

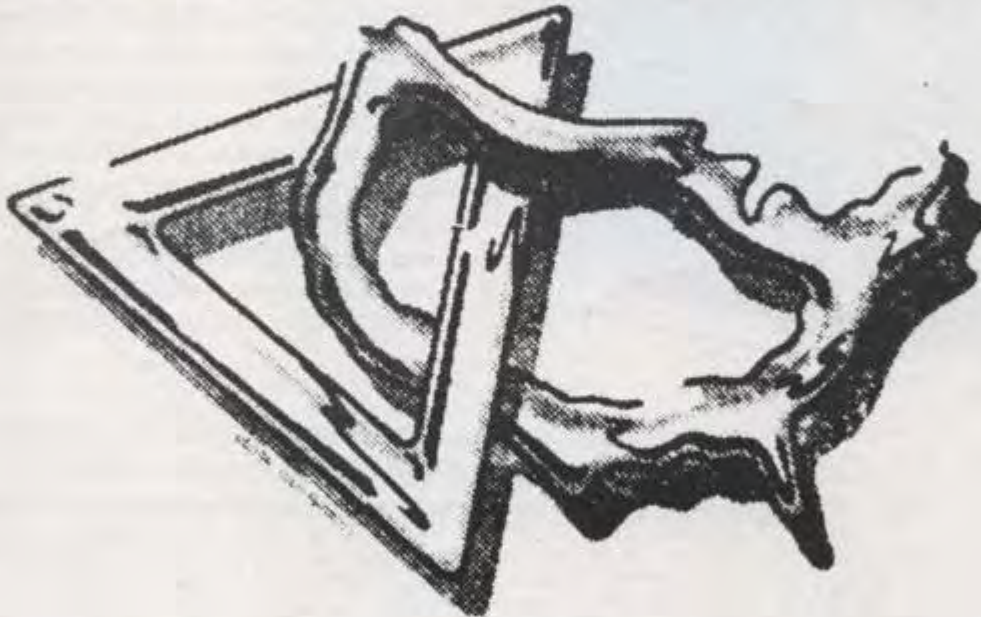
VOL. V No. VIII

OCTOBER 1988

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A

**GAY LESBIAN**



**VOTE 88**

A Political Dream

-by Bill S.

In the late Winter and early Spring I had a recurring dream that kept me awake many nights. My dream was that with the 1988 general election fast upon us, maybe our community could elect an openly gay person to a local office. It's been done in a number of other places. Why not Omaha? To pull this off and have everyone working together, we would have to have a totally non-controversial and non-partisan post to present to the people of our community.

What kind of post would that be? I remembered back to the years that I worked election board. There was a position of County Weed Commissioner that always amused me. There were never many votes tallied and I think a lot of people just ignored that part of the ballot. Eureka! That would be perfect because it was non-partisan and besides everybody

hates weeds. Can't you see the signs now in the bars and other places where our community congregates? "Help stamp out weeds - Vote for 'So-and-so' for County Weed Commissioner". It wouldn't take much background to handle a job like this and the person could pick up a few extra bucks doing it. I even came up with a person who would be great for the job.

I remembered a meeting of the Metropolitan Club last fall at which a panel of members discussed how they handled day-to-day life being gay. One panelist prefaced their remarks by saying that they were in a very unique position. The person said that their job required them to be openly "out". So there I had a political position and a candidate in mind.

If all the organizations of our community got together and

elected this person to a position that had never received much attention before by a big vote, we could all be pleased. Then if the person's gayness was leaked to the press at poll closing time, we could make people at the City Hall, Court House and Capitol sit up and take notice when they found out how many of us are out here.

I went down to the Court House to find out more about the job: filing fees, pay, job requirements, etc. My dream was burst. Lo and behold the job had been eliminated. There seemed to be nothing else on the ballot to fill the bill. If anyone out there has any ideas of something along this line to do in the next two to four years down the road, please contact me at the New Voice. Maybe we can work a political dream.

Exercise Your Right to Vote

It is alarming and frightening that fewer and fewer eligible voters exercise their right to vote or pay attention to the issues or who is running for office. Many people say, "My one vote won't matter, so I just didn't bother." The following was copied from a page in an Election Judge's Manual.

In 1645, I vote gave Oliver Cromwell control of England

In 1649, I vote caused Charles I of England to be executed.

In 1776, I vote gave America the English Language instead of German

In 1845, I vote brought Texas into the Union.

In 1868, I vote saved President Andrew Johnson from impeachment.

In 1876, I vote gave Rutherford B. Hayes the presidency of the United States.

In 1923, I vote gave Adolf Hitler leadership of the Nazi party.

In 1941, I vote saved Selective Service - just weeks before Pearl Harbor was attacked.

YOUR vote might be the one that makes the difference.

Take a Coming Out Step

-Sharon V.

October 11 is National Coming Out Day. Will you step out of the closet with the millions of other gays and lesbians? It may be small but whatever the action, it will help you to be stronger and will open doors of communication.

It is so easy to say these things and so hard to do. I've not yet found the courage to say to my staff "I'm in love with another woman and we plan to be married." I watched with delight as my newest employee showed his wedding album to the other staff members. They were curious and supportive as they looked at pictures of the two handsome young men exchanging rings and sharing pieces of wedding cake. I would love to

show them the picture I have of the rite of blessing which Carla and I shared or the picture of us dancing, when I was so engrossed in tracing my fingers across her face that I never even knew they were taking a picture. I'm not ready to share these intimate moments quite yet but I hope to be able to do so soon. I'm taking courage from my new employee. He is quietly open and is well accepted by the rest of the staff. I know some of them already know. So here I sit, wishing I could say the words but still hesitating. I guess I'm not quite ready for that particular coming out step. Maybe there's another step I could take? I guess I'll have to think on that for a while.

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Jean Mortensen, Feature Writer

## To the Editor and the Nebraska Gay and Lesbian Community:

Dear Editor:

Just a month ago I sat in on a Steering Committee meeting for the New Voice. I chorused my approval when someone suggested raising the subscription rate to \$19.00.

I've had a change of heart, and today I'm here to voice my opposition to the increase. Subscribers already pay nearly double the postage fees. Why charge them more? Those who pick up the magazine at the bar get them for free. They don't expect to pay printing costs. Why are subscribers expected to?

It seems to me that the way to increase revenue from subscriptions is to reduce the subscription cost and thus encourage more to subscribe. Twelve dollars would still more than cover the postage and packaging. Then instead of increasing the number of copies printed, work to increase the circulation of each magazine. One very appealing tactic might be to suggest to readers that sharing the latest issue of the New Voice could be the perfect way to meet someone new...

How about it, Steering Committee? Won't you reconsider? Give your subscribers a break. I'll await your response.

Carla

Dear Fellow members of the Lesbian/gay community:

This is a letter of concern to address an issue that is of great importance!

While attending a certain AIDS fundraiser over the "Labor Day" weekend, A certain em-cee (who shall remain nameless) had the audacity to make unnecessary remarks against individuals & organizations within our community.

As one of my friends that were there had said, "We have enough problems trying to fight the heterosexuals, without having to fight each other." (This is not an exact quote) I do agree. Its real sad to see people of our community knocking each other down while a crisis of death is at our back door.

When do we wake up? I hope that it's not after we're gone. With the rest of the world against us, let's not turn against each other.

My friends and I that attended this fundraiser, will not give up the fight for a cure. But for me alone, I will give "directly" until this particular em-cee gives a public apology to the mentioned attackees.

I'll be watching in the New Voice for this apology.  
Butch Addleman

## A Small World

Our community has always been plagued with complacency, indecisiveness and downright pettiness. Until recently these problems have been basically minor. Maybe our community doesn't function the way it should for more positive results, but up until now no one has been really hurt. That was before labor day weekend. It is felt now that for reasons of ignorance greed or just plain obstructiveness someone within the community or on the fringes of it tried to sink the labor day picnic at the warehouse in carter lake. This person anonymously alerted the authorities that there would probably be infractions of the law with minors drinking and illegal raffles taking place. Don Flowers worked hard the day or 2 before the picnic to square the raffle part of the festivities by being sure the necessary licence was in order and that there was an organization to sponsor it. There were 2 uniformed officers on duty during the picnic to keep their eyes on things and check IDs. While they were fairly low-key about performing their duties, their presence did put somewhat of a damper on things. I hope that the person or persons involved in this matter can sleep at night after the irreparable damage that they caused to the fund-raising efforts for the AIDS cause. We were all victims of this ignorant act and especially the AIDS sufferers and the agencies that depend on the funds to fight the disease.

-Name Withheld

## I'm Proud to be an American!

My family have been Americans for over 200 hundred years. Patrick Henry (my most famous ancestor) stood up and said clearly "Give me liberty or give me death!" That battle cry helped to spark the American Revolution, where people did die in order to gain the right to choose their own leaders. We now have that right. Next month we each have the opportunity to take part in the Presidential election. No matter how you may feel about politics and politicians, it is still the most equitable system for selecting our leaders. Don't give away your right to vote. If you aren't registered, REGISTER TODAY! Then on election day, cast your vote for the candidate of your choice. Don't let others decide for you.

As Gays and Lesbians we can make an impact. The Right and Responsibility are yours.



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The New Voice of Nebraska  
PO Box 3512  
Omaha, NE 68103

# Features

## Candidate Issue Comparison

Following is a comparison of Vice President George Bush and Governor Michael Dukakis on lesbian and gay civil rights and AIDS issues. Also included is a comparison of the Democratic and Republican Party Platforms.

### GAY AND LESBIAN CIVIL RIGHTS

**George Bush:**

**POSITION:** Opposes gay and lesbian civil rights as awarding "special privileges" to one group.

**RECORD:** Reagan-Bush administration supported Supreme Court 'Hardwick' decision denying Constitutional protections to gays. The administration has not opposed the immigration reform bill.

**Michael Dukakis:**

**POSITION:** Supports civil rights bill and immigration reform bill. Supports non-discrimination with regard to security clearances. Opposes executive order protecting government employees.

**RECORD:** As Massachusetts legislator, introduced state gay rights bill in 1974. As governor, he has lobbied for bill.

### HATE CRIMES:

**George Bush:**

**POSITION:** No known position.  
**RECORD:** The administration had indicated it may support collecting statistics on crimes against gays and lesbians.

**Michael Dukakis:**

**POSITION:** Supports legislation providing specific penalties for violence against gays and lesbians.

**RECORD:** Supported Massachusetts law that helped to define an assault due to sexual orientation as a civil rights crime.

### AIDS TESTING:

**George Bush:**

**POSITION:** Advocates confidentiality of HIV test results; supports mandatory or routine testing for military, immigrants, marriage licenses, those seeking assistance for sexually transmitted diseases and drug dependence and prisoners.

**RECORD:** The Reagan-Bush administration has left issues of

confidentiality and availability to the states. It requires testing of military personnel, immigrants, Peace Corps and Job Corps workers, foreign service employees and federal prisoners.

**Michael Dukakis:**

**POSITION:** Supports increased voluntary, confidential counseling and testing; advocates mandatory testing of military personnel and immigrants.

**RECORD:** Dukakis issues regulations banning testing for health and group life or disability insurance. Allows life insurers to require test for individual policies over \$100,000.00.

### AIDS PREVENTION:

**George Bush:**

**POSITION:** Believes people should be educated about AIDS, but prevention efforts should stress traditional moral values and strengthen the concept of "family". Content decision should be made at the local level.

**RECORD:** Under the Reagan-Bush administration, a nationwide mailing, originally conceived in mid-1980's, was not sent until June 1988 due to political in-fighting over contents. The administration refuses to provide explicit information on sex and drug use.

**Michael Dukakis:**

**POSITION:** Believes that AIDS education, including explicit information on sex and drug use, should begin in primary school with information based on age and ability to absorb material.

**RECORD:** Massachusetts was the first state to do a house-to-house AIDS prevention mailing.

### AIDS DISCRIMINATION:

**George Bush:**

**POSITION:** Supports federal legislation outlawing discrimination based on HIV infection status.

**RECORD:** The Reagan-Bush Administration opposes efforts to enact legislation to prohibit discrimination based on HIV status.

**Michael Dukakis:**

**POSITION:** Supports federal legislation outlawing discrimination based on HIV infection status.

**RECORD:** Endorsed Massachusetts bill to protect people with AIDS, HIV or perceived to have AIDS against Discrimination.

### PRESIDENTIAL HIV COMMISSION'S REPORT

**George Bush:**

**POSITION:** Endorses the recommendations of the Presidential AIDS Commission. However, his campaign rejected endorsing the report in the Republican Platform.

**Michael Dukakis:**

**POSITION:** Endorses the recommendations of the Presidential Commission on the HIV infection.

### PARTY PLATFORM:

**Republican:**

No mention of lesbian and gay civil rights. Rejected endorsement of Presidential HIV Commission Report. Calls for research, compassion and expedited FDA drug review. Also calls for "protecting those who do not have the disease, AIDS education that emphasizes "abstinence from drug and sexual activity outside of marriage" and confidential testing and contact tracing. Advocate that people "remain on the job or in school as long as they are functionally capable."

### DEMOCRATIC:

**POSITION:** Calls for lesbian and gay civil rights and the "rebuilding" of the civil rights enforcement machinery. AIDS planks call for "increased support for expedited research on treatments and vaccines, comprehensive education and prevention, compassionate patient care, adoption of public health community consensus on voluntary and confidential testing and counseling, and protection of the civil rights of those suffering from AIDS, AIDS Related Complex, or testing positive for the HIV antibody."

# The Second Most Important Room in the House

-by Hedda Lettuce

**RIBS.** When preparing ribs there are 3 things to remember. 1. Allow at least 1 pound per person at a minimum. 2. Parboil the ribs first. 3. Ribs are only as good as the barbecue sauce you use. And remember to baste frequently, especially if you are cooking on an outdoor grill.

Ribs tend to be very fatty and have little meat on them. That is why you should allow at least 2 pound per person. Because too much fat is not good for anyone to eat you should parboil the ribs first. I know of a woman who bakes the ribs in her oven for about an hour to remove the fat, but boiling is easier. While this comes to a boil, peel an onion and stud it with 6 or 7 whole cloves, then drop the studded onion into the pot of ribs. (Some cooking terms are SO exciting...) if you are going to cook the ribs indoors you might add a couple of tablespoons of liquid smoke. Add 2 or 3 peppercorns to the water and just let the ribs boil. Some cook books suggest you parboil in this manner for 5 minutes or so, others suggest you boil the ribs up to an hour. The important thing is to remove the fat and make the ribs tender. I usually boil them for an hour.

Barbecue sauce can be made at home, and there are more variations than there are readers of the New Voice of

Nebraska; also there are scads of bottled sauces on the market. You could be adventurous and add some ingredients found around your kitchen to your favorite bottled sauce.

Here is a goodie from San Francisco called San Fransican Chinese Spareribs. Serves 4.

4 lbs. pork spareribs parboiled as described above.  
Sauce:

1 cup catsup  
1/4 cup sherry  
3/4 tsp salt  
4 slices fresh ginger root, shredded  
1/3 cup Soy Sauce  
1/4 cup sugar  
4 cloves garlic, minced  
optional: 1 1/2 TBL hoisin sauce

Mix all these ingredients in a bowl.

Shake 1/3 cup flour in a large oven cooking bag. Pour sauce into bag and swish around to dissolve flour. Put spareribs in bag and turn bag several times to coat ribs. Using a twist tie, close the bag and put bag into a baking dish. A 13x9x2 is a good size pan. Make 6 slits on the top side of the bag and cook at 325 degrees until ribs are tender and hot, about 30 minutes or so. If you have parboiled the ribs only 5 or 10 minutes it will take longer to cook. 30 minutes should do it if you have parboiled the ribs for an hour and have not cooled the ribs after parboiling.

Here is a sauce that can go on just about any kind of meat: ribs, steaks, chicken, and brisket to name a few.

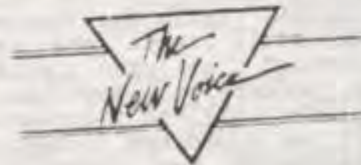
Stir together in a bowl the following ingredients:

2 1/2 cups catsup  
1 1/2 cups chilisauce  
1 1/2 water  
3/4 cups lemon juice  
1 TBL celery seed  
2 TBL Soy Sauce  
black pepper to taste  
3/4 cups brown sugar  
1 1/2 cups wine vinegar  
3/4 cups beer  
1/2 cups prepared mustard  
4 TBL Worcestershire sauce  
2 cloves of garlic, minced  
dash or two of hot pepper sauce, e.g. Tobasco Sauce

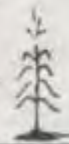
Stir this all together and refrigerate until ready to use.

To serve: Put ribs on a serving platter and brush with 1/3 cup of light corn syrup to give them a nice glaze. Spoon the remaining barbecue sauce over the ribs. Rice and pea pods will go nicely with this entree.

Next month it's turkey time, the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner. A bunch of us are going to get together for the annual event. I hope Ertha Quake doesn't do her infamous belly dance. Magnolia Blossom will be there in all her glory and I've got to call Jim Nassium and tell him to wear clean socks. See you next month.



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points south on  
Route 75.



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# Local Organizations & Events

## Film Fest

The 1988 Annual Meeting for the Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights will have a completely new look this year. In past years, we have offered workshops and had a key note speaker, will this year be offering a week-end full of films. Yes, a real Gay/Lesbian Film Festival.

Mark your calendars for Friday, November 4th, Saturday November 5th, and Sunday November 6th. The whole weekend events will start with a reception on Friday night with 3 evening showings. Saturday November 5th there will be 6 showings, Sunday November 6th there will be 5 showings. The exact time of these showings will be determined soon.

Here is some information about some of the Features that have been chosen.

### The Virgin Machine

(Die Jungfrauenmaschine)  
-West Germany, 1988

At first glance this new film by Monica Treut recounts a very simple story, that of a young woman who sets out to find happiness, as did Parsifal, the simple fool.

Unhappy in Germany, and pursued by her former lover Heinz, Dorothy Muller decides to continue her investigation of romantic love in America, following the footsteps of her mother, who immigrated to the U.S. many years before. In the mythical dreamland of California, Dorothy by chance meets several very remarkable women.

Susie Sexpert initiates Dorothy into the practical arsenal of the American pragmatics of love. Dominique, a Hungarian from Uruguay presents herself as a humorous, sisterly friend, and finally the sly lesbian sex therapist with whom Dorothy falls romantically, naively in love.

This dream romance quickly dissipates and Dorothy finds something else: a narcissistic, self-ironic relationship with herself; robbed of her dreams, but still serious enough for us to know that this is not the end of her adventure.

With the expert camera work of Elfi Mikesch, Monika Treut employs a unique experimental

form allowing us to enter the protagonist's world so that we may see and hear the world through Dorothy's eyes and ears. The direction and camera styles also reflect the film's two locales, Germany where Dorothy experiences paranoia, and California, the wonderland where Dorothy reacts with amazement at the strange land and people.

DIRECTOR SCRIPT: Monika Treut

### The Passion of Remembrance

THE PASSION OF REMEMBRANCE  
-Great Britain, 1986

Produced by the Sankofa Black Workshop, a film cooperative formed in 1983 by black, feminist, and gay filmmakers, THE PASSION OF REMEMBRANCE is a work about racism, sexism, homosexuality, and the generation gap, and the effects on a black British family. The film has two story lines: one features a black man and woman in a desert landscape, discussing the plight of blacks in the U.K. He is aggressive, she shows restraint. The second shows life for the Baptiste family through its personal histories from the 50s to the 80s. Issues of race and sexuality arise, fragments of identities surface and suggest the diversity of a black family's experience in Britain. Writer/directors Maureen Blackwood and Issac Julian also use footage from the inner-city riots that swept Britain in 1981 and shots of gay demonstrations to portray the government's harsh attitude toward its minorities. Although its scope exceeds its technical expertise, THE PASSION OF REMEMBRANCE reflects a new generation of filmmakers' response to social issues, and has been praised for directing itself mainly to Britain's black community rather than preaching at whites.  
DIRECTORS: Sankofa Black Workshop

### Tina & Ruby:

#### Hell Divin' Women

TINY & RUBY: HELL DIVIN' WOMEN profiles the legendary jazz trumpeter Tiny Davis and her lover and partner of over 40 years, drummer Roby Lucas

(aka Renee Phelan). Billed as the "female Louie Armstrong" in the 1940's, Tiny was until recently blowing her trumpet in Chicago Blues clubs. TINY & RUBY weaves together music, compelling archival material, live action performances, an evocative narrative by poet Chryl Clarke, and an informal, intimate style to pay tribute to these two extraordinary women.

A FILM BY GRETA SCHILLER & ANDREA WEISS, DIRECTOR.

### International Sweethearts of Rhythm

A surprise hit at the 1987 Festival, INTERNATIONAL SWEETHEARTS OF RHYTHM documents the success of the all-women, mostly black music group that breathed refreshing life into the big band sound of the 1930s and 40s. Tiny Favis was one of the band's featured soloists.  
DIRECTORS: Greta Schiller, Andrea Weiss.

### Mala Noche

MALA NOCHE by Portland, Oregon filmmaker Gus Van Sant is a gritty and authentic film about a clerk in a grocery store mindlessly in love with a young Mexican migrant. In his first feature film, Van Sant has captured a very realistic portrait of life on Portland's skid row.

-continued next page

There must be a happy medium somewhere between being totally informed and blissfully unaware. - Doug Larson

COALITION FOR  
Gay & Lesbians  
CIVIL RIGHTS

Annual Meeting

November 4,5,6  
Fri-Sun. Check  
articles within  
this issue  
for details -



## Anita, Dances of Vice

ANITA, DANCES OF VICE is based on the life of Anita Berber, considered by many to have been the most scandalous woman in 1920's Berlin. She was the first to dance nude to the public; she was openly bisexual; her use of drugs was no secret; and she preferred her performances to be on subjects such as Vice, Horror and Ecstasy. She died of tuberculosis in 1928.

In Von Praunheim's film the forgotten star becomes alive in the visions of an old woman who claims to be Anita. The police commit her to a mental institution, where in the old woman's dreams and exchanges with staff, scenes from the life of Anita appear. As the film offers images of the dancer's great era--Expressionist, Silent, but in shimmering colors--the captive remembers her wild, short life to its bitter end...and dies again.

Ms. Huber's performance has been called "irresistibly funny" by the VILLAGE VOICE. And VARIETY called her "a great discovery. The 75-year old actress has an impressive screen presence and attacks the role with voluptuous zest. She is a wholly engaging film personality."

This event will be held at 335 N. 14th, Lincoln, NE, just off city campus. Tickets will be \$4.00 per showing, \$8.00 for 3 showings, or \$15.00 for a week-end pass. The sponsors of this event are The Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights, The Common Bookstore, & G.L.P.C., (free child care will be provided).

If you want the schedule information when it is available please write: Coalition, Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509

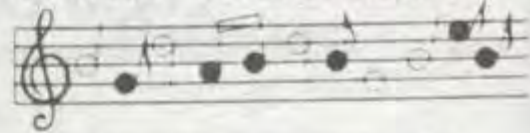
## Say No More

-Equal Time

"I have a message for my gay brothers and sisters: If a major presidential candidate can risk his career for you, certainly you can do it for yourselves! Stop hiding behind that heterosexual mask. Stand up, like the proud human beings that you are, for your right to be yourselves, the way you were born, in the sunshine."

From a letter written by William Moore of Miami Shores, Fla., published in the Miami Herald following Jesse Jackson's mention of lesbians and gay men in his address at the Democratic National Convention. Reprinted in the gay weekly, The Weekly News.

## GALA Conference



Labor Day weekend Stan Brown, John Kelly, Dave Schuler and Annie Zinn from the River City Mixed Chorus were in Rochester, NY to attend the annual conference of Directors and Managers of the Gay and Lesbian Association (GALA) of Choruses.

While in Rochester, the group enjoyed the local hospitality from the opening concert at the Municipal Art Gallery to the farewell party at City Hall. The highlight of the conference for the Omaha group came when Dave Schuler was elected to a 3-year term on the GALA Board of Directors. Dave was one of three elected from a list of 12 nominees and will serve as liaison to the mixed choruses.

There are 67 Gay, Lesbian and Mixed Choruses in GALA from across the United States and Canada. GALA produces a conference every year and a festival every three years. The next festival/conference will be held in Seattle, WA July 2-9, 1989.

# THE DIAMOND BAR

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"TELL'EM WHERE YOU GOT IT"

## Kearney Artist Shows Work



Nancy L. Houser of Kearney will exhibit some of her works in the Antiquarium Book Store art gallery in Omaha, October 22 through November 10.

Nebraska's historical themes, done in a fantasy or abstract style, will be the basis of this show. Among other works featured will be a series of four pictures titled "Thus Said

the Indians...." done specifically for this show.

Houser studied art history at Kearney State College and is a member of the Haymarket Artists' Registry. She has over twenty years' experience in various media and styles, and has had numerous acceptances in various Nebraska shows. Her most recent exhibit in Lincoln was at the January 1986 ten-state art show held at Wesleyan University's Elder Art Gallery. Currently she is focusing on fantasy/science-fiction works done mostly in graphite and prismcolor pencil; however, she often uses other media as well to "fit the picture's mood." Houser runs a freelance art business in Kearney called Art, Signs, and Illustrations, which specializes in children's illustrations and humorous characters.

The Antiquarium Book Store is located at 1215 Harney Street, Omaha.

## UNL GLSA Announces Events

The Gay/Lesbian Student Association (GLSA) of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln has planned the upcoming events for the fall semester:

### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 6 Open/Clark Taylor  
 October 8 Safe Sex workshop:  
 Clark Taylor-Sexologist  
 October 13 GLPC/Video  
 Presentation  
 October 20 Fund Raiser -  
 Watch for details  
 October 27 Self Defense  
 November 3 Gay Parenting  
 November 10 GLPC/VIDEO  
 presentation  
 November 17 Open - to be  
 announced  
 November 24 Thanksgiving - NO  
 MEETING!  
 December 1 Religion and the  
 Homosexual  
 December 8 GLPC/Video  
 presentation.  
 NO MEETINGS - DEAD WEEK AND  
 FINALS WEEK.

Meetings: Thursdays 8:00 p.m.  
 For more information call or  
 write:

UNL Gay/Lesbian  
 Student Association  
 342 Nebraska Union  
 68588-0455  
 (402)472-5644

Please feel free to stop by  
 our office for further  
 information and help our staff  
 with the October fundraiser.  
 We'll be looking forward to  
 seeing you.



## More Queens Than You Can Shake A Stick At

-by Vanessa Anderson

On Saturday, September 3rd, at the Diamond Bar, Miss Vanessa Anderson's ZEPHYR PRODUCTIONS presented "More Queens Than You Can Shake A Stick At!", a careathon for the Nebraska AIDS Project.

I chose as my cast some new and some old performers; Kritine, Nicole, Roxy and Jalessa were some of the up-and-coming girls I felt would do an admirable job.

I also asked the Queen Mother of the Diamond, Miss Coni Lee and Miss Diamond Lil

'87-'88, Forte De Sade; and our favourite Bartender Joyce, to join in our efforts. We shared memories, laughter and tears with a good sized crowd and we did raise \$500.00.

I would like to thank Dennis McK. and Tom W. for providing the sound equipment and their invaluable assistance. Also Mr. Frank Dizonno for his help and holding me together through it all. And a vote of thanks to Cindy for the use of the stage.

"Until later...I Love You,  
 Omaha!"

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Support Groups  
 Buddy System

HIV Testing at  
 our office,  
 7 to 10 PM  
 Thursdays



## Trick or Treat at the MAX

As we approach October, many treats will appear at the Max....

Sunday, October 2  
Bonnie Bitch's Stripsation with a cast of professional male dancers - The Bitch IS Back.

Sunday, October 9  
Miss Gay Nebraska, USA, Ann Marlow, stepping down show with special guests.

Sunday, October 16  
Black Leather Party "Join us for leather, strippers, and whips and chains, handcuffs..."

Sunday, October 30  
Screaming Kuppies from Lincoln

Sunday, November 6  
"A Night with Tina and Pearl" Brian Murphy - from New York City

Sunday, November 13  
Imperial Court's "Food for Thought"

Sunday, November 20  
Miss Gay Nebraska USA Pageant, with special guests Ann Marlow and Miss Gay USA

Sunday, November 27  
Male Strippers.

The past several months have proven to be very exciting. Brandi Alexander, Miss Gay North and Kim Alexis, Miss Gay Missouri put on a flawless show. Donna Day, Miss Gay South, took it off (and I mean all off), ugh?! From LaCage the talents of Mahogany was unbelievable. The Max would like to wish Dorian Drake, Miss Gay Nebraska, and Muffy Rosenbeg the best of luck in Dallas at the Miss Gay America Pageant.

Get ready for many treats this month, and many months to come. Only at the Max.

## RCMC Rehearsals

The River City Mixed Chorus began the 1988-89 season on September 12, rehearsing at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church. Members, totaling 32, are busy preparing for the annual Holiday Concert. A theme of "Winterscene" has been selected for this concert to be performed December 10 at 7:05 pm in the beautiful Strauss Recital Hall.

If you are interested in joining the River City Mixed Chorus, next auditions will be held during an open rehearsal on December 19. For more information about the Chorus call (402)342-4775.



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## RCMC Donates to Clinic

The River City Mixed Chorus, at the beginning of the 1987-88 season, committed that \$1.00 of every concert ticket sold would be donated to the University of Nebraska Medical Center Viral Syndrome Clinic. Chorus members have felt the tragedy of AIDS in our community with the loss of friends and members. A commitment of this type in another way of giving back to our community.

As a result of this commitment, the chorus has to date contributed a total of \$412 to the clinic for further research. These monies reflect tickets sold for 2 concerts performed during the 1987-88 season. We sincerely hope that all organizations will join us in combatting this disease.

For more information contact David Schuler, 342-4775.

## A PWA's Booth

-by Jerry Peck

Another Labor Day was approaching. Unlike years in the past, I know that I would not be able to attend all the fund raisers for AIDS research, not be able to buy raffle tickets or throw darts and gorge myself on sloppy joes. The AIDS issue has become very real for me and I wanted to contribute.

Talking with Don Flowers it was agreed that I could offer a portion of my male erotica collection for sale at the picnic. It grew into a booth of "white elephants" donated by and though Persons With AIDS (PWAs). Some items were offered at a silent auction and others had prices set. A star attraction was an engraved figure on 11"x14" glass called "Adam" donated by World of Windows in Rockbrook Village.

Sales for the day totaled \$225.00 which was turned in at the Meatpackers show. Since then another \$110.00 has been collected. It feels good to have been a part of an effort by PWAs for PWAs.

Anyone interested in making a \$100.00 contribution in exchange for the 12 piece setting of German china plus serving pieces call Jerry Peck at 345-2181.

Eternity is a terrible thought, I mean, where's it going to end? -Tom Stoppard

# MR GAY NEBRASKA

presents

## New Voice Fundraiser

The staff of the New Voice want to say a heartfelt "thank-you" to Mr. Gay Nebraska (Mr. Dick Brown) for sponsoring the fundraiser held at the Max on August 28. The event netted \$455 for the New Voice as well as provided the crowd of about 300 persons with an excellent show. 13 acts competed for the cash prizes (including your editor as one of the MCC Ladies). Mr. Brown stole the show with the very first number as he lip-synched a powerful song, "Living with AIDS", from Romanovsky and Phillips.

The winner of "Puttin' on the Lips" was Miss Veronica O'Rourke who brought down the house as she and her partner Jerry danced from motorcycle to bartop and back again. Second place was won by Miss Gloria Ravel whose beehive hairdo was perfect for her performance of "Hairspray". The duo known as "Desire" took third place. My personal favorite (MCC Ladies doing "Leaping Lesbians") failed to make the top three. As a matter of fact I don't think we made the bottom three. But we had a wonderful time.

Thanks again to Dick Brown and the Two-Wheelers of Omaha who own the title "Mr. Gay Nebraska."



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR Oct. 9 - Nov. 10, 1988

## Sundays

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

### Sunday, October 9

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

The Max  
1417 Jackson, Omaha  
"Miss Gay Nebraska USA"  
"Stepping Down Show"  
9:30 pm

All Iowa AIDS Benefit  
Park Inn  
6th Ave. & I-235, Des Moines  
6-11 pm (515-263-0025)

### Monday, October 10

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

Womyn Together (Lesbian Rap)  
Dale Clark Library, Omaha  
Meeting Rooms 2&3, 7-9pm

### Saturday, October 15

Mr. Gay Nebraska 1988  
Diamond Bar  
712 S. 16th St. Omaha  
10pm

### Sunday, October 16

The Max  
1417 Jackson, Omaha  
"Black Leather Night"  
(Strippers and Leather Show)  
9:30 pm

## Mondays

Adult Children of Alcoholics  
MCC-Omaha, 420 South 24th  
7pm (346-0561)

### Monday, October 17

Womyn Together (Lesbian Rap)  
Dale Clark Library, Omaha  
Meeting Rooms 2&3, 7-9pm  
"Personal Legal Issues"

### Sunday, October 23

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

### Monday, October 24

Womyn Together (Lesbian Rap)  
Dale Clark Library, Omaha  
Meeting Rooms 2&3, 7-9pm  
"Legal Issues and Property"

### Tuesday, October 25

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

### Saturday, October 29

MCC-Omaha, 420 South 24th  
"Halloween Party"  
7:30 - 10:30 pm

### Sunday, October 30

The Max  
1417 Jackson, Omaha  
"A Drag Show From Hell"  
Bunni Lynn and Buddy Starr  
9:30 pm

## Fridays

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

### Monday, October 31

Womyn Together (Lesbian Rap)  
Dale Clark Library, Omaha  
Meeting Rooms 2&3, 7-9pm  
"Halloween Party"

### Tuesday, November 1

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

### Wednesday, November 2

MCC-Omaha, 420 South 24th  
"Coming Out" Support Group  
7pm

### Thursday, November 3

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

### Sunday, November 6

The Max  
1417 Jackson, Omaha  
"A Night with Tina and Pearl"  
Brian Murphy - from NYC  
9:30 pm

### Monday, November 7

Womyn Together (Lesbian Rap)  
Dale Clark Library, Omaha  
Meeting Rooms 2&3, 7-9pm

### Tuesday, November 8

ELECTION DAY - VOTE

## Gay Al-Anon Disbands

It is with regret that we announce that the Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon Group has disbanded. The group met at MCC-Omaha on Friday evenings.

The Gay Alcoholics Anonymous still meets Friday night at Lutheran Medical Center and the Gay/Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics is meeting Monday evenings at MCC-Omaha.

## The Grand Tour

If you've always wanted to go to Hooper, Nebraska and never have; you missed a golden opportunity Saturday night August 20th. Members and guests of the Metropolitan Club wined and dined all the way to Hooper and back via the Fremont and Elkhorn River Railroad Dinner Train. While the three hour trip passed much faster than the train traveled, the passengers enjoyed a delightful

dinner preceded by cocktails. It is a great way to pass some time with friends. In the near future it will be much easier for Omaha and Council Bluffs residents to enjoy an evening like this. The whole dinner train operation will be running out of Council Bluffs. You won't be able to go to Hooper, but you can travel somewhere else just as exciting.

## Chorus Announces 1988-89 Season

The River City Mixed Chorus announces its 1988-89 Season.

Holiday Concert  
December 10, 1988, 7:05pm  
Strauss Recital Hall

This concert will be a brightly-wrapped package of secular and traditional holiday music, including an audience sing-along.

Spring Concert  
March 18, 1989, 7:35p.m.  
Strauss recital Hall

A concert of pop, Broadway and classical music. Negotiations are progressing for this to be a joint concert with the Des Moines Men's Chorus.

Summer Concert  
June 24, 1989, 7:05pm  
Strauss Recital Hall

Included in this concert will be the premiere of 2 original GALA commissioned pieces. This will also be the final concert of our 5th year. All resources will be pooled to make this the hottest concert of the year.

GALA International Festival III  
July 2-9, 1989  
Seattle, Washington

Members and friends of the River City Mixed Chorus will travel to Seattle to Represent Omaha at this festival. We will team up with 60 other choruses from across the United States and Canada for a week of rehearsals and concerts. Two Grand Finales presented on separate days will conclude this festival.

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

For more information contact David Schuler, 342-4775.

### Submission Deadline

The New Voice has a submission deadline on the 15th of each month. Submissions received after the 15th will be held for publication at a later date. Thank you for your cooperation.

## PWA Coalition

-Jerry Peck

In Omaha there has been a support group for persons with AIDS, ARC, HIV Positive and their significant others and families meetings for a year now.

Out of this group a PWA coalition is in the formation stages. The purpose is to provide services and activities for PWA's above and beyond what other agencies offer. We have attended cultural events here in Omaha and have talked of the possibilities of attending functions and activities outside the Omaha area.

A major concern in this expanded services is transportation. Ideally, we need a van that could be used for such outings or a van with a driver. This would be one way of contributing to a better quality of life for those that have been limited by their diagnosis.

If you have a van and willing to loan it or drive it on these occasions give Jerry Peck a call at 345-2181 or Dave Story at 553-6203 (answering machines work).



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## Is Dukakis a Good Lesbian?

-Mark Sullivan  
Washington Blade

Although the evidence probably wouldn't hold up in court, the residents of the tiny Greek village of Pelopi are not afraid to declare that presidential hopeful Michael Dukakis is a Lesbian.

That's because Pelopi, the birthplace of the Massachusetts governor's father, Panos Dukakis, is located on a lush little island off the Turkish coast called Lesbos. The island's name, from which the word "lesbian" was derived, is best known as the birthplace of Sappho, who wrote poetry about her desire for other women.

The Pelopi villagers, according to The Washington Post, don't seem to mind that the Democratic nominee for the presidency visited the island only once, for a few hours 12 years ago, or that his father never spent much time on the island before moving to the United States at the age of 15.

"He belongs to the village even if he was not born here," said Mayor Constantinou Stephanou. "Once a son of Pelopi, always a son of Pelopi."

Damianos Vasilellis, an amateur historian living on the island, said the villagers are proud that Lesbos, in the sixth century B.C., was the home of the world's first democracy.

"If Dukakis is a good Lesbian," Vasilellis told the Post, "he will display the special characteristics of his ancestors - seriousness, productivity, contentedness and irony."

One wonderful thing about a vacation is that it makes you feel good enough to go back to work and poor enough so that you have to. -James A. Nix

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# National Spotlight

## Circle K Drops Restrictions

-The Washington Blade

A barrage of bad press prompted a multi-state chain of convenience stores this month to suspend its policy of dropping employees from the company's health care program who contract aids as a result of "certain personal life-style decisions."

Officials at Circle K Corporation, the second largest convenience store chain in the country, announced on Aug 10 that the company is studying the policy to decide whether to revise it or eliminate it altogether.

Last December, company officials sent out a letter to the 8,000 of the 26,000 employees enrolled in the company's health plan explaining that employees contracting AIDS through any means other than a blood transfusion would not be eligible to receive health care coverage throughout the company. The letter indicated that company officials were concerned about the impact some employees 'personal-life-style decisions' would have on health care costs for the company.

Company officials said no claims had been denied under the new policy before it was suspended.

Circle K Senior Vice President Charles Shoumaker told 'The Wall Street Journal' that its original decision concerning lifestyles was made after the company found that about \$500,000, or nearly 4% of its health care budget had been spent on treatment for 9 employees with AIDS. He said only 1% to 2% of other employers' health care budgets go for AIDS.

Shoumaker said he expected criticism from Gay organizations but believed that it would be scattered and short-lived. He said there was virtually no response until Aug. 3 when a local newspaper was informed about the policy by members of an AIDS group. 2 days later the story was in many national newspapers.

One of the most vocal opponents to the plan was Arizona Gay activist Ed Busk, a key leader of the successful campaign to oust Arizona Gov. Evan Mecham earlier this year.

Buck said the plan was a "spur of the moment corporate decision rather than firm policy." Officials of Circle K, which is base in Phoenix, said Buck's comments at a meeting with them prompted them to "push the pause button" on the plan until it could be studied further.

Arizona Insurance Commissioner Susan Gallinger said the policy would be illegal if the company was an insurance company, but preempts state law since Circle K pays its own medical bills.

Politics has got so expensive that it takes lots of money to even get beat nowadays. -Will Rogers.

If only God would give me some clear sign! Like making a large deposit in my name at a Swiss bank. -Woody Allen

## Court Rules For Student Association

A federal court recently ruled that the University of Arkansas violated the free-speech rights of a homosexual student group by denying it funds.

"The Chronicle of Higher Education" reports that the ruling, handed down by a 3 judge panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Eighth Circuit, ordered the university to provide financing to the group, the Gay and Lesbian Students Association.

The ruling overturned an earlier federal district court's decision and marks the first time a federal court has required a public university to provide funds to a gay group. The Court said the university had denied the money because of the views the group expressed.

The Gay and Lesbian Students Assoc. had requested \$165,000, and was the only student group denied funds in 1985. The university turned down an appeal from the group after the student senate refused its funding request.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which argues the case on behalf of the Arkansas students, called the case a major victory for gay and lesbian rights.

## "Cure"

### Refund Wanted

-The Washington Blade

Reading, PA - 6 men who said a church-run program to rid them of their homosexual urges didn't work are now asking for their money back, according to the 'Philadelphia Gay News'.

The men, 3 of them under the name 'John Doe', filed suit in Berks County Court of Common Pleas last month against the General Conference of the Seventh Day Adventists and Colin Cook, former executive director of the church's Quest Learning Center.

The men claimed that rather than providing a cure, Cook sexually molested them. They said Cook forced them into nude massage sessions in order to "desensitize" them. One man said that Cook asked him to masturbate in front of him.

The men are seeking up to \$20,000.00 each in damages as well as the money they paid for fees and expenses while enrolled in the program.

## Teachers Pass Anti-Discrimination Statement

The American Federation of Teachers recently passed a resolution opposing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, according to the San Francisco 'Sentinel'.

The AFT statement calls for legal and educational equity for homosexuals, and was a combination of 2 separate resolutions submitted to the annual convention. "I think it's a total victory," said Paul Thomas, author of the proposal.

The resolution, which passed by voice vote, did not include support for domestic partners' benefits, revised school curriculum or support for a national Gay civil rights bill. However, Thomas said he is confident that these items will be included at next year's convention in Boston.



## NGLTF Conference

The National Gay & Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) announced plans to host a national conference for gay and lesbian organizations November 18-20, 1988 in Washington, D.C. The conference, entitled "CREATING CHANGE: A NATIONAL CONFERENCE FOR GAY AND LESBIAN ORGANIZATIONS," is open to all gay and lesbian organizations. The Conference will also serve as a gathering of NGLTF's more than 100 member or Cooperating Organizations. The NGLTF Cooperating Organization Program was created in 1987 to knit the nation's gay and lesbian organizations into an effective activist network.

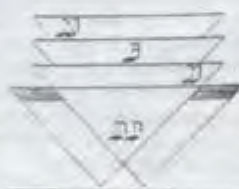
The CREATING CHANGE Conference has three goals: 1) to foster skill, resource and information sharing; 2) to support and develop gay/lesbian leadership at the local, state and national level; and 3) to strengthen our political movement by supporting the organizations and institutions that serve our community.

Technical skill-building workshops led by activists from across the country will be offered in the areas of lobbying, grassroots organizing, media action, development and fundraising, and direct action. Panels also will focus on current political debates within our movement.

The conference will be held at the Hotel Washington, Pennsylvania Avenue and 15th Street NW, Washington. Registration fees will range from \$50 - 100 depending on the size of an organization's annual budget.

For more information, write: NGLTF CREATING CHANGE, 1517 U St. NW, Washington, DC 20009.

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# Coming Out

## The Homosexual Experience

**T**he phrase is heard often in the gay community used to describe the act of acknowledging our sexuality not only to ourselves but to other people as well. It's a deceptively simplistic phrase implying that all of this is accomplished as easily as taking a single step out of the closet.

But coming out is much more. It is a life-long journey begun when we take that first step toward self-discovery. It involves whom we tell about our gayness and how we present ourselves to the world. It includes widening our spheres of pride and self-esteem with each new step we take. It is the life-long journey of integrating our homosexuality into the fabric of our lives. There can be no final destination to the journey, for with each new person we meet we are confronted with the same questions: Should I tell this person about my sexuality? When should I tell him? How should I tell her?

The first step is often the most difficult. At an early age we begin to hear the negative stereotypes about homosexuals. Confronting these myths with the image we have of ourselves requires a great deal of strength, and it is a step that a person ultimately must make by himself or herself. Not until he or she has taken that momentous step can they seek support within the gay community. As the gay lifestyle is discussed more openly in newspapers and magazines and on television and radio, the person on the threshold of taking that first step can learn that they are not alone in their feelings.

The second step usually involves seeking out other gay people. At this stage we are eager to share with them an openness that seems impossible elsewhere. We discover that there are all "types" of gay people, and we start to feel more comfortable in the fact that our sexuality is only a part of the fabric of our lives.

A step beyond that involves coming out to people we are close to: family members and friends. This step is generally accompanied by the fear of rejection. Occasionally these fears will be realized, but many gay people find it difficult to maintain a relationship in the midst of constant deception, and they decide to take the risk. The majority of cases of "coming out" to family and friends has led to more honest and satisfying relationships with those around us, and our self-esteem increases as we discover that there are others in the world who can accept and love us as we are.

Despite all the positive effects, "coming out" may not always be the right thing to do. The question is not whether we should come out, but whether--and how far--we can afford to do so in any given situation. The reality in some people's lives demands that they keep their homosexuality a secret. In every case the decision to come out to someone must be a personal one.

If you're ready to tell someone but just don't know what to do, these guidelines may be useful:

- 1) Expect the unexpected. The person you expected to be most understanding may turn away from you, and those you thought would be most hurt may experience no shock at all: "I always thought you were different, and I thought this might be a possibility."
- 2) Make sure you have the right motives. Too often the announcement slips out during a family argument when anger and hurt are the motives. The transition to acceptance may take much longer when people are told in this fashion. Remember: you are telling someone because you love them and want to share your happiness with them.
- 3) Be confident, straight-forward, secure in your sexuality. Sometimes a parent's first

reaction will be: "we'll get you help. I've heard people can change." Confidence in your sexuality will go a long way in convincing them that it is not your sexuality that needs to change but their attitudes toward it.

- 4) Be prepared with facts. Be able to answer their questions or refer to them to literature that can help in their understanding. The books that helped you to accept your sexuality may be great literature and required reading of all gay people, but they may not convince parents that it is alright for their child to be gay. Books that include graphic passages of sexual activity are not generally comforting to parents. Many fine books written for parents are available. (See suggested reading for some of these.)
- 5) Surround yourself with a strong support system. If your announcement is met with rejection, you will need someone who can supply emotional

support. Maintaining your sense of self worth is critical.

- 6) Be patient. People often see the announcement with a sense of loss. Many of the same emotions that surround the death of a loved one can follow the announcement that someone is gay. Denial, anger, bargaining, depression, and finally acceptance are the stages a person goes through in dealing with grief. You can help them through these stages, but it is also important that you understand and accept the grief they are feeling.
- 7) Choose your words carefully. Words can wound as well as heal. This may be particularly important when parents are dealing with guilt. Guilt and blame assume something is wrong. Assure them there is nothing wrong with your sexuality and, therefore, no reason to feel guilty. Help them to understand that your sexuality has nothing to do with the way you were raised, and that homosexuality is not the result of family dynamics or the vegetables they made you eat.

### For additional reading:

**Coming Out to Parents: a Two-Way Survival Guide For Lesbians and Gay Men and Their Parents**, Borhek, Mary. (Pilgrim Press, 1983).

**My Son Eric**, Borhek, Mary. (Pilgrim Press, 1979).

**Consenting Adults**, Hobson, Laura Z. (Doubleday, 1975).

**Now That You Know: What Every Parent Should Know About Homosexuality**, Fairchild, Betty and Howard, Nancy. (Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich, 1979).

the coalition 

Box 226, Sioux Falls, SD 57101  
(605) 337-4599

This publication was produced by the Sioux Empire Gay/Lesbian Coalition with grant funding support from the Chicago Resource Center. If you should have any questions about the topic of this publication or any other concerns which relate to the homosexual lifestyle, please write or call. SEGIC also has numerous other programs available. Copyrighted 1987.

**Coming Out Right**, Muchmore, Wes and Hanson, William. (Alyson Publications, 1983).

**Read This Before Coming Out To Your Parents**, Booklet available through the Federation of Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Inc., P.O. Box 24565, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Please send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope with your request.

**Society and the Healthy Homosexual**, Weinberg, George. (St. Martin's Press, Second Edition, 1983).

**The Coming Out Stories**, Wolfe, Susan and Stanley, Julia Penelope. (Pensacola Press, 1980).

# Iowa State Adopts Non-Discrimination

-Equal time

Ames, IA -- Iowa State University has become the third college in the state to adopt a non-discrimination policy that protects gays and lesbians.

The expanded policy, first recommended in 1986 by the University Committee on Women, was approved during the summer by President Gordon Eaton.

"It is my hope that the revision in this policy will reflect the university's continued commitment to equal employment opportunity for employees and will heighten the university community's awareness of the affirmative action necessity to hire individuals based on their abilities and

contributions to the educational environment," Eaton said.

The policy change adds affectional preference to the list of protected classes, which also includes age, color, known handicaps, national origin, religion, sex, veteran status and marital status.

In the past two years, the recommended policy change had been endorsed by such groups as the University Human Relations Committee, the Faculty Council, Professional and Scientific Council and the Supervisory / Confidential Council.

The University of Iowa and Grinnell College have similar non-discrimination policies.

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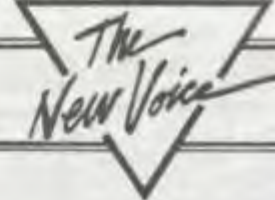
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## Lavender Law

The nation's largest gathering of legal professionals interested in lesbian and gay legal issues is expected to take place in an historic conference this fall in San Francisco. Lavender Law: The National Conference on Lesbian and Gay Legal Issues will convene Saturday and Sunday, November 12 and 13, 1988 at Golden Gate Law School in San Francisco. A separate legal conference on AIDS will take place on Friday, November 11, at the San Francisco War Memorial Building.

The conference is being organized by attorneys and lesbian and gay bar associations across the country, as well as by national legal organizations. Distinguished attorneys will lead seminars and workshops on a broad variety of substantive issues, including family law, estate planning, employment discrimination, sodomy law reform, civil disobedience, military and immigration policy and, of course, AIDS. In addition, issues such as networking, use of media in lesbian & gay issues, and

strategies for working in a solo practice/small firm/large firm setting will also be addressed.

Registration fee for the weekend session will be charged on a sliding scale based on income and will range from \$30 - \$90 (higher at the door). The Friday conference on AIDS, sponsored by the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom (BALIF) AIDS Legal Referral Panel will cost an additional \$50 (\$60 at the door). To register or to receive a schedule of programs for both conferences, contact BALIF at P.O. Box 1983, San Francisco, CA 94101, (415)431-1444.

Although the primary focus of the conference will be on legal practice, judges, law students and other legal professionals are urged to attend. All lesbian and gay legal groups, as well as others supporting lesbian and gay rights, are invited to co-sponsor and participate in the conference.



## New Lesbian Magazine

-Seattle Gay News

The New Moon is a new semi-slick national publication for Lesbians. Published quarterly, The New Moon is designed to serve Lesbians of all colors, creeds, and income. The New Moon will examine the Lesbian community as a positive group with unique interests and issues. The New Moon will include in-depth features, profiles of famous, the infamous, and not-so-famous womyn, plus articles on travel, arts/entertainment, politics, news, short stories, poetry, sports, and classifieds. A one-year subscription is \$15 and can be sent to The New Moon, 2 Kings Terrace, Ames, IA 50010.

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"Bible Rap": Sunday, 6 PM

"Coming Out" Support Group

1st Wednesday, 7 PM

Praise & Prayer:

2nd & 4th Wednesday, 7 PM

## Gay Democrats Endorse Dukakis

Gay and Lesbian Democrats of America have endorsed the candidacy of Governor Michael Dukakis for President of the United States. Meeting in Atlanta, the Board of Directors of the Gay Democrats unanimously passed a resolution that stated in part, "We endorse the next President of the United States, Michael Dukakis. We reject four more years of neglect. We look to Michael Dukakis for strong leadership."

The resolution cited Governor Dukakis' 17-year history of supporting lesbian and gay civil rights legislation and his pledge to lead the battle against AIDS as critical issues in the endorsement. GLDA Executive Director Christine R. Riddiough said, "Too many lives have already been lost to AIDS because of the Reagan-Bush administration's inaction. We must mobilize our community to ensure that we do face four more years of Bush neglect."

Plans are underway for active voter registration and get-out-the-vote efforts within the gay and lesbian community this fall.

Remember when...

Sports stories talked more about the athlete's accomplishments than his salary? -Bob Talbert.

## You Are Wanted!

The New Voice of Nebraska needs you. The current staff makes up but a small group of our community. You, our readership, are diverse, coming from varied backgrounds and having a wide range of interest. We want to hear from you. Write poetry, short stories, articles of being gay/lesbian, coming out or community events.

Please submit your articles limited to two pages double spaced typed or four pages double spaced printed or written. All articles must be received by the 15th of each month. If we have more material in any one month, we will hold for future issue consideration. Mail to:

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

The New Voice is your magazine - become a part of it.



**CENTER STAGE PRESENTS**

A benefit for the National Council on Alcoholism

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### WHO'S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?

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# Powerful New Voting Bloc Emerging

A POWERFUL NEW VOTING BLOC IS EMERGING ON THE AMERICAN POLITICAL SCENE!  
YOU MAY BE PART OF IT!

Gay and lesbian voters - long relegated to "behind the scene" roles - are stepping forward to become a more VISIBLE part of the American political process.

The NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN FOR THE GAY AND LESBIAN VOTE has played an ever-increasing role in this development.

## Growth

During the 1984 presidential election year, the NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN began as a project under the joint sponsorship of 2 New York City-based groups. Now - just 4 years later - it has emerged as a separate, nonpartisan, not-for-profit corporation with 24 sponsoring organizations in 14 states and D.C. Hundreds of other organizations, individuals and businesses have participated and become part of its nationwide network.

## Get Out the Vote

Every year, through its Get-Out-The-Vote effort, the NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN produces vote promotional materials and distributes them to all parts of the country.

Bearing one national logo - endorsed by a unity of national, regional and local organizations - these materials are accomplishing 2 important goals.

- Within our own community, they raise awareness of our collective voting strength.

- To the outside world, they present the image of a united, organized gay and lesbian voting bloc.

Through this project, the NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN has come in contact with hundreds of individuals, organizations, newspapers and businesses - all sharing an interest in the promotion of our vote. Organizations have included not only the political - but professional, religious and social as well.

## Voter Research

With such a network to build upon, the NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN now launches an exciting new program of Voter Research.

While a national gay and lesbian voting bloc has been the subject of some speculation, there has been little effort to gather specific information on its composition and character. Such information is needed to substantiate our lobbying activities and to guide the overall organization of our community as an effective political entity.

With 'SURVEY 88' - a first ever nationwide survey of gay and lesbian voters - the NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN - has begun an ongoing effort to accumulate data on the gay and lesbian vote.

## A Place for All

The NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN believes that if our vote is ever to get the recognition it deserves, it is our own community that must promote it. We can not expect the 'New York Times' or 'CBS NEWS' to do it for us.

The NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN is designed to involve our own community in promoting our own vote.

Individuals - organizations - newspapers - businesses - there is a place for all in this coordinated effort!

Won't you take a moment to look over our literature and see what you can do to help.

## A New Spirit

In case you haven't noticed - a new spirit of shared concern and responsibility marks the gay and lesbian community of today.

Voting is a most fundamental concern - a responsibility shared by all.

Help the campaign that is helping you vote!

Together, through the strength of our collective vote, we will build a more just and tolerant society - a society where individual difference is celebrated and the right to privacy is cherished.

In solidarity - love - pride  
Eddie Marriott  
Executive director  
NATIONAL VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN  
FOR THE GAY AND LESBIAN VOTE  
info:(212)737-2319 or  
VISIBILITY CAMPAIGN c/o Eddie Marriott  
330 East 83rd Street #27  
New York, NY 10028



JEWISH GROUP ADDS GAYS

-The Washington Blade

WASHINGTON- The Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith - a longtime leader in the push to combat crimes motivated by hate of minority groups - revised its model hate crime statute this month to include crimes against Gays.

The sexual orientation provision was added to the model statute by the Jewish group in response to a formal request by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in January. The model statute call for increased criminal penalties for acts of intimidation and harassment "in situations where persons are victimized on account of their actual or perceived race, religion, sexual orientation, or ancestry." The statute also calls for training police officers in "identifying, responding to and reporting all criminal offenses motivated by race, color, national origin, or sexual orientation."

Only 4 states - California, Connecticut, Minnesota, and Wisconsin - have passed laws that either increase penalties for anti-Gay violence or require the collection of data on such crimes.

"Given the key role that the Anti-Defamation League has played in promoting hate crimes laws throughout the United States," said Kevin Berrill, director of NGLIF's Anti-Violence Project, "the inclusion of 'sexual orientation' in its model legislation should help to get our concerns heard when state bills are being drafted."

## Around the Milkrun

With Belinda Loveless

Miss Flowers denies that either she or Miss Richard shopped at the House of Large Sizes for their gowns for the Foolish Follies show at the Max on Labor Day Night. She claims that they made their selections at the better charity shoppes, such as Good Will on the west side. The prices there are better but sometimes the selection is not as good because the dowagers in the neighborhood hang on to their duds longer. The compensating thing is that the fitting rooms are more attractive. And if you have to guard the door while Miss Richard tries everything on, things are easier handled there.

The big remodeling project is over at the Diamond Bar. They bought a new vacuum cleaner.

Speaking of remodeling, the Chesterfield has been contemplating adding a ladies entrance on the side facing the parking lot. However, the whole thing has been put on hold as no one can figure out who'd use it.



## Why Can't Sharon Come Home?

Karen Thompson was the keynote speaker at the 1988 Mini-Con sponsored by the Sioux Empire Gay and Lesbian Coalition on September 10 and 11 in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

Karen spoke eloquently of her journey from a totally closeted woman who happened to be in love and in a committed relationship with another woman to her present role as a Lesbian Activist. She described how she and Sharon Kowalski lived together for four years after exchanging rings, buying a house, and concealing their relationship from their families.

Karen told of the auto accident that left her lover brain damaged and of the months of intense work she devoted to helping Sharon return to a more normal life. Then she told of the anger and alienation between herself and Sharon's father who could not accept the fact that his daughter was a lesbian. Mr. Kowalski still claims that Karen is lying, that his daughter could never love another woman.

The Minnesota court system has appointed Sharon's father as her legal guardian and he has moved her hundreds of miles away from her former home in St. Cloud, placed her in a nursing home, and has forbidden her lover to even visit her.

Karen Thompson showed us video tapes of Sharon Kowalski after the accident, as she was slowly and painfully learning to function with her new limitations. She also shared with us graphic descriptions of how Sharon has deteriorated and regressed since entering that nursing home and being separated from those that truly love her. Karen Thompson still continues her battle to bring Sharon Kowalski home and will continue to do so. Sharon's story is told in a new book, "Why can't Sharon Come Home," and will be featured on a CBS special this fall. Plans are being made for the story to be told in a movie with Miss Thompson being story consultant. This case will serve as a landmark for cases not only of gay/lesbian rights but also for the rights of all physically challenged persons.

Sadly, though, Karen Thompson may never know personal victory in this case. As she said, "I don't know if we can still have a

relationship. She's changed and I've changed so much in the three years since I could last see her. I don't know if we'll be able to fall in love all over again. I don't know if she'll love me as an activist but I know I can't go back."

Karen left us with one clear and shining message. If you are a gay or lesbian couple, take steps to protect your rights. Take out durable powers of attorney, draw up wills, make sure you are protected, but most of all, as Karen Thompson stated, "COME OUT OF THE CLOSET. This would never have happened to Sharon and I if we had been out. We will be made victims of the system as long as we let them do so. Coming Out is the only way for us to be recognized and gain our rights."

## BWMT Onions

-The Washington Blade

BOSTON - About 60 attendees of the eighth Annual Black and White Men Together Convention last month presented the bellmen at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel with onions to express their displeasure with the bellmen's "homophobic and insensitive actions" during the week-long event.

Former BWMT Co-Chair Dean J. Credle said after members presented orchids to other staffers who had been particularly helpful during the convention, they decided to give the onions to the bellmen.

"They had been very blatantly whispering and pointing as members of the organization walked through the lobby," Credle said. "It was obvious that they had seldom seen people in a racially mixed group, especially a Gay group, showing affection for each other. They reacted very rudely."

Credle said during the convention new national officers were elected. San Francisco's John Teamer and Memphis' Michael Warner replaced Credle and Tom Horan as the organization's co-chairs. Portland's Tim Wilson replaced Robert Addison as treasurer, and Tallahassee, Florida's Ollie Lee Taylor was once again named secretary.

## Condom Sense

-Twin Cities Gaze

An estimated 1.5 million Americans are now infected with the AIDS virus; 90% of these people do not know they are infected. Most were infected through sexual contact or IV drug use. To reduce your chances of getting AIDS through sexual contact you have 3 choices:

- You can choose not to have sex
- You can choose to have sex with only one person in a permanent relationship
- You can use condoms to reduce your risk when you have sex.

Condoms can provide very good protection against the AIDS virus when used properly.

When used properly every time you have intercourse:

- Condoms provide a strong barrier that prevent the exchange of body fluids such as semen and blood.

- Condoms can prevent the spread of disease - The AIDS virus and other organisms cannot pass through a condom

- Condoms have a very low breakage rate when used correctly

- Condoms can be an effective means of protection in preventing unwanted pregnancies

Receptive partners should carry condoms and know how to use them. Condoms can help prevent the spread of AIDS in both directions.

## More Than One?

-Equal Time

Are you a lesbian or gay man who has a gay or lesbian sibling?

Are you a member of that proud elite called the "Double Queer" family? If so, I'd like to talk to you!

I'm looking for gay men and lesbians who come from that kind of family configuration for an article in your favorite community newspaper. Contact me even if you don't want to be interviewed for the record. Triple Queer families also welcome. Hope to be hearing from you soon! Send your name, phone number, and a brief description of why you qualify for this story to Cynthia Scott, c/o Equal Time, Box 604, 711 W. Lake St., Suite 505, MPLS, MN 55408.

## Classifieds

HOUSE FOR YOU OR HOUSE FOR TWO  
Terrific buy - South Florence  
Area- 2bdrm, 2 full bath,  
knotty pine rec rm, new carpet,  
hardwood floors, updated  
kitchen, built-in garage w/  
opener, patio and terraced back  
yard. Call for details: Bob  
Bonacci, Home Real Estate, 397-  
3399 or 334-5500.

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lesbian couple in 7yr  
relationship late 20's. like  
movies, picnics, travel,  
horseback riding, computers,  
and card games, interested in  
meeting other gay/lesbian  
monogamous couples our age or  
older who enjoy socializing in  
same activities and/or raising  
children through adoption or  
A.I. Outside Lincoln area okay.  
Not into bar scene. Call 466-  
6872. Leave message.

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West 10th, NYC 10011.

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needs honest, sincere, loving  
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a secure and prosperous future.  
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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.

Anyone interested in making a  
\$100.00 contribution in  
exchange for the 12 place  
setting of German china plus  
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willing to volunteer several  
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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 Jerry, or leave  
a message.

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 the publication  
date of The New Voice is the  
10th of the month and listings  
for the calendar must be  
received by the 15th of the  
month preceding publication.  
You'll need to plan well in  
advance for events taking place  
in the first 10 days of the  
following month. The New Voice  
reserves the right to edit  
material submitted for length  
and appropriateness.

## Once a Year

Tall legends tell  
'This was Indians land  
These humps of hills  
Heaving from the layered flint  
Their scenery.

There are no houses here  
No one to sit outside.

Only windows in the wind  
Gazing easily  
At airborne things  
Sailing grace into the sky  
Bright and unafraid  
As unnamed bluish purple  
Spires entering alongside  
Goldenrod at roadside.  
I try to come  
When autumn cradles  
The happiness of hills  
Running barefoot west  
Through dew-wet grass  
Then breaking suddenly  
Like children from your hands

The way it is  
When thin September sun  
looks at them.  
-Rose Mary Mong, Kansas

# 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.

**Imperial 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

**Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous**  
Call (402) 466-5214  
AA Central Office for location.

**Gay Lesbian Information & Support Line (GLIS)**  
Box 94882, Lincoln, NE 68509  
(402) 472-4697 eves. Referral, support phone line staffed by peer counselors.

**Lambda Resource Center**  
(402) 474-1205  
2845 "R" Street, Lincoln, NE 68503

**Lesbian Support Group**  
(402) 472-2597  
Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, University of Nebraska Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588. 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 4375, Lincoln, NE 68501  
Support group, parents, friends, relatives of Lesbians/Gays. Meets 4th Tues.

**The Common Women**  
(402) 464-6309 1065 N. 33rd (33 & Apple), Lincoln, NE 68503  
Bookstore/Coffeehouse (Women's social Fr, 7pm-mid.)

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

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

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

## OMAHA

**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

**GL Adult Children of Alcoholics**  
Monday 7-9pm  
(402) 346-0561  
MCC-O 420 S. 24 St.

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

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

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

**Omaha Meatpackers**  
2116 N. 16th St. #8, Omaha, NE 68110  
(402) 341-4233 Scott Cruise, Sec.

**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**  
(402) 558-1186 (Wes)  
For men: Box 31351, Omaha, NE 68131  
For women: Box 34463, Omaha, NE 68134. Lesbian and gay student social/support group.

## AIDS AIDS AIDS

### INFORMATION & REFERRAL:

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

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

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

**Lambda Resource Center**  
2845 "R" St., 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) 476-8091  
Omaha Telephone # (402) 346-5025

**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., 342-1244  
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  
Cherchez la femme, 200 So. 18th, 474-9162  
The Club, 116 No. 20th St., 474-5692  
Panic, 200 So. 18th St., 435-8764

## Grand Island Bars, Clubs & Lounges

Chancy's Pub, 4th & Walnut, (308) 381-0951



## *Trick Or Treat*

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AT • THE • MAX

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**October 16**  
Black Leather Party

**October 30**  
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**October 31**  
Halloween Party

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# THE MAX

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SOON TO BE PUBLISHED, THE DEFINITIVE BOOK:

# Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?

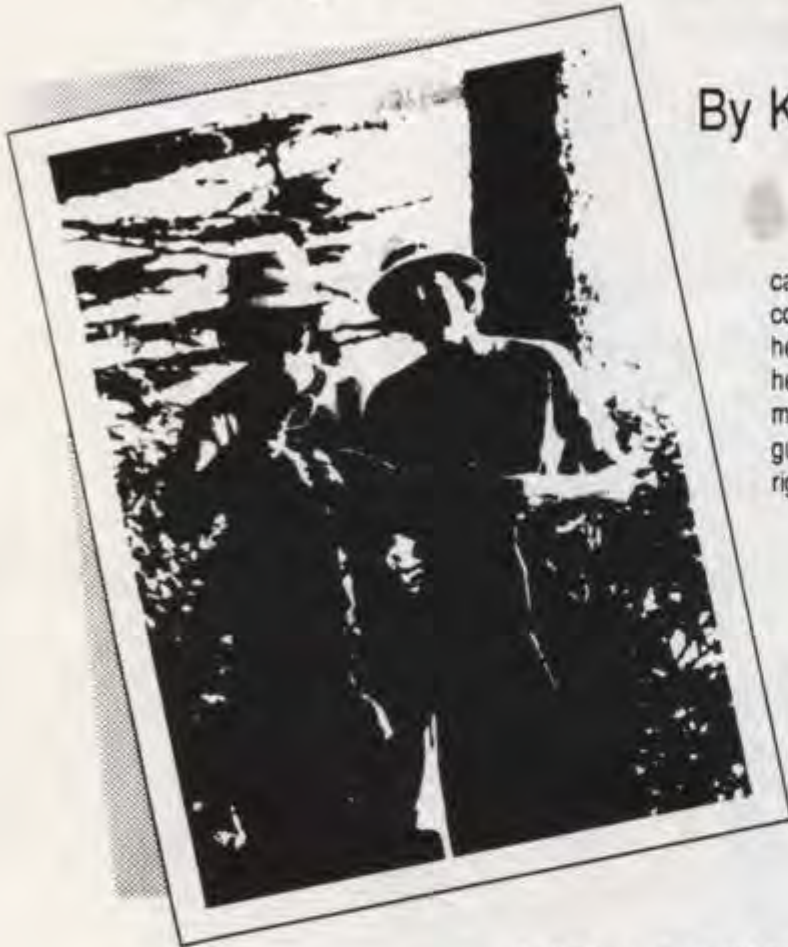
By Karen Thompson  
and Julie Andrzejewski

In 1983, Sharon Kowalski was seriously injured when her car was hit by a drunk driver, leaving her unable to move or communicate in traditional ways. For the next two years, Karen, her lover of four years, was by Sharon's side constantly, helping her in the arduous fight to regain basic life-skills. In 1985, after many costly legal battles, the court awarded Sharon's father sole guardianship, and within 24 hours, he denied Karen visitation rights.

*Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?* takes us through the unbelievable court room scenes of the past four years as Karen struggles to be recognized as Sharon's life partner and thus help ensure Sharon's recovery to her fullest capacity. *Why Can't Sharon Kowalski Come Home?* chronicles Karen's transformation to a human rights activist as she experiences the extreme prejudices against the disabled, against women, and especially against lesbians. Karen urges that other lesbian, gay and unmarried couples protect themselves by coming out to relatives and by signing Durable Power of Attorney forms (These important forms and instructions are included in the book).

*I wish to express my support for Karen Thompson...Ms. Thompson has been infinitely patient but there comes an end to patience with a system that is unfair and unjust...It's my fervent hope that very soon now Sharon Kowalski will come home again.*

—Reverend Jesse L. Jackson



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