

## **Our Turn**

Views and opinions by The New Voice staff.

## The Cover — "Mr. Noel"

The cover was designed by Sam Orwen, an Omaha artist. The work entitled "Mr. Noel" was recently created for *The New Voice* especially for the holiday season. The original drawing is a 22" x 32" prismacolor on grey paper.

Sam graduated from Kearney State College in 1982 with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree, specializing in watercolor. He has worked as a layout and paste-up artist, make-up artists, film stripper, and interior designer. He is currently working as a visual merchandiser. though I work with abstract concepts, it has leaned more toward realism. I draw mainly from life and my work is indicative of personal feelings for my art" relates Mr. Orwen. His recent 'male erotica' series will be completed soon and will be available for purchase. Sam also specializes in portraits, watercolors, logos, makeup, and commissions. He can be contacted by calling 455-3038.

#### Introducing Omaha's New Associate Editor

Larry Wiseblood has been asking for help from Omaha for many months, so I made the decision to get on the band wagon and join The New Voice staff as the Associate Editor for Omaha. The decision was rather difficult since I am involved with the River City Mixed Chorus, not only as a singer, but the librarian as well.

Am I getting in too deep? How long will it be before I suffer burnout? Will I have to travel to Lincoln 12 times a month, go to the bars every night, and attend every gathering of every organization? These were some of the questions burning in my mind before I decided to write Larry and throw my hat into the ring. After some long

conversations with him and a trip to Lincoln to help put an issue together, I was convinced that The New Voice has a very dedicated, professional staff that really cares about how the community looks upon their work, as well as really caring about the community itself. Although there was pressure to get that issue out on time, I couldn't feel it in the room. Everyone was busily working on their projects. chatting, deciding what was to go where, but the atmosphere was relaxed and organized. That impressed me.

My lover, who backs me in the endeavor, had to sit and listen to my vacillating comments for weeks on end. Now that I have made the decision, Omaha will have representation in *The New Voice*, and I will be looking for a few good men and wimmin to join the Omaha staff to help make this magazine one of the best in the country.

-- Garry Griffith

MAY THE JOY AND PEACE OF CHRISTMAS BE WITH YOU TODAY AND ALWAYS.

#### Mystical Christmas

If God were to want to come down to earth this year, He might do it differently. The birth of the Christ Child might be written into the script of "Dynasty" so that the mother could be a famous actress, and the father would either be the president of the United States or some other well-known figure.

Nearly 2000 years ago, God did come to earth in a somewhat mysterious manner. Being born to an unknown maiden who was engaged to a carpenter, in a dirty stable, visited by foreigners and keepers of sheep, really is not a spectacular entry into this world. God has never revealed why He came in this fashion, but for those of us who believe, we do so on faith. The Christian world is full of mystery, and we who believe are mystics.

It is the acceptance of this mystical and miraculous birth that enables us to believe in a "new birth" when we become a part of Christendom, in the power of "The Holy Spirit"

continued on page 2

## December 1986

THE NEW VOICE STAFF

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Subscriptions: 1 year—\$12.00 Classified Ads: \$2.00 for 20 words or less. 15° for each additional word: Display rates given upon request.

The New Voice of Nebraska

P.O. Box 80819 P.O. Box 3512 Lincoln, NE 68501 Omana, NE 68183 to guide our steps, in the bonding of two people into a state of oneness through a religious service, and in "I ife-After-Death."

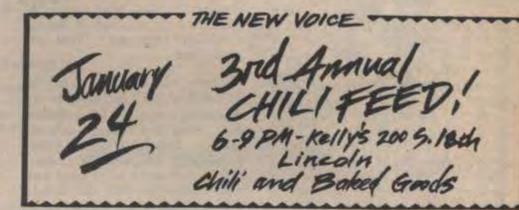
If we can believe the mystical power of God through our religious knowledge, should we have trouble accepting the mystic magic that makes the Christmas season a time of joy and happiness for so many, even in the absence of reason? When someone, perhaps even a stranger, smiles and extends Seasons Greetings at this time, don't question their motives - accept their greetings, and pass them on. I extend to your and yours wishes for a Mystical Christmas, and a Gay New Year.

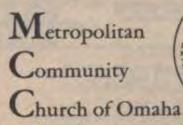
-- Jerry Peck













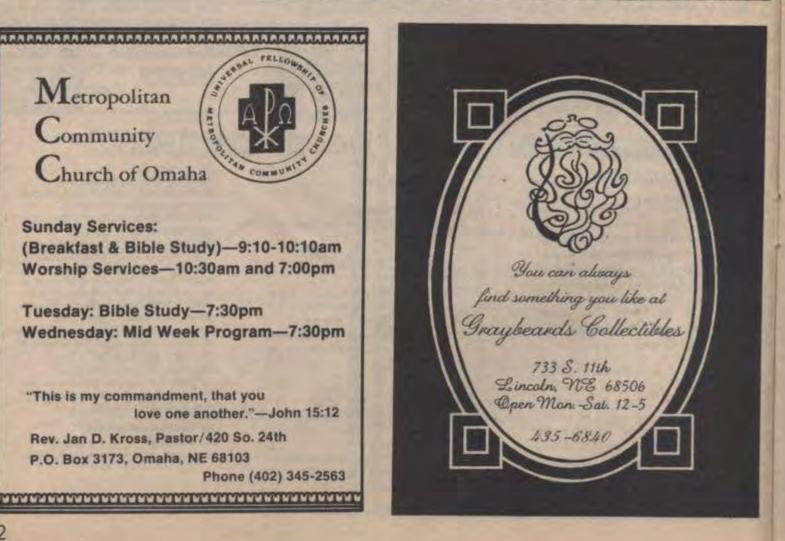
**Sunday Services:** (Breakfast & Bible Study)-9:10-10:10am Worship Services—10:30am and 7:00pm

Tuesday: Bible Study-7:30pm Wednesday: Mid Week Program-7:30pm

"This is my commandment, that you love one another."-John 15:12

Rev. Jan D. Kross, Pastor/420 So. 24th P.O. Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103

Phone (402) 345-2563



## **Local Events**

## River City Chorus Heralds Christmas

The River City Mixed Chorus presents its Holiday concert, Don We Now, at the UNO Performing Arts Center - Strauss Recital Hall on the UNO campus, Sunday, December 21, at 3:07 p.m. That's right -- 3:07 p.m.!

This concert opens the third season of the Chorus and features a variety of traditional, popular, and sacred holiday songs. The program will include the Center's magnificent new organ and will conclude with a traditional sing-along.

Tickets are \$5.00 in advance, \$6.00 at the door, and \$3.00 for students and seniors. Advance tickets are available from any Chorus member, Brandeis Ticket Outlets, and TIX.

Weekend parking is plentiful and free, adjacent to the Performing Arts Center on the UNO campus.

## Auditions Held for "Torch Song Trilogy"

Auditions for The Community Theatre production of Torch Song Trilogy will be held at 7:30 p.m. on January 12th and 13th at the UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center, located in room 342 of the Nebraska Union.

There are parts for two drag queens, one closet case, two young men, and two wimmin (one younger and one older).

The case decisions will be posted outside the Center at 9:00 p.m. on the night of the 13th. Break a leg!

-Timothy J. Mulford Director



## New League to Form at Ames Bowling Center

Chuck Taylor of the Ames Bowling Center has contacted *The New Voice* regarding the formation of a bowling league for the gay/lesbian community. *The New Voice*, in cooperation with Ames Bowling, is attempting to provide an additional recreational opportunity for the gay/lesbian community and their friends.

For some time, gays, lesbian, and friends have met to bowl on Sunday afternoons. The New Voice wishes this group continued growth and fun. What we are hoping to offer is an additional opportunity for gays, lesbians, and friends to get together for recreation. One could say that the community that plays together stays together.

Ames Bowling Center (56th and Ames) and The New Voice are hosting an organizational gettogether Wednesday, January 14, at 9:15 pm. Details of the league will be determined at that meeting as we enjoy a free cocktail, snacks, and three lines of bowling. (See ad in this issue.) Some of our thoughts on the formation of this league are as follows: (1) not everyone is fully recovered by 4 p.m. on Sunday to bowl, or do not wish to curtail their weekends by a commitment to each Sunday; (2) this is an opportunity to join a second bowling league for those currently bowling on Sunday; (3) Wednesday nights are slow nights at the bars (and we are not attempting to interfere with bar patronage); (4) establishment of small teams, bowling three games beginning at 9:15 p.m. concludes early enough for those who want either to go to the bar for a couple of hours or get to bed early. Ames Bowling Center has a full-service snack bar, and Chuck is willing to set aside a small, intimate bar setting for the use of gays, lesbians, and friends during the league. The bowling center does have parking lot security. The bowling center is

located just east of Benson Park, in a safe neighborhood. We are looking for a short-term league concluding in time to fully enjoy the Midwestern summer. If you are an amateur, semi-skilled, or dang good, come out and join the fun. We are looking at starting the games on January 24th. Give yourself a treat — take off from "Dynasty" and head for Ames Bowling Center to dish the dirt on who's doing who where (on "Dynasty," of course).

--Jerry Peck

## Monte Carlo Night Proves Successful



Pastor Jan Kross Deals out Cards During Monte Carlo Night

Hundreds of colorful balloons touching the ceiling, raffles, games, prizes, food, entertainment, and more were all part of the first annual Monte Carlo Night, sponsored by the River City Mixed Chorus. The event held at the Carter Lake Warehouse on November 23 also benefitted 10 other organizations who helped work tables and supported the event.

The event was a financial success. Money made at the gaming floor was donated amongst the participating organizations. \$54 was donated to Dignity, Metropolitan Community Church, Imperial Court, Nebraska AIDS Project, Metropolitan Club, The Omaha Womyn's Group, The New Voice, and PACT (People of All Colors Together). 166 people attended the event.

-Larry Wiseblood

## Vic Basile Speaks to Metropolitan Club



Don Flowers, Vic Basile, and leff Schiller

The November meeting of the Metropolitan Club of Omaha presented a distinguished visitor as its speaker: Mr. Vic Basile, the Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign Fund of Washington, DC. Basile spoke of the purpose and achievements of the Campaign Fund since its founding in 1980. Below are some excerpts from his speech and the material which was handed out.

Basile began by thanking Omaha for having its own organization. He said that from a business and professional club, such as the Metropolitan Club, a political force can emerge.

The Campaign Fund is a political outgrowth of the Watergate era. Millions of dollars went into coffers without anyone knowing their whereabouts. This is where Political Action Committees began. Then the gays began thinking that their communities across the country were big enough to begin their own PAC. In 1982, the Campaign Fund raised \$609,000 and put this into congressional campaigns, and 80% of the congressmen supported by these gay monies were elected.

Dedicated to supporting candidates and/or incumbents of both parties in primary and general elections who are committed to gay and lesbian civil rights, the Campaign Fund's PAC has supported more than 250 candidates since its inception. Since 1980, it has become one of the 20 largest independent PACs in the country, and it is the only organization representing the interests of the national gay and lesbian community.

Last year, AIDS funding was raised; \$234 million was appropriated for drugs and research -- a \$120 million increase. However, just before legislation, something happened. AZT became a new controversial drug for the treatment of AIDS victims, and scientists and the legislature were opposed to getting the drug to physicians. The lobby campaign started to get the money appropriated, however.

Basile said the voters believe in fairness and equal rights and that we have to look at this as gay people. Gays don't surface as a problem -- as abortion does -- in the eyes of the public. He said the Campaign Fund's job is to lower the risk for the congressmen to vote in our favor. "We tell them we're going to give you money and get the vote out." In the past, reward has been given for doing the wrong thing. In opposition to gay rights, you could count on the support of the Moral Majority.

The mainstream is our movement - out of the streets and into the halls of Congress, and getting us organized and moving out across the country. We've found the formula for success, said Basile. Think about no more dying from AIDS. Think about not having to hide our lives -- these are attainable, achievable things.

Basile added that his job is to find people to get involved. We all need to vote, and on this issue. This is the litmus issue for us. Money is what makes things run. \$1.5 million will be raised for this year's drive, and he wants the issue of gay rights to come up in Congress this year, and he wants this issue and other related issues to come up on television.

When asked whether Basile had made contact with the representatives of Nebraska, he replied that the Congressional delegation was not out-front on this issue, but they were not unchangeable. They simply have no reason to be supportive. Then Don Flowers gave plausible comments on the Congressmen's stances on gay rights. 'Daub doesn't believe in special interest groups, Zorinsky doesn't be-

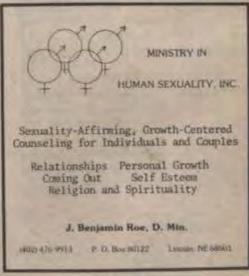
lieve in human rights, Exon has gall bladder attacks, Smith has no stand -- there's no one gay in her district, and Harkin can be swayed."

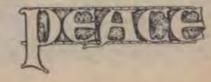
An organized community in Nebraska can be effective and make an enormous difference. The court system here is extremely supportive, and the potential here is very big, Basile said, adding that the major way of reaching the gay community is through the straight press. "Gays don't seem to read the gay press."

Basile ended his speech by stating that cash contributions will keep the Campaign Fund a vital component of the political process which will decide if our rights are won or lost. It will have a direct impact on our own personal freedom.

-- Garry Griffith







## Absolutely "The Max"

#### Leisa Durante Show

The wonderful talents of Miss Leisa Durante, an Omaha resident once again, adorned the stage at The Max on October 19 in the production of "It Must Be Magic." It was a good mixture of some familiar faces and some new entertainers. The case included our own 'Miss Max, Veronica O'Rourke, Miss Vanessa Anderson as Bette Midler, Miss Audra Sommers from Des Moines, Miss Anne Marlow, Miss Amanda Fox from Lincoln, the newly-crowned newly-crowned 'Miss Gay Nebraska USA' - Miss Dictra Snow, and our own Miss Flowers. The combination of these very talented entertainers was a credit to Ms. Durante and The Max.

-- Vince/Velvet Percy

#### Toys for Tots

The Imperial Court of Nebraska sponsored the annual Toys for Tots' Show on October 30, which is a function to raise money and usable toys for the people who wouldn't have such items for the holidays. The show was a smashing success as the performers took the stage and pooled their efforts to help the fund raising effort. Keep an eye out for the upcoming Imperial Court functions.

-- Vince/Velvet Percy

#### A Halloween Party



Halloween Fun

Have you ever seen in excess of 700 gay and lesbian people on parade indoors? Halloween at The Max in

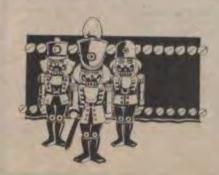
Omaha brought out this number. They were not all on the dance floor at the same time, but it sure seemed like it.

As you entered The Max, you saw cobwebs covering the once-lighted trees and an oversized jack-o'-lantern kept a watchful eye on the disco. The costumes this year showed a lot of imagination.

I had to work that night but did manage to spend 45 minutes at The Max taking pictures. I saw a man with a cat-o'-nine-tails who can whip me any time! A leatherstudded g-string bounced atop a speaker, and Roman soldiers abounded. I especially remember one 'gentleman' wearing a regular waist shirt but with blood oozing from different parts of his face. A lovely sight after a nice dinner! Needless to say, so many "girls" came out of the closet on Halloween that I'm sure the L'eggs company made a fortune. It seems that every year I see more costumes created out of less fabric -- and I love it. There were also some very lavish costumes. I noticed something else at this year's gala event. More people were talking to one another! Compliments, laughter, and good natured fun were heard everywhere. The people at The Max know how to PARTY!

It is a whole year 'til Halloween again! Bruce and I talked about ignoring the calendar and doing costumes more often. How do you feel about it? The Max present Halloween II, Halloween III, and Halloween IV! Would New Year's Eve be a good time to do Halloween II? Let Bruce know what you want.

--Jerry Peck Vince/Velvet Percy



#### Elite Review



Elite Review Strip for Audience

Legs, biceps, and more adorned the stage on November 2nd as four men from Elite Review took charge of the dance floor and turned a calm, quiet crowd into a "partyhearty group of wild men! If you were there, I'm sure you'll remember Sting, Midnight Delight, Mr. Lustful, and Mr. Innocence (how could anyone forget?). As these men took off (piece by piece, of course) their costumes and threw them into the audience, hoots and howls filled the disco. All I can say is be sure to watch for this show at The Max again, very soon. I assure

-- Vince/Velvet Percy

#### Stella Dallas' "Wheel of Fortune"

"\$5000, \$5800, come on...." This is what you heard if you walked into The Max on November 9th for "Wheel of Fortune" by Stella Stella's unique comedy started the show with Pat Say Jack (Connie), Vanna White (Mysti) and even three contestants. As the pressure mounted, and letter by letter was filled in, the puzzle was reading STELLA DALLAS. As the hostess took the stage and did the number Spoonful of Sugar," this classic song suddenly took on a whole new meaning! This show brought to us some upcoming entertainers in Omaha that I will be looking forward to seeing again.

-- Vince/Velvet Percy

#### Food For Thought

A fund-raising event can only be successful when several people share their love and kindness for others. This was especially true on November 23 when Food for Thought raised food and money for the needy during the holiday season. The annual event, sponsored by the Imperial Court, had the support of many caring individuals. The River City Mixed Chorus performed as well as several local impersonators. Food collected will be distributed by the Metropolitan Community Church.

-Larry Wiseblood



River City Mixed Chorus

### Dolly's Thanksgiving Show



Dolly Performs in Thanksgiving Show

An enthusiastic crowd greeted Dolly (Rex, Empress I and II of ICON) and Don Flowers of the Omaha Meat Packers on Thanksgiving night at The Max.

Dolly brought a friend Kenny from Kansas City and shared the stage with a limited number of local talent. Don Flowers gave new meaning to dreaming the impossible dream as he held a five-foot phallic non-symbol. Gary West (Emperor I and II and ...) imitated Dolly in shaggy drag. Don Flowers was vulgar, outrageous, and disgusting as an emcee (and we wouldn't have him any other way).

Dolly's performance was indeed the reason that he is so very popular even as the years go by. Gads! 1 wish I looked that good (as man or woman) at any age.

The proceeds of the evening were shared with the Persons With AIDS Fund, netting \$300 for the fund. Nebraska gays and lesbians and Dolly do care!

-- Jerry Peck

#### Miss Max Pageant Coming

Along these same lines, applications for the 3rd Annual 'Miss Max' pageant are available at The Max. Just ask for Vince/Velvet.

-- Vince/Velvet Percy

#### Growing Pains

Did you know The Max is having growing pains? Plans are underway to add 4000 square feet. The ad-joining business location will become a game room and show bar with a western bar underneath. At The Max, the bar scene is fast becoming much more than cruising and boozing. Thanks, Max!

-- Jerry Peck

## Important Notice

It is the policy of The New Voice to accept only articles and letters that give the complete identity of the writer. The New Voice can use a pseudonym or first name at the request of the writer. However, full names will be verified by the magazine before articles or letters are published.



## **Facing Facts**

We hope for cures, remission and prevention of AIDS. Until these hopes are realized, we must deal head-on with the problem that is haunting us daily.

At present, knowledge is our best defensive weapon, and the helping hand of a concerned community is the best assistance.

For more information about AIDS

• Its Transmission

Supportive Resources Available in Nebraska

Call the Nebraska AIDS Project

Toll-Free Statewide

(outside Omaha): 1-800-782-AIDS

In Omaha: 342-4233

## Dignity President Visits Omaha



lames Bussen, National President of Dignity

James Bussen, national president of Dignity visited Omaha on November 9 and met local Dignity members at the Mandina mansion. A Catholic service was held before Bussen's main talk. Food and punch was also served during the event.

Bussen proved to be an outspoken and energetic speaker. His talk centered on a recent letter by the Vatican in which the Pope condemned all forms of homosexuality as "disordered," blamed AIDS on homosexuality and careless gay people, urged churches around the world to withdraw all support from pro-gay organizations, and opposed civil rights guarantees for gays. Bussen felt very strongly that gay Catholics must oppose the Pope's letter and assert itself to local churches, Priests and Bishops. He suggested that members write letters and let their feelings be known, nationally and locally. Bussen also felt that more Dignity members needed to come out of the closet and be more open about themselves and their organization.

Bussen stated that many Dignity members were upset about the Vatican letter and said some members were ready to leave the Catholic church. But Bussen felt it would be better to stay in the church, but not just to sit by idly.

-- Larry Wiseblood

## T.W.O. Sponsors Holiday Activities

Two Wheelers of Omaha (T.W.O.) is sponsoring two holiday events. On Saturday, December 20, a Black and Blue Christmas Party will be held after hours, at a location that will be announced. Sponsors ask that interested persons meet at the Diamond Bar before closing.

On Wednesday, December 31, T.W.O. will hold its third annual New Year's Eve "Pig-Out" Buffet. In addition, T.W.O. is sponsoring a fundraising auction (see Letters section) with proceeds going to AIDS charities. For more information, call 341-9358.

We'd like to join Nancy and Ron
in wishing you a very
Merry Christmas

from the staff
and management of
Kelly's and Cherchez la femme

(have a happy and safe hollday!)

OPEN CHRISTMAS DAY from 3pm-tam



## Religion and the Holidays

## Of Ancient Ways and Words

A few years ago the gay community of Kearney formed a support group. We were concerned enough about what formalized religion had to say about homosexuality that we asked two of our local clergymen to lead us in a study of biblical passages which seemed to We found out condemn gays. there's more to the Bible than words printed in black ink on a The Old Testament, white page. we learned, predicts the coming of Christ. It gives us the old Hebrew laws and codes of behavior. It is a record, an account of Israel's history, but it isn't really complete. Many of the customs and traditions are left unexplained. Archeologists, anthropologists, and theologists have formulated theories which can shed a very different light on certain passages.

Consider the story of two neigh-Sodom cities. Gomorrah, often quoted as very condemning for gays (Genesis Briefly, the story 18:16-19:28). deals with how God sent two angels in the form of men to visit the cities and see firsthand how greatly these people were sinning. These two towns were known as "dens of iniquity," full of murderers, thieves, adulterers, and idolaters. The two angels appeared on earth first to Abraham, who had a relative named Lot living in Sodom. God's plan was revealed to Abraham and he pleaded with the Lord not to destroy the cities if ten righteous people could be found in them. God agreed and the two angels went off to Sodom. When Lot saw the two strangers wandering about the city, he invited them into his house for a meal and a place to spend the night. After their supper, the account says, all the people of the city gathered at Lot's door and demanded he bring out the two strangers, "Bring them out to us, so that we may know them." Lot refused, and the mob became angry. The angels protected Lot from the mob, and told him to get his family out of the town. The next day, "God rained on Sodom and Gemorrah brimstone and fire."

The whole controversy of this lext revolves around the phrase, 'so that we may know them." The Bible sometimes uses the word "know" as another word for sexual intercourse. If that is the proper interpretation of that word, then it would mean that the mob intended to rape the strangers. Surely we all agree that rape is a violent attack. But is that positively what "know" means here? Perhaps the crowd was trying to lure the strangers out with something else in mind, perhaps robbery. The Bible does not specifically say that the people of Sodom were homosexuals. The great sin here could be rape, robbery, or something else.

Well, anyway, the crowd had already broken a law of sorts by merely asking that the angels be brought out. In that time, thousands of years ago, and in that place, traditional ethics demanded a code of hospitality from the people. If you saw a stranger, you were expected, according to this hospitality code, to take him into your home and see to all his comforts. Lot did this. The rest of Sodom's people did not. They broke the code by demanding to see the strangers. So, in all of the city, only one righteous man was found, not the require ten. The breaking of the hospitality code came on top of a multitude of other sinful acts for which the people had never repented. Lot was the only Godloving person to be found in either Sodom or Gomorrah. Thus, the cities were destroyed.

Another way the Bible refers to homosexuals very possibly has to do with cult temple prostitutes. To illustrate: a farmer plants his crops then goes to a temple to pray that they will be fruitful. At the temple he may perform a sexual act with a

paid temple prostitute, the act being symbolic of fertility, which is in turn symbolic of the fertility of the farmer's crops. Sometimes these prostitutes were male. This practice, however, was seen as idolatry (idol worship) in the eyes of God. The Ten Commandments specifically forbid worshipping any other god except the one God. There lies the sin; not so much that two men were having sex, but because of the reason behind it. That sex act was part of the worshipping of fertility deity, not of God. You see, as 1 said before, the Bible doesn't always give all that background information. These references are found in Deuteronomy 23:17-18, I Kings 14:21-14, and Leviticus 18:22

That final verse outwardly appears to be very condemning to gays, but it may refer to cult prostitution because it is surrounded by other verses concerning rituals involved in the worship of other false gods. It might also refer to the ancient military tradition of performing sodomy (anal rape) on captured enemies as a way of adding humiliation and insult to their defeat. It must be noted that the previous verse contains a reference to Molech, a military idol. As you can see, taking any one verse out of context may seriously alter its meaning.

Remember also that the Bible was not written directly by the hand of God. God inspired various men to write it. Any author brings to any book a flavoring of his own attitudes. Perhaps some of the Bible's writers considered any sexual act not specifically for the purpose of procreation to be a waste of human seed or somehow "wrong," and thus hinted at that attitude in their manuscripts. In addition, the Bible was not written in the English we all read. It was written in Greek and Hebrew, mainly, and was translated into Latin and German long before the first English print-And you know the saying about losing something in the translation.

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The birth of Jesus Christ ended the Old Testament, began the New Testament, and created the new order we call Christianity. Jesus was the Son of God, and thus the Word of God. He was God's authority on earth. Jesus' words and teachings are recorded in the Gospels, the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

So what did Jesus say about Nothing, specifhomosexuality? ically. None of His recorded words mention the topic. He neither condoned nor condemned homosexuals. Read the Gospels and you won't find Jesus warning gay people of hellfire and brimstone punishments. I would think if homosexuality were such a heinous sin, Jesus would have warned us. The fact is, Jesus never said a word of condemnation to anyone. By condemnation, I mean absolute, irrevocable damnation to hell. If anything. He warned the Pharisees about their "holier-than-thou" attitudes. The Pharisces, after all, were outraged that Jesus allowed Mary Magdelene (a prostitute) and Matthew (an ancient version of a crooked IRS man) to be a part of His group of followers. If Jesus didn't damn anyone, then perhaps mankind shouldn't either.

Jesus was more concerned with sins of the spirit (greed, envy, pride, hatred) than with sins of the body. His doctrine was one of "love thy neighbor" and "do unto others as you would have them do unto you." He stressed forgiving those who hurt you, and accepting all people as they are, not as you think they should be. Jesus rejected no one; his love was unconditional. If we are meant to follow His example, I find it surprising that so many

"good Christians" despise homosexuals and that gays are not welcome in many churches.

To note two New Testament reference to homosexuality: Romans 1:26-27 refers to something called "natural theology." To gay people, same-sex love is natural; none of us will argue that. This verse may be a warning, though, to heterosexual people not to go against their nature and perform homosexual acts. Most of the references speak biblical homosexual acts, not of the feelings and caring of homosexual love. Verse 28 continues on to say, "they did not see fit to acknowledge God." In my Catechism class, I was told that rejecting God is the only unpardonable sin (confirmed by Mark 3:28-29). The second reference, I Corinthians 6:9-11, again lists "homosexuals" with idolators. Once more, this might refer to cult prostitutes of the military sodomy tradition, as the footnote in my Bi-ble says, "Two Greek words are rendered by this expression." It should be noted that Paul wrote both these passages, and theological scholars seem to agree that Paul's understanding of homosexuality was that it was a result of idolatry.

The Bible's central message seems to be that sex is one of God's good gifts to us, but it can be misused. Sexuality itself is judged neither to be good or bad. Sexuality is one part of the human whole. However, as with the idol-worshipping cults and anal rape, it is clear that sexual expression does not always honor the "personhood" of the people involved. This is what biblical writers were condemning: sex that dishonors the people in-

volved. Homosexuality, which involves feelings of caring and love, does not seek to dishonor. It seeks instead to support and nurture the loved one and to cherish him or her as the object of affection. Human dignity is not threatened by gay relationships. I don't believe that kind of love can be wrong.

In the end, isn't it all up to God? Who can be saved except by His (or Her) grace? Every human being is a sinner, so why should Man try to say who's going to heaven and who's going to hell? One of my favorite Bible verses says, "Judge not, lest ye also be judged."

-- Jean Mortenson



# In Memory of C.B. Rogers

The gay/lesbian community recently lost a comrade and friend. C.B. Rogers, an Omaha resident owned Hometown Lawn Care and he also worked part-time at The Max. He was very supportive of the community and its organizations, including this magazine. I knew him as a friendly, kind and sincere individual. He will be greatly missed.

--Larry Wiseblood Editor

# CONTRACTOR OF THE SECOND OF TH



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## Bible Doesn't Condemn Gays

Being lesbian, gay, or bisexual and participating in organized religion is a tension-producing combination. And being openly affirming about one's sexual orientation can end the participation, either because of official policy or unofficial harassment.

Gay, lesbian, and bisexual people often have concerns about religion, even if one is not formally a believer. At the very least are the TV preachers and the so-called religious arguments against homosexuality and/or homosexually-inclined people!

I say "so-called" religious arguments because scholarship on the Bible has concluded that the Bible says nothing about homosexuality as a psychosexual orientation towards members of one's own gender. (The word "homosexual" was not coined until 1869.)

The arguments and biblical quotations used against gay/lesbian people are based on a literalistic and legalistic interpretation of the writings. (There are a number of readable and knowledgeable books which summarize this scholarship.)

But even if one believes in the literal interpretation of Scripture, one does not have to be anti-gay. The Hebrew and Greek words themselves do not mean the kind of homosexual behavior that most lesbian, gay, and bisexual Christians strive for: The Bible, in those six or so often-quoted brief passages, is not speaking of sexual expression between two people of the same gender who love each other. The Bible assumes all are heterosexual. Modern sexology and scientific research know what gay people have known by experience, that some individuals are just as naturally drawn to members of their own gender as others are drawn to persons of the opposite gender!

The challenge for gay, lesbian, and bisexual people of faith is the same as that of others: to find a meaningful relationship with God and/or a spirituality that gives life a transcendent perspective and ultimate purpose.

Rev. Quentin Hand is a United Methodist minister and Associate Professor of Psychology and Pastoral Counseling at Candler School of Theology at Atlanta. He wrote recently,

> To be "saved" is to be in a relationship with God in which the divine love and acceptance is present for the person and the person is both committed to God in love and seeking to live in loving ways toward God and others ... Being "saved" is a question neither of health nor of being good ... A saving relationship is one of love, of God's love for us and of our living commitment to God. This commitment leads to loving actions. And the foremost of these loving actions is to promote the reconciliation of God's people with one another ... it means straight and lesbian and gay persons all seeking to know and love each other as Members of God's family. (Open Hands, Journal of the Reconciling Congregation Program of Affirmation: United Methodists for Gay and Leshian Concerns, Fall 1986.)

If you are interested in exploring what being gay/lesbian/bisexual and spiritual means, you will be interested to know that a second conference on spirituality and being gay is being planned. It will be similar to the one held earlier this year in Lincoln and is entitled, "Spirituality and Homosexual Persons: The Dialog Continues." The conference is sponsored by representatives of several denominations and other groups, and is designed to encourage dialog between lesbian, gay, and bisexual Christians and other searchers and seekers, and heterosexual Christians. Look for details in the next two issues of The New Voice.

If you would like a bibliography and other materials on spirituality and homosexuality, please call or write to me, Ben Roe, at Ministry in Human Sexuality, P.O. Box 80122, Lincoln, NE 68501.

(Ben Roe is a United Methodist minister, pastoral counselor and sexuality educator with Ministry in Human Sexuality, Lincoln.)

# The Sharing Christmas Season A Pastoral Chat —

As I prepared to write a few words for this December/Religious issue, I reflected on some 40+ Christmas seasons I have experienced. Some of these were memorable. Some of them were buried too deeply in memory to recollect much detail. Most of them were joyous, some were pretty dismal.

Perhaps the most crucial factor for me in what made them joyous was the sharing with family and/or friends, the traditions that we established, the love and caring that we seemed able to show a little more openly at this time of year. It really was that sharing with the people in my life that made those Christmases especially memorable -- although the Christmases alone were memorable in their own way.

Why should it be that Christmas more than any other holiday during the year is so difficult to spend alone? Maybe it is because the birth of Christ, which we commemorate on that day, was meant not only to reconcile us with God, but also to bring us into a closer relationship with each other as people. If we are not sharing with others, we may be acutely aware of our aloneness or separation on a day that celebrates "the greatest love of all."

Unfortunately, at one time or another it probably comes to each of us in our lives that we spend a Christmas alone (or at least separated from family and friends). We may approach this circumstance by trying to shrug it off, saying "Oh well, Christmas is just another day." Or we may find ourselves imagining that no one else in the whole world has ever had this experience or been so miserable, or we can deal with the situation in some positive, creative way. The important issue is that we have a choice in what our attitude will be and how we might grow through the experience.

Merry Christmas, everyone!

-- Pastor Jan MCC-Omaha

## Lesbian/Gay Catholics Claim Heirship to Christ

As children of God, made in God's image, Roman Catholic lesbian womyn and gay men join all other heirs to the Kingdom of Christ. This is a basic tenet of DIGNITY, and international lay organization of Catholics who happen also to be lesbian or gay or persons sensitive to lesbian/gay concerns.

The primary purpose of the organization is spiritual development for its members. Education on homosexuality, both for its members and society at large, and social and recreational activities are other purposes.

DIGNITY recognizes that segments of society, including "churched" persons, cling to interpretations of Bible passages which they claim condemn homosexuality. Yet even the Roman Catholic Church's official teaching on homosexuality is that being homosexual is "morally neutral" (the same as being heterosexual).

The New Catholic Encyclopedia (1966) agrees "contrary to popular notion that the homosexual has deliberately chosen (his/her sexuality), almost invariably (s)he discovered her/his condition during adolescence. There is no evidence that (his/her) sexual drive, in itself, is more intense than that of heterosexuals. (S)He is rarely an alcoholic or threat to immature children" (inclusive language added).

Where Catholic Church church members disagree is in what way homosexual persons are to share themselves with others. DIGNITY agrees with persons such as the Rt. Rev. Archbishop Raymond Hunthausen, Fr. Robert Nugent, Fr. John Curran, Sr. Jeannine Gramick, Fr. John McNeill, and numerous other clergy and religious leaders. These people and others acknowledge sexuality as one of God's gifts which the loving Creator intends us to accept in ourselves. It is to be shared as one part of ourselves when we form a genuine loving relationship with another

During a 'Dialogue between the Church and the Homosexual' seminar last spring at Kansas City, more than one priest said that he is counseling same-sex couples whose sexuality not only may be shared with the partner, but indeed should be shared as a giving of the whole self to a true relationship. The priests cautioned that they saw such sharing only in genuine relationships, certainly not in casual dating — whether it be heterosexual or homosexual.

DIGNITY intends to give its support and help to educate both Catholics and non-Catholics regarding enlightened interpretations of the Bible or other theology.

DIGNITY/Omaha is a local chapter of the national and international organization. Presently a "chapter-in-formation" until it builds a sufficient membership base and submits bylaws for approval, the group still operates as a full chapter. DIGNITY sponsors a mass monthly, at 7 pm, the second Sunday of the month, generally at St. John's

Church on the Creighton University campus. Masses have been celebrated elsewhere for special occasions.

Another event which can fulfill the group's intent for spiritual growth, education, or social activities is the

monthly "Gathering." Rotating among members' homes, the evening's sponsor plans the event. Past Gatherings have ranged from formal vesper services to business meetings, viewing documentary videotapes of Pride Week in other cities, attending a theater film such as "The Life and Times of Harvey Milk" and discussing it afterwards at a member's home, shared reading of literature and poetry by lesbian womyn and gay men, and more.

Members have cooperated with other Omaha organizations and, last Easter, held jointly with the Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha a sunrise Eucharist service beside the lagoon in Omaha's Central Park Mall.

The Omaha lay Catholic group hopes to reinforce its membership in order to enable it to offer a greater number and variety of activities. Persons interested can phone Omaha DIGNITY president, Russ W., 341-1460, or vicepresident, Dan O., 345-9426. People also may simply drop in at the monthly mass in the Celebration room of St. John's Church. The Celebration room is a chapel in the northwest corner of the church's lower level. Mass is at 7 p.m., the 2nd Sunday of each month. December's mass will be at 7 p.m., December 14 in the Celebration room of St. John's Church Persons wishing information by mail may write to DIGNITY/Omaha, P.O. Box DIGNITY/Omaha, 31312, Omaha, NE, 68131.

Although DIGNITY/Omaha has mass at St. John's Church on the Creighton campus, DIGNITY is an independent lay organization. It is associated with neither St. John's Church nor the University. Like the Roman Catholic Legion of Mary or Knights of Columbus, DIGNITY is a lay organization, an organization of non-ordained persons. Like the Legion or Knights,

continued on page 12

## The New Voice

UPCOMING THEME ISSUES
WE NEED YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS

JANUARY — COMING OUT EXPERIENCES
FEBRUARY — LOVE & RELATIONSHIPS

MARCH - "THE NEW VOICE" THIRD ANNIVERSARY

APRIL - HEALTH CONCERNS

it is not an "official" Church group; it is non-canonical. This independence can be a benefit: since DIGNITY is not an organizational arm of the Catholic Church, the Church cannot disband or suppress DIGNITY.

-Russ W.

## History of C.O.G.

If you are gay or lesbian and also religious, how do you express your faith? For years the choices were fairly narrow. If, as a gay person, you felt rejected by the church, you could reject it in return. Or if you expressed your faith, you did not do so within the gay community. Nor did you express your gayness within the religious community. Then as part of the gay liberation, gay and lesbian Christions came together in groups to express their concern for an open church which could be accepting of their gayness.

In October, 1980, a group of nine people were concerned about how the needs of gay and lesbian Christians could be met in Lincoln. After several exploratory meetings, it was decided to start a worshipping group in Lincoln to provide a place for religious expression for gays and lesbians. And so on the first Sunday of November, 1980, the Community of Grace was born.

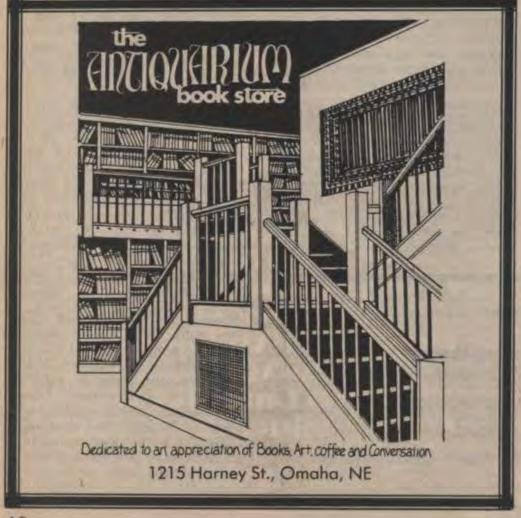
From the beginning, COG did not describe itself as a church, but rather as an interdenominational worshipping community. It strived for an environment which provided a safe and open place for persons to explore and express their whole personhood, including their gayness and their faith. A diverse expression of worship was encouraged so that the religious experience and background of the members were shared with others.

Part of the diversity has been that the Community of Grace has never been exclusively gay and lesbian. Men and womyn, who were not gay, have joined the group because of their concern for an accepting attitude by the church. Others have been family members and friends of gays and lesbians.

Never espousing any one creed, the Community has provided a worship experience which included a variety of religious backgrounds. It has also stressed the concept of being inclusive of all people. The only standards that have been set for worship have been that leaders strive to eliminate sexism, feudal, and militaristic language, or any expression of faith that was exclusive of others and their experience.

Although the Community of Grace has been primarily a group that comes together for worship, the concerns for our community as a whole has lead the Community of Grace to become involved with beyond-worship experiences. Early in our history, we saw the need for a support group for family and friends. And with the Community's support, several members formed a local P-FLAG group in Lincoln. In 1984, COG joined the Lincoln Fellowship of Churches so

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that we might be able to speak to the whole church and be representative of gay Christians to the Church in Lincoln.

Members of the Community have moved to other cities and been involved in starting other groups for gays and lesbians; others have been instrumental in the development of denominational groups and caucuses to speak to their churches. Still other members have become reinvolved in their own local churches or become pastors in MCC or other denominations.

The past six years has seen a wide variety of experiences for the members of the Community of Grace. But the Community continues as primarily a worshipping group to provide a free and open environment for persons of all faiths. The Community of Grace meets every Sunday evening at 7:00 pm with the Sacrament offered on the first Sunday of the month. Call 476-1205 for the locations.

# Affirmation Looks to Future

At its annual fall national meeting held in Washington, D.C., September 19-21, Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns committed itself to an expanded, three-prong focus on work in the lesbian/gay community and in the United Methodist Church. The organization agreed to increase its regional and local organizing efforts across the U.S.; to begin preparations for the church's 1988 and to General Conference; strengthen the Reconciling Congregation Program, through which local Methodist churches publicly affirm their commitment to inclusive ministries with all persons, including lesbians and gay men.

Acknowledging the rapid growth of local groups -- up from 17 to 21 in the last 18 months, attendees at the Washington meeting selected six additional areas for priority organizing efforts in the coming months. In addition, a special networking conference was planned for Kansas City in early March of 1987. The

meeting will place special attention on building contacts among lesbians and gay men with other United Methodists in the central U.S.

The next Affirmation national meeting will be April 24-26, 1987, in Nashville, Tennessee. For further information about any Affirmation program, the organization can be contacted at P.O. Box 1021, Evanston, IL 60204.

Nebraska Affirmation meets the second Friday of each month. The group meets alternately in Omaha and Lincoln. For more information call 476-9913.







The Community of Grace

An interdenominational worshipping community of Lesbians, Gays and those who would identify with us.

Sundays, 7 pm

474-1205

P.O. Box 6881 Lincoln, 68506

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## **Features**

## "Bookshare" Offered to Area Womyn Soon

Bookshare is the result of an idea that has been tossed around in several womyn's organizations as a way to circulate books within the womyn's community. There has also been a concern that some womyn do not have access to feminist and lesbian writings, few of which are available at public libraries.

Bookshare will allow womyn to share their favorite subjects, for example, feminist science-fiction, with other womyn who wish to expand their interests.

The success of the Bookshare venture depends largely on the participation of womyn. If you are interested and would like more information, please contact Anita or Sandy at 476-0272 (evenings).

A new information-sharing service will be available to Lincoln womyn

starting sometime in January. Bookshare, a book exchange network, will give womyn the opportunity to share books with other who are interested in feminist and/or lesbian issues. With a \$5,00 annual (household) fee, each women will receive a complete list of the titles that are available through womyn who will lend out books from their personal collections. The fee will also cover the cost of pick-up and deliver of books, postage for updated bimonthly listings, and the eventual production of a Bookshare news-letter with book reviews and commentary.

According to one founder, "Some womyn have been concerned that they don't have many books to share. Several womyn with just a few books is all it will take." And, of course, you don't have to have any books to borrow books.

## GIRISIMES



## Madame Zelda's Horoscope

Sagittarius
The Centaur Archer
(November 22 to December 21)

Sagittarians are carefree, fun-loving individuals who remain open-minded in the most difficult of situations. If you don't want the truth, don't ask a Sagittarian for their opinion. Their frankness may be taken as an unfair judgment. Although they tend to exaggerate and might seem to rowdy at times, they are sincere. Seeming irresponsible at times, they do and say things on impulse.

This is a good year for the Sagittarian monetarily; career changes are not recommended, however, because you are the type who will do what you think is right, and I respect you for you individ-

continued on page 15



Amen Art Gallery 2 340 No. 27th SC. Lincoln, WE 68505 (402)476-8497 Our fine arts gallery

our fine arts gallery needs salable artwork for the Holidays.

Bring your precious pieces to a lambda-oriented business.

uality. Invest on prospects that you have examined thoroughly first.

Your love life is on the upswing! Enjoy the company of your friends. Something hard to handle will come along in the third month. Confide in your "closest friend."

Although you have been told many time before, slow down and take it easy. If you need help, the hardest part will be admitting your weakness. You are a strong person. You love people, and they love you.

You get along with most of the start signs. Your failing, however, is the ability to communicate effectively with Aries and, sometimes, Capricorns. (Perhaps your human side is at conflict with your animal instincts.) You are the most unique of the signs and, in your heart, you know it.

Happy Birthday Sagittarians!

-- Madame Zelda

## Here & There

Proposition 64, the controversial AIDS "quarantine" initiative sponsored by right-wing politician Lyndon LaRouche, was soundly defeated by nearly a 4-to-1 margin in November's election.

#### -- San Francisco Bay Avea Reporter

Bismark, North Dakota now has its own gay and fesbian library, founded by Darrel Heldebrant. The Lambda United Library has a collection of 100 books, videos, and periodicals and is growing. The North Dakota State Department of Health donated \$1,000 for safe-sex materials.

#### -- Equal Time (Minnesota)

In Boulder, Colorado six women armed with binoculars and cameras, wearing "Sodomy Patrol" T-shirts, have taken to the streets in search of illegal sexual activity. According to Jeanne Winer, head of the group, the unit has conducted at least two Saturday night patrols in which

passers-by are asked "if they had any friends or neighbors they would like to turn in." The women, members of the Boulder Socialists Feminist Collective, started the sodomy patrol as a joke in response to the Supreme Court's Hardwick decision.

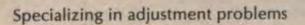
#### -The Advocate

John S. James, in his column "On Guard," reports Japanese researchers have found that a component of ordinary licorice can stop the growth of the AIDS virus in test tube cultures of human lymphocytes.

#### -- San Francisco Sentinel

Carlton E. Turner, drug advisor to the White House, said in a recent Newsweek interview that he believes smoking marijuana may lead to homosexuality which in turn can lead to AIDS.

-San Francisco Bay Area Reporter



### CONTEMPORARY COUNSELING SERVICES

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Call for appointment.









## Classifieds

#### Farmer Seeks Partner

Farmer-Partner needed/wanted for this diversified 160 acres, including 30-40 acres of woods, creek, prairie, etc. 60 miles SW of Lincoln. Len Schropfer

Len Schropter Rural Route Box 38 Milligan, Nebraska 68406

#### Omaha Meetings

The New Voice is putting together an Omaha staff. Meetings will be held the 2nd Wednesday of each month. If you're interested in joining our friendly staff, call Garry at 453-6550.

#### CONNECTIONS

You are invited to participate in an effort to tap the energies and resources within "our" community to begin networking and sharing resources.

WHAT'S THAT? Networking is a way to connect a resource with a need. It's as simple as giving a job lead, finding a hiking partner, or as complicated as getting a group of small business owners to share an answering device. The potential is phenomenal. It is limited only by short-sightedness or a lack of interest.

HOW CAN YOU PARTIC-IPATE? A "brainstorming" meeting will be held soon. Anyone interested is encouraged to contact Chuck C., bartender at Kelly's.



#### Not a Stereotype

Attention Max Men: Assume Nothing. I wear dresses but I am NOT after your boyfriends. Think! If a man wearing pants can be looking for another man wearing pants, then a woman wearing a dress can be looking for another woman wearing a dress.

--Feminine Gay Female

#### Classified Ads for Valentines Day

Send your Valentine the perfect message for our February Love and Relationships issue. Classifieds ads are only \$2.00 for 20 words or less. Write to *The New Voice*, P.O. Box 80819, Lincoln 68501.

#### Apt. For Rent

FOR RENT - 1 bdr, \$260, laundry, parking, cable, near 19th & J, call 435-3536.

#### Congratulations

Congrats to our new Omaha Associate Editor, Gary Griffith.

#### Merry Christmas!

The New Voice wishes everyone a happy holiday season!

#### Correction

The staff of *The New Voice* wishes to apologize for not including Lisa Uhl in the list of members of Bridget and Friends in the article about the group in the November issue.

The loice

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Puzzle from last month's issue

ruzzie from last month's issue

Condoms are Erotic and Fun!

Omaha Bars, Clubs, and Lounges

The Chesterfield, 1951 St. Mary's Ave., 342-1244. The Diamond, 712 South 16th St., 342-9595. The Max, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110. The Run, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703. The Stage Door, 1512 Howard St., 342-8715.

Lincoln Bars, Clubs and Lounges

The Board-Walk, 20th & O, 474-9741. Cherchez la femme, 200 So. 18th (lower level), 474-9162. The Club, 116 No. 20th St., 474-5692. Kelly's, 200 So. 18th, 474-9962.

## **Gay/Lesbian Resource Directory**

#### Nebraska Statewide

Affirmation of Nebraska. Box 80122, Lincoln 68501. United Methodists for Gay/Lesbian Concerns. Meets alternately in Omaha and Lincoln, second Friday of the month. Phone 476-9913.

Coalition for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights. Box 94882, Lincoln 68509. Advocacy group which lobbies for lesbian/gay civil

rights, provides educational presentations, publishes a newsletter and sponsors cultural and political programs.

Imperial Court of Nebraska. Box 3772, Omaha 68102. Social organization for the advancement of the gay society. Omaha meeting first Monday of each month, except holidays. Phone 733-1924.

Nebraska AIDS Project. Box 3512, Omaha 68103. Center for information, support and coordination of A.I.D.S. related com-

munity efforts. Phone Omaha 342-4233 or toll-free statewide, 1-800-782-AIDS. The New Voice of Nebraska. Box 80819, Lincoln 68501. Monthly magazine serving the gay/lesbian community. Staff meets in Lincoln the first Wednesday of each month. Phone 475-7740 or 345-2181.

Viral Syndrome Clinic. Contact Dr. Jonathan Goldsmith, Physician or Jan Hopp, RN by calling 559-7331

#### Lincoln

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous. Group meets every Friday. Phone A.A. central office for location, 466-5214. Capitol City Couples. Organization to promote positive aspects of alternative lifestyle relationships, create stability in those

relationships, and to share and socialize with other gay couples. Call 423-1374.

Community of Grace. Box 6881, Lincoln 68506. Interdenominational worshipping community of gays/lesbians, and those

associated Meets Sunday at 7 p.m. Call 474-1205.

Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line. Box 94882, Lincoln 68509. Referral and support phone line staffed by peer counselors. Call 475-4697 in evenings.

Gay/Lesbian Student Group at Nebraska Wesleyan. Contact Dr. Mary Smith, NWU, 50th and St. Paul Sts., Lincoln 68504.

Phone 465-2351

Lambda Resource Center. Meeting rooms, outpatient counseling, group activities. 2845 R St. Call 474-1205 for information. Lesbian Support Group. Informal discussion group for lesbians, all womyn welcome. Meets weekly. Contact Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Phone 472-2597

Lincoln Legion of Lesbians. Box 30137, Lincoln 68503. Lesbian-Feminist collective providing a newsletter, confidential re-

ferral, and support groups for lesbians. Sponsors cultural and social programs.

Ministry in Human Sexuality, Inc. Box 80122, Lincoln 68501 Non-profit agency providing counseling, education, and supportive action for those seeking growth and understanding in the areas of sexuality and relationships. J. Benjamin Roe, Executive Director. Phone 476-9913.

New Directions Center. Short term individual counseling, support groups, classes and workshops dealing with coming out,

relationship issues, parenting. Sliding fee scale. Call 476-2802.

Open Door Ministry. To provide orthodox spiritual counsel to all people in heed at no charge. Phone 474-3390.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Box 4374, Lincoln 68501. Support group for parents friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Meets fourth Tuesday of the month. Phone 435-4688.

Third Culture. Non-residential subculture dealing with issues such as coming out, social behavior, the gay lifestyle, suicide, and drug or alcohol abuse. Contact Pat at 474-1205.

UNL Gay/Lesbian Association. Room 222, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Political, social and educational organization for students and interested others. Meets Thursdays at 8 p.m. in room 342 of the Nebraska Union. Call 472-5644.

The Wimmin's Show. KZUM Radio 89.5 and 99.3 FM. 12 p.m. - 3 p.m. every Sunday.

Woman's Journal-Advocate. Monthly feminist publication. Write to P.O. Box 81226, Lincoln 68501

#### Omaha

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous. Group meets weekly. Phone 345-9916

Dignity of Omaha. Providing common bonds through Mass and meetings for gays and lesbians and their friends. Regular

Mass second Sunday of the month, 7 pm, St. John's lower level. Phone 341-1460 or 345-9426

Gay Parents Support Group. Support group for gay parents who have children. Phone 553-2308 for times and locations. Lutherans Concerned of Omaha. Society of gay Christians and friends together to foster within a church climate of understanding, justice, and reconciliation among all women and men. Phone 592-1209.

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha. Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Sunday worship at 10:30 am and 7 pm; Tuesday. evening Bible study at 7:30 pm; Wednesday Mid-week Program at 7 pm; Adult Sunday School at 9:10 am. Phone 345-2563, Metropolitan Club of Omaha. Box 24973, Omaha 68124. Networking organization of business and professional persons. Meets third Wednesday of each month Phone 345-3986 for information and meeting location.

PACT (People of All Races Together). Box 3683, Omaha 68103. A gay/lesbian interracial organization that offers educational, political, and social activities. Phone 895-0865.

Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG). Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Support group for the parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Phone Ruth at 556-7481.

River City Mixed Chorus. Box 315, Omaha 68101. Volunteer community chorus for gay/lesbian and gay/lesbian-sensitive men and women with the goal of musical excellence in performance. Rehearsals Monday evenings.

Two-Wheelers of Omaha (TWO) Motorcycle Club, 305 Turner Blvd. #8, Omaha 68131

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BOWLING CENTER



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