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*The
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A





Why is *The New Voice* Silent on the Larry King Investigation?

Sharon Van Butsel

You will find in this issue two letters from readers who feel strongly that *The New Voice* should be reporting on the events involving the Franklin Credit Union; the Executive Director, Larry King; alleged misuse of funds; and connections with the Gay community in Omaha. This feeling has also been voiced by individuals on the staff of *The New Voice* and others of Omaha's Gay and Lesbian Community.

As editor of *The New Voice* it is my feeling that it is not appropriate for us to attempt to report on events developing as rapidly as these have developed. As a monthly magazine we cannot publish any truly current news. Anything we would publish would be at least a month old and very likely would have changed significantly by the time it was published.

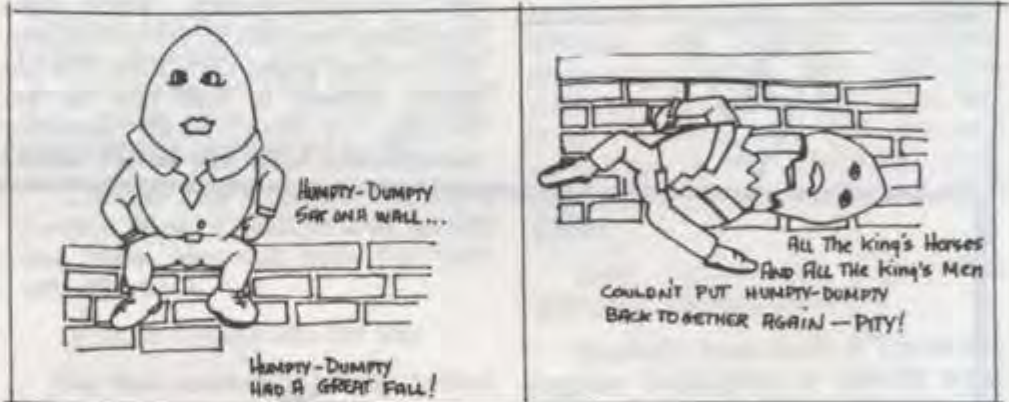
I also am unwilling to reprint articles from the Omaha World Herald (as suggested by one of the letters) when it appears that their editorial position is anti-Gay. I have read the articles in question and found them to be full of innuendos and implications of guilt. In my opinion, reprinting such articles would only put us in the position of spreading gossip rather than honest reporting.

Perhaps one day *The New Voice* will be a weekly publication and have a staff of active reporters who are able and willing to conduct interviews and do investigative reporting. However, at this point in time we have no true reporter on staff, just several individuals who, like myself, want to write and provide essays and commentaries on a variety of issues.

So, I'm sorry but you'll have to wait for any articles about Larry King and the Franklin Credit Union. We are putting together articles on our community's reactions to the allegations and the innuendos. We will reprint responsible articles from other papers which deal with issues of specific interest to the Gay and Lesbian community. However, I will not take part in a witch hunt nor will I try to match the reporting capabilities of a daily newspaper or the six o'clock news on TV. You'll have to accept the fact that we are still only a volunteer monthly publication with the limitations that go along with that status.



**HAPPY
VALENTINE'S
DAY**



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LETTERS



Editorial Note

The opinions expressed in these letters are strictly the opinions of the authors and should not be construed as representing the editorial position of *The New Voice* nor the opinions of any member of the staff of *The New Voice of Nebraska*.

The New Voice,

Usually your local coverage of news is good, unfortunately I think you are missing a newsworthy item. In a Dec. Sunday edition of the *World Herald* story on Larry King Jr. both ICON and an AIDS benefit (That was reviewed in *The New Voice*) was mentioned. I think at least a reprinting of that article should be considered.

Sue Jensen



Dear New Voice Editor:

I am writing in concern of the Larry King issue or should it be more appropriately called a scandal? I am very concerned why this issue & this individual's doings have not yet been addressed in your publication! I feel that it is not only a very disturbing & upsetting problem doing a real number on the black community that put a great deal of faith in this person trusting and enabling them to build a future, and some semblance of trust, and better credit amongst each other, and the rest of the community. It enabled them to pay off creditors, and save for a better future, but to build a better feeling towards the other companies in the area.

I have for years, like many others, been tired of the gay community's supposed behavior always reflecting on us unfavorably every time something happens in the community. Now comes along Larry King. We are again lumped in with him by the media. It has been heavily documented lately that he (or should

we say) the Credit Union checkbook has made some very hefty contributions to gay community projects, such as AIDS projects, N.A.P., and lastly I.C.O.N (Imperial Court). I would like to say I would like this issue addressed & updated on a frequent basis as it is very vital for all concerned to be kept informed. Thank you once again Larry for enabling [us] to try to hold our heads up, and proudly try to admit I'M GAY and I'M PROUD! Its a scandal like this that confirms to the straight community that we aren't worth their trust! Not to mention [the] funds to keep the young boys in apartments. [Of course] Its all documented & can't be disputed. We really need this!

Unhappily Concerned,

Devan Christiansen

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"TELL'EM WHERE YOU GOT IT"



Patience, Patience

by Jean Mortensen

When I sat down to contemplate what I could write about for the "love and relationships" issue of this magazine, I realized it was a pretty broad area. So I had to choose something to focus on. Okay, women's relationships. I'm a woman and I'm in a relationship; therefore I know whereof I speak, right? Now, what about women's relationships? Let's talk about hormones and patience.

To be sure, life is rarely a completely smooth ride in any relationship, but women do seem to have extra problems in regard to their hormones than men do. And when you put two women together in a relationship, you double the chance for hormonally-influenced problems.

I'm no doctor, but I do know that the proper balance of all the right hormones is necessary for keeping us on an even keel. Come on, all you women know what I'm talking about. More and more, it seems, the majority of the female population is admitting to feeling perfectly fine for, oh, three weeks out of each month, and then feeling totally whacked during that other week. And we all know that's due to those nasty little things called hormones. You get too much of one, not enough of another, and you feel like crawling right out of your skin and bouncing off the walls. Then, miraculously, all the ugly symptoms seem to disappear with the onset of menstruation. If it doesn't actually happen to you, then chances are good you see it happening in other women.

When your hormones fall out of balance like that, it's known as premenstrual syndrome, or PMS for short. Women suffer from PMS to varying degrees. I usually only feel cranky and irritable for a few days. But I've seen my partner reach the point where she wouldn't have minded if a train ran over her. That's frightening.

This, obviously, can cause trouble in a relationship. Under the influence of imbalanced hormones, a woman can feel completely worthless, stupid, ugly, and unlovable. Irrational thoughts invade the mind. But neither is it easy for the partner to watch the change in the woman she loves so dearly. She has to just stand back and watch all the personality changes take place because she is incapable of stopping them. A partner often can't even tell if her lover wants to be held, or if touching her would anger her. It's frustrating. And the one suffering from PMS has no control over how she feels, either. One minute she may want to be held and be reassured that she is loved and beautiful in her lover's eyes; the next minute she may want to be left completely alone.

What can you do in a situation like that? For the hormonally balanced partner, all I can suggest is patience, patience, patience. It can be a test of your love's strength when your lover won't even talk to you and seems to be acting like a maniac. But realize that she puts up with some of your idiosyncrasies that drive her bats, too. Realize that whatever she's feeling at the moment is real to her, and keep reassuring her. Remember that in a few more days your lover will be back to normal again.

For the one suffering from PMS, try to remember that your hormones are imbalanced and this is not the way you normally are. Try to control your thoughts. You can't control what you feel, but you can remind yourself that you usually don't feel like this, and remember that your lover loves you exactly as you are. And be patient with her if she doesn't react to you the way you want her to. Perhaps she's having trouble reading the signals you're giving.

Remember, too, that a doctor can help. You may not be thrilled about the idea of taking hormone supplements, but isn't sanity worth it? I've seen prescribed hormones make an incredible difference. She's been a lot more rational during that fourth week since she got her prescription. She feels better, and I feel relieved for both of us.

Here's another point to ponder: I remember having heard of a study conducted in college women's dormitories that dealt with hormones. The findings seemed to indicate that by the end of the school year, living in close proximity to other women caused everyone's hormones to get in sync with each other. The same thing can happen to a lesbian couple. And if both partners happen to suffer from PMS, a speedy visit to the doctor is advised for the health of the relationship. Otherwise, you might end up breaking up because, simply, of imbalanced hormones.

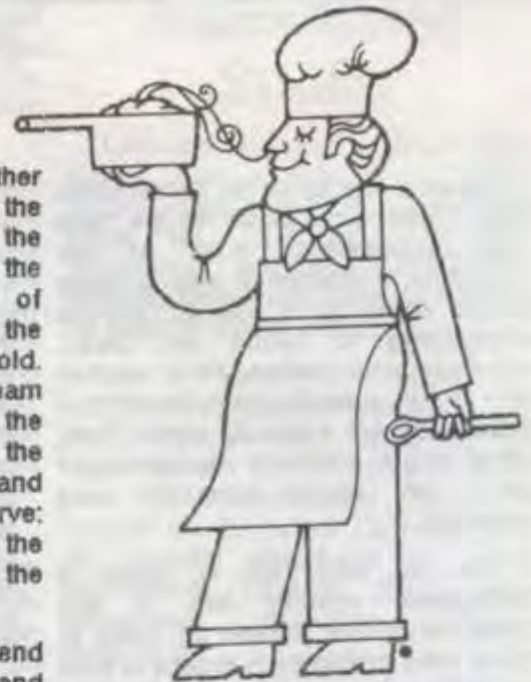
A word about menopause: here comes another time of wild hormone changes. Again, please don't hesitate to seek help from a doctor. Why suffer through the symptoms when modern medical science can offer relief? You'll be doing yourself and your partner a favor.

What happens if two women living together happen to hit menopause or PMS at the same time? I think I'd be inclined to recommend heavy doses of prayer, and lots and lots of patience with each other. Don't let a little thing like a few imbalanced hormones get the best of you. Patience.

*Happy Valentine's
Day*

The Second Most Important Room in the House

by Hedda Lettuce



Well, girls, here we are in February, looking forward to the 14th. Although the strawberries you can get in the store this time of year aren't nearly as good as the ones you can get in the early summer, nevertheless go out and buy some to garnish this lovely desert. It is usually served in a heart-shaped mold, or individual molds, either of which can be purchased from a kitchen specialty store. I give you 2 variations of COEUR A LA CREME! Choose the one you like, but remember to garnish with fresh strawberries.

COEUR A LA CREME I

- 1 pound cream cheese
- 2 Tbl heavy whipping cream
- 1/8 tsp salt

Beat these three ingredients together until smooth and soft. Fold this cheese mixture into 1 cup whipped cream. Line the mold with a double thickness of moistened cheesecloth and pour the cheese/cream mixture into the mold. Chill the molded mixture thoroughly (like overnight). To serve: unmold and garnish with strawberries.

The second recipe uses cottage cheese in addition to the main ingredients, and is somewhat more luxurious.

COEUR A LA CREME II

- 4 ounces softened cream cheese
- 4 ounces cottage cheese
- 1/8 tsp salt

Combine these ingredients, beat together until soft and well blended. In another bowl beat:

- 1/2 cup chilled heavy (whipping cream)
- 3 Tbl confectioner's sugar
- 1 tsp vanilla

Beat these 3 ingredients together until soft peaks form. Fold the whipped cream mixture into the cheese mixture thoroughly. Line the mold with a double layer of moistened cheesecloth, letting the cloth overhang the sides of the mold. Fill the mold with the cheese/cream mixture. Cover the dessert with the overhanging cheesecloth. Place the mold on a rack in a shallow pan and refrigerate overnight. To serve: unmold on a plate, peel off the cheesecloth and garnish with the strawberries.

If you are planning to attend RCMC's annual *Quiche Off*, and please try to attend, you will see one of these COEUR A LA CREMES there. Which type? Well, my dears, you will just have to come and see.



Submission Deadline

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



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Remembering Jimmy

A Tribute

by Don Longmore

I remember the first time I came to the Diamond Bar, Jimmy. A little apprehensive, we entered through the back door, but it didn't take long for you to welcome us and make us feel right at home.

I remember how fast we became friends; the wonderful birthday parties you threw for us, and the fun we had.

I remember how impressed I was when someone told me, "This was the first gay bar in the State of Nebraska."

I remember the little pet you loved so much, and the farewell you gave, that some thought a little bizarre, but those who knew you felt was pretty darned nice.

I remember the mock wedding you had one Sunday afternoon when no other bar would dare do it.

I remember your temper at times back in those days, like the time you got mad at somebody and tossed us all out, and then shoved the juke box out on the sidewalk. We then pushed the juke box back to the door, you opened up and said, "C'mon in buddies, I'll buy a drink."

I remember how happy you were when you and Cindy got married and started a beautiful new family. I

remember the Christmas cards with pictures of the kids.

I remember when I used to stop by some afternoons to see you, and you wouldn't let me leave until I had just one more.

I remember whenever we had problems that you were always there to offer a hand.

I remember when you got sick and had to stop working. The day Bill, Bob and I came out to see you and Cindy came home with a party tray for us, and the fun we had with the kids when they came home from school.

I remember visits to you in the hospital, and the day we got to reminiscing and laughing, until I felt I had to leave because you were overdoing it. I knew you were suffering, but you never complained. You told me what a lucky guy you were to have Cindy. You didn't know how she did it, taking care of you, the kids, the house and the business.

I'll always remember you Jimmy, and some day we'll all be there to see you again, and you'll swing open the door and say "C'mon in." Save a stool by the window, will you? Until then, so long, buddy.

"Silence"

by Dodie

The halls were bare and lonely

As she slowly made her way to her room.

She entered and sat quietly

As if in deep thought.

First came a sigh

Followed closely by others.

Silently she arose

And left her solitude seeking comfort elsewhere.

At the end of the hall was a door

It seemed to say welcome.

But still there was hesitation and moments of indecision.

A knock followed and then hours of waiting before the door opened.

She entered and stood staring at the face within.

The words came slow at first

But soon the heart was opened and feelings poured out.

The heartbeat grew slower and the mind grew easy.

Again there was silence.

We must welcome the future
Remembering that soon it will be past.
And we must respect the past —
Remembering that once it was all that was
—humanly possible— Merry Christmas everyone!

Jimmy Sechaer

Intimacy: Enhancing Your Relationship

By John Teamer, National Association of Black & White Men Together

Among all the components of a relationship, intimacy is probably the quality most longed for, and often the most elusive. With that closeness that intimacy provides, many things become possible. Without it, there is loneliness.

What does intimacy do? Intimacy promotes, supports, and helps couples/partners stay together. It promises not being alone or separated.

Intimacy in male relationships: As men we are not trained to be intimate! But intimacy is the primary reason for a relationship. This means that as men we must make conscious efforts to add intimacy to our lives and to our relationships. The more you work at it, the easier and more enjoyable it becomes.

What is intimacy? Intimacy requires close familiarity, sharing, a connectiveness that is verbal and non-verbal, sexual, physical, and emotional. Intimacy requires a sense of vulnerability, loyalty and trust. Intimacy is based on equality, although it doesn't mean that you both contribute equal "value" to the relationship. Everyone has different tolerance levels of intimacy. Older partners, and women tend to have more intimacy.

One of the key characteristics of intimacy is acceptance of the other person; and from acceptance grows trust. You trust your partner to accept you for yourself and not to betray that trust.

The degree of intimacy in a relationship depends to a great extent on each partner's feeling important in a way that nothing else is (to that relationship). Interviews with couples whose relationships had broken up often revealed, "the problem was, he never made me feel special, as if I were different to him than anybody else." A part of being intimate is knowing how to make your partner "feel special."

The following are suggestions of ways to be intimate given by men at the NABWMT (National Assoc. of Black and White Men Together) Convention '88 in Boston.

Create a space, and schedule time to be totally alone. I.e., check into a hotel suite, or go on a camping trip.

Bathe each other, massage each other - not culminating in sex. Give an oil body rub. Frottage in a hot tub. Share a bubble bath with candles and incense.

Sitting in front of a fireplace (ear-to-ear, with champagne, with music).

Cuddling and talking in bed.

Kissing and being held. In bed, low lights, listening to music, touching and kissing.

Lying on a beach with bodies head-to-head, Relaxing in front of a beautiful vista.

On a blanket, under the stars, with champagne or together in a boat on a lazy afternoon.

A candle-lit table, staring into his eyes, conversing softly.

Intimacy. Try it, you'll like it!

(NABWMT Newsletter)

Everything is Alright Now

TO: Moe

We're back together again, forever. We'll never again deny each other the love we always had for one another.

The last thing I remember you saying was, "I love you and we may be separated for a while, but we will be back together again. I will always remember you and always be waiting for the chance to be together again."

Then I said, "I love you too, and I will always remember you, too. But let's not play games, we both know that we'll probably never be together again.

Just yesterday I was thinking of you and what you would say if we were together again, and now I know ... "Everything is alright now, and as long as we're together it will stay this way."

I can't believe that after all these years, my dreams are finally coming true, and you're telling me, "I still love you and everything is alright now."

-Bear



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**HAPPY
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Around the Milkrun

with Belinda Loveless

Now that we're well into the New Year, it's time to forget all those silly resolutions. Who wanted to loose the weight, stay home more or drink any less, anyway? Aren't we OK just the way we are?

If you had planned to spend New Year's Eve in the new room at The Max, you had to change your plans. As with all construction projects, a delay seems to have developed in the grand opening. Maybe it would be wise to make a reservation for this event on Memorial Day Weekend.

Sometimes after a long saturday night in the bars, you might wish to stay downtown all night. It is sometimes possible to stay all night at the Diamond Bar. Just check with Cindy for reservations.

Now's the time to start shopping for Valentine's gifts. Just remember, if you have to buy two, that they don't find about each other.

Dealing With AIDS

by Tom W.

The United Auto Workers - General Motors National Joint Committee on Health and Safety has published a magazine titled *Dealing With AIDS*. The 34 page color magazine was distributed recently to GM's 500,000 plus U.S. employees.

The reasons for creating the magazine are stated in part on page 1. "*DEALING WITH AIDS* is a big part of our educational effort. Through the magazine, we hope not only to give our employees the facts, but to show that *positive action* is what will help fight and ultimately defeat AIDS - positive action that comes from education, research, and changing attitudes."

It concludes, "Someday, there may be a cure for AIDS. At UAW-GM we're working together to make sure that our people will be there to enjoy that day."

I was very impressed with the accuracy of the articles. This is probably due in part to the American Foundation for AIDS Research reviewing the material. The magazine presents the information in a positive, sensitive manner. Covered are such topics as *Learning to Cope ...and Hope, When AIDS Comes to School, When Someone at Work has AIDS, Lean On Me, and A Patchwork of Human Spirit* (an article about the NAMES project quilt).

Articles include information on who is at risk, what behaviors are considered risky and what contact is considered safe. Who should be tested, what is the cause and what are the symptoms.

Throughout the magazine facts are presented in a question/answer format. One fact in particular was well handled.

"Q. Aren't homosexuals more likely to get AIDS than heterosexuals?"

A. So far, the majority of the people with AIDS in the United States are homosexual men. However, AIDS *can* be transmitted between men and women. And in some other countries, AIDS is very much a heterosexual disease. In the United States, women who have contracted AIDS through drug use have given the disease to their male sexual partners. AIDS is slowly spreading into the heterosexual community. It is possible to get AIDS from a woman who is infected with the AIDS virus. And it's also possible to get AIDS from a heterosexual man who is infected through drug use. **AIDS is not a disease of lifestyles; it's a disease of behaviors. And it's not just a homosexual's disease.**" (Emphasis is mine and not the magazine's)

In the section on *AIDS and the GM Employee*, health care benefits are discussed. Regarding the roll of company resources "...together these activities form a resource network for all GM employees, not just those with AIDS. Within this network of activities, the principle of *confidentiality* to protect your privacy is strictly observed."

Regarding health care coverage "In the GM Health Care Program, AIDS is treated like any other illness." "In terms of medical bills, sick leave, assignments and reemployment, it is treated like heart disease or diabetes."

UAW-GM has taken a major step towards being the industrial leader with the publication of this magazine. AIDS Education Program co-director Gerald Wagner: "We realized we were becoming a role model for the rest of American industry. When you're a role model there's a certain social responsibility you assume. We're trying to live up to that responsibility.... We represent the biggest corporation and the strongest union in the country, and we're attacking the AIDS issue in a head-on fashion. If we can do it, the rest of industrial America can do it as well."



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Ask Doctor D

Forget the Candlelight, Sweetheart -or- How to Find a Partner

by Demian, Ed.D.

Q: I'm looking for a sweetheart, possibly a life-partner. All the good ones seem to be taken already. I'd like someone to be my dreamboat. Where do I start?

A: I suggest being very pragmatic. Leaving such an important and vital part of your life to chance, or allowing romantic feelings to get in the way is a big mistake. Relationships take work and perseverance. Start with someone who will not make the job a nightmare.

First, make a list of all you want in a partner.

Second, make a concentrated effort to find that person. Be logical here. If you want a spiritual person, look for him or her at a meditation group or gay church. If you want a professional, go to your local Gay Business Association.

Third, do not -- DO NOT -- compromise on the ingredients you are looking for. It is only a matter of time before you find a very good fit for you. Don't let loneliness lead you into a less than desirable union.

If you are currently in an unsatisfactory relationship, assess why it isn't working. If it is because that person does not adequately match your list, consider starting over. You can't fill your relationship cup until it's been emptied.

Hint. The quaint notion that opposites attract is total junk. Most long-term couples started with a lot in common. The main relationship glue is *shared* interests and beliefs.

Oh, yes, the "good" ones are not all taken. Sometimes they have been made "good" by being part of an ongoing, mutually supportive relationship. You and your future partner will help each other become one of the good ones.



Demian is co-publisher/co-editor of PARTNERS: The Newsletter of Gay and Lesbian Couples. Send your questions about gay and lesbian relationships, for possible use in future columns, to Partners, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98108.

The Book Report:

The Finer Grain

by Denise Ohio, 1988

Reviewed by Amazonia

Denise Ohio has created in this book a vivid character. Amory Walker is nineteen years old when Jessie, the devoutly religious woman who adopted and raised her, dies. Amory is left with Jessie's house and belongings, none of which Amory really wants, except for the photo album. The few snapshots in it hold the only clues to Amory's past, a past of which she herself knows few details. Seems Jessie never spoke of Amory's real parents, nor of the reason why she chose to adopt Amory.

After Jessie's death, Amory leaves her hated West Virginia hometown for college. There she finds herself, by a twist of the class registration schedule, having to choose between taking ancient history and women's studies. As for ancient history, Amory says, "I have enough trouble living in the present tense." So she enrolls in the women's studies class and finds herself virtually surrounded by lesbians.

In this class, Amory finds there are two things she cannot escape; the topic of her recurring nightmare, and the brash and openly lesbian Cady Baird's attentions. Amory cannot imagine why Cady should be so taken with her. After all, she's been living with Daniel.

As you can probably guess, Amory's feelings come under scrutiny before long. She ditched the jerk and develops closer friendships with the women in her class. Especially with (you guessed it) Cady Baird.



No course is smooth in Amory's life, though. Suddenly, without any warning at all, Amory sees a clue to her mysterious past. The riddle about her parents and about Jessie's secrecy unravels so quickly even Amory can hardly keep up with it. And the answers she finally uncovers bring questions into her mind; primarily, "What now?" This is one of those open-ended books, where the reader is left to imagine various courses of action Amory could take after she asks that, "What now?" Personally, I'm more partial to books that at least give a hint of what the main character is going to do.

This book is written in the first-person voice. One of the greatest advantages in using the first-person narrative is a more immediate reader identification; that is, the reader is pulled inside the head of the main character. The settings in the story are vividly described by the use of a great deal of simile, describing things as the main character sees or feels them. Unfortunately, I was struck with just how many times the word "like" appeared in the text, I found it distracting before I finished the first chapter.

However, this story is a wonderful study in creating a character you can really see. Ms. Ohio has crafted Amory so carefully that, while reading, you know exactly what to expect from her, the way she'll react to certain situations. That kind of consistency in characterization is hard to find in a first novel, especially from an author as young as Ms. Ohio.

Available from: The Naiad Press, Inc., P.O. Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302



Stepping up to Wholeness

-By Jean Mortenson

Everyone who has been through the process knows that coming out is not one simple step. Never is it a matter of a single statement and *Boom*, you're out. Well, maybe it is if you appear on a Phil Donahue show and make an announcement on national television, but that's rarely the case. More often than not, coming out is a series of steps, some small and hesitant, others broad and confident leaps.

The first of all the steps is awareness that you love others of your own sex. We often hear how school-age children explore and play sexually with their friends. That's nothing more than normal childhood curiosity and growth. And it most often takes the form of "boy-girl" games, where you and your best friend might imagine being Romeo and Juliet. That conforms to the heterosexual role models most prevalent in a child's life, and that's what children base their early sex-exploratory games on. But if years go by and all you're still interested in is playing Romeo and Juliet with your best friend, it's time to wake up and smell the coffee. While others are going off in pursuit of the opposite sex, you may feel a preference for being with your best friend discussing the opposite sex rather than actually doing anything with the opposite sex, and the enjoyment you're getting from doing that comes from the fact that you are with your best friend. That's when the awareness should hit that you're simply not interested in the heterosexual norm. And that's when the hard part starts.

The next step involves admitting your attractions and preferences to yourself. You have to admit that you really don't want to play Romeo and Juliet anymore, but that you want to play Romeo and Romeo or Juliet and Juliet. You have to name the name: homosexual. It can be a traumatic

moment when you look at yourself in the mirror and say the words out loud, "I am a homosexual." Given the stigma assigned to the word by society, that's the most difficult moment of brutal honesty any of us have to face. But honesty about oneself is the only road to being a whole and healthy person. If you want to end up being true to yourself, this is a step which must be taken, even though it may feel like stepping over the edge of the Grand Canyon.

Usually this step is followed by a time spent "in the closet." That's not a bad thing. That's a healthy thing. After you've named the name, you need a little time to get used to the idea, to sort out the myths that a homophobic society has perpetuated, to learn about yourself as a person. The amount of time in the closet will vary from person to person, but after this "decompression period," you're ready for the next step: telling someone else. This is a major step because once you've come out of the closet, you can't go back in. It's a one-way door. Chances are good you'll tell your best friend first. I heard a definition of a friend once that went like this: *A friend is someone who knows everything about you and still likes you anyway.* In spite of our quirks and bad habits and faults, our friends accept us just the way we are, or else they're not really our friends. In fact, friends may be our greatest source of acceptance and affirmation. And that's why we usually reveal our secrets to them first -- because they've always accepted us before, no matter what we've told them. And there's actually a margin for error in our choice of friends. If one leaves you, it may hurt, but you can always find another friend eventually.

The same is not true of families. You've only got one, and you can't just go out and find a replacement for your relatives if they should be unable

to accept the whole truth about you. That's why the next step in the process of coming out, telling your family, provides the greatest potential for loss, and that makes it a very difficult step. Sometimes it seems easier to avoid the trauma of telling your family, especially if you live away from home. But there seems to be something in human nature driving us to be whole, and that means being honest. We crave acceptance for the entire person we are. We feel cheated if we receive approval for only half of our selves. We want to be told it's okay for us to be just the way we are, and we're loved no matter what. That's what drives us to make disclosures about our personal lives, even though it may mean losing people close to us.

I do not advocate complete disclosure for anyone feeling certain of a family's rejection. There's no need to tell anyone anything unless you want to. But neither do I advocate fabricating stories and lies to keep them "off your back." Lies usually only produce greater harm in the long run than the truth does. Even though dealing with the truth can be hard, it's better than dealing with lies. Lies only serve to take you further away from being true to yourself, and that's the whole purpose of coming out -- to be true to yourself. Unless you can take at least some of these steps, the awareness step and admitting it to yourself, you can never hope to be a complete, whole person true to yourself.

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LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ▼

MCC Pantry

Beginning February 1, there will be only limited service for the food pantry at MCC- Omaha. Persons in need of emergency help with food should contact the church office.

Chorus Announces Spring Concert

The spring concert of the River City Mixed Chorus will be performed March 18 at 7:35 pm in the beautiful Strauss Recital Hall. Joining the women and men of the chorus will be the Des Moines Men's Chorus. Tickets for this joint concert are \$6.00 in advance, \$7.00 at the door and \$4.00 for senior citizens or students, available from any chorus member. If you attended the holiday concert you already know that this will be another concert in the series for the River City Chorus you will not want to miss -- get your tickets early.

K. C. Frogge Wins Bronze

Daly City, CA -- K. C. Frogge, publisher of *Personality* and *The Triangle Times Directory* and former Kansas City resident, was a bronze medal winner at the recent World Corporate Games held in San Francisco. Athletes from over 40 countries, including the Soviet Union, participated in 20 sporting events.

K.C. was sponsored by the San Francisco law firm of Morrison & Foerster where she is a legal document specialist. A former Sunday leaguer at Mission Bowl, she was in fourth place until the final game, then rolled a 199 to take the bronze by 18 pins. K.C. averaged 178 for the six games of the competition.

Sioux City Gets New Bar

Gary Felts, Mark Borchors and Pat Cyphers of Sioux City are proud to announce the opening of their new bar *3 Cheers*. It is located at 414 20th Street.

They opened the doors of this establishment on December 9th. They feature two bars for their clientele. One is quiet for those who would like to carry on conversation and the other is near the dance floor for those who want to party the night away. (*The Coalition - Together*)

Grand Island Bar - New Owner, New Name

Chains Bar celebrated their grand opening on December 17. A great time was had by everyone. Amethyst put on a great show and was well received by Central Nebraska's Gay and Lesbian community.

Joe and staff carried the enthusiasm into their New Year's Eve Party. Everyone succumbed to a fabulous display of decorations and new attitude. Everyone toasted in the New Year with a surprise guest appearance from San Francisco stripper Keith L.

Joe Swanda, owner of *Chains*, would like to thank everyone who has shown their support for a Gay and Lesbian bar in Central Nebraska and extends a welcome invitation for everyone to visit us in Grand Island soon.



Rev. Kross Leaves MCC- Omaha

After seven years of service, Rev. Jan Kross has resigned her position as pastor of MCC-Omaha.

Rev. Kross came to MCC-Omaha in January of 1982 from Sioux Falls, SD. During her pastorate, the church has moved from the facility at 20th and Burt to their present location at 420 S. 24th. The congregation has successfully maintained their chartered status with the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches and recently celebrated their 15th Anniversary.

Rev. Kross has been highly visible and active in the local gay and lesbian community and has developed strong relationships with other organizations.

On January 28th a farewell dinner and dance was held at MCC-Omaha for "Pastor Jan". Congregation members and friends gathered to wish her well wherever her path may lead. As of this writing, Rev. Kross' plans are indefinite.

We at *The New Voice* wish to also extend our best wishes to Rev. Kross and express our thanks for her support through the years.

LOVE

Thank You!

Briefly, I want to bid farewell and to offer a personal thanks to the people of this community who have ministered to me in a wide variety of ways through your friendship, your wise counsel, your generosity and your humor. You will always have a special place in my memories. God bless you.

Pastor Jan Kross

Community Calendar

Feb. 1 - Mar. 1, 1989

Weekly Events

Sundays

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

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

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

Mondays

Adult Children of Alcoholics,
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 346-0561,
7pm

Womyn Together, Dale Clark
Library, 15th & Douglas, Omaha,
Meeting Rooms 2 & 3, 7-9 pm

Tuesdays

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

Fridays

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

Monthly Calendar

Thursday, February 2

Happy Ground Hog Day!

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

Saturday, February 4

Nebraska AIDS Project "Buddy"
Training in Lincoln. Call for
Information, 475-7368

Sunday, February 5

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

Tuesday, February 7

P-FLAG/Omaha, First Methodist
Church (Northeast entrance), 69th &
Cass, 6:30 pm

Wednesday, February 8

Ash Wednesday Services,
Metropolitan Community Church, 420
S. 24, Omaha, 7pm

Friday, February 10

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

Saturday, February 11

Nebraska AIDS Project, "Buddy"
Training in Lincoln

Grand Island's Second Annual
Valentine's Day Party. Chasins, 386 N.
Walnut, Grand Island. 8pm to closing.

Sunday, February 12

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

Monday, February 13

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

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

Tuesday, February 14

Happy Valentine's Day

Wednesday, February 15

Metropolitan Club, Call for
location, 449-9377, 6pm

Saturday, February 18

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

Sunday, February 19

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

Tuesday, February 21

P-FLAG/Lincoln, Call for location,
(402)435-4688

Monday, February 27

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

GLPC Battles for Funding

by Ron Zank

Now is the time for Gay men and Lesbians to come to the aid of their community. The Gay and Lesbian Programming Committee at UNL is battling opposition to their request for funding. The only committee on the University Program Council to be created without a budget, GLPC has been co-sponsoring events with other UPC committees, campus and community organizations for the past year and a half in an attempt to prove themselves. Despite many successful and well-attended programs, they are receiving opposition from two main sources: members of the Committee for Fee Allocations, who are intent on cutting the budget and halting funding to any new groups; and homophobic students turning the use of student fees into a morality issue and criticizing GLPC's sources of support and information as being biased toward homosexuals.

The Committee for Fee Allocations held two "student Input Nights" on both the City and East campuses. These open forums had received no student attendance in the past five years, yet both held this semester attracted upwards of forty people because of the GLPC funding issue. The first meeting was spent trying to educate the CFA members about the diversity and culture of the Gay and Lesbian community, our high population in Lincoln and the need for education at the University to combat homophobia and provide a well-rounded education, as well as presenting informative and cultural events for UNL's Gay students. It was pointed out that based on the 10% estimate, Gays and Lesbians comprise a larger portion of the UNL population than those represented by the American Minority Council. CFA Chairman Kevin Lytle said in a *Daily Nebraskan* article that it was likely that GLPC would receive funding if for no other reason than because the American Minority Council is able to do so.

The second "Input Night" was marked by a man describing himself as a "former homosexual" and criticizing GLPC for using "Biased" resources like PFLAG and the Kinsey studies. He suggested that because of the unhealthy behavior and negative aspects of homosexuality (which he identified as reversal and/or blurring of natural male and female roles as well as the destruction of the family unit), GLPC should utilize resources that acknowledge the possibility of homosexuals changing their behavior. He and other students criticized the use of the 10% figure as being too high, referring to "other studies" resulting in lower figures, though none could name the sources of these studies.

Letters in the *Daily Nebraskan* have ranged from full support of GLPC's receiving funding to complete opposition. Past and present University students as well as other community members are encouraged to direct letters of support to Committee for Fee Allocations, Nebraska Union Room 115, Lincoln, NE 68588. A decision is to be made in February, so please write as soon as possible. Emphasize your alumni or student status and consider relating an experience about your difficulties in coming out or facing homophobia in the college setting. In addition, affirm the need for general public education about Gays and Lesbians.

You can also show your support by attending some of the events during UNL's first Gay and Lesbian Pride Week, February 1-7. A tentative schedule includes a slide presentation on Gay art, several films, a reunion/revival of the Gay coffee houses held in the 1970's, an open poetry reading, and a Mardi Gras dance sponsored by the Gay and Lesbian Student Association. For more information, contact the Gay and Lesbian Resource Center at (402) 472-5644.

Gay Line Starts in Wichita

Wichita, KS -- Wichita now has a gay information line available to the public. The line is sponsored by a gay computer bulletin board system called The Land of Awe, a member of the GayCom national network.

Previously, the best source of information for the gay community was the computer system itself. The computer bulletin board is connected to a network of other gay computers across the country with the latest news on health and legal matters, as well as an extensive library of AIDS information including an abstract service of just about every article ever written about AIDS. The system is available to anyone with a computer. To access the system your computer must be outfitted with a modem device to connect the bulletin board system over the telephone lines. With the gay information line, those who do not have a computer can have access to the same resources available to those who do.

The telephone number for the gay information line is (316) 629-1585 and will be available during daytime and evening hours. An answering machine will be available the rest of the time, for 24-hour service. The line will provide information such as local events, referrals, and answers to gay-related questions such as health and legal matters.

For more information about the information line call, or write to Wichita Gay Information Line, c/o The Land of Awe BBS, PO Box 16782, Wichita, KS 67216-0782

(Alternate News)



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Lesbian Families Conference

"*LESBIAN FAMILIES: Affirming Our Choices*," a conference for and by lesbians and their families, will take place February 17-19, 1989 at Portland State University, Portland, OR. For conference registration information, contact Lesbian Community Project, 503-233-9079, or write to P.O. Box 5931, Portland OR 97228.

Among the workshops included at the conference will be: Lesbian Families and the Law; Thinking of Having Children?; Issues of Coming Out to Biological Families; a film and discussion group for teens of lesbians, and many, many more.

The keynote speaker at the conference will be Karen Thompson. Karen is the life partner of Sharon Kowalski. In November, 1983 Sharon was critically injured in an auto accident, which rendered her almost incapacitated. Since that time Karen has been fighting for Sharon's right to the best possible health care and for her right to be involved in making decisions about her own life. Karen has been legally prevented from seeing Sharon since August 19, 1985. Karen is the co-author of the book, *Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?*

Video Released

I am happy to announce to the wimmin in the community that yes the rumors you have heard of a music video is true.

Olivia Records just released its 15th Anniversary Concert Highlights. It's more than 80 minutes of music, interviews, celebration and backstage banter. It is Olivia's first concert video and creates a special view of this historical music event. Order from:

Olivia Records, Inc., 4400 Market St., Oakland, CA 94608.

Consecration of Female Bishop Likely

Boston — The Rev. Barbara C. Harris is quietly gathering votes and will likely become the first woman bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion (Episcopal). Harris' consecration will almost surely create a rift between conservative and liberal branches of the church. One group of conservative bishops have stated that elevating Harris to bishop would amount to rejecting the Image of God as a male "in favor of a religiosity tailored to human convenience." Others in the church, however, feel that resistance will be minimal. (*Idaho Statesman*)

HRCF

Washington - The Human Rights Campaign Fund, a Gay political action committee, received \$18,000 from a man under investigation by the federal government for allegedly embezzling money from an Omaha credit union formed to help the poor.

In what a *New York Times* headline referred to as a "lurid melodrama," federal and state investigators are looking into allegations that Lawrence E. King, a prominent Republican politician, embezzled funds from the credit union he managed. There are also charges that he was involved in child abuse and prostitution.

William Morrow, King's lawyer, told the *Times* King denies allegations that more than \$4 million of the credit union's funds were deposited into his personal account this year and last.

Government investigators said King, whose salary at the credit union was less than \$17,000 a year, spent more than \$4.6 million over the last two years in payments and contributions.

King donated about \$18,000 of this money to HRCF, and at least \$10,250 of it was give this year [1988].

Robert Bray, a spokesman for HRCF said he could not comment on money given by any individual or whether the organization would be returning the money if King is found guilty. (*Washington Blade*)

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Ryan Social Worker of the Year



Caitlin Ryan (right) receives 1988 National Social Worker of the Year Award from NASW President Suzanne Dworak-Peck at the NASW annual conference in Philadelphia, November 12, 1988.

National Social Worker of the Year, Caitlin Ryan received her profession's highest honor for her pioneering work in developing a local, national and professional response to AIDS over the past seven years of the epidemic. Ryan received her Social Worker of the Year award at the annual conference of the National Association of Social Workers in Philadelphia on November 12th.

Ryan, a long time lesbian and gay health activist, has been involved in the organization of services for people with AIDS in local communities as well as in the establishment of the National Association of People with AIDS. She was also one of the early organizers and first director of AID Atlanta, the first and largest AIDS service organization in the southeast, and director of the AIDS services for Whitman Walker Clinic in Washington, D.C., one of the first AIDS services centers in this country.

Ryan helped the National Association of Social Workers develop its national AIDS agenda,

and has organized conferences and national provider networks nationwide. "*AIDS: We Need to Know, We Need to Care*," is the theme of NASW's 1988 public information campaign to raise awareness about the devastating psychological and social problems engendered by the AIDS epidemic. "Honoring Caitlin Ryan is actually an honor for NASW," said NASW President Suzanne Dworak-Peck, "Social Workers are first on the front lines in fearsome times and first in numbers of professionals dealing with this epidemic, and Caitlin is the best example of why we need to know, and why we need to care."

Ryan was also honored at the conference by NASW's National Committee on Lesbian and Gay Issues for her outstanding contributions to lesbian and gay health. These include organizing numerous national and regional conferences on lesbian and gay health care, founding the National Lesbian and Gay Health Foundation, publishing the first Lesbian Health Care Survey, the first baseline study of lesbian health concerns.

In her acceptance speech Ryan revealed that in her initial application to social work school 10 years ago, she included her work in the lesbian and gay community to demonstrate her ability to practice social work -- and then was rejected for applying as an open lesbian. Ryan traced the roots of homophobia from denial of the lesbian identity of the profession's founder, Jane Addams, 100 years ago, to placing clients at risk through secrecy and denial, for infection with HIV today.

Criteria for receiving the award include taking risks in the pursuit of social work goals, demonstrating significant leadership qualities, effective advocating on behalf of client groups, contributing to the positive image of professional social work, and helping ameliorate a pressing social problem.

The National Association of Social Workers is the world's largest professional organization with 120,000 members in the United States and overseas. They work in family service agencies, mental health facilities, schools and colleges, hospitals, industry and private practice. They have taken the lead in raising awareness of the psychological and social problems created by the AIDS crisis and in organizing and providing appropriate services.



Health Care Sourcebook

The National Lesbian/Gay Health Foundation (NLGHF) -- the oldest national lesbian and gay health organization -- has published the second edition of *The Sourcebook on Lesbian/Gay Health Care*. *The Sourcebook* is the only comprehensive directory and resource book for lesbians and gay men. It contains more than 2,000 listings of doctors, clinics, counseling services and research centers that specialize in lesbian and gay health care, as well as 42 articles by leading experts on lesbian and gay health issues. *The Sourcebook* directory covers every state in the United States as well as Canada, Switzerland and the United Kingdom.

"While *The Sourcebook* includes the most comprehensive information and listing of doctors and clinics treating people with AIDS," said Ellen Ratner, President of the NLGHF, "this publication goes far beyond AIDS. The directory provides information on

every conceivable health issue that a lesbian or gay might confront, such as psychotherapy, support groups, chemical dependency and other addictions, rape counseling, menstrual disorders, holistic treatment, and plain old basic preventative health care."

"The articles contained in *The Sourcebook* represent a highly intellectual and objective investigation into the crucial health problems facing the lesbian and gay community," explained Michael Shernoff, a co-editor of *The Sourcebook*. "We've needed an interdisciplinary volume of this magnitude for a long time. It's an important step toward our goal of equal access to quality health care for all people. The articles in *The Sourcebook* are not gay and lesbian health 101. They were chosen for the lesbian and gay consumer of health services as well as for the professional seeking state-of-the-art information relevant to his or her patients," Mr. Shernoff added.

"This book is a must," said William A. Scott, a co-editor. "Being gay or

lesbian doesn't mean you have to suffer more than any other segment of the population either physically or psychologically. *The Sourcebook* lets you know where to go to get basic or specialized health care," he added.

The Sourcebook which is sold for \$14.00, was edited by Michael Shernoff, ACSW, and William A. Scott, CSW, ACP. It is available in bookstores across the country or by contacting the NLGHF, PO Box 65472, Washington, DC, 20035, (202) 797-3708.

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AIDS Exhibition at Ohio State

The Ohio State University Gallery of Fine Art will present an exhibition called *AIDS: The Artists' Response*, which will include the work of artists, artists' collectives, and AIDS service organizations from United States, Canada and Great Britain. The exhibition will run from February 24 through April 16 in the Hoyt L. Sherman Gallery, Sullivant Hall, 1813 N. High Street on the campus of The Ohio State University. Organized by AIDS activists Jan Grover and Lynette Molnar, the exhibition will include paintings and photographs as well as film, video, installations, performances and theatre pieces. The exhibition highlights the wide range of work produced since 1982, and focuses on the diversity of human response to the epidemic: grief, loss, heroism, compassion and political action.

A second component of the exhibition, *AIDS: The Activists' Response*, features posters, pamphlets, flyers and other public service announcements produced by AIDS service organizations from around the world.

In conjunction with the exhibition, the University Gallery will host *AIDS ART ACTIVISM: A Conference on the Culture of AIDS*, March 10 through 12, 1989. This three-day conference will feature panels on AIDS and theatre, performance art, film and video, activism and cultural analysis and will include presentations by Jan Grover, John Greyson, Douglas Crimp, Robert Atkins, Cindy Patton, ACT UP NY/LA and many others. Seating for the conference is limited and pre-registration is urged. To pre-register, call the University Gallery at (614) 292-0330.

The NAMES Project Quilt will be displayed at The Ohio State University March 30 through April 2, at a location yet to be announced. Sponsored by University Gallery in cooperation with the University's AIDS Education Committee and Columbus AIDS Task Force, this four-day visit will mark the first time that the Quilt has been exhibited on a college campus. The location and hours of the Quilt can be had by calling (614) 292-0330.

These programs are funded in part by grants from the Ohio Arts Council's New Works Program and the Ohio Humanities Council.

For additional information regarding the exhibition, conference and the Quilt, please call the University Gallery at (614) 292-0330.

PWA Wins Custody of Child

California -- In a precedent-setting court decision, a gay man with AIDS has won custody of his 9-year-old son. This is the first time a parent with AIDS has gained custody of his/her child. The announcement followed a bitter battle between the father and his former wife, a fundamentalist Christian, who disappeared with the boy and eluded authorities for eight months. (*Advocate*)

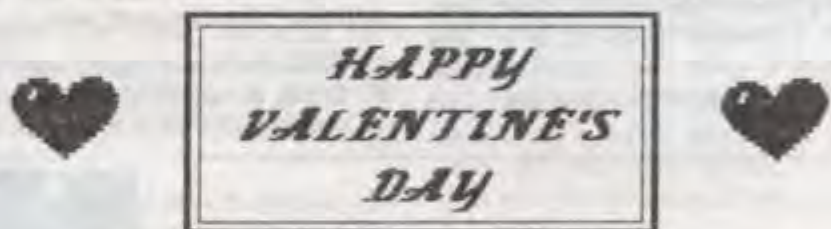
Larry Navratil

Larry James Navratil, a writer for the Internal Revenue Service, died December 10, at George Washington University Hospital from complications associated with AIDS. He was 45.

Navratil, a native of Nebraska, worked as a school teacher prior to moving to Washington, then moved to San Francisco to work for the U.S. Labor Department before returning to the Washington area five years ago to accept a position as a publications writer with the Internal Revenue Service.

Friends said Navratil was known for his knowledge of European royalty.

Navratil is survived by his mother, Theresa Scott of Lincoln, two half sisters, and a half brother. A memorial service was held at the Lee Funeral Home on Capitol Hill on Dec. 12th.



AIDS
project

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Joseph Fairchild Beam

The gay community lost one of its leading activists on December 27 with the death in Philadelphia of Joseph Fairchild Beam. The exact cause of his death was not immediately clear. Friends said, however, that he had been in ill health recently and had been extremely depressed for several months.

For many years, Beam had worked to create a stronger movement of black lesbians and gay men. He was the first editor of *BlackOut*, a magazine serving that community, and served three years on the board of directors of the National Coalition for Black Lesbians and Gays.

"Joe was such a positive role model for black gay men and women alike," said Renee McCoy, executive director of the NCBLG. "He had a gentle, frank spirit and was an inspiration to gays and lesbians at all levels, from all walks of life."

In 1985, Beam began work on a collection of writings and artwork by black gay men. It was published eighteen months later, under the title *In the Life*. Although a number of works had already been published by and about black lesbians, Beam's was the first anthology ever to focus on the experiences of black gay men.

At the time of his death, Beam was compiling material for a second collection, *Brother to Brother*. According to his publisher, Sasha Alyson, "Joe already had made a great deal of progress on that book, and his parents were highly supportive of what he was doing. We still expect to publish it."

A Joseph Beam Memorial Scholarship Fund for creative writing has been established at Temple University. Interested parties may contact it in care of Marie Inyang, Esq., 12 S. Twelfth St., PSFS Building, Philadelphia, PA 19107.



Joseph Beam, editor of *In the Life: A Black Gay Anthology* (Boston: Alyson Publications, Inc.) Credit: Sharon Farmer



We Will
Always
Remember
You
Jimmy

Don Longmore

Play Safe



Lambda Literary Awards

Washington, DC - The publisher and the editor of the *Lambda Rising Book Report*, a bi-monthly review of contemporary gay and lesbian literature, announced plans for a new annual awards program to recognize excellence in gay and lesbian writing and publishing.

"The time has come for the literary excellence of the lesbian and gay community to be recognized," said Jane Troxell, editor of the *Book Report*. "1988 has been a tremendous year for the writers, editors and publishers of gay and lesbian literature. As a result, all lesbian and gay people have benefited from this unparalleled growth in both substance and quality."

The public is invited to participate in the Lambda Literary Awards by nominating their favorite gay and lesbian books of 1988. Nominations are accepted in twelve categories: Lesbian Fiction, Gay Men's Fiction, Lesbian Non-Fiction, Gay Men's Non-Fiction, Lesbian Mystery/Science Fiction, Gay Men's Mystery/Science Fiction, Gay and Lesbian Poetry, Lesbian First Novel, Gay Men's First Novel, Lesbian Small Press Book Award, Gay men's Small Press Book Award, and AIDS (a special category).

Nominating ballots are being distributed through gay and lesbian newspapers and bookstores and the *Book Report* itself. The deadline for nominations is February 17, 1989. Five finalists in each category will be announced nationally on March 1, 1989.

A panel of 60 judges from across the country, representing a broad cross section of the entire lesbian and gay literary community, will select a single book in each category from among the finalists.

"The Annual Lambda Literary Awards program is a tremendous opportunity for the book industry to work together in recognizing the valuable contribution it makes to gay culture," said Deacon Maccubbin, publisher of the *Book Report*. "The movies have their Oscars, Broadway has its Tonys. It's time for the lesbian and gay community to honor its literary stars."

A gala awards banquet will be held June 2nd, 1989 at the Hyatt Regency Washington on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC, to coincide with the American Booksellers Association Convention. At that time, the recipients of the 1st Annual Lambda Literary Awards will be announced. Tentative emcees for the gala event are authors Armistead Maupin (*Tales of the City*) and Florence King (*Confessions of a Failed Southern Lady*).

"Not only is this an opportunity for greater visibility for gay and lesbian writers, it is a chance to recognize the editors and publishers whose commitment and unfailing support helped make 1988 a truly memorable year for outstanding new books," Troxell said.

For further information about the awards program or the banquet, please contact Will Williams: *Book Report*, 1625 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC, 20009-1013 or phone (202) 462-6965.

Armstrong Amendment Stinks

Lesbians and gays in the nation's capital won a critical civil rights victory when a federal judge struck down the infamous "Armstrong Amendment" that would have allowed religious institutions to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation.

In a surprise ruling by conservative, Reagan-appointed U.S. District Judge Royce Lamberth, the court said the U.S. Congress did not have the constitutional power to compel the District of Columbia and its council members to enact legislation against their best judgement, including anti-gay legislation.

D.C. council members, lobbied by the Human Rights Campaign Fund (HRCF) and other national and local activist groups, opposed the anti-gay Armstrong Amendment passed by congress last October as part of the D.C. Appropriations bill. The amendment, sponsored by Sen. William Armstrong (R-Colo.), would have permitted religiously "associated" educational institutions to discriminate against "any person or persons that are organized for, or engaged in, promoting, encouraging, or condoning any homosexual act, lifestyle, orientation, or belief."



MURPHY'S MANOR



by Kurt Erichsen

Love Me Like You Mean It

Poems by Leslea Newman, 1987

Reviewed by Terri Jewell

Leslea Newman's *Love Me Like You Mean It*'s poetry you give a lover as a gift or share with a stranger during the most common times of your day. It is written in a simple, straightforward fashion and touches the four corners of every woman's life. I am convinced Newman could write about fish emulsion and make it poignant.

The six sections of her book lead the reader from the poet's Jewish herstorical roots through childhood and adolescence on into her adult Lesbian life. The journey is well crafted although not without its moments of emotional discomfort, as in *My Father's Lap* where she writes:

"I am 16 years old and I am sitting on my father's lap. 16 years old on my father's lap. He kisses the top of my head and plays with my fingers as he holds my hand. He plays with my fingers as he holds my hand and his big college ring rubs against my pinky. It hurts. It hurts but I do not move. I do not move because I am a ghost."

This poem is one of several that deal unabashedly with familial child molestation.

Newman not only approaches anorexia and bulimia, domestic violence and the pain of love with candor, but her sense of humor catches you by surprise and delights you. *Adjustments* is a wonderful and insightful depiction of office work, the majority of which is done by women:

"I interfile the piles
and bring them over to the files
where I file the piles and pile the files
making a new file of piles.
Then I make files
for the pile that had not files
and put them into a new file pile."

And the poem goes on, never skipping a beat or speaking untruths in its eight sections. Newman finally entreats:

"take tomorrow off
it's on me
take next week off
take next month off
oh secretaries of America
just take off."

Other poems like *It's a Blitch Being Butch* or *Spring Fever* and *Ode to My Hips* are hilarious proclamations on the power of laughter and joy. The only two pieces I feel give nothing to the overall text are *Baby Dyke's Parlour* and the *Poem for Janie*. The former mentioned leaves no impact on this reader and the latter sounds too much like several pieces preceding its place in the book.

Love Me Like You Mean It's a very positive book of Lesbian love, identity and hope. Newman ends her work with *Secret*

"I fell so content with the way
my feet pushed off gently against
the wooden floor
and how my belly moves up and
down
with each breath I take
that I just have to sigh
with the sheer delight of knowing
that everything I want
is everything I have."

Written with incredible continuity and emotion, this should be one of the first books of poetry given to any woman of any age.

Herbooks, P.O. Box 7487, Santa Cruz, CA 95061, \$6.00

The Hidden Image

Photographs of the Male Nude in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries

By Peter Weiermair

The Hidden Image is both a stunning anthology of the male nude and a revealing history of how male sexuality has been portrayed photographically from the earliest daguerreotype self-portrait of Hippolyte Bayard to the formalized fantasies of Robert Mapplethorpe.

The 142 photographs include many previously unpublished portraits from both public and private collections in Europe and the United States. They include works by the historical luminaries Edward Weston, Wilhelm von Gloeden, Eadweard Muybridge, Man Ray, Imogene Cunningham, George Platt-Lynes, and Cecil Beaton and the modern innovators David Hockney, Judy Dater, Dino Pedriali and Joel Peter Witkin.

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HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

CLASSIFIEDS



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The New Voice of Nebraska

PO Box 3512

Omaha, NE 68103



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WANTED- Enthusiastic people willing to volunteer several hours one weekend per month. The New Voice needs people to help with layout and production. You needn't be experienced as we will teach you, however, you must be dependable and willing to work. If you are interested in volunteering for the layout staff please call 455-3701 and ask for Pat or Terry, or leave a message.

Did you ever want to "Slick it to" your husband, lover, wife, or frigidaire? SASE: BUT-N-BIZ, 3309 S. 32 Ave. Omaha 68105.

The New Voice is now publishing a calendar of events for the Gay and Lesbian Community. We are happy to list events taking place in your organization or business. Remember that listings for the calendar must be received by the 10th of the month preceding publication. The New Voice reserves the right to edit material submitted for length and appropriateness.

Beyond the Closet Bookstore

Gay Bestsellers

1. *Everybody Loves You* by Ethan Mordden \$16.95
2. *And The Band Played On* by Randy Shilts \$12.95
3. *The Quilt Stories From Names Project* by Cindy Ruskin \$22.95

Lesbian Bestsellers

1. *Macho Sluts* by Pat Califia \$8.95
2. *Bingo* by Rita Mae Brown \$18.95
3. *All the Muscle You Need* by Diana McCrae \$8.95

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

Lincoln Bisexual desires married white female, 30, non-smoker. Seeks genuine "feminine" friend age 24-40 for friendship and sexual sharings. I value sincerity, romance, understanding & squeaky-clean bodies. First ad. personal contact and correspondence desired from those outstate too. Respond with letter/phone to Lynne, POB 84007, Lincoln, 68501. Anxious, hurry!

LOOKING FOR A BETTER LIFE? GWM needs honest, sincere, loving protege' who likes travel, fits into a straight crowd and wants a secure and prosperous future. I am early 50's but look younger, have a masculine, muscular, healthy body, am clean cut, slim and handsome. If you're over 21, clean cut, masculine muscular, healthy, and have the personality, intelligence and ambition to be a success if given proper support and guidance, send photo and brief resume (please don't waste your time if it won't check out). Your phone number with address will be discreetly called immediately. I need a partner, friend and lover, not a possession and have a lot to offer - If you do too, lets explore the possibilities, travel expenses on me. Reply to: Minton, Apt 150, 10710 Kenwood Road, Cincinnati, OH 45242.

M.R.D.

Why do I love you? Beats the hell out of me.

M.D.

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RESOURCE DIRECTORY



NEBRASKA STATEWIDE

Affirmation of Nebraska

Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501
United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. Meets alternately in Omaha and Lincoln, second Friday.

Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights

Box 94882, Lincoln NE 68509
Advocacy/Lobbies for Gay/Lesbian civil right, educational presentations, newsletter, cultural programs.

Impartial Court of Nebraska

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

The New Voice of Nebraska

Box 3512, Omaha, NE 68103
Monthly magazine serving Lesbian/Gay community.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center

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

Presbyterians For Lesbian/Gay Concerns

(402) 733-1360-Cleve

Seventh Day Adventist Kinship, Inc.

PO Box 31351 Omaha, NE 68131
Wes Perry (402) 558-1186
Meetings, information, understanding and support for Lesbians/Gays

LINCOLN LINCOLN

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous

Anonymous
Call (402) 466-5214
AA Central Office for location

Lesbian Support Group

(402) 472-2597
Women's Resource Center, Room 117,
Nebraska Union, University of
Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE
68508. Informal weekly discussion
group for Lesbians

Lincoln Legion of Lesbians

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

Nebraska Wesleyan Student Group

(402) 465-2351 (Dr. Mary Smith)
Meets weekly and confidentially

New Directions Center

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

Open Door Ministry

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

Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)

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

The Common Woman

(402) 464-8309 1065 N. 33rd
(33 & Apple), Lincoln, NE 68503
Bookstore-Coffeehouse
(Women's social. Fri. 7pm-mid.)

The Wimm'n's Show

12 Noon-3pm every Sunday.
KZUM Radio 89.3 FM Stereo.

Women's Journal-Advocate

Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

Women's Assistance

Emergency Fund
Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

OMAHA OMAHA

Dignity of Omaha

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

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous

Anonymous
Meeting weekly, Fri 8:15pm
(402) 345-9916

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha (MCC-O)

420 S. 24th St.,
Omaha, NE 68103 (402) 345-2563
Sun. worship 10:20am and 7pm

Metropolitan Club

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

River City Bowling League

(402) 345-5118 Scott or
(402) 493-6118 Charlie

River City Mixed Chorus

(402) 342-4775
Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101
Volunteer community chorus for
gay/lesbian, gay/lesbian sensitive
men and women. Goal of musical
excellence in performance.
Rehearsals Monday evenings.

Two Wheelers of Omaha

Motorcycle Club (TWO)
PO Box 3216 OMA, NE 68103

UNO Student Group

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

INFORMATION & REFERRAL:

Nebraska AIDS Project

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

Viral Syndrome Clinic

University of Nebraska Medical
Center, Omaha, NE
(402) 559-6202 Dr. Jonathan
Goldsmith, MD

Lincoln Cancer Center

Barb Morton (402) 483-1827
4600 Valley Rd., Lincoln, NE 68510

American Red Cross

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

American Red Cross

3838 Dewey Av. Omaha, NE 68131
(402) 341-2723

CONFIDENTIAL TESTING:

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

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

Lincoln-Lancaster County

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

COUNSELING AND SUPPORT:

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

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

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

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

FINANCIAL:

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

LEGAL:

Nebraska Civil Liberties Union
633 S. 9th St., Lincoln, NE 68508
John Taylor (402) 478-8091
Omaha Telephone # (402) 346-5021

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

Omaha Bars, Clubs & Lounges

The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Ave.

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

The Max, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110

The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

Lincoln Bars, Clubs & Lounges

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

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

Panic, 200 So. 18th St., 435-8764

Grand Island Bars, Clubs & Lounges

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



Happy Valentine!

from

The MAX

Sunday, February 5th

Miss Gay USA Pageant Fund Raiser

Come join the fun with Muffy and Viktoria as your hostesses.

Tuesday, February 7th

The Imperial Court's MARDI GRAS 1989

♥ **Costume Celebration** ♥

"An Enchanted Evening in Disneyland"

Sunday, February 12th

Miss City Sweetheart in Review

Starring Miss Gay California America – Amanda Fox

*Guests include Viktoria Towne, Tasha DeVoir, Liesa Durrant,
Sheza Mann, and Nena Recie.*

Sunday, February 19th

Miss Gay Nebraska America

Sunday, February 26th

Myrna and Her BOYS!

MALE DANCE REVIEW

1417 JACKSON ♥ OMAHA ♥ (402) 346-4110



Dear Reader!

"Read my lips!"

Everytime George Bush slapped us with this bullying quip during this past campaign I wanted to pull one of my man friends up close to me, smack a luscious kiss together and retort, "Read My Lips, George!"

Despite the bad press and the dismal return on the money we pay our government we all know that our lesbian/gay love, our sexuality, our relationships, our ways of seeing and being in the world are potent and powerful. We are also learning that our love empowers us when we let the world see it, alive, healthy, creative, even demanding!

Soon we'll be celebrating Valentine's Day, a day of love and lovers. This year I'd like to inundate the White House, Congress, the Supreme Court, ABC, CBS, etc.... with Lesbian/GAY Valentine wishes. So I invite you all to play along and head to your favorite lesbian/gay cardshop, find your favorite postcards of men or women kissing, color them with a few red hearts, inscribe them with a "Read My Lips!" and any other quips you fancy. Then send them off to George Bush, Justices Rehnquist or O'Connor or to whom ever you'd like to read your lips. Let our collective lips daringly speak our love.

Do Be My Valentine!
Michael Neisen