for worship—but remember those changes coming your way this month. For now, that's it from my pew! See you in church!

**HIV/AIDS isn't the only way to die!
Be street smart when you are out
and about--friends don't let friends
walk alone!**

CLUB 2001

Labor Day Weekend at Club 2001 will be non-stop action, all dedicated to fun and fund raising for AIDS. On Sunday, September 5, the fun begins at 3:00 p.m. with a Beer Bust (\$2 with 50¢ refills) that lasts until 7:00 p.m. From 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. will be Mud Wrestling, and from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m. there will be A Night of Extravaganza with a line up of Top Stars including Kathy Klein, Miss Club 2001, Male & Female strippers, Amy Zahn, Kendra, Peaches, Tasha, Brooke, and the Omaha Meatpackers. Then from 1:00 a.m. until 4:00 a.m. will be Breakfast & Dancing. You'll have a chance to catch your breath (and maybe an hour of sleep) with the Tent Out that goes from 4:00 a.m. until 6:00 a.m. Monday morning when the bar reopens.

At 6:00 a.m. on Monday, September 6, the Come as You are Party begins with drink specials. At 8:00 a.m. a Continental Breakfast will be served and at 10:00 a.m. a Mini-Fair begins. The Mini-Fair will feature Jello wrestling with your favorite queen or a chance for a pie in your face with your favorite queen. There will be a keg of beer with penny draws and many more fun activities. Then, from 4:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. there will be a Chicken Dinner. We're looking forward to seeing you ALL weekend as we raise money for AIDS.

Later on in September there will be specials for Saturday afternoon football with shot special with each score, snacks, pitchers of beer for \$4 from 2-5 pm. On Sundays there will be Beer Busts from 4-7 pm (\$3 with 25¢ refills).

On September 12 there will be a benefit show for Fawn Mitchell, hosted by Champaigne, 1st runner up for Miss Club 2001. The show will begin at 10 pm in the Back Bar. There will be a \$3 cover.

On September 19 there will be a Benefit show for Link On hosted by Freida Lae. The show begins at 10pm and there will be a \$3 cover.

September 26 is Amateur Strip Nite beginning at 10pm in the Back Bar. There will be a \$2 cover.

**ANGLE is seeking applicants for the 1994 PRIDE Chair.
Interested? Call 558-5303!**

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"TO ALL THE NATIONS" THEME BECOMES

General Conference XVI of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) was held July 18 - 25 in Phoenix, Arizona. The theme of the conference, which marked the 25th anniversary of the founding of MCC, was "To All The Nations." This theme was prominent in all the proceedings of the conference which brought together over 600 clergy and lay delegates representing 16 countries around the world. The conference was held at The Pointe Hilton at Tapatio Cliffs, a luxurious resort that was filled to capacity by the delegates, observers, family, and friends. Total attendance was estimated at 2,000 people.

Member of Board of Elders Comes Out as Transgender Person

The opening worship service featured a review of the history of the denomination, from the day in October, 1968, when 12 persons gathered in the Los Angeles home of Reverend Troy Perry, through the founding of churches around the world. The flags of each country where an MCC is located were carried in solemn procession, in the order of their entry into the Fellowship. At the end of the procession the flags of the United States, Mexico, New Zealand, Poland, Australia, the Dominican Republic, Argentina, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Germany, Denmark, France, Ireland, the United Kingdom, Canada, and Nigeria were placed on the stage in front of two huge globes representing the East and West Hemispheres of Earth. The Reverend Elder William Hein of Australia gave the sermon at this worship service, taking this occasion to "come out" to the Fellowship as a transgender person, appearing for the first time in her feminine persona "Renee."



OMAHA RECOGNIZED

BY FOUNDER, TROY PERRY

The business meetings began with the Opening Address by the founder of the UFMCC and moderator of the Board of Elders, the Rev. Troy Perry. Rev. Perry focused on the "Angels of God" who have surrounded and been part of the Fellowship since its earliest days. He especially focused on the growth and vitality present in the Fellowship, specifically mentioning his visit to MCC-Omaha and the growth of the church here.

DALLAS MCC LARGEST GAY & LESBIAN CHURCH IN THE WORLD

He went on to discuss church growth around the world, including the Cathedral of Hope in Dallas, Texas, which recently completed construction of a new building at a cost of \$3,000,000. The Cathedral of Hope has a membership of over 1000 and attendance at Sunday worship of 1200-1500 persons. The church was specifically constructed for MCC and features stained glass windows with pink triangles, lambdas, and intertwined symbols for male and females. He spoke of a church in Florida that has been burned three times, of the church in the tiny town of Eureka, Arkansas, of the struggles to keep churches alive, of the vandalism and threats faced by such churches.

NEW YORK CHURCH RECEIVES \$200,000 CASH GIFT

Rev. Perry spoke of the church in New York City where a person who had been to church one time walked in and donated over \$200,000 in cash so they could purchase their own church building. The stories of the growth and faith found in MCC congregations continued for over an hour.

The delegates were elated and saddened as Rev. Perry brought late breaking news to them. They cheered as he announced the decision of the Supreme Court in Colorado and they booed as he announced the President's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" Policy on Gays in the Military.

PRESIDENTIAL ADVISOR DAVID MIXNER SPEAKS

The next morning opened with national meetings for the delegates attending. At the USA national meeting, David Mixner, a long time friend and advisor of President Clinton, spoke, saying "I am in great pain. I belong to a community betrayed. Our rights were sacrificed in favor of political expediency. I grew up in a rural area knowing I was gay and at age 29 was afraid, looking for some hope. I walked into MCC and knew I was home. I come home whenever truth needs to be told, truth and love live together."

Mixner continued "You looked us in the eye, Mr. President, and said, 'Trust me.' The President failed to keep his promise to us. The new policy is no real change from current policy, and is in many ways worse." The greatest applause for the speech came when he said that if President Clinton tried to apply the new policy to his own life, he could not speak to others of his wife, Hilary, and daughter, Chelsea. "Mr. President, you can't live a lie 24 hours a day, and neither can we!"

"Mr. President, you made a mistake"

In the strongest language in his speech, Mixner said "We'll take this issue to the people, we will vote in 1996, Mr. President, and you'll have to deal with this issue. Each of here must make a commitment to not leave this decade without our freedom."

Mixner concluded by saying "Mr. President, you were called to greatness and you sacrificed greatness, you were asked to take the higher moral freedom and answer a call. Mr. President, you've made a mistake, this community is not a disposable commodity to be recycled at the next election."

Troy Perry continued the battle cry as he announced that UFMCC will be filing a lawsuit against the US Government based on the exclusion

of gay and lesbian chaplains from the military. MCC-Omaha has pledged \$500 to help in that lawsuit. A benefit show "Military Madness" will be held at DC's, at 9:30pm, September 19 to help support this cause.

MEMORIAL CROSS

Monday evening the mood of the conference changed from one of militant action to one of quiet reverence as over 500 worshippers took part in a Memorial Service. During the service, worshippers were given red and white carnations which they labeled with the names of those who have died. They then came forward in silent procession to present their flowers, which were crafted into a cross 8 feet tall.

FORMER GHOST WRITER FOR RELIGIOUS RIGHT SPEAKS

In a plenary session on Wednesday, Dr. Mel White, former ghost writer for Billy Graham, Jerry Falwell, Ollie North, and Pat Robertson, spoke on "Keeping the religious right from doing more wrong." Mel currently serves as Dean of the Cathedral of Hope MCC in Dallas, Texas. In a speech often punctuated by his own tears, Mel spoke dramatically about the need in the gay, lesbian, transsexual and transgender communities to fight the religious right as they have declared war on "us". He explained, "About the time I realized my homosexuality was a gift from God, communism collapsed. Both walls went down at about the same time. Needing a new enemy, my old friends on the right - especially Jerry Falwell and Pat Robertson - began bashing gays with a vengeance!"

"The Lies of the Religious Right Give Bashers a License to Kill"

Warning the audience to be aware of the tactics of the religious right, Mel said, "the lies of Falwell, Robertson, Dobson, Kennedy, and the others literally give bashers a license to kill. The religious right is not a threat to gay and lesbian people alone. They marginalize us and set us up. I don't know what will happen if this country's economy gets worse and the people need a scapegoat to blame."

"They're already setting us up just as Hitler set the Jews up. We're only 1% of the population, not 10%. We have more money and more discretionary spending than the average. We have far more privileges than the average American." Day by day, lie after lie, they are setting us up as a privileged, powerful, promiscuous minority.

White concluded his remarks "With all the advances made, our civil rights are being threatened as never before. We may disagree with the tactics of more militant gay groups, but they have paid a terrible price to lead the way. Their leaders are exhausted. Their treasuries run dry. Now is the time for the rest of us to follow Troy's example, to muster up a little courage of our own. We must take a stand for justice before it's too late."

"We can't compete with the religious right... but we can come out to those who know us best - our friends, our parents, our children, our pastors and priests, our boss or our fellow employees - and one by one, they will compare the lies they hear from the right with the truth they know about us, and that will make all the difference."

Continued on next page

REALITY AT UFMCC GENERAL CONFERENCE

WARNING: 1 IN 3 LESBIANS WILL HAVE BREAST CANCER

In another plenary session, Dr. Suzanne Haynes and Ph. D. epidemiologist and lesbian who serves as Chief of the Health Education Section of the U.S. National Cancer Institute, brought the latest data on risk factors and the incidence of breast cancer in the Lesbian community. While the greatest risk for breast cancer comes with aging (the chance of developing breast cancer doubles with each decade of life) Lesbians have three times the risk of the heterosexual population based on 5 correlated risk factors: no pregnancies, alcohol consumption, overweight, higher education levels, and lower health screening rates.

Those best protected from breast cancer had their first pregnancy before age 20. No pregnancies doubles the risk of breast cancer. Drinking 2-3 alcoholic beverages per day doubles the risk. While no studies have specifically addressed the issue, being overweight increases the risk as cancer producing substances (like DDT or other chemicals) are stored in the fat layer of the body. As a result of all these factors, one in three lesbians will develop breast cancer.

The conference included special meetings to address special needs within the Fellowship. The Women's Secretariat continues to address issues of sexism, and the Department of the Peoples of Colors addressed racism within the UFMCC.

ISSUES AND VOICES OF YOUTH RECEIVE MORE ATTENTION

For the first time ever a Youth Assembly was held to address the needs of those under 30. 26 year old Maggie Tanis, the minister of Ke Anuehue (Rainbow of Love) MCC in Honolulu, Hawaii, reported on the Youth Assembly to the General



The Newly Elected Rev. Elder Hong Tan and Rev. Elder Darlene Garner

Conference, addressing the question, "Where are the young people in UFMCC?"

She pointed out that those who are attending conference and are under 30 were not even out of grade school when the denomination was founded. She herself was only 3 years old, so they do not share the memories of those "early days". Youth attending the Youth Assembly said they experience the need for empowerment, having been sexualized and hit on by older MCC'ers. They find a lack of credibility in their churches and districts. "Let our voices, our experiences, and our input be heard. Troy Perry, we celebrate with you your first 25 years; however, we want 25 more years, we want a 1000 years. The Rev.

Elder Nancy Wilson, the youngest member of the Board of Elders at age 43, reminded the conference that they had themselves been in their 20's when they paved the way for the denomination. She challenged, "Listen and hear the voices of those under 30. Ask 'Why aren't you in our churches? What appeals to you? And ask yourselves 'Are there persons under 30 in significant leadership positions in your church?'"

In a more traditional mode, there was vacation Bible School for children of delegates. Prior to a ceremony for the "blessing of the children," nearly 20 children presented a rap song they had written with the help of singer, songwriter Marcia Stevens.

There were special meetings for men and for women, for those living with HIV, and for those in 12 step programs. Issues of Diversity and of building an international denomination were addressed. Men and Women of leather held meetings and attended worship in their leather. A large country store provided thousands of items for sale as well as a place for evening entertainment, such as the Fabulous 50's and 60's Sock Hop, and the well received Variety Show. Lynn Lavner performed in the Grand Ballroom and there was a huge Mexican Fiesta. The 6 swimming pools were open around the clock, and

poolside lobbying and networking were major features of the conference.

MATTHEW HOWARD ORDAINED

Friday night's worship featured the ordination of 38 ministers who have made a lifetime commitment to the ministry. Among those ordained at this service were Rev. Matthew Howard of MCC-Omaha and Rev. Ken Bland of Waterloo, Iowa (released from the hospital just long enough to attend).

DELEGATES VOTE TO HOLD 1997 CONFERENCE IN AUSTRALIA

Of course, the main purpose of the conference was the Business Meetings. With a flurry of raised cards (hold up Red for Yes, Blue for No, and Yellow to Abstain), the Delegates voted on a variety of issues, including to reduce the Quorum to 55% of eligible voting delegates from its present 66% (the highest required quorum of any denomination), to lobby for a change in the USA's immigration laws regarding HIV/AIDS, to hold MCC's HIV/AIDS conference only in countries which do not prohibit the free movement of persons with HIV, and to hold General Conference XVIII in Sydney, Australia, in 1997.

BOARD OF ELDERS HAS NEW DIVERSITY

The conference also saw the "Passing of the Mantle" as the Rev. Elder Freida Smith, 20 years on the Board of Elders, failed to achieve reelection. The three Elders elected represented anew the Fellowships commitment to diversity. The Elder Larry Rodriguez, a Hispanic physics teacher from Los Angeles, was reelected. He was joined by two new elders, The Rev. Hong Tan (born in Singapore, residing in London) and the Rev. Darlene Garner (the first woman of color to serve on the Board of Elders).

The Final Worship service on Sunday morning brought together over 1200 worshippers to hear Rev. Troy Perry. With the final song and benediction, General Conference XVI ended, and the delegates returned home to start preparing for General Conference XVII which will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, in 1995.

Videos of the addresses by David Mixner and Mel White are available at MCC-Omaha.



21 year old held ceremonial burning of draft card.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563, Adult and Children's Sunday School 9am, Worship Services at 9am and 10:30am

Omaha Frontrunners, location varies 10am

Grand Island Alcoholic Anonymous Open Meeting 12noon (308) 382-0240.

MONDAY

River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, Lowe Ave Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40, Omaha

Alternate Test Site, Nebraska AIDS Project, 3624 Leavenworth St., Omaha 7-10pm

TUESDAY

"Out In The 90's" Gay Broadcast News Service, Cable Channel 14, Lincoln, 7pm

Gay/Lesbian Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., 345-2563

WEDNESDAY

Lesbian Discussion Group Lincoln 6pm, UNL, Nebr Union, Room 338

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

P-FLAG AIDS Support Group, Lincoln, 7pm Call AIDS Information Line: 475-2437

Lambda Plush Overeaters Anon, 7:30pm, Family & Friends, 3040 N. 102, Omaha

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center Lincoln, 7:30pm, Nebr Union, Room 234

THURSDAY

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

FRIDAY

Youth Talkline, 7pm-12m, Support/ Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932, Lincoln

Lincoln G/L Alcoholics Anonymous, 8pm, Plymouth Congregat'l, 20 & D, 438-5214

Omaha Alcoholics Anonymous, ****"An Alternative" Gay Men's Stag Group, 7pm, MCC-O, 819 S. 22, 455-7916

Omaha Alcoholics Anonymous, ****"Live & Let Live" G/L Group, 8:15pm, Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 41, 345-9916

Every Other Fri., Drop In Cntr, HIV Info/ Test, 1723 Leavenworth Omaha 10pm-2am

SATURDAY

Womens Support Group, 11am, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563

Alcoholics Anonymous, Kearney, Open Meeting 3pm.

P-FLAG Youth Group, ages 13- 21, gay, lesbian, and those questioning sexuality, Omaha, 291-6781

Youth Talkline, 7pm - 12m, Support/Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932, Lincoln

THURSDAY, September 2

G/L Resource Ctr Business Mtg. Rm 342, Nebraska Union, UNL, Lincoln, 7pm.

Male Space, Discussion and Social Group for Gay and Bisexual Males, Wymin welcome also, 7-8:30pm, 2017 "O", Lincoln. For more information Write: Stan Balderson, 1534 "E" St., #26, Lincoln, 68508

Citizens for Equal Protection, 7:30pm, 1st Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

Kearney Gay/Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebraska Support Group, 8pm,

FRIDAY, Sept. 3-Sunday, Sept. 5

PFLAG National Convention, New Orleans

SATURDAY, September 4

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association Meeting, 6pm, DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha

Coalition 1st Saturday Event, 7-10pm "Coffee House-Game Nite" Cornerstone, 640 N. 16, Lincoln

Coffeehouse, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 7-10pm, Alcohol-free event open to the public

SUNDAY, September 5

ICON's Pre-Labor Day Picnic, 12n-5pm, Progressive Park, Council Bluffs, IA, \$7 Admission, Free Beer & Pop, Food Available for Sale, Proceeds benefit AIDS related organizations

Labor Day Weekend-- Nonstop Action at Club 2001, Lincoln: Benefit for AIDS Organizations 3-7 p.m. Beer Bust (\$2 with 50¢ refills) 4-6 p.m. Mud Wrestling,

7 p.m. until 1 a.m. A Night of Extravaganza including Kathy Klein, Miss Club 2001, Male & Female strippers, Amy Zahn, Kendra, Peaches, Tasha, Brooke, and the Omaha Meatpackers. 1-4 a.m. Breakfast & Dancing 4-6 a.m. Tent Out

MCC-Omaha, Evening Worship, 819 S. 22, 345-2563, Pot Luck Supper-5pm, Service-6pm

Lutherans Concerned, 1st Lutheran, 31 & Jackson, Omaha, 7pm, 345-4080 or 453-7137

MONDAY, September 6

Labor Day Weekend-- Nonstop Action at Club 2001, Lincoln: Benefit for AIDS Organizations 6 a.m. Bar Reopens -- Come as You are Party 8 a.m. Continental Breakfast 10 a.m. Mini-Fair

Jello wrestling with favorite queen Pie in your face with favorite queen. A keg of beer with penny draws Many more fun activities 4-7 p.m. Chicken Dinner. We're looking

Bi-PALS, (BiSexual People, Alternate Life Styles), Open to all sexes, Meet at the Cornerstone, 640 N. 16, Lincoln, 7:30pm

Kearney HIV/AIDS Support Group, For more information call: Barb (308) 234-8183

Annual Labor Day Show: the best Skag Drag by the Omaha Meatpackers and Babes Behind Bars, 9:30pm, Proceeds to PWA Emergency Assistance Fund, 9:30pm, The MAX, Omaha

TUESDAY, September 7

A.N.G.L.E. Meeting, 7pm, UNO Religious Center, 101 N. Happy Hollow, Omaha

THURSDAY, September 9

Parent-Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Omaha, 291-6781, Program & Time for Sharing, 7pm, 1st Methodist Church, 7020 Cass, West Entry

Grand Island Gay/Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebraska Support Group, 8pm

FRIDAY, Sept. 10 thru SUNDAY, Sept. 12 "EXCEL of the Midlands", a three day spiritual retreat hosted by EXCEL of MCC-Omaha

FRIDAY, September 10

Deadline for October New Voice

"Taking Care of Each Other" Drop In Center, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha, 10pm-2am

SATURDAY, September 11

River City Gender Alliance, For Transgender and Crossdress community, All welcome. No sexual encounters, Box 680, Council Bluffs 51502

Omaha Players Club Workshop, "Foot/Boot/Shoe Fetish," Info: call 451-7987

SUNDAY, September 12

New Voice Steering Committee, 1pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, All are welcome

Gay/Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebraska Board of Directors Mtg., 1-5pm

Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc. Dart Tournament, The MAX, 1417 Jackson, Omaha, 9:30pm

Benefit show for Fawn Mitchell, hosted by Champagne, 1st runner up for Miss Club 2001, 10 pm, Back Bar, \$3 cover, Club 2001, Lincoln

MONDAY, September 13

Imperial Court of Nebraska Board of Directors, 6:30pm, The MAX, 1415 Jackson, Omaha

AIDS Interfaith Prayer/Healing Service, 7pm, St. Cecelias, Nebr. Chapel, 701 N. 40, Omaha

TUESDAY, September 14

Free & Confidential HIV Testing by Lancaster County Public Health Department, 5 - 7 p.m. The Panic, 18th & N Streets, Lincoln

2nd Tuesday "Write In", Sponsor: PFLAG, Lincoln Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", 7pm

FRIDAY, September 17

IOWA CHALLENGE I Dart Tournament, Amateur Open Double Elimination Cricket Tournament, 4 member teams, Entry Fee: \$40 per team (\$10 per member), Blazing Saddle, Inc., Des Moines, IA call: (515) 266-4093

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SATURDAY, September 18

"Healing Arts," variety show to benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project, 8pm, Lincoln Community Playhouse.

2nd Annual Indoor Rodeo, 3pm, DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha

SUNDAY, September 19

P-FLAG Kearney, St Luke's Episcopal 2304 2nd Ave, (308) 382-0752 or 995-5490, 3pm

Omaha Men (OMEN), 4pm, The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, Write: OMEN, Box 3706, Omaha 68103

The Normal Heart, presented by SNAP Productions, The Firehouse Dinner Theatre, Omaha, Reservations 346-8833, Proceeds Benefit Nebraska AIDS Project

"Military Madness," A Benefit to help MCC's Lawsuit against the US Gov't to end discrimination against gay and lesbian chaplains in the military, 9:30pm, DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha

Benefit show for Link-On hosted by Freida Lac, 10pm, \$3 cover, Club 2001, Lincoln

MONDAY, September 20

The Normal Heart, Firehouse Dinner Theatre, Omaha, 346-8833, Benefit for NAP

TUESDAY, September 21

Grand Island HIV/AIDS Support Group, Call for time, location: (308) 381-5175

Coalition for G/L Civil Rights—Board Mtg, CornerStone, 640 N 16, Lincoln, 7:30pm

The Normal Heart, The Firehouse Dinner Theatre, Omaha, Reservations 346-8833, Proceeds Benefit Nebraska AIDS Project

THURSDAY, September 23

Grand Island Gay/Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebraska Support Group, 8pm

FRIDAY, September 24

"Taking Care of Each Other" Drop In Center, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha, 10pm-2am

SATURDAY, September 25

4th Annual Summer SHOVE (Six Hours of Volleyball Excitement), 10am-5pm, Racquetball of Omaha, 68th & Grover, Sponsored by American Red Cross

Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns, call for info: Cleve, 733-1360

WomenSpace Productions presents Gayla HoelDown, 8pm - 12 Midnight, features Maile Klein and Marina Hodgins, country western dance duo, 8pm country dance lessons, Open dancing at 9pm, Livestock Exchange Bldg, Omaha, Proceeds to Teen Talkline in Lincoln Tickets: \$10 in advance, \$12 at door, available at New Realities or the Albino Rhino

SUNDAY, September 26

Parent-Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Omaha, 291-6781, "Time for Sharing" 2pm, First Methodist Church, 6900 Cass, West Entrance

Amateur Strip Nite, 10pm, \$2 cover, In the Back Bar, Club 2001, Lincoln

TUESDAY, September 27

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Lincoln Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, 7pm, Small group sharing session (under 21 group meets separately), Program: "PFLAG National Convention Highlights" For more information call 435-4688

The Normal Heart, The Firehouse Dinner Theatre, Omaha, Reservations 346-8833, Proceeds Benefit Nebraska AIDS Project

WEDNESDAY, September 28

The Normal Heart, The Firehouse Dinner Theatre, Omaha, Reservations 346-8833, Proceeds Benefit Nebraska AIDS Project

QUEER RESOURCES ARE ON-LINE

UBBS, an online information service for the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities, has added *The Queer Resources Directory* to their systems. Access to the director is via the Internet, a worldwide network of organizations. The QRD is a self supporting collection of databases and text files of news events, activist organizations, addresses of political figures, support groups and media, press releases, AIDS and HIV information, and many other mainstream and diverse topics. Files and articles are submitted daily for inclusion in the QRD, which is updated monthly. "The philosophy of the QRD, and UBBS in general, is "Information Should Be Free", said David Brian, owner and Systems Operator of UBBS. "In that spirit, there is no charge to access the QRD on UBBS." UBBS is a four line bulletin board system running on a 486/DX66 computer with over two gigabytes of storage areas. It contains message bases of general interest to the LGB community that are echoed around the world, as well as file libraries of popular free/shareware programs and utilities. Adult areas are also available for a small charge. To access UBBS, call (908) 262-9666 with any communications program and a modem. For more information, fax to (908) 262-9659.

POETRY

By David A. Bolduc

TIME

My body
Melts like snow
In crocus season.

NEVER YOUNG AND PRETTY

Never young and pretty
Or a buffed action toy
He still looks behind him
When glanced at.

"YO, SISTUHI"

I know it's quite the fashion,
But, what I still don't understand
is why they don't desist
And why it is our navy should assist
In this adulterous passion.

Bars & Restaurants

Des Moines (A.C. 515)

Blazing Saddle 416 E 5th St., 246-1299
The Brass Garden 112 SE 4th St., 243-3965
Club 508 508 Clifton Ave., 288-8508
The D & M 424 E Locust St., 243-9629
Omaha (A.C. 402)

The Chesterfield 1951 St. Marys, 342-1244
DC's 1019 S. 10th, 344-3103
The Diamond 712 S. 16th, 342-9595
Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth, 449-9147
The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110
The New Run 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

Lincoln (A.C. 402)

Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764
Club 2001 500 Sun Valley Road, 476-2001
Red & Black Cafe 1819 "O" 438-2525

WHERE CAN I GET A COPY OF THE NEW VOICE?

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

Omaha:

The Chesterfield
D.C.'s
The Diamond
Downtown Grounds
Gilligan's Pub
The MAX
Metropolitan Community Church
Nebraska AIDS Project
New Realities
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
The Run

Council Bluffs:

Adult Emporium
Ernie's Bookstore

Lincoln:

Arbor Moon
Club 2001
Nebraska Book Store
The Panic
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
Red & Black Cafe
UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
Women's Resource Center

Kearney:

GLAGN
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Des Moines:

Blazing Saddle
Brass Garden
Club 508
D & M's

Sioux City:

Metropolitan Community Church
Three Cheers

Of course, you can subscribe for only \$19 per year and have *The New Voice* delivered directly to your door (in a plain, brown envelope, of course).

CLASSIFIEDS

Anthology, The Next Step: Out From Under, Volume 2. Lesbians in recovery, variety of addictions. **later stage (eight + years) recovery.** Any style/format, any recovery program. Deadline: Nov. 1, 1993. **SASE for guidelines to Jean Swallow, OFU2 Editor, 2404 California Street, #27, San Francisco, CA 94115.**

1 BEDROOM HOUSE FOR RENT, natural woodwork throughout, open staircase, stove/refrigerator furnished available. Sept. 4, Florence area Rent \$300 Deposit \$300, references, 453-3196 (Se93)

ANYONE INTERESTED in starting an antique/classic/special interest car club in the Omaha/Council Bluffs area. phone Brian at 346-9452. Please leave message for return call. (Sp93)

You work HARD and work-out even HARDER! *FULL-BODY MASSAGE will take the EDGE OFF and provide BALANCE* Serving Gay, Lesbian, Trans, Bi, & Hetero Communities. Gift Certificates Available. OM/LIN APPT./INFO 342-1935 (-93)

PERSONALS

SOUTHWEST IOWA GWM, 32, seeks a special GWM or Native American GM for romantic evenings, meaningful conversation, long walks and weekends camping in the woods. Must be sincere, emotionally stable and willing to commit to a long-term relationship. Call (712) 243-9044 (SE93)

GWF, 25, Looking for friendship and possible relationship. Loves outdoors. Call (402) 896-2929 (SE93)

SAFE, SANE, CONSENSUAL WM, 43, wants to help males/females, 35 and under, experience the excitement of being bound/gagged. (GFLH, Box 3862, Omaha, NE 68103) (Se93)

GWM 34, 6' 5", Like to meet other G-males in the Lincoln area. Michael Rathbone, Box 4701, Lincoln, NE 68504-0701 (Se93)

BISEXUAL WHITE WOMAN, 28, looking for a bisexual white woman for friendship and possible relationship. My hobbies are bowling and photography. Write to: C.L.L., P.O. Box 27586, Omaha, NE 68127 (All replies answered)

MAKE IT THE BEST SUMMER EVER! We want to meet you. Cool days & hot nights. Two HOT young guys looking for buddies. HIV-. Write & let me know what you like. All answered. Experience/size not important. Phone & address after you write. UNO/Offutt/High School welcome. You won't be disappointed. Write today. P.O. Box 19215, Omaha, NE 68119

LONELY?

Need a friend/lover. Call Infinity, a nationwide matching service for gay men. 602-848-6780.

CAMPING COMPANION wanted for occasional weekend trips. You drive while I videotape countryside. Smokers preferred. 1.ee: 573-1064 (Oc93)

COLOURS OF PRIDE OFFERS COMMITMENT CEREMONY SERVICES

Colours of Pride is proud to announce a new division which will specialize in the planning and coordination of commitment ceremonies for the gay and lesbian community.

Through the use of an extensive network of gay and lesbian businesses throughout the United States and Canada, *Colours of Pride*, will help plan a personalized commitment ceremony that reflects each individual relationship.

Among the services offered are:
*Free state-by-state laws and regulations concerning same sex partnerships.

*Referrals on all ceremony needs, including catering, floral arranging, and honeymoon planning.

*A full line of retail accessories including ceremonial candles, commitment jewelry, and, of course, the same sex cake topper for the commitment cake.

For more information contact Matt Giovanni, Colours of Pride, P.O. Box 64, Lyme, NH 03768, Telephone (603) 795-2727 Fax: (603) 795-4201



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The New Voice of Nebraska is a monthly, non-profit publication fully financed by subscriptions and advertisements, managed by an all-volunteer staff.

RESOURCE DIRECTORY

*****Lincoln*****

Alcoholics Anonymous. Open Mtg Fri. 8pm, 1st Plymouth Church, 20 & D, Lincoln, 438-5214
Arbor Moon Alternative Bookstore, 2017 "O", Lincoln 68502. Mon-Sat 10am-7pm, Sun 12-5pm, Wally 489-4634/477-5666

BIPALS (Bisexual People / Alternate LifeStyle), Box 80913, Lincoln, 68501, 1st Mon. 7:30pm, Cornerstone (upstrs) 640 N 16. All sexes welcome.

Feminist Free Press: (Formerly Women's Journal Advocate) P.O. Box 81226, Lincoln, NE 68501 Feminist Monthly Newspaper.

Gay & Lesbian Assoc., Counseling Ctr. 1234 Admin Bldg. UNL, Lincoln 68508. 472-1804. Confidential

Information for Older Gay People (INFORMATION), Box 22043, Lincoln 68542-2043. Local, National Info, Conference Updates, and Education

Lesbian Discussion Group, Womens Resource Ctr, Room 340 Neb Union, UNL, Lincoln, 68588. 472-2597, Meets Thursdays 6-7:30pm.

The Male Space, meets 1st Thursday at 2017 "O" Lincoln 7-8:30pm. Gay/Bisexual Men's Discussion/Social Group for all ages. Wymin may attend also. Membership \$10/quarter. Contact: Stan Balderson, 1534 "E" St., Apt. #26, Lincoln, 68508. Those Interested may also come by apt. Sundays from 7-8pm.

Nebraska Bookstore, 13th & Q Steets, Lincoln, Alternative Lifestyle Section carries The Advocate
Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays *PFLAG, Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504, (402) 435-4688. 4th Tuesday, 7pm at Unitarian Church, 6300 'A', Group for family of people with HIV, and G/L Youth. Group meet same time & place.

Star City Lines, Box 21903, Lincoln, NE 68502, (402) 483-5251, Leather club, Educational

University of Nebr Bookstore, 14th & R, Lincoln, Gay Studies Section/Books on G/L Life.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Ctr, Rm 234 Neb Union, UNL, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-5644. Social, info, referral, library, Support grp Wed 7:30pm during school year

The Winnin's Show, 12-3pm Sunday, KZUM, 89.3 FM stereo, Lincoln

A Woman's Place, nonprofit org dedicated to empowering women, Write: A Woman's Place, 440 S. 44 St., Lincoln, 68510, 476-7692.

Youth Talkline 473-7932, Friday & Saturday 7pm-Midnite, Lincoln. Emotional support, referrals, AIDS info for callers. Age 23 and under. Project of Coalition for G/L Civil Rts

YWCA Counseling & Education Department, 476-2802, Lincoln. Information and Referral.

*****OMAHA*****

Alcoholics Anonymous, Info: 345-9916 "Stonewall" Group, Wed. 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563

Gay Mens Stg "An Alternative", Fri. 7pm, MCC-Omaha, 455-7916; Live & Let Live Group, Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 41, Omaha Open Mtg Friday 8:15pm

A.N.G.L.E., Inc. (Achieving New Gay & Lesbian Endeavors), Box 31375, Omaha 68131. (402) 558-5303. Organization for Networking, consciousness raising, PRIDE activities.

Citizens For Equal Protection, Box 55548, Omaha, 68155. Legislative action group work to eliminate discrimination for gay, lesbian, bisexual people in employment, housing, education, and public accommodations. Meets 1st Thursday, 7:30pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney, Omaha

EAGLE-Omaha, Employee Assoc. of Gays & Lesbians. US WEST. Contact S. McCartney, 1314 Douglas on Mall, 8th Floor, Omaha 68102.

Frontrunners/walkers, Box 4583, Omaha 68104 Running/Walking Club (SASE for info)

Gay/Lesbian Information & Referral Line. A service of A.N.G.L.E., Inc., (402) 558-5303

Gay/Lesbian Support Group, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd, 345-2563. Tuesdays 7:30pm.

Lutherans Concerned, Meet 1st Sun 7pm, 1st Lutheran, 31 & Jackson, Omaha 345-4080 or 453-7137

Metroplex Counseling Center, 2808 N. 75, Suite E, Omaha, 68134 (402) 398-1810 serving the G & L & Gender Community.

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 345-2563, Mailing Address: Box 3173, Omaha, 68103, Services at 819 S. 22 St., Sunday School for Adults & Children at 9am, Sunday Worship at 9 am and 10:30am. Evening worship 1st Sunday, 6pm preceded by potluck dinner at 5pm

Omaha Meatpackers, Leather/Levi Club with focus on AIDS fundraising. Call: (712) 366-1791

Omaha Men OMEN, Box 3706 Omaha 68103 Men interested in masculinity (masculine image 3rd Sunday -4pm, The Run, 1715 Leavenworth

Omaha Players Club (OPC), PO Box 34463 Omaha 68134, (402) 451-7987. Leather/SM education & play group. Men's & women's group.

OLIS (Our Love Is Special), Box 11335, Omaha 68111 Support/social grp for women of all colors

Overeaters Anonymous Lambda Plush, Wed 7:30pm *Family & Friends* 3040 N 102, Omaha

Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays *PFLAG, 2912 Lynnwood Dr., Omaha, NE 68123, (402) 291-6781. Meets: 2nd Thursday, 7pm, "Program & Time for Sharing"; 4th Sunday, 2pm, "Time for Sharing"; 1st United Methodist, 7020 Cass Street, West Entrance.

Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, 733-1360; Cleve, Omaha. Generally meets last Sat. Jan-Oct, 2nd Sat. in December, No Nov mtg

Prime Timers, Social/support organization for older gay and bisexual men and their younger admirers. For info: call (402) 895-9599 or write: 13908 "S" Plaza, Box 1088, Omaha, 68137

River City Mixed Bowling League. President-Scott Rezek, 346-4110, V.P. - JoJo Morrison, Secretary - Charley Wade, 597-1689. Sundays at 3pm at Skylanes, Center Mall, 42 & Center

River City Gender Alliance, Box 680, Council Bluffs, IA 51502 For all who enjoy cross-gender community. All orientations welcome. No sexual encounters. Meets monthly, Omaha.

River City Mixed Chorus, P.O. Box 3267, Omaha, 68103-0267. 453-8884. Volunteer chorus for Gay/Lesbian/Sensitive people.

Seventh Day Adventist Kinship Inc, Support Info for Les/Gay College Students 339-6682. Omaha or 800-4-GAY-SDA

Women of the Plains, Box 24355, Omaha, 68124-0355, Bring women's culture to Omaha

Women's Support Group, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22nd, 345-2563. Meets Saturdays 11am

WomenSpace, Box 24712, Omaha 68124-0712, Quarterly newsletter for lesbian voices to be heard & events to build heartland lesbian community

Youth Support Group, sponsor: PFLAG. For gay, lesbian youth & those questioning sexuality, ages 13-21. Meets Sat. Omaha, Call 291-6781.

*****STATEWIDE*****

Alcoholics Anonymous, *Grand Island, Open Meeting 12noon, Sundays

Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rights, Box 94882, Lincoln 68509 Advocacy group lobbies for G/L civil rights, has newsletter, socials. Bus. Meeting, 3rd Tuesday, 7:30pm; 1st Saturday Meeting, 7-10pm, Both at Cornerstone, 640 N. 16

Gay & Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebraska, Mission is to provide a healthier environment in Nebraska through support meetings, social events, workshops, and newsletter. Contact Dennis V., 4005 Rodeo Road, Lot #4, North Platte, 69101

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association (HGRA), Box 57441, Lincoln, 68505-9998. Info: call Dan 344-3103 (Omaha) or Patrick 477-3899 (Lincoln) Open to all who enjoy and supports rodeos and other country activities. Meetings generally 1st Saturdays at DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha

2nd Annual ICE BOWL Invitational Bowling Tournament, Box 3622, Omaha 68103-0622, Attn: Scott Hummel-sec. or Roger Klenke-directo

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68102 Org for advancement of Gay/Lesbian society, Business Meeting 1st Monday each month

Lincoln/Lancaster Drug Projects, 610 "J", Lincoln, 475-5161, Dennis Hoffman, Case Mgr. Outpatient chemical dependency treatment while affirming sexuality, Sliding Fee

The New Voice of Nebraska, Box 3512, Omaha 68103. Monthly magazine for Lesbian/Gay community. Subscriptions \$19/year. Deadline: 10th of month for publication following month.

Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays *PFLAG, Kearney, NE: meets 3pm, 3rd Sunday at St Luke's Episcopal. Call (308) 382-0752 or (308) 995-5490. Direct correspondence to: PFLAG, 1320 8th Ave., Holdrege, NE 68949

Times of the Heartland, 601 S. 16, Suite 710, Omaha 68102. Newsline: 341-6900, Advertising, 341-1667. Weekly newspaper for heartland region published by Equity First Corp. Publisher, Tim Kennedy, Editor, Jay Jankovich.

Celebrate **9** Years of The Excitement, The Music,
The Shows, The Men, The Women, The Original
THE MAX

September 3 through September 6

The party starts here. Summer almost over
so spend your Labor Day weekend where it counts, THE MAX
You'll find excitement all weekend long and on Monday, Sept. 6
It's a Labor Day Tradition - The Omaha Meatpackers P.W.A. Benefit

Sunday, September 12

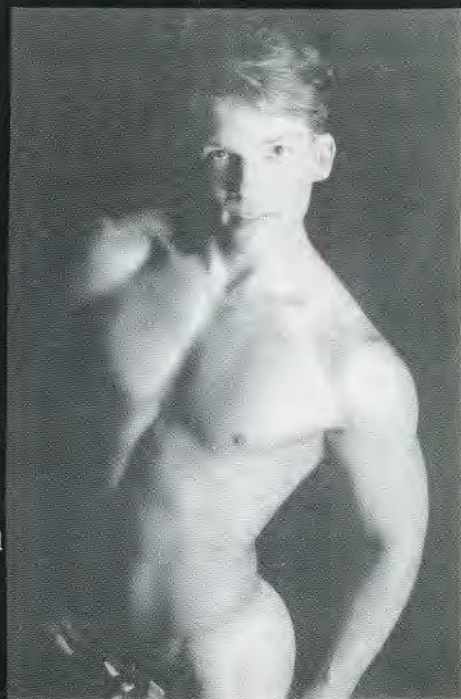
It's New for '93 - The Mr. Max Contest
Get Buffed and Pumped for an All New, All Male Contest
Why just be one of the crowd when you can be Mr. Max

September 16 through September 19

It's our 9th Anniversary
and we're ready to party
It all starts Thursday Sept. 16
with a Super Fiesta Thursday
Watch for special s and surprises
Friday & Saturday and on
Sunday, Sept. 19 our gift to Omaha
Devlin, Scott, Tom, Michael & Kevin
The Men of First Class Male

Sunday, September 26

Gloria Revelle returns with
Gloria's Gay Dating Game
and the all new
Almost Newlywed Game
Find out who will win a dream date
with Omaha's most eligible bachelors
and see which couples will win fabulous prizes and
which ones will break up on Monday Sept. 27



Scott of First Class Male



RIVER
CITY
MIXED
CHORUS

GAY & LESBIAN FILM FEST

OCTOBER 9-10, 1993

1:30 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. (BOTH DAYS)

U.N.O. EPPLEY ADMIN. BLDG. AUDITORIUM



SET A

SALUT VICTOR

I GOT THIS WAY FROM
KISSING GIRLS

ELEVATION

IF SHE GROWS UP GAY

SET B

BILLY TURNER'S SECRET

3 FILMS BY JAN OXENBERG

FAMILY TURNS

WHAT CAN I DO WITH A MALE NUDE?

BALLAD OF READING GAOL

SET C

DAMNED IF YOU DON'T

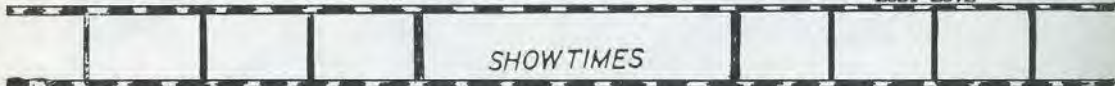
WANT

REMEMBRANCE

BEAUTIES WITHOUT A CAUSE

FLAMES OF PASSION

LOST LOVE



SHOWTIMES

1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Saturday	4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Saturday	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Saturday
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Sunday	6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. Sunday	1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Sunday

PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS - NOW IN ITS TENTH SEASON

LIMITED SEATING

ADVANCE TICKET SALES

REMAINING TICKETS SOLD AT DOOR

ORDER FORM

1 SET = \$6.00 2 SETS = \$11.00 3 SETS = \$15.00 October 9 October 10

NAME _____ SET A _____

ADDRESS _____ SET B _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ SET C _____

ALL 3 SETS _____

Checks/Money Orders payable to: River City Mixed Chorus
Post Office Box 3267
Omaha, Nebraska 68103

MUST BE MAILED BY SEPTEMBER 30, 1993

FRIENDS AND CONCERNED CITIZENS OF OMAHA
HAVE ESTABLISHED THE

GREG KOWAL REWARD FUND.

IF YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE FUND,
PLEASE SEND YOUR CHECKS TO:

Firstier Bank of Omaha
17th & Farnam
Omaha, NE 68102

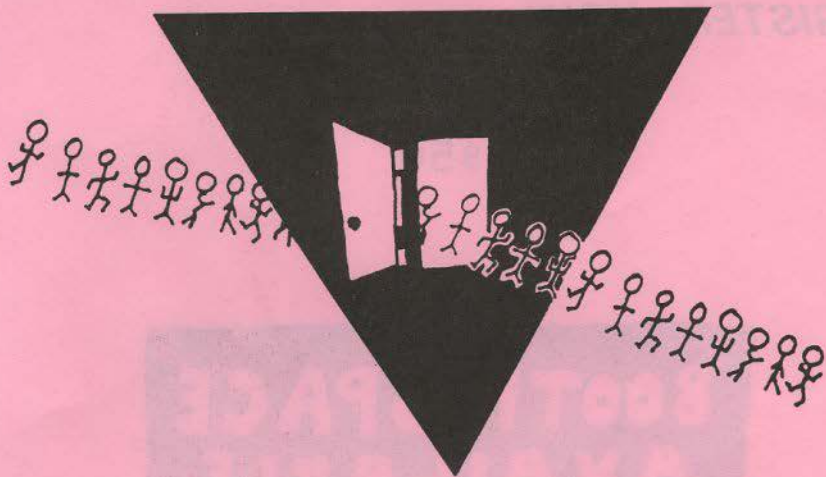
Checks should be made payable to the Greg Kowal Reward Fund.

If you have information regarding Greg
Kowal's death early August 14, 1993,
call **Crime Stoppers**
at **444-STOP (444-7867)**.

*(You do not need to give your name; callers will be assigned a number
Calls are not taped; callers remain anonymous.)*

You could be eligible for a REWARD of over
\$4,000 for information that leads to the arrest
and charges being filed against the
individual(s) responsible
for Greg Kowal's death.

CLEANING OUR CLOSETS



"COMING OUT TO EDUCATE AND LEGISLATE"

JOIN US...

NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY
Sunday, October 10, 1993

UNO ▼ Milo Bail Student Center ▼ Noon - 5pm

CFEP

CITIZENS FOR EQUAL PROTECTION, INC.

P.O. BOX 55548 ▼ OMAHA ▼ NE 68155-0548

REGISTER NOW ...

\$50

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AVAILABLE**

FOR PROFIT GROUPS ▼ NOT FOR PROFIT GROUPS

CONTACT THE NCOD BOOTH COORDINATOR AT (402) 493-8277

NCOD PROGRAM ADVERTISING DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 17, 1993

BOOTH REGISTRATION DEADLINE OCTOBER 1, 1993

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P.O. BOX 55548 ▼ OMAHA ▼ NE 68155-0548