

VOL. VI No. 1

MARCH 1989

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



Happy 5th Anniversary

Dare We Offend?

by Sharon Van Butsel

It's been a full year since I agreed to accept the position as "Acting" Editor of *The New Voice*. During that year I have learned one lesson painfully well. It is simply not possible for me to publish a monthly magazine without stepping on toes.

In December I deliberately included the article entitled "Dam it, Janet" knowing that it would offend people. Actually, parts of it offended me, but I chose to include it because I knew it would attract attention and might just alert some woman in our community to the fact that she, too, needs to be aware of safer sex practices.

This is not the first time I have managed to offend some of our readers and I guarantee it will not be the last. I've always had more guts than sense and that has not changed with age. I can only encourage you to submit articles that YOU think should be included. If you dislike something you read, write and let us know. You can also call me and tell me what you think but I don't guarantee that I'll be able to remember all your comments by the time I'm writing the next month's column.

One frustration I have is that people in our community seem to want to walk away rather than try to make things work. If you don't like the way the magazine is being published, then show up at our Steering Committee meetings and tell us so. Pick up a pen and write better articles. Submit better art work. GET INVOLVED!!

I get tired of some of the crap that goes on, too, but I'm too stubborn to give up. I've made a commitment to this magazine and I will keep it even when I'd just as soon not have the hassle. So, dear readers, you can look forward to more articles and more art work that may offend you from time to time. You can also look forward to a magazine that isn't dull and does make an honest attempt to represent all the elements of our Gay and Lesbian Community.

ps. Special thanks to Don Longmore and M.D. for their letters to the editor.

Editorial Note

Sharon V.

The New Voice of Nebraska is presently developing a policy regarding publication of death notices. We would appreciate your input on this matter. Please direct your letters to NVN, PO Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103.

HELP WANTED!

Typesetting assistants needed. If you have a computer in your home, or available a work, you can help *The New Voice*. First preference is an Atari ST computer. Second, an IBM compatible. Third choice is any other computer with a modem. (Atari ST/IBM disks can be provided.

If you can spend a few hours a month helping to typeset this magazine, call Tom at (712) 566-2206. (local Omaha call - area code not required.

Won't you give a couple hours a month for *your* magazine?

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Opinions expressed herein by columnists do not necessarily reflect the opinions of *The New Voice* Staff.

Subscriptions: 1 year - \$19.00. Classified Ads: \$3.00 for 20 words or less. \$20 for each additional word. Display rates given upon request. Deadline is the 10th of the month prior to publication.

The New Voice of Nebraska

PO Box 3512

Omaha, NE 68103

Happy St. Patrick's Day

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LETTERS



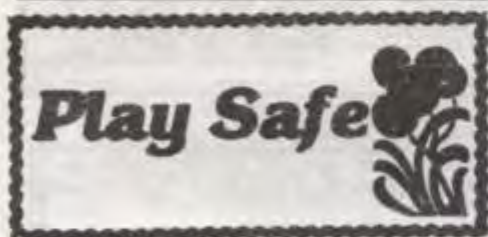
Letter to the Editor

I was a little surprised when I found out that you turned down a phone sex ad, as badly as you need the income generated from advertising. I have never seen a phone sex ad that appeared offensive, but apparently you have this policy.

In view of this I find it a little incongruous that you would approve the printing in the December issue of the article "Safer Sex For Women", which is graphically disgusting. I thought perhaps it was just because we are male that some of us found it inappropriate, but I talked to three women about it. One said she stopped half way through. I told her she missed the worst part. Another said disgusting and a third called it gross. Not that I think such information shouldn't be disseminated, women need to be apprised of the dangers as well as men, but it could have been done in a more tasteful manner.

With this in the December issue, what do you have in mind for Easter, Bestiality?

Don Longmore



Waiting

I went to bed
Last nite to sleep
But didn't sleep
-How could I sleep?

I laid awake
And thought of You
Its always you
What could I do?

Your softly, curving
Tender lips,
Your softly touching
finger lips.

I cannot wait
To taste your lips
Nor feel again
Your finger lips.

Please hurry back
I love you so,
Then off to sleep
At last we'll go.
I Love you Moel
-Bear

Editor,

Thank you for running the safer sex for women article. The author really knows what she's talking about and doesn't mince words.

It was educational and entertaining. A refreshing change of pace. Thank you.

Marj D.

Personal Thanks to Printing Plus

Sharon V.

Carla and I would like to say a special thanks to Printing Plus. We chose to design our own invitations for our Holy Union, so we went to Printing Plus with a handwritten message and a black and white pencil drawing. They produced a lovely burgundy on gray invitation at a price that could only be described as a bargain.

You've seen the consistent quality that Printing Plus does for *The New Voice*. I'd suggest that you give them a try for your personal printing needs.

Beware the Ides of March!



Printing Plus Inc.

"JUST WHAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR"

LOW COST - HIGH QUALITY PRINTING
FREE PICK UP & DELIVERY

333-5935

2431 S 120 ST

Dear Belinda...

I read your column with great interest every month. Out here in the "boondocks" its difficult to keep up to date on things happening in the bars. You provide the information we hunger (or thirst) for.

However, I've heard some things that were not covered in your column which concern me....

.... Leathermen carrying tupperware out of the Diamond Bar? Rumors of discontinued specials and a spring tupperware party?

.... The Diamond has now brought in the clowns.

What gives? Can we expect more of this? Will it spread throughout the community? Should Lincoln be warned?

Boondock Annie

Congratulations on 5th Anniversary

I would like to personally thank and give appreciation to all the current and previous volunteers who made *The New Voice* a success. It is a very thankless job being a volunteer but there are many unspoken voices out there who depend on and appreciate the many hours of work that have been given. *The New Voice* is a rare and unique work of art. It is not a business and has no paid staff like most other gay or non-gay publications. It has a distinct look and is highly regarded in many other parts of the country. It certainly can use some improvement but this can be said of all organizations. Let us applaud the efforts of this fine group.

Larry Wiseblood,
Founder and Former Editor

Happy St.
Patrick's Day

Founder and Former Editor Speaks Out

Larry Wiseblood

During the past two years I have been silent. I literally withdrew from the gay community. Why would such an outfront and outspoken leader limit his activities and leave all of his previous involvements? For those of you who don't know me, I was founder and Editor of *The New Voice* for close to three years. I was also a board member of the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Rights in Lincoln.

My lover John and I left the publication in April 1987. At the time John was in charge of Subscriptions and Distribution and I was directing Advertising. Our decision to leave involved several factors but was primarily due to personal attacks made against me by other members of *The New Voice* staff at the time. I had made the personal choice of picketing in front of a gay bar in Lincoln due to the fact that this bar refused to distribute the magazine. For months the staff of *The New Voice* had been distributing the magazine outside the bar so members of the community could obtain copies. I was accused of representing the magazine without permission even though it was made clear to everyone involved that I was

making a personal protest due to the unfairness of the bar's policies. It is public record that the bar had owed *The New Voice* a large sum of money from advertising because the publication had won its legal case in small claims court. I felt particularly angry that the bar would not allow distribution of a very important health concerns issue. With this particular incident I lost trust in gay people and made the decision not to be actively involved ever again.

This trust had been eroding for quite some time as I met various people who were self-serving and uncaring about the interests of others. I was tired of the rumors and the back-stabbing. Instead of people wanting to work together, groups and individuals seemed bent on hurting each other. Instead of people appreciating a first rate volunteer publication, the magazine was being constantly criticised. We cannot maintain our institutions and leaders if we bicker and fight one another. This is as true now as it was two years ago. John and I are currently distributing *The New Voice* in Lincoln. But we will never put in the time or commitment that we had done previously.



Stop by en route to
Brownville, Indian
Cave, Topeka, Kan-
sas City and all
points south on
Route 75.

CAFE



Auburn, Nebraska

"The New York of The Midwest"

402-274-4125

Sunday Buffet - 11am to 2pm



In Memorial

David G. Story

November 10, 1944 - February 2, 1989

Service were held at St. Cecelia's Cathedral on February 7th, 1989 to celebrate the life of David G. Story. Both of David's parents preceded him in death. He is survived by three brothers and two sisters of South Dakota and by Bruce Lovejoy, his life-mate of sixteen years.

David and Bruce began their lives together in Lincoln, Nebraska. While in Lincoln, they traveled to Omaha where they were charter members of The Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha and David served as Deacon of MCC-Omaha. Employment demands led them from Lincoln to Denver, Colorado, to Sioux Falls, South Dakota, to St. Louis Missouri, to Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, to New Orleans, Louisiana and back to Omaha, Nebraska twenty-two months ago. David was employed in the area of sales and as a florist. His artistry in floral arrangements has been seen at various fund raisers.

It was with courage and determination that David and Bruce moved to Omaha following David's diagnosis of having AIDS. David was intent upon the idea of living with AIDS, and not dying from AIDS. They became active in MCC Omaha once again. David was elected as Alternate Lay Delegate to the General Conference and assisted Bruce in the publication of the MCC Newsletter. David became involved with the Nebraska AIDS Project earning a position on their board as the PWA Coalition Representative.

David did not limit himself to work among Persons With AIDS, the Nebraska AIDS Project or the gay/lesbian community. David believed that AIDS was a threat to all of humanity which can only be combated through education. In his role as a teacher he spoke to church groups, public school children, college students, people attending regional conferences, and to anyone willing to listen. David's story reached newspapers and television. He and his "buddy" did a commercial for the buddy program of NAP which was aired frequently. David was rarely seen without his briefcase which contained literature to hand out.

David shall continue to live in my memories as I recall worshipping with him at MCC Omaha, not recognizing him in his red frock and feathers at a Halloween party in '87, talking with him for an afternoon in Mandan Park and being distracted by the joggers, attempting to capture his attention at the NAP office as he ran from phone to phone to people that needed to talk to him, sharing with him in the support group, visiting him in his home, and the telephone conversation that lasted over five hours.

David lived with the hope that his legacy would be at least one person who would become aware of the danger of AIDS or who would take from his courage to live life to its fullest in spite of AIDS. Some would say that the virus was victorious in putting David in the ultimate closet, the grave; however, as long as there are those of us that love and remember David, the grave cannot have the victory.

Jerry Peck

HUD Says AIDS Not a Handicap

San Francisco -- National Gay Rights Advocates (NGRA) filed a formal administrative complaint against the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for denying a federal housing subsidy to people with AIDS and ARC. The complaint was filed on behalf of Housing for Independent People (HIP), a non-profit housing agency in San Jose, which applied for a low-interest loan to develop housing for people with AIDS and ARC under a HUD program which subsidizes housing for the handicapped. HUD denied the loan last October, arguing that people with AIDS do not qualify as handicapped under their program because their illness is not "expected to be of long - continued and indefinite duration."

In their complaint, NGRA and HIP charged HUD with violating the Federal Rehabilitation Act by basing their policy on the erroneous stereotype that all people with AIDS and ARC face imminent death. NGRA further threatened to file suit in federal court if the issue is not promptly resolved in their favor.

"HUD's apparent position -- the people with AIDS and ARC don't live long enough to benefit from their programs -- demonstrates their ignorance about both medicine and the law," said Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project. "HUD is no more permitted to formulate policy on the basis of erroneous stereotypes than is any employer, school, or hospital governed by the Federal Rehabilitation Act."

Al DiLudovico, Executive Director of HIP, noted that "For people with AIDS, access to housing may make the difference between life and death. It is outrageous for a federal agency such as HUD to block efforts to help them out."



Beware the Ides of March!

AIDS History via *The New Voice*

-Jerry Peck

As *The New Voice of Nebraska* embarks upon another year and reflects upon the past, I feel a sense of real pride as I realize the awareness of the AIDS issue and the involvement of the gay/lesbian population of Nebraska. *The New Voice of Nebraska* has reported developments and assisted in educating their readers concerning AIDS.

In reviewing past issues of *The New Voice* it was noted that \$20,000.00 was raised at the 1984 Labor Day Events for AIDS. The following articles appeared in 1985: *AIDS-A Modern Plague* - February, *The United NOVA Story* - March, *AIDS-Threat or Reality* (AIDS information available by calling MCC) - April, *Health Concerns Committee Formed, Interview with State Health Dept, HTLV-III Testing in Lancaster County, Statement from AIDS Comprehensive Care Program* - July, *Imperial Court News* (News of an AIDS seminar and fund raisers for AIDS), *Safe Sex Practices, I Hugged an AIDS Patient* and an ad for 3rd Annual Labor Day fundraising for AIDS Project - August, *Omaha AIDS Project Formed, Are Condoms Effective Against AIDS, Erotic Stories About Safe Sex* - September, *Nebraska AIDS Project Announces Plans, Safe Sex Seminar to be Held at The Max, Tell Them You Wanna Use a Condom* and NAP's first listing in the resource list - October, *Coalition sponsors "The AIDS SHOW" Preview, Wimmen and AIDS* - November, *State Health Department Minimizes AIDS Problem, A Choice* and an ad from NAP - December.

Rereading these articles I am reminded that other publications were devoting space to the idea that persons with AIDS should be placed in concentration camps (if not all gays/lesbians) or that AIDS was the judgement of God against homosexuality. It was the gay/lesbian people of Nebraska which created much of what PWAs living in Nebraska enjoy today. The gay/lesbian people have extended their love and concern to all people with AIDS. None is asked to declare that they are gay in order to receive help from any group or organization serving PWAs in Nebraska.

I am proud of the gay people that have been involved in the development of services to PWAs. The actions were not taken to promote homosexuality, but rather to help educate all people concerning the virus, and to help all people with the virus live with AIDS.

AIDS is NOT the result of sexual preference, but rather of sexual practices. AIDS is NOT the result of the use of drugs, but rather the misuse of needles. AIDS is NOT a discriminating disease. AIDS is NOT a gay issue, but rather an issue which the gays and lesbians of Nebraska have adopted and acted upon. I am proud of the part which *The New Voice of Nebraska* has played in the development of education and services to those concerned about AIDS. I am proud of the gays and lesbians that have worked to raise funds and to develop services for PWAs.

I have not listed the articles which appeared in 1986, 1987, 1988 and 1989; however, *The New Voice of Nebraska* has continued to inform, and will in the future.



Around the Milkrun

with Belinda Loveless

Understand that Cindy at the Diamond Bar has had her first guest already on her "Stay overnight at the Diamond" deal. Only this one did not have reservations. He had one of the lovely air-conditioned rooms with a view of the fire escape for several nights.

Frank, the personable and endowed (I've heard) bartender at The Max, has left for California. Good luck Franky.

March would be a lovely month to go on a cruise. That is, of course, if you haven't been cruising the other eleven months.

AIDS project

3624 Leavenworth
Omaha, NE 68105

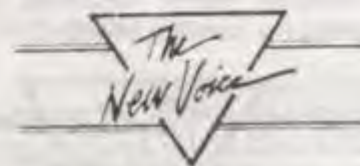
Support Groups

Buddy Systems

AIDS Hotline
9 am - 5 pm & 6 pm - 11 pm
Monday-Friday
6 pm - 11 pm
Weekends
Omaha (402) 342-4233
Outstate 1-800-782-AIDS

Statewide V/TDD
1-800-782-AIDS

HIV Testing
7 - 10 p.m.
Mondays/Thursdays



The Second Most Important Room in the House

-by Hedda Lettuce

March is the occasion of two important events in the year; the beginning of Spring and Easter. I spent last weekend with Drew Blood (no, he's not into S&M, unless you call wearing sneakers and mascara as being into S&M) and we spent part of the time discussing the similarities of the Easter tradition of new Spring wardrobes and the Christmas tradition of donning our gay apparel. Anyway, girls, with Spring just around the corner, it's time to think about eating slim and trim foods. Stir fry is the perfect solution; and a delicious way to eat foods that are lower in calories and higher in nutrients.

The wok is the utensil used in stir fry for good reason; shape and design. The shallow bottom and sloping sides allow even heating and a large surface area to gently toss and constantly stir the food for quick cooking. But in the absence of a wok, don't panic!, any flat bottomed skillet with sloping sides can be used successfully.

There are a few rules for successful wok cookery.

1. Prior to starting cooking assemble everything you need. Once you start cooking, there is no time to look for some ingredient or to prepare something.

2. Partially freeze the meat to be used and slice it into thin strips. This exposes more meat surface so it will cook faster.

3. Slice or chop vegetables into uniform pieces. This way they will cook in the same amount of time.

4. Start the cooking process with the ingredients that take the longest to cook; then add the other ingredients based on their cooking time.

5. Use a "lift and stir" motion to constantly move the food around during the cooking process.

6. Cook vegetables only until they are crisp tender. This takes only a few minutes.

Now that we all know how to do it, here are a couple of stir fry goodies.

Beef, Chinese Style

(serves 8)

2 flank steaks, fat trimmed off (each flank steak about 1 pound)

1 Tbl oil

2 cloves of garlic, crushed

1/4 tsp ground ginger

1/4 tsp black pepper

3 Tbl soy sauce

1 tsp sugar

2 cups coarsely chopped green pepper

2 cups fresh bean sprouts

2 tomatoes, peeled and quartered

1 Tbl cornstarch

1/4 cup water

4 cups of hot cooked rice

Partially freeze steaks, cut diagonally across the grain into 1/2 inch strips. Prepare all ingredients and get ready to cook. Add oil to wok and heat for 1 minute. Add steak, garlic, ginger and pepper and stir fry for about 5 minutes or until meat is browned. Add soy sauce and sugar; cook one minute. Add green pepper and bean sprouts. Stir well. Cover and cook 3 minutes. Add tomatoes. Combine cornstarch and water, mix until cornstarch dissolves. Add cornstarch mixture to stir fry and stir together for 2 minutes. Serve immediately over the hot rice.

Peas and Pepper Stir Fry

(serves 6)

1 tsp sugar

1/2 tsp cornstarch

1/4 tsp chicken flavored bouillon granules

pinch of pepper

2 tsp soy sauce

1/4 cup water

1 tsp cooking oil

1/2 pound snow peas, ends trimmed

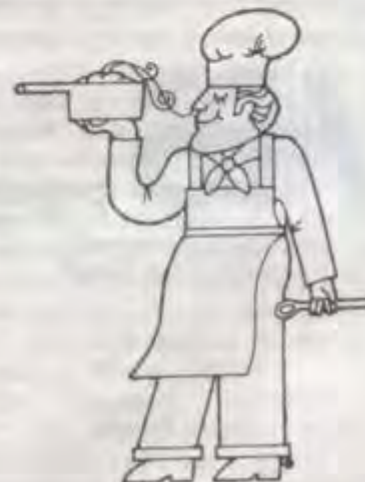
1 1/2 cups red pepper strips

1 8 ounce can sliced water chestnuts, drained

1 tsp sesame seeds, toasted

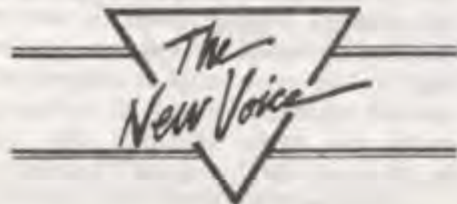
Combine sugar, cornstarch, bouillon granules, pepper, soy sauce and water in a small bowl. Mix well. Add oil to wok and heat for 2 or 3 minutes. Add peas, pepper strips and water chestnuts to wok. Stir fry 3 to 5 minutes or until veggies are crisp tender. Stir the sauce you first made and pour over the vegetables. Stir fry approximately 1 minute or until sauce is slightly thick. Sprinkle the sesame seeds over the vegetables and serve at once.

Next month we'll talk about April showers, May flowers and June baskets!



Submission Deadline

The New Voice has a submission deadline on the 10th of each month. Submissions received after the 10th will be held for publication at a later date. Thank you for your cooperation.



What Legacy is to be Found in Our Silence?

-By J. Montgomery

I was distressed to read of the recent death of Joseph Beam in the February issue of *The New Voice of Nebraska*. He will be greatly missed by all the Lesbian and Gay community. Initially when I first glanced through the issue I thought, "Great! A review of *In The Life*," of which Beam was editor. Well, needless to say, I was way off, however, I thought I would take this time to make a few comments that I feel are somewhat timely, as I reflect on how much Beam, through his work, has affected my life.

As an oppressed people, gays and lesbians are still infants, we have only just begun to identify ourselves, empower ourselves and love ourselves. During this formative time, shall we allow ourselves to be caught up in the oppressiveness our culture so completely taught us. As stated in the book *In The Life* in an essay by Stephan Dale "It's ironic: so often, the rights that people want for themselves, the rights for which they would die, are precisely the rights they would deny others." Shall this be a part of our culture, I think not. As an employee in a large corporation, I have opportunities to be involved in many different projects. Recently, I was given the opportunity to help plan a month of activities for black history. To make a long story short, one of the events is to include a poetry reading from Langston Hughes. During one of the planning meetings the woman who has chosen to read some of Hughes' work stated to me that she was not aware of any black gays or lesbians that have made a significant contribution to black history. I related this story to you to make a point, Langston Hughes was not only a black poet, but a black, gay poet.

I ask you, what legacy is to be found in our silence?

February being black history month, I was pleased that the short article about Joseph Beam was somewhat informative and representative of our black gay culture. It is my suggestion that your readers take time to read his book //

The Life, after *The New Voice*, of course. I found *In The Life* particularly interesting and insightful. Its short stories, poetry and essays are sometimes cold and to the point and sometimes warmly erotic. I would like to offer another quote from this important work. From *Creating Ourselves: An Open Letter* by Daniel Garrett, (talking about Langston Hughes) "I find his poetry often simplistic. I think this simplicity is due to his failure to face his own complexity, which every artist has to do if he wants to be the best he can be. Not only this, but when I found out that Hughes had men as the center of his emotional, romantic, sexual world, but that this was nowhere expressed in his work, I was angered, hurt, horrified. He had so much to tell us; he denied himself and us a body of work."

I ask you, what legacy is to be found in our silence?

As a person who is deeply interested in diversity and how rewarding a pluralistic environment can be, I am sometimes disheartened with issues of *The New Voice of Nebraska* that do not contain the diversity it should. As a minority we are unique in that we span the spectrum of cultures, literally, we are everywhere. We are rich, poor, latino, white, black, asian, construction workers, athletes, business people, truck drivers, moms, dads, sisters and brothers. I could go on, but I think you have the picture. I appreciate and understand that *The New Voice of Nebraska* has "themes" associated with each issue, however that is not enough. Pluralism, diversity and freedom from discrimination is an every issue theme and a concentrated effort must be made in each issue to be more inclusive of our diverse gay culture.

This is not meant to be critical, as I am also keenly aware of how neglectful Nebraska's Lesbian and Gay community is of their publication. I have read, in seems almost every issue, please for help and input that go, for the most part, unanswered.

Oh, occasionally there is something from Mr. Bell and thank goodness for Jean Mortensen, but where the hell is the rest of the community. What seems the usual is for people to want to leave Nebraska because nothing is happening here. I have a surprise for you who repeatedly use this reasoning to continue to run, it's never going to happen unless you make it happen. I read an adage in a recent issue that said "if not now then when, if not me then who?" I believe that states it very well. Certainly you are not so ignorant as a community not to recognize *The New Voice of Nebraska* as a forum for you, not just something to read as you sit, passing time waiting for something to happen. Recently, I noticed after Belinda's cute article about a bar ran, their ad did not. Really, can my assumption be correct? Did they stop advertising because someone may not have been necessarily flattering about the establishment? To have advertised with an even larger ad would have let Belinda, as well as your readership, know they are indeed proud of their establishment.

I ask you, what legacy is to be found in our silence?

There is a group of people out of the New York area, who call themselves *ACT UP*. They have mounted a whole campaign of awareness about AIDS as well as other Lesbian and Gay issues and have adopted a slogan that, quite simply, says **SILENCE=DEATH**. That is indeed what we are faced with, not only from a heterosexist society but from those among our own who allow themselves to be a part of, and through their actions support that kind of role modeling that would keep us in the closet. Such statements as, "what I do behind closed doors" and "just don't flaunt it", just no longer work. Gay and Lesbian are not synonyms for sex. We are no longer somebody's dirty little secret! We are complete, valuable human beings just now laying claim to what is our birthright in this democracy and I ask you, what legacy is to be found in our silence?

New Voice Memories

-Jerry Pack

The New Voice of Nebraska was conceived in the mind of Larry Wiseblood, born in Lincoln, Nebraska five years ago, and has developed through the efforts of the gays and Lesbians of Nebraska to the present time. I became involved with the publication during its first year. Then, as now, the governing body is the steering committee made up of volunteers willing to conduct the business and establish the policy for the printing and distribution of the magazine. Then, as now, the magazine is intended to be: by gays and Lesbians, about gays and Lesbians and issues that affect them, and distributed to gays and Lesbians.

The earliest confrontation in which I was involved came from a need to register the business with the State of Nebraska. Twelve people were needed to give their legal names for publication in the *Lincoln Journal*. Our names appeared in the Thanksgiving and Christmas editions of 1984.

In the five years we have had Larry, Sandy, Jerry and Sharon as editors. The number of treasurers is larger, including one that cleaned out the account and hasn't been seen since. The number of people that have served on the steering committee is vast. For some time the business meetings alternated between Lincoln and Omaha in an attempt to get Omaha people involved. This did not work, and by the end of '87 the number of people willing to work on the magazine in Lincoln was so few that the operation was moved to Omaha.

The history of the magazine is filled with controversies. A Lincoln group submitted a letter of some eight typewritten pages in which they found fault with *The New Voice*, and insisted that it be printed in its entirety.

The New Voice was taken to court by *The Voice - News of Southern Lancaster County*. There has been a threat of legal action over publication of a photo taken at a bar that serves

gays and Lesbians. And the magazine has had to go to court in order to collect advertising revenue. Advertising has caused considerable controversy, too.

A bath house called *Man's World* advertised using the logo "It's a Man's World." A large number found that offensive. One even suggested the name of the business must be changed. The steering committee canceled the contract. A business that sells sexually explicit videos submitted an ad that declared they offered a number of hours of sex. Their contract was cancelled. An adult theatre sought a contract and was rejected.

Artwork has also brought objections. One cover had two nude photos. Three different Lesbians presented their anger to me over the use of men only. I gave each a lesson in anatomy, explaining that the one on the lower section was not a man.

Confrontation has also arisen from the printed word. Early in this project we found that the word "gay" refers to men, hence gay/lesbian. We also learned that the standard English spelling for the word for those of the human species with a vagina is not acceptable.

For me, the greatest confrontation has continued from the first meeting which I attended. The issue which remains is how to create a publication which satisfies the wants and needs of its readers without being offensive to others. Nebraskan gays and lesbians are diverse and unique in their nature. Do you have any constructive criticisms?

The meetings of the steering committee are open to any that want to observe, or which wish to speak. Letters are welcomed. *The New Voice* is the voice of the gays and lesbians of Nebraska. Our magazine reflects our concerns and needs; however, our apathy also can be witnessed in *The New Voice*.

Video Outlets Provide Info

Following is a description of videos available in the Lincoln area and outlets that carry the American Red Cross AIDS videos. There is no charge for checking out the videos and no one is required to "sign out" for them, so confidentiality is insured. The videos are also available through the Lincoln chapter of the Red Cross at 1701 "E" Street, telephone 491-7997.

Videos:

Beyond Fear, 30 or 60 minute format. General audience, overview of AIDS the virus, the effects on the individual and the community.

A Letter from Brian, 30 minutes. Youth audience, story format about impact of AIDS on teen lives. Discussion guide accompanies this.

Answers About AIDS, 15 minutes. Youth audience, question and answer session between teens and Surgeon General Koop. Discussion guide accompanies this.

Don't Forget Sherrille, 30 minutes. Minority/urban youth audience, story format about impact of AIDS on minority and urban youth. Discussion guide accompanies this.

Working Beyond Fear, 30 minutes. *Beyond Fear* video with 3 scenarios (5 minutes each) related to worksite issues and AIDS. (For proper utilization *Working Beyond Fear* should be used with a facilitator so must be scheduled through the Red Cross office.)

Lincoln Outlets:

Applause Video - All 4 videos available

Video Store (Rathbone Village) - All 4 videos including Beta format

Showtime Video (10th and South) - All 4 videos

Video Station (4550 "O") - Beyond Fear

Nebraska Bookstore - Beyond Fear and Letter From Brian

National Video (70th & Vine) - Beyond Fear and Letter From Brian

Happy St. Patrick's Day

Student Senate Narrowly Approves Gay and Lesbian Student Organization Funding

Senators' Reasons Need to Come Out of Closet

Hats Off to *The Gateway*

Scrutinizing student fee expenditures or gay bashing?

The student senate narrowly approved \$264 for the Gay and Lesbian Student Organization president to attend a national conference in North Carolina this March. Prior to passing, the motion failed once.

In the end, Sens. Dave Paladino, Trish MacBride, Kent Goetz, Thomas Harper and Julie Sunderland voted against the motion. Their votes need to be carefully examined.

The senate routinely approves funding to other student organizations on campus. Since it usually allows greek organizations or a chemistry club to attend national conventions, why shouldn't it allow the Gay and Lesbian Student Group to do the same?

If student senators have some reason for disliking homosexuals, so be it. Senators, like everyone else, are entitled to their opinions. But when these senators took an oath of office to represent the best interests of UNO students, they committed to representing all of the university's students - including homosexuals.

These senators may try to hide their bigotry behind various rationalizations. Some may argue that some of the students they represent are not in favor of supporting an organization made up of

homosexuals. While this may be true, it is also probably true that many students don't favor spending student fee money on trips for greeks and other organizations.

Everyone has his own biases. Senators should rise above these feelings.

Other senators might not argue the Gay and Lesbian Student Organization does not have a high enough profile on campus to warrant these expenditures. If popularity is necessary to receive student funding, these senators are probably right. The Gay and Lesbian Student Organization is in trouble. But so are a lot of other minority groups on campus.

The real shame is that we will never truly know why these senators voted against the measure. None of them even bothered to say why they voted the way they did. Homosexuals have been a part of society throughout history. So has their persecution. If homosexuals have the courage to come out of the closet, the least these senators could do is come out in the open with their opinions.

Homosexual students pay the same amount of student fees as heterosexual students. They are entitled to equal privileges and representation.

(*The Gateway*, February 7, 1989)

The February 7 issue of *The Gateway*, the student newspaper at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, carried the rather innocuous headline "Student Senate Grants Travel Funds to Campus Agencies." The article described the unanimous awarding of funds to the Panhellenic/Interfraternity Council to help send 8 representatives to a regional conference in the hope of helping develop the university's greek system.

The article then went on to describe the two votes required to finally approve by a one vote margin the request for air fare so the president of UNO's Gay/Lesbian student group could attend the National Lesbian Conference.

The article reported the facts in an accepted objective manner but the editorial page betrayed much more emotion. In a well written (but unsigned) editorial, *The Gateway* took the student senate to task and challenged those voting no on the motion to look seriously at their own homophobia and to consider the pledge they made to represent ALL the student body at UNO.

Our thanks and a tip of the hat goes to the editorial staff of *The Gateway* for being willing to stand up for ALL members of the UNO student body.



HAPPY 5th ANNIVERSARY

LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ▼

Mr. Gay Nebraska

-T.W.O., MC

The title *Mr. Gay Nebraska* is owned by the Two-Wheelers of Omaha, MC, Inc., and is registered with the State of Nebraska. It is the wish of the Mr. Gay Nebraska Committee, T.W.O., and the current title holder that Mr. Gay Nebraska be a positive influence in our community.

To that end, Dusty Logan has consented to make appearances whenever possible as Mr. Gay Nebraska to support the gay community in our state. As the title of *Mr. Gay Nebraska* is the property of the Two-Wheelers of Omaha, requests for the appearance of Mr. Gay Nebraska must come through, and be approved by T.W.O.

Request may be submitted in writing by addressing them to: T.W.O., MC, P.O. Box 3216, Omaha, NE 68103 or by phoning 341-9358. Sixty days advanced notice should be given when requesting Mr. Gay Nebraska's appearance.

To avoid embarrassment and delay, please do not make appearance requests directly of the title holder.

Happy Easter

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Gay/Lesbian Parents Forming

For some time now, we Gay and Lesbian parents/partners have kept low profiles, balancing our private lives and our parental responsibilities the best way we knew how. Now, as the courts become more flexible and more and more of us are gaining custody or visitation rights of our children, we find ourselves facing many issues that heterosexual couples take for granted and don't worry about. Issues such as how do you balance your time and energies between your partner and your parental duties; dealing with schools and programs your children are involved in; keeping your relationship strong and your family life healthy; legal aspects, etc. There are a multitude of issues involved with raising children in an alternate lifestyle, and where you turn for help and information can make a difference between success and failure.

My lover Larry and I have been both non-custodial and now custodial parents for quite some time, and we feel a need for a support group for Gay and Lesbian parents in this area. If you have custody of your children, or are a parent and would like to be involved in starting a group in this area, please call or write Johnny Riley or Larry Wiseblood at (402) 475-7740, P.O. Box 85342, Lincoln, NE 68501.

ACA Changes Meeting Night

Adult Children of Alcoholics will now be meeting on Fridays at 8:30 pm at Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha.

This group is for any person who grew up in an alcoholic or dysfunctional home. The patterns of behavior which helped a child survive in that environment may cause difficulty in adult relationships. Through the 12 step program of Adult Children of Alcoholics, you can learn new and better ways of living.

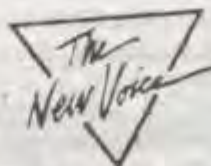
Chorus Spring Concert

The River City Mixed Chorus, under the direction of John Kelly, will present its Spring Concert *Family* in the Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall on Saturday, March 18 at 7:35 pm. This year the chorus will have as their special guests the Des Moines Men's Chorus.

This is the second concert for the 1988-89 season of the Chorus. Program highlights include a Samuel Barber selection; *October Gold*, an original composition by John Coe; *I sing The Body Electric* from *Fame* and many more selections. Each chorus will perform individually as well as combined. This concert will be an exciting blend of talents from both cities.

Tickets are \$6.00 in advance, \$7.00 at the door, \$4.00 for students or senior citizens. Tickets are available from any chorus member.

The River City Mixed Chorus 1988-89 season is sponsored in part by the Nebraska Arts Council.



Here is \$8.00 (postpaid) for one copy of *CRUSH*.

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Community Calendar

March, 1989

Weekly Events

Sundays

Metropolitan Community Church,
420 S. 24th St., Omaha Worship
Services 10:20 am, 7 pm

Lesbian Parenting Group, Lincoln,
435-6309, 3pm Call for location

The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha,
Shows at 9pm

Tuesdays

Gay/Lesbian Support Group,
MCC-Omaha, 420 S 24th, 7pm

Happy Easter

Fridays

Gay AA, Lutheran Medical Center,
345-9916, 8:15 pm

Adult Children of Alcoholics,
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 346-0561,
6:30 pm

Monthly Calendar

Thursday, March 2

Bars and Organizations of Omaha
(BOO), Call for location, 345-2563,
6:30 pm

Tuesday, March 7

P-FLAG/Omaha, First Methodist
Church (Northeast entrance), 89th &
Cass, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, March 8

P-Flag AIDS Support Group,
Lincoln, Call 435-4688 for location,
7pm.

Ferron Concert, M-Shop, Ames,
IA, Call 712-292-6833 for information.

Friday, March 10

Affirmation, Call for location, 556-
6870; 556-7701, 7pm

Submission Deadline!! All articles,
classifieds, art work, poetry and
letters must be received by this date
for consideration for the April issue of
The New Voice.

Saturday, March 11

Des Moines Mens Chorus, River
City Mixed Chorus, Spring Concert,
Drake University Performing Arts Hall,
Des Moines, 8pm



Sunday, March 12

Dignity Mass, St. John's (lower
level), Creighton Campus, Omaha,
7pm

New Voice Steering Committee
Meeting, MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th,
4pm. All interested parties welcome.

Monday, March 13

AIDS Interfaith Network, Prayer
Service, St. Cecilia's Cathedral, 701
N. 40th, Omaha, 7pm.

UNO Gay/Lesbian Student
Organization, Call for location 554-
0320

Wednesday, March 15

Metropolitan Club, Call for
location, 449-9377, 8pm

Friday, March 17

Happy St. Patrick's Day!

St. Patrick's Day Dance,
Warehouse, Carter Lake, Sponsored
by Metropolitan Club. Members -
Free, Non-Members - \$5, 8pm

Saturday, March 18

River City Mixed Chorus, Des
Moines Men's Chorus, Spring
Concert, Strauss Performing Arts
Center, UNO, 66th and Dodge,
7:35pm

Sunday, March 19

Dignity "Gathering". Call for
location, 331-4919, 7pm

Wednesday, March 22

P-FLAG AIDS Support Group,
Lincoln, Call 435-4688 for location,
7pm

Friday, March 24

Good Friday Tannabrae Service,
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 7pm

Saturday, March 25

New Voice Lay-Out, Volunteers
Welcome!! MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th,
12-5 pm

Sunday, March 26

Easter Sunrise Service, Central
Park Mall, Northeast corner, 6:30 am

Monday, March 27

UNO Gay/Lesbian Student
Organization, Call for location 554-
0320

Tuesday, March 28

P-FLAG/Lincoln, Call for location,
(402)435-4688, Program: Cost of
Isolation, 7:30 pm

MCC Omaha Celebrates 15th Anniversary

"God uses the foolish to confuse the wise." From this scriptural base found in Corinthians, the Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey launched into one of the moving and personally engrossing messages that were the hallmark of the Spiritual Renewal marking the 15th anniversary of the founding of Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha.

The little sanctuary was filled to capacity as over two hundred persons attended the services during the weekend. Visitors came from as far away as Wichita, Kansas and Davenport, Iowa, to join in the revival.

Rev. Harvey's message dealt with the unique diversity of the MCC congregation into message. She never used a pulpit, but rather walked up and down the aisle stopping to look directly into the eyes of members of the audience giving the feeling that she was indeed speaking directly to you. Rev. Harvey is a master story teller with one clear message, "Each of us - no matter how foolish or disabled or needy - has a role to play in God's work."

Send in the Clowns

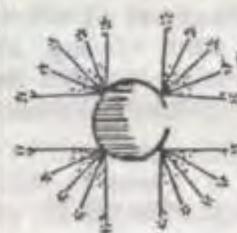
Her Sunday morning message spoke of how God has chosen "Clowns" for important work. Moses had a speech impediment but God used him to say to the ruler of Egypt, "Let my people go!" Peter was a simple fisherman, given to extreme mood swings, but Jesus entered his life, Peter left his boat, his nets, his family and became a wandering preacher with Jesus. Troy Perry was a 28 year old Pentacostal preacher who had been kicked out of his own church because of his sexuality. He went on to found the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. Rev. Harvey then brought her message to an intense personal level as she described childhood memories of seeing rodeos in her home state of Oklahoma. Whenever the bull would toss off his rider some funny little guy in a red nose and baggy pants would come running out, dance around the bull and then duck into a barrel which the bull would charge and roll around the arena. Finally the funny looking

little man would slip out of the barrel and through the fence, leaving the bull shaking his head as he looked for his intended victim. They had sent in the clowns because some brother was down in the dirt of the arena, hurling and helpless. They had sent in the clowns so a life could be saved. Rev. Harvey then compared the disease of AIDS to that bull and us to those clowns in baggy pants who fearlessly challenge the bull in order to help a brother or sister who has fallen. Tears flowed freely as each person in that crowded sanctuary was challenged to become one of the clowns that God uses, whether in the battle with AIDS or in some other arena that affects our community.

MCC Omaha is 15 years old and, despite recent trials and fears for the future, alive and well with the potential for not only another 15 years but many, many more years of service to the Gay and Lesbian community of Omaha.



Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey is a full time evangelist for the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. She will be speaking at the MCC in Wichita, Kansas on March 18 & 19. For more information contact MCC-Omaha at 345-2563.



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The Texas Headliners, Stosh and Miss Max 1988 Katrina Kane

Texas Headliners

On January 8th The Max hosted an evening of male dancers - The Texas Headliners - coming soon in April - more of the Texas Headliners.

Coming to The Max in March

March 5 - Dorian Drake - Miss Gay Nebraska America Stepping Down show - with special guests

March 12 - A benefit for Muffy and Viktoria - to Miss Gay USA Pageant

March 19 - Miss Gay Nebraska America Pageant 9 pm Special guests: Norma Kristle, Vickie Vincent Miss Gay America 1989. Applications available March 1st.



Miss Max 1989, Gloria Revelle

Miss Max 1989

On January 29th at 9pm, the fifth Miss Max Pageant was held. Former Miss Max's Muffy Rosenberg, Veronica O'Rourke, and Miss Max 1988 Katrina Kane entertained at the pageant. Four contestants competed for the title. Viktoria Towne took first runner up. Gloria Revelle was crowned as Miss Max 1989. Myrna Vonn from Kansas City was the head judge along with Marclia Baer, Cece Zorinski, Eunie Denenberg and Marcy Singhaus as the panel of judges.

Beware the Ides of March!



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Gay/Lesbian Support Group:
Tuesdays, 7:00 pm
Praise & Prayer Service:
2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7 pm

Happy 5th Anniversary

NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT



Lesbian/Gay Film Festival

FRAMELINE is now accepting entries for the 13th San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, June 16-25, 1989. Held each year during San Francisco's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Celebration, the Festival brings together the best in feature, documentary and short films and video works by and about lesbians and gay men. This, the world's largest and most respected annual screening of its kind, is sponsored by FRAMELINE, a nonprofit media arts organization, to develop and promote the production, exhibition and appreciation of lesbian and gay films and video tapes.

Awards will be presented to outstanding works in several categories. Formats accepted include 35mm, 16mm, super-8 films; NTSC 3/4" and 1/2" VHS video cassettes. The deadline for entries is March 31, 1989. For more information and entry forms contact FRAMELINE, PO Box 14792, San Francisco, CA 94114 or call (415) 861-5245.

Gay Illini Alumni Organize

The University of Illinois Gay and Lesbian Alumni Association (GALA) is seeking to increase national membership. Alumni/ae from both the Champaign-Urbana and Chicago campuses are welcome. The GALA will offer social and professional networking, as well as information and support to current lesbian and gay students and staff on campus.

There is no membership fee, but contributions are encouraged. Alumni/ae wishing to join the mailing list should write: University of Illinois GALA, POB 53336, Washington, DC 20009, or contact organizer Larry Cohen at (202) 328-6227.

If you never attended the U of I, but know someone gay who did, please pass the word along!

Civil Rights Bill Reintroduced

Washington, DC -- The Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights Bill was reintroduced into the U.S. Senate by Senator Alan Cranston (D-CA) and into the U.S. House of Representatives by Congressman Ted Weiss (D-NY) and Henry Waxman (D-CA).

Sixty-three Representatives signed up as original cosponsors of the bill, officially called the Civil Rights Amendments Act of 1989 (H.R. 655). Eight Senators have signed on to the companion bill. Gay rights lobbyists from the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) are confident more will sign on in the upcoming months of the 101st Congress.

The bill would amend the existing federal civil rights statutes to protect people on the basis of "affectional or sexual orientation" from discrimination in the areas of employment, housing and credit, government-assisted opportunities and public accommodations. The bill would outlaw discrimination in stores, restaurants, hotels and other places selling services or goods.

Volunteers Needed!

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Gay Man Heads S.F. Board

On January 9, 1989, Harry G. Britt became the first openly gay man to serve as President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Britt is one of the most prominent elected gay officials in the country. In January, 1979, he succeeded the late Harvey Milk who was slain along with Mayor George Moscone by former Supervisor Dan White. Harry Britt was a close political associate and personal friend of Supervisor Milk.

President Britt was sworn into office by the Honorable Mary C. Morgan, a lesbian municipal court judge for the City and County of San Francisco.

Elected to a full term in December, 1979, Harry Britt was the only challenged incumbent to retain a seat on the Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Britt has been re-elected in November of 1980, 1984, and by an overwhelming margin, in 1988, in city-wide races. In the 1988 election, Britt placed 1st in a field of 25 candidates.

Harry Britt has emerged as one of the strongest progressive voices in San Francisco politics. While effectively advocating the rights of gay people, he has also been a strong proponent of the rights and welfare of working people, seniors, women, minorities and the disabled. Britt has also authored landmark legislation responding to the AIDS epidemic.

**PROCEED
WITH
CONDOMS**

Basile to Leave HRCF

Washington, DC -- Victor J. Basile announced his resignation as executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) after six years.

Basile, named HRCF's executive director in 1983, helped transform the gay rights group into the largest and most powerful lesbian and gay political action committee (PAC) and lobbying force in the U.S.

In December 1985, Basile managed the merger of HRCF and the Gay Rights National Lobby (GRNL), the first national congressional gay and lesbian group, and with the Fairness Fund constituent mobilization group in February 1988.

Under his directorship, HRCF's budget grew from \$300,00 in 1983 to \$2 million this year. HRCF staff has grown from three dedicated activists in 1983 to 15 today.

Last spring, the Federal Elections Commission ranked HRCF the ninth largest independent PAC in the U.S. and the 24th largest PAC overall (out

of more than 4,000). HRCF gave more than \$400,00 in political contributions to some 111 candidates for federal office during the last election cycle.

During Basile's tenure, HRCF has spearheaded the massive lobbying effort to pass legislation mandating federal policy for fighting AIDS. This effort resulted in the passage of the landmark Health Programs Extension Act last October. Basile played a key role in drafting the legislation and guiding it to adoption.

Basile repeatedly locked horns with notorious Capitol Hill homophobes Jesse Helms (R-NC) and William Dannemeyer (R-CA). Basile initiated several high-pressure actions in response to anti-gay legislation, which resulted in the defeat or weakening of many "hostile" amendments.

"Serving HRCF and the lesbian and gay community has been one of the most exhilarating and fulfilling experiences in my life," said Basile. "But now the time is right to move on."

"HRCF has provided me with opportunities I never knew possible," said Basile. "I've worked with and hopefully influenced the inner circle of political Washington. I've watched the men and women of our movement grow and mature. Today we are proud and powerful political players. We are part of a movement with an even bigger future."

Following his resignation, Basile plans to spend time with his lover of six years, George Graupera, and undertake various personal and business opportunities. Basile said he looks forward to remaining close to HRCF and being active in the gay and lesbian movement.

"Vic Basile will continue to be an important voice in our community," said Hillary Rosen, co-chair of the HRCF board of directors. "We're sorry to see him go and we wish him the best. We're grateful for his skillful management of HRCF and his leadership on tough issues on Capitol Hill. Vic has built a strong foundation upon which the organization will grow and continue to serve gays, lesbians and people with AIDS."

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Kowalski sees Thompson for the first time in three years

by Lisa M. Keen

It was not Karen Thompson's face but the sound of her voice that jogged Sharon Kowalski's memory last Thursday evening when, for the first time in more than three years, the two women were allowed to see each other.

With Kowalski's hospital team psychologist as her court-mandated escort, Thompson, who has been fighting a nationally publicized legal battle to get proper care for her severely disabled lover, walked into an open lounge at the Miller Dwan Medical Center in Duluth and greeted her lover. For the past three and a half years, Thompson has been legally barred from visiting Kowalski because of a court-order won by Kowalski's father, Donald, who denies his daughter is Gay.

"I walked up to her, I don't think she—I have curly hair now and it wasn't before, I had on glasses and I used to always wear contacts—but as soon as she heard my voice, her eyes, they really did light up."

Thompson said Kowalski's eyes filled with tears and she started moving her mouth.

"I don't know if she was trying to make words or just getting ready to cry," Thompson recalled. "Nothing came out. She just kept watching me, then I cried."

The emotional reunion, even in the busy hospital lounge under the watchful eye of a psychologist, was a major victory for Thompson who has changed, not just physically, but politically since 1983 when a drunk driver plowed into the car Kowalski was driving and left her severely disabled. Prior to the accident, said Thompson, she and Kowalski bought a house together and lived as a couple, though "very closeted," in St. Cloud, Minn.

During the time together since Thursday, Thompson said, she has tried to explain a few of the changes to her lover. She has told Kowalski that she has become a Lesbian activist, traveling the country and speaking about the need for Gay couples to secure some kind of legal protection for their relationships. She has not told Kowalski about her father preventing Thompson from visiting her in a nursing home these past three years.

Kowalski has asked, said Thompson, by pointing out words using an alphabet board, whether Thompson did not visit because St. Cloud is "too far" from the nursing home in Hibbing, Minn.? Donald Kowalski had his daughter placed in the home, which did not provide rehabilitation therapy, and forbade Thompson or any of Sharon's friends from visiting her there.

"She's been trying to understand," said Thompson, "but I didn't mention her parents the entire weekend. I don't want anyone to interpret anything I say as being negative or say that I was saying negative things about her parents to Sharon."

Thompson's caution comes from knowing that after 60 days in the rehabilitation unit of Miller Dwan, Kowalski will undergo a re-evaluation to determine whether she is able to make a decision for herself about where she will live and who can visit her. Thompson's current visit is the result of a Minnesota district court judge's temporary order to have Kowalski undergo therapy and be able to decide who can visit her.

'I don't know if she was trying to make words or just getting ready to cry. Nothing came out. She just kept watching me, then I cried.'

—Karen Thompson

In addition to Thompson, Kowalski has also asked to have visits from three women friends, and Thompson said she also believes Kowalski's parents have visited her. All visits are currently approved by a rehabilitation team overseeing Kowalski's care and are scheduled so as not to have Thompson and the parents visiting at the same time.

Thompson said that currently she can visit Kowalski as much as she and Kowalski want.

"She wants to hold my hand the entire time," said Thompson, who visited Kowalski Thursday through Sunday and again on Tuesday night. Thompson said that although visiting hours were over at 8:30 on the evening of her first visit, she stayed with Kowalski until 10 because "she wouldn't let me go—she got scared I wasn't coming back."

But there is no doubt in Thompson's mind that she will continue going back to see Kowalski, even though the Miller Dwan hospital is a couple hours drive



Sharon Kowalski before she was injured in a car accident in 1983.

every night after work and even though the area has been hard hit with snowstorms.

"My goal is to bring Sharon home if that's what Sharon wants," said Thompson, who said that would require moving to a home that was wheelchair accessible. "It's going to be hard, but I want to be with Sharon as much as I can. At the same time, I've become an activist and I want to be out there speaking. If it all makes me a crazy person, that's what I'll be."

Thompson said that Kowalski's short-term memory has been damaged and that each time she leaves Kowalski's side and returns, Kowalski takes a while to recognize her again. The lack of rehabilitation therapy, said Thompson, a physical education teacher at the state university, has taken a harsh physical toll on Kowalski. Thompson said she was "tremendously upset" to see her lover's condition. She said Kowalski's left leg was so badly contracted that she feels "there's no way she'll ever stand again." Thompson said that Kowalski cannot sit up in a wheelchair and, instead, lies in a chair with a special reclining back. Thompson also said Kowalski speaks only in a whisper but that she is not sure whether that is a result of the void in therapy. While accompanying Kowalski to rehabilitation therapy one day, Thompson said, she asked her lover to tell the therapist what she used to do for a living. Kowalski worked at the same university as Thompson.

"She whispered, 'Basketball and track,' very clearly," recalled Thompson. "The therapist had trouble understanding her; but, I could hear her very clearly."▼

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Reagan AIDS Era Closes

Washington, DC -- Former President Ronald Reagan has packed his bags and retired to California, ending a long, controversial era of White House response to the AIDS epidemic described by activists as a national "legacy of shame."

"Reagan, the 40th president of the U.S., leaves behind a shameful, eight-year legacy of insensitivity and inaction in fighting the nation's major health crisis," said Vic Basile, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF). "The record shows there was no leadership from the White House in stopping the spread of AIDS and AIDS discrimination."

For example, from 1982 and 1983, in which Reagan requested zero AIDS dollars, through the 1990 budget, Reagan consistently requested substantially less than what his own federal health agencies asked for and what Congress finally appropriated. The only exception was fiscal 1989, when the budgets matched. However, the 1990 final Reagan AIDS budget is some \$400 million less than requested by agencies.

Often the presidential response to AIDS could only be described as absurd. Last November, the White House announced "National AIDS Awareness Month," which occurred 30 days earlier in October.

"You could characterize the entire Reagan response to AIDS as 'too little, too late,'" said Basile. "I believe when the record is written on this tragic time we will see that the Reagan White House directly contributed to the deaths of tens of thousands of Americans because of its refusal to act. That can never happen again with any current or future administration."

Basile and other activists are more optimistic about President George Bush. They point to Bush's endorsement of the President's HIV Commission report and his call for AIDS anti-discrimination protections as positive signs of a more sensitive White House AIDS response.



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Creativity Linked to Frustration

New Canaan, CT -- "We know, often from childhood, that we experience love and sexual attraction in a way different from most of the people around us," says Thomas Cowan, author of a new book, *Gay Men and Women Who Enriched the World*. He adds: "everyone who falls in love wants to share it with the world, shout it from the rooftops. Our society will not let us even talk about it."

"We are frustrated in not being able to express what makes us unique and special," Cowan continues, "so no matter what field we go into, we look for what is unique and special in that field and announce that to the world."

Because gays are less able to talk about themselves, the author believes, they tend to talk about their work. "And often, it appears that we are tremendously creative," he says. "But one theory is that sometimes creativity is born out of frustration."

The book, examining the lives of 40 personalities from Alexander The Great to Michael Bennett is published by William Mulvey, inc., at \$17.95.

TIME

-by Bear

The hours pass; the clock ticks on,
The darkness grows into the dawn.
The weeks go by, day by day.
And time moves slowly on its way.
The tide plows in, and starts out,
Following a well-worn route.

Time grows to eternity,

An ocean of infinity

Who's surf is endless, pounding waves,

Guarding all its ancient graves.

It moves; a brisk wind through the trees,

Leaving nothing but memories.

Books, Books, Books -by Sharon V.

In recent months there have been several good new books with Gay or Lesbian themes published by Alyson Publications. Following is a sampler of those books along with information on ordering direct from the publisher.

Testimonies: A Collection of Lesbian Coming Out Stories

This collection is good reading not only for those just coming out but also for those of us who consider ourselves "Old-timers". Written in first person essay style, these stories sometimes fail to convey the emotional impact of the coming out experience but do give a full sense of the diversity of Lesbian experience. (\$9 postpaid)

Revelations: A Collection of Gay Male Coming Out Stories

This is a companion book to *Testimonies* and presents the same sort of first person essay approach to the coming out experience. The writers in *Revelations* manage to better involve the reader in their emotional experience making the reading richer and more engrossing. (\$9 postpaid)

Happy Easter

A Mistress Moderately Fair

by Katherine Sturtevant
Seventeenth-century London's theater district is brought to life in this richly-detailed historical romance. Two women — one an actress, the other a playwright — fall in love but are forced apart by ambition and the actress's secret past.

"Elegant prose and carefully conceived characters."
—Publishers Weekly



\$8.95 in bookstores, or clip this ad to order by mail.

Unnatural Quotations

This is the latest book by the author of the best selling *Gay Book of Lists*. It contains a wide variety of quotes, both homophobic and homophilic, uttered by historical and contemporary figures. Leigh Rutledge provides the reader with not only fascinating quotes, but also the context in which they were spoken. (\$9 postpaid)

A Mistress Moderately Fair

Within this colorful and historically accurate romp through 17th century England's theatre district, muddy streets and stimulating coffee houses, a sensitive romance develops between two women. Unfortunately, Katherine Sturtevant's first novel is a little too predictable as the lovers discover their love, reject the amorous advances of men, are separated, and at last reunited. Despite this, I was delighted by the careful prose and colorful characterization. (\$10 postpaid)

Out of All Time

Terry Boughner provides fifty vignettes of both well-known and obscure historical figures in this primer on Gay and Lesbian history. The presentations are made more delightful by the caricatures of Michael Willhoite of the Washington Blade. (\$8 postpaid)

Crush

With this book Jane Fletcher takes the reader back to those painful, bewildering days of adolescence when love was truly blind and hurt went bone deep. Ms. Fletcher's characters are skillfully developed and her dialogs are all too accurate. I found myself wanting to be a character in the book so I could turn Jinx aside from her headlong rush into heartbreak. (\$8 postpaid)

Dead Heat

Willyce Kim brings back to life the offbeat cast of characters (lesbian and canine with a few new criminal friends thrown in) that debuted in *Dancer Dawkins and the California Kid*. Ms. Kim's style of breaking the plot down into brief scenes, each from a different perspective, is bewildering at first but a pattern forms quickly and moves toward a heart stopping climax. I found myself turning back frequently to sort out characters but, by the time of the final race, I had no trouble knowing which rider had my bet. (\$8 postpaid)

Macho Sluts

Pat Califia has written a stunning collection of sexual fantasy and adventure that, because of its portrayal of sadomasochism, is likely to be controversial. While this particular brand of erotic short story is not my personal preference, I cannot find fault with Ms. Califia's ability to paint sexually exciting pictures with words. (\$10 postpaid)

To order any of the books listed above, write to: Alyson Publications, Dept. P-88, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118.



Here is \$10.00 (postpaid) for one copy of *Mistress*.

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Alyson Publications

Dept. P-88, 40 Plympton St., Boston, MA 02118

Quilt Begins Second Tour

The NAMES Project Quilt, the international memorial to those killed by AIDS, will begin its second tour of the United States this spring. The 5-month, 19 city tour begins in Salt Lake City on March 17th, and travels to Ohio, Florida, Alabama, Texas, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, New York and Maine. In June, the Quilt begins its first tour through Canada.

This year's tour brings the quilt to many smaller North American cities where it has yet to be seen. Initial response in those communities indicates that the reaction will be very strong. Local volunteers in each of the cities have already formed host committees and are working with the NAMES Project to assure a series of successful displays across the continent.

"The Quilt illustrated the impact of the AIDS crisis by revealing the names and lives behind the statistics," said Cleve Jones, Executive Director of the NAMES Project. "It is a poignant symbol of the epidemic that continues to take its toll on our immediate and global communities. In smaller cities that have been less affected by AIDS, the Quilt is a particularly effective way to teach people about the loss that AIDS brings, as well as the love and compassion that can develop in response to the crisis."

NAMES Project Quilt 1989 North American Tour

(As of January 26, 1989)

TOUR CITY DATE

Salt Lake City March 17-19
Cincinnati March 24-26
Columbus March 31-April 2
Tampa April 7-9
Miami April 14-16
Birmingham April 21-23
Austin April 28-30
Oklahoma City May 5-7
Philadelphia May 12-14
Rochester, NY May 19-21
Portland, ME May 26-28
Halifax June 2-4
Montreal June 9-11
Ottawa June 16-18
Toronto June 23-25
Winnipeg June 29-July 2
Calgary July 5-8
Vancouver July 13-16
Anchorage To Be Announced

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HIV+, difficult to live with, UNL student needs roommate. I pay utilities. You pay \$125.00/mo. Arnold 476-1362. Lincoln

HAIRY MEN/ADMIRERS! Bears, furlovers, trappers. Hot uncensored nationwide adlistings. Infopbxpak \$3.00: MAN-HAIR, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

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Omaha, NE 68103

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plain brown envelope.

RESOURCE DIRECTORY



NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

Affirmation of Nebraska
Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501
United Methodist for Gay, lesbian
Concerns. Meets alternately
in Omaha and Lincoln, second Friday

**Coalition for Gay and Lesbian
Civil Rights**
Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509
Advocacy/lobbies for Gay/Lesbian
civil right, educational presentations,
newsletter, cultural programs

Impartial Court of Nebraska
Box 3772, Omaha, NE 68102. Social
organization for advancement of gay
society. Omaha meeting first Monday
each month, except holidays.

The New Voice of Nebraska
Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103
Monthly magazine serving
Lesbian/Gay community.

**UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource
Center**
(402) 472-5644
Nebraska Union, Room
342 Meetings (Mail Room 222)
UNL Campus, Lincoln, NE 68588
Social activities, AIDS education,
roommate referral, groups, library

**Presbyterians For
Lesbian/Gay Concerns**
(402) 733-1360-Cleve

**Seventh Day Adventist
Kinship, Inc.**
PO Box 31351 Omaha, NE 68131
Wes Perry (402) 558-1188,
Meetings, information, understanding
and support for Lesbians/Gays

LINCOLN LINCOLN

**Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics
Anonymous**
Call (402) 456-5214
AA Central Office for location

Lesbian Support Group
(402) 472-2597
Women's Transition Center (Room) 112
Nebraska Union, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE,
GR508 Informal weekly discussion
group for Lesbians

Lincoln Legion of Lesbians
Box 30317, Lincoln, NE 68503
Lesbian-feminist collective
Newsletter, support,
confidential referral,
cultural and social programs

**Nebraska Wesleyan Student
Group**
(402) 465-2351 (Dr. Mary Smith)
Meets weekly and confidentially

New Directions Center (402)
476-2802 Short term counseling,
support groups, classes, workshops
dealing with coming out, parenting
and relationships. Sliding scale fee

Open Door Ministry
(402) 474-3390
Orthodox spiritual counseling to all
in need. No charge

**Parents/Friends of Lesbians
and Gays (PFLAG)**
(402) 435-4688
Box 4374, Lincoln, NE 68504
Support group, parents, friends,
relatives of Lesbians/Gays. Meets
4th Tues

The Common Woman
(402) 464-8709, 1065 N. 33rd
(33 & Apple), Lincoln, NE 68503
Bookstore/Coffeehouse
(Women's social, Fri 7pm-mid.)

The Wimmin's Show
12 Noon-3pm every Sunday
KZUM Radio 89.3 FM Stereo

Women's Journal-Advocate
Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

**Women's Assistance
Emergency Fund**
Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

OMAHA OMAHA

Dignity of Omaha
(402) 331-4919 or 341-1460
St. John's (lower level)
Common bonds thru Mass, meetings
for Lesbians/Gays their friends,
2nd Sun., 7pm

**Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics
Anonymous**
Meeting weekly, Fri 8:15pm
(402) 345-9916

**Metropolitan Community
Church of Omaha (MCC-O)**
420 S. 24th St.
Omaha, NE 68103 (402) 345-2560
Sun. worship 10:20am and 7pm

Metropolitan Club
Box 3124, Omaha, NE 68103
(402) 449-9377
Networking organization of business
and professional persons. Meets
third Wednesday monthly

River City Bowling League
(402) 345-5118 Scan or
(402) 493-6118 Charla

River City Mixed Chorus
(402) 342-4775
Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101
Volunteer community chorus for
gay/lesbian, gay/lesbian sensitive
men and women. Goal of musical
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**Two Wheelers of Omaha
Motorcycle Club (TWO)**
PO Box 3216 OMA, NE 68103

UNO Student Group
WOMEN: Heidi (402) 554-0020
Box 134, UNO, 68182-0320
MEN: Wes or Rob
(402) 558-1186
P.O. Box 31351 Omaha, 68131
Lesbian and gay student
social/support group

AIDS AIDS AIDS

INFORMATION & REFERRAL:

Nebraska AIDS Project
(402) 342-4233
1-800-782-AIDS
3624 Leavenworth St.
Omaha, NE 68131
Support Groups: Buddy's
Aids Info & education

Viral Syndrome Clinic
University of Nebraska Medical
Center, Omaha, NE
(402) 559-6200 Dr. Jonathan
Goldsmith, MD

Lincoln Cancer Center
Barb Moron (402) 483-1827
4600 Valley Rd., Lincoln, NE 68510

American Red Cross
1701 "E" St., Lincoln, NE 68501
(402) 471-7997

American Red Cross
3638 Dawsey Av. Omaha, NE, 68131
(402) 341-2723

CONFIDENTIAL TESTING:

Nebraska AIDS Project
Alternate test site, anonymous
testing Thurs. 7pm to 10pm
3624 Leavenworth Omaha, NE

Douglas County Health Dept.
4th Floor Civic Center, Omaha,
NE 68102 (402) 444-7214

**Lincoln-Lancaster County
Health Dept.**
2200 St. Marys Ave., Lincoln, NE
(402) 471-7800

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT:

Open Door Ministry-Lincoln
Fr. David (402) 474-3390

**Parents/Friends of Lesbian
and Gays (PFLAG)**
(402) 556-7481 Ruth
Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103
Support for parents, friends,
relatives of lesbians/gays

**Brother William Woeger
c/o Omaha Archdiocese**
100 N. 62nd, Omaha, NE 68123

AIDS Interfaith Network
1106 N. 36th, Omaha, NE 68131

FINANCIAL:

Mary Cauldy
Director of Social Services
Lincoln General Hospital
(402) 475-1011

LEGAL:

Nebraska Civil Liberties Union
833 S. 9th St., Lincoln, NE 68508
John Taylor (402) 476-8091
Omaha Telephone # (402) 346-5025

Mowbray, Chapin & Walker, P.C.
201 N. 8th St., Suite 242,
Lincoln, NE 68508
Jim (402) 476-3882

Omaha Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Ave.

The Diamond, 712 So. 16th St., 342-9595

The Max, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110

The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

Lincoln Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Boardwalk, 20th & O Sts., 474-9741

The Club, 116 No. 20th St., 474-5692

Panic, 200 So. 16th St., 435-8764

Grand Island Bars, Clubs & Lounges

Chasins, 4th & Walnut, (308) 382-0236



MARCH AT THE MAX



Sunday, MARCH 5th

Miss Gay Nebraska America Steps Down
Dorian Steps Down as Miss Gay Nebraska America

Sunday, MARCH 12th

Miss Gay U.S.A. Benefit
Help Muffy and Dorian on their way to
The Miss Gay U.S.A. Pageant

Friday, MARCH 17th

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Sunday, MARCH 19th

♣♣ Miss Gay Nebraska America Pageant ♣♣

9:00 P.M.

Special Guests – Vickie Vincent
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