

DECEMBER

1995

The
New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



OUR TURN: Views & Opinions of The New Voice Staff

To ease our less than perfect gift choices for each other last Christmas, Sharon and I decided it was time to get a Siamese kitten to fill the void left when my 12 year old Siamese cat (Cheddar) died 1 1/2 years ago. We found kittens nearby, and one quickly endeared herself to us. The seller assured us she was a good choice because she was much more "laid back" than her sister. Now you know why those words were used in our ad last month for a male to breed her with.

Kady Linn became the center of our attention, and if we tried to ignore her, she forced our attention. She was so soft and fuzzy, just as any 1/2 rag-doll Himalayan 1/2 Siamese should be, but she was also jet-propelled. She'd race through the house at top speed until one of the older cats would finally join her. Together they sounded like a herd of mad elephants storming across the wood floors. This led us to believe that rather than be the breeding cat we had intended (doomed to spend her life bare-pawed and pregnant), Kady wanted to be a career-kitty—maybe even an Olympic runner. At an early age she began practicing to become an Olympic high jumper as well by jumping up in front of the floor length mirror and grabbing at the plastic stick-on fish and seaweed. At first she couldn't get as high as the door knob, but with practice she could soon snag the fish from a foot above the door knob. Now, what few pieces we have left, line the very top of the mirror, and several fish and pieces of seaweed have not been seen for months. We presume Kady planted them elsewhere as she pursued the possibility of a career in agriculture—an interest that was apparently short-lived. One time she leaped up and pulled the chain for the ceiling fans, but I don't think building maintenance was a career she had much enthusiasm for.

Christmas is Coming--SO NOW WHAT?



Another perfectly good career choice given so little attention.

Then there was the lamp episode, Kady claimed she was tightening a light bulb, we thought an electrician in the family would be nice. But we began to wonder the second time she "tightened" it in one afternoon, and I dare say her balance wasn't good enough for doing line and pole work. Check out the picture. Well, need I say more.

As she raced from room to room and leaped higher and higher and gingerly balanced herself on the lamp shade, we questioned her seller's description of Kady as "laid back." Our suspicions that Kady was an Olympic triathlete or a Circus performer in training were no longer demable the day we came home and found only the center section of the bedroom curtain rod still gingerly balanced on a center brace. On the floor in two very neat piles lay the rest of the curtains and the

rods. What a sight! We laughed and laughed at that one lone rod perfectly balanced and completely bare.

Like everyone in the 90's, Kady knew "Appearance Is Everything." Every morning she'd tan herself in front of our clip-on lights—ever so cautiously, only five minutes to a side. Maybe modeling was her destiny!

Kady, Kady what wonderful kittens you would have. And the phone was ringing off the wall in response to last month's ads:

"'Laid Back' Virgin looking for gentle sensitive but dominant Siamese male for 'first time' encounter. Not looking for a long-term relationship. I'm young, but ready for love..." and "Help! Our adolescent 'daughter' is ready for her first encounter with a gentle but sensitive Siamese male..." We had at least six calls in no more than six days, and the phone rang again just yesterday, but not one of the callers caught the operative word in the ad—Siamese. A mother was not Kady's career destiny either.

Poor Kady—she had such a short life. You see, Nov. 5, when we came home, she was nowhere to be seen. Eventually Sharon found her in the closet huddled on a rug. We took her straight to the vet, who kept her overnight. Overnight turned into several days as the vet was puzzled by her condition. As a last resort the vet did exploratory surgery and what he found was not good. Her small intestine was telescoping up inside her large intestine, and he had to cut out way too much of it. Kady died a couple hours after the surgery. The vet said her heart just couldn't take it and just quit beating, but I know differently. I know Kady—Kady's little heart could never just stop beating—I am certain it leaped from her little body in a moment of enthusiastic delight. After all, she lived her life so fully doing and trying everything that crossed her path. I know her death was just a leap into another life—perhaps her career choice was really guardian angel.

The house is much quieter now. No more stampeding elephants, no more balancing acts, no wild leaping, no sunning, and no snuggling Kady. We miss her terribly, but we've already started looking for another Siamese kitten, and I wonder just what she will be like. I thought Kady would be just like Cheddar, but silly me—Kady had a personality all her own, and I'm so glad she shared it with Sharon and with me. She made our lives fuller and richer. Thanks, Kady! Guess it's time to check out the pet store down the road and see just what the next kitten has in store for us.

Good-bye, Kady. See you in another lifetime.

Carla



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P.O. Box 3512

Omaha, Nebraska 68103

Steering Committee and Staff

Sharon Van Butsel - Editor (556-9907)

Dick Brown - Treasurer/ Advertising 451-4737(H) 453-8688(W)

Jim Shelling - Secretary

Sharon McCartney - Typist

Pat Phalen - Distribution 455-3701

Terry Sweeney 455-3701

Carla Petersen - Typing & Layout

Kevin W. - Proofreader

Brian Bengtson, Poetry Editor

Shelly Roberts, feature writer

Ace Landon, feature writer

Carol Bennett, feature writer

Tom Petersen, feature writer

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THANKS FROM QUILT DISPLAY

Dear Editors and Staff,

I wanted to thank all those with *The New Voice* for your assistance during the months preceding the NAMES Project Quilt Display. The monthly articles advertising the "quilting bees" were greatly appreciated. Probably a third of the calls I received were in response to these articles. I will continue to guide those who need assistance in making a panel, although probably not quite as actively.

Sixty new panels were inducted into the Quilt. Fifty-five panels honored 54 individuals. Four panels carried messages of love from the Midlands. MCC-Omaha presented a panel honoring several of their members. The finance committee is still counting, but we will have raised more than \$40,000 for the Nebraska AIDS Project.

Thanks for everything. Keep up the good work, and happy holiday to all.

Ronald W. Wilson

"EX-GAY" HEALER

Dear Editor,

Please find enclosed the introduction to a research paper written by Dr. Ronald Lawson entitled: *The Troubled Career of an "EX-GAY" Healer*. Colin Cook, Seventh-Day Adventist, and the Christian Right.

Ron Lawson is an officer for SDA Kinship International and has given us permission to distribute this paper to you prior to it being submitted to *The Journal of Homosexuality*.

We feel that this information should be made available to organizations, such as yours, to expose the damage that can be inflicted by change ministries including Colin Cook's *FAITH QUEST*. So then, we have made this research paper available to you FREE upon request.

SDA Kinship feels that this information is relevant to use because 1: Colin Cook is a former Seventh-Day Adventist pastor, 2: The Seventh-Day Adventist Church is the first denomination to commit itself to give financial support to an "EX-GAY" ministry, and 3: Several of his former counselees are kinship members and/or Seventh-Day Adventist.

SDA Kinship is not responsible for the initial or recent research presented in this paper, but we do feel the need to expose this information because of who we are. Thank you for your attention regarding this matter.

Sincerely,

Jim Bell, Public Relations
SDA Kinship International

THANKS FOR HELPING ME

Dear Editor,

I am a person living with AIDS. I have also lost my lover and several close friends to this devastating disease. In the middle of the fight, stands an organization called NAP "Nebraska AIDS Project" and the staff at UNMC.

I would like to publicly thank each and every one of these dedicated people. Everyone has gone out of their way to help me in different times of need. It's a comfort to know that in this war of T-Cells, I can always count on a phone call, a smile and loads of genuine concern. From the receptionist to the wonderful dental hygienist at the adult dental clinic at UNMC.

Sometimes kindness and acceptance can work on this disease better than any medication. Something that is very rare in a society that is afraid or just plain ignorant.

This disease is more social than medical, in my opinion. But unfortunately, a lot of unsuspecting people may be forced to understand by dealing with it in a more personal setting, being themselves or a close friend or family member.

So in this war, I'm proud to fight with people such as NAP and UNMC because we can't win alone and we can't win afraid.

A very grateful client of NAP
Grady D. Breece

LETTER POLICY

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

PRISONER PROJECT

by Sharon McCartney

I want to define the prisoner project once again. I am still receiving letters requesting free subscriptions from prisoners in Eddyville and elsewhere. It is our policy to only give free subscriptions to prisoners in Nebraska and Iowa. All other prisoner can receive the magazine at a reduced rate of \$12 per year. This will cover the cost of printing and postage.

No free ads will be run. We will accept stamps in lieu of cash to run the ad. The stamps must be included with the ad. The cost of the ad is \$3.00 for 20 words or less. Each additional word is 20 cents. Thanks for adhering to these guidelines.

The following two ads were received this month with stamps enclosed:

Incarcerated, br, w, 22, 5'9", seeking a sincere TS. TV. for correspondence, and possibly more. Released '96" August 8th

Lilliam D. Coleman 108788
Kentucky State Prison
P O Box 128 3-13L-18
Eddyville, KY 42038-0128

The second one reads:
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EDITED ARTICLE UNACCEPTABLE

New Voice:

I hope I'm not overreacting. I'm still grieving. I know none of you are paid for your work and I don't mean to seem unappreciative of the great job you do. But, I was very disappointed to read the edited version of a letter I submitted about my friend, Jeffrey, in the October issue of *New Voice*. In my opinion, it was edited to be nonsensical in parts. Complete sentences are left out and other sentences are mixed up. Your placement of paragraphs appear to be at random and placement of paragraphs split thoughts. Your paragraph placements make the letter difficult/confusing to read.

I don't have a copy of the letter I submitted it (I revised it by the time I submitted it to the Names Project along with the Quilt Panel.) Perhaps you still have a copy of the original letter. Compare the original to the printed copy. I am enclosing a copy of the letter I submitted to the Names Project in case it's possible to print that for the original letter (unedited) with a disclaimer on the piece that was published in October.

Thanks, Cynthia Hartley
Editor's response: Cynthia, I have struggled with my response for the better part of a month. Like you, I did not want to over-react.

Allow me to clarify a couple of points. Unfortunately, I do not have the original article which you submitted. However, all articles which we receive must be re-typed and I cannot guarantee that a sentence was not skipped accidentally. The only editing which was done on the article was to add the paragraph breaks. This was done in an attempt to lengthen the article so it would fit the space available. Unfortunately, I was not successful and so I still had to add a filler ad at the bottom of the column. Paragraph breaks don't bother me when I'm reading, so I have never thought of them as making something confusing.

I certainly apologize for any distress which we have caused you; however, let me repeat. Nothing was taken out of the article which you submitted (unless it accidentally occurred during the initial typing.)

I cannot, as a matter of policy, agree to reprint anything which I cannot edit if need be. I must maintain the overall appearance and content of the magazine as my primary responsibility. Even my own articles (including ones which have a great personal meaning to me) have had to give way to space considerations.

I realize that you will still have a creative outlet since you submit articles both to the *New Voice* and to the P-FLAG newsletter, however, I hope you will continue to submit articles to the *New Voice*. I will try to be more careful with typing and with paragraph breaks in the future.

Sharon

HELLO FROM DOWN UNDER

Dear Editor,

A major research project is being undertaken at the University of Technology, Sydney, into the lives of homosexual Australian soldiers, sailors and airmen during World War II.

I am hoping that through your readership, I might be able to establish contact with American veterans who knew, or knew of, Australians during the war.

Over one million American GIs passed through Australia and hundreds of thousands of Australians served with Americans in Europe.

The aim would be to conduct interviews by correspondence. Issues of confidentiality and privacy would be at the discretion of the interviewee. For the record, I am a 34 year old "out" gay male.

I would be most grateful for any leads and suggestions, whatsoever. Postage costs will be covered upon request.

Please write to: Mr. Alistair Martin, 76 Albert St., Erskineville 2043, NSW, Australia. Or e-mail me at: ajmartin@acs.itd.uts.edu.au

Sincerely,

Alistair J. Martin

GAY SDA KINSHIP

Gay and lesbian Seventh Day Adventists — you are not alone! SDA Kinship International exists to offer spiritual, emotional, and social support to present or former SDA's who are gay or lesbian.

For more information contact: SDA Kinship International, P.O. Box 7320, Laguna Niguel, California 92677 (714) 248-1299. Confidentiality is assured.

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Frances and Clare Times

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“RHYMES, METERS, AND BALLADS.....OH, MY!!”

Good afternoon everyone! Before we get started on the lesson for this month, I want to thank ANGLE and the Community at large for the honor of being this year's winner of the Personal Achievement Award. I also want to thank the "little bird" who wrote a nomination for me (I know the identity of my spokesperson, and her magic gift at always picking the winners is greatly appreciated. She also got her own award that night, and it's about time! Have I given enough clues yet?) Without sounding like an Academy Awards thank-you, I want to finally thank all of those who supported me in the beginning, helping me get readings, and especially my "hubby," Todd (The banquet was running late, so none of us got to make any sort of "thank you" speech, so I am abusing my power on this page for just a moment.)

Next month, I hope to devote this entire page to everybody's attempts at our first lesson, and today's. In other words, if haiku ain't your bag, maybe this will strike your fancy.

Section three: Rhyme and Ballad

Babette Deutsch's *Poetry Handbook* defines rhyme as "the repetition of same or similar sounds, whether vowels, consonants, or a combination of these in one or more syllables, usually stressed and occurring at determined and recognized intervals." As I have said earlier, Poetry does not have to rhyme, but if you do use it nowadays, you must be following a form of poetry that uses rhyme.

There are many types and styles of rhyme (such as masculine, feminine, half, and slant, to name a few), but for the purpose of this lesson, we are going to use the "words that sound the same" definition (like "cow" and "now").

When showing the structure of any type of poetry, the easiest way is what I call the "a-b-c-b" method (I am sure there is a proper name for this, but right now I am drawing a blank.) If I was going to diagram a limerick it would look like this:

A
A
B
B
A

By looking at this, you can see that a limerick consists of five lines with the first, second, and fifth lines rhyming together, and the third and fourth lines rhyming on their own.

A ballad has at least four stanzas (or groupings of lines in a poem); each stanza follows this rhyming diagram:

A
B
C
B

Ballads are poems of salute, honoring a person, place, or thing. These subjects can be real, or imagined. Ballads have traditionally been "tongue in cheek," using humor to paint a picture, to get the point across. The best ballads are usually not serious (I am not using the musical ballad and its ramifications in this definition. I am not a songwriter, nor have I ever claimed to be), but that does not excuse them from being skillfully created. A good ballad can ascend beyond the little story it tells with the right humor. The reader

can enjoy it without having to live or experience the era in which it was created. Some have used ballads as satire, some are just for fun.

As an example, I am digging in my vaults, and pulling out a piece that I wrote (and published) not too long ago (sorry for the repetition. I don't write many ballads, and as usual, I am dancing on the deadline!). Sorry for the blue language, but this is Don Flower's favorite piece (yell at him, too! Just joking....).

A Ballad For Girls Who Can't Get Dates

In the land of the three-dollar cover,
where the pretty boys skip and preen;
lived the lair of Eumice Higginbottom,
the true fag hag to all the queens.

She'd tip you her last dollar,
and she'd tell you that you look fierce.
On Friday nights before the bar,
she would find a new body part to pierce.

One evening after playing Techno,
true tragedy struck the land;
for Eumice took a fatal nosedive
while dancing on the speaker stand.

It wasn't the fall that killed her.
Oh, my — — if only that!!
It was all the jewelry that stabbed her,
Spewing blood both this way and that.

The DJ stopped the music.
Oh it was harsh, I'll admit,
but all the queens just had to 'dis her
for getting blood on all their shit!

So listen, all my darling girls,
and let me quiet all your fears.
It's okay if you're a fag hag,
but for God's sake, just pierce your ears!

So now we have gone over two different types of poems. Try a ballad (or grab a copy of last month's *New Voice*, and try a haiku/tanka...), and next month, I will (hopefully) showcase the best out of what I have received (so send them in!).

In other news, I am showcasing a piece by a new poet, Brian Macbeth. He is an Omaha native, and this piece is a journey into the surreal. Sometimes, a poem can stimulate the dreamer inside you.

Everyone take care,
Brian

DUST

By Brian Macbeth

Tears run down my face
to mingle with dropped dreams
shattered at my feet,
plucked from my head
by fingers of common flesh;
old and wrinkled.

Pain does not surmount
the mountain blocking its path;
it finds a new way
to travel, clever,
somewhat devious and warped.

It trickles around the peak,
and all the injustices collect
to make a river, gauging a valley,
making the summit ever higher.

The thawing valley
floor crumbles as I strike,
and excuses to be oblivious
to its weight dissolve,
and gather like so much dust.

A head speaks through a hole
in the foundation from above
and tells of a great disaster.

I wonder about the warning
and brush myself off only to find
the mirth steadfast
and all too palpable in my mouth

A shout cracks through the cavern
where I sojourn, and my hair
and hands fill with falling
dirt and foundation.
The mountain in all its grandeur, decays
then sinks in its own triumph.

Earth flung into the air,
cues a roaming leviathan
and it attacks. Trying to
strip away my life
in the absence of the mountain.

The struggle ends
and the beast is left dead.
Its life washes away the dust
leaving me unencumbered and free.

I check the wound caused by the contest
and watch as its warmth
travels down my arm,
and collect on the body
of the leviathan
in a small mountain of dust.

“Rules of Combat!!!”

- 1.) Send typed poems of thirty lines or less.
- 2.) Send a SASE if you want 'em back, or want a comment/critique.
- 3.) Will try to respond within a reasonable amount of time.
- 4.) Buy my book!!! Buy my book!!! Please!!
- 5.) If you keep standing there with the refrigerator door open, my jello won't congeal!!!

FEATURES

"OUT IN THE STARS"

by C. Lichtenstein

Astrological Forecast for December 1995

Ho, ho, ho, children, have you been good? Santa is coming and will bring all of the presents we deserve. What I really want is a 1996 filled with affirmation and pride. The planets are clustered tightly into the Sagittarius/ Capricorn sphere which means that we can get our wish in a big way and put it to work in the political arena. Get to work friends, time is ticking away!

ARIES (March 21 - April 20) Pioneering Rams will be fairly "outer directed" this month which means that you will feel an undeniable pull to express yourself to others and make your mark on the world. This is not bad as long as your mark is enduring and meaningful and not graffiti trash. Plan your course of action carefully before you go for the gusto, my friend.

TAURUS (April 21 - May 21) Are you thinking of traveling and experiencing new and exotic adventures? The planets seem to think so. Proud Bulls are not always the venturesome type, but I think there is something wet and wonderful out there for you if you would only take a peek. Try a challenging course of study or even a wild and unusual meal with a wild and unusual stranger. You never can tell...

GEMINI (May 22 - June 21) If you have been feeling at loose ends lately, it may be time for you to take a deep breath, sit back and review your year with a clear head. What turns you on? What do you need in order to be happy and fulfilled? Revelations are possible this month, but only if you are ready, willing and able to see the rainbow light through the miserable fog.

CANCER (June 22 - July 23) Sensitive Crabs don't feel totally complete without a special someone with which to share their lives. If you are in a relationship, it is now time to evaluate how it can be fine tuned and improved. If you are still searching, you may want to send out feelers and see who is around the corner. You don't have to spend the new year alone or isolated, dear.

LEO (July 24 - August 23) If life is running on overdrive lately, expect more of the same for December when the planets serve up more than you've bargained for on the job. Proud Lions may roar their disapproval on more than one occasion, but the treadmill will continue to roll no matter how much you protest. Don't panic; I see a reward for all your hard work down the road... even if it's more responsibility.

VIRGO (August 24 - September 23) Expect fun, fun, fun for the new year. Can serious old Virgo stand the excitement? I see luck, romance and general good times, at least for the next seven weeks or so, so enjoy it all while you can. Plan an especially nice new year's celebration and tap into your more creative side. Personal expression can be taken to new levels and you will shine and fly.

LIBRA (September 24 - October 21) You will feed more into yourself this month. Your needs, emotions and inner workings will all come into greater focus. Mull over what you need and want out of life and take the necessary next steps to make your happiness and fulfillment happen. Home, family and ancestral mandates will have to be considered - no matter how much you protest, they are all part of who you are.

SCORPIO (October 22 - November 22) Scorps are pretty calculating folk who watch what they say and how they say it. Now you must review how you communicate with others. The time is ripe to use language as a battering ram. Words pack a punch and you deliver them with aplomb and accuracy. Take a favorite cause and take the next step or write that great Gay American novel.

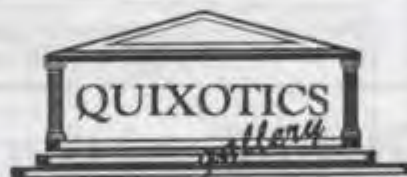
SAGITTARIUS (November 23 - December 22) You can keep that glorious spotlight shining and even capitalize on it in December. Money makes the world go around and you are ripe and ready for a spin around the block. Others who recognize your unique talents help your financial cause, you luck queer Archer, so get out there and sell yourself. Be prepared to invest what you have gained and save it for a rainy day.

CAPRICORN (December 23 - January 20) Even serious Capricorns will be pleased with December's bounty. This birthday month brings greater recognition and a clearer sense of who is friend and who is foe. You are energized and full of pride so get out there and show the world what you can do when you are inspired. Plan new projects and get new ideas off the ground now! now! now!

AQUARIUS (January 21 - February 19) Good old Aqueerian intuition is running fast and furious this month as the planets stir up a cosmic soup of mysticism, religion and soulful songs. It is an excellent time to study tarot, astrology or other new age stuff. (Think of it as helping the world adjust, with you as the guru.) Volunteer for one of our charitable causes. You won't regret it.

PISCES (February 20 - March 20) Gather all kindred souls around you this month and get in with the gay group effort. Friendships are vitally important to you now so get involved and meet and greet. A word of advice; don't blend in with the group and compromise who you are in order to feel a sense of belonging. Make your own unique imprint on the social scene and always be true to yourself.

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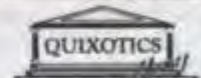
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ON THE **LEGAL FRONTLINE**

by Thomas M. Petersen, J.D.

COMPUTERS, THE INTERNET, AND PORNOGRAPHY

The Internet is here and with it is the unlimited access to forums for just about any taste. Everyone has probably read about web sites that offer photographs, movies, and text of a sexual nature. The hot topic of the year seems to be about how to censor this material from children. I leave that topic to more qualified individuals. However, adults downloading photographs and motion pictures of sex can be problematic also.

In case you just emerged from a cave, Nebraska has very high community standards (and very low tolerance) for what is obscene. About three years ago, Omaha police raided various movie rental establishments and confiscated all their X-rated movies. X-rated movies will not be found inside Omaha city limits for this reason. There weren't many convictions stemming from these raids but it sent a message to movie retailers — Omaha will hit you in the pocket book if you choose to sell sexual material.

Obscenity is a very hard thing to define so the courts have turned to a standard of what the average person would think. Community standards is a legal term of art which means that the average person in the community would think that a certain piece of material is obscene. That's why the same material may be considered obscene (and therefore illegal) in Omaha but not

obscene in another community like Council Bluffs.

Which brings me to the problem. Residents of Nebraska can download pictures that are considered obscene by Nebraska community standards. I have heard that there are police units assigned to investigating collection of pornographic material via the Internet in Nebraska and I believe that some arrests have been made. So if you find yourself with some pictures that depict sex or nudes, listen up!

In Nebraska it is illegal for a person to, "make, publish, present, direct, create, provide, or in any manner generate any obscene material which has as one of its participants a child under the age of eighteen years or portrayed observers a child under the age of sixteen or who appears as prepubescent." I would guess that a Nebraska court would look at just the act of downloading a picture that depicts a person under the age of eighteen or that depicts sexual acts of any kind would violate this statute. This statute has been applied to all sorts of material from magazines to video tapes. As it stands, it could easily be applied to pictures viewed on your computer. It is kind of ironic that a person can't control what a person sends you through e-mail and it's impossible to tell what you have downloaded until you have actually completed it, but that you could

face charges if you do. However, there are a few measures you can take to protect yourself.

1. Don't download any pictures where there is a chance that it may contain sexual material.
2. Make sure you tell the person sending you e-mail that you don't want any sexual material.
3. Don't download stuff off of sex oriented bb's or Internet groups.
4. If you do find yourself with a questionable picture, delete it.

Some people will argue that this infringes free speech. It does. However, courts have constantly held that citizens give up some of their absolute rights in order to protect society as a whole. In Nebraska, we have all given up more of our right to free speech than other citizens ostensibly so that we and our children can all be better protected. However you feel about it, that is the reasoning.

The Internet is here and it is a wonderful place to discuss ideas, learn about places, and SHOP!!! It is relatively uncontrolled at this point so it's pretty easy to obtain illegal, questionable, and downright disgusting material. I would advise everybody to be very careful because the authorities are very aware of this problem and when they finally get all that bureaucratic machinery moving in the same direction, they are going to want to make an example of people as a deterrent and to show who's boss.

A word of caution. This column is for informational purposes only, and is not for the replacement of your attorney. Each case has different facts which can produce different results, so please consult your attorney for advice relevant to your needs.

Anyone with feedback, specific questions, or that has a request for an article on a specific topic, please feel free to write to me at:

Petersen Law Office
7914 West Dodge Road, Suite 381
Omaha, Nebraska 68114

ROBERTS' RULES of the Lesbian Correct

by Shelly Roberts

Lea Delaria says that the difference between a "lesbian" and a "dyke" is about thirty thousand dollars a year.

Ba-dump-bump.

It wasn't all that long ago that the word "lesbian" was entirely unpronounceable especially amongst those who were them at least without sounding like they'd swallowed an entire box of kleenex.

And "dyke" was pretty much only used by truck drivers (male) to scale their personal housefraus into staying home with Oprah and the kids, away from the understanding arms of some other truck drivers (female).

But now we are engaged in a great civil war judging whether these terms, or any terms so mandated, and so dedicated can long endure.

With a ferocity usually reserved for conversations about "butch" and "femme," dykes, I mean lesbians, er, uh, gay ladies, um, homosexual, uh, monoaffectional, well, uni-orientational women are coming to terms with their own definitions.

So, since I happened to be in the neighborhood, and I didn't have anything better to do at the time, I thought I'd share with you my personal definitional roster for the ladies of the game:

A lesbian drinks out of a glass. A dyke pops a top.

A lesbian buys real estate. A dyke rents.

A lesbian keeps stock in a safety deposit box. A dyke puts it back on the shelf.

A dyke on bike owns a Harley. A lesbian owns a Schwinn.

A dyke's tattoos don't rub off. A lesbian's don't show.

A lesbian knows DKNY by her first name. If a dyke cared, she'd probably think it was the initials for some Detroit county fire department.

A lesbian brunches. A dyke drives through. A lesbian has acquaintances. A dyke has buddies.

A dyke buys Playboy over the counter. A lesbian has a subscription.

None of a lesbian's earrings are made from parts in her tool box.

A lesbian drives a Porsche. A dyke commands a Camero.

You can dress a lesbian up and take her anywhere. You can't take a dyke to your mother's for Christmas dinner the first time.

A lesbian smokes Benson & Hedges. A dyke smokes Luckies. Unfiltered.

A lesbian has her ears pierced. A dykes always goes further. Way further.

A dyke can actually say the word "dildo."

A lesbian can pass.
You can always tell a dyke. But not much.
A lesbian cooks. A dyke defrosts.

A dyke makes dinner. A lesbian makes reservations.

A lesbian entertains at home. A dyke has a regular stool.

A lesbian networks. And chats. A dyke shows up.

A lesbian serves canapes. A dyke feeds you from a can o' peas.

A dyke has a tool belt. A lesbian has a tooled belt.

A dyke will drink from the hose. A lesbian sprays Evian to set her makeup.

A dyke believes she looks good in an eight dollar haircut.

A lesbian plays games. A dyke watches them.

A lesbian knows the stock market. A dyke knows football.

A dyke plays softball. A lesbian plays hardball.

Or was it the other way around?

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Shelly Roberts is a nationally syndicated columnist and author of *The Dyke Detector*, and *Hey, Mom, Guess What!*, and *The Butch/Femme Scale*. (Paradigm Publishing, San Diego, CA)



FROM THE POOP SHEET

by Ace London, Nationally Syndicated Columnist

Well kiss ma' grits and butter ma' buns! So you're NOT an atheist! You're just one of those folks who believes in God, who believes there had to be a Someone or Something who created you and the Universe. You believe it all didn't just happen from nothing.

Well, welcome to the majority of the planet Earth. I too am one of the majority who believes in a Creator/God. And, like the homosexuals on planet Earth, believers in God come in all shapes, colors, sizes AND we all want to live in that freedom to worship our God in our own individual or collective manner... living freely without impinging upon the rights of others who may believe differently but still love their God. This is one of the major foundation blocks upon which our America was founded.

This has probably been on my mind a lot since the elections because we're hearing once again about prayer in schools. Get a grip, I said to myself, we've been through all this before — haven't we! Ah, history so we don't repeat past sins! To truly get a handle on this topic, one must

have a grasp of knowledge on the Reformation in Europe in the 17th Century. Why? Because the founding of America could easily be considered a part of the broader aspects of The Reformation. It was this Reformation process (political, economic, and religious factors all closely interrelated) which were the motivators for our ancestors coming to this New World: this "land of opportunity." They came in hopes of greater economic gain than they found at home; a few came as adventurers, some in desperation, and some by compulsion; most came because of political and religious persecution.

For the political refugees on this new shore, it was an opportunity to establish politically a constitutional institution which they'd only been able to express in theory at home but had not been able to put into practice.

For the religious refugees (Puritans /Calvinists, Pilgrims, Quakers, Catholics, Separatists, etc.) it was their desire to practice the kind of worship forbidden in their homeland ruled by Church States. For some, once they had been able to establish the kind of religion they wanted in their New World, they revealed the typical Reformation sectarianism they'd escaped from — by refusing to allow religious dissent from their way of belief.

Various forms of Theocracies were formed in those early days in the New World where the State was viewed as the protector and supporter of their Church, i.e., in 1672 "The True Blue Laws of Connecticut" when the State imposed the death penalty, on authority of the Bible, for such crimes as worship of false gods, witchcraft, blasphemy, and insubordination to parents. This

was Puritanism imbued with John Calvin's doctrine.

In Massachusetts, aristocracy and religion combined through laws that gave voting privileges ONLY to male persons who were land-owners AND church members.

By 1690 resistance had begun to absolutistic doctrines of theocratic States and the spirit of separation was born believing the State should deal only with common or public affairs and individuals should have a greater amount of personal freedom in their beliefs. The Church - Puritan or Catholic, et. al. - should NOT have the authoritative right to determine the religious beliefs of individuals; to maintain the greatest measure of tolerance and civil liberty. This laid the foundations for the religious freedom we have in America today.

Our founding fathers went through all this crap and did the only intelligent thing they could do: separate the Church from the State. This is why we have religious freedom in America today. They fought for our religious freedoms; yet 200 years later we may have to fight again to keep that freedom.

Federal or State ordered prayers in school - even non-sectarian - is not a part of freedom. It's a step into theocracy.

And that's the straight poop from the Poop Sheet!

Mr. London is former Mg. Editor of Zipper Magazine and The Coast to Coast Times. His autobiographical legacy: *The Closets Are Empty...The Dining Room's Full is in hardcover by Ponderosa Publishing House. Visa/MC orders: 800-356-9315.*

TREATMENT FOR AIDS- MOUTH ULCERS

Thalidomide effectively and safely heals severe mouth ulcers, also called oral aphthous ulcers, in people with HIV infection, according to an interim analysis of data from a placebo-controlled study supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The study, ACTG 251, sponsored through NIAID's AIDS Clinical Trials Group, compares the effectiveness and safety of thalidomide with placebo for treating patients with severe oral and esophageal ulcers. In the second or maintenance phase of the study, doctors are evaluating thalidomide's ability to prevent recurrences of ulcers in the mouth or the esophagus. As a result of the findings of the interim analysis, current and newly enrolled study participants with oral ulcers will all receive open-label thalidomide rather than being randomized to receive either placebo or drug. Patients with esophageal ulcers will continue to be randomized. The maintenance phase of the study will continue as originally planned.

"Many patients with HIV infection suffer from these extremely painful mouth ulcers, making eating difficult and contributing to weight loss and debilitation" says Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., director of NIAID. "Thalidomide is the first treatment shown in a rigorous scientific study to heal these ulcers. As the study continues, we anticipate additional valuable information about the drug's effectiveness and long-term toxicity."

For more information about this and other AIDS clinical trials, please call the AIDS Clinical Trials Information Service at 1-800-TRIALS-A, Monday - Friday, 8AM to 6PM Central Time.

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NOVEMBER ELECTIONS GOOD & BAD FOR GAYS

The November elections were good and for gays and lesbians across the country. Though relatively few issues and candidates were facing voter decisions, you can't help but wonder what kind of momentum gay rights have as we go into the important 1996 election year.

In Massachusetts, voters in the town of Northampton approved an attempt to repeal the town's domestic partnership ordinance. The vote was close: 4770-Yes, 4683-No. The ordinance provided limited and symbolic recognition of non-married gay and lesbian couples who cannot legally marry.

In Maine, voters were faced with a "new and important" attempt by the Radical Right to deny gays, lesbians and bisexuals protections against discrimination and equal rights.

Measure One, similar to Colorado's Amendment 2 (now pending in the U.S. Supreme Court), was rejected 53%-47%. It revealed a new strategy by the Radical Right in how it will fight gay rights.

Taking a cue from the legal problems encountered by Amendment 2, the Maine measure did not specify "homosexuals" and is not a constitutional amendment. Instead, it created a short list of who is included in civil rights laws and who is not, who is protected against discrimination and, by omission (this is important), who is vulnerable. Those left off the list include gays

and lesbians, low income people, whistle blowers, workmen's compensation claimants, hunters, veterans, those seeking public assistance, and many others.

The measure asked, "Do you favor the changes in Maine law limiting protected classifications in future, state and local laws to race, color, sex, physical and mental disability, religion, age, ancestry, national origin, familial status, and marital status, and repealing existing laws which expand these classifications as proposed by citizen petition?"

As for gay and lesbian candidates running for office across the country, it was another mixed bag.

The following people won their races: Bill Crews re-elected Mayor of Melbourne, Iowa (he became Iowa's first openly gay elected official in 1993), Barbara Kavanaugh for Buffalo, NY City Council, Christopher Kolb for Ann Arbor, MI City Council, Jim Moeller for Vancouver, WA City Council, Al Oertwig for St. Paul, MN School Board and Tina Podlodowski for Seattle, WA City Council.

The following people lost their races: Robert Achtenberg came in third in the San Francisco mayoral race, Sherry Harris lost her bid for reelection to the Seattle, WA City Council by 2% and Myles Burke lost in the runoff for Mayor of Gloucester, MA.

A TALE OF TWO

MARCHES & THE NEWS

The Million Man March in October was similar in many respects to the April 1993 March On Washington which promoted gay rights. Both marches were by people demanding rightful equality. Both marches could be seen extensively on C-Span. Both marches had estimated crowds of 400,000 by the National Park Service. And participants in both marches insisted their crowd was much larger. There was a big difference between the two marches: Media coverage. The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation completed a comparison of newspaper coverage of both events and found striking differences. In the one-week period before and after each event, the Million Man March was the subject of more than 1,650 stories, while the March on Washington for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Rights was the subject of only 349 — a five to one ratio.

"GLAAD views the coverage given the Million Man March with both envy and disappointment," said William Waybourn, Managing Director of GLAAD. "Had the lesbian and gay community been viewed as equally newsworthy and received comparable coverage, the country would have had the opportunity to receive a tremendous amount of information regarding the vitally important contributions gays and lesbians make to every facet of our society. In story after story, readers learned about the feelings of the Million Man marchers, about their desires to end discrimination and bigotry, and about their collective ambitions for the African-American community. It was impressive. Equal coverage for our march could have benefited the gay and lesbian community and the nation as a whole."

SALUTE "STAR TREK: DEEP SPACE NINE"

The Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation is saluting the creators of "Star Trek: Deep Space Nine" for including a story about same-gender love in the popular television series. On November 1, an episode entitled "Rejoined" revolved around the female Trillian Symbiot Jadzia Dax being reunited with a woman with whom she was married when her Symbiot Dax was hosted by a male humanoid.

Although the episode was not specifically a story about lesbians, it did show how love has no boundaries and also featured one of the more passionate kisses between two women on network television.

GLAAD encourages the community to write the producers of the show and thank them for such an honest and well-done story. Also, encourage them to do more stories about same-gender love.

Write: Executive Producers Rick Berman and Jeri Taylor, Creative Consultant Michael Piller and writers Rene Echevarria and Ron Moore. Their address is: Star Trek: Deep Six Nine, 5555 Melrose Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90038. Their phone number is: 213-956-5000. You can also write the president of Paramount Television, Kerry McCongage, at the same address.

Or you could write the President of United Paramount Network, Lucy Salhani at this address: 1180 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025. Her number is 310-575-7000.

REPUBLICAN HOUSE DENIES RIGHTS TO DC GAYS

The U.S. House of Representatives has repealed a local District of Columbia law allowing hospital visitation rights and equal access to health benefits for two people living together as a family for more than six months.

By a vote of 249-to-172, the Republican-controlled House approved an amendment to the DC appropriations bill revoking DC Law 9-114, the District's Health Care Benefits Expansion Act. The amendment was offered by Rep. John Hostettler, a Republican from Indiana. In voting to revoke the law, House members repeatedly condemned the fact that the law does not exclude lesbian and gay partners.

The targeted law allows two Washington, D.C. citizens who live together and care for each other in the same household for more than six months to register as domestic partners, permitting them hospital visitation rights. It also allows domestic partners of city employees to purchase health insurance at their own private expense. The primary beneficiaries of domestic partners

laws are the elderly and people with disabilities who cannot live alone, and their care providers.

"This is a clear example of how anti-gay extremism hurts everyone," said Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch. "Politicians who purport to champion 'local control' and 'family values' have now revoked this local law that costs the taxpayers nothing and benefits local families, senior citizens, and people with disabilities — all because some of the people the law helps are gay. In the midst of an overzealous dismantling of Medicare and Medicaid, this Congress has once again gone too far in imposing the views of anti-gay extremists on the rest of the country — even at the expense of the most basic human right to visit a loved one in the hospital. Denying hospital visitation rights to two people who live together and care for each other is about as mean-spirited as you can get."

Nebraska Congressmen Jon Christensen, Bill Barrett and Doug Bereuter all voted to repeal the law.

FIRST OPENLY GAY CONGRESSMAN RETIRING

Rep. Gerry Studds, Democrat from Massachusetts, announced he will not run for re-election in 1996. The 12-term Congressman was a leader on the House floor in the areas of environmental protection and civil rights. Studds was also the first openly gay man to serve in Congress.

Helen Gonzales, director of Public Policy at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, made the following statement. "His courage in taking that public step (coming out) was a milestone for our community, especially since he was re-elected to Congress after his announcement. Rep. Studds worked to overturn the ban against gays and lesbians in the military since the late 1980's. He has been outspoken in the fight against AIDS, by

prodding federal government agencies to action from his position on the Health and Environment Subcommittee of the House Energy and Commerce Committee. Together with Rep. Barney Frank, he led the effort to gather congressional support for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, which would ban sexual orientation discrimination in the workplace. Gerry Studds leadership on issues of importance to the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities will be more than sorely missed. While there remain a number of other allies for our communities, with Barney Frank heading that list, losing Gerry Studds' voice and leadership in the battles ahead will have a major impact for our community."

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SQUEAKS FROM THE CHURCH MOUSE

My partner had just called me to dinner—and was I hungry!—so I eagerly got up from the comfortable nest in which I was reclining and started to the table. Oh, man! What's for dinner tonight? Since we take turns preparing the evening meal, we like to show our affection for one another by making "surprise" dinner delights. It smelled wonderful—but what was it? Stewed pecan meats? Fresh walnuts with cheese sauce? Come on nose, identify!

And then it happened! With a mighty SMASH and an almost immediate THUD, we were jolted into our adrenaline state. What was going on just above our heads? We knew it wasn't normal traffic noise of "our people" coming or going from the building. We had not heard anything like this before.

With great reluctance I turned away from what I know was a delicious hot dinner to go find out what had happened. Since the noise had come from upstairs, I raced to the drain line, climbed aboard with one quick hop, running upward between the wall and the pipe, squeezed through the tiny opening (you know, it doesn't take much space, even for a "bear-mouse" like me. The worst part is working my whiskers through the opening—you know how uncomfortable it is to try to get your whiskers through such a tiny space, even if you know the rest of you will fit O.K.)

And there it was—glass all over the entry hall! What happened, I wondered! Quickly scouting around the entry, I found a big concrete block lying against the sanctuary doors. How in the world did that get on the floor? The custodian had done such a good job of cleaning the place—she could not have missed seeing something like that lying in the floor!

I sat up on my back legs to survey the scene—and then I saw it. There was a huge gaping hole in the front door glass, and the remainder of the glass was all shattered into millions of tiny fragments! That's what we had heard shatter and the thump had been made by the block of concrete hitting the inside wood doors and falling to the floor.

I scampered to the door to see if someone was still around, but like all cowards, the block-thrower had run to hide. No one was to be seen for some time until folks started arriving for a meeting that evening. But I decided the best thing I could do—in spite of my growling stomach, which was now really churning from the excitement—was to stand guard to see if anyone came back to try to get into the building.

Well, I hate to seem a braggart, but if anyone came along to get in through the window they had just smashed, they must have seen me standing guard and decided not to tangle with this "Killer Mouse!" See, being a hefty bear-type does have its advantages, in spite of what everyone says about having trouble getting clothing to fit!

So I stood there, watching and waiting while my dinner grew cold. Was it just an act of vandalism, or was it a hate crime perpetrated against "my people?" I don't know, and it really doesn't matter, I guess, but whatever craven coward would do such a thing, for whatever motivation, against a beautiful, precious place like our Church building, really needs a good psychiatrist!!! They are sick, sick, sick! Was it one of the neighborhood toughs? Was it one of the many vagrants who hang out in the neighborhood, sometimes sleeping in our outside gardens? Or was it someone whose homophobia is so intense they cannot tolerate anyone who is different from themselves? Or maybe it was someone who was angry at some incident which happened in their own life, maybe as a child or maybe from a friend or a parent or other relative. I don't know. I just know it happened, and I'm hurt and dismayed that anyone would deliberately pick up a big block of concrete and destroy something they had not helped to provide in any way. It reminds me of some of those who can always tell everybody else what they are doing wrong, but can't seem to take very good care of themselves.

Well, my people soon began coming in. They looked at the broken front door glass, called the police, and stood outside waiting for help to arrive. The Pastor came in just a few minutes, opened the door and watched the remainder of the glass fall onto the floor. The process of cleaning up, securing the building for the night and calling the security people to keep watch was accomplished.

At least my sweet partner and I would be able to rest tonight, knowing we were once again safe in the beautiful haven that has been provided for us. It feels so good, knowing we have a safe place—and understanding that our Church is a safe place for anyone who is hurting or grieving or seeking meaning in their life.

Who knows? One of these days, the very person who threw that block through the front door window may come and need help. And you know the best part of it all? If they do come, I know some of "our people" will be there to help them find their way.

HIV TRAPPED IN LYMPH NODES INFECTIOUS

Even when coated with antibodies, HIV trapped by specialized lymph node cells remains infectious, according to researchers supported by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. Ensnared viruses may ambush critical immune cells that migrate through the lymph node, a scenario that provides a possible explanation for the large quantities of HIV and HIV-infected cells found in the lymph nodes of people infected by HIV, many of whom have abundant anti-HIV antibodies.

As reported in the October 26, 1995 *Nature*, Gregory F. Burton, Ph.D., and colleagues at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond found that HIV, when attached to the external surface of lymph node cells called follicular dendritic cells, infected CD4+ T cells even in the presence of a vast excess of neutralizing antibodies. In the absence of follicular dendritic cells, similar quantities of neutralizing antibodies blocked the infectivity of the virus.

Although the precise mechanisms remain unclear, Dr. Burton and his colleagues observed the ability of follicular dendritic cells to facilitate HIV infection in the presence of neutralizing antibodies in a laboratory model based on human cells, and in mice.

"These important findings build on previous data that demonstrate that the lymphoid organs are central to the pathogenesis of HIV disease," says Anthony S. Fauci, M.D., NIAID director.

A commentary on the paper by the Virginia Commonwealth group, written by Dr. Fauci and Lewis K. Schrager, M.D., of NIAID's Division of AIDS, appears in the same issue of *Nature*.

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EARTHLINGS

by Carol Bennett

Living In Harmony With Beavers

"All great discoveries are made by people whose feelings run ahead of their thinking." - C. H. Parkhurst

Dear Carol,

Some members of our property owners association want to hire a trapper to kill the beavers who've built a dam in our subdivision lake and caused some shoreland to flood. I love these animals. Do you have a better solution? - Sick at Heart in Janesville, WI

Dear Heart,

Sure do. Scores of individuals, municipalities, and oil and gas companies have used beaver bafflers with resounding success and saved thousands of dollars in the process. These simple wire cylinders keep beavers from plugging up culverts or causing road washouts or flooded land or well sites. They also control the size of the beavers' dams.

Beavers are extremely gentle, and beaver expert and lecturer Sherri Tippie reports being able to handle immediately many she has live-trapped. She has held several in her apartment overnight, and they padded from her bathroom to her living room and curled up next to her cat.

These magnificent creatures mate for life. Their youngsters stay with them for two years and maintain a lifelong relationship to them. Beavers are also extremely beneficial to the environment, and many landlords want them on their property.

Who Says Animals Don't Think or Feel?

Professor Irene Pepperberg took Alex, a grey parrot who has learned to use words and phrases in their correct context, to the veterinary hospital for a lung operation. As she turned to leave

without him, he called out to her, "Come here. I love you. I'm sorry. I want to go back." He thought he had done something wrong and was being abandoned.

Dear Carol,

Our three domestic rats all know their own names and come when called. They love to sleep beside my cats. They are fastidious and never bite. Marty loves to ride on my shoulder and nuzzle my ear. Muffin likes to sleep in the crook of my arm. And Dusty loves to wrestle with my hand. Please tell people, rats are wonderful. - Erin D., Flint, MI

Dear Erin,

Domestic rats, descended from wild Norway rats, are to wild rats like dogs are to wolves. Intelligent and social, they are motivated by affection, not food, and bond to people like dogs do. They thrive on kindness and attention and make devoted, playful companions. Their soft tails help them balance and are works of art - the scales on them ruffle back to enable the rat to get a good grip.

Debbie Ducommun published a fascinating Rat Report, The Rat Fan Club Monthly Newsletter. It's packed with priceless stories and tips about domestic rats. For a free introductory copy, send a self-addressed, stamped business-sized envelope to: Rat Fan Club, 1010 1/2 Broadway, Chicago, CA 95928.

Often rats are available at animal shelters.

Write Carol Bennett
At P O Box 2825
Kensington, MD 20891-2825

THE TROUBLED CAREER OF AN "EX-GAY" HEALER

by Ronald Lawson

Colin Cook, a former Seventh-Day Adventist minister, formed a ministry, the "Quest Learning Center" in Reading, Pennsylvania, in 1979 which claimed to help people gain "freedom from homosexuality". The Seventh-Day Adventist Church funded it, publicized it and provided its board members. By 1986, it had spawned an affiliated network of 60 "Homosexuals Anonymous" (HA) chapters and has become the largest and most publicized "ex-gay" ministry in North America. Cook made use of his marriage, and then the birth of his two sons, so "prove" the effectiveness of his approach. He also became a prominent leader with Exodus International, a coalition of "ex-gay" ministries.

However, in 1986, as part of a major study of international Seventh-Day Adventism, I discovered, through interviews with those concerned, that Cook was sexually molesting his young, vulnerable counselees. When this was reported, with documentation to church leadership, funding was withdrawn and the Quest center was closed, though HA continued under new management. Cook, however, declaring the successful culmination of his healing process, soon resumed his career as an "ex-gay" healer with new counselees.

In 1993, Cook moved to Denver where he founded a new ministry, "FaithQuest Colorado, Inc." This has grown and become prominent thanks to his former close alliances with organizations of the Religious Right, notably "Colorado for Family Values" and James Dobson's "Focus on the Family". These are referring potential counselees to him, and he has been involved in anti-gay Colorado for Family Values "Time to Stand Seminars" across Colorado. He has announced the first two in a planned series of three-day seminars across the U.S. which, if successful, will secure the finances of FaithQuest.

I have been able to follow the progress of the new ministry through interviews with Cook, his wife, his assistant, and with two recent counselees. One of the latter had taped many of his counseling sessions, which he shared with me, together with a detailed diary of several days of intense counseling spent living in Cook's house in Denver. These show that there are again severe ethical problems with the ministry, with sexual abuse of the counseling relationship. This paper details the troubled career of Cook as an ex-gay healer.

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LOCAL NEWS

WALT'S AMERICAN FAMILY VALUES

Not long after the Walt Disney Company decided to extend health benefits to partners of gay and lesbian employees, 15 Florida state lawmakers, led by Rep. Bob Brooks, wrote a letter to Michael Eisner, president of Disney & the Disney Board, decrying the decision as "anti-family," a "belittlement of your inclusion and endorsement of a lifestyle that is unhealthy, unnatural and unworthy of special treatment." The letter is full of homophobic and rightwing propaganda, appealing to the "wholesome image" of Disney. They used the language of "family" again and again, implying that lesbians and gays don't have families.

The lawmakers also say that the Disney company will lose money by extending benefits, because Disney has "now alienated the vast majority of families in this country" and because other Disney employees will have to "pick up the tab" to pay for the increased costs.

If you want to take action in this latest attack on our rights, write to Michael Eisner to support his company's decision. His address is: 500 S. Buena Vista St., Burbank, CA 91521. Let him know that you and your family are more likely to patronize Disney because Disney acknowledges the reality of the American family and realizes that discrimination of any kind is wrong.

SHOCKING GRAY FILES BANKRUPTCY

Shocking Gray has filed bankruptcy. Founded in 1991, Shocking Gray mailed nearly 2 million catalogues each year, offering clothing, jewelry, flags, books, and other items that were aimed at gay and lesbian consumers.

MONARCHS OF REIGN IX HOST BENEFIT FOR FRANCISCAN MOTHERHOUSE

Empress Felice Whitney and Co-Emperors Joe Reed and Carla Petersen came together to hold a Benefit Show at DC's in honor of Emperor XV of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, Emperor Annie Welty. Annie requested that proceeds from this show go to the Franciscan Motherhouse Hospice in Omaha.

Emperor IX Joe Reed was joined by the reigning Miss Gay Omaha, Roxy, at the podium as they emceed a delightful show which featured local performers and a large contingent from Sioux City.

The reigning Miss DC's, Aramis, made the trip to Omaha from Sioux City and brought with her the newly crowned Miss Kings and Queens, Miss Shatelaire; the Assistant Show Director from Kings and Queens, Alexis Ala Carte; and Miss Sylbia.

Performing live in the show were Emperor XV Annie Welty, Mr. R.N. Hodges, and Mr. Bill Burch, now residing in Washington, D.C.

Making her debut performance as a female impersonator was Miss Deanna Love, a gorgeous, dark-haired princess.

Rounding out the line-up were the ever delightful Madame X, Niecey Braxton, Chrystyne Sands, Trena Tabloid, and the incomparable talents of Roxy.

The generosity of the audience resulted in a total of \$430 being raised for the Franciscan Motherhouse Hospice.

Thanks to Dan, Charley, and David and show-director, Steve Lucart, for this opportunity.



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Color catalogs can be requested by phone 800-736-8919 or fax 602-234-9800.

A sample of some of our catalog items is also available for viewing and downloading on the internet at <http://www.indirect.com/user/cssmith/mail/pls/pls.htm>

CONFERENCE ON ENDING HOMOPHOBIA IN SCHOOLS

The Chicago chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) will be sponsoring a Midwest regional conference on homophobia in the schools March 8-10 at the classic Bismarck Hotel in downtown Chicago. Participants will include educators, administrators, youth service providers, parents, straight allies, young people, clergy, politicians, and activists.

The weekend will include a wide variety of entertainment, including videos, a special benefit concert by the musical-comedy duo Dos Fallopi, and a performance of Dr. Bonnie Morris' one-woman play *Revenge of the Women's Studies Professor*.

Workshops, seminars and keynote speeches will focus on topics such as how homophobia limits educational opportunity for both gay and straight students; how to support lesbian/gay/bisexual youth without being accused of "recruiting" or "promoting homosexuality"; the important role of straight allies; integrating appropriate lesbian/gay/bisexual information into the curriculum; the radical religious right's relentless attempts to force schools to teach bigotry; "coming out" issues; homophobia in athletics; working with teachers' unions; integrating homophobia issues into existing multicultural diversity training programs; and how to deal with people who use religion as a way to enforce anti-gay policies in the schools.

The conference will include two lunches. Keynote speakers will be openly gay former school board member Jonathan Wilson and Phoebe Hanshaw, a student at Bloomington South H.S. who is working tirelessly to establish a gay/straight student alliance in that conservative setting. Scholarships will be awarded to young people who have demonstrated a commitment to ending homophobia in Illinois schools.

The conference is open to everyone, regardless of occupation or sexual orientation, who cares about the issue of homophobia in the schools. For information, call Toni Armstrong Jr. or Jason Drucker at (312) 769-9009.

BOY GEORGE & CRIS WILLIAMSON RECEIVE GLAMAS AWARD

Two artists' vision of gay and lesbian recording artists being fully acknowledged for their work and the contribution they make to the entertainment and music industries led to the creation of the GLAMA (Gay/Lesbian American Music Awards) Awards. Hosted by actor/writer Harvey Fierstein, the GLAMAS presented the OutMusic Award to Boy George in recognition of his steadfast commitment to speak only and specifically to the gay/lesbian experience through music. Cris Williamson received the Michael Callen Medal. Ms. Williamson is the founder of Olivia Records, the first label created by and for women, and has long been one of the most important voices in our community.

SCOTTSBLUFF HALLOWEEN DANCE A SUCCESS

Over 65 people attended PGLSS's (Panhandle Gay and Lesbian Support Services) 2nd Annual Halloween Dance. 30 members and 32 non-members signed the guest book. The only advertising we did was in the *New Voice* and directly to local members. Delmar Smith was the DJ for this year's event. His wife Dee sang several songs and local personality Patricia also entertained the crowd. Costume contest winners were Jo & Deb, Patricia and Dennis. A group of students from Chadron State came for the excitement (?). Our banner was proudly displayed at the entrance and the decorations were unbelievable. Special thank-you's go out to Godfather's for the pizza donated. Delmar for being a great DJ. Patricia "you go girl" to all those who helped set up the night before...and to the committee for their hard work and great decorations! Start planning your costume for next year, and we will see you on Saturday, October 26, 1996. psst, Char...YMCA! *Out West*

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HALLOWEEN AT THE MAX



THE MAX LIGHTS UP

The Christmas decorations at the MAX are a gay/lesbian Omaha tradition. Bruce and Stosh create a winter wonderland of beauty, high energy music, and the best entertainment around.

December kicks off with the Imperial Court of Nebraska's annual fundraiser, Toyz 4 Totz. Emperor Annie will host this star-studded show which will raise funds to provide Christmas presents for children of PWA's and to provide personal items for PWA's. Last year ICON provided toys for over 50 children. This year the need is even greater. Plan to be at the MAX on December 3 to support YOUR Emperor and to help these kids have a wonderful holiday.

December 10 is a benefit for Miss Gay Nebraska. Come out and show your support! December 17 the incomparable Dorian Drake takes to the stage with a few of her best friends (and we know that Dorian and her friends are the best around). December 24 is Christmas Eve. We wish you the merriest Christmas ever and invite you to join us as we celebrate.

And then....IT'S NEW YEAR'S EVE!! You'll want to be at The MAX for the Biggest New Years Bash in the Midwest. It will be a night of fun and excitement and that high energy music. Watch the New Year roll in with your best friends at the best club in the Midwest...The MAX!!

NEWS FROM SANDY

The University of Nebraska has reapproved my study of aging lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender community members, 50 and older. I will start doing interviews again in January. I have my thesis finished and have my master's degree in Human Development and Gerontology. Thanks to all who helped make my thesis and the beginning of my study a success. I hope other members of our community will see the importance of this study and will help make the larger study an even bigger success. This is their chance to have their lives preserved for all of us to read and understand. For more details, please write to Sandy Vopalka, Box 22043, Lincoln, NE 68542. People can send their e-mail addresses, and we can use e-mail to get things set up. Again, thanks for everyone's help. I wish all of you a safe and happy holiday season.

Also, for all the computer buffs out there: I found a live chat network. Through this network, I can chat with people from all over the world — and it is wonderful! Actually there are two networks: Undernet and Efnet. Undernet is small and very friendly. Efnet is huge, like 6,000 to 10,000 people on at once, but not everyone is on the same channel. There are thousands of channels and channels for every person. I spend my chat time on Undernet, and one can find me on #lesbian, #gaynzgirls, and a few others. Really, every lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender will find a place to chat and meet people. I never dreamed I could sit in my office and chat with people from all over the world. I have met people from New Zealand, China, India, Canada and all parts of the United States. The one thing I have really learned from chatting on the Undernet is that we are all part of the same community and if we can't support all parts of our community, then we have a problem. Every part of the lesbian/ gay/ bisexual/ transgender community is one in and of the same. I would hope that all members of the community could some day treat each other as equal. Well, again if I can be of help to anyone, write me at the above address. Happy New Year to you all!

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December 10th 9:30 pm

G.A.L.P. Benefit Show

Featuring those fabulous entertainers
Dietra Snow and Jennifer Jett
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There is a \$2.00 Cover.

Sunday Night

December 17th 9:30 pm

DC's "is proud to present
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Don't Miss It!!



Sunday December 24th "Christmas Eve Party"

Come down and let us wish you a Merry Christmas and we will purchase your first well drink domestic beer or soda. It's our Christmas present to you for making DC's "The Place to Be", also other drink specials all night Saturday, Starting at 9 pm!



Sun. December 31st

Don't miss DC's famous
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Drink specials! Plus Party favors.
You'll want to celebrate at
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Country Dance Lessons Tuesday Nights at 8:00 pm!

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BIG RED**

Join us for the NEBRASKA vs. ?????
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**GO
BIG RED**

A NEW ANGLE IN NEWS

By Stan Brown

Thank you to all who attended our 5th Annual "Spirit of Pride" Banquet on Saturday, November 4. We had a great evening of wonderful entertainment, good food, and the presentation of many awards to individuals, organizations, and businesses.

Besides the Special Recognition Awards in the four categories, the following organizations honored individuals in their organization: ANGLE, Peggy Mayne and Joni Joyce; PFLAG, Kathy England; ICON, Gary West; New Voice of Nebraska, Sharon Van Butsel; River City Gender Alliance, Rachel and Marlene; and the River City Mixed Chorus, Patty.

ANGLE also established the Brandon Shukis Memorial Community Spirit Award which will be given out each year at the banquet. The award was presented to the Community Resource Center Steering Committee this year.

I would like to personally thank ANGLE for honoring my partner Brandon by establishing this award in his memory.

Our thanks to the entertainers for the banquet: the River City Mixed Chorus, Todd Ruser, Brooke Owens, Sammie Bennett, Brian Bengtson, and Annie Welty. A big thank you to our speakers and presenters: Rev. Earle Lewis, Pat Phalen, Rich Ketter, Neva Cozine, Jim Gau, Don Pruden, and Joe Conrad.

For a job well done, we thank the Nominations Committee: Theresa Colantuono (MCC-O), Joe Conrad (NAP), Neva Cozine (CFEP), Barb

Eckstein (RCMC), Jim Gau (The MAX), Joni T. Joyce (RCGA), Joey Kruly (Mr. Great Plains Drummer 1994, Kansas City, Missouri), Don Pruden (ACE), Reggie (ONYX Images), and Annie Welty (ICON).

For all their help we thank the Dinner and Entertainment Committee: Chris Alberico, Delancey Foster, Jim, Jeanne Moe, Pat Phalen, Todd Robinson, and Eric.

Finally, a special thank you to Printing Plus, *The New Voice of Nebraska*, our program advertisers, Sharon Van Butsel, and Carla Petersen for their contributions of time and money.

A list of all the nominees and those that received special recognition are included in another article in this issue. We salute all the nominees and thank them for their contributions to our community.

Elections for ANGLE's Board of Directors was recently held and the officers for 1996 will be: Rich Ketter, Moderator, Stan Brown, Vice-Moderator; Todd Robinson, Secretary; Peggy Mayne, Treasurer, Gary Beck, Delancey Foster, and Joni Joyce, Members-at-Large. We thank Michael Johnson, Debbie Johnson, and Jeanne Moe for their service to the Board in 1995.

Please join us the first Tuesday of the month for our regular meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Please call the Gay/Lesbian Information and Referral Line (558-5303) for the location since we are looking at changing our meeting location soon.

CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE Q

The Q in Lincoln will be aglow with holiday lights and holiday spirits during December. To kick off the month, Tasha D'Vor will hold her annual Birthday Show on December 3. Tasha's not saying how many birthdays she's celebrating, but she is celebrating in style.

On December 8 there will be a Dirty Dance contest, complete with prizes for the Dirtiest of the Dirty. If you just know that you are hot stuff on the dance floor, then plan to compete on December 8.

December 10 brings Buddy Starr's "Scrooge You" to the stage of the Q. This is a Christmas show unlike any other you will see this Christmas season.

On December 17, the Q looks a little more seriously at this very special season as the Imperial Court of Nebraska comes to Lincoln for "Toyz 4 Totz." Empress Brooke Owens will headline this show which will raise money to buy toys for the children of PWA's and to buy personal and toiletry items for PWA's. Last year ICON bought toys for over 50 children, and this year the need is even greater. Come out to support YOUR Empress and help her make sure that these children enjoy the holiday season.

And, of course, the New Year's Eve bash at the Q will be unmatched by any other celebration. Hope to see you then!

BEACON OF HOPE GATHERING TO HONOR WORLD AIDS DAY DEC. 1

The World Health Organization and the Omaha Metro World AIDS Day Committee announce events scheduled for the Sixth Annual World AIDS Day observances on December 1, 1995. A "Beacon of Hope Gathering" is planned for Memorial Park at 60th and Dodge Streets between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening, December 1. Serving as the emcee will be newscaster Carol Kloss. Other speakers will include persons living with AIDS, youth representatives, and ministerial advocates. Following the gathering in the park, participants will be lighting glow candles and forming a procession across the pedestrian overpass to the UNO Eppley Theater. "Livewire," a 45 minute play dealing with the subject of AIDS will be presented by Plays for Living, Inc. World AIDS Day was started six years ago in an effort to help educate individuals, families, communities, and governments about the disease.

NETWORK Q AIRS IN LINCOLN

Network Q is the first national weekly gay and lesbian TV series. Network Q has been in production for three years, but it was only available on tape, by subscription prior to last summer. Now those of you who receive Lincoln Cable Channel 20 community access (formerly Channel 14) can see Network Q on Fridays at 1 p.m. and Mondays at 3:30 p.m. Network Q has produced outstanding programs on the last full display of the AIDS Memorial Quilt, the 1993 March on Washington, and Gay Games IV. They've also covered stories such as homeless queer youth, the Mardi Gras in Australia, and Fight the Right efforts in Texas, Oregon, and Colorado.

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CANDACE GINGRICH: AFFECTING CHANGE FOR THE FUTURE

by Gary L. Beck

"By coming out, you're making the ultimate political statement," said Candace Gingrich at National Coming Out Day on October 28, 1995, at the Omaha Civic Auditorium Convention Center.

Candace, sister to the Speaker of the House, Newt Gingrich, came to Omaha as part of a 54-city tour for the Human Rights Campaign National Coming Out Project to promote openness and honesty which take "acts of courage along the way."

By coming out, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals can affect change through educating others. Candace directed attention to a national poll that indicated 77% of Americans feel that discrimination against homosexuals is wrong; however, 70% polled did not realize that this discrimination is legal.

She encouraged individuals to come out to be more visible, to show people that gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people are "very much a part of the American family." In doing so, the hate agendas of the Christian Coalition and Traditional Family Values will be recognized as undermining to family cohesion.

"I don't have a right or wrong way to come out," she said. "I really have three coming out stories."

Candace's first coming out was to herself in college at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. While on the rugby team, she met some lesbians whose lives heightened her awareness of her own sexuality.

Her second coming out came approximately one year later at the age of 21. While visiting her mother, Candace's mother discovered a copy of the *Lavender Letter*, a local lesbian newspaper. Candace did not deny her orientation and stated that her family, although relatively reticent on the issue, has been supportive of her.

Finally, after Rep. Gingrich was elected Speaker of the House, Candace experienced coming out to the entire nation. While a reporter was interviewing her mother, she was hesitant to show the reporter any pictures of Candace after high school. When the reporter glimpsed a college photo of a young woman with a butch haircut, inquiring minds wanted to know. An interview was set up. The last question asked regarding her orientation gave Candace the opportunity to quote a favorite Melissa Etheridge song, she answered, "Yes, I am."

Candace, content with leading a quiet life and complacent about issues affecting the community, felt an obligation to be more proactive when her brother became Speaker. "One thing I know," she said, "I can't change the past, but I can change the future."

Through involvement in the Human Rights Campaign, Candace has joined the battle against discrimination, women's health issues, AIDS, and anti-gay legislation.

With her tour finished, she will be taking some time off before training as an activist with the Human Rights Campaign.



ANGLE'S 1996 PRIDE CHAIRPERSON

By Stan Brown

ANGLE is pleased to announce the appointment of Matthew Petersen-Samp as the 1996 Pride Chairperson. Matthew has an extensive background in special events planning and recently helped bring the Names Project Quilt to Omaha in October.

Matthew's main goal is to "re-motivate the entire GLBT community to become a stronger driving force in the political and social arenas of our region." He is looking for volunteers to help plan our Pride events and help with the events themselves in June. Please contact him at work, 393-8080, or home, 339-3940, if you are interested in helping with this very important celebration in our community.

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STAFF ADDITION TO NAP CASE MANAGEMENT TO PROMOTE CHANGE

By Patrick Hancock, Nebraska AIDS Project Case Mgt Coordinator

With the addition of Janice Lamb to the NAP case management staff, the total number of case managers for the Douglas and Sarpy County areas is now at three and a half. Tacy Kirkendall serves within this area as well as 19 counties in Southwest Iowa. Jodi Larsen acts as case manager for Douglas County clientele who are also served by the Hamabee Project of Charles Drew Health Center, and Renae Furl along with Janice Lamb serve the Douglas/Sarpy County areas.

Prior to the hiring of Janice, Tacy and Renae were maintaining caseloads of 90 and above. With this latest staff addition, client caseloads will be down to about 60 clients per case manager. This is the lowest load a NAP case manager has had to maintain since 1990. This will help to bring about some long awaited opportunities for the case management staff to improve the quality of service delivery for NAP clients....

A. Less caseload will allow an increase in availability of the case manager to each individual client.

1. Allow for case manager to increase referral sources for client needs by creating needed time for resource development.

2. Increase in time availability to clients will allow for case manager to be able to offer additional emotional support to their clients.

3. Further time and opportunity to develop a better relationship with the families and spouses of NAP clients.

These three aspects on the whole will assist in creating a more effective and quality relationship between the NAP Case Manager and the client.

B. Additional time will now be made available for continuing education for the case manager and thus the ability for the manager to educate clients and their families on current innovations in the dynamic evolution of HIV/AIDS trends and treatments.

C. An increase in the number of case managers will allow for a quicker reaction time when receiving new clients, performing intakes, and the development and implementation of the initial client service plan. We would like to see this reaction time go from 48 hours to 24 hours from time of receiving verification of the client's diagnosis.

D. It will now be possible for the staff to focus more time and energy into special case management projects.

1. Consortium building (community networking) in Southwest Iowa, and an increase in client home visits for the rural Southwest Iowa clientele.

2. Development and implementation of a prison outreach program to provide education and support to incarcerated individuals with HIV disease.

3. Assist in the development of an HIV positive women's social and support group.

E. An increase in the time a case manager can spend outside of the office performing update hospital and home visits as it is far more effective to meet with a client to discuss their needs and situations in the client's environment. Hospitalizations are often the time when clients are in the most need of emotional support, and may have a drastic change in their current service needs.

F. An additional case manager gives a broader selection when the Coordinator is attempting to place a new client with a case manager. It is important that the new client build a trusting rapport with their case manager, and an additional

manager will only help when trying to properly match personalities.

G. There will now be an increase in one on one supervision time between the case manager and the case management coordinator.

The case management staff is planning on these goals and objectives being developed and put into use over the next month. We anticipate being able to develop and implement this new integrated system of case management over the next month and by the first of the year (the holidays are often difficult timing for both clients and staff) be up and running. We will be seeking input from our client family sometime in March or April 1996 in order to evaluate the progress we anticipate to be made. We are confident that together, clients and case management staff, the case management program will develop into an effective service delivery model that will benefit our existing client base, as well as our future clients to come.

GAY IOWANS UNITE

A new gay activist group had its second meeting in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, on October 7. The first order of business for the 40 activists who showed up was to pick a name for the organization. After a brief discussion, the name Iowa Coalition for Human Rights was chosen.

Strategies for winning political battles with radical right extremists was the major topic. We learned that lobbying is one of the most effective tools we, as citizens, have to inform our elected officials about the truths of our lives.

Mona Shaw, David Tingwald and Richard Shannon, all Iowa City activists, gave the group tips on how to lobby representatives. The tips included: know your representative and his or her voting records, be informed about issues that affect your lives, make appointments to discuss the issues with your representative, make a list of speaking points and stick to them, and always speak from your heart.

We also learned that it is counter productive to take too much of the representative's time, and that arguing is never good, even when you know that you are right. When lobbying, you should know what you want to talk about, stay calm and focused, and always be honest and sincere.

One of the goals of ICHR is to build a strong grassroots organization with people in every House District in the state. Community Alliance has connections to eight districts in Northwest Iowa through our mailing list, and we will be calling people in each of those districts to ask for your help and to urge you to attend the next meeting in Des Moines. You do not have to be gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered to get involved with this new coalition. The more straight family and friends who join us, the better.

The next meeting of the Iowa Coalition for Human Rights will be held on January 13 at the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center in Des Moines. More extensive lobby training will take place at that time, and a February date will be set for going as a group to the capitol to lobby members of the Iowa legislature.

It's also important for everyone to remember to be registered to vote.

For more information on ICHR, call Jean Mayberry or Aleta Fenceroy at 712-258-4704. Their E-Mail address is fenceberry@aol.com.



SAMMI BENNETT CROWNED MISS RIVER CITY AT RUN BENEFIT FOR MOTHERHOUSE

The owner of the New Run Bar, Mr. Terry Tippit, and show director, Steve Koeller, announced the crowning of a new Miss River City during Laura Grey's benefit show for the Franciscan Motherhouse Hospice. Miss Laura Grey stepped down as Miss River City since she is moving out of the state. Stepping up to accept the crown was the first runner-up to Miss River City, Miss Sammi Bennett.

Sammi and Laura both showed off their lovely figures and their dancing skills during the October 29 show. Sammi's tiny white bikini left her no place to hide as she strutted her stuff in the first set. Laura Grey took to the stage in an outfit that was all glitz and glamour with flashing sequins and the high boots that have become one of her trademarks.

The show was emceed by the hilarious comic talents of Miss Rita Coppafecola. Rita treated the audience to one of her live blues songs and brought the house down. (Actually, several performers sort of "brought the house down" as tips were thrown over the edge of the balcony overlooking the performance area. At one point Laura Grey looked like she was performing during a blizzard of dollar bills.)

The fast-paced show was rounded out by the talents of Miss Margo Monroe, Miss Ashley Simone, Emperor XV Annie Welty, Miss Dixie Dunn, Mr. Gay Iowa Tim Pedersen, Raegan, Miss Miranda Wrights, Miss Amy Zahn, and a surprise performance by Theresa Robinson.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON POETRY AT THE DINER THEATRE

Robert Coleman and Matt Mason will read from their works for "The Sunday Afternoon Poetry Reading at the Diner" at 2pm on Sunday, December 3. This event will be held at the Diner Theater at 6064 Maple Street. The reading is free and open to the public. Donations are accepted. Refreshments will be served.

**CHRISTMAS TIME
BRINGS A SPECIAL
TREAT TO THE OMAHA
AREA & MCC-O**

December is always a busy time in the life of a church and this December is no exception. The weather may be cold and snowy outside, but the stained glass windows at MCC glow with a warm and welcoming light that reflects the warmth of the welcome waiting for you there.



TOYZ4TOTZ

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**Sun.,
Dec. 3
9:30PM**



Featuring--

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Empress Brooke
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The proceeds of both shows go to buy Christmas present for children of PWAs and to buy personal items for PWAs

**Sun.,
Dec. 17
9PM**

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Listing of
Performers
on a separate
flyer after Dec. 1*

at

**lincoln
Q**

will begin at 11pm on Christmas Eve. We sincerely hope that you will join us as we celebrate the birth of Jesus.

The Prayer, Share, Care Group which meets in Lincoln will have a Christmas dinner in conjunction with their meeting on December 10. Those wishing to take part will need to call Ron for the location of the dinner and meeting. The December 24 session of the PSC Group is canceled.

Holidays don't mean an end to the regular activities at the church. There are two worship services every Sunday (at 9am and 10:30am), a Men's Support Group on Tuesday evenings at 7:30pm, a Women's Support Group on Saturday mornings at 11:00am, Choir Rehearsal on Wednesday evenings at 7pm, Several groups

working on repairing the Stained Glass Windows, the Gay and Lesbian Parents Group, an AA group, and Christian Education. You are welcome at any or all of the activities at MCC.

New Board Members Elected

December is also a busy time for our new Board members and Lay Delegates who were elected at the Congregational Meeting in November. Joining the Board of Directors for the first time are Ron M., Theresa Colantuano, and Jerry Marcoe.

Serving MCC as lay delegates are Jonathan Kelly and Rebecca Howard, with Becky Weitzel as alternate lay delegate.

Have a joyous Christmas! And once again, we invite you to join us as we celebrate the joy we find in God's love.



Troy Perry to Speak at MCC-O

December starts off with a visit from the founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, the Reverend Elder Troy Perry. Troy Perry will be speaking at MC-Omaha on Wednesday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. Rev. Perry's visit to Omaha is part of a nationwide tour to raise funds for the purchase and renovation of a building to house the headquarters of the denomination and also the "Mother Church." The Fellowship has long since outgrown their office space and with the destruction of the Mother Church in the Los Angeles earthquake of 1994, a new facility became essential. This multi-million dollar project will provide a secure home for the Fellowship and will be able to meet the needs of the denomination well into the next century. The community is invited to join us at MCC-Omaha as we hear the founder of our denomination and take part in this historic step for the church.

Christmas Caroling

The next major event at MCC-Omaha is our annual Christmas caroling party on Saturday, December 9. Members of the congregation and others will travel to Golden Manor and to Douglas County Hospital to sing Christmas Carols and bring some of the magic of Christmas to the people living in these facilities. If you would like to join in the Caroling, plan to be at the church by 5:00 p.m. We'll finish our rounds of Caroling by 8:00 p.m. and return to the church for Christmas goodies.

By December 10, MCC will have completed their Christmas Family Project. The members and friends of MCC have joined with St. Martin de Porres to provide Christmas presents for the needy children of the community. MCC is sponsoring 8 families (16 children and their parents) and is providing clothes, toys, gift certificates, and other presents for these families.

Christmas Eve Service

Once again, there will be a special Christmas Eve Service at the Church. This year's service

CANCELLED NOV 29 1995

VIDEO REVIEW by Dick



Images from **VIZ**, Directed by Tom Kurthy

VIZ, pronounced (veess), is the Hungarian word for water. Shot on location in Budapest, **VIZ** traces the adventures of one beautiful man and his search for camaraderie. Following ancient fraternal customs, he goes to a Turkish bath and enjoys the company of other men frolicking in a warm swimming pool, playfully splashing water from a water fountain, and delighting in sensual wet massages.

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RIVER CITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE

After week #10 of bowling, the River City Mixed Bowling League the high scores continue to feature several familiar names. Dwight Wages holds high men's scratch game with a 269 and second high scratch series with a 665. Bob Andresen holds second high game with a 247 but has taken over the high series spot with a 692 series. Charley Wade holds third high game with a 245 and Joe Bloemer hold third high series with a 631. Bob Andresen has the high league average with a 197, followed by Joe Bloemer with a 187 and Charley Wade with a 182.

The high women's series is held by Cherie Iniguez with a 227, followed by Trish Findley with a 224, but Cindy Bookout has taken the third high women's game with a 219. Cherie Iniguez has taken the high women's series with a 565, moving Kathy Barnes into second place with a 559, followed by Jill Cole with a 553. High women's average is held by Cherie Iniguez with a 165, followed by Gail Raddatz with a 163 and Jennifer Moore and Kathy Barnes with matching averages of 162.

Outstanding individual performances during week #10 included Jim Vagirt, Joe Bloemer, Terry Tippit, Travis Adams, Bob Andresen, Joe Kendall, and Craig Owens with games over 200, and Bob Andresen, Joe Bloemer, Dean Michon, and Cherie Iniguez with games over 225. Jennifer Moore bowled a nice 194 game and 513 series. Bob Andresen, Glen Harshburger, and Amy Kozol were all more than 100 pins over their averages and Denise Farnestad was 92 pins over her average.

Team standings still reveal a close match among the top four teams. The Chesterfield has moved into first place with 26 wins, followed by Choke Artists with 25 wins and Night Riders with 24 wins. DC's Misfits also shows 24 wins but was needing to bowl make-up games. High team game (handicap) is held by DC's Misfits with an 805, followed by DC's Golden Girls with a 786, and Delivery Boys with a 768 game. Delivery Boys hold the High Team Series (Handicap) with a 2205, followed by the Chesterfield with a 2189, but Tie Us Down and Run has taken third high series with a 2117.

Complete team standings follow.

	Won	Lost
1. Chesterfield	26	10
2. Choke Artists	25	11
3. Night Riders	24	12
4. DC's Misfits	24	8
5. Tie Us Down & Run	22.5	13.5
6. Wurgler Photo	21.5	14.5
7. Big O Ho's	21	15
8. Dry 'Till Strike	20.5	15.5
9. Been There Done It	20.5	15.5
10. The MAX	20	16
11. Bend Me/Fill Me	20	16
12. 3 Non-Blondes + 1	20	16
13. Kumquarts	19	17
14. Devlivery Boys	19	17
15. Stosh's Saloon	18.5	13.5
16. Spare Us	17	19
17. DC's EZ Pick-Ups	17	19
18. Damn Shame	17	15
19. Gilligan's #1	16	20
20. Kings & Queens	15.5	20.5
21. Roz's Rollers	15	21
22. DC Dudes	14.5	21.5
23. DC's Golden Girls	14	18
24. Gilligans #2 Sc&Sn	14	18
25. Garbos	14	22
26. Out of Sync	13.5	22.5
27. TM #29	13	23
28. Impact	10	22
29. 1-900-STUD	10	26

THE RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS GOES TO TAMPA

No, this isn't the proverbial "Debbie Does Dallas." The River City Mixed Chorus has been invited to perform at the GALA Festival in Tampa, Florida, in July, 1996.

For those who aren't familiar with GALA, it is a festival of les-bi-gay choruses from around the country. Some of the choruses are invited to perform, and RCMC is proud to have been selected for this honor. Others attend seminars or simply experience a week of continual choral performances by some of the best gay choruses in the United States! We're very excited to have the opportunity to take part in this festival which is held only every four years in various locations. The last GALA Festival was held in Denver, Colorado.

Some in the community have expressed concern that RCMC is unwittingly supporting a locale which is not gay-friendly. We wish to assure everyone that festival organizers and RCMC have taken every precaution to only support companies who are, in fact, gay friendly. The hotel we have booked has a non-discrimination policy, including sexual orientation. It is worth noting that GALA 1996 is going to be the largest convention to have ever been held in Tampa — not just the largest gay convention, but the **largest convention to ever be held in Tampa**. You can be sure that thousands of les-bi-gay festival participants and our supporters will make quite a pro-gay statement in Florida in July.

Like any large convention, the Olympics, or

an other gathering of thousands of people from all across the country, there will be logistical problems. This, however, does not mean that we cannot find and support gay-friendly companies while avoiding the rest. A list of gay-friendly restaurants, hotels, and other travel services will be provided to participants so we can make informed decisions about how and where to spend our gay money. What kind of positive message do you suppose RCMC and GALA can create when we go to Tampa, spend tons of gay money in only gay-friendly establishments? We think that type of outcome might be more powerful than a decision to boycott the festival. We appreciate the community's concerns and hope this information addresses them.

If you have additional questions or want more information, you may contact the River City Mixed Chorus Board of Directors at 341-SING. We hope the community will support RCMC as you have always done.

Meanwhile, in order to participate in GALA in July, the Chorus needs to raise approximately \$15,000 more to meet our Tampa budget of \$60,000. We'll be holding several fundraising events between now and July, 1996. We hope to see everyone there. In addition, anyone wishing to make a tax-deductible donation to the Chorus may contact us at 341-SING. Of course, we'll also welcome any additional information regarding gay-friendly companies in Tampa from all those "in the know."

NEWS FROM THE COURT

By Annie Welty

December finds the Imperial Court kicking into high gear with our annual Toyz-4Totz shows. We are having two shows this year.

In Omaha on Sunday, Dec. 3

9:30 p.m. at the MAX

and

In Lincoln on December 17

9 p.m. at the "Q".

Brooke and I are lining up some of the best entertainment in the area, including: Miss DC's Aramis, Andrea Chaperelle, Red Essence, Phoenix Fallentino, and many others. This benefit allows us to purchase gifts for PWA children and children with PWA parents. This is a wonderful opportunity for everyone to show their pride and support. Every dollar counts.

A big Thank You to all who were involved and attended in the Food for Thought shows, both in Omaha and Lincoln. They were both successful shows.

Congratulations to Carla Petersen, co-Emperor IV and current Treasurer of ICON, and Gary West, Emperor I, II, IV, V, and VIII and current President of ICON. These wonderful people were the recipients of ANGLE's Special Recognition for Community Service by an Individual(s).

Until next month. May the holidays bring you blessings and cheer. Peace!



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RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS UPDATE

The River City Mixed Chorus is preparing for our Winter Concert to be held on January 13 and 14 at the Strauss Performing Arts Center at UNO. These Saturday and Sunday concerts will commence at 7:05 p.m. Tickets are now available from any chorus member or by calling 341-SING. Season tickets, including both the Winter and Summer Concerts are also available. This year's Winter Concert is entitled "Something to Sing About." Please join us as we perform as musical ambassadors of the les-bi-gay/transsexual communities through song.

In addition to our Winter Concert in January, the chorus will be performing on December 3, 1995 for PFLAG. Interested parties may call the SING line for more information.

RCMC is also proud to have been selected as one of this year's recipients of the ANGLE Special Recognition Award at the ANGLE Recognition Banquet. We are entering our eleventh choral year and are very pleased about the community's ongoing support of our endeavors. Thank you.

As always, the chorus is working hard to raise necessary funds, not only for our regular performances, but for our trip to Tampa. The cost of getting all chorus members to Tampa in July will be approximately \$60,000. We still need approximately \$15,000. Please watch the Calendar of Events in the New Voice for various fund-raising events, including a brunch, hosted by the Fifth Voice, our volunteer support organization. This event will be at the MAX in December.

Chorus members are also hosting Tupperware parties at various times and locations. If interested in hosting or attending, please contact the SING line or any chorus member.

And, if you're looking for just the right bumper sticker for your car, the chorus is offering a beauty, sporting the slogan, "Love makes a family" for only \$1.00 each.

so, watch your calendar for upcoming dates. Buy your concert tickets now. We've been known to sell out long before concert dates. Purchase some Tupperware or a bumper sticker, or make a tax-deductible donation to the Chorus in time for this year's tax return! We are a 501(c), non-profit organization which qualifies you for a tax deduction for any cash donation you might choose to make. Call us now at 341-SING and help us have "Something to Sing About."

ICON HOSTS OMAHA & LINCOLN FOOD 4 THOUGHT BENEFIT SHOWS & RAISE \$1737+



This year, ICON's "Food 4 Thought" Benefit Show was twice the fun, twice the show, twice the work, and twice the benefit. With Emperor XV Annie living in Omaha and Empress XV Brooke living in Lincoln, it was a natural development to hold two shows, one in Omaha and one in Lincoln. Proceeds from both shows were combined to benefit PWAs by providing them with Thanksgiving turkeys and to supplement the MCC-O Food Pantry, which serves PWAs throughout the year. Lincoln, Norfolk, Kearney, and Scottsbluff PWAs requested 40+ turkeys while over 70 requests for turkeys were made by PWAs in Omaha. Omaha currently has 77% of the PWAs residing in the state. Thanks to you—our supporters, the entertainers, and the owners of The MAX and Q—these requests were met! In particular we thank the owners of both bars for the use of their bars, as well as their generous donations.

The Omaha show, entitled "Steamin' Weenies," was held November 4 at The MAX. Hosts and emcees Annie Welty and Rita Coppa feela led a delightful romp through the best of live and lip synch entertainment. Rita's particular brand of humor was shown to perfection as she emceed from behind her "food demonstrator" table, serving samples of wieners, chips, and Twinkies to the audience. The show was lively and highly entertaining, featuring performances by the Packettes (Annie, Carla, and Sharon), the Snatch Sisters (Rusty, Dusty, and Musty), Miss Gay Omaha Roxy, Miss Buffy Buffet, Josephine, Miss DC's Aramis, Empress XIV Mae O'Naise, Miss MAX Monica West, and an excellent duet between Annie and Rita.

The show in Lincoln was held at the Q on December 12. Hosted by Empress XV Brooke and emceed by Princess Royale Sheza Mann (with help from ICON's Carla Petersen), the show featured the best of Lincoln performers. Empress Brooke opened the show with a performance from "La Cage Aux Folles" in which she shared with the audience the process which transforms David into Brooke. She was joined by the unique and diverse talents of Miss Barbeque, Mercedes, Dee Dee D'Carr, Andrea, Angel Jackson, Helin Bedd, Tasha D'Vor, and the irrepressible Red Essence. While all the performances were outstanding, it was Red Essence who stole the show, first doing an elegant, romantic ballad and giving each person who tipped her a flower from her bouquet; and then returning in the second set to strut her stuff while waving a frozen fish.

Both shows demonstrated the quality talents of the Royal Families of the ICON Monarchs and the generosity of the Omaha and Lincoln Communities.

Door Receipts	\$ 446.00
Raffles/Donation	\$ 151.00
Tips	\$ 915.00
Q & MAX Donations	\$ 280.00
TOTAL	\$1792.00
Expenses	\$ 54.96
Proceeds to be split	\$1737.04

NAP—\$1188.00

MCC—\$580.00

Toyz 4 Totz Omaha Dec. 3 The MAX 9:30 PM

Toyz 4 Totz Lincoln Dec. 17 the Q 9 PM



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MCC SIOUX FALLS HOLDS SPIRITUAL RETREAT

By RJ

MCC-Sioux Falls, better known as St. Frances and St. Claire MCC, held their Spiritual Retreat October 20 - 22 at Swan Lake Christian Camp just north of Viborg, South Dakota.

I left from work at 1700 and drove straight through, arriving at Swan Lake at 2030, just in time for supper. After a hearty meal, we had a get acquainted session. We teamed up, 2 by 2, and we drew graphs of our lives and to give our imaginations free rein. As a result we had some real variety in the graphs we drew. The one drawn by Rev. Brokenleg was really good, as it started in the center and spiraled outward, using picture words as the Lakota would have done it. Others used colors to show the various stages of their life. Others used symbols. Then we discussed what our graphs meant. A great ice breaker.

After closing with evening prayer, we retired to our rooms for the night. Been awhile since I've slept in a top bunk (and I'm not as spry as I used to be, I soon found out. Took a bit of silent groaning, but I made it up—and then prayed fervently that I wouldn't fall out!)

Saturday was a beautiful morn, kind of nippy but not bad, with a beautiful sunrise over Swan Lake. And there was an old rooster pheasant out in the brush, welcoming a new day. Did that ever bring back memories of other mornings in South Dakota! To the north was a great pastoral scene. The early morning lighting was so beautiful, and across the lake, a farmstead with cows out grazing in the pasture. What a great picture!

Breakfast call! Scott T was the Chef for this retreat, an expert in his field. And what is camp without KP? I washed the dishes that morn with another person drying. Finished up in time for morning prayers.

The first session was by Rev. Dr. Marvin Brokenleg, a member of the Rosebud Reservation and an Episcopalian Priest and a teacher for 21 years at Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Rev. Dr. Brokenleg gave a historical view of Christianity, touching on a number of subjects, including intolerance, guilt, expectations, abuse, directed religion, conformity, shame, fear, etc. It was a good session, with a lot of give and take, discussing one's experiences with both spirituality and religion.

Session 2 was conducted by Rev. Jeanne Teague. With strong roots in the Catholic Church (a former Franciscan), Rev. Teague is well known in MCC as founder and director of MCC Good Shepherd House of Study in Denver, preparing pastors for MCC ministry. Her theme was "Developing Our Spirituality." We discussed how the traditional Bible is both anti-sex and anti-homosexual. We also discussed how some live in

a black/white world which can cause problems, since life in reality is varying shades of gray.

After some "free time" to take a walk, take a nap, or canoeing out on the lake, we returned for Session 3 on Spirituality/Sexuality, conducted by Rev. Dr. Brokenleg, Rev. Teague, and Deacon Kathy Slawson from MCC-Topeka who is working on her BA at Augustana College and plans to become an MCC minister. In this session we covered how the Judeo/Christian society regards all sex, not just homosexuality, as a necessary evil. One is not supposed to enjoy sex, nor, heaven forbid, talk about it. We talked about lust which, though decried from the pulpit, is a necessary part of sex. When many people say "I Love You" they really mean "I Lust For You." I had to look up "lust" in Webster, since most of the time it has negative meanings. However, it would be a pretty empty world without it. We also discussed how each man and each woman has both male and female characteristics. We talked about stereotypes and about the opposite sides balancing each other to get an even balance, an integration of the whole.

Later that evening the movie Brother Sun, Sister Moon was shown. This movie is on the life of St. Frances and St. Claire. It is a really excellent movie and if you can get the video is really good to see. After the movie, we closed the day with night prayers. It had been a long day, a good day, a thoughtful day, and now to bed. Luckily, this time I did find the ladder to get into the top bunk.

Sunday morn, we struggled to get up and going. It seemed that the morning bell went off awfully early.

After morning prayer, we went into Session 4 on "Discovering Our Spiritual Gifts," conducted by Rev. Teague and Rev. Don Reusch of Sioux Falls MCC. We discussed prophets as not being tellers of the future, but in Hebrew tradition, one who speaks the truth when no one wants to hear the truth. Needless to say, a prophet was not a popular person. We talked about "touch ministry" and how some have a gift for this. We went over Spiritual Gifts, not only those listed in 1 Corinthians 12:1-14, but others as well and how these could be used in the church.

The next session was a panel consisting of Deacon Slawson, Rev. Teague, Rev. Reusch, and Rev. Dr. Brokenleg, who discussed "Spiritual People in a Secular World." They discussed how life is a mystery and about those who refuse to walk in the mystery of life, who would reduce life to issues and problems only. We discussed the four elements of St. Francis—Praise, Read, Work, and Rest, and Rev. Dr. Brokenleg discussed the 7

commandments of the Lakota. The first Lakota commandment is "Wicóni" which means "Be Fully Alive."

After the noon meal, it was clean up time, get all things back out to cars, and clean up the rooms. I grabbed a vacuum and went over the meeting room. Rev. Brokenleg helped me move those sofas. They were made to last, being made out of 2 x 6's. And hevvvvv! Then most people left for Sioux Falls and the evening worship, but this person had to get that tired old bod headed back to the Big O, though. It was a tiring weekend but a most uplifting one. I needed that weekend. A big "Thank You," to MCC Sioux Falls for having me as a guest.



MISS KINGS & QUEENS

On October 21, the Kings and Queens Bar in Sioux City crowned Miss Shatelaine as the new Miss Kings & Queens. And the very next day, Miss Shatelaine was on the road representing Kings and Queens at a benefit show at DC's in Omaha. With a beginning like this, it looks to be an exciting year for Miss Shatelaine and the patrons of Kings and Queens.



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5TH ANNUAL RECOGNITION DINNER

Stan Brown, Recognition Dinner Coordinator for ANGLE (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors) put together a first class event in the "Spirit of Pride" Banquet, an Omaha tradition which recognizes individuals, businesses, and organizations who have contributed to our community in special ways. This year, organizations were also invited to use this time to recognize one of their own members for a job well done. All in all, it was a night of celebration and community.

The event was held at the Best Western Motel at 72nd and Grover. An unfortunate error resulted in double booking the ballroom, so the Recognition Banquet had only 1/2 the space originally planned. Despite the crowding, the staff of the Best Western were gracious and efficient. A special thank you to Lisa and her crew.

Program Features Spectrum of Talent

The program included Todd Ruser singing our national anthem, an invocation by the Rev. Dr. C. Earle Lewis, Empress XV Brooke, Brian Bengtson reading poetry, Miss River City Sammi Bennett, and Emperor XV Annie Welty, in addition to The River City Mixed Chorus performing new arrangements, including the deeply moving lullaby, *Everything Possible*.

Organizations Recognize Their Own

Several organizations recognized someone from their own ranks. Emcee Pat Phaden spoke also for *The New Voice* to recognize editor Sharon Van Buisel who became Editor in January, 1988 and has served continuously in that position ever since. The Imperial Court of Nebraska recognized Mr. Gary West who has been Emperor 5 times during the 15 year history of ICON. PFLAG presented their "Making a Difference" award to Kathy England, honoring her for her visionary ideas. The River City Mixed Chorus recognized a dedicated "non-singing" member, Patty Greene. The final organization award was presented to Rachel and John Chapin by the River City Gender Alliance in recognition of their dedication and support.

ANGLE Presents 1st Brandon Shukis Memorial Award for Community Spirit

Rich Ketter, moderator of ANGLE, presented the first Brandon Shukis Memorial Award for Community Spirit to the Resource Center Development Steering Committee.

In addition, Rich presented "Best of ANGLE" awards to Peggy Mayne and Joni Joyce who have demonstrated outstanding commitment to the ideals of the organization. And then on to the main business of the evening — the Recognition Awards. We have listed all those recognized along with a brief excerpt from their nomination. Those receiving "Special Recognition" are listed at the end of each category.



Michael Jones accepts Award for Oriental Trading Company

Community Service by a Business

Gilligan's Pub, Kenny Carlson & Staff —

"Gilligan's has supported organizations through the use of meeting space, through special activities, through advertising, and through donations. Gilligan's does not stop with organizations but goes on to care about the needs of their patrons."

Lawless Distributors of Omaha (Budweiser)

"Coming from a small town in western Nebraska, they weren't too knowledgeable but they have come to our functions and are becoming more educated about us. They have made many donations to the community, including a \$2500 donation to ICE BOWL, Nebraska's only gay and lesbian Bowling Tournament."

Chosen for Special Recognition —

Oriental Trading Company,

owner Terry Watanabe.

As a major corporation in the Midwest, Oriental Trading Company has set an example that other corporations will notice and hopefully follow in the future. Terry Watanabe provides a supportive work environment for all his employees and also sets the example by donating his own time to support AIDS related causes as well as others.

Community Service by an Individual

Dick Brown — "Being Out and Proud, Dick touches and influence many lives through his business and community involvements in North Omaha and as a North High alumni."

Stan Brown — "Stan continues to give of himself 100 plus 10% when asked. Never tiring, Stan will organize shows for PRIDE, RCMC, MCC, Fantasy and supports many organizations without thought of recognition."

Jim Gau — "He has worked very hard to make community benefits go off without a hitch. He has raised hundreds of dollars for local charities. He bravely moved into our leather community and has flawlessly represented our leather family here in Omaha."

Jim Goldston — "Because of his openness as a gay man, others are able to dispel the myths and stereotypes about gay men."

David Hansen and Steve Lucart (aka Mae O'Naise) — "As Emperor and Empress XIV of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, David and Mae, with the help of the ICON Board, raised over \$12,000 and provided 20 plus activities for the community to unite and do good for those with a need."

Joni Joyce — "Joni is a role model for all of us. She is always smiling, and when Joni smiles, her smile encompasses the whole community."

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RECOGNIZES "SPIRIT OF PRIDE"

Rich Ketter — "Rich supports and encourages the involvement of others while he supports and is involved in many organizations."

Ron M — "Leader of Metropolitan Community Church's Prayer, Share, Care Circle, his open-mindedness is contagious and allows us to see how not to judge and challenges us to go beyond."

Jack O'Dell — "Through Jack's work in arranging diversity awareness activities for US West employees, others have become aware of valuing each culture. Being out and gay he helps others grow and become aware of the valuing the differences each person brings."

Pat Phalen — "Pat goes above and beyond for every community activity. Pat has been out and "in your face" for many years, and you can always count on him to help."

Becky Weitzel — "As co-chair of the Resource Center Steering Committee, former moderator of ANGLE, former member of Board of MCC, and educational speaker, Becky advances community awareness and helps others get involved."

Delores Worman — "Delores has been very supportive of her gay son and his lover, providing emotional & physical care with devotion."

Rick Worman — "With Rick's courage, strength & beautiful smile, I came out more at work. I was able to use his strength as part of my own."

Pam Yohe — "Active in several community organizations such as NAP, homeless shelters, and working with battered women, Pam is a volunteer with NAP's buddy program and has helped numerous people with all of the different organization involvement."

Chosen for Special Recognition --

Carla Petersen and Gary West

Carla Petersen — Carla is current treasurer, past-president, and Emperor IX of the Imperial Court. She has been a Quilt volunteer, a NAP volunteer, volunteered with Fantasy leather weekends, is a Meatpackers Packette, past treasurer of ANGLE... a positive role model for the whole community. She continues to give of herself year after year. There is little that happens that Carla has not helped with in some way by volunteering her time and talents.

Gary West — President & 5 time Emperor of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, Gary has been an active member of ICON and the Meatpackers for 15 years. Gary started the first Gay Pride march in 1986, helped start the PWA Emergency Assistance Fund, started Omaha's Gay Bowling League, and helped raise over \$50,000 for various Human Rights causes. Gary has been a continual leader in the community for 15 years and has helped countless people with all sorts of needs.

Individual Personal Achievement

Amy Marie Meek — Founder of the Omaha Players' Club, promoter and organizer of the International Ms Leather contest and Mr. and Ms Leather Nebraska. "She has shown the country that people from the Midwest are active, involved, and willing to come out for what they believe."

Jonathan Raymond — Co-president/founder of GalLO at UNO. "Jonathan has accomplished more than a lot of people have in their whole lives. He loves himself and others and works to create equality and build foundations for others."

Terry Tippit — A newcomer to the community, "He is becoming an important part of the community. He has opened the New Run Bar to more and more groups, has provided donations for fundraisers, and gets more and more involved as each month passes."



Top, Left: Carla Petersen & Gary West
Bottom, Left: Dave England and Barb Eckstein accept awards for PFLAG and River City Mixed Chorus
Above: Brian Bengtson

Diallo Mudd — Co-president of GalLO at UNO, role model for gay people at UNO — full of dignity and pride. "Being out has provided a lot of people the means of help needed to feel okay."

Beverly Pickering — A heterosexual woman, Beverly facilitates homophobia workshops in US West's 14 state area and is co-moderator for EAGLE. "Bev is an advocate in her church, work, and home. She challenges racist, sexist, and homophobic language and behavior."

Chosen for Special Recognition —

Brian Bengtson

Brian Bengtson — accomplished poet and Poetry editor for *The New Voice*, author of the book "Gay...Some Assembly Required." As a person living with AIDS, "Brian has taken his personal challenges and used them to help reach his goal. Indeed, some of his most powerful poetry expresses the fear and the anger that comes with the early days of living with an HIV infection." Brian is a powerful role model for all of us.

Community Service by an Organization

Condors under direction of Arlene Dauceus — "This Drum Corps of young men and women are always willing to promenade and play their hearts out for us during the Pride Parade. Their commitment has given us strength and pride in ourselves, as they risk ridicule to stand proud as they join us in the Pride Parade."

EAGLE — The Employee Association for Gays and Lesbians of US West has served as an example and help to other corporations. "For over 6 years EAGLE has worked with US West in raising consciousness and respect for gay/lesbian and transgendered employees."

River City Gender Alliance — RCGA members are active in the many organizations serving our community. RCGA members have "overwhelming willingness to get involved and to help the who community as together we build our unity while maintaining our diversity."

US WEST — Providing diversity activities through their diversity training activities they have reached people in the community and provided them with needed information while setting a good example for other companies.

Chosen for Special Recognition —

PFLAG & River City Mixed Chorus

PFLAG-Omaha — PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual persons and their families and friends through support, education, and advocacy. Omaha PFLAG includes the Youth Support Group, the AIDS Family Support Group, the Straight Spouse Support Group, two meetings for Adult PFLAG members and the PFLAG Helpline. "PFLAG provides a bridge between the gay and straight worlds so that we can love, enjoy, and find peace with each other, without prejudice."

River City Mixed Chorus — The River City Mixed Chorus is an openly gay/lesbian and gay/lesbian sensitive group who promote a positive image to the whole community through their talents. The Chorus has performed at many benefits and fundraisers throughout the community as well as at the National GALA festivals. Their 11 year message of music "continues to open doors and minds of the total community. The Chorus is a role model for what we can achieve when we work together for one common goal."

ECUMENICAL CATHOLIC CHURCH OF AMERICA

We begin this article with a correction. In the November issue of *The New Voice*, we reported that Roger Smith, of the Portland, Oregon diocese was elevated to the rank of interim Bishop. He has been elevated to the rank of Vicar. Sorry for the error, now on with the story.

It's been nearly two months since the ECCA began prayer sessions over at Pastor Arling's home on north 31st here in Lincoln and except for the weekend before Halloween, numbers have consistently gone up. "We know that this is where we are supposed to be. It's a good feeling having more people join us in prayer," said David Hall. "We were all so surprised when we saw the ad in *The New Voice* that Laura Grey and The Run had decided to hold a benefit for the church, October 29th." Unexpectedly, there was a greater need at another non-profit organization, so Mr. Koeller asked if we could reschedule for January

or February. We were thankful that they even thought of us. We'll keep everyone posted when it gets closer. A special Thanks to all at The Run.

One ECCA board member said, "You always know you're doing the work of the Lord when the most EVIL side of ill-hearted people come out against you." Nothing could have been more true as when we heard that there were rumors that not only was the church a scam operation, but that we did not have our 501C3 federal tax exemption. The rumor continued that we were under federal IRS investigation.

"Persecution is something I, as a Christian, am used to," said Hall. "This church is a church of God founded on the belief that Jesus lived on this earth as the son of God, and was crucified on the cross to blot out all our sins."

Fear is a very strong emotion. Christians and many psychologists feel that the only emotion

stronger than fear and hate is love. Yes, when you believe, love does conquer all. The source of the rumor has become a focal point for the church. Our prayers are with this person to convert to the love of Christ Jesus. In Him, you will find everlasting love, world without end, AMEN.

Bad weather, and bitter cold, hit Lincoln the night before David Hall's first fundraiser for the church. Unfortunately, between that and the problems with the rumor, the church and Mr. Hall lost about \$500. We had an attendance of more than 30 people whom all bought raffle tickets and most went home with one or two items that were donated. A special thanks to all the sponsors, Ms. Bonnie Ocean and Ms. Helin Bedd, who weathered the storm and undo pressure asserted on them and, to all of the other performers and the participants, "We were a small crowd, but I could tell there were some very special people present," said Pastor Arling.

Invocation was led by the Reverend Brother Gary Francis, who admitted to never having publicly spoken outside the church. Talent came from all walks of life. We heard singers perform opera, ballads, and contemporary Christian music while two very funny and talented comedians kept us rolling in the aisle.

"When I got home, I was in tears," said Hall. "We had such a great lineup of talent and between the weather and the other problem, very few got to enjoy it. I then got a call from a Christian sister of mine in Oregon. Her and her female companion for 12 years reminded me that all we could hope for, as a church, was to bring love of Christ to others, and that if even one person left better than when they came in, then that was enough."

The ECCA will still have prayer sessions and still offer communion and we will continue to do the work of the church. We will have fundraisers and set up community functions, as the community wishes we will continue to assist people living with HIV/AIDS and we will be starting a food pantry/ clothes pantry and offer other help where we can. We hope and pray that we have all learned something about love and how strong fear can be, as an emotional tool.

We thank the Lincoln community for the support they have shown, as we endeavor to help heal the wounds of past words and generations. Prayer session is at 11AM at 2201 N. 31st here in Lincoln. All are welcome.

Also, anyone who heard the rumors who wishes to know, our Articles of Incorporation have been filed with the State of Nebraska. We do have our tax-exempt status. We do have a legitimate constitution and anyone who wishes to verify that may make an appointment with Pastor Arling or through our attorneys Taylor and Wild (see ad in *New Voice*).



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ICE BOWL, ALREADY?!

Bad weather, fundraisers and excited bowlers all can mean but one thing. The annual Ice Bowl Tournament is just around the corner.

Preparations and plans are well underway. This year promises to be even bigger and better than last year. We are planning on being host to about 200-250 bowlers President's Day weekend which will fall on February 16, 17, and 18. Get ready for a fun-packed weekend.

For more information or questions, please call Dan Johnson at 597-1689, Gary Christiansen at 345-1606, or Greg Strickland at 341-7937.

LOOKING AHEAD -- A CALENDAR OF MAJOR EVENTS DURING THE COMING YEAR!

With this issue *The New Voice of Nebraska* will begin publishing a calendar of major events as they are scheduled. If your group, organization, or business has a major event planned please let us know as soon as possible so it can be included on this Calendar. We hope that this Calendar will help avoid major conflicts in scheduling and will let people schedule vacations, days off, work schedules, so that they can participate in the things which are important to them. This calendar will only be as good as the input YOU give. To add an event to this calendar or to the regular Community Calendar, write: *The New Voice*, P.O. Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103 or call (402) 556-9907.

January 1996

January 13, 14 -- River City
Mixed Chorus Concert
January 28 -- Miss MAX

February

February 16-18 -- Ice Bowl
Regional Tournament

March -- ????????

April

April 2 -- Easter Sunday
Sunrise Service MCC

May

May 23-26 MCC District
Conference. St. Paul,
May 27 ICON Memorial Day
Picnic

June

June 8, 9 -- River City Mixed
Chorus Concert
June 15, 16 -- ICON
Coronation (tentative)
June 22 -PrideFest (Tentative)

July

July 4 -- ICON Picnic
July 7-15 -- RCMC attends
GALA Festival
July 20, 21 -- Int'l Ms Leather
Philadelphia, PA
July 28 - International Gay
Rodeo Association
Convention, Omaha

August

August --Fantasy Leather
Weekend

September

September 4 -- ICON Labor
Day Picnic

October

October 11-- National Coming
Out Day

November

????????

December

Dec. 1 PFLAG Family
Holiday Gathering

Let Us Know About YOUR Events so
we can include them in the calendar!!

TERRY KUPS DOES IT AGAIN

Let us make your next home party something extra special.

YOU invite the guests and Call 551-3347
WE provide the food & fun. For Details

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
Retro
The Infield
The Mystery Bookstore
The Run
St. Mary's Tan
Visions (Custom Framing)

Council Bluffs:

Adult Emporium

Lincoln:

Nebraska Book Store
The Panic
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays
Q
UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center
Women's Resource Center

Kearney:

GLAGN
Parents/Friends of Lesbians & Gays

Des Moines:

Blazing Saddle
The Garden
The Playpen
Shooters Lounge
Chat Noir Cafe
The Side Saddle Cafe
Sioux City:

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).

Every Season...
Every Reason!



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Galore!
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your holiday party!



Piccolo's
Florist & Gifts

611 N. 98th Street
East of Westroads in Clocktower Village
397-6000

Bars & Restaurants

Des Moines (A.C. 515)

Blazing Saddle 416 E 5th St.,
246-1299
The Garden 112 SE 4th St. 243-3965
The Play Pen 424 E Locust 243-9826
Shooters Lounge 515 E 6th 245-9126
Chat Noir Cafe 644 18th 244-1353
The Side Saddle Cafe 418 E 5th
282-7041

Omaha (A.C. 402)

The Chesterfield 1901 Leavenworth
345-6889
DC's 610 S. 14th, 344-3103
The Diamond 712 S. 16th, 342-9595
Gilligan's 1823 Leavenworth,
449-9147
The Infield 1401 Jackson, 346-3030
The Max 1417 Jackson, 346-4110
The New Run 1715 Leavenworth,
449-8703

Lincoln (A.C. 402)

Panic 200 S. 18th St., 435-8764
Q 226 S. 9th St. 475-2269

Sioux City, IA (A.C. 712)

Kings & Queens 417 Nebraska Street
252-4167

3 Cheers 414 20th St., 255-8005

Sioux Falls, SD (A.C. 605)

Touche's 323 S. Phillips Ave 335-9874

AIDS/HIV RESOURCES

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) 444-7750

Outreach Center, 1723 Leavenworth Omaha, NE 68102, Open every Friday 1-4pm, Every other Friday from 10pm - 2am. HIV testing, education, support.

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

Lincoln-Lancaster Co. Health Dept 3140 N Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling Walk-in tests: The Panic, 200 S. 18, 2nd Tues. Urban Indian Health Ctr, 140 S. 27, 434-7177

Grand Island-Hall Co Health Dept, 105 East 1st St, Grand Island, Mary (308) 385-5175

Hastings College Health Center, Hastings, NE 68901 402-461-7372 Ask for Judy

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

Nebraska AIDS Project, 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, Omaha 342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233 or (800) 782-AIDS [2437]

Nebraska Dept of Health, Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847, 308/234-8183
Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm 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

LEGAL

Mowbray, Chapin, & Walker, P.C., 910 "L" St. Lincoln 68508-2228 476-3882 Jim

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

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

AIDS ADVOCACY

AIDS Coalition for Empowerment (A.C.E.), P.O. Box 31305, Omaha 68131, For anyone living with HIV and those interested in AIDS advocacy. Call Nebraska AIDS Project at 342-6367

PASTORAL CARE

AIDS Interfaith Network, 100 N 62, Omaha Br Wm Woeger 558-3100 (Chancery) Service: 2nd Monday, 7pm, St Cecilia's, Nebraska Chapel, 40th & Webster

Lincoln Interfaith Council, 140 S 27th St., Lincoln 68510, 474-3017, AIDS/HIV Healing Service: 1st Tues, 7pm, St Francis Chapel, 1145 South Street, Lincoln, Public is invited

INFORMATION & REFERRAL*

*More info call Neb AIDS Project 342-6367

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

American Red Cross, 2245 Heather Dr, Crete 68333 (402) 826-3785
1701 'E', Lincoln 68501 (402) 471-7997
2515 St Marys Ave, Omaha 68105 431-4447

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

Douglas County Health Department, 1201 S. 42, Omaha 68105 (402) 444-7750

Grand Island/Hall Co. Health Dept, 105 E. 1st, Grand Island (308) 385-5175

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

Lincoln Cancer Cntr, 4600 Valley, 483-1872

Lincoln-Lancaster Co Health Dept 3145 N, Lincoln 68510, 441-8065 Testing, counseling

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

Nebraska AIDS Project (statewide) (800) 782-AIDS [2437]
Omaha Office: 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131 for Volunteer Services and Administration 402-342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV testing, AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling
Lincoln Office: 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100
Central Nebraska Office: 3423 2nd Ave Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610
Northeast Nebr Office: 304 N. 5 St, Ste C, Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807
Western Nebraska Office: 3707 Ave. D, Scottsbluff, NE 69361. (308) 635-3807

Nebraska Dept of Health, Kearney, 3423 2nd Ave, 68847, (308) 234-8183
Norfolk, Norfolk Regional Ctr, Adm Bldg #16, (402) 370-3395
NorthPlatte, Craft St. Office Bldg, 200 So. Silber, 69101 (308) 535-8133

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

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

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

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

HOME HEALTH CARE

LINK-ON, 1318 S. 16, Lincoln, 68502, (402) 477-8439, Mon-Fri 8am-4:30pm, counseling, teaching of HIV infected individuals, people with AIDS, and others; Rick Swaink, Director.

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 PFLAG, Box 4374, Lincoln, 68504, 7pm, 475-2437

Calico II HIV-AIDS Support Group, Meets 1st & 3rd Tues, 7pm, Alliance For info call: (308) 762-8259

Family AIDS Support Group: Sponsored by PFLAG-Omaha, Meet 1st Sunday, 2p.m. First United Methodist, 7020 Cass, Omaha

Grand Island Area HIV/AIDS Support Group, Meets: 3rd Tuesday, (308) 385-5175

Harambee Mental Health Services, Business & Technical Center, 2505 N. 24, Omaha, NE 68110. (402) 451-3913. Mental Health Services to people of color who are infected with HIV, their partners, and their families. A program developed by Charles Drew Health Center.

Kearney Area HIV/AIDS Support Group, 1st Monday, info, phone Barb (308) 865-5610

Nebraska AIDS Project [statewide] (800) 782-AIDS [2437]
Omaha Office: 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, 68131 Volunteer Services & Administration 402/342-6367; AIDS Hotline 402-342-4233, HIV tests, AIDS awareness, practical support, counseling
Lincoln Office: 3818 Sheridan Blvd 484-8100
Central Nebraska Office: 3423 2nd Ave Kearney, NE 68847, (308) 865-5610
Northeast Nebr Office: 304 N. 5 St, Ste C, Norfolk, NE 68701, (402) 370-3807
Western Nebraska Office: 3707 Ave. D, Scottsbluff, NE 69361. (308) 635-3807

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

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

**WORLD
AIDS DAY
DECEMBER 1**



RESOURCE DIRECTORY

*****LINCOLN*****

Alcoholics Anonymous, Meetings:

**Thurs. 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", Lincoln, Info contact V.J. at 477-3526

**Fri. 8pm, 1st Plymouth Church, 20 & D, Lincoln, 438-5214

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

Ecumenical Catholic Church of America, 2201 N. 31st St., Lincoln 68503. (402) 464-0270. Pastor Jim Arling, Deacon Gary Balch, Prayer Meeting: Sun. 11am. Open Communion. Please Call with Questions/Prayer Requests: All Are Welcome.

Gay Men's Support Group, c/o Counseling & Psych Services, Rm 213, Univ. Health Ctr., UNL, Lincoln, 68588-0618, 472-7450. Confidential

Lesbian Discussion Group, Womens Resource Ctr, Room 340 Neb Union, UNL, Lincoln, 68588, 472-2997. Call for meeting information

Lincoln Women for Sobriety Mtg. Saturdays, 10am, Gathering Place, 15th & "E", Lincoln, Contact Judith at 472-2598 for information

The Male Space, 3rd Sunday 2pm, 1744 "L" St., Lincoln. Focus "Spiritual Healing", Gay/Bi Men, all ages, all races welcome. Membership \$12/year. Info write/visit: Mark Whitworth, Dir., 1744 "L" St. 1-C, Lincoln, Ne. 68508 S.A.S.E.

National Org. for Women (NOW) Lincoln political/grassroots activist org. in issues relating to full equality for women- meets monthly, Lincoln NOW, Box 80172, Lincoln, NE 68501, 477-1226

Parents-Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG), Box 30128, Lincoln, NE 68503-0128, 434-9880. 4th Tuesday, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A", Group for family of people with HIV, and G/L Youth Group meet same time & place.

SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542-2043, Info, Conference Updates, Education for older Gay people, Intergenerational Coffee House 2nd Saturday, 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos at 7:15pm, at 3319 S 46th, Lincoln. All welcome.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Ctr, Rm 234 Neb Union, 14 & R, Lincoln 68588-0455, 472-5644, Social, info, referral, library, General meetings Tuesdays, 7pm, during school year

The Wimmis Show, 12-3pm Sunday, KZUM, 89.3 FM stereo, Lincoln.

A Woman's Place, Box 67035, Lincoln, 68506, nonprofit org dedicated to empowering women.

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

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

*****OMAHA*****

Alcoholics Anonymous,

**Stonewall Grp, Wed, 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha

**Gay Mens Stag "An Alternative", Fri. 7pm, call 455-7916 for location

**Live & Let Live Group, Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 41, Omaha Open Mtg Friday 8:15pm

A.N.G.L.E. (Achieving New Gay/Lesbian Endeavors), Box 8343, Omaha 68108-0343 Phone: 558-5303, Networking, consciousness raising, PRIDE activities throughout the year.

New Voice Internet Address:
tjrr05c@prodigy.com

Citizens For Equal Protection, Box 55548, Omaha, 68155. (402) 398-3027, Legislative action-eliminate discrimination for g/l/b employment, housing, education, public accommodations. 1st Thursday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney

EAGLE-Omaha, Employee Assoc. of Gays & Lesbians. US WEST. Contact Pat Phalen, 1299 Farnam, 11th Flr, Omaha 68102 (402) 348-8569

Frontrunners/walkers, Box 4583, Omaha 68104, HOTLINE 496-3688, Running/Walking Club (SASE for info)

Gay And Lesbian Organization of UNO (GaLo), for all UNO Students & sponsors, Meet Mondays 4-6pm on UNO Campus, Milo Bail Student Center, 3rd Floor, Board Room, Information call Jonathan Raymond (402) 571-8518 or Diallo Mudd (402) 554-3492 or Email

Gay And Lesbian Parents Group (G.A.L.P.), 1st Thurs. 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563. Emphasis on Gay/Lesbian Parent & significant other. Mtgs open to anyone.

Gay/Lesbian Information & Referral Line, A service of A.N.G.L.E., Inc., (402) 588-5303

Gay Lesbian & Affirming Disciples (GLAD) G/L/B/Affirming Disciples of Christ 553-2386

ICE BOWL Invitational Bowling Tournament, Box 3622, Omaha 68103-0622, Tournament is held President's Day Weekend each year

Lutherans Concerned, 1st Sun 7pm 1st Luth, 31 & Jackson, Omaha 345-4080/453-7137

Metropolitan Club, PO Box 31484, Omaha, NE 68131-0484, Meet third Thursday of month, For gay and lesbian professionals to meet, socialize, and network with others.

Men's Support Group, Meet Tuesdays 7:30pm, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22 St. Call 345-2563

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 Street, Omaha, 345-2563, Send mail to: Box 3173, Omaha, 68103, Children/Adult Christian Ed. 9am; Worship Service 9 & 10:30am

New Realities, Books, Tapes, Gifts, Old Market Passageway, 1026 Howard, 68102, 342-1863

National Org. for Women (NOW) Omaha political & grassroots activist org. issues of full equality for women- Omaha NOW, Box 3325, Omaha 68103-0325, (402) 391-7303, Meets 3rd Tuesday, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney

Omaha Meatpackers, AIDS fundraising organization. Call: (712) 366-1791

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

Omaha Women for Sobriety meet Tuesdays, 5:30pm, Omaha YWCA, 222 S. 29 St., Contact Judith at 472-2598 for more info.

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

Parents-Friends of Lesbians And Gays PFLAG 2912 Lynnwood Dr., Omaha, 68123, 291-6781. Meets 1st Methodist, 7020 Cass, Mead Hall, West End, 2nd Thurs, 7pm, "Program & Sharing"; 4th Sunday, 2pm, "Sharing"

Presbyterians for Lesbian & Gay Concerns, 733-1360, Cleve, Omaha.

River City Mixed Bowling League, Sundays, 1 & 3pm, Skylanes, Center Mall, Omaha

River City Gender Alliance, Box 680, Council

Bluffs, IA 51502. For crossdressers, transsexuals, & those wishing to know more. All orientations welcome. Newsletter, Meet 1st Saturday, Omaha

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha, 68103-0267. 341-SING (341-7464). Volunteer chorus for Gay/Lesbian/Sensitive people

7th Day Adventist Kinship Inc, Support/Info Les/Gay College Student 800-4-GAY-SDA

Straight Spouse Support Grp 7-9pm, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781

Women of the Plains, Box 24355, Omaha, 68124, Bring women's culture back 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 & events to build heartland lesbian community

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

REGIONAL/STATEWIDE

American Business & Professional Guild, Box 142, Sioux City, IA 51102, Network of gay business/professional men from IA, MN, SD, & NE, Meet last Sat. of each month, Write for info.

Coalition for Gay/Lesbian Civil Rts, Box 94882, Lincoln 68509 Advocacy, newsletter

GLB Alliance, c/o Health Center, Hastings, College, Hastings, NE 68901. Info: Judy at 402-461-7372 (Health Center) or 402-462-2961 (home). For Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Students & Friends - a safe place to meet, discuss & learn.

Gay & Lesbian Assoc. of Greater Nebr., Support meetings, social events, newsletter. Info GLAGN, Box 2401, Kearney, NE 68848-2401 or call: (308) 472-3249

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association (HGRA), Box 3354, Omaha, 68108-9998. Info Dan 344-3103. All who enjoy/support rodeos & country activities. Meets 1st Saturday DC's, Omaha

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68102 Organization for the advancement of Gay/Lesbian society, Board of Governors Meeting 1st Monday each month, All Welcome

Integrity Prayer Service, Wednesdays, 6pm, St. Thomas Episcopal, 12 & Douglas, Sioux City, IA. Call Al (712) 276-8369 or Rev. Kerr (712) 258-0141

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. Subs. \$19/year. Deadline: 10th of month

Panhandle Gay & Lesbian Support Services, Box 1046, Scottsbluff, NE 69363-1046 Telephone: (308) 635-8488

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

PRIDE Group, c/o Counseling Ctr, Wayne State College, Wayne, NE 68787. Info: Karen or Virginia (402) 375-7321. Gay, Lesbian, Bi Students of WSC. Meet people, discuss issues, provide community service, educate, raise awareness.

DECEMBER CALENDAR

EVERY SUNDAY

EVERY MONDAY

EVERY TUESDAY

EVERY WEDNESDAY

Worship Services, 9 & 10:30a.m.
MCC- Omaha, 819 S. 22, 345-2563

Gay & Lesbian Walking Club, 10am,
38th & South Streets, Lincoln, by tennis courts, optional brunch follows

Ecumenical Catholic Church, Prayer Mtg.,
11am, 2201 N. 31, Lincoln, 464-0270

River City Bowling League, 1 & 3pm,
Skylanes, 42nd & Center, Omaha

Network Q, 3:30pm, Cable
Channel 20, Lincoln

GaLo UNO Student Grp, 4-6pm
Milo Bail, 3rd floor Board Rm, 571-8518/554-3492

HIV Tests, NAP, 3610 Dodge,
Suite 110, Omaha 7-9:30pm

River City Mixed Chorus-
Rehearsals, 1st Methodist,
7020 Cass, Omaha, 7:15pm

Women for Sobriety 5:30pm
YWCA, 222 S. 29,
Omaha, Call Judith 472-2598

Men's Support Group,
7:30pm, MCC, 819 S. 22,

Gay Men Disc Grp, Lincoln
6pm, Contact Luis 472-7450

Frontrunners Run, 6:30pm,
Ford Birthsite, Omaha

PFLAG AIDS Support Grp,
Lincoln 7pm, call 475-2437

Alcoholics Anonymous,
7:30pm, MCC-Omaha

Integrity Prayer Svc, 6pm, St.
Thomas Episc, Sioux City, IA

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

December 3 (1st Sunday)
PFLAG Holiday Gathering, 1st Methodist
2pm, Omaha
Family AIDS Support Grp, 2-4pm, Mead
Hall, 1st Methodist, Sponsor: P-FLAG-Om

Poetry Reading, 2pm, Diner Theatre, Omaha
Lutherans Concerned, 7pm, Omaha
ICON Toyz 4 Totz, The MAX, Omaha

Dec. 4 (1st Monday)
ICON Board Mtg, 6:30pm
The MAX, Omaha

Dec. 5 (1st Tuesday)
ANGLE Meeting, 7pm, UNO
Religious Center, 110 N.
Happy Hollow, Omaha

Dec. 6
(1st Wednesday)
Rev. Troy D. Perry,
Founder of UFMCC,
speaks at MCC-Omaha,
7pm

December 10 (2nd Sunday)
Deadline for January Issue of New Voice
MCC PSC Circle, 6pm, Potluck, Call for
location, 477-3215 Lincoln
Buddy Starr's "Scrooge You" on stage at
the Q, Lincoln
Benefit for Miss Gay Nebraska, at The
MAX, Omaha

Dec. 11 (2nd Monday)
AIDS Interfaith Service,
7pm, St Cecelias, Omaha

Dec. 12 (2nd Tuesday)
Free/Confidential HIV Tests by
Lancaster Co Health Dept,
5-7pm The Panic, Lincoln
P-FLAG Omaha Board Mtg,
7:30pm, 1st Methodist, 7020
Cass, Library

Dec. 13
(2nd Wednesday)

December 17 (3rd Sunday)
Community Resource Center Development
Mtg, MCC-Omaha, 819 S. 22, 2-5pm
PFLAG/Kearney, St Luke Episcopal, 3pm,
2304 2nd Ave., (308) 382-0752/995-5490
ICON PWA Christmas Dinner 2 pm, Lincoln
Toyz 4 Totz, The "Q", Lincoln, 9pm
Dorian & Friends, 9:30pm, The MAX

Dec. 18 (3rd Monday)

Dec. 19 (3rd Tuesday)
NOW-Nat'l Org for Women
Lincoln: 7pm, Women's
Club, 407 S. 14th, 477-1226
Omaha: 7pm, 1st Unitarian,
3114 Harney, 391-7303
Grand Island HIV Support
Grp, 7pm, (308) 385-5175

Dec. 20
(3rd Wednesday)

December 24 (4th Sunday)
Christmas Eve Service at MCC-Omaha,
819 S. 22, 11pm

Dec. 25 (4th Monday)
Christmas Day

Dec. 26 (4th Tuesday)
PFLAG, 7pm Unitarian
Church, 6300 A, Lincoln,
467-4599
Frontrunners Monthly Mtg,
6:30pm, Omaha, 496-3658

Dec. 27
(4th Wednesday)

December 31 (5th Sunday)
New Year's Eve!!
Party the Old Year Out and
Party the New Year In
at Your Favorite Establishment

Jan. 1 (1st Monday)
New Year's Day!!
Parades and Bowl Games!
Check with your favorite
place to party!

Jan 2 (1st Tuesday)
ANGLE Meeting, 7pm,
UNO Religious Center,
110 N. Happy Hollow,
Omaha

January 3
(1st Wednesday)

DECEMBER CALENDAR

EVERY THURSDAY

HIV Test Site, Nebraska AIDS Project, 3610 Dodge, Suite 110, West Door **Omaha** 7-9:30pm
G/L Alcoholics Anonymous, 7:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 "A" **Lincoln**. Call V.J. 477-3526

EVERY FRIDAY

Network Q, 1pm, Cable Channel 20, **Lincoln**
Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**
Lesbian Discussion Grp **Lincoln** 7:30pm 472-5644
Al-Anon -- Canceled Until Further Notice
Alcoholics Anonymous Omaha: "An Alternative"
 Mens Stag 7pm, Lowe Ave
"Live & Let Live" 8:15pm
 Pella Lutheran, 303 S. 411
Lincoln: 8pm, Plymouth Congregational, 438-5214
Youth Talkline, 7pm-12m, Support/ Info for callers up to age 23, 473-7932.

EVERY SATURDAY

Lincoln Women for Sobriety, 10am, Gathering Place, **Lincoln**, Judith 472-2598
Frontrunners Run/Walk, 9am, Brownell-Talbot, 56 & Underwood, **Omaha**
Womens Support Grp, 11am, MCC-**Omaha**
Youth Support Grp, 291-6781, age 13-21 gay, lesbian, or questioning sexuality, **Omaha**
Youth Talkline, 7p-12m, 473-7932, **Lincoln**

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY

December 1 (1st Friday)

World AIDS Awareness Day, Special Activities at UNO Campus

Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**

December 2 (1st Saturday)

River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender community. Box 680, **Council Bluffs** 51502

Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc, DC's, **Omaha**
 General Meeting: 6pm

December 7 (1st Thursday)

Citizens for Equal Protection, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, **Omaha**

Gay & Lesbian Parent Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-**Omaha**

NOW Program Night, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, 3114 Harney, **Omaha**

December 8 (2nd Friday)

December 9 (2nd Saturday)

Omaha Players Club Workshop: 2pm, Party: 8pm, Call Master Amy 451-7987

SAGE Coffee House: 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46, **Lincoln**, (402) 488-4178

Christmas Caroling, 5-7:30pm. Meet at MCC-**Omaha**, 819 S. 22, at 5pm

Dec. 14 (2nd Thursday)

P-FLAG 1st Methodist-Mead Hall, 7020 Cass, **Omaha** 291-6781, 7pm

Straight Spouse Support Group 7-9pm, Mead Hall, 1st Methodist 7020 Cass, Room 209, 291-6781

December 15 (3rd Friday)

Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**

December 16 (3rd Saturday)

Dec. 21 (3rd Thursday)

Metropolitan Club, 6:30pm, Neon Goose, 10th & Pacific, **Omaha**

GLAGN Support Group, Grand Island, (308) 384-7235

December 22 (4th Friday)

December 23 (4th Saturday)

American Professional & Business Guild, **Sioux City, IA**, For Information, write: ABPG, Box 142, **Sioux City, Iowa** 51102

Dec. 28 (4th Thursday)

December 29 (5th Friday)

Outreach Center, HIV Info/Tests, 1-4pm & 10pm - 2am, 1723 Leavenworth, **Omaha**

December 30 (5th Saturday)

Jan. 4 (1st Thursday)

Citizens for Equal Protection, 7pm, 1st Unitarian, **Omaha**

Gay & Lesbian Parent Support Group, 7:30pm, MCC-**Omaha**

January 5 (1st Friday)

January 6 (1st Saturday)

River City Gender Alliance, for Transgender community. Box 680, **Council Bluffs** 51502

Heartland Gay Rodeo Assoc, DC's, **Omaha**
 General Meeting: 6pm

CLASSIFIEDS

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ORGANIZATIONS EVERYONE WELCOME!

Attend the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON) Board Meeting **Monday, December 4,** at **Stosh's Saloon in The MAX,** 1415 Jackson, Omaha, 6:30 p.m.

MASSAGE

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. Hours: 6pm-6am. Weekend hours vary. OMLIN APPT./INFO 342-1964 (Ja96)

OVERWORKED? UNDERPAID? STRESSED OUT? RELAX! Pamper yourself with Swedish Massage in the privacy of your home. Nationally/state licensed. Call 553-8657 for information/appointment. (De95)

Full Body Swedish Massage. Healing, Nurturing (in a Peaceful Environment) Juan-Carlos, C.M.T. (402) 342-1017. (Mr96)

Find the perfect Christmas gift. Gift certificates, special lotions, oils, and accessories at **St. Mary's Tan.** 2202 St. Mary's Ave., 341-3740

Community Resource Center "A Work In Progress" Steering Committee meets the 3rd Sunday at MCC, 2-5pm.

FOR RENT

Need G/M, non-smoker to share my home in Norfolk, Nebraska. \$225 month. Call 402-379-1295 Leave Message (De95)

Seeking non-smoking female roommate for a 2 bedroom downtown duplex. **NO DRUGS/ALCOHOL.** All Utilities and Cable included. \$350 341-8212. (De95)

PERSONALS

Looking for well endowed, discreet, clean males for group fun. P.O. Box 27552, Omaha 68127. Introduce yourself. All correspondence answered. (De95)

GWM, 38, 180#, 6', loking to meet guys 25-40 for Safe, Exciting Fun. 402-455-2511 (De95)

GWM HIV Neg. Looking for males 25-40 for safe, fun times. 39, 5' 11", 160 pounds. I'll be waiting to hear from you. 402-457-4271 (De95)

Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow! The sun's always out at **St. Mary's Tan, 2202 St. Mary's Avenue, 341-3740.** (-95)

Bi W/M, 45, wants young, healthy bi's to be bound and dominated. Will train. Gary, PO Box 8050, Omaha, NE 68108 or MasterGary@aol.com. (Ja96)
A nice woman wants a nice GWF or Bi-Female for a special Xmas present that I will never take back. Please write to: P.O. Box 27586, Omaha, NE 68127 (De95)

GWF, Tall, Feminine, Slender, Blone Hair, Blue Eyes, 40 years old seeks GWF for possible relationship. Enjoys sports, music, dancing, movies, dining out. Am Romantic, Stable. Call 453-7989

Cautious MWM, 5'9", 170 lbs. Destres young or married clean and good looking guy for first time bi. 554-1799 24-HRS. (Ja96)

GWM, 37, non-smoker, non-drinker, 135 lbs, 5' 9", Bike rider, Vegetarian, Ntaure Lover, Non-religious, introspective, good sense of humor, responsible. Looking for someone around my age, for possible monogamous relationship if the proper Chemistry exists. Tom (402) 551-8890

Ready to pop the question? How could he possibly say no when you're looking your best in a tan from **St. Mary's Tan,** 2202 St. Mary's Avenue, 341-3740. (-95)

Thank You Jesus and St. Jude for answered prayers. MDC (De95)

Rose W. I've been trying to reach you all year. Please give me a call. Love, Cheryl



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Nebraska **LET'S MEAT:**
GWM, early 40's, 6'5", 200, brown hair, blue eyes, professional, seeks others, 35-50, for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #15946

Omaha **OPEN AND WILLING:** **GWM**, 6'2", 210, dark hair, gray eyes, hairy, 'stache/goatee, looking for fun and more. Open to anything. Please leave me a message. #15972

Omaha **MASSAGE THERAPIST:** **GWM**, 30, 150, 5'9", weight lifter, toned, moderately hairy, brown hair, hazel eyes, clean shaven, varied interests, seeks others for friendship, massage and more. Please leave a message. #15499

Omaha **TENSION RELIEF:** Bi WM, attractive, well built, seeks same, body builder's preferred, for long sessions of massage and more. Please leave a message. Satisfaction guaranteed! #16349

Omaha **BUTCH BOYS ONLY:** Bi WM, 36, 170, well built, masculine and handsome, drug/smoke/disease free, varied interests, seeks very masculine and muscular men for friendship and more. Please leave a message. #16922

SIR, YES SIRI: **GWM**, 33, 5'11", 170, dark blonde hair, blue eyes, seeks other males interested in friendship and Master/Slave reality. Please leave me a message. #21159

BOTTOM'S UP: **GWM**, 35, well built, 5'10", beard, blue eyes, blonde hair, seeks other submissive males for pleasure. Leave me a message #12385

FRIENDS FIRST: **GWM**, 5'11", 175, well built, seeks **GWM's**, 20-45, interested in

friendship, and fun with relationship possibility. Please leave a message. #12874

TALK TO ME: **GWM**, young professional, seeks other professional **GWM's**, 25-35, for interesting conversation and meetings. Please leave a message. #13101

ANY PORT WILL DO: **GWM**, 5'6", 160, moderately furry, Greek pass/act, good endwmt, seeks **GBM/GLM**, age not important. Please leave a message. #14073

Omaha **SALAMI FOR YOU:** Bart, new to area, 5'10, 170 dk hair must, Italian, hairy, masc discreet, lkg for 20-35, decent shape men, good looking, give me a call. #9620

Lincoln **HOUSEBROKEN:** I'm lkg4 someone in my area who is into fun and play. I'm 29 y/o, 6'3, 200lbs, blk/blk. If you want a houseboy, call me. #9691

Omaha **YOUR COMMAND IS MY DESIRE:** 25, **GWM**, very submissive, looking for very aggressive and masculine men to meet on a regular basis. Leave me a message. #11040

Omaha **TAKE CHARGE:** Richard, 28, 6'3, 200 blk looking for someone clean, discreet and likes to take charge of things. give me a call. #7597

Columbus **DISCREET MEN:** 36, WM, looking for other guys in the area, or nearby, married or single, must be discreet. #9387

Omaha **FIND ME SOMEBODY TO LOVE:** It skinned BM 5'8 165, 47, looking for someone to love. #8294

Lincoln **HELLO THERE:** I'm 30 y/o, 5'11, 190lbs, red-

dish hair, mustache, blue eyes. I'm an educated prof/lkg 2 meet guy's 20-50 to get to know. #8695



NE NEBRASKA DUDES: Jason, 25, blond/ 5'10 165, like to meet and talk with some guys in the area, give me a call. #6241

Omaha **CONSERVATIVE GUY:** Kyle, new to area, int in new friends, brn/blue, nice guys, 26, 165, ch cut, conservative, hoping to meet the same hope to hear from you. #7140

Omaha **SENSITIVE AND ROMANTIC:** **GBM**, cute guy, likes movies, quiet eyes, music and spending time with my lover, 24-40 slim and trim. I'm sensitive, romantic and monogamous, race not imp! #6925

Millard **BUILT TO LAST?** "Mike, looking for a well built guy 22-35 pass rel, give me a call." #3642

Omaha **BUTCH BOY** "young butch **GWM** into mountain biking, weight lifting, books and chess. lkg4 a friend into these things and more." #4230

Omaha **Attractive bi**

White male 25 no diseases no drugs muscular build would like to try to fulfill your fantasy. #1293

Norfolk Mike, 31 y/o 5'7 unattached love sports like to meet someone well built close to my age. #47487

Omaha **LETS PARTY:** I'm 25 y/o and I'm in school. I'm lkg4 someone 19+ who likes to have fun, party and meet new people. call me! #46292

Omaha **GREAT LEGS**, 24 y/o bi WM 5'8 190lbs well built, great legs, beautiful butt. I'm lkg4 men over 30 who appreciate a very young sub guy, discretion a must! #45970

Omaha **FREE AT LAST:** recently divorced 35 y/o lkg4 someone 28-40 who is mature, responsible and friendly, if interested, please leave a message! #46013

Lincoln **TAKE CARE OF YOU:** 32 y/o guy interested in meeting a guy who is lkg2 spend time away from the bars. I travel a lot and I'm lkg4 someone to take care of! #46274

Omaha **I NEED A REAL MAN:** 24 y/o professional hair stylist lkg4 a very darn hairy, well built man to take charge. you must be real hot and ready for anything. #46292

Lincoln **LETS SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER:** 6'2 blonde/blue 185lbs lkg4 someone with long hair. I spend a lot of time outdoors and I like rock and country music. I'm lkg2 meet someone to spend some time with. call me! #46361

Lincoln **TATTOO LOVER:** I'm a 28 y/o btm into tat-

too's, WS, and watching video's. call me! #46511

Omaha **LOOKING FOR EXCITING TIMES:** **GWM** 198lbs, 5'11, 38 y/o lkg4 fun and exciting times. for more info, please call. #45835

Lincoln **LETS DO IT:** I'm 22 y/o, 5'10, 140lbs and I love to do many things. call me! #45285

Omaha **FUN LOVING:** 25 y/o professional hairdresser in Omaha. I'm lkg2 meet a fun loving, caring guy 22-32 who likes to have a good time, body hair + #46292

Lincoln **CHECKIN' IT OUT:** I'm a very slender 23 y/o guy lkg2 meet young guy's 18-22 who are slender, hot and would like to get together and check things out. #47078

Omaha **CALL ME ANYTIME** my name is Chuck, im a WM 5'10 185lbs. im lkg2 talk with other guys in my area, call me! #44859

Omaha **NEW KID IN TOWN SEEKS TOP GUN:** my name is John, im new in town and im lkg2 meet some very dom. men in the Omaha area, call me, you won't be dissapointed! #45107

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Sunday, December 3

**You've Heard Of Boy Toys And Girls Made Of Sugar & Spice?
Spice Up Someone's Christmas With *The Toys For Tots Benefit*
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Sunday, December 10

**Hey Nebraska! Let's Put *US* Back In *Miss Gay U.S.A.*
Former *Miss Nebraska's* Will Be *THE MAX* To Help
Bring The Pageant Back In *A Superstar Benefit Show***

Sunday, December 17

**A Perfect Snow Fall Or The Beauty Of A Single Snowflake
Can't Compare With Our Divas - Join Our Hostess
Dorian Drake For Our Final Show Of *'95 Omaha's Crown Jewels***

Sunday, December 31

**It's The Biggest New Years Party In The Midwest And It's AT
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Join All Of Your Friends As We Welcome 1996 In MAX Style**

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DECEMBER AT



Sunday, December 3rd
TASHA DEVOR' BIRTHDAY SHOW

Thursday, December 7th
HOLIDAY PARTY

Friday, December 8th
DIRTY DANCE CONTEST
CASH PRIZES & TROPHYS TO THE WINNERS
NO ENTRY FEE • CONTEST STARTS PROMPTLY AT 10 PM

Sunday, December 10th
BUDDY STARR'S "SCROOGE YOU"
A CHRISTMAS SHOW YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!

Sunday, December 17th
ICON TOYZ FOR TOTZ
A BENEFIT FOR PWA'S

Sunday, December 31st
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