

OCTOBER

1993

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



# OUR TURN: VIEWS AND OPINIONS OF THE NEW VOICE STAFF

## A SIMPLE BUMPER STICKER

### What's to Fear?

by Sharon McCartney

I wanted the pink triangle bumper sticker for my car. Pat, my good friend, bought it for me for my birthday. When I saw it felt overtaken me. I had just bought a new car and here was the bumper sticker I had asked for to put on the rear bumper.

If I put that pink triangle on my car, someone might hurt me, or hurt my car, or do something to hurt someone else who might be with me. These thoughts were with me for three weeks. Day in and day out I would take the pink triangle out of my purse, look at it, feel the fear, put it back in my purse and so it went.

Finally at the end of three weeks I put the sticker on my car and thought to myself why am I so scared about this simple little thing. I've been out for a good five years and in the public eye, but now I am experiencing fear, real or perceived or perhaps my own internalized homophobia? I really couldn't figure it out but it was a relief to finally have that step taken.

A few weeks later some friends and my partner went out to eat. When we came out of the restaurant, we all walked over to my car. Upon seeing the bumper sticker one of the people said, "Oh, I see you have a slow moving vehicle!" I looked at him and he said isn't that what that symbol means?

I explained the meaning of the pink triangle to him and laughed at my own fears. He said "I had no idea that's what the pink triangle meant, I thought you had a slow moving vehicle." I laughed and said "Sometimes I do have a slow moving vehicle as some of my friends could attest to, but that's not what this means." It means I am proud to be a lesbian and proud to be out, even when it takes three weeks to take a step. At least I got it done and I don't have the fears I once harbored.

Perhaps only those in our own community know what the pink triangle is about.

## GREG KOWAL REWARD FUND SUCCESSFUL

by Sharon Van Butsel

During the last weeks of August, as the September issue of the *New Voice* was being put to bed, the idea came up of offering a reward to find the people who murdered Greg Kowal. The *New Voice* was prepared to lead such a movement but, when we learned that a friend of Greg's had already started to work on a reward fund, we joined friends, co-workers, bars and organizations in the community to raise money for a reward.

The information on the initial meeting was spread by word of mouth. 20 people showed up at the first meeting and the Greg Kowal Reward Fund was born. The group, led by Jeff J., agreed to work to raise money for a reward fund and to distribute flyers asking people with information to contact CrimeStoppers. Over \$4000 was pledged at that first meeting. Bob Ewing, of Printing Plus, donated the first flyers. 2,000 flyers were stuffed by hand into the September issue of the *New Voice* thanks to the willing hands of members of the steering committee and staff, an old friend of the *New Voice*—Bill S., and volunteers from Citizens for Equal Protection. Flyers were distributed to bars and businesses in downtown Omaha and to the area where Greg's car and his body were found. *The Times of the Heartland* featured the flyer in their newspaper and donated printing of additional flyers. Don Randolph held a news conference with TV and radio stations announcing the Reward Fund.

Duane S., a local businessman, agreed to set up the reward fund with a local bank. This was not as easy as it seemed. Duane first went to First National Bank. They were happy to set up an account, until they learned what it was for. Then they had to call a Vice President and come back with the word that they weren't interested. No further explanation was given. So he went to Norwest and was again greeted politely and positively until they realized what the account was for. Then he was told he would have to deal with the "Commercial Accounts" section and

they only saw people by appointment. So Duane tried a third time and finally hit the Jackpot at FirstTier. They were happy to set up the account and give directions for people to contribute — all they had to do was send the money to "The Greg Kowal Reward Fund" at any FirstTier bank. (Makes me pleased that I bank at FirstTier.) And it worked just like they said it would.

Of course, there were details to be ironed out like a Federal I.D. number which meant setting up officers; and working with CrimeStoppers who featured the crime as one of their crimes of the week — but FirstTier was always quite helpful and the donations came from individuals and from businesses. The total grew and grew.

Then, finally, about three weeks after the reward fund was established, the much hoped for phone call came. The caller wanted to know about this reward that was being offered and had a tip for the police. The police told members of the group that before the reward was issued they were without leads in the case. The vital information was a direct result of the efforts of the Reward Fund. The informant only called the police after seeing one of the flyers.

I'm sure you all know the rest of the story. Three men were arrested and charges were filed of murder and of being an accessory to murder. The police report that the motive for the brutal murder appears to have been robbery. The three are now in jail, waiting for trial.

The informant came forward and received the reward of over \$5,000 for information that led to the arrest. The Reward Fund has been closed and the group disbanded, leaving issues of Hate Crimes and self-defense to other groups to pursue. This group's job is done. They raised the money, they distributed the information, and they provided the impetus for someone to come forward with information that led to the arrest. Pretty impressive for a handful of people who came together one August afternoon. You did a great job.

## Coming Out in Western Colonial

By Brian Bengtson

my mother's kitchen chair,  
twelve years roll back like the  
meeting of a lost lover,  
and I'm telling her the story  
of looking in the mirror  
and seeing the face of who I want to be.

Making her believe that I am happy  
when the fear settles down below.  
What she sees is the loss  
of a little boy she walked home in the snow.  
I answer all the questions with the wisdom  
of a bar-virgin.  
Her face shows the reality peeling back  
like the east corner wallpaper.

I feel the lifting of a school yard secret.

I face the world on my own.



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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## PRISONERS LOOKING FOR PEN PALS

### NEBRASKA PRISONER

Dear Editor,

I am writing this letter in the hope that you will put it in your magazine. I am in hopes of getting a pen pal. I came into possession of your address from a gay friend of mine here in prison.

Yes, I am in prison and I will be for some time to come. I hope that doesn't matter much, or any at all. I have, or have had, a lot of gay/bisexual friends out in California when I was out in free society. Seems like I am forgotten now that I'm locked up though. A lot of folks tend to forget you when you go into lock up.

What's killing me is that I found out about two years ago, why I've been in trouble so often in my life. I was diagnosed with a mild form of manic/depression, but now that I know I have it, I take medication and I have no more trouble in my life.

The discovery/revelation of the fact that I have manic/depression (and that I will probably not get into trouble again in my life) means little when you're stuck in prison with no friends and no one to support you in any way whatsoever. I'm not doing too good in here this time around, because I'm discovered that I'm not really a criminal, (in the most socially accepted sense of the word).

My crimes were committed before I knew I

was manic/depressive, and now that I take my medication, I can't get along with any real criminals, because I don't have a criminal mind.

I hope everyone can understand what I'm saying to them about all this. I figured if anyone could, or if any one could have any compassion at all, it would be the gay/bisexual community, because they don't get treated real good a lot of the time either.

I think that is a damn shame also, because it has been my experience that the before mentioned are some of the best people around. Now, I told my friend I was going to be honest right from the start of this, and that's how I basically am anyway, unless someone lies to me first, then I feel justified.

With that in mind I'm going to say I'm not going to beg anyone for friendship, money or anything else, after all we are all human beings and we already know we all have all kinds of needs.

I'm not going to promise anyone that I will visit in the visiting room here, or kiss, touch, or otherwise have some kind of sex with them. All I can promise is I will write to you, and I really will be your friend.

I would like to be able to tell you anything, and would like for you to be able to tell me anything. To have a real friendship is the main thing. One can play "touchy feely" anywhere, and if that's all your interested in, then go for broke out there in the free world, and don't bother to get started writing to me.

Lets don't waste one another's time, is my message to all who can understand. Let's be real, and make sense in all things.

Sincerely,  
Your Friend,

Mark O. Thomas #37879  
P.O. Box 22800  
Lincoln, NE 68542

**If you know someone who is incarcerated and would like to receive *The New Voice*, have them write to us at: Prisoner Project, NVN, Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103**

### KENTUCKY PRISONER

Dearest,

I'm writing concerning an ad. I got your information from a guy here who said you will place my ad once free!? Likewise, I'm lonely, and could use a few correspondence. Your help would be very appreciated.

Sincerely,  
Yours From,  
Marvin

my ad below

I'm seeking one serious minded loyal individual. I'm incarcerated and will soon be released. I can definitely relocate. I'm young, clean, disease free in good health. I'm African-American with twelve inches. I'm bisexual and pure lover. Let's correspond.

Marvin Ray Gardner, #89621  
Ky. State Penitentiary, P.O. Box 128  
Eddyville, Ky 42038-0128

### ANOTHER KENTUCKY PRISONER

Hello,

My name is Roy.

I'm a lonely Black male presently incarcerated now. Seeking correspondence. With someone anyone from the free world. Could help me by placing my ad once. Free! If you wondering how I got your info. A friend of mine who is in another institution. He said he wrote you all and you was kind enough to place one ad. He also told me not to give your info out to anyone else. So now you have it.

Thanks,  
Roy

Black gay male. Clean, in good health, presently incarcerated. Hoping to make a new start. Relocate. New friends. I am a very real, understanding, and out going, 5'7" tall 157 lbs.

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## WHAT IS ICON GOING TO DO ABOUT MISSING FUNDS?

### IT'S TIME FOR ACTION

Dear Editor,

When first approached to be a member of the royal family by our current Empress, Roxy, I was hesitant. A troubled past, frequent interior conflict, and questionable practices were concerns I held in regards to I.C.O.N. Roxy, however, wanted to take the bull by the horns and turn my perceptions around, as well as a good portion of the community's that feels much like myself. Unfortunately, that bull has turned into one hell of a monkey on Roxy's and all of I.C.O.N.'s backs.

Within the first month of the new monarchs' reign, a new scandal had arisen in the name of theft. Monies from coronation that should have been deposited were not, and were allegedly stolen from the home of I.C.O.N.'s Treasurer, Joe Reed. To the best of my knowledge, little has been done to rectify the situation and, as both a royal family member and, more importantly, a member of the gay community, I want to know why?

With an already tarnished reputation to look back upon, it would seem appropriate and necessary for I.C.O.N. to use its resources to turn this incident around and try to clean up its image.

Someone is answerable to the situation at hand! Someone must be held accountable to I.C.O.N. and the community! I.C.O.N. has got to move forward on this!

The community has not forgotten this situation and needs to see some action. I.C.O.N. needs to not only repair a damaged reputation but needs to send a clear message that this behavior will not be tolerated and that the monies donated to I.C.O.N. by the community will be handled professionally and properly. I don't believe that is asking too much. Do you?

Tracy Heintzleman  
Scott Rezek

Czarina XIII  
Duchess XIII

## STAR CITY MEN'S CLUB BECOMES MALE SPACE

The New Voice of Nebraska:

The Star City Men's Club has changed its organization in name/focus and has moved back to 1448 "E" Street. Male Space has first Thursday and first Sunday meetings or socials. Male Space discussion meetings for gay & bisexual men of all ages meets first Thursdays 7pm to 8:30pm and first Sunday's social for gay & bisexual men meets 2pm to 6pm.

### Correction: Women May Lend Financial Support — Not Become Members

The last letter sent to the *New Voice* said that women may join and become members. This was an oversight. What it should have said was that women may lend financial support to the Male Space organization.

The organization has had a lot of men asking what and where we are. I hope this will be our last move for a long while. Male Space has "moved" to 1448 "E" Street. Our discussion meetings for gay and bisexual men are on the first Thursday of every month 7pm to 8:30pm and our social group for gay and bisexual men is on the first Sunday of every month 2pm to 6pm. Membership in Male Space is: \$10.00 per quarter.

For More Information, Write or Visit:  
Stan Balderson, Male Space Director  
(Res) 1534 "E" Street, #26,  
Lincoln, NE 68508

## ICON RESPONDS

Dear Editor,

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to respond to Scott and Tracy's concerns.

The Board of Governors has not been idle during the time since the burglary. We have initiated several actions with regards to the situation:

- 1) We removed Joe Reed as treasurer.
- 2) We did internal checks of the books to determine the actual loss.
- 3) We established regular contact with the police regarding the case.
- 4) We selected an audit committee.
- 5) We secured the ICON records from Joe.
- 6) We made public announcements through

*The New Voice* and *The Times of the Heartland* to inform the community of the loss of funds and to keep the community informed of the progress of the situation.

7) We determined at our July 12 meeting that we would give the police two months to apprehend the burglar who had signed a confession to the burglary in front of five witnesses.

8) We conducted an audit of our books from January 1, 1993, up to the time Joe was officially removed as treasurer on July 12, 1993.

9) We listened to community members as they expressed sorrow at our loss, anger about the burglary, anger at our "inactivity," concern for what we were going to do, support for Joe—though he made a foolish mistake, and countless questions about the incident in general.

At the same time that we were doing all of this, we also felt bound by our commitment to you the gay and lesbian community of Nebraska and SW Iowa to continue "business as usual." That meant we were busy planning and conducting the July Fourth Picnic—which had over 400 people in attendance. That meant two weeks after that that we conducted the Investiture of the new royal family members. From then until September, we put much of our energies into our biggest PWA fundraiser of the year: the Pre-Labor Day Picnic and the raffles. As you well know, the weather turned against us and we were only able to raise \$1,435.00 for the PWA Assistance Fund, but the effort still took 100's of hours to pull off. And of course during all of this time, there were loose ends from Memorial Day and Coronation and then Investiture that we had to deal with.

"Business as usual" in our minds was an important concept to instill in the community's mind. The Imperial Court of Nebraska had served this community well for twelve years, and we wanted each person and each group to know that we were going to continue to serve them.

The list of what the monarchs and board

members have been doing during the past three months since the burglary goes on and on: shows, meetings, etc.

At the September 13 meeting, the Board of Governors voted to take four direct actions regarding the situation. Those actions are spelled out in another article here in *The New Voice*. We hope that these actions will put to rest the concerns that have been raised in the community.

Sincerely yours,  
Carla Petersen  
President of the  
Imperial Court of NE

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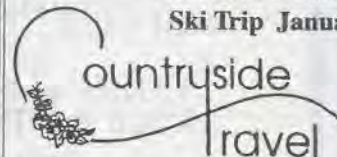
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# FEATURES

## STOP THE VIOLENCE

by James Drake

Today we're all surrounded by something called "violence". No matter where we go. We're confronted with some kind of violence. No matter if it's child abuse, rape, robbery, gang riots. We face it everyday.

The latest case of violence are the two deaths, of Gregory Kowal and Harold Grover. We don't know the motive, that lead to these deaths, but it's time to put our minds. To what's going to stop such violence acts. These people weren't asked to be killed. It was something that happened. Nobody deserves to die. No matter if it's gay bashing, cancer, or AIDS. We were all put on this earth, to do some sort of mission. Gay and lesbian people have two missions. The mission, that we are put on this earth to do, and the mission. Whether or not, we're going to stop the hatred, between us and today's society. Out of the six or so years, that I've been out of the closet. I've been gay bashed three times. Look people. We don't go looking for trouble. It naturally finds us! The first time, it happened to me. I wanted to commit suicide. 'Cause I didn't want to be involved in such a terrible act of violence, ever again. So I went on with my life. Thinking that if it happened again. Well I can handle it, that's exactly what I thought. Until my best friend, Rodney was murdered. I "was not" going to have this sort of thing, happen to me!

But the thing that burns me the most, is. That

the damn police, are so afraid. To get involved with any sort of violence towards us. Because they're afraid of people finding out that their not masculine enough. "To protect and to serve". Their motto should be "to arrest and to disturb".

A few years ago, when I was working at the Downtowner Cafe, my father came to pick me up. Because he hadn't seen me for awhile. No sooner than we pulled award from the curb, that a police cruiser, pulled the car over. He got out the car (the officer), came up to my dad's car, and said that our right tail light was out. So the officer issued us a warning, and he went on his merry way. After he got out of sight, I told my dad to pull over, and let me see if the light was out. Hell the light wasn't out. The officer was trying to scare us, because he knew we were coming from a gay establishment.

That's all the police want to do, is pick on gay/lesbian people. 'Cause they ain't got nothing else better to do. Why don't they, either go back to the all night donut shops (where they belong), or stop the violence, and make the today's community worth living in! Act up everybody, in order for the violence to stop, not only do the police have to help, but we have to help as well!!!

## MILITARY WOMEN HONORED

by Meg Heatley

The Women in Military Service Memorial is seeking the names, addresses, photos, and memorable experiences of all U.S. service women.

Construction begins in December at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington, D.C. for the memorial, which is designed to honor the more than 1.8 million women who have served or are serving in the U.S. armed forces since the American Revolution.

Ms. Sharon Parker of MCC Los Angeles, CA is a field representative for the memorial. Interested people may contact her at 1-800-472-5883.

Access Line

## GAY/LESBIAN PRIDE WORD SEARCH

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# CLEANING OUT MY CLOSET:

## It's a Real Sticky Issue

by Shelley Roberts

I had to out myself to the neighbors again.

Now I know you believe that I'm the poster child for outing, so having the neighbors on the receiving end of my usual, "Hey-hy, Whatta ya say? I'm a lesbian all the way!" Pep-rally shouldn't be any big deal by now, right? After all, I'm the one who keeps suggesting that you stamp your money "Queer Bucks" or "Lesbian Loot" or something a little more civilized like "Homoaffectional Currency". So what's the big deal about presenting myself as who I really am to June and Ward Wannabe from down the block?

Well, it's just that I didn't realize that I would have to. Directly. Face-to-face. Again.

That's what bumper stickers are for.

I mean, why else would sticky pieces of bright paper, the removal of which requires a contractor's strength extension cord and a hot-air blow dryer, have been invented, if not to advertise the registered beliefs of the owner.

**HONK IF YOU LOVE CHESES!**

**Nyah-Nyah-Nyah-Nyah-Nyah-Nyah My Brilliant Little Genius**

**Made the Honor Roll at Pre-Natal Day Care! And Yours Didn't!**

**FLOG A FAIR FOR FALLWELL!**

Bumper stickers! We all love 'em because they say things for us so we don't have to. I mean, who's gonna mess with an ebony Bronco on 747 wheels, sporting the fateful: "NRA—MAKE MY DAY!"? You do not have to ask to see this driver's certificate of high school equivalency to establish there is not exactly a delegate to the Mother Teresa School of Heavy Thinking and Diplomatic Relations on board.

But it seems that, when it comes to our ardent declarations, and bumper stickers, we're living in a Nuclear-Family Free Zone. Slap a pink triangle on the Dodge's derriere, and we think that we are being absolutely blatant. Wrongo. Pretty much what we're doing is talking to ourselves. For example:

There I was in the front yard admonishing a twenty foot Schefflera to stop drooling leaves all over the grass because it was, after all, merely a house plant that had lost its perspective. When down the street from the beach gate ambled Mr. and Mrs. America.

"Excuse us," said Mrs. A, catching me in mid-rant to a twenty-one foot ficus with an attitude. "Yes?" I replied engagingly.

"Well, um, we've passed your car a number

of times, and we were wondering..."

"Uh-huh?" I crisply retorted.

"Well, your bumper sticker says, 'WE ARE EVERYWHERE!' And we want to know who 'WE' are."

This was the first time this had happened. (Quick assessment for concealed weapons, religious tracts, or a propensity toward certain citrus beverages, beauty pageants and bouffant hairdos (It is, after all, still Florida. Bite down hard. Deep inhale). "Oh, thegayandlesbiancommunity, of course." I respond, *politicallycorrectly*.

"Thanks." They wander down the street shaking beach sand from their bootys, curiosity quenched. I biofeedback my blood pressure into tachometer safety and chalk two more off my census of known universe who need to experience a genuine lesbian.

And I wonder why my bumper sticker failed?

Because I was sure that everyone who could pass the Ronald Reagan President's Literacy Test (*just spell "no"*) knows what it means. That's why I put it on there. Oops, then I realized. Correction. Everybody *gay and lesbian I know* knows what it means. *We. Us.* Now that I think about it, Unemployed Republican Government Workers could apply the same sticky paper logic to themselves. So could the Fever-Blistered. And Commuters with Post Traumatic Rush Hour syndrome. And Cops and Cab Drivers. Aren't they everywhere too? Except, of course, when you need them.

I'd never noticed it before. We've spent an enormous amount of ink and elmer's glue announcing ourselves...to ourselves. Spent so much time preaching to the choir, we forgot to notice whether anybody else was sitting in the pews listening to the lecture.

For example again, and try to imagine you are a Non-Gay, Pudgy, Protestant, Crimson Necked, Middle Class...oh say, um...Houston Oilers Fan. Or Hetero Recreational Needlepointer: (Shudder). And try these currently popular bumpersticker models on for size:

**OUT IS IN** - Really confusing in a political year, which lately, they all seem to be.

**RU I-27** - A Laid off auto worker? Cavity free? A Mensa member?

**HATE IS NOT A FAMILY VALUE** - Yup. Can't argue with that. Brought to you by? The Unitarian Church? The ACLU? The Mormons?

**PRIDE** - An all time favorite. But how presumptuous to suppose we own it. And that it advertises who we are, so we don't actually have to say so out loud.

Around here the local lesbian and gay paper has a bumper sticker all its own. Maybe yours does too. Bright green n black: tw n - it stand for *the weekly news*, and anybody who knows what it means, knows what it means. And now I know that anybody who doesn't is going to come up on my lawn and ask me what my car is talking about.

This year, of course, there's the newly popular **DC IN 93** - Farmers seeking government subsidies, perhaps? Vietnam Vets wanting better benefits? Where does it actually tell people who "WE" are? I rest my case.

Now, I'm not suggesting that you emblazon "FAGGOT" or "DYKE" over the factory installed. Unless you have a death wish. Or one of those NRA stickers too. I'm not even suggesting that "HATING A GAY MAN OR LESBIAN IS NOT A REAL NICE THING TO DO, YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN?" would be a great banner unless you're driving a doublewide. But just maybe there's a better way to tell our fellow travelers. Something a little "gay-er" in its wording, perhaps?

On the other hand...? We're going to be driving north to the Washington March through some pretty dicey territory. Maybe I'll just surgically remove the little pink triangle that almost everyone thinks is a university parking permit. Only temporarily, you understand. Just in case someone with a 200 thread count percale wardrobe is not quite so clueless as attempt to pass.

Anybody know where I can get the word "BUBBA" stitched onto a bumper sticker?

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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.

Look for her new book, *Hey, Mom, Guess What...? 150 Ways To Tell Your Mother*, coming in November.

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# ALLIGATORS

by Ty Pann

In the past months we as a community have much to rejoice in. The national attention since the April march has been outstanding. Even with the minor set backs, it appears we can only move forward. These accomplishments should revive and reinforce our position to achieve equal rights and all other established goals. However, there are a couple of concerns that continue to plague our community. One of the largest of these obstacles are alligators.

It is well known that alligators eat their young and like them there are those of us who feed and devour other members. The example below will help illustrate.

The company I presently work for is homophobic. Words like faggot, dyke, fairy, queer, etc. are commonly used in this environment to describe our people. One night last month, "Jack Shit," a gay man, who is employed with this firm, spotted "Professional Man", a supervisor, at one of the local gay clubs. The next day at work, with great relish, "Jack Shit" proceeded to inform "Ms. Monster Mouth," the company gossip, of the observation and added a few embellishments to insure a strong impact. Within four hours both floors of the building had been informed. This story was heavily discussed in hallways, lunchrooms and all other work areas. "Professional Man" completely retreated and withdrew into his office. "Jack Shit" gained in popularity and rumors of "Professional Man's" termination were rampant.

The unfortunate fact of this tale is that not only is it true, but in the three companies I have

worked for, this is the fourth time I have witnessed this catastrophe. Even more intolerable is that in each circumstance it was one gay person sacrificing another for the sheer delight of the heterosexual community. Why do we eat our own? If this practice is allowed to go unchecked, we will end up playing into the hands of our opponents. We should not have to waste our precious resources, time and money to repair the damage we inflict upon ourselves.

These acts of treason impair the gay community. In the above example some of our losses amounted to the following:

- 1) a potential supporter
- 2) robbed a person of the right to select the appropriate time to come out
- 3) pushed closet homosexuals further back
- 4) showed the heterosexual community that there is no gay community
- 5) The creation of an atmosphere of mistrust.

This is what we sacrificed in order for "Jack Shit" to gain temporary popularity. His act was valueless. The internal break-down effect is senseless.

The gay clubs and events must provide safe havens for homosexuals to experience their gay family without fear. After all how many of us had their first real sense of community at a club or event? How would you feel only to be punished for this experience? The sanctity of these places must be protected and respected. If we tarnish our sanctuaries we are lost.

# SPECIAL RIGHTS

To dismiss the grievances of gay people on the basis of "special rights" is an outrage. We are beaten in the street, dismissed from our jobs and denied basic rights of citizenship, all on the basis of our lifestyle "choice." Gay people don't need legal protection because of our lifestyle, supposed choice or private sexual behavior. We need it because of the pervasive hatred and persecution visited upon us by straight people. Once you stop treating us as a special class, we will not need legal protections.

—Michael P. Richman, San Francisco  
Parents FLAG Cornhusker

# A GOOD PLACE TO RAISE KIDS

A ruling of the Vermont Supreme Court has established the legal rights of gay parents. Overturning a probate court decision, the Vermont Court has ruled that a lesbian mother's partner may legally adopt their child without losing parental rights. Deborah Lashman will now proceed in the adoption of Jane Van Buren's two sons. The couple has been together and living as a family for seven years. They had previously been denied the legal status of same-sex parents.

In the decision which side-stepped the question of marriage, Judge Denise Johnson put emphasis on the welfare of the children. She wrote, "When social mores change, governing statutes must be interpreted to allow for those changes in a manner that does not frustrate the purpose behind their enactment...we are mindful that the states primary concern is to promote the welfare of children."

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# A WOMAN'S RIGHT TO CHOOSE

by Brian Patrick Mulligan

Diversity is a word I have heard used frequently in describing the March on Washington. Unity is what the march represented and what has been written about extensively. Lack of unity, and its accompanying empathy, is often lamented on these pages. It is discouraging to read about the segregation of gay men and lesbians and the mutual attacks of the militant and the mainstream. However, I believe these rifts are mended, albeit temporarily, with events such as the March. I have never believed that there is a gay "community" and I don't think there needs to be one. What we had in Washington was a forced alliance of many diverse groups demanding what all have been denied: basic civil rights. So, we come back home and fall back into our own separate groups, perhaps not interacting until the next march or pride parade. Nevertheless, the important thing is we can be an assemblage which is unified and powerful. In Washington, we showed how very different we are as individuals, yet how powerful we are as a determined, cohesive unit demanding our rights. Singly, we have the power of our phone calls and letters. As a group, we feel the power.

I've chosen to focus on reproductive choice because on April 25, we marched past two men holding a sign which read: "PRO-LIFE GAYS." I am proud to report that the entire Rhode Island contingent broke into a spontaneous chant of "Pro-choice! Pro-choice!" It was ironic that these men, ostensibly there to demand rights, were seeking to deny the rights of others.

Just as homophobes wish to control the lives of gays with sodomy laws, a military ban, and the denial of legal matrimony, the anti-choice set

seeks to control the bodies of women. These people cannot see how evil they are because they are blinded by their self-righteousness, their hatred, and their loyalty to the distorted biblical interpretations of their clergy. Allowing their authority figures to decide what is acceptable and what is not, the anti-choice people feel they are doing merely what is right. They choose to force their own beliefs upon everyone. This is tragic when applied to the very personal decision of whether or not to terminate a pregnancy.

Adoption is often referred to as an alternative to abortion by those who wish to make this decision for a woman. Yet, there are children now who are virtually unadoptable. Minority and special needs children are often difficult to place with caring families. Older children move from foster home to foster home when they become too troublesome. Babies born with AIDS are being abandoned in hospitals, where this is no hope of parental bonding. These facts always seem to elude those who oppose abortion. They don't have solutions.

They prefer that a child be physically, sexually, or psychologically abused as long as it is a living human being. The arguments of the anti-choice group are never logical because the issue of abortion rights is a very simple one.

As the National Abortion Rights Action League asks: "Who decides — you or them?" It is tyrannical for any government to take control of person's body. It is fascinating how controversial such a basic right can be made to seem by those wishing to deny that right.

How can people have more extensive rights when they don't even have the rights to their own

bodies.

What right does anyone have to force a woman to give birth against her will? The anti-choice people cannot answer that question without referring to a god or their religious beliefs. There are no valid defenses to support the arguments of the anti-choicers. This is why they have resorted to violence.

Having failed to convince people to espouse their ideas, many anti-choice activists have chosen bully tactics such as intimidating young women and blocking the entrances to abortion clinics. Some have burned and bombed buildings. An anti-choice group just bought a financially-troubled abortion clinic in Tennessee in order to close it down. It is the state's only clinic. And we cannot forget Dr. David Gunn, murdered by a fanatic anti-choicer. These people call themselves pro-lifers have no respect for the lives nor rights of others.

To me, pro-life means encouraging the use of condoms, and dental dams, addressing lesbian health issues such as breast cancer, and supporting needle exchange programs. It does not mean making decisions for others, as the Right To (Control Your) Life Committee believes. The right to control one's own body is paramount for gays.

These misguided 'pro-life' gay men should be grateful that they will never have to make a decision about something they find so distasteful. They should realize that abortion is not a gay issue. Nor is it a woman's issue. It is a woman's decision and hers alone.

Options



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# "HOPEFUL IN OMAHA" — THE RESPONSES

by Scott L. Lowther

The wait is over! The results are in! In August, an article entitled "Hopeful in Omaha" asked readers to give "expert" feedback on whether long-term relationships between males was possible. That unscientific study yielded numerous responses:

Letters were received, not only from Omaha and Lincoln, but from Central City, NE, Salina, KS, and from as far away as New Jersey. Respondents ranged in ages from 25 to 72 and have been involved in their respective relationships for one to sixteen years. Some respondents were previously involved in heterosexual marriages. Some have children. Some consider themselves to be involved in service or labor positions while others describe themselves as degreed professionals.

Of the letters and responses received, only one couple indicated that they had an "open" relationship, although it should be noted that this couple of 3 years does not currently reside together. Therefore, their responses did not meet this informal study's criteria for consideration as a "couple."

Without exception, every other response was resoundingly affirming that gay male couples are alive and well in the Midwest!

Some of the respondents were quite articulate in their descriptions. I have elected to reprint excerpts of some of our letters, anonymously, in order to maintain the confidentiality of those who wrote.

I hope you will enjoy the thoughts they shared as much as I, and I thank every respondent for your willingness to share your stories with us, and for your commitment to your respective life partners.

Here is what they said:

"[My partner] and I met uneventfully more than five years ago. No fireworks, no bells. We were friendly, and as we talked about ourselves and our dreams, we saw immediately that our philosophies meshed. We both believed in a lifetime commitment — growing old together was something to look forward to and to be cherished.

And now, many years later, we have built our lives into something meaningful and important. We have different interests, hobbies, work goals and personalities; but we know that above the differences is our 'union'. Although no ceremony was necessary to cement our intentions, we wear rings that illustrate our commitment to one another — a commitment that does not allow 'wandering'.

Actually, I find this sincere, secure loving relationship empowers me to concentrate more strongly on my other goals. If I had to even consider the question of infidelity, I would be too distracted to grow spiritually, mentally, socially, or in any other way. Again, it goes to my belief structure, but I would rather be alone than in an 'open relationship'."

Another respondent shared the following story:

"I am 34 years old; my spouse is 35. We are celebrating our 16th anniversary in September. We met in college (my first week) and fell in love one year later. We have two children (via surrogacy), ages 1 and 3.

When we met, both of us were virgins (gay or straight). Since that time, our relationship has

been monogamous. YUP! Put both of us down for a grand total of one partner. We skew most surveys we've even seen on numbers of sexual partners.

We chose monogamy because it works for us. Initially our expectations of the relationship included monogamy because our parents had successful marriages that were are presumably monogamous. As we become more familiar with other gay couples and the open/closed relationship debate in our community, we discussed what we wanted out of the relationship and for both of us, it included monogamy."

One reader suggested the following list of 'guidelines' for those seeking a healthy, monogamous relationship:

1. "Establish some kind of relationship that is not initially based on sex. Date for a while and don't immediately hop into bed and expect instant compatibility because the sex is good.

2. Be honest with yourself. Know who you are and what you are about before you drag someone else into your sphere of intimacy. Be honest about your perception of the person you find yourself falling in love with. If there is anything that you want the other person to change, chances are the relationship will fail. There is always room for improvement, but if you love the other because of his shortcomings instead of in spite of them you may have success in sight.

3. Be honest with each other. Sometimes our emotional state may not reflect our true feelings. In other words, give each other permission to be human. We've all got bitchy days which doesn't reflect that we don't love the other anymore or that we want the relationship to be over.

4. Take risks with each other. By this I mean risk sharing yourself with each other. Allow yourself to be known more and more as the relationship progresses.

5. Don't expect to have all your needs fulfilled by your partner and don't expect yourself to meet all of his needs. Anyone who is honest with himself knows that emotional, psychological, and spiritual health are much more important to a person's well-being than sexual gratification.

6. Communicate! This is probably the most important aspect of a successful relationship. Not just words, but meanings have to be clear.

7. Don't be afraid to ask for help outside of the relationship. Find a trusted friend or a counselor.

One other thing...opposites do attract and often times are initially very exciting to one another, but I have found that there has to be some common interests and goals in order to make it last, along with a common commitment between two people."

So, for those of us looking for role models in the community, take heart because the responses received during this informal study seem to indicate that they do exist, they are in every community, and monogamy between males is working.

My faith in the ability of our community to find creative solutions to problems has, once again, been restored. And to the "real experts" who wrote or called...thank you.

# TRUE DIVERSITY: Does It Exist in the Omaha Gay Community?

by Steve Jackson

It amazes me, and I guess it really shouldn't. Here we are in the 20th century, fighting for equal/human rights for gay citizens, to be accepted as we are with no apologies or explanations. Yet, I don't think that we see the irony in treating our negatively as we seek respect and affirmation.

What do I mean? Well, what's the difference in straight people calling me "faggot", "queer", or "homo" and you, my gay brothers and sisters, calling me "nigger", "spic", "chink", or "dago"? What's the difference in my getting "bashed" by heterosexuals who hate me because of my homosexuality and getting "bashed" by white people who hate me because of my race or ethnicity? Get to know me before you judge me.

What amazes me is that, after years of persecution because of our homosexuality, we do not look upon other minority groups with compassion. You "fags", "queers", and "dykes" basically know what it's like to be called "nigger", etc., because it is the same thing...bigotry!!!! Yet, you march with PRIDE to show your diversity.

I'm not saying that your experiences are any less annoying than mine, or any less severe. But before you judge me, stop and THINK! It's not only painful to be treated this way, it's also maddening. Many people wonder why so many minority males have quit trying, why there are so many negative attitudes. It is almost an exercise in futility to continue trying to be expected as a human being, an individual, and not be judged by one characteristic or trait. Continually running into the walls and road blocks of bigotry obstructing daily living can be enough to stop a weak person.

Think about that friend, or that time you were beaten because you were presumed "inferior", or that you were "different". Think about all the violence and ignorance before you shun or degrade me or any other minority for or because of our differences. Think about true diversity and think about our community. Does true diversity exist? What can you do about that? Think about it as you ask to be treated humanely with dignity, respect and acceptance. How can unity exist in the gay community when we allow and encourage societal and cultural divisions to remain in place?

True diversity can't and won't exist until you and I accept each other as equals and work toward a common goal, for my input is as important as yours.

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# NATIONAL NEWS

## NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY EVENT IDEAS

### BE VISIBLE

Plan a "Queer Visibility Field Trip". Wear NCOD t-shirts, buttons and caps and spend the day in a group at a shopping mall, amusement park, on a bike ride, etc....

Display NCOD literature in conspicuous places throughout your community where the other groups put their handouts.

Contact local radio stations about having representatives of gay, lesbian and bisexual groups on their programs.

Have a religious group announce that it recognizes and blesses gay and lesbian couples and families; ask them to perform a union ceremony for those who want to more visibly establish their relationship.

Hand out National Coming Out Day literature at a local shopping center to help get the word out. **GET POLITICAL.**

Host an evening of letter writing to local and national elected officials or newspapers on gay and lesbian issues. Your local political

organization, or the Human Rights Campaign Fund (202-628-4160), can help you with ideas.

Hold a demonstration calling for gay/lesbian/bisexual rights in a prominent location. Get permission to have the rainbow flag flown at a government building on National Coming Out Day.

### EDUCATE YOUR COMMUNITY

Host a film event featuring coming out themes or other gay/lesbian related educational subjects.

Have a book fair or art show highlighting gay and lesbian authors or artists. Many gay and lesbian authors will make themselves available for book readings and signings.

Place an advertisement in a major metropolitan newspaper in your area encouraging gay and lesbian people to come out.

Produce a "Coming Out Workshop" with a local/campus counselor or host an event where people come out publicly and/or tell their personal coming out stories.

### PARTY

Create a gay and lesbian "Come Out and Play" sports event. Plan a volleyball, softball, bowling or golf game for people in your community.

Host a fund raiser for the National Coming Out Day campaign to support the nationwide effort. Some suggestions: House Party, Picnic, Dance.

Arrange a gay/lesbian entertainment event: a band, stand up comedy, performance art, singing, variety show, etc.

Whatever you do, please notify the National Coming Out Day headquarters so we may get the information to other people who call us from your area. We encourage everyone at your event to wear a National Coming Out Day shirt and button to make a powerful statement about the importance of telling the truth about their life. We will assume the media is welcome at your event unless you tell us otherwise. Publicity may be your next step to living powerfully and openly.

Remember, your efforts will have an enormous impact on the people you reach. The success of National Coming Out Day depends on our working together. Good luck with your event!

### HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL

Though devoted primarily to the more than six million Jews exterminated by the Nazis, organizers of the just-opened United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, in Washington, DC, have also documented the 10,000 gays and lesbians who were victims.

Early visitors have been impressed by the range of exhibits that touch on gay prosecution. On entering, each visitor receives an identity card of a Holocaust victim, nine of the 500 possible are gay men; one is lesbian. There are even a pair of the notorious pink triangles. Additional archival material apparently exists. Curators may feel encouraged to put more of it on display if asked.

The Memorial is a powerful and important reminder of the power of hatred. Support the Memorial by visiting (14th Street Near Independence Avenue) and write to: Ms. Sara Bloomfield, Executive Director, United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place, S.W., Washington, DC 20024.

-GLAAD/NY Bulletin

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## TRANSEXUAL WOMYN EXPELLED FROM FESTIVAL

Walhalla, MI—Four postoperative male-to-female transsexual lesbians were expelled from the 18th annual Michigan's Womyn's Music Festival (MWMF) by festival security staff on the third day of the event. The four womyn, who had undergone sex change surgery from 2 to 14 years earlier, and a nontranssexual supporter attended the festival to raise consciousness among participants about the festival's policy of excluding transsexual womyn, the unclear and contradictory statement of policy in the festival literature, and issues of gender in general. Womyn opposed to transsexuals at MWMF attempted to silence them by destroying their educational materials.

The five womyn arrived at the festival on Monday, August 9, and none encountered any difficulty gaining admittance to the festival. The next day, the five womyn set up a table which they distributed literature and buttons and asked womyn who opposed the exclusionary policy to sign a petition seeking its repeal. The four transsexual womyn freely discussed their experiences as transsexuals with festival participants who approached their table. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the five womyn did workshifts in the kitchen, at the medical and emotional support areas, and at the Sober Support tent. Transsexual womyn provided medical care, including taking a hemorrhaging woman to an area hospital in the middle of the night, extended a helping hand to those in need of friendly support, and prepared food. They also attended concerts, ate meals, took showers, and shopped in the crafts bazaar with other festival participants without incident.

At approximately 4:30 pm on Thursday, Janis Walworth of Massachusetts, the nontranssexual member of the party, and Kaiser, who were staffing the literature table were approached by two womyn, one of whom identified herself as MWMF security coordinator. She told Walworth that the transsexual womyn were in violation of the festival's "womyn-born womyn" only policy, and they must therefore leave the festival. Walworth replied that it was not clear that the transsexual womyn were in violation of the policy as stated, since they all identify as womyn-born womyn.

The security coordinator went on to say that some festival participants had complained about the presence of transsexual womyn at the festival, asking security to remove the transsexual womyn from the land and vowing to take matters into their own hands if security did not do so. Security felt, therefore, that it could no longer guarantee the safety of the transsexual womyn. In addition, the security womyn were reluctant to assure Walworth that she would continue to be safe at the festival, since she had been seen staffing the literature table and associating with transsexual womyn.

The festival catalogue calls upon womyn who attend the festival to dialogue and listen to one another and explicitly states that "violence against womyn in any form is not acceptable in this community, on this land." However, no apparent action was taken against the womyn who threatened Walworth and the transsexual womyn.

The security coordinator pointed out that members of the party had been openly discussing their transsexuality at the literature table, thus alerting many womyn to the fact that there were transsexuals on the land. She implied that if they had not revealed their transsexuality to anyone,

they would not have been asked to leave—in effect, "don't ask, don't tell."

The four transsexual womyn returned to their campsite and packed up their belongings. However, they were delayed in leaving the festival grounds until approximately 11:00 pm because so many womyn stopped them on their way out to express support. A contingent of leatherwomyn offered to guarantee the safety of the transsexual womyn at their campsite for the duration of the festival and strongly attempted to dissuade them from leaving. However, the transsexual womyn collectively decided to honor their agreement to cooperate with security and declined the offer.

Upon leaving the festival site, the transsexual womyn set up camp across the road on National Forest land. The following morning, they set up another literature table, along with neon pink banners proclaiming "Transsexual Womyn Expelled From Festival" and "Too Out To Be In!" A steady stream of womyn came out from the festival to spend time with the transsexual womyn and to express their support; they brought vegetables, soda, hamburgers, fried chicken, flowers, and encouragement. Throughout the remainder of the festival, the transsexual womyn continued to distribute literature and buttons and to talk with womyn about gender issues and the exclusionary policy. Festival participants who visited the transsexual womyn reported that sentiment inside the festival was overwhelmingly supportive of their participation in MWMF, and there was outrage at their expulsion.

Inside the festival, nontranssexual womyn helped staff the inside literature table, and Walworth conducted two sessions of a workshop entitled "Confronting Transphobia," as well as a workshop on gender and shamanism which had been scheduled to be presented by Gabriel.

On Friday evening, the transsexual womyn were joined by a fifth transsexual woman, who flew in to present her workshop, "21 Things You Don't Say to a Transsexual." Although she had originally planned to enter the festival, she chose to remain outside with the four expelled transsexual womyn. Womyn inside the festival who wanted to attend the workshop unanimously agreed to move the location to the area outside the front gate. Approximately 75 womyn walked the mile to attend the two workshop sessions.

Saturday morning, when the literature table inside the festival was left unattended for a short time, all literature, buttons, display racks, signed petitions, and completed survey forms, as well as a donation can and personal property, were stolen by undetermined individuals. A woman reported seeing some of the buttons deposited in a portable toilet, which Walworth reported to MWMF security in hopes of avoiding damage to sewage pipes.

Also on Saturday, Walworth and Laura Ervin of Massachusetts, who had traveled to the festival in 1991, met with feminist author Kay Leigh Hagan, who was acting as an official representative of the festival producers, and the security coordinator. At that meeting, Hagan disclosed that the festival producers, Barbara Price and Lisa Vogel, are the sole determiners of festival policy and that she did not anticipate that they would change the antitranssexual policy in the near future.

For more information, interviews with the womyn involved, copies of literature distributed at the festival, and photographs, contact Davina Anne Gabriel (816) 753-7816 or Janis Walworth (508) 386-7737. Available on disk.

## MICHIGAN WOMYN'S MUSIC FESTIVAL A SUCCESS

The 18th Michigan Womyn's Music Festival was held August 10-15 near Hart, Michigan. 7500 women attended the festival, an annual gathering that draws 6-8000 women each August. The largest and longest running of the outdoor womyn's festivals, "Michigan" attracts womyn from every state and province throughout the US and Canada and has become an international event, with performing artists and participants attending from more than 25 countries. The International Welcome at the opening of the Night Stage best represents the significance of this event for the world-wide women's community, with over 30 women speaking in their native languages welcoming the women of the world "home" to the community of Michigan.

"Home" is 650 secluded acres of private land in northwestern Michigan surrounded by 1/4 million acres of the Manistee National Forest. The festival is created each year by the staff of 650 womyn, who build the stages, wire the electric panels, run the plumbing, care for the children, drive the vans and tractors, and coordinate cooking the 130,000 meals eaten over the week of festival. There are healthcare, emotional healthcare, and sober support areas, and childcare camps for girls, boys and toddlers.

Among the festival activities are over 300 workshops, the incredible Crafts Bazaar filled with the art of 160 craftswomyn, and a daily film festival highlighting current releases by womyn working in film and video. The Womyn of Color tents celebrated its 10th anniversary this year with special intensive workshops and a week long Womyn of Color drumming workshop that culminated in a Sunday performance. The DART (Differently-Abled Resource Team) area works to make the festival camping experience possible for womyn with disabilities, with wheelways and carpet paths to ease access for womyn in chairs. Accessible wheelchair shuttle buses are provided to get around the land, and "helping hands" support is available to manage camp-life more easily. Performances and workshops are ASL interpreted.

The festival services are "housed" in 80 large vinyl and canvas tents that become the Community Center, One World Workshops, Orientation, DART, or one of the dozens of festival service areas. Michigan is a music festival, yes, but most of all it is a community experience where womyn can come together once a year and live with womyn from around the world in a woman-centered, female defined community.

The Festival presented 40 performances that were held on the three stages (Day Stage, Acoustic Stage and Night Stage), with shows beginning at noon and running till 12 midnight. There was an incredible array of music, theater and dance represented at this year's Festival.

The womyn enjoyed sunshine-filled summer weather for the week, with the exception of a shower, which stopped few from attending the outrageous Sunday afternoon comedy jam featuring Suzanne Westenhoefer, Marga Gomez, Over Our Heads, and Diane Amos, with Karen Williams as MC. The Festival culminated with a Candlelight Concert on the Acoustic Stage featuring an array of artists. This last gathering was illuminated quietly by hand-held torches on either side of the stage, with hundreds of candles scattered through the audience.

For information on the 1994 Festival, August 9-14, write WWTMC, PO Box 22, Walhalla, MI 49458, 616-757-4766. — Press Release of *We Want The Music, Inc. Producers of the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival.*

## FIRST ANNUAL AUDRE LORDE MEMORIAL LECTURE

Boston—The organizers of OutWrite '93 are pleased to announce the first-annual Audre Lorde Memorial Lecture. The Lecture, which was funded by the Legacy Fund for Lesbian Enrichment, joins keynote addresses by Jewelle Gomez, Samuel Delany, Chrystos and Tony Kushner on headline OutWrite '93, the fourth national queer writers conference. The author Kate Rushin will give this year's address. OutWrite will take place October 8-10, 1993 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel and Towers.

The fourth national gathering of queer writers, editors, publishers, literary agents, booksellers and readers is expected to attract nearly 20,000 people. "We hope that the Audre Lorde Memorial Lecture will be a memorable and enriching addition to OutWrite," said conference coordinator Mark Abdo.

Other highlights include: a series of readings featuring four dozen queer writers, curated by publicist Michele Karlsberg; writing workshops taught by various authors; round table discussions on a variety of creative, cultural and political concerns; panel discussions on topics including "The Future of the Lesbian and Gay Press," "Writing from the Body," and "Writers and Agents."

Registration fees are \$50 in advance, \$55 at the door. Checks are payable to OutWrite '93, P.O. Box 263/State House/Boston, MA 02133. For further information call (617) 482-4042. Hotel reservations may be made by calling 1-800-225-2008 or (617) 426-2000. A special conference rate of \$110 for singles and \$125 for doubles has been guaranteed by the hotel.

## GAY ORDINATION SUPPORTERS GO PUBLIC

More than 570 ELCA pastors and lay leaders released their names in public support of the unconditional ordination of qualified gay and lesbian people. Calling themselves "The Network: A Public Roster To End Sexual Discrimination in the ELCA," the group presented a framed list of names to the Rev. Charles S. Miller, executive director of the Division for Church in Society. The ELCA currently ordains only homosexuals who pledge lifelong celibacy. The Network seeks the removal of that rule and asks the ELCA "to affirm committed and faithful same-sex relationships with appropriate ecclesial liturgies."

Standing before four colorful banners with the more than 570 member names, Paul A. Johnson said, "The new thing about The Network is that these people in the church are willing to be open about their support. It helps to know that if the worst should happen, we're not alone." Johnson, a former assistant to the bishop of the ELCA La Crosse (Wis.) Synod, was asked to resign when his homosexual orientation became public. He said he was suicidal for 11 years while he struggled with his sexuality.

The Rev. Barbara Lundblad, pastor of Our Saviour Lutheran Church, New York, told to standing-room only crowd, "I must be in this network because of...the theme of the assembly, 'Rooted in the Gospel.'" When Jesus had to choose between a rule and a person, he always chose the person.

"There's hardly a family in the church unaffected," by homosexuality, Lundblad said. "We need the Network to be a voice that says, 'Yes, gay and lesbian people are a part of the church.'"

—The Daily Lutheran, August 28, 1993

## VICTORY FUND SEEKS CANDIDATES

The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund is seeking openly gay and lesbian candidates who plan to run for public office in 1994. The Victory Fund, which puts the power of its national donor network behind qualified candidates, has contributed more than \$400,000 directly to campaigns since its inception in 1991. Members of the Victory Fund pay \$100 or more to join the network, then agree to support at least two recommended candidates over the next 12 months with direct contributions of \$100 or more. "The impact of Victory Fund combined contributions can make a difference in a race," said William Waybourn, Victory Fund executive director. Citing Jackie Goldberg's 51 to 49 percent win in this year's heated race for the Los Angeles City Council, Waybourn noted that the \$18,000 contributed by Victory Fund members was crucial to Jackie's victory.

The Victory Fund is currently sponsoring ten candidates. Members have made more than \$120,000 in 1993 campaign contributions. Among the victorious 1993 candidates to receive financial support from Victory Fund members are Shelley Gaylor, Wisconsin's first openly lesbian judge, and Craig McDaniel, the first openly gay City Councilmember in Dallas.

"Money is the key element in a winning campaign," Waybourn noted. "We are actively seeking qualified candidates who can benefit from Victory Fund support to get an early start in their races." The Victory Fund board of directors will consider new candidates for recommendation at its November board meeting. Candidates seeking information or applications should contact the Victory Fund by phone (202) 842-8679, FAX (202) 289-3863, or mail 1012 14th Street, N.W., Suite 707, Washington, D.C. 20005.

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

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COCKTAIL BUST  
9:00 P.M. TO MIDNIGHT

SAN-NITE  
Shows....

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

# AIDS/HIV RESOURCES AND NEWS

## 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.**, 1505 E. 1st, Grand Island (308) 381-5175

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

**Lincoln Cancer Cntr**, 4600 Valley, 483-1872

**Lincoln-Lancaster Health Dept** 2200 St. Marys, Lincoln 68502, 441-8065 Testing, counseling

**Nebr AIDS Educ/Training Center**, AIDS education to health care professionals. UNMC, 600 S 42 Omaha 68196, (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., (402) 484-8100.  
**Central Nebraska Office:** 3423 2nd Ave  
Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 234-8183

**Nebraska Dept of Health**, Kearney,

3423 2nd Ave, 68847, (308) 234-8183  
**Norfolk**, Norfolk Regional Ctr.,

Admin Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395  
**NorthPlatte**, Craft St. Office Bldg,  
200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

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

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

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

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

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

## 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) 441-8065

Walk-in test sites at:  
The Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tuesday  
Urban Indian Health Ctr, 140 S. 27, 434-7177

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

**Hastings College**, Hastings, NE

**McCook Family Planning**, 111 West "C" St, McCook, 69001, (308) 345-3626

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

**Nebraska Dept of Health**, Kearney,

3423 2nd Ave, 68847, (308) 234-8183  
**Norfolk**, Norfolk Regional Ctr.,  
Admin Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395

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

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

## 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

## COUNSELING & SUPPORT

**AIDS Care**, The Mercy Center, 427 E. Kanesville Blvd, Council Bluffs, IA 51503, att: Colleen Kibbe-Vest (712) 328-2609

**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 Grp**, 1st Monday each month, call Barb (308) 234-8183

**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

**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, 435-0574, Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm, care, treatment, counseling, teaching of HIV infected, people with AIDS, and others; Rick Swaink, Director.

## LEGAL

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

**Neb Bar Assoc**, 635 S 14, Lincoln, 475-7091

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

## THE SILENT MARCH

By Ralph G. Brancaccio

I'm in the process of designing an installation art piece, Silent March. It is aimed at heightening AIDS awareness.

I am asking people who are HIV positive and the loved ones of those whom we have lost to AIDS to donate a pair of their shoes, sneakers, flip-flops, slippers, etc. to represent them in this reflective piece. Thousands and thousands of shoes are arranged as if they were walking in a silent march. The silent protesters are facing an ever growing pile of shoes belonging to those who have died.

Silent March personalizes the AIDS experience by recognizing and identifying with the shoes that are laid before you. The arrangement of these shoes transcend prejudice for the viewer

as they mentally place themselves with the shoes. I hope that this personal perspective will motivate people to take the need for greater AIDS awareness, funding and education.

Silent March will tour the country to be filmed and photographed. It will take on different shapes according to its environment. The images will be used for AIDS education.

If you have some shoes of a loved one who has died of AIDS, I'd like to include them as well. All kinds of shoes are welcome: sneakers, flip-flops, slippers, dress shoes, baby shoes, etc.

Please send the shoes to:

Silent March  
15 Donnell Road  
Vernon, Connecticut 06066

Please include date of birth and, if appropriate, date of death, as well as some geographical information (e.g. hometown and state).

I'd like to include names, however, this is optional.

Since the installation will include a listing of participants (again, names are optional), I'd appreciate being kept advised of peoples' progress.

If you'd like to know more about Silent March, please write to me through the address listed above.

Also, if you'd like to be represented but cannot afford to send the shoes, please send me a letter and I will arrange for postage.

## EXPERIMENTAL AIDS VACCINES: WHAT DO THOSE TERMS MEAN?

AIDS is caused by the human immunodeficiency virus, **HIV**. By infiltrating the immune system's intricate network of cells, the virus multiplies and spreads throughout the body. In the process, HIV gradually destroys a key type of immune cell vital to protection against various kinds of infections. HIV's devious strategy for success poses an extraordinarily difficult challenge to AIDS vaccine researchers, who must outwit the virus to triumph.

The ideal way to design an effective HIV vaccine would be to know what immune responses protect against HIV infection and construct a vaccine that stimulates those responses. Clues about these so-called **correlates of immunity** or **correlates of protection** have been collected, but their precise identities so far are unknown. Indeed, whether a natural protective state can exist still is unknown. The urgency of the AIDS pandemic requires moving ahead with the knowledge at hand.

Several experimental vaccines are being tested in early human clinical trials. These trials provide information about any adverse reactions caused by the vaccines and about their **immunogenicity**, their ability to stimulate immune responses.

Two main types of immunity exist. Humoral immunity and cellular immunity. **Humoral (antibody-mediated) immunity** refers to protection provided by products of one type of white blood cell, lymphocytes. These products, custom-made proteins known as **antibodies** circulate in body fluids, primarily blood and lymph. **B lymphocytes (B cells)** produce antibodies in response to a specific foreign invader like HIV or a vaccine.

Different antibodies can be generated. So-called **binding antibodies** attach to some part of HIV and may or may not have antiviral effects. **Functional antibodies** are binding antibodies that actually do something. For example, one type, **neutralizing antibodies**, inactivate HIV or prevent it from infecting other cells.

Scientists have identified the **V3 loop** as one important part of HIV that stimulates neutralizing antibodies. The V3 loop is a piece of **gp120** (glycoprotein 120), a major protein found on the surface, or **envelope**, of HIV. Thus, gp120 and its parent protein, **gp160**, form the basis of many **recombinant subunit vaccines**, so-called because they are genetically engineered and contain only pieces of the virus.

The second type of immunity, **cellular (cell-mediated) immunity**, refers to activities carried out by immune system cells called T lymphocytes. **Cytotoxic T lymphocytes (CTLs)** nicknamed **killer T cells**, destroy HIV-infected cells directly. Some cytotoxic T cells, referred to as **CD8+CTLs** or **CD8+T cells**, bear **CD8 receptors** on their surfaces. CD8+ CTLs, which destroy cells that are actively producing HIV, are most likely the immune cell that protects against HIV infection.

**Regulatory T cells**, a component of cellular immunity, direct both antibody- and cell-mediated immune responses, much like a conductor leading a symphony orchestra. The chief regulatory T cell, the **helper T cell**, also is HIV's main target. The virus attaches to the cell through a receptor on the cell's surface called **CD4**. Hence the other name for helper T cells, **CD4+T cells**.

A subset of **helper T cells**, **memory T cells**, are evoked upon first exposure to an invading organism such as HIV. The name "memory" reflects their specialized function, which is to create a "criminal record file" on that virus or microorganism. If it enters the body again, memory T cells will recognize it immediately and quickly stir the immune system into action. The

most common way to measure memory T cells by a test called the **T lymphocyte proliferation assay**, which indicates the strength of the T memory cell response to HIV.

To be effective, an HIV vaccine may have to stimulate a third type of immunity, **mucosal immunity**. Immune cells lining the mucous membranes of the genital tract and other portals into the body produce mucosal immune responses.

HIV continually evolves as a consequence of genetic mutation and recombination. Thus, researchers designing vaccines must estimate the significance of **strain variation within individuals** and among populations.

A person usually is not infected with more than one HIV strain, but once HIV infection becomes established, the virus starts changing and variant viruses arise. When a drug or immune reaction destroys one variant, a distinct but related one can emerge. Variants may thrive in specific tissues or become dominant because they replicate faster than others.

The envelope regions of many HIV isolates—viruses taken from patients—have been genetically analyzed. Based on this information, scientists have grouped these isolates into at least five **subclasses**, or **clades**, each about 30 percent different from all the others.

Scientists do not know what is most important for making a vaccine to protect against divergent HIV strains. They do examine whether candidate vaccines made against single HIV strains stimulate neutralizing antibodies directed against closely related strains of the same genetic subclass or against strains from other subclasses.

The first AIDS vaccines made were based on the **LAI** strain (also known as **IIIB** and **LAV**). Subsequently, LAI has been shown to be atypical of strains isolated from infected people. Newer vaccines have been based primarily on the **SF-2** and **MN** isolates. These strains fall into the same genetic subclass as LAI but are more representative of HIV strains isolated from North Americans and Europeans.

Because of safety concerns, most experimental AIDS vaccines have been constructed using only one or more pieces of HIV rather than the whole virus. However, these recombinant subunit vaccines stimulate weaker immune responses than desirable. This problem has prompted a renewed interest in vaccine **adjuvants**, substances that can increase the type, strength, and durability of immune responses when incorporated into a vaccine. Currently, only one adjuvant—**alum**—is approved for use in vaccines for humans licensed by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The development and increased use of novel adjuvants to enhance special immune responses is likely to improve the immunogenicity of many candidate HIV vaccines.

A different way to enhance immune responses to HIV is the **prime-boost** vaccine strategy. Researchers first ready, or prime, the immune systems of volunteers with a live vector vaccine, a bacterium or virus that has been genetically engineered to contain a gene for an HIV protein. The best studied vector is **vaccinia virus**, formerly used to immunize against smallpox. Vaccinia transports the foreign HIV gene into the body. There, the HIV gene makes a protein that the body perceives as foreign, stimulating production of protective antibodies. Later, the volunteers will periodically receive booster shots of a genetically engineered vaccine made from the same HIV protein. Such a strategy has been used with a gp160-containing vaccinia virus. By itself, this vaccine stimulated memory T cells but few antibodies. Some volunteers also had **CD8+CTLs**.

This combined strategy is the only one so far that has produced these killer T cells.

One concern is that the vaccinia construct could cause serious vaccinia infection in some people who have compromised immune systems and HIV and who have not been exposed to either smallpox or the vaccine. Thus, other vector vaccines also are being developed and evaluated. One new one, made from a canary poxvirus that closely resembles vaccinia, is in clinical trials. Canary poxvirus does not grow in human cells, so it should be much safer. Another HIV vector vaccine under development contains *Salmonella*, bacteria that infect the gut.

After an experimental vaccine has been deemed safe in preclinical studies, it must successfully complete three stages of testing in people before it can be developed into a licensed product. Experimental vaccines first are tested in uninfected people to determine if they are safe and can elicit immune responses in healthy people. Traditionally, most have been tested as **prophylactic vaccines**, that is, for their ability to prevent HIV infection.

A **Phase I** trial is the first setting in which an experimental vaccine is given to people. Such a trial enrolls a small number of volunteers, usually about 20 to 80, at low risk of HIV infection. A Phase I trial assesses any vaccine-related side effects and may collect preliminary data on the product's immunogenicity. To assess side effects, the vaccine is compared in clinical trials with an inactive **placebo** vaccine, or **control**, that looks like the real product. Researchers also try to determine the maximum useful dose of vaccine that can be tolerated without compromising safety. To help measure the breadth of the vaccine's protection, investigators can determine if the neutralizing antibodies react against strains from the same genetic subclass or those from others. A Phase I trial may last one to two years.

Once Phase I trials show an experimental HIV vaccine to be well-tolerated, it then can advance into **Phase II** trials. These trials enroll many more people, up to a few hundred, and often include some volunteers at higher risk for acquiring HIV. Researchers gather more information about safety and immune responses, asking more sophisticated questions that such larger trials allow. Optimally, the trials are **randomized and double-blind**, meaning that volunteers are assigned at random to a study group and that neither the health care workers nor the patients know what preparation the patients are receiving. Phase II trials last one to two years.

The most promising candidate vaccines move into **Phase III**, or **efficacy**, trials, enrolling large numbers of uninfected people at high risk for acquiring HIV. A Phase III trial usually is designed to ensure the collection of enough detailed information on safety and effectiveness to support an application for a license to the FDA, if warranted. The vaccine may be tested against a placebo or a vaccine known potentially to be beneficial to the study population, such as the hepatitis B vaccine. An efficacy trial can involve thousands of volunteers and thus takes much longer, at least four years, to complete.

Recently, researchers have begun testing the idea of using vaccines as treatments. The goal of **therapeutic vaccination** is to determine if experimental vaccines can sufficiently boost the immune responses of people infected with HIV to prevent or slow down development of disease.

Prepared by: Office of Communications, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, National Institute of Health, Bethesda, Maryland 20892.



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## Saturday, Oct. 16th at 9:00 PM

The first annual HGRA Mr., Miss and Ms. Contest. Entry forms and information available at DC's, Chesterfield, The Max and Gilligans. Enter today. Special performances and live entertainment. Hosted by Stan (Inga) Brown. Part of proceeds goes to NAP/PWA.

## Sunday, Oct. 31st

Of course, don't miss our Annual Halloween Costume Contest, with prizes for Best Western Drag and Best Overall Costumes. Judging at 11 PM SHARP

You can always enjoy Nebraska Games at DC's. whether on T/V or Radio. Always game day specials and complimentary hot dogs and chips.

## Bowlers Sunday Specials

From 5:30 to 8:30

Jagermeister Shots only 1.25    Domestic Beer only 1.50  
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Stop in and check out all our daily specials  
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## Coming in November

The Mr./Ms. Nebraska Leather Contest. Watch for entry forms and details soon.

Stop in and say Hello to Annie, Ashley, David, Dan, Charley, Dave and Jeff.  
We will try and make you feel right at home!

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Happy Hour All Day	Beer Bust Jack Daniels	Schnapps JagerMint	Beer Bust JB	Cowboys Bacardi	Schnapps Special Shots	Bowlers Special Bloody Marys Daily Specials

Hours: Mon-Fri 2 PM — Close    Sat./Sun. Noon — Close  
Thanks for coming in and we appreciate your business at DC's!



# BOOKS, BOOKS, BOOKS

## QUEER IN AMERICA HITS BOOKSTORES

*Queer in America*, a long-awaited book from controversial writer Michelangelo Signorile, provocatively subtitled *Sex, the Media and the Closets of Power*, examines and exposes the hypocrisy which pervades mainstream American institutions. Signorile's theory is plainly stated: Those in power who remain in the closet do so at a cost not only to themselves, but to others within their personal circles and beyond, ultimately affecting millions. The closet, Signorile effectively argues, is not a matter of privacy, but one of persecution concerning all Americans.

*Queer in America* is a scalpel-sharp examination of the way people participate in the lies of the institutionalized closet, covering for those who still hide and silencing those who attempt to come out. Signorile dissects the issues of gays in the military, in Hollywood, on Capital Hill and the scores of lives ruined by the closet. Signorile brilliantly recounts the instances where the media spun out of control to keep a personality closeted, and how an outing did not destroy a career, thereby disproving the most familiar claim of anti-outers.

*Queer in America* is also a personal look at Signorile, in some circles a much-maligned figure, but also named by *Newsweek* as one of the 100 members of the Cultural Elite. Early chapters recall a quiet youth, growing up queer in Italian working-class Brooklyn and Staten Island, and Signorile's meteoric climb up the ladder of Manhattan nightlife before the AIDS epidemic turned the gossip publicist into an activist, a journalist and co-founder of Queer Nation.

In another chapter, Signorile praises the gay-positive corporations of Silicon Valley, and peers into the future when queer activism will be implemented by a touch of a computer key. Signorile also offers a manifesto for the Queer 90s, a powerful, no-nonsense agenda for the lesbian/gay community entering the 21st Century. In his most controversial chapter, illustrating the destructive power of the closet, Signorile reveals a shameless story of same-sex harassment and hypocrisy on the part of a supposedly heterosexual figure of national prominence.

Signorile detractors will be astounded at the depth and passion of *Queer in America*. Those won't over by Signorile's fiery eloquence will welcome this book. Impassioned, polemical and sometimes intemperate, *Queer in America* is a touchstone work for the new generation of gays & lesbians—a clarion call for mainstream America.

## BEAST OF BURDEN

Aaron Travis is one of gay erotic's most prolific and provocative writers. *Slaves of the Empire* cemented his reputation for scrupulously detailed, unrelenting raw sexual fiction. Now, *Beast of Burden*, (Badboy, 1-56333-\$4.95 US/\$5.95 Canada) collects some of Travis' most riveting stories.

Selected by the author especially for this collection, these stories cover classic Travis terrain—sexual power in ruthlessly stolen or helplessly surrendered in settings ranging from a harsh expanse of desert to a military academy to the ancient Roman Empire. Travis has never been more arresting, making *Beast of Burden* a volume of ruthless imagination.

## ZAPPED: TWO NOVELLAS

*Zapped: Two Novellas* by Robert Peters has just been released by GLB Publishers. The world-famous author of poetry, plays, and fiction lets his hair down and his foxy mind roam with two new age novels: *asbestos: a book for lepers, and how to make love to a foot*.

Not since R. Crumb regaled us with the antics of his comics has such unbridled, outrageous fiction become available. Written in the style of a comic book (without pictures), Peters takes us through the travails of a gay writer who suddenly finds his hand turned to flakes. Not funny, you say? When the writer is visited by all kinds of spirits that bear strong resemblances to people with household names (in addition to Mr. Deity and his dutiful son), the scene gets pretty outrageous.

And making love to a foot can be more fun than it sounds, the way Peter's characters do it. How could you avoid becoming a foot fetishist when you were shipped across country as a baby in a shoebox and raised by a shoe store operator who had designs on your body? And when Mother shows up in a nudist camp—well, you get the idea.

This paperback book is in an unusual format, too—5" X 9" (this cover was pared down a bit to fit the printer), and the two novellas are back to back. Read it from either end.

*Zapped: Two Novellas* by Robert Peters, ISBN 1-879194-10-4, paperback, 150 pages, \$11.95 by GLB Publishers, P.O. Box 7812, San Francisco, CA 94107.

## HOMOAFECTIONALISM: MALE BONDING

*Homoaffectionalism: Male Bonding from Gilgamesh to the Present* by Paul D. Hardman.

Paul Hardman, historian and legal scholar, has worked for nearly ten years on his book and the concept of *homoaffectionalism*, the relationship between men of note throughout the history of the world that may have been only "affectionate" but was frequently homoerotic as well. And "just in time" he publishes it with a special section on the military, from Roman emperors to 1992, giving names and dates and references that warrant the enthusiastic approval of professors and critical readers country-wide.

Hardman demonstrates that same sex affections and activities constitute societies and lie at the center of human history. His survey of the military love among men comes just in time.

—Charley Shively, Univ. of Massachusetts  
This book provides numerous sources which highlight the important role of affection between men as a factor in history. Hardman's insights suggest fascinating implications about the many problems facing society today, due to the suppression of affectionate same-sex relationships. —Walter L. Williams, USC

This book will be considered for teaching purposes for courses dealing with discrimination issues and homosexual lifestyle (a growing field).

*Homoaffectionalism: Male Bonding from Gilgamesh to the Present* by Paul D. Hardman. Clothbound, 253 pages with bibliography and index, \$26.95 ISBN 1-879194-13-9. GLB Publishers, P.O. Box 78212, San Francisco, CA 94107.

## COMING OUT OF THE CLASSROOM CLOSET Gay and Lesbian Students, Teachers and Curricula

This provocative book empowers readers and educators to become visible, positive influences and role models for gay and lesbian students in classrooms and schools.

Chapters look closely at many issues surrounding the issue of homosexuality in schools, including a history of treatment of gay and lesbian educators, gay and lesbian student's perceptions of their counselors and teachers ability to understand and help, beliefs, lack of knowledge, and lack of training of counselors and teachers about the needs of gay and lesbian youth; images of gays and lesbians in sexuality and health textbooks; and important AIDS education.

Edited by Karen M. Harbeck, PhD, JD Lecturer, Clark University; Fellow, New England Resource Center for Higher Education, University of Massachusetts. *Coming Out of the Classroom Closet* was published simultaneously by the Haworth Press, Inc., in hardbound under the same title as the *Journal of Homosexuality*, Vol. 22, Nos. 3/4. Price (USA): \$17.95 paper, ISBN: 1-56023-013-5. Pages 259 pp. + Index; LC#: 91-39813; Harrington Park Press, Inc., 10 Alice Street, Binghamton, New York 13904-1580.

## 19-YEAR OLD LESBIAN ON BESTSELLER LIST

by J. R. Stone

Nineteen year old Seattle lesbian author Jennifer DiMarco took the top of *The Seattle Times* bestseller list with her latest novel, *Escape to the Wind*. DiMarco's post-Armageddon Lesbian adventure edged out popular prehistoric fiction novel *Jurassic Park* in the process.

"It's so incredible!" DiMarco shrieked when told the news. "It's so incredible to be able to show the mainstream world that even though we are gay and lesbian, the world is still our oyster—we can accomplish all our dreams and reach all of our goals," she said.

But more than that, to DiMarco being on the bestseller list is the top. "Nothing could mean more to me than being embraced by my Seattle readers," she said. "[They] are real, and don't want to feel induced by commercialization. They want life, and to feel real emotions. I write about what I know, what I see, and what I feel. No rhetoric, just life." DiMarco created the world of *Escape To The Wind* before she even graduated from high school. Her first novel was written at the age of ten, to simply pass the fifth grade.

## CATALOG OF GAY BOOKS

New York—Paths Untrodden, a gay owned/gay operated mail order book service released its annual catalog, listing hundreds of titles in an expanded subject classification that include 94 subject areas. Paths Untrodden specializes in hard to find small press, imported and out of print books. The catalog focuses on gay fiction containing titles published from the early part of the century up to the present time, but also contains non-fiction titles. The catalog, a 40 page bibliography of gay literature, is available for \$3.00 from Paths Untrodden, P.O. Box 3245, Grand Central Station, New York, New York 10163.

## HGRA NEWS

By Phil & Pat

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association met on September 11, at DC's. We welcomed 8 new members into our organization, bringing our total membership to 39. Charley and David attended the IGRA convention in Billings, Montana, in August. It was very informative for our two delegates, who learned about the IGRA (International Gay Rodeo Association) By-Laws, duties of Mr./Ms/Miss contest winners and the general structure of this International Rodeo organization. The next Convention will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas in August of 1994. Charley suggested we think about hosting the 1996 convention right here in Omaha. There are 14 Gay Rodeo associations around the U.S. of A. with over 2000 members. Our HGRA was officially recognized at this convention along with Alberta, Canada and Illinois.

HGRA began sponsoring a DART Tourney to be held regularly at the MAX on Sunday afternoons. Stop by around 6 pm to see the action or ask any HGRA member for details.

HGRA has a big event coming in October. We're sponsoring our very first Mr./Ms/Miss contest. The contest will begin with interviews at 2 pm at DC's with the rest of the contest at DC's at 9 pm. Details of this big event can be found in another article in this month's *New Voice* or check out our monthly Newsletter found at many local bars and other businesses within our community.

There are several rodeos yet this year, in case you're interested in attending. The Atlantic States on October 1-3 in Washington, D.C. The International will be held in Ft. Worth and the Texas Rodeo will be November 4-7 in San Antonio. Check out flyers at DC's. Pick up a Newsletter and application and join up. Our next meeting will be October 2nd at 6 pm at DC's. See ya there.

### AL-ANON IN OMAHA AND LINCOLN

Al-Anon is a support group for those whose lives are affected by a loved one's use of alcohol. The group utilizes a 12 step program much like that originally developed by Bill W., founder of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Currently, individuals in Lincoln are working to establish an Al-Anon group for the gay and lesbian community. Those interested should contact Austin at 432-7378.

In Omaha, an Al-Anon group meets Tuesday evenings at 7pm at the First Unitarian Church. Use the side door.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## FANTASY RETURNS TO OMAHA



DUSTIN AND BOB RECEIVE AWARD FROM ALAN SELBY



PAT PHALEN TRIES OUT AN ELECTRIC WAND AT LEATHER MASTERS' BOOTH AT THE LEATHER FAIR



CHUCK RENSLow OF THE LEATHER ARCHIVES WITH LEATHER PAINTING FROM PHOEBE'S



AMY MARIE MEEK AND EMERSON BRINEY INT'L MS LEATHER & INT'L MR DRUMMER



BRIAN DAWSON LEADS WORKSHOP ON S/M 101



EMERSON RELAXES AT THE LEATHER FAIR

# FANTASY CELEBRATES 5 YEARS IN LEATHER

It was a wonderful celebration as Fantasy returned to Omaha this year to celebrate 5 years in Leather. Bob Ewing and Dustin Logan of Fantasy Productions teamed with Dave Rhodes and the *Leather Journal* to again present this delightful showcase of leather titleholders. After a one year absence from the Omaha scene, titleholders and vendors were glad to have Fantasy back home.

Fantasy kicked off with a leather dance and introduction of titleholders at DC's on Friday, August 20. The bar was jammed with leather men and women, ready to enjoy this one national event of the year

where there is no competition — just an opportunity to demonstrate your talent and help raise funds for designated charities. This year's charities were the San Francisco AIDS Emergency Fund, the Leather Archives, and MCC-Omaha for restoration of their stained glass windows.

Titleholders and dignitaries came from all parts of the United States and included:

Amy Marie Meek — Int'l Ms Leather '93  
Emerson Briny — Int'l Mr Drummer '93  
Steve Heihl — Int'l Mr Bear '93  
K.T. Chase — Ms Nat'l Leather Assoc. '93  
Andy Anderson — Mr Nat'l Leather Assoc. '93  
Chuck Renslow — Director of International Mr.

Leather and of the Leather Archives  
Dave Rhodes — Publisher, *The Leather Journal*  
Shan Carr — International Ms Leather '88  
Brian Dawson — Int'l Mr Drummer '89  
Joi Anne Tierney — Ms Leather Sacramento '88  
Jeff Burnam — Mr Floyd's Leather '89  
Leon — Artist/Creator of Fantasy '93 Logo  
Jim Richards — TLI Man of the Year '92  
Alan Selby — TLI Man of the Year '89  
Joe Kraly — Mr Great Plains Drummer '93  
Joe Potter — Mr Rocky Mountain Drummer '91  
J.D. Laufman — Mr Great Lakes Drummer '93  
Mark Frazier — Mr Gulf Coast Drummer '91  
Kris Rounza — Mr Gulf Coast Drummer '93  
Bart Plumley — Mr Rocky Mtn Drummer '93  
Rick Gannon — Great Plains Drummer Boy '93  
Randy Bodle — Rocky Mtn Drummer Boy '93  
David Hawn — Great Lakes Drummer Boy '93  
Janet Ryan — Miss Mid-America Leather '92  
Alan Potter — Mr Leather Colorado '90  
Calvin Buckley — Mr Texas Drummer '93  
Mark Warner — Mr Minnesota Drummer '93  
John Tudor — Mr Minnesota Leather '93  
Craig Poos — Mr Oklahoma Leather '93  
Cindy Bookout — Ms Oklahoma Leather '93  
Gregg Hurt — Mr Missouri Leather '93  
Larry Patnoe — Mr Minnesota Leather '92  
Ed Tobin — Mr Indiana Leather '92  
Artemis Silverowl — Ms Texas Leather Pride '93  
Mike Reese — Mr St. Louis Drummer '93  
Rita Sandoval — Ms Colorado Gay Pride '93  
Marcus Mack — Mr Bottoms Up '88  
Dick Brown — Mr Gay Nebraska '87  
Bob Ewing — CoSponsor  
Dustin Logan — TLI Man of the Year '90

Saturday morning saw the opening of



## DUSTIN AND AMY TRY TO OUT BID EACH OTHER DURING THE CHINESE AUCTION

leather fair, held in the room which once housed the Redick Grill at the host hotel, the Radisson Redick. Three major leather vendors, artists, local organizations, and *The Leather Journal* set up booths with toys, clothing, games, and fun. The games ranged from OMEN's own version of "handball" to Ice Bowl's "Blow up the balloon" to Omaha Player's Club's demonstrations.

Saturday afternoon there were workshops for those interested in learning more about the leather community and S/M/Fetishes as well as for titleholders and those competing in leather events.

Then Saturday night saw the action move to the MAX for performances of fantasies by the titleholders. The show began with a moving rendition of the Canadian and the United States National Anthems and the presentation of colors. Then the fantasies began. This year's fantasies showed more imagination and more humor than in years past. There was less "heavy" S&M and more playful, teasing interaction which seemed to give the titleholders an opportunity to demonstrate their more imaginative sides.

The night also featured a "Chinese Auction," which is a form of auction in which each bidder in turn puts down a dollar on the table. The bidders continue putting down their dollars until, one by one, they decide they've put out enough money and they drop out. However, all money put down stays on the table and goes toward the evening's fundraising. Like all auctions, you can get caught up in the bidding and it can become a contest of wills as to who will turn in the final bid. This scenario occurred during a showdown between Dustin Logan and IMsL, Amy Marie Meek over a leather sling valued at \$300.

Other bidders dropped out quickly, leaving Dustin and Amy facing each other over a growing pile of one dollar bills. In the end, Dustin threw up his hands and surrendered, letting Amy take the sling home.

Also going up for auction was a leather picture purchased this year at Cindy Sescher's Art Auction at the Diamond. The picture, which had hung in the Diamond, was from Phoebe's, one of the early leather bars in California. The purchaser donated it to the Leather Archives in Chicago.

Sunday morning,

the Leather Fair continued and then the titleholders gathered at Gilligan's for a final brunch before they headed for Leavenworth Park and a softball showdown. With the end of the softball game, the weekend was over. Over 200 people had a wonderful weekend; the Leather Fair sent the vendors home pleased with sales; and the staff of Fantasy could sit back and catch their breath.

A salute to Bob, Dustin, Fantasy Productions, and the *Leather Journal* for bringing Fantasy back to Omaha for this year and many more to come.

## Leather By Brian Bengtson

to nipple, to clasp  
to chain, to wall  
to obey, to command, to submit  
to struggle, to defy, to nudge, to push,  
to shove, to black, to steel, to crawl,  
to beg, to experience, to thrill, to trust,  
to smell, to touch, to feel, to close one's eyes,  
to sleep, to scratch, to hold, to tie, to strap,  
to strike, to count, to whip,  
to rope, to candle, to flame,  
to sight, to gasp, to choke,  
to open, to love, to suspend, to thrust, to hang,  
to lean, to eat, to ice, to tear, to boot,  
to floor,  
to release.

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## MCC-KC STARTS NEXT 20 YEARS WITH NEW NAME

Celebrating 20 years of service to the G/L community of greater Kansas City, Missouri, Metropolitan Community Church, went all out to celebrate.

Starting Thursday, the planning committee held a country barn dance entitled, "Barn Ritz". A light dinner was served. Around 150 people attended this event.

Friday saw really putting on the "Ritz." A formal dinner was held at the Ritz-Carlton. A DJ was furnished, and music was provided. This was a huge success with around 135 attending.

I was able to drive down to KC Saturday, and attended their Saturday night pot luck, held in the Social Hall. It, too, was a smashing success. Over 200 people attended the pot luck.

The decorating committee had worked hard from 6:30 a.m. until late afternoon, getting the social hall ready, and decorated. Their efforts really showed, and they are to be thanked for their hard work.

Balloons carried over the theme from the KC Pride Parade. Many, many multicolored balloons, a rainbow of balloons. The stage featured more balloons. And a backdrop of KC skyline, with twinkling lights.

The tables were groaning with their loads of food. Plenty for everyone. Rev. Kross had to work until 7, and when she got there, there was still plenty to eat.

Rev. John Barbone gave the blessings for the beautiful tables of food. People went through the line, table by table, piling their plates high with the most delicious food.

The program for the evening was outstanding. Eddie Potter was the MC of the evening. Mr.

Potter gave a very warm rendition of *You Are the Wind Beneath My Wings*.

Mr. Potter gave a very warm and generous welcome of introduction, to a much revered Pastor, who really needs no introduction, the Rev. Elder Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of the Metropolitan Community Churches, now worldwide.

Michael, Ron, Bill, such music in their souls. Daisy Vance, and her loving other half, Terry — what a beautiful pair of singers. They sang so well together. They have been loving each other for eight years now.

That church has music in their soul. Such talent. The Social Hall was really "jumping with the Spirit" this Saturday evening.

Next morn, up early to attend services at 8:45. Real neat services. Rev. Perry gave the sermon this morn. And rest assured, **NO** one slips in a cat nap, during Rev. Perry's sermon.

At the close of the services, the morning hymn, *Bless This House, O'Lord* was sung. Rev. Elder Perry then gave the blessing on the church, the start of a new 20 years, and the beginning of the new name, Spirit of Hope, MCC of KC. A very appropriate name. For this very church has given new hope to so many G/L people.

At 2 p.m., there was a political rally at MCC. As you know, Right Wing Religious bigots are trying to deny G/L people in Missouri their basic rights.

The event planned was to be a media event, designed to show the G/L community, as no different than any other, to show the ministry of the Spirit of Hope, to be a Christian ministry, and a place for G/L people to come back to the fold.

City Councilman, Mike Hernandez was presented with the "Friend of the Gay Community Award."

A final party, a "Wind-Down" party, was held at 7 p.m. at the Potter's house. Entertainers were to be from Spirit of Hope, as well as from the G/L community.

Congratulations, Spirit of Hope, MCC, on your 20 years of service to the G/L community. You've come a long ways. The road has not always been a smooth one.

From your first pastor, Rev. Kari Adams, meeting with just 6 people either in the parks, or in their homes. To the church on Harrison Street and for the last three years, at their present location, in a fine brick, near new building, erected in 1955 with plenty of space to better serve the G/L community.

Rev. John Barbone, a former Catholic priest, has served as their Senior Pastor for 12 years. Rev. Barbone is ably assisted by Rev. Barbara Price, Coordinator of Counseling, Rev. Jan Kross, Minister of Congregational Care, Mr. Ron Lynch, Church Clerk, Mr. Michael Limbocker, Minister of Music, Ms. Daisy Vance, Secretary/ Receptionist, Rev. Charlie Lott, Clergy in Residence, and a very able bodied cadre of Deacons.

So, once again, congratulations, Spirit of Hope, on your 20 years of service.

May your beacon continue to shine, and may your "oasis" continue to be a safe haven, a place of rest, a Christian place of reconciliation with a loving God, a place where God's G/L children can turn, without fear of being ostracized. May the grace of a loving God be with you, Spirit of Hope.

## KATE CLINTON RETURNS TO OMAHA NOVEMBER 7

WomenSpace Productions is proud to present Kate Clinton, America's favorite lesbian comedian, in concert on Sunday, November 7, at the Witherspoon Auditorium, Joslyn Art Museum. Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$17 at the door.

Tickets are available at New Realities in Omaha's Old Market, or at the Albino Rhino, 101 N. 14th, Lincoln, or at the Arbor Moon Bookstore, 2017 "O", Lincoln. Tickets may also be ordered by mail from WomenSpace Productions. Send \$15 plus either a stamped self addressed envelope or 50¢ postage and handling fee to:

Women Space Productions  
PO Box 24712  
Omaha, NE 68124-0712

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A GOOD DAY FOR  
AN OUTING AND  
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AFRAID TO USE  
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# GILLIGANS



## HALLOWEEN PARTY

Sunday, October 31

*Costume Contest at 11:00 pm*

\$100.00 First Prize

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## FOR WOMYN ONLY AN EVENING IN THE COUNTRY

Lynn Thomas, singer/songwriter, composer of the anthem for the March on Washington *Together Proud and Strong*, will join area womyn for a live concert at "An Evening in the Country."

An Evening in the Country for womyn only will be celebrated at the Terra Jane on Saturday, October 23, from 7pm to Midnight. The \$12 admission includes supper, dancing to the music of a D.J., hayrides, bonfires, and the live concert by Lynn Thomas.

All tickets must be purchased **IN ADVANCE ONLY**. Tickets are available at New Realities in

the Old Market, The Albino Rhino or Arbor Moon Bookstore in Lincoln, or by mail from WomenSpace Productions (checks payable to Terra Jane, please) PO Box 24712, Omaha, NE 68124-0712. If ordering by mail, please include a self-addressed, stamped envelope or 50¢ handling fee.

A cash bar is available on the grounds for beer, wine, and soda. **No coolers are allowed on the grounds.** An Evening in the Country is a womyn only celebration produced by WomenSpace Productions.

## NEWS FROM THE COURT: THE IMPERIAL COURT

by Carla

Nebraska & Pott. County.

Thank you! One cannot begin to express thanks enough to all the businesses, organizations & individuals who helped make the Labor Day Weekend a major success. The feeling of family unity you get when a community pulls together is incomparable.

Throughout the upcoming year, we want to keep that community spirit alive.....

Right now, my royal family and I are working on the Food for Thought Show (Nov. 7). So please, if you have any fresh, new ideas, let us know.....

Keep up the good work! Love,  
Roxy, Empress XIII

Yes! Labor Day was a big success! Thanks to our faithful supporters we raised \$1,144.00 with the large raffle. And thanks to everyone who braved the weather, we raised \$321.12 with the small raffles and donations! Whoa...Mother Nature did not smile on our Pre-Labor Day Picnic—at least not if you look at the lousy weather we had: rain and cold (not cool) COLD temperatures! Nasty, nasty day! But thanks to a faithful 150 picnickers, we were able to make lemonade out of our lemon. Thank you, one and all! As always, we thank Kenny and Gilligans' for providing free bus rides to the picnic!

Big raffle winners included Colleen K. (the trip to Dallas plus hotel plus cash), Jeff S. (the two nights at the Ramada, lunch, & dinner), and Tom S. (the stained glass window). Congratulations!

A special word of thank you goes out to the Omaha Meatpackers who joined with us in that fund raising event. Thanks, too, to Gary, Lew, Bill, Susan, The Ramada Central, & Gold's Galleria for the prizes.

We also appreciate all of you who contributed prizes for the small raffles held at the picnic. That raffle is always one of the highlights of the year. ACE—thank you for doing the food booth. We truly appreciate your toughing out the weather and your willingness to take the day in stride. Thank you!

I want to extend a special thank you to the following members of the Board of Governors for their efforts: Thank you, Gary, Ed, Don, Antonio, Connie, Danny, Jack, Gerald, & Michael. Thank you all! Thank you, too, goes out to each of the royal family members who helped at the picnic and who gathered the prizes for the small raffle. Thanks!

Our hearts were touched, Rich, by your contribution. Yes, the receipts from the actual picnic were just under our total expenses, but you made up the difference. Thank you! Your actions and the actions of all of those listed above make me proud to be a part of this community of gays and lesbians!

What's next for ICON? Well, Roxy gave you a clue: Food for Thought. See you there November 7—The MAX. It promises to be a great show!

### ALL IOWA AIDS BENEFIT

The Executive Committee of the All Iowa AIDS Benefit is happy to announce that the 7th Annual Benefit and Auction will be held Sunday, October 24th, 1993, at the Embassy Suites Grand Ballroom, 101 E. Locust, Des Moines, Iowa.

Last year the Benefit & Auction raised over \$28,000 to aid a variety of organizations. Over 750 people attended the gala event. This year the benefit show will be hosted by Mary Brubaker and Dana Cardin of KCCI TV, Ed Wilson of WHO TV, and advertising personality, Peter Cannice.

## NEBRASKANS WALK FOR AIDS

OMAHA ♦ LINCOLN ♦ KEARNEY



## THE NEXT STEP II

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1993

A WALK-A-THON/FUN-RUN TO BENEFIT  
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### KEARNEY

LINK STUDENT UNION  
9TH AVENUE & 27TH STREET  
308-234-6183

## NEWS FROM THE NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT

The Nebraska AIDS Project held its annual recognition. Volunteers who make up the Buddy Program, Practical Support, Hotline, Test Site, and Speakers Bureau were honored with certificates of appreciation. Merritt Sunson, a former Test Site Coordinator, was given a special thank you for his commitment and all the hours he put into enhancing the Test Site.

On August 21, the Lincoln Variety Show was a show with something for everyone. The Show produced by Janet Carlson raised \$1700 for the AIDS Project. The organizers hope for this to become an annual event. A wide variety of entertainers hit the stage at the Lincoln Community Playhouse.

Our final totals have been tallied from the production of *The Night Larry Kramer Kissed Me*. A total of \$590 was acquired through ticket sales and donations. Thank you very much to the Blue Barn for the continued support they have given the Project.

Earlier this year Wayne Tietsort initiated the idea of a barbecue to be held with all proceeds going to the PWA assistance fund. Due to Wayne's death on June 12, this fundraiser was organized and put on by the Babes Behind Bars and Don Flowers on August 15 on the patio of the MAX. This fundraiser was \$5 in advance and \$7 at the door which entitled you to all you could drink and all the ribs and chicken you could eat. The event was a huge success! We are thankful to Wayne, Don, and The Babes for pulling off yet another fundraiser that benefits the entire PWA community.

The Saint Stephens Charity Players of Grand Island contributed \$135 to NAP from their summer musical production *Into the Woods*. \$1 from each ticket sold was designated to the Project. Thank you very much for your support and your contributions.

Case Management Census	
Monthly Summary for August 1993	
Open Cases as of August 1, 1993	263
New Cases this month	10
Clients Deceased this month	7
Cases Closed this month	10
Total at last day of month	256

## NAP's SECOND ANNUAL WALKATHON

NAP's second fund-raising walkathon, The Next Step II, will kick off Sunday, Oct. 17, in Omaha, Kearney and Lincoln. Registration in Omaha starts at 8 a.m. at the Omaha Community Playhouse, with the walk at 9. The Lincoln Walk begins at 1st Plymouth Congregational Church, 20th & D. The Kearney Walk begins at the UNK Student Union. To get pledge forms and information, call NAP at (Omaha) (402) 342-4233, (Lincoln) (402) 484-8100, (Kearney) (308) 234-8183, or 1-800-782-2437.

## UNIGLO REACHES OUT

The University of Northern Iowa  
Gay/Lesbian Organization is a student  
organization at the  
university in Cedar Falls.

It's purpose is to provide support for gay, lesbian, and bisexual members of the U.N.I. community, their friends, and family. The organization's purpose is also to educate the U.N.I. community in matters and issues pertaining to gay, lesbian, and bisexual people. We have worked to accomplish this purpose through university and community-wide panels, speakers and films on campus open to the public, and activities such as trips to conferences, social activities, and anonymous HIV/AIDS testing and results provided on campus open to the public. We are also working with other members of our community through our outreach and alumni committees in order to better support and educate new members of the U.N.I. Gay/Lesbian Organization as well as other members of the community.

Membership of this organization is open to anyone who supports the purpose of the organization, is actively involved, and wishes to become a member, regardless of sexual orientation or any other reason. The only requirement we ask is that all membership information be kept confidential. This protects those in our community who are not yet "out of the closet" or not yet able to be, as well as protects individuals from being "outed" and assumed queer when they are not.

If you would like to be involved with the U.N.I. Gay/Lesbian Organization please contact the following people: Scott Zylstra, Alumni Committee Chair, (319)277-4776. (Handles alumni relations—call if you are an alumni and would like to know more about the organization or would like to participate.) Krista Barker, Speaker's Committee Chair, (319)233-8066. (Handles speakers for meetings and campus-wide events—call if you would like to speak at one of our meetings or at a campus-wide event.) Jeremy Blue, Activities Committee Chair, (319)266-8896. (Handles movies, trips, and other activities for meetings and community-wide events.) Deborah Vaughan, President (319)266-3814. (Handles panels, questions about the organization, etc.)

-Access Line

## FIRST ANNUAL MR./Ms/ MISS HGRA CONTEST TO BE OCTOBER 16 AT D.C.'s

By Patrick Williams

The Heartland Gay Rodeo Association is proud to announce that our first annual contest to crown the HGRA royalty will be held Saturday, October 16 at 9:00 p.m. at D.C.'s. Cover charge will be only two dollars, with 25% of the proceeds going to the Nebraska AIDS Project. The interview portion of the competition will be held at 2:00 that afternoon at D.C.'s.

Contestants will be vying for the titles of Mr. HGRA (a cowboy), Ms HGRA (a cowgirl), and Miss HGRA (a female impersonator), and first runner-up in each category. The royalty serve as ambassadors to other gay rodeo associations across the country as well as other gay/lesbian organizations and serve as our fundraising leaders during their one year reign. Each must raise a minimum of \$500 over the course of the year for a 501C gay or AIDS oriented charity. In addition to the interview portion, the contest includes public presentation and western dress competition. At the end of their reign, each titleholder will, if they have the horsemanship qualifications needed, be eligible to compete in the Mr./Ms/Miss International Gay Rodeo competition. All entrants must be an active member of HGRA and entries must be in to the board of directors twenty-four hours prior to the competition.

The Divine Inga, AKA Stan Brown, will be serving as hostess for the evening's festivities. Guest entertainers will include Jennifer Jett, Felice Whitney, Ron Walters, and the Tomboys. The fifteen judges, five for each category, will include nine HGRA members, representatives from the *New Voice*, ICON, the MAX, the Chesterfield, the Diamond, and Gilligan's, with an alternate judge from NAP.

Contest applications with further details are available at the bars or by writing the HGRA. If you have further questions or wish to offer assistance, contact any member of the entertainment committee: Don C., Shelley Foster, Terry Jovich, Stan Brown, Larry Choquette, or myself. HGRA invites all of the community to attend, and we hope to see you there, either onstage or in the audience.

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Jeane Norwood

Terry Wheelock



**ANGLE CELEBRATES  
NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY  
WITH BILLBOARDS — AN  
OMAHA FIRST**

A.N.G.L.E., Inc. (Achieving New Gay and Lesbian Endeavors) will be celebrating National Coming Out Day with two "junior" size billboards, one located at 24th & Douglas on the South Side of the street, facing west; and the other located at 27th and Harney on the North side of the street, facing west.

These two billboards will feature the National Coming Out Day Logo created by Keith Haring and will invite passers-by to help their friends and loved ones celebrate National Coming Out Day on October 11. The billboards will also list the phone number of the Gay and Lesbian Information and Referral Line which is sponsored by A.N.G.L.E.

This marks the first time that billboards have been used to publicize a gay and lesbian event in the Omaha area. Imperial Outdoor Advertising deserves a vote of thanks for their willingness and cooperation in this venture.

The text of the billboards is given below. Area media are being advised of this event and we hope for coverage by several news media. The billboards are several feet above the ground so that vandalism is discouraged, but if any vandalism occurs, both the police and the media will be notified immediately.

**SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS GAY, LESBIAN, BI, OR TRANSGENDER.**



**Celebrate With Pride  
National  
Coming Out Day  
Oct. 11, 1993**

**Sponsored by ANGLE (Achieving New Gay and Lesbian Endeavors)  
Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line 558-5303**

**NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY BILLBOARDS  
AN OMAHA FIRST**

**NEWS FROM METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA**

by Carla

September saw the start of two Morning Worship Services, one at 9:00 and the other at 10:30, for friends and members of MCC-O. These are exciting times as our growth continues steadily. It was just a little over a year ago that we moved into this church building, and already we need two morning services to accommodate our friends and members.

Plans began in Sept. for the 20th Anniversary Celebration of the chartering of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. Activities being planned include inviting all the former pastors to take part in Anniversary Worship Service(s) and on January 23, 1994, a big show and dance at The MAX. Other activities will be announced as the plans become more definite. To fund this 20th Anniversary Celebration, we will be doing some special fund raising activities. To start, we'll have a Ham & Bean Feed on Saturday, October 23, from 4:30-7:30 p.m. in the Church Social Hall. The community is invited. \$3.50 will get you all the ham & beans you can eat!

Entertainment will follow! Hope you can join us!

Membership classes will be conducted during October, as well as leadership training classes for our new cell groups that will be formed about the first of November.

If you remember "The Invasion of the Squirrel" a few months ago, well, September brought out two new critters to keep our church secretary on her toes: bats. One perched prominently right above Rev. Howard's office door; the other took up residence in a corner on the landing to the basement. We are happy to report that both are now residing in Fontenelle Forest, thanks to the Nebraska Humane Society. The Church Board is considering adding "Wildlife Training" to the job qualifications of the office secretary.

Work has begun on restoring the broken stained glass windows in the sanctuary. Watch for the results over the next year. Peggy R., a member of the congregation and an accomplished stained glass artisan, is doing part of the restoration

in her spare time. Praise God for her talents and the generous donations that make this possible. Estimates given when we first moved into the building place the cost of each window at approximately \$1,500. The sanctuary alone has eight windows.

The social committee is putting together a plan for a Halloweenish-type gathering. Pick up a copy of our weekly bulletin for complete details!

The 32 members and friends of MCC-O who participated in the EXCEL weekend reported having a great time of fun, fellowship, and study at the Wakonda Prayer House in Griswald, Iowa. Now is not too early to think about participating in this retreat in 1994. The Wakonda Prayer House was at one time the site of a Boy Scout Camp. It is located in a wooded area on the hills just this side of Griswald.

We invite you to join us for worship this Sunday at either 9:00 a.m. or 10:30 a.m. Or perhaps you'd like to join us for our monthly evening service. It is held the first Sunday of each month at 6:00 p.m. and is preceded at 5:00 by a Potluck Dinner. In either case, we hope we'll see you soon. For now that's it from my pew. See you in church!

**OMAHA PLAYERS  
CLUB UPDATE**

We are pleased to announce the continued growth of the Omaha Players Club. The Omaha Metro area has provided approximately 45 members. For those of you unfamiliar with OPC, we are an educational, social group based around S/M, Leather, Fetish lifestyles. We accept those of any gender or sexual orientation as long as they are at least 21 years of age and can abide to the ways of safe, sane, consensual play. For more information, please contact P.O. Box 3-4463, Omaha, NE 68134.

**THRIFT CITY**  
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*Percentage of Proceeds donated to NAP*

**BLUE BARN THEATER TO  
PRODUCE  
FRANKIE AND JOHNNY  
IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE**

The Blue Barn Theatre will follow up its staggeringly successful run of David Drakes' *THE NIGHT LARRY KRAMER KISSED ME* with another off-Broadway hit, *FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE* by Terrence McNally will open the Blue Barn Theatre's sixth season. *FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE* is an impassioned love story between a waitress and a short-order cook who meet in the diner where they work. The two-character play is set in the Hell's Kitchen district of New York City, and has been described by the playwright as about the "need to connect...how people get off the tracks, how they fail each other and how they need not fail each other."

Although Mr. McNally is openly gay, he does not feel compelled to identify himself as a gay playwright. *FRANKIE AND JOHNNY* is about the universality of the struggle to make contact, to trust and be trusted, to love and be loved. According to company member Rachel Hauben, who will play Frankie, "these are two great characters. They are funny and interesting, and the course of the play takes them on a beautiful journey." Amy Matthews will direct this production and John Santangelo will play Johnny. The play will run from October 22 through November 14, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$10.00 for adults and \$7.00 for students and seniors. The box office will open October 4, Mondays through Fridays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. For information and reservations, call 345-1576.

**ICON MOVES IN  
BURGLARY CASE**

The Board of Governors of the Imperial Court of Nebraska announced mid-September that it has taken the following action regarding the burglary of ICON monies following Coronation XIII:

- 1) Remove all titles and honors received by Joe Reed.
- 2) Remove Joe Reed from the Board of Governors.
- 3) Deny Joe Reed eligibility as a board member, royal family member, monarch, or recipient of any title or honor until restitution has been made.
- 4) After consultation with an attorney, file a claim for \$1,800.00 against Joe Reed in Small Claims Court.

The Board of Governors delayed taking action against Joe Reed, the former treasurer of ICON, to allow the police time to apprehend the burglar. When in the police's estimation that was not going to happen, representatives of the Board met with Reed to determine whether or not he would make voluntary restitution. He chose not to do so. During this same time, an audit committee was formed to do an audit of the records from January 1, 1993, until July 12, 1993, at which time Joe Reed was removed as treasurer. The results of the audit will be made public as soon as they are examined by the Board.

**FOR WOMYN ONLY  
MIDWEST REGIONAL  
CHAPTER OF AWMAC  
FORMING**

The women of WomenSpace Productions are excited to announce the birth of a Midwest Regional Chapter of AWMAC (Association of Women's Music and Culture) — a NATIONAL women's association committed to unity and empowerment within the women's community.

The Mission Statement of AWMAC is as follows: 1) To foster, encourage, and empower women's music and culture through the networking and education of, and support and services for, our members. 2) To build a diverse multicultural and international community which is respectful of differences and is committed to quality and excellence within our cultural network.

The kick-off meeting will be held Sunday, October 3, at 1 pm at The Terra Jane, east of Council Bluffs off Highway 92.



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For more information or to  
contribute to this campaign  
contact us at:

- HEADQUARTERS -  
National Coming Out Day  
PO Box 8270  
Santa Fe, NM 87504  
505-962-2558

## CHORUS NOTES

By Stan Brown

The River City Mixed Chorus is celebrating its 10th Anniversary this season and we are very excited to have a singing membership of 54 Gay men, Lesbians, and Gay sensitive individuals. Our major concerts will be our Winter Concert on Saturday, January 24, 1994, and our Pride Concert on Saturday, June 25, 1994, both at 7:05 p.m. at UNO Strauss Performing Arts Center.

We will be performing at other events throughout the year beginning with our participation in Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church's worship service on Sunday, November 7, 10:00 a.m. We have been rehearsing, meeting, and performing at Lowe Avenue for most of the past ten years and appreciate all the church has done to support us through the years.

We have changed to a new rehearsal space beginning September 20 due to our continued growth in membership and a need to hear and see our director and each other better. Our new "home" will be First United Methodist Church. The Chorus also has a new phone number, 341-SING (341-7464).

Please join us at Lowe Avenue for the worship service and stay afterwards for a reception we will be hosting for the church to say "thank you."

Don't forget our Gay and Lesbian Film Festival on Saturday and Sunday, October 9 and 10, at UNO Eppley Administration Building Auditorium, from 1:30 - 8:30 p.m. We have a wide range of films that most people in this area never get to see so we hope to see you all there. For more information write to us at RCMC, P.O. Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103 or check last month's *New Voice* for the advance ticket order form.

## INGA & COMPANY AT THE MAX

Please join Inga and her friends as they celebrate National Coming Out Day Weekend with a Variety show at the MAX, Sunday, October 10, 9:30pm.

Proceeds from the door will be split between ANGLE for their National Coming Out Day Billboards and the River City Mixed Chorus to support their Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, October 9 and 10, at UNO.

This show, "Inga and Company," is Inga's chance to thank the many performers who have helped her with benefit shows in the past for RCMC, ANGLE, The Names Quilt, MCC, and others. There will not be a fish bowl for tips so please show these entertainers that you appreciate their time and talent they have contributed in the past.

The entertainers will include Joel Cason, R.N. Hedges, Brandon, Bill B., Todd Ruser, Viktoria Towne, Jassmyr Starr, Phoenix Fallentino, Mr. Stella, Tami Griffith, Roxy, Connie Henke, Monica West, Michael Gaffney, Madame X, emcee, Pat Phalen, plus other surprise guests. Don't miss this show. We will have some of the best live and lip-synch performers in Omaha.

Inga will also be coordinating the Heartland Gay Rodeo Association's first Mr., Ms, Miss H.G.R.A. Contest on Saturday, October 16, 9:00 p.m. at DC's. This is sure to be a great contest with entertainment by Tom Walters, Jennifer Jett, Felice Whitney, the TomBoys, and Inga. Please contact Inga (AKA Stan Brown) for information and applications for the contest or pick one up at DC's. Look for additional information about the contest in this issue of the *New Voice*.

## OMAHA CELEBRATES NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

by Sharon Van Butsel

Omaha and Council Bluffs are celebrating National Coming Out Day. The actual observance is October 11 but the observance begins much earlier.

On or about October 1, two billboards go up in the downtown area commemorating National Coming Out Day. The billboards, sponsored by ANGLE, are located at 24th and Douglas, facing west; and at 27th and Harney, facing west. They feature the NCOD Logo created by Keith Haring as well as the Gay and Lesbian Information and Referral Line phone number (558-5303).

On Tuesday, October 5, there will be a Coming Out Party 9pm-midnight at THE MAX, sponsored by the *Times of the Heartland*, featuring Jerry Scott, live from New York. There will be a \$2 cover, which goes to benefit the AIDS Coalition for Empowerment (ACE).

Then, during the weekend of October 9 and 10, National Coming Out Day is being celebrated with the River City Mixed Chorus' Gay and Lesbian Film Fest at UNO and with a show at the MAX, "Inga and Friends."

### CFEP STREET FAIR GOES INDOORS

On Sunday, October 10, Citizens for Equal Protection will again celebrate National Coming Out Day with a "Street Fair" but this time the Fair is being held indoors in the Ballroom of the Milo Bail Student Center on the UNO Campus. The Fair will take place from 3pm to 8pm and is open to everyone. There will be speakers, music, food, and displays from local organizations. Last year's Street Fair was a huge success. Let's make this year's even bigger!

### TOLERANCE ON TRIAL

In the documentary *Tolerance on Trial* viewers will meet Chuck Merino a former Boy Scout Explorer leader and a 15-year police veteran and former president of the El Cajon Police Officers Association. Chuck has spent five years advising the department's drug abuse education program. For 20 years he has coached local high school football.

Last year while speaking at a community meeting on hate crimes against gays, police officer Chuck announced he was gay. Although honesty is an idea upheld by the Boy Scouts of America, homosexuality is not. In September 1992 Merino was told by the Scouts' San Diego County chapter that a "homosexual role model" is not welcome. When mediation didn't work, Merino filed a lawsuit seeking re-instatement, or denying the Boy Scouts use of city-owned property in accordance with San Diego's anti-discrimination ordinance.

*Tolerance on Trial* effectively examines how this issue has polarized the San Diego community, pitting those who uphold the Scouts' view of "traditional values" against those who believe there's no room for discrimination when teaching children.

Directed by the Emmy award winning filmmaker Jack Offield, *Tolerance on Trial* is a co-production of KPBS public television and the Production Center for Documentary & Drama at San Diego State University. It is a must viewing for every group and individual in America concerned with civil rights and the need to make all organizations, public and private, abide with anti-discrimination laws.

Available for only \$21.25. Call 1-800-266-KPBS to order.



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## LINCOLN COFFEE HOUSE IS A SUCCESS

By Sandy Vopalka

The coffee house in Lincoln, on the second Saturday of each month, is a success. The main focus is to provide a safe place for lesbians and gays 40 years old and older, but everyone is welcome. (At the time of the first event in August, there was the issue of not welcoming people under 40. That issue has been removed and everyone is invited.) At the last coffee house people ranged in age from 73 to 31 and we all had a great time. The coffee house is the beginning of a wide range of future programs. The coffee house meets the second Saturday of each month at 3319 S. 46th St. (South of Van Dorn, on the corner of 46th and Sherman Streets) from 4-9pm. Please come and have some fun. People stay a short time and others stay the whole 5 hours. Remember, this is a safe and welcome space. Information for Older Gay People is looking at becoming affiliated with SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment). There is a conference in New York City, October 14-17, where new ideas will be explored and discussed. Also those who attended last year's conference will share with all of us the things that worked and those that didn't. The conference is SAGE's second North American Conference. Hopefully, Nebraska will again be represented. More information on the affiliation will be available as things happen. If you would like more details on any of these things, please write to information, P.O. Box 22043, Lincoln, NE 68542.

## A NEW "ANGLE" IN NEWS

By Stan Brown

During the month of October, be sure to look for our National Coming Out Day billboards at two locations; one at 27th and Harney facing west and the other at 24th and Douglas Streets, also facing west. ANGLE is paying for these two billboards, but if you would like to help fund them please send your donation to ANGLE, P.O. Box 31375, Omaha, NE 68131.

My show, "Inga and Company," is on Sunday, October 10, 9:30pm, at the MAX and will also help support this advertising. Half of the proceeds from the door of the show will go to ANGLE for the billboards and half to the River City Mixed Chorus to support their Gay and Lesbian Film Festival, October 9 and 10. I guarantee this is going to be a fun variety show, so, please stop down to the MAX October 10.

Also look for more information about RCMC's Film Festival in my Chorus Article and the Community Calendar for information about CFEP's National Coming Out Day even at UNO on Sunday, October 10. It's wonderful to have so many events happening to celebrate being a Gay man, a Lesbian, or Bi-sexual, but don't forget Monday, October 11, is the official National Coming Out Day.

On November 13 ANGLE is hosting a roller skating party at Skateland on 84th and "F". We hope to make this a fundraising event for the Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line. Please mark your calendars and look for more details in next month's *New Voice* or for flyers at the bars.

ANGLE is already making plans for PRIDE activities in 1994. Our Pride Parade and Rally will be held on Sunday, June 12, next year. We have decided to move our 4th Annual Recognition Dinner to October 21 and will begin the nomination process during Pride Month in June. If you are interested in helping with these activities, please contact the Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line, 558-5303.

During the weekend of June 25, the Stonewall 25 Celebration and the Gay Games will be happening in New York City. There still might be space left to join the group traveling from the Omaha area, so please contact the information line (558-5303) and ask for Becky to return your call.

Finally, a reminder that our meetings are still the first Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the UNO Religious Center, 101 North Happy Hollow Blvd. Please join us as we plan for Pride in 1994.

## IN BLACK AND WHITE: GLORIA'S TIME WARP

By B & G

*How Gentle is the Rain*, *Harper Valley P.T.A.*, and *Show*, were only a few of the 'Oldies But Goodies' that we witnessed at Gloria Ravelle's Time Warp Show. The Show was at the MAX on Sunday, August 29th and started off to a shaky beginning about 45 minutes late. The first number was the cast (which consisted of all of Gloria's Friends) doing *My Boyfriend's Back*.

After this fun display we saw host Steve Koeller begging Baruka to come on stage as the D.J., Twice, started the music to *Just A Girl That Can't Say No*. Eventually she made it out to perform her number. The fun then started with Kendra performing *Knock on Wood*, Eva Destruction with a couple of numbers from the movie *Grease II*, and Vivian Cartright dancing to *I Love The Nightlife*.

Gloria Ravelle showed us a very funny version of *Blame It On The Bosanova*, and as usual gave us a great performance. Nina Foxx, Dietra Snow, and Shana Stone gave us 50's, 60's, and 70's numbers and then one of our highlights of the evening was Miss Time Warp herself — Jennifer Jett. Jennifer performed *To Sir With Love* and *Show*.

A beer drinking Amy Zahn danced out *Sugartown* and *Boots* by Nancy Sinatra and Gloria Ravelle showed us Grace Slick's *Wann Somebody to Love*. The show continued along with more 70's number by Nina, Dietra, and Vivian and then two more numbers by Jennifer

Jett — *It's My Party*, and *Sunshine Lollipops*. Shana Stone did a disco mix, Eva performed *Le Freak*, and Kendra brought us Donna Summers *Last Dance*.

Steve Koeller sold some raffle tickets for International Ms Leather, Amy Marie Meck. It was during this time that we noticed in the audience some other performers supporting the show: Monica West, Madame X, Michael Gaffney, Miss Mayo, April Lane, Roxy, and Felice Whitney. After Roxy won the raffle (and donated it back to the cause of "Women with AIDS"), Baruka belted out *Harper Valley P.T.A.* and Gloria finished the show with *Dream a Little Dream and Dancin' In The Streets*.

We feel this was a great idea for a show and definitely a good change. Gloria and the folks at the MAX once again put on a fine show.

## P-FLAG LINCOLN HAS NEW PHONE NUMBER

467-4599 in the new business phone line for the Cornhusker Chapter of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. This new business listing marks a major step in the life of the chapter and is an accomplishment which will make the group more easily available to provide support and receive calls.

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## IN BLACK AND WHITE: THE OMAHA MEATPACKERS' PWA BENEFIT

By B & G



THE MEATPACKERS AND PACKETTES MARCH TO THE CADENCE OF "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL"

On the 6th of September, we attended the annual Omaha Meatpackers PWA benefit held at the MAX. This show featured many well known community performers as well as several bearded and mustached members of the community strutting their stuff — complete with dazzling and sequined gowns, high heels, and excessively large bosoms. It was Skag Drag at it's best.

This year's benefit was hosted by Mr. Don Flowers, a long time member of the Meatpackers, who has been continually active in numerous community fundraisers and activities, and co-hosted by a former Miss Gay Nebraska who came out of retirement for the benefit, Miss Velvet.

The show opened with the entire cast performing a military cadence to the tune of *Don't Ask-Don't Tell* - a great opening number! This was followed by lip-synching performances by Empress XIII — the Black Rose — Miss Roxy performing *Tongue Check*; Francine Fishpaws with Bette Midler's *Miss Otis Regrets*, *She's Unable to Lunch*; a dynamic performance by Velvet of Peggy Lee's *Fever*; Gary West doing Paula Abdul's *Straight-Up*; Babes Behind Bars with a Pointer Sisters medley of *He's so Shy*, *Fire*, and *Make Your Move*; Miss Targay with Bonnie Raitt's *Something to Talk About*; Miss Easy Does It and Marilyn McCoo's *Last Night*; David — Bertha (really Big Boobs) - *Harper Valley PTA*; Ruby (Scotty) doing Diana Ross's *Up the Ladder To The Roof*; and Don Flowers' *God Bless America*. During the first half of the show the audience really showed their appreciation by rewarding the performers with loads of tips, which were placed in the fishbowl by all performers.

The second half of the show featured an auction with items such as oriental rugs, fine crystal vases and platters, a sitting for an oil portrait, a silver tea service, and many other fine gift items, which were all donated to the auction from members and friends of the community. Again, the audience really enjoyed this portion of the show (more money than anticipated was raised for a very worthy cause).

The second half of the show began with a performance by the Meatpackers lip-synching *My God-My Guy* and *I Will Follow Him* from *Sister Act*. The opening of the second half brought the audience back to an awareness of why we were gathered there as it was punctuated with a solo performance with Carla lip-synching *All the Fine Young Men* as pictures of some of the people we have lost to AIDS were shown on a screen above the performers.

The show continued with Targay as Patti Labelle, with Velvet performing Paula Abdul's *The Way That You Love Me*; Gary West and Cher's *If I Could Turn Back Time*; The Babes Behind Bars performed from *Chorus Line*; Sharon Van Butsel (one of the two real women in the show) performing Lynn Lavner's *Don't Wear Leather Pants to the Seder*; Froline's *Dream a Little Dream*; Francine Fishpaws and Dolly Parton's *I Will Always Love You*; Miss Easy Does It with *You've Come a Long Way From St. Louis*; David with Linda Ronstadt's *Good-By My Friend*; and Don Flowers *Don't Tell Me What To Do*. The show closed with the grand finale of the entire cast performing *Don't Ask, Don't Tell* breaking into *I Am What I Am*.

All in all, it was a very entertaining show and lots of money was raised for the PWA assistance fund.

However, we were disappointed with the lack of support from other community entertainers who usually perform at this type of benefit show.

We do want to thank the community supporters and entertainers we did see at this benefit: Gary and his staff from NAP, Mr. Dick Brown, Kendra, Inga, Felice Whitney, Miss Mae-o-Naise, and Muffy Rosenberg. Our thanks also to Stosh and the MAX staff, Lisa - fighting technician for the show, Mr. Tom Cech - (Another beautiful set) and all others in attendance.

Without the support we saw that evening a show like the one we witnessed would not have been possible.

Thanks to all from B & G.

## WHEN DID THE WORLD LOSE TEN DAYS?

In 46 B.C., Roman ruler Julius Caesar put a new calendar into effect, which came to be known as the Julian Calendar. The Romans thought that the year was 365 1/4 days long, so they made an ordinary year 365 days and added an extra day every fourth year, or leap year.

But by the year 730 A.D., it was known that the year was actually 11 minutes shorter than the Romans of Julius Caesar's time thought it was. This mistake made the calendar wrong by 11 minutes every year, or one day wrong in every 128 years. By 1582, the calendar was ten days out of line with the seasons.

So in that year, Pope Gregory XIII ordered a new calendar placed into effect, which we now call the Gregorian Calendar. To keep the calendar in line with the seasons, it was decided that the first year of each century would be a leap year only when that year could be divided by 400. Therefore, 1200 and 1600 were leap years, but 1800 and 1900 were not. This change eliminated the 11-minute-per-year-error in the calendar.

To bring the calendar immediately back into line with the seasons, Gregory ordered that ten days be dropped from the year 1582. People went to bed on the night of October 5 of that year woke up on October 15th!

## WHAT EVERY G/L NEEDS TO KNOW WHEN CONSIDERING TREATMENT CENTER

Pride Institute, founded seven years ago by lesbians and gay men, is the leader in alcohol and drug treatment for lesbian, gay, and bisexual individuals. We are not "gay sensitive", but gay affirming. Not a treatment "track" or just another sideline program, but an exclusively lesbian and gay chemical dependency treatment facility.

Shop for healthcare just as you would for any other major purchase. After all, this is your life we are talking about. Many insurance policies will only pay for one hospitalization for alcohol and drug treatment. Don't make a mistake!

The following are suggested questions to ask when shopping for a treatment center. Do not be intimidated. You have the right to this information.

1. Is your facility accredited by the Joint Center on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations?
2. Is this a lesbian/gay treatment center or just a "gay track" or sideline program at a "straight" hospital? Do you operate a "Christian Program" in your facility?
3. What do you mean by "gay program"? Will I be housed with gay people and be in all gay groups, or will all the groups be mixed together depending on the number of patients in the "gay program"? If in mixed groups, how can the group members' prejudices be handled? Will I be able to speak about the most intimate parts of my life?
4. How many gay patients in your facility today?
5. Is this a psychiatric hospital or a drug and alcohol treatment center? Will I be locked up?
6. How long has this "gay program" been in business? What is your success rate? Ask to see an independent outcome study.
7. How much will this hospital charge my insurance company? Will I have any benefits for continuing therapy after I am discharged?
8. Will my counselor be lesbian, gay? What is education background, years of experience?
9. Has this hospital or its parent company, been charged with or investigated for, any fraudulent or deceptive practices?

Copyright 1993, Pride Institute, 1440 Martin Drive, Eden Prairie, MN 55344. ☎12-934-7554 or toll free 1-800-54 PRIDE.

# OMAHA MEATPACKERS RAISE OVER \$9,000 — ANOTHER \$5,000 PLEDGED



**VELVET JOINS THE MEATPACKERS TO TOSS THEIR WIGS  
IN THE AIR IN GRAND FINALE**



**TRACY AND THE BABES BEHIND  
BARS DANCE AT THE BALLET**

The Omaha Meatpackers Labor Day Benefit Show was one of the most successful in recent years. Thanks to the generosity of the community and fundraising efforts on behalf of other community organizations and groups, the total raised that night was over \$9,000. In addition, a benefactor has pledged to match what was donated up to \$5,000, which will bring the total to over \$14,000. This will go to fund the PWA Emergency Assistance Fund, which provides emergency needs such as rent, food, medication, etc. for PWA's.

Special thanks goes to Gary West and the staff and customers of Club 2001 in Lincoln who raised over \$1900 for PWA Assistance, and to the Imperial Court of Nebraska for a donation of over \$1100 from their Labor Day Raffle.



**SHARON CAUTIONS *DON'T WEAR  
LEATHER PANTS TO THE SEDER***



**MEATPACKERS AND PACKETTES GET IN THE HABIT**



**MISS DAVID**

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## FRIDAY, October 1

Billboards recognizing National Coming Out Day go up at 24th & Douglas, 27th & Harney, Omaha, Sponsored by ANGLE, Inc.

## SATURDAY, October 2

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

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

Coffeehouse MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 7-10pm Informal, alcohol-free event

## SUNDAY, October 3

Kick-Off meeting for Midwest Regional Chptr of AWMAC (Assoc. of Women's Music And Culture) 1pm, Terra Jane, Council Bluffs

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, October 4

Blue Barn Box Office Opens, 4:30-6:30pm, M-F, for reservations for *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair De Lune* Call 345-1576 for info.

Imperial Court of Nebr. Board of Governors, 6:30pm, The MAX, 1415 Jackson, Omaha

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

## TUESDAY, October 5

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

Coming Out Party sponsored by *Times of the Heartland*, 9pm-midnight, Featuring Jerry Scott, Live from New York, \$2 cover, Benefit for AIDS Coalition for Empowerment (ACE), The MAX, 1417 Jackson, Omaha

## THURSDAY, October 7

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

The Male Space, Discussion Group 7-8:30pm, 1448 "E" St., Lincoln. For Gay/Bisexual Men of all ages. Write or visit: Stan Balderson, 1534 "E" St., Apt. #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, October 8

"Taking Care of Each Other" Drop In Center, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha, 10pm-2am, HIV Information/Counseling/Testing

## SATURDAY, October 9

River City Mixed Chorus Film Fest, Eppley Administration Bldg, UNO Campus

## SATURDAY, October 9

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

Coffee House, 4-9pm, 3319 S. 46th St., Lincoln, Everyone is invited, Hosted by Information for Older Gay People, Box 22043, Lincoln, NE 68542, Info, call (402) 488-4178

Omaha Players Club Workshop, call 451-7987

## SUNDAY, October 10

### Deadline for November New Voice

Citizens For Equal Protection join with UNO Religious Center and the UNO Gay Lesbian Student Organization to Celebrate National Coming Out Day, Milo Bail Student Center Ballroom, UNO Campus, 3-8pm

River City Mixed Chorus Film Fest, Eppley Administration Bldg, UNO Campus

*New Voice* Steering Committee, Join Us at our booth at the CFEP Fair

The Male Space, Social 2-6pm, 1448 "E" St., Lincoln. For Gay/Bisexual Men of all ages. Write or visit: Stan Balderson, 1534 "E" St., Apt. #26, Lincoln, 68508.

"Inga and Friends" 9:30pm, The MAX, 1417 Jackson, Omaha

## MONDAY, October 11 National Coming Out Day

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

## TUESDAY, October 12

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

## THURSDAY, October 14

Parent-Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Omaha, 291-6781, Program/Time for Sharing, 7pm, First Methodist, 7020 Cass, West Entrance

## SATURDAY, October 16

Mr./Ms/Miss HGRA Contest, Interviews, 2pm, Contest, 9pm, DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha,

## SUNDAY, October 17

The Next Step II, A Walk-a-thon Fun-run to benefit the Nebraska AIDS Project, Start at Omaha Community Playhouse, Omaha, 1st Plymouth Congregational Church, Lincoln, UNK Student Union, Kearney

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

Prime Timers, 4pm, UNO Religious Center, 101 North Happy Hollow Blvd., Omaha

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

## TUESDAY, October 19

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

## FRIDAY, October 22

*Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* Blue Barn Theatre, 1250 South 13 St., Omaha, 8pm, Tickets \$10/adults, \$7/students, seniors 345-1576 for reservations

"Taking Care of Each Other" Drop In Center, 1723 Leavenworth, Omaha, 10pm-2am, HIV Information/Counseling/Testing

## SATURDAY, October 23

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

Ham & Bean Supper, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 5-8pm, Entertainment follows. Proceeds help fund MCC 20th Anniversary Celebration.

**For Womyn Only:** An Evening in the Country 7-Midnight, Includes supper, dancing, D.J., hayrides, bonfires, \$10 person, **ADVANCE Ticket Sales Only**, Available at New Realities in Omaha, and the Albino Rhino and Arbor Moon Bookstore in Lincoln

*Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, Blue Barn Theatre, 1250 South 13 St., Omaha, 8pm, Tickets \$10/adults, \$7/students, seniors 345-1576 for reservations

## SUNDAY, October 24

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

*Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, Blue Barn Theatre, 1250 South 13 St., Omaha, 7pm, Tickets \$10/adults, \$7/students, seniors 345-1576 for reservations

## TUESDAY, October 26

Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG), Lincoln Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, 7pm, Small group sharing session (under 21 group meets separately), Program: "Friends: A Different Perspective" For more information call 467-4599

## FRIDAY, October 29

*Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, Blue Barn Theatre, 1250 South 13 St., Omaha, 8pm, Tickets \$10/adults, \$7/students, seniors 345-1576 for reservations

## SATURDAY, October 30

*Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, Blue Barn Theatre, 1250 South 13 St., Omaha, 8pm, Tickets \$10/adults, \$7/students, seniors 345-1576 for reservations

## SUNDAY, October 31 Halloween

*Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*, Blue Barn Theatre, 1250 South 13 St., Omaha, 8pm, Tickets \$10/adults, \$7/students, seniors 345-1576 for reservations

# COMMUNITY CALENDAR

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### SUNDAY

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha  
819 S. 22, 345-2563, Sunday School Adults  
& Children 9am, Worship 9am, 10:20am

HGRA Dart Tourney, 6pm, The MAX,  
Omaha, \$3 entry, teams & singles welcome

### MONDAY

River City Mixed Chorus Rehearsals, 7:15 to  
9:30pm, First United Methodist Church, 7020  
Cass St, (Northwest Door), Omaha

Alternate Test Site, Nebraska AIDS Project,  
3624 Leavenworth St., Omaha, 7-9:30pm

### TUESDAY

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

AI-Anon Support Group for those whose  
lives are affected by a loved one's use of  
alcohol, First Unitarian Church, Side Door,  
Omaha, 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

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

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 7-9:30pm

### FRIDAY

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

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

Omaha Alcoholics Anonymous,  
\*\*\*"An Alternative" Gay Men's Stag Group,  
7pm, MCC-O, 819 S. 22, 455-7916  
\*\*\*"Live & Let Live" G/L Group, 8:15pm,  
Pella Lutheran Church, 303 S. 41, 345-9916

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

After Hours Dancing, 1 - 4am Late Night,  
DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha

After Hours Dancing, 1:35 - 4am Late Night,  
The New Run Bar, Omaha

### SATURDAY

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

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

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

After Hours Dancing, 1 - 4am Late Night,  
DC's, 1019 S. 10, Omaha

After Hours Dancing, 1:35 - 4am Late Night,  
The New Run Bar, Omaha

**Do You Have An Event That Should  
Be Listed In The Calendar? Write:  
NVN, Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103**

## BISEXUAL CONFERENCE

BiWest, the 1993 Western and Pacific Rim  
Bisexual Conference will be held October 22 to  
24 in San Diego. Fritz Klein, M.D., author of *The  
Bisexual Option* will discuss the new sexual  
orientation grid from his upcoming update of the  
1978 book, and Dr. Ron Fox, will speak on his  
recent comprehensive survey on bisexuality. Other  
speakers include Lani Kaahumanu, editor of *Bi  
Any Other Name - Bisexual People Speak Out* ;  
Dr. Amity Pierce Buxton, author of *The Other  
Side of the Closet - The Straight Spouse*; Robyn  
Ochs and Nina Silver, contributors to *Closer to  
Home* ; Dr. Regina Reinhardt, author of *Bisexual  
Women in Relationships*; William Crawford,  
M.D., safer sex lecturer, and religion writer J.L.  
Wohls. Workshops include bisexual relationships  
and lifestyles; the sexual orientation grid; bisexual  
politics; bisexuality and the media; religion,  
spirituality and sexual orientation; bisexuality  
and feminism; transcultural and transgender  
issues; AIDS and safer sex. For information on  
the conference, call (619) 259-8019.

## CREATING CHANGE CONFERENCE

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force  
Policy Institute's (NGLTFPI) 6th annual Creating  
Change conference, will be held November 12-  
14 in Durham, North Carolina. Creating Change  
is the largest national conference for gay and  
lesbian organizing and skills building.

Creating Change 1993 will also feature pre-  
conference institutes on Diversity Training,  
People of Color Organizing, and Race, Class and  
Gender. The conference itself will include day-  
long intensives on numerous topics such as health  
care, "Fighting the Right," and international  
organizing.

New aspects of this year's conference are a  
political town meeting open to all participants  
and "Conversation" sessions between leading  
movement figures. The annual "Stand Up for  
Your Rights" gala will be a highlight of Creating  
Change, once again featuring the best and funniest  
entertainers in the lesbian and gay community.

## 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:

GLAQN  
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

Mom, Kenny, Staff & Friends of Gilligan's, thank you for making my 46th birthday so very special. J.D. (Oc93)

**Submissions wanted, new anthology.** Lesbians in recovery, any addictions, later stage (eight + years) recovery. Any recovery program considered. Deadline: Nov. 1, 1993. **SASE for guidelines to:** Jean Swallow, OFU2 Editor, 2404 California Street, #27, San Francisco, CA 94115.

## GAY/LESBIAN AL-ANON "FAMILY" GROUP

Interested in forming an Al-Anon Family Group for your community? Just for You! Contact Austin at 432-7378 in Lincoln. (Oc93)

**DWAN — queer poetry zine** — formerly of Nebraska — seeks good writing from all kinds of people. Send writings, with SASE for return. Box 411, Bellefonte 16823. (Sample copy — 58¢ stamps) (Oc93)

**Does FiFi or Rover need a bath or clip?** Call Rusty "The California Groomer" at 496-6075. First time groom \$3.00 off. Call today to make appointment. (Oc93)

**1 Bedroom Apartment, Spring Lake Park.** Clean, quiet, secluded, private entrance. All utilities paid. \$235.00/month. No smoking/pets. Lease, references, deposit. 733-1703 (Oc93)

**PROFESSIONAL BODY PIERCING.** \$25 plus cost of jewelry. Many jewelry styles to choose from. Call Amy at 451-7987. (-94)

**Lower level 1 bedroom apt.,** All bills paid. Private entrance. Cathedral area. 551-4033 (Oc93)

**Self-awareness group** for serious-minded gay men. Monday evenings. For information, call Bill at 333-3157 (Oc93)

**MASSAGE THERAPY:** For a Full Body Swedish Massage call: Michael (402) 341-2683 — by Appointment only! (No93)

**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

### Lonely

**GWM wanted,** 30 to 45, I'm 35, 5' 9", brown hair, little on top, blue eyes and full beard. 200 lbs. You must be family oriented. Looking for a Friend/Lover. (In Missouri Valley, Iowa area.) Write to P.O. Box 134, Missouri Valley, IA 51555 (No93)

**GWM, 31, 150,** ISO honest, affectionate, lifemate who enjoys simple living. "Just friends" welcome too. Kevin, P.O. Box 81, Glenvil, NE 68941-0081 (Oc93)

### LONELY?

Need a friend/lover. Call Infinity, a nationwide matching service for gay men. 602-848-6780. Free Limited Membership. (De93)

## TELL US WHAT YOU THINK: NVN SURVEY

1. What do you like to see in NVN? Explain.
2. What topics would you like to see in the NVN?
3. How do you receive your NVN on a regular basis?
4. Are there other locations where you would like to be able to pick up a copy of NVN? If yes, where?
5. What topics would you like to see NVN cover more?
6. Which advertisers do you patronize?
7. Would you like to work on NVN? If yes, what are your areas of interest?
8. Have you ever used a coupon from NVN? If yes, which one?
9. Do you use the resource directory?
10. Do you use the calendar?

If you need more room to answer this survey, please add a sheet of paper. Respond by the 10th of October. Return to S. McCartney, NVN, PO Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103. Results will be published in the December magazine.



## Subscribe Today!

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Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Order your one year subscription by mailing \$19.<sup>00</sup>

The New Voice is mailed in a plain brown envelope.

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**Mail to:**

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

# 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 (1am-7pm, Sun 12-5pm, Wally 489-4634-477-5666

**BIPALS (Bisexual Women / Alternate Lifestyle)**, Box 80913, Lincoln, 68501, 1st Mon 7:30pm, Cornerstone (upstps) 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 Men's Support Group**, c/o Counseling & Psychological Services, Room 213, University Health Center, UNL, Lincoln, 68588-0618, 472-7450. Confidential

**Information for Older Gay People (INFORMATION)**, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542-2043 Local, National Info, Conference Updates, and Education, Coffee House held 2nd Saturday of each month, 4-9pm, at 3319 S. 46th Street, Lincoln, Everyone is welcome.

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

**The Male Space**, 1st Thursday (Discussion) 7-8:30pm & 2nd Sunday (Social) 2-6pm at 1448 "E", Lincoln. For Gay/Bisexual Men of all ages. Women may lend financial support. Membership \$10/quarter. More info, write or visit: Stan Balderson, 1534 "E" St., Apt. #26, Lincoln, 68508.

**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) 467-4599. 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 Nebr Union, UNL, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-5644 Social, info, referral, library, Support grp Wed 7:30pm during school year

**The Wimm'n'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\*\*\*\*\*

**Al-Anon**, support for those who are affected by loved one's use of alcohol. Tuesday 7pm, 1st Unitarian, Side Door, 3114 Harney, Omaha

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

**Alcoholics Anonymous**, (Continued) Gay Mens Stag "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.

**Front-runners/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

**Metropex 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 9am and 10:30am. Evening worship 1st Sunday, 6pm preceded by potluck dinner at 5pm

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

**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.

**ONYX IMAGES**, P.O. Box 31026, Omaha, NE 68132-9998. Support/Social Fraternity for African American men. Age restriction for membership. Support for brothers of all ages.

**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, 291-6781. Meets: 2nd Thursday, 7 pm, "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 org. for older gay/bisexual men and their younger admirers. Meet 3rd Sunday, 4pm, UNO Religious Center, 101 N. Happy Hollow, Omaha. More 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**, Box 3267, Omaha, 68103-0267 341-SING (341-7464). 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, Brngg 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\*\*\*\*\*

**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 Social, 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-director

**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. Newline: 341-6900. Advertising: 341-1667. Weekly newspaper for heartland region published by Equity First Corp. Publisher, Tim Kennedy, Editor, Jay Jankovich

*Scare Up Excitement In  
October At  
THE MAX*

Sunday, October 3

Jennifer Jett presents,  
Miss Gay Omaha V.

See who will follow in the pump steps  
of Phoebe, Dorian, Jennifer & Amanda

Sunday, October 17

THE MAX knows you're always on  
the look out for hot men. So are we!  
Men In Motion bring their Midwest  
tour to Omaha and THE MAX

Sunday, October 10

The Armed Forces may not want you  
but, Inga does! Join Inga &  
Company for their variety show to  
benefit A.N.G.L.E. & R.C.M.C.

Sunday, October 24

Gloria Revelle presents  
Sunday Night Live II  
It's an evening full of all live  
performances, that won't drag on!

For The Ultimate in Halloween Madness, there's  
only been one place for 9 great years  
Sunday, October 31

**HALLOWEEN AT THE MAX**

Be a part of the #1 Costume Contest in the Midwest  
\$150 First Place, \$100 Second Place  
\$75 Third Place & \$75 Best Drag

There's Only One The Original

**THE MAX**

# PANIC

presents

A Nightmare on "N" Street



**BONNIE BITCH**

- and her -

**STRIP-SATION**

A spectacular production featuring live comedy, award-winning magic, 15 live animals, and three of the hottest dancers in the U.S.A. The most unique strip show in America

**FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29TH 10:00PM**

**Halloween BASH '93**

**DARE TO BE SCARED! JOIN US FOR AN EXTRA-EVIL WEEKEND OF FUN AND FRIGHT.**

**Saturday** - Ghastly drink specials every hour... and something extra when the clock strikes midnight!

**Sunday** - Costume contest for ghouls and boys. Judging begins at 11:45pm. \$100.00 First Prize - Frightfully Fabulous prizes for all that enter!

**PANIC • 200 S. 18TH • 435-8764**