

VOL. V. No. X

DECEMBER 1988

*The  
New Voice*

O F N E B R A S K A



SEASON'S GREETINGS



## Wanted - Two Good Women

Due to recent resignations there are two vacancies on the Steering Committee of the *New Voice of Nebraska*. As I have pointed out before, the gender mix is slightly askew (9 men and 1 woman) so we are looking for two talented women to help us oversee the publication of the *New Voice*.

If you are energetic and interested in the *New Voice* we would like to get to know you better. Please feel free to contact any member of the *New Voice* staff for more information.

You are welcome to attend any meeting of the Steering Committee or to help with layout as a way to get to know us before you volunteer.

## Submission Deadline

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

## Christmas Remembered

-by Bill S.

With all the Christmases back to childhood growing a little dimmer as the years roll by, the more recent ones are more in mind. All the years at the old Diamond Bar were sparkling. They were sparkling because the place was lit up like Mr. C's. There were lights and garland everywhere. Some of the lights in the ceiling were on the year around. There was the year that Willy was Santa Claus, the only black santa in town. And every year Jimmy prepared a Christmas dinner for those customers who had nowhere else to go.

Now that my immediate family is gone, it's nice to have a pseudo-family to fall back on. In this life a group of friends to celebrate the occasions with is really great. Christmas with them has become a strong tradition.

## Future Issues

The *New Voice* invites you to submit letters, articles, poems and art work. In future issues we will be featuring articles on the following topics.

January: Violence Against Gays and Lesbians

February: Love and Relationships

March: New Voice's Fifth Anniversary Issue (Do you remember when the first New Voice was published? We'd like to hear your recollections of that time.)

April: "isms" (Prejudice in its many forms.)

May: Gay and Lesbian Organizations

June: Stonewall 20: A Generation of Pride



The *New Voice* is published and distributed each month by a dedicated volunteer staff. The magazine is completely financed by donations and advertising. Copyright 1988. All rights reserved.

Publication of the name, photograph or likeness of any person, business or organization in this publication is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation or preference of such person, business or organization.

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

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

The New Voice of Nebraska

PO Box 3512

Omaha, NE 68103

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

### Steering Committee and Staff

Sharon V., Editor (556-9907)

Dick Brown, Treasurer

Pat Phalen, Production Manager

Terry Sweeney, Advertising (455-3701)

Tom W., Typesetter

Layne O., Subscription Manager

Bill S., Tony N., Tony Z., & Doug L., Steering Committee

Rodney Bell, Lincoln Correspondent

Carla, Jim, Joe P., L.E., Sharon M., Layout Staff

Jean Mortensen, Feature Writer

# LETTERS



## Coming Out?

Dear Sharon,

The October 1988 issue was dedicated to, among other topics, National Coming Out Day. Your publication is always supportive of community events such as this which endeavor to strengthen the self image and self esteem of the gay and Lesbian community.

Coming out is not easy. It is a road filled with many small steps. While I am not near the end of my own journey, I can look back with amazement at how far I have traveled. And yes, I gaze ahead with anxiety at what is yet to be.

I would like to suggest that *The New Voice* take a step down its own coming out road. How does an openly gay publication travel further down the coming out road? The October issue carried four articles that dealt with coming out. I call your attention to pages 14 & 15 in particular. Page 14 was a full page feature on Coming Out. Page 15 carried an ad for subscriptions to *The New Voice* "MAILED DISCREETLY IN A PLAIN BROWN ENVELOPE."

Being a fellow traveler on the road of acceptance I understand the need for plain envelopes, and with homophobia rampant in our society,

continued discretion is probably appropriate. The step I suggest is the removal of the demeaning phrase from the subscription ad.

Your publication and its efforts on behalf of our community are deserving of pride and respect. While it may seem a small and insignificant step, I suggest that there are enough people in society who will tell us we are of little or no worth, we need not reinforce this attitude ourselves.

I wish to thank you and all the other volunteers for your outstanding efforts on behalf of this community. Please be assured that you have my warmest regards and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Joe Phillips

## Editor's Response

To Joe and our readers:

Like you, the *New Voice* and those of us on the Steering Committee are making our own "Coming Out" journeys. Each of us is at a slightly different point along that road.

Here at the *New Voice* we respect each reader and their right to make that coming out journey at the speed that is correct in their life. Because of this, we must recognize that many of our readers are only looking out of the closet door while others are marching at the front of the parade. No one answer can be right for all our readers.

After discussion of your letter, the Steering Committee has agreed to amend the disclaimer which appears on our subscription ad. As you may note, the ad now states "Mailed in a plain brown envelope."

We feel that by removing the word "discreetly" we make this a simple statement of fact rather than implying that there is something shameful in our publication. We thank you for your letter and for your concern and we wish to congratulate you on your successful coming out journey. We are proud to call you our friend.

**BJ's LTD.**  
A HAIR SHOPPE  
8510 PLACE  
NORTH 30TH ST.  
453-6688  
Call for  
Your appointment  
with Kathleen

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

**Jiny's CAFE**

Auburn, Nebraska  
"The New York of The Midwest"

402-274-4125  
Sunday Buffet - 11am to 2pm

**Support Our Advertisers**

.....

They Support You!

## Subscription Too Steep?

To the Steering Committee:

As a subscriber to this magazine, I'm beginning to worry about the subscription price. Nineteen dollars is getting a little steep, I think.

I would venture to say that most of your subscribers are subscribers because they don't have an opportunity to go to the bars monthly to pick up the most recent copies. If I understand correctly, the production costs are covered mainly by advertisers' fees and subscriptions. But should the subscribers have to carry a large portion of the production cost when people fortunate enough to live near the bars can get the magazine free? At nineteen dollars for twelve issues, a subscriber is paying about \$1.58 per issue, simple because he or she cannot always get to the bars to pick up a free copy.

Subscribers are subscribers because they want to receive all the issues during the year. They want to read the magazine and keep up on current events. But if the cost continues to rise, I worry that too many subscribers will not want to pay that much for only 12 issues. And if the magazine loses subscribers, then who will uphold the cost of production?

Would it not be more equitable to begin charging a modest fee in the bars? Perhaps 50 cents per issue. That does not seem to me too steep a price per issue, and it would certainly help to more evenly distribute the burden of bearing the production costs.

I realize that this is a non-profit magazine intended as a service to our community. But our community stretches farther than Lincoln and Omaha where the bars are. I fear that if enough subscribers find the cost prohibitive, they will not renew their subscriptions and the magazine will not be able to keep up with production costs and, thus, will have to fold. None of us wants that.

Sincerely,

Jean Mortensen

## Rules for Being Human

-Anonymous

1. You will receive a body. You may like it or hate it, but it will be yours for the entire period this time around.

2. You will learn lessons, you are enrolled in a full-time informal school called life. Each day in this school you will learn lessons. You may like them or think them irrelevant & stupid.

3. There are no mistakes, only lessons. Growth is a process of trial and error experimentation. The "failed" experiments are as much a part of the process as the experiment that ultimately "works."

4. A lesson is repeated until it is learned. A lesson will be presented to you in various forms until you have learned it, you can then go on to the next lesson.

5. Learning lessons does not end. There is no part of life that does not

contain its lessons. If you are alive, there are lessons to be learned.

6. "There" is no better than "here" When your "there" has become a "here." You will simply obtain another "there" that will, again, look better than "here."

7. Others are merely mirrors of you. You cannot love or hate something about another person unless it reflects to you something you love or hate about yourself..

8. What you make of your life is up to you. You have all the tools and resources you need. What you do with them is up to you. The choice is yours.

9. Your answers lie inside you. The answers to life's questions lie inside you. All you need to do is look, listen, and trust.

10. You will forget all this.



METROPOLITAN  
COMMUNITY  
CHURCH OF OMAHA  
"Celebrating Life  
In Christ!"

420 South 24th St.  
P.O. Box 3173  
Omaha, NE 68103  
(402) 345-2563

+++++

REV. JAN D. KROSS, Pastor

+++++

Sunday Worship:  
10:20 am & 7:00 pm  
Gay/Lesbian Support Group:  
Tuesdays, 7:00 pm  
Praise & Prayer Service:  
2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7 pm



## Christmas Memories

-by Sharon V.



Christmas is a storybook time, a time of sleighbells, snowflakes, shimmering trees and

starry eyed children. Children laugh as they tear open presents. Families congregate around tables overflowing with food prepared by Grandma's loving hands. Old friends gather to sing Christmas Carols, drink egg nog and kiss under the mistletoe. All of us share these joyful memories, don't we?

My earliest Christmas memory is just such a storybook memory. I was about 3 1/2 and I remember walking into the living room to find a doll seated in a child size rocking chair under the Christmas tree. The picture in my mind is of me standing in the doorway, with hands to my mouth in astonishment and feeling a smile encompass my entire body. (If the idea of a smile encompassing the entire body seems farfetched, I invite you to watch a small child laugh. Their face smiles, their arms wrap against their chest, and, if they are barefoot, you'll see that even their toes curl up.)

I have other joyful childhood memories of Christmas. I remember the "bubble lights" that adorned our tree every year. I remember the midnight cantata at church when my father's bass voice rumbled through the church as the choir sang *We Three Kings of Orient Are*. As a young adult I remember laughing with my brother and sister-in-law as we finished cooking Christmas dinner after mom sampled his vodka punch and had a gall bladder attack that put her to bed for the rest of the day.

However, I also remember the Christmas when my husband had to be rushed back to the hospital in severe pain from the spreading

cancer that killed him just three weeks later. I remember the Christmas when as my children's Christmas presents were purchased at the Goodwill Store. I remember the lonely Christmas when it seemed there would never be anyone special in my life. And I remember with joy the first Christmas Carla and I spent together.

All of us have Christmas memories that are just this sort of mixture of joy and pain. All of life is just such a mixture, but today my thoughts and my heart go out to those who are experiencing pain and loneliness this Christmas. My mind turns to the young man we saw sitting outside the emergency shelter waiting for them to start serving the evening meal; to the 14 year old who just found out she is pregnant; and to the old woman who sat alone in her hospital room all weekend calling for her son who never came to visit.

My thoughts also turn to the PWA who will spend Christmas Day alone in his or her apartment; and the young woman whose family forbid her to bring her lover to their home; and to the elderly Lesbian woman whose

wheelchair keeps her from going out in the ice and snow; and to the young man waiting confirmation of his positive HIV test.

If you, like myself, are enjoying the good things that this Christmas season has to offer, I ask you to help make Christmas memories more joyful for each of these persons. Take a wish and make it become reality. Is there room at your dinner table for one more guest? Is there room in your car to take someone to midnight services at church? Is there money in your pocket to buy one small, special present for a person who otherwise might have none? Are there ornaments enough on your tree to help decorate a tree for a shut in?

The opportunities are limited only by our own imagination and your willingness. Make a new Christmas memory for yourself by helping someone else have a joyous Christmas.



# The Dinosaur Threat

-by Jean Mortensen

Seems like you can't watch a Phil Donahue or Oprah show on the topic of homosexuality without some member of the audience standing up and adamantly demanding to know, "But what about the human race? If everybody's gay, then won't the human race become extinct?"

I've heard it so many times, I've finally reached the point where about all I can do is roll my eyes at the people who inevitably pose that question. That may also be your reaction. Okay, let's all agree that it's a ludicrous proposal. The human race becoming extinct after the kind of population explosion the world has seen? Come on. But these questioners are serious, so I think they deserve a serious treatment and a serious answer. Besides, it's a question born of homophobia, and that is a very serious matter indeed.

First of all, let's look at what prompts them to pose the question. It's a matter of an uninformed, naive assumption. If people are gay, then they don't have heterosexual sex, and consequently they can't produce children. And if children aren't produced to take our places when we die, the population will dwindle until humans become an endangered species. That's logical. It's also completely inaccurate, and the inaccuracy should be explained to anybody expounding this theory.

Point number one: not all people are gay. There are plenty of heterosexuals around who can willingly and happily carry on the species. A very conservative estimate shows only ten percent of all humans to be homosexual. Even if it were twenty percent, that would still leave eighty percent of our species to do the reproducing. That ought to be sufficient to prevent extinction, don't you think?

Point number two: being gay and lesbian does not necessarily mean you're incapable of being a parent. We have quite a few gay fathers and lesbian mothers in our ranks. Many men and women were involved in heterosexual marriages, for a variety

of reasons, before admitting their same-sex nature and coming out. Gay couples may also feel a desire to adopt or to be foster parents, if only the states' legislatures will allow them. Lesbian couples have been known to seek measures such as artificial insemination in order to have a child of their own. (I think it was Donahue who did an entire show on the issue of lesbians who want to become mothers.)

Point number three: this fear of extinction may come about because it appears there are "more and more" homosexuals. Logically, if there are more homosexuals, then there must be fewer heterosexuals who will produce children. I propose that there are not necessarily more homosexuals these days than there ever used to be, only that in the wake of the New York Stonewall incident we are becoming more visible. Some twenty years ago (often not even that long ago!), gays hid their orientation. Since sexuality is not something visible, such as skin color, it was something that could be concealed by conforming to certain ways of acting. And it was necessary to hide. Gay bars were raided and the patrons arrested. Our books were censored and banned. And, years ago, it was not acceptable for women to be strong and independent. But then the gays and lesbians got tired of being oppressed, and along came the gay rights movement. Now homosexuals are saying it is important for the cause of gay rights to be visible, to let our legislators and oppressors know how many of us there are. So it may not be that there are actually more of us, just that more of us feel free to finally come out of the closet.

Another census will be taken soon. (By the way, in the interest of showing the government how many of us are voting gays, the National Gay Rights Advocates urge all of us to honestly identify our living arrangements on the census survey. If our elected officials see our large numbers, maybe they'll start paying more attention to us.) I believe the census will show definitely that the human race is not in danger of running the same course as the dinosaurs. I'd say chances are good that it will still show heavy overcrowding in our cities. Maybe those numbers will reassure those who question the future of our species. And maybe, just maybe,

these people will finally see that there is one less reason supporting their homophobia.

---

*The New Voice* is published and distributed each month by a dedicated volunteer staff. The magazine is completely financed by donations and advertising. Copyright 1988. All rights reserved.

Publication of the name, photograph or likeness of any person, business or organization in this publication is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation or preference of such person, business or organization.

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

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

**The New Voice of Nebraska**

PO Box 3512

Omaha, NE 68103

---





## Around the Milkrun

-with Bellinda Loveless

My apologies to the management and customers of the Chesterfield. There was nothing malicious or derogatory meant in a little item in this column two months ago. Everything contained here is tongue in cheek and off the wall. The purpose is to lighten up the pages a little from all the seriousness of some of the other articles. It also serves the purpose of giving our advertisers a little extra mention.

Bubbles has left for his winter home in Florida. He wants to say good-bye to his many, many friends here in town and remind them that the latchkey is always out.

If you missed the two pheasants that graced the top of the back bar at the Diamond for all these many years, they took off for loftier climes. After a good dusting they will become centerpieces for a dinner party at a very elegant establishment. Can't you see the looks on the faces of all the pretty people if they knew whence came the cocks (no pun intended) in the center of the table.

Everyone had better polish up on their singing voices. Have heard tales that a beautiful new piano bar will open at the max after the first of the year. I hope we can experience some of the wonderful times we've had with Betty B., Margo and Vera Again.

Happy  
Hanuka

## The Book Report

### *Lesbian Nuns: Breaking Silence*

Edited by Rosemary Curb and Nancy Manahan

-Amazonia

Here's one this month that's a non-fiction book. This collection of almost fifty personal accounts by women who were once Catholic nuns, and a few who still are, tells stories of inner struggles and courage.

"Breaking silence" refers, of course, to these women telling their truths of love between women in the convents, despite the official denunciation of the Church. But it also refers to a period of time called Silence during which members of the convent must not speak and should spend their time in prayer. Some nuns found it unendurable keeping themselves from speaking to those they loved even during this restricted period. *Breaking Silence* was an infraction of convent rules that had to be confessed to the Mother Superior.

As they entered a convent, postulantes and novices were warned against developing "particular friendships." However, the meaning of this term was never fully explained, so many of the girls were never sure just what it was they were supposed to avoid. Perhaps the superiors thought they might plant a seed of an idea if they went into too much detail. If any two novices or nuns were observed developing a closed friendship, the Mother Superior felt it her duty to see the two women stayed separated.

The Women writing these stories cover not only the emergence of their

affectional and sexual feelings, but also issues of racial, class, and cultural differences within the convent cloister. They speak of their reasons for entering: love of God, the only chance for further education which they otherwise couldn't afford, the chance to live and work in an environment filled mainly with other women, and the influence of a nun teacher in their adolescent school days. Some of their reasons for leaving: the self-discovery of their sexuality, the feeling that the Church was still actively suppressing and oppressing women, and some were asked to leave after they were caught in a "particular friendship."

It surprised me to see a common theme of anger emerge from the majority of their stories. Anger seemed sometimes directed at families, or at some convent rules and the policies of church leaders. They also wrote of the difficulty some of them had readjusting to life in the secular world.

All the stories are told in the first person voice, as befits a personal account. That gives a better feel for the struggle each woman had with her identity. There are some elements in these accounts we can all recognize as our own experiences, too: feelings of being different, of being discriminated against, and good feelings of working in an all-woman environment and helping others. This is a good, interesting book to pick up if you've only got fifteen minutes a day for reading or want to polish off a chapter as you hop into bed for the night.

Available from:

Nalad Press, Inc.

P.O. Box 10543

Tallahassee, FL 32302



# The Second Most Important Room in the House

-by Hedda Lettuce

Well girls, here it is December, and hopefully we have got most of our holiday shopping finished. Around here it is time to start thinking about a New Year's Eve celebration.

I called my friend, Dot Matrix, who works in the computer department and she and I are going to host a small gathering to start the New Year off in style. We're inviting all the friends we met during the year: Luke Warme, Chuck Wagon, Barb Wire, Sharon Sharalike, Chester Drawers, Ertha Quake, and, of course, Dee Cupp.

Here's an interesting variation of the perennial favorite called *SPICED POPCORN*.

Combine the following ingredients and melt over a low fire; if you have a fireplace, place these in a fireproof pot and melt next to the hearth.

- 6 Tbl butter (3/4 of a stick)
- 3 Tbl minced green onion tops
- 2 Tbl sesame seeds
- Salt (to taste)

Pop about 1/2 cup pop corn and when corn is finished popping, pour butter sauce over. Serve warm.

Get some interesting crackers and make an *ALMOND PATE*.

1 - 8 oz package of ripe Brie, rind discarded, then brought to room temperature

3/4 cup (1 1/2 sticks) butter, room temperature

- 1/2 cup silvered almonds, toasted
- 2 Tbl dry Sherry
- 1/4 tsp dried thyme

Whip all ingredients together. Spoon into cheese crock, cover and chill. Chill at least 8 hours, or as long as a few days. To serve, let stand at room temperature for about one hour. Serve with those cutesy crackers.

Champagne, on any occasion whether festive or not, is always appropriate; but there are times when an alternative is preferred. So instead

of the usual bubbly, try some *GLOGG*. This makes 8 servings so you will probably want to triple or quadruple this.

- 3/4 cup raisins
- 1 Tbl whole cardamom
- 2 Tsp whole cloves
- 1 cinnamon stick
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 1 fifth (750 ml) table wine; red, white, or rose
- 1/2 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup blanched almonds

Rinse and drain raisins; peel and crush cardamom. Combine 1/2 cup raisins, the spices and water in a saucepan. Simmer 30 minutes and strain. To this strained mixture, add the wine and sugar; heat thoroughly until the sugar is dissolved, stirring now and then. Serve in preheated mugs with almonds and raisins in each cup.

Note: While any color of table wine may be used, the most popular version of *GLOGG* is made with red wine.

A different drink/food is a *SPICED APPLE BOWL*.

Mix together 1/4 cup sugar and 1/4 tsp cinnamon. Coat 12 small apples in light corn syrup (you'll need about 3 Tbl), then roll them in the sugar/cinnamon mixture. Put coated apples in a baking dish and bake for 15 minutes at 400 degrees.

While the apples are baking, mix together the following ingredients and heat slowly.

- 3 cups dry white wine
- 1 1/2 cups apple cider
- 1/4 tsp nutmeg
- 1 twist of lemon peel

To serve: place an apple in a preheated mug. Fill mug with the warm punch.

I hope your holidays are a happy time for you and yours and we'll see you next year.

Love you all,  
Hedda



3501 Leavenworth  
Omaha, NE 68105  
341-2524

Toni Pastory, M.S., C.P.C.

Therapy for Adults, Adolescents, and Children

8801 Center - Suite 301, Omaha, Nebraska 68124

390-2342



# Community Calendar

Dec. 10, 1988 - Jan. 10, 1989

## Sundays

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

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

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

## Saturday, December 10

New Voice deadline. All  
Classifieds, Articles, Poetry and  
Letters must be received for January  
issue.

Church Bazaar & Flea Market,  
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 10am -  
4pm

River City Mixed Chorus, Strauss  
Performing Arts Center, UNO, 66th &  
Dodge, Winter Concert, 7:05 pm.

## Sunday, December 11

Church Bazaar & Flea Market,  
MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 1 - 5pm

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

The Max, 1417 Jackson, Omaha,  
MCC-Omaha Benefit Show, "Show of  
Shows", 9pm

## Monday, December 12

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

## Saturday, December 17

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

## Weekly Events

### Mondays

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

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

## Monthly Calendar

### Sunday, December 18

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

### Monday, December 19

UNO Gay/Lesbian Student  
Organization, Call for location, 554-  
0320, 7pm

### Saturday, December 24

MCC-Omaha, 420 S. 24th, 345-  
2563, 7:30 pm Worship Service

### Sunday, December 25

## MERRY CHRISTMAS

### Tuesday, December 27

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

### Saturday, December 31

T.W.O.'s New Year's Eve Pig-Out  
Buffet, Diamond Bar, 712 S. 16th,  
9pm

## Tuesdays

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

## Fridays

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

### Sunday, January 1, 1989

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

### Monday, January 2

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

### Tuesday, January 3

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

### Thursday, January 5

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

### Monday, January 9

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

### Tuesday, January 10

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



# LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS ▼

## MCC Makes Life Complete

Dear Readers,

Last spring you read about the "Kansas/Nebraska Merger". This summer you heard about "My Summer Vacation". Both stories were full of action. Today I'd like to switch gears and share with you some feelings I've developed since my love first blossomed in Omaha. Anyway, (now that winter is approaching) it is about time for a seasonal update.

Last month you read about MCC and the problems, but what I want to share with you are the benefits I've received from MCC-O. For years I've divided my life into three parts: the spiritual person, the teacher, and the friend/lover. I've never had all three in sync at once. If I loved my job and the church, I was still alone in life. If I wasn't alone, then church or my job would be out of whack. Always these three have not meshed.

That's still true today, however, today I have hopes that all the pieces of the puzzle of my life will one day fit together. Today I have a church where I can worship freely. Today I share my life with a woman I love. Today the job is still out of sync, but for now and for the first time in my life, that's okay.

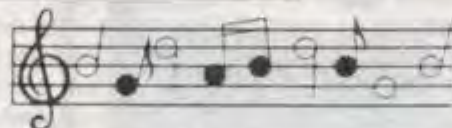
I'm here in Omaha because the woman I love is here, but early on we decided that a place of worship where we can stand before God as a couple was of extreme importance to us -- even more important than a job I'd love. Believe me, substitute teaching and temporary jobs are no picnic and the pay is lousy -- between 1/3 and 1/2 of my previous wage. However, I've decided to worship God at MCC-Omaha and God has given me peace with my life just as it is.

So in this time of need at MCC I'm doing all I can to support the church. I pray regularly. I participate actively and I tithe. I urge you to do the same. God will bless you.

Please join us at MCC this Sunday. Together we can make a difference.

Carla

ps. Would you believe that the phone rang not five minutes after I finished what you read above, and the caller offered me a job doing just what I love most -- teaching -- real teaching! Praise the Lord!



## Open Rehearsal

Like to sing? Want to join a dynamic, exciting group? Then the River City Mixed Chorus wants you.

Attend an open rehearsal on December 19 at Lowa Avenue Presbyterian Church at 7:30 pm. If you like what you see and hear, you are invited to a brief audition following rehearsal.

The chorus presently has members commuting from Lincoln, Fremont, Bellevue and Council Bluffs willing to car pool.

For more information contact the Chorus at (402) 342-4775.

## Feminist Bookstore

-GLA Newsletter

Sister Lit, a new feminist bookstore in Ames, IA held its grand opening ceremonies on Saturday, November 5. Sister Lit began as a mail order operation, but has now opened a retail store at 2814 West Street. The bookstore carries a wide selection of Lesbian, gay and progressive literature, and can order what they don't have in stock.

## Mr. Gay Nebraska Update

Due to rule violations, it has been necessary to disqualify a contestant for the title of *Mr. Gay Nebraska 1988*. This disqualification leaves open the 2nd Runner-Up position. We are pleased to announce that Mike Null, who finished with honorable mention the night of the contest, will assume the title of 2nd Runner-Up to Mr. Gay Nebraska 1988. We congratulate him and wish him well.

The violation involved contestant H. Thomas Jeffers, who was in apparent violation of rule number 1 which requires contestants to be a resident of Nebraska for 6 months prior to the contest, and rule number 3 which requires contestants to be of upstanding character and contribute positively to the gay community. H. Thomas Jeffers, at the time of this writing, is in the custody of the Polawattamie County Sheriff's Department facing numerous criminal charges, including grand theft auto.

We regret the necessity of this action, but feel it is necessary to maintain the integrity of the title of *Mr. Gay Nebraska* and the 1988 contest committee and title holders.

Joe Phillips, Secretary  
1988 Committee





**CS**

**CENTER STAGE  
PRESENTS**

**DANCE  
'89**

**JANUARY 12 - JANUARY 22**

Fridays & Saturdays 8p.m.  
Sundays 3p.m.

Adult \$10.  
Student & Senior Citizen \$10.  
Children \$5.

**CALL 733-5777**



## Logo Contest

*Stonewall 20: A Generation of Pride* will be the theme next summer as the Gay and Lesbian community of Nebraska joins in the nationwide Gay and Lesbian Pride Celebration. We will be commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Stonewall riots when a small group of gay men refused to submit meekly to police harassment and for the first time in history, fought back. As we have in past years, we are inviting our readers to submit logos that represent our theme for Pride Week 1989.

Your design should be suitable for reproduction on a button no more than 2 1/2 inches in diameter and should clearly represent this year's national theme, *Stonewall 20: A Generation of Pride*.

The designer of the winning logo will receive a free year's subscription to the *New Voice of Nebraska*.

All designs must be received by the *New Voice* no later than January 25, 1989. The designs will be judged and the winner selected by members of the *Bars and Organizations of Omaha* at their February meeting. All submissions become the property of the *Bars and Organizations of Omaha*.



## Mr. Gay Iowa Contest

-Tom W.

The date for the first annual Mr. Gay Iowa Contest has been announced by the CornHaulers L & L Club of Iowa. The contest will be held on Saturday night, January 28, 1989 at the Blazing Saddle. The "Saddle" is located at 416 E. 5th in Des Moines.

A festive evening is being planned, so mark your calendars. Watch for further information in the January issue of *The New Voice*.

## Best Wishes

-from Diamond Lil

As November 27th approaches, and the time for me to turn over the title of Diamond Lil comes near, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the community in Omaha for making my reign so enjoyable.

At first, I wasn't all that sure what I should do with the title of "Diamond Lil" but the answer to that was soon very obvious. Perfectly obvious, in fact, when someone asked me "Diamond Who?". Not since Poo Poo Laverne, and my drag-sister Tammy Shane, has there been a "Queen of the Diamond". It was my job to take that title out of obscurity! Who better than the Amazon Bitch from Hell? Things were rough at first, I will admit, and just as many jokes were flying around about Forte Desade as there were jokes about dear Cindy's GREEN DRESS!!! Well, Cindy hasn't been seen in the green dress for a while, and people have started to realize that Diamond Lil isn't a joke -- no matter who holds the title.

I wish I were allowed enough space to thank everyone who contributed so much to my year. But to all of you, my sincerest and deepest thanks. Especially to Vanessa Anderson, Director of Zephyr Productions which produces the Diamond Lil Pageant. And to Frank D. and Dennis McK. for all the support and assistance they've given. Yes, even to my runner-up, Miss Muffy Rosenberg, for giving me the incentive to carry on even when the load was just too much. I wish her and Dorian the best of luck in Dallas. And most of all, I wish this year's contestants the best of everything and give them my full support. I've truly enjoyed being your Diamond Lil this year, and look forward to lending my voice and abilities to our community in the future.

Love and Lipstick, always  
Forte Desade/Scott Burkey  
Miss Diamond Lil 87/88

## AIDS Fundraiser Continues

-by Jerry Peck

Members of the cast of *La Cage aux Folles* arrived in Omaha from Hollywood on October 17th to perform at the Upstairs Dinner Theatre. The proceeds from ticket sales were contributed to the AL721 project and the PWA Emergency Fund.

We were entertained by three young ladies, four men in drag and a "Mature" drag queen that emceed the show. The emcee wore a different outrageous frock to introduce each number. It was interesting to watch someone who I suspect is older than myself and has less hair perform without wigs.

At the end of the show, receipts for this fundraiser were over \$7,000 and were to continue at a cocktail party. I know I had a great time and was glad to be a part of the ongoing efforts for AL721 & PWA Emergency Fund.

## Face Lift for MCC

How many times have you heard people comment "I drove right past Metropolitan Community Church. It sure doesn't look like a church."? My daughter used to live across the street from the church but at that time I had no idea what the MCC over the door stood for. That is no longer the case.

Thanks to dedicated volunteers, there is a cross atop the old brick building, a new coat of blue paint on the door and front panels and the name "Metropolitan Community Church" printed clearly for all to see.

If you haven't been to MCC-Omaha for a while, come by to experience the new coat of paint outside and the renewed sense of family inside.

## Farewell to Sr. Marge

-by Jerry Peck

Friends gathered at the NAP offices on October 17th to say goodbye to Sister Marge as she left for a new assignment in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Sr. Marge has been active in Dignity, the Interfaith Network, the PWA Support Group and the volunteer program. Her love and serenity have touched many lives and although she is removed from us, her memory will remain vivid in our hearts.

A plaque was presented by NAP, a framed letter of gratitude from the archdiocese of Omaha, a glass engraved certificate from the PWA's, a warm fuzzy, and a life size puppet along with our best wishes. Sr. Marge's new assignment is allowing her to devote one half of her time to the ministry of PWA's.

*The  
New Voice*

Order your one year  
subscription today by  
mailing \$19.00 to:

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

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Mailed discreetly in a  
plain brown envelope.*

# Happy

# Holidays

# Metropolitan Club News

The Metropolitan Club was established a few years ago as a membership-based organization designed for those people in our community who wished to have a different approach to socialization rather than going to the bars. They plan a number of events each year which offer different opportunities for the members to share in the "esprit de corps" and the "jole de vivre", of which life is all about. Among the events that have taken place are a winter picnic in the park, a cruise down the Mighty Mo, an interview with an author from UNL, films on self improvement and lifestyles, a yoga lesson, a reserved car on the Fremont Dinner Train, seminars on current events, and much, much more.

The Metro Club does all this within a close-knit group, ensuring privacy and camaraderie. The normal procedure to join the Club is to be a guest of a member at the regular meetings, held on the third Wednesday evening of each month. However, for a short time, if you wish to see what The Club has to offer you, and you don't know any members, just call our number listed at the end of this article.

The first general meeting the new board of directors of the Metropolitan Club was in October, and what they experienced was what no self-respecting Board would like to see, with the sudden cancellation of the featured speaker due to illness. They also discovered three days before the meeting that they were unable to serve the comestibles that everyone had become accustomed to, which sent the Board scrambling to the nearest supermarket for chips and dips. Since the board members first met each other only six days before the meeting, there was no time for planning when they were suddenly faced with near disaster, and they apologize to you, who graciously paid for, and accepted what they had to offer.

But they survived!

Now that things are under control, they have begun planning another adventurous year for their members. By the time of publication of this

article, you may have already heard about the River City Mixed Chorus performing for their November meeting.

For their next meeting, there will be a Holiday party in December, with a Christmas ornament exchange for members who wish to participate. Bring a gift-wrapped ornament and receive one in return. (Who knows - maybe someone will donate a Tiffany or a Faberge?)

For January they are working on having a panel of their more experienced members talk about what it was like in our community 30 or 40 years ago -- or so. Were there organizations? Were there many problems meeting others? How did one cope with the fears back then? What were the bars like? If you are willing to sit on this panel or know someone who would like to, please contact the Metropolitan Club. They have already lined up some very interesting people for this panel, and it promises to be an enlightening discussion from what we have heard so far.

Meetings are held on the third Wednesday of each month at 8:00 pm. For further information on membership to the Metropolitan Club, get in touch with a Club member or call 449-9377. This is a friendly answering service, so you will have no problem in leaving a message. They will return your call within a few days.



## BLAZING SAUVILLE



416 E. 5th St.  
Des Moines, Ia.  
(515) 246-1299

SPECIAL DRINK PRICES      OPEN SUNDAYS

Home of:



CORN HAULERS  
L & L CLUB

Same club; different logo

# Tis the Season to Take It to the Max

The holiday season is around the corner, and the Max has a solid line up of entertainment for you...

Sunday, December 11, 9pm

Metropolitan Community Church will host a holiday show. All proceeds will go to MCC-Omaha.

Sunday, December 18, 9pm

The Imperial Court's "Toys for Tots"

Sunday, January 8, 9pm

Texas Headliners

Sunday, January 15

Katrina Kane - Miss Max Stepping Down Show

Sunday, January 29, 9pm

Miss Max Pageant

The Max was very proud to host Buddy Starr's SCREAMING KUPCAKES FROM HELL, October 30. Staring Peaches LaRuue, Freida Lae, Kristanya Dawn, Ms. Kandra Elite, Bunn Lynn, Sheza Mann and Ms. Beth Muehling. It was a bizarre, memorable evening. Buddy's evening was a true show-stopper. Great Job Kupcakes. Halloween was an exciting evening with everyone stepping out in their ghoulish costumes and of course many new faces of drag (ugh). It was one evening not to forget. The Skate Boarders took first place with the Honeymooners in second place. Congratulations to all.

Once again the Max will provide the place for entertainment. So this holiday season TAKE IT TO THE MAX!



## Winterscene

The River City Mixed Chorus, under the direction of John Kelly, will present its Holiday Concert, *Winterscene* in the Strauss Performing Arts Center Recital Hall on Saturday, December 10, at 7:05 p.m. That's right ----- 7:05 p.m.!

This concert opens the fifth season of the Chorus, and features a variety of sacred and popular holiday songs including a traditional audience sing-along. Program highlights include *Winter Wonderland*, arranged by John Ziegler; *Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening* by Randall Thompson; *Hallelujah, Amen* by Handel; and music from *Amahl and the Night Visitors*.

Tickets are \$6.00 in advance, \$7.00 at the door, and \$4.00 for students or senior citizens. Tickets are available from any chorus member or by calling 342-4775.

Join the River City Mixed Chorus for an evening on enjoyment to start your holiday season.

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

## Iowa Bareskins

-GLA Newsletter

About 40 men attended a potluck and yard party on September 17, which was the first event sponsored by the Iowa Bareskins, a newly formed gay male nudist group. Guest came from as far as Kansas City and Minneapolis. The 90 degree sunshine provided one last glimpse of the long hot summer.

Future Iowa Bareskin events include a video night (not X-rated), Christmas party and a visit to the Minnesota Polar Bares for indoor volleyball. Guests are welcome at any Iowa Bareskins event. For more information, write: Iowa Bareskins, PO Box 266, Des Moines, IA 50301.



Happy  
Holidays



## Miss Gay America Pageant

## Kellogg Picnic

-GLA Newsletter

Recently, I had the opportunity to witness the nation's oldest, largest and most prestigious contest for female impersonators - The Official Miss Gay America Pageant, in Dallas, Texas, October 19-23. Fifty contestants competed for the title of Miss Gay America, with over \$7,000.00 in cash and prizes awarded.

The pageant was held for three nights of preliminary competition at The Marquee and the final night was at the Dallas Convention Theatre. Cherry Lane, the current Miss Gay America presided over the four day event along with special appearances of former Miss Gay Americas: Norma Kristie, Lady Baronessa, Jimmi Dee, Hot Chocolate, Jennifer Foxx, Franchesca Wakeland, Tasha Kohl, Naomi Sims, Lauren Colby, Blaze Starr along with Mr. Gay All-American Patrick Boyd.

Vicki Vincent from St. Louis (Miss Midwest) was crowned Miss Gay America 1989. Brandi Alexander was awarded first runner-up. Other contestants that competed from the midwest included: Dorian Drake - Miss Gay Nebraska, Muffy Rosenberg - Miss Gay Nebraska First Alternate, Kim Alexis - Miss Gay Missouri, Cloe Coleman, Melinda Ryder and Zsa Zsa Principal.

The following dates have been set for competition:

Miss Gay Nebraska America Pageant, March 19th at the Max, Omaha

Miss Gay Great Plains of America Regional Pageant, June 3-4 at the Max, Omaha

MGNA-MGGP, Promoters

Over seventy people from across the state gathered at Rock Creek State Park near Kellogg on October 15 to enjoy a picnic sponsored by the Iowa Lesbian and Gay Men's Coordinating Network. Billed as "An Iowa Family Gathering," the event gave lesbians and gay men from cities and rural areas a chance to meet and relax in a quiet, private setting.

The Coordinating Network is thinking of having another such event next spring. People from various parts of the state will be planning the get-together at Network meetings. All interested people are welcome to give their input.

For information, write: ILGMCN, c/o Access, PO Box 1682, Waterloo, IA 50704, or call (319) 233-9656.

# THE DIAMOND BAR

WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

IN  
OMAHA NEBRASKA  
712 SOUTH 16th STREET 342-9595

STILL THE FRIENDLIEST BAR IN TOWN  
NON-ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES SERVED



"TELL'EM WHERE YOU GOT IT"

# NATIONAL SPOTLIGHT



## Quilt Panels to Smithsonian

The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History will acquire several commemorative panels collected by the NAMES Project for its AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The acquisition will take place over a period of time in an effort to document the diversity of those who have died from Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. The quilt panels will be added to the collection of the Division of Medical Sciences.

Museum Director Roger G. Kennedy, in speaking about the acquisition, said, "The AIDS Memorial Quilt is significant not only as a symbol of those who have died, but also as one aspect of the country's response to that loss."

The quilt currently consists of nearly 9,000 panels. Each of the 3-foot by 6-foot panels -- many created by family groups and friends -- is distinctive in its design, reflecting the personality and interests of the AIDS victim memorialized in the panel.

Since 1981, when the first cases of AIDS were reported, more than 40,000 Americans have died from the effects of the virus, according to the U.S. Surgeon General's Report. By the end of 1991, that figure is expected to increase to 179,000 deaths from an estimated 270,000 cases.

During the coming year, the museum's Division of Medical Sciences, in cooperation with the NAMES Project, will identify and select a number of panels -- based on design, message and gender and age of the individual depicted. The selected panels will join other objects, graphics and educational materials in the collections documenting the medical and social history of AIDS.

## Lesbian Conference Planned

Washington, D.C. -- The first meeting to organize a comprehensive national conference by, for and about lesbians, was held here September 24 & 25. The conference is tentatively scheduled for late 1989, early 1990.

The conference envisioned as the first of its kind, is conceived as a broad-based coalition effort to set a lesbian agenda for social, economic, and political change, to increase lesbian visibility and to acknowledge lesbian diversity and common ground.

Regional planning meetings on the national lesbian conference are being organized throughout the country in the months ahead. The first national steering committee meeting with representatives chosen by each region at the regional planning meetings is scheduled for the weekend of March 4-5, 1989 in Raleigh-Durham, N.C.

Lesbian interested in getting involved should watch for local announcements of regional planning meetings. For more information, write: National Lesbian Conference, P.O. Box 3057, Albany, NY 12203.



**dignity**  
Omaha

Lesbian and Gay  
Roman Catholics  
and Friends

Mass. 7 p.m. 2nd Sunday monthly  
St. John's Church - lower level  
Creighton University Campus

351-4719      PO BOX 31312  
341-1460      OMAHA 68131

## Voices & Visions

*Voices & Visions*, the newsletter of the National Committee for Women's Concerns Dignity/USA made its debut with its fall 1988 issue. The publication is meant to be a forum for dialogue on women's issues and to be a resource for information and ideas concerning gender interactions and community building.

The stated objectives of *Voices and Visions* include

To encourage and nurture the development of a feminist and liberation perspective

To affirm the work of those who bring a feminist perspective to liturgies, meetings and social gatherings

To report the work of the Committee for Women's Concerns at all levels

To encourage constructive dialogue regarding women's issues, gender interactions and future visions of community

To work for the eradication of sexism by redefining the roles of men & women within various groups

Gloria Jean Hammel, co-editor of *Voices and Visions*, summed up her hopes for the newsletter, "We need to continue to dialogue in order to examine and change our attitudes and behaviors which ... hinder better relations between genders." She further stated "We are a community that can ill afford to be unaccepting of dissent. We are a community that can ill afford to be sexist. We are a community that can ill afford to be unchristian and unloving. We know the pain of exclusion and therefore we are called to inclusiveness."

Persons interested in more information on *Voices and Visions*, or who would like to be placed on the mailing list may contact Gloria Jean Hammel at P.O. Box 24609, Baltimore, MD 21214.

# SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS!



## Gay Rights Attorney Named to Commission

San Francisco -- San Francisco Mayor Art Agnos appointed Leonard Graff, a nationally prominent gay rights attorney to the city's Human Rights Commission. The primary function of the Human Rights Commission is to plan, develop and implement legislative mandates for the administration of human rights programs.

"I'm greatly honored to serve my city," said Graff. "Lesbians and gay men form part of the rich diversity of citizenship that is one of San Francisco's greatest assets. I'm anxious to get to work developing strategies for protecting human rights that will carry us through the next decade."

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director praised Agnos for his appointment of Graff. "We are pleased that the Mayor has looked to the resources of the gay community for this Commission appointment. Leonard Graff has extraordinary talents and brings a valuable perspective and expertise to the Commission."

Graff has been active in the gay rights movement since 1972. He was the first openly gay attorney to practice law in Washington, D.C. and he also taught at Southeastern University. In 1982 Graff took over as NGRA's Legal Director, greatly expanding the litigation program, and achieving precedent setting gay rights victories in the courts.

## Submission Deadline

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

## Dignity Opposes Mandatory Testing

Dignity/USA, the Roman Catholic organization for lesbians, gay men and their friends, has issued a statement opposing the mandatory testing and possible discrimination against HIV positive candidates seeking admission to seminaries and religious communities.

James Bussen, national president of Dignity/USA, after consulting with professionals in AIDS education and persons with AIDS, called for religious orders, congregations and seminaries to:

realize that an HIV antibody positive test result is not a valid nor conclusive test which determines that a potential candidate will develop AIDS related complex or AIDS.

realize that the test is not definitive and to deny a candidate possible admission to a community or seminary based on this information would be negligent.

realize that testing of potential candidates opens a "Pandora's Box" on the issue of confidentiality regarding who will have access to the test information and the many ways it

could affect a potential candidate's life regardless whether one eventually enters training or not.

realize that religious communities/seminaries can adopt individual open-ended policies, not "blanket policies" regarding candidates; and that a team composed of the religious community/seminary leadership, the vocation director, the candidate and his/her personal physician as well as an AIDS professional could better evaluate the person's ability to meet the rigorous demands of life in a religious community or seminary program than could an HIV antibody test by itself.

encourage mutual honesty and dialogue between the candidate and the religious community/seminary regarding possible risk behaviors and to utilize counseling techniques when necessary.

establish consistent health guidelines for all high risk profiles, i.e. candidates who smoke cigarettes, candidates who have a family history of cancer and high blood-pressure.

? RISKY SEX ?  
? MULTIPLE SEX PARTNERS ?  
? CASUAL SEX ?

**YOU** MAY BE AT RISK  
FOR AIDS VIRUS INFECTION

**AIDS**  
Information - Referral  
and  
Testing

Lincoln Lancaster County  
Health Department  
(402) 471-8065

For other testing sites call:

Douglas County	(402) 444-7214
Grand Island Hall County	(308) 381-5175
Nemaha County	(402) 274-4549
North Platte	(308) 534-6780 ext 134
Scottsbluff	(308) 632-1299

## Election Produces Mixed Results

This year's election brought mixed results for the gay/lesbian community, according to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. The most significant victory was the defeat of Proposition 102 in California, the Dannemeyer AIDS Initiative that would have eliminated anonymous HIV testing and imposed mandatory reporting of HIV positive individuals. The greatest disappointments were in Oregon, where a state executive order banning sexual orientation discrimination was overturned in a referendum, and in Connecticut, where AIDS and gay civil rights supporter Lowell Weicker was defeated in his bid for reelection to the Senate.

Irrespective of those results, however, Jeffrey Levi, NGLTF's executive director, observed that "this election marks the end of an era of neglect by the President of the nation's most compelling public health issue. While we do not fully agree with President-elect George Bush on many of his positions on AIDS, Bush has been more engaged on this issue than President Reagan. Bush actively supports anti-discrimination protections for persons with HIV infection, and has had an open ear to those working on AIDS in the Public Health Service."

Commenting on the defeat of Proposition 102 and its impact on national politics, Levi observed, "This is a great victory for public health. It is a statement by the people of California that they will not be browbeaten into accepting expensive and ineffective 'quick fixes' to the AIDS problem. It proves that education of a population can work in changing attitudes and increasing understanding about AIDS. We hope this defeat of William Dannemeyer -- on the heels of three-to-one votes against his repressive proposals in the House of Representatives last month -- will return debate to a more reasonable level in California and in the nation's capital. We also believe that defeat of this measure will stop a steamroller effect of copy cat propositions around the country."

NGLTF noted with regret passage of the other California AIDS initiative,

Proposition 98, which, among other things, allows court-ordered testing of persons accused of certain crimes. Observed public information director Urvashi Vaid, "While not as far-reaching as 102, it attacks the basic civil liberties of those most vulnerable in our society -- persons accused of crimes. Had this required testing of those convicted of sexual assault, etc., this might have been an understandable -- though not necessarily appropriate -- approach. However, in permitting testing of those merely accused of certain crimes, the measure undermines the fundamental American principle of innocent until proven guilty -- and provides a motivation for false accusations of crimes. It poses a substantial threat to the accused's opportunity to receive a fair, impartial trial, particularly in jury cases."

The vote to repeal the Oregon executive order on sexual orientation discrimination was the source of great disappointment -- "to gays and lesbians and all those concerned with civil liberties," Levi said. "On the anniversary of Kristallnacht, it is particularly sad that the people of Oregon would turn their backs on any minority group that has suffered discrimination." The contrasting vote in the Presidential election -- Oregonians supported Governor Dukakis -- showed, Levi said, "that progressive views in other areas does not always translate into support for gay/lesbian civil rights."

The returning 101st Congress will look quite similar to the 100th, with one major exception. "The loss of Lowell Weicker -- our strongest advocate and spokesperson in the United States Senate -- will be a tremendous one," commented Levi. "Weicker stood alone at times in fighting uncompromisingly for those who were not represented in the Senate -- all minorities, not just gays and lesbians. His role in increasing funding for AIDS, most recently in the extension of federal funding of AZT, cannot be overestimated."

With the election over, Levi said, "some of the most challenging work is ahead of us. A new administration is being constructed -- and we plan to be in on the ground floor in helping advise and counsel the transition teams about AIDS and civil rights issues."

"We anticipate continued discussion and access to the Public Health Service in a Bush administration," Levi continued, "just as we have had access within the Department of Health and Human Services in the Reagan administration. The change we anticipate is greater receptiveness at the political level -- assuming the budget cutters at the Office of Management and Budget are not given the upper hand in health policy debates."

The logo features the word "AIDS" in a large, bold, stylized font. The letters "A" and "S" are connected at the top. Below "AIDS" is the word "project" in a smaller, lowercase, sans-serif font. The word "nebraska" is written in a very small font between "AIDS" and "project".

3624 Leavenworth  
Omaha, NE 68105

Support Groups  
Buddy System

AIDS Hotline  
9 AM to 11 PM  
Mon. thru Fri  
6 to 11 weekends  
Omaha (402) 342-4233  
Outstate 1-800-782-AIDS

HIV Testing at  
our office,  
7 to 10 PM  
Thursdays

# Safer Sex for Women

## "DAM IT, JANET"

### Susie Sexpert Reports:

When I bring up safe sex to most lesbians, they make a face like someone just pushed a bowl of cold spinach in front of them. I have a very different point of view about safe sex: I see it as an introduction to sexual variation that will last long after the aids epidemic. After all, if you learn a new way to become aroused and get off like you never dreamed of before, you're not exactly going to turn in your nouveau methods just because someone comes out with a vaccine.

Some safe sex we've been doing all along is "safe" tribadism, using vibrators, bondage etc.

I would like to get to the heart of the least understood safe sex practices: condoms, rubber gloves and the elusive dental dams.

Condoms are the biggest convenience item since disposable dike cups. Anyone who has ever shared a dildo or vibrator knows how easy it is to pass a yeast infection, let alone herpes or aids. Usually we get out of bed and wash our toys between uses. But with condoms, you just keep them on the night table next to your lubricant, and roll one right on your own rubber ducky. When you switch the toy into another orifice, you simply strip off that condom and slide on another one. No mess, no fuss, no getting out of bed, no boiling dildoes in your spaghetti pot.

Rubber gloves...when I recently demonstrated gloves in Denver, Colorado, a couple of audience members flushed bright red as soon as I slipped one on my hand. They obviously have had the slick, smooth, delicious experience of being fucked by a gloved hand. The latex is so sensitive that the wearer feels every bit of heat and wetness while the receiver gets all the pressure without any scratches or rough edges. When I've used latex for finger or fist fucking, I've been amazed to extract my hand from the glove and find it dry--the lubrication felt so close to me. What I love as a chronic nail biter, is that my lover's juices don't sting my

hands anymore.. No more pruny fingertips! Suffice to say, I will always enjoy using latex glove wear. (elbow length is available, but the way from stormy leather....)

Now the item that everyone is so uptight about: Latex dams. Well, I'm about to set you straight once and for all. Dams are not only easy to orgasm with in the traditional manner(cunnilingus 101), but you can pursue oral delights you never conceived of before, thanks to this little 4x5 square of sexual satisfaction.

Gourmet techniques #1 is a special clitoral vacuum suck. Stretch a dam over you lovers clit. Feel with your tongue until you can sense her head and foreskin. Now purse your lips around that tiny area and suck in a miniscule bubble of rubber. This will make a nice little vacuum effect on the clit underneath. You can actually "suck bubbles" all over, but as a fan of direct stimulation, I like the clit bubble the best. Let me know how it works on nipples!



The secret strength of dams is that their real liberating effect is for anal sex. With a dam in place, you can approach rimming with the same gusto that you would ordinarily reserve for kissing babies.

It's interesting to me that in the typical sex manuals, they always recommend enemas and thorough cleansing before anilingus. But in real life, pre-AIDS, most people either utterly avoided eating shit by never getting their mouth near anyone's ass. Or they resigned themselves to taking a small risk while enjoying the benefits of all that soft, hot tonguing that every anus craves. Nowadays, with the more frightening prospect of AIDS, most people have strictly sworn off rimming unless they are in very long term monogamous relationships(count me out).

Enter the dental dam. With dams, you can skip the hour-long shower, forget the fleet enema, can the long term monogamy and simply throw your inhibition's in the trash. With a latex square over your lover's anus, you can lick, munch, and probe to your healthful heart's content.

I've saved the best for last.

Ever since I was in sex ed kindergarten, I've been warned that one must never move your mouth from the anus to the vulva, risking infection. Wrong way, No Entrance, etc. Like a good girl, I adapted my sexual habits to avoid this taboo two step.

But imagine this: with a latex dam stretched vertically from the anus to the vagina, you can happily take one long lick from bottom to top, without flinching. It feels great! You can't believe you're getting away with it! You can't believe this is called safe sex!

Yes, there is a silver lining to the STD epidemic, and it comes in mint flavors too. Long live latex. After all, it's latex for longer lives.

YOU ARE INVITED  
TO AN  
INTER CHURCH PRAYER SERVICE  
SPONSORED BY

THE AIDS INTERFAITH NETWORK

FOR ALL THOSE AFFECTED BY AIDS

7:00 P.M. WITH SOCIAL FOLLOWING  
EVERY SECOND MONDAY OF THE MONTH

DEC 14	FEB 17	MAR 14	MAY 14
APR 11	JUN 8	AUG 14	OCT 11
NOV 9	FEB 11	APR 11	MAY 11

SAINT CECILIA'S CATHEDRAL  
701 NORTH 40TH STREET  
OMAHA, NEBRASKA  
800-368-6868

# How to Change a Spark Plug

-Gale Harris

Seattle Gay News

If you ever wonder if a woman is a dyke or not, I have a sure-fire, no risk test: take her to a hardware store when she isn't even interested in buying anything, or doesn't have anything broken that she's thinking about fixing.

It doesn't seem to matter if she's even any good at repairing things around the house—hardware store magic works on me, and I am the worlds foremost klutz. Furthermore, I have just discovered a corollary test that works just as well: automotive discount stores.

The other day I went into one for the first time because a friend was going to show me how to change the sparkplugs on my car, and my mission was to buy the plugs. An automotive discount store is a lot like a hardware store, and the feel is almost the same. You get the same rush—and then you realize that nothing looks familiar. There are tools, but they don't look like the thing you might fix a sink with. Everything has a different look to it—the hammers are rounded, for example. The smell isn't exactly right—and yet, the effect it had on me was almost instantaneous. I turned to my partner and said, "I feel like this is a place I could get tremendously excited about, if I only knew what to do with all this stuff!"

She led me to a whole wall of sparkplugs, and I tried to determine—by ESP mostly, since I had forgotten to bring my eyeglasses—what kind to buy for a 1987 Yugo. She discovered a book that contained that information, and I put back the very pretty red ones that had sort of been calling to me and bought the four blue ones the book recommended.

The friend who was going to teach me about sparkplugs would be at home in either a hardware store or an automotive supply store. She is truly a dyke for all seasons. And besides, she has infinite patience with idiots. As she was explaining a lot of things about the distributor cap and firing order, and why it is important not to get the wires mixed up or anything, I was trying to figure out how to apply the one hard piece of knowledge that I do have concerning things that need to be tightened or loosened: "Lefty Loosey, Righty Tightly." This is one of those rules, like the one about holding a nail you are pounding near the head and not the base—that always works. Only, loosening sparkplugs seemed altogether something else. The wrench has a cunning little ratchet thing that you have to switch depending on what direction you are turning—Anyway, the way I learned my fall-safe rule about tightening/loosening was under unlikely circumstances. I was at a Ginnie Clemmons concert at Mountain Moving Coffeehouse a few years ago, when her G-string broke... (on the guitar!) and she had to replace it. She secured the string at the top and the bottom, and then, as she was about to adjust the tension, she muttered under her breath into a live mike, "Lefty Loosey, righty Tightly." Everybody but me laughed. I was struck dumb in amazement. All my life I had been turning things on instead of off, loosening instead of tightening (or vice versa) fumbling my way by trial and error each time I was in one of those tricky situations. I felt as if I had unexpectedly been given basic dyke survival information—the keys to the kingdom!

...but what about now in this unfamiliar world under the hood of "The Yugo from Hell" (as my son calls it). Would the rules apply here, or were we in an alternative reality?

My competent friend tightened the first sparkplug by hand, turned to me and said curtly, "Left Loose; Right, Tight."



WHEN YOU ARE READING

-by Sterling Hayden

When you are reading, and your thoughts drift,  
Think of me and how I once dreamt that we walked down "memory lane."  
At high noon, the sky our roof,  
the trees our walls,  
And we wedded legally.

Think about the joint income tax we filed together.  
That dreamy year.  
And the insurance policy that covered us knowingly.  
Think about the invisible injustice that once was,  
In our lifetime, and how it dissipated that conceivable year,  
When our imaginations shined with reflected images of all concerned.  
When you are reading, and your thoughts drift,  
Think of how I visioned all states coming together,  
Motioning to create such realities  
And how we believed, that imaginary year,  
"All things are possible with God."

When you are reading and your thoughts drift,  
Remember the courage and dignity which grew within,  
And how far we came, and the journey before us now.

When you are reading, and your thoughts drift,  
Think of me and how good it felt to manifest such freedoms.  
With choices made legally.

When, When you are reading, and you thoughts drift.



# CLASSIFIEDS



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

Lincoln Bisexual desires married white female, 30, non-smoker. Seeks genuine "feminine" friend age 24-40 for friendship and sexual sharings. I value sincerity, romance, understanding & squeaky-clean bodies. First ad. personal contact and correspondence desired from those outstate too. Respond with letter/phone to Lynne, POB 84007, Lincoln, 88501. Anxious, hurry!

Would like to meet Lesbians. I am a big woman but have heart full of LOVE for Ms. Right. Please call: 1-402-551-0080, ask for Vickie, or write 403 N. 40th St. #3, Omaha, NE 68131

Christmas Bazaar/Flea Market: Do your shopping here! Handcrafted items, Princess House Crystal, collectibles. Lunch available. Dec 10, 10-4, Dec 11, 1-5. MCC-Omaha, 420 S 24th.

LUBE!!!!-ForPlay Sensual Lubricant, contains "Nonoxynol-9" (Spermicide). Long-lasting, non-staining, water soluble, 8oz. hygienic dispenser. Send \$8.00 to: Mid-America Mail Order, Dept. V11, 413 Keystone Drive, Blue Springs, MO 64015. SATISFACTION GUARANTEED.

GAY WRESTLING CONTACTS! 500+ men (all 50 states). Fun / Fantasy/hot action. Infopixpak \$3.00: NYWC, 59 West 10th, NYC 10011.

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

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 10th of the month preceding publication. The New Voice reserves the right to edit material submitted for length and appropriateness.

Don't forget - beginning with the January 1989 issue, classifieds are due by the 10th of the preceding month.

## Answering Why

### For Scooter

What can I do while you lie there dying?

Running doesn't help, for there are Ghosts of you everywhere I go.

Last night I didn't want to be alone, But there was no one to turn to.

So, there the ghost of an empty bed in

My dreams.

This doesn't make any sense.

I've done all that I can do to keep my

Mind occupied, but the death that Surrounds me seems so whole, So overwhelming.

Yesterday my fish died and I cried.

Why?

I've always thought that I was strong,

But now I'm not so sure.

I've answered all of the questions Except "Why?"

What I know, feel, and see don't begin

To even give me a clue, and I don't seem

To have gotten any farther than when

This all began.

I've got to give you up and it's hell, But somehow I've got to go on.

Sleep my friend and God be with you.

ps. I guess that God needed another angel.

Steve

## SEASON'S GREETINGS

# 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 LINCOLN

### Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous

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

### Lesbian Support Group

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

### Lincoln Legion of Lesbians

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

### Nebraska Wesleyan Student Group

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

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

### Open Door Ministry

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

### Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)

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

### The Common Woman

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

### The Wimmie's Show

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

### Women's Journal-Advocate

Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

### Women's Assistance

Emergency Fund  
Box 82852, Lincoln, NE 68501

## OMAHA OMAHA

### Dignity of Omaha

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

### Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics

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

### Metropolitan Community

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

### Metropolitan Club

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

### Omaha Meatpackers

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

### River City Bowling League

(402) 345-5118 Scott or  
(402) 493-6116 Charlie

### River City Mixed Chorus

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

### Two Wheelers of Omaha

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

### UNO Student Group

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

## 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

#### 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 Cuddy

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 & Walks, P.C.

201 N. 8th St., Suite 242,  
Lincoln, NE 68508.  
Jim (402) 476-3882

## Omaha Bars, Clubs & Lounges

**The Chesterfield**, 1951 St. Mary's Ave.

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

**The Max**, 1417 Jackson, 346-4110

**The Run**, 1715 Leavenworth, 449-8703

## Lincoln Bars, Clubs & Lounges

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

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

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

## Grand Island Bars, Clubs & Lounges

**Chasin's**, 4th & Walnut,





**Happy  
Holidays**



**From All Of**

**Us At**

**THE MAX**



---

**THE MAX**

---

1417 Jackson St. • Omaha, Nebraska • (402) 346-4110

**MERRY  
CHRISTMAS**



**Happy  
Hanuka**