

VOL. IV NO. IIII

June 10, 1987

The New Voice

O F N E B R A S K A



Our Turn

Views and opinions by *The New Voice* staff.

About the Cover

The title of this issue's cover is "The Day Before." This conception was based on the movie "The Day After." It represents, to the artist, the fear, frustration and helplessness that some of us have about nuclear disarmament. It stands for the "realistic" side of power -- that power being not of the bomb, but of the people behind it.

Nuclear disarmament or the idea of nuclear war is an issue for everyone. There are no boundaries.

May Cover

The cover was designed by John Stephen, who is a computer programmer in Lincoln. His drawings are derived using programs on his computer.

An Appeal

I am on the staff of *The New Voice of Nebraska*. I allow my telephone number to be listed as a contact person in Omaha and provide a postal box for contact mail. I also submit articles and photos for publication, assist in Omaha distribution and represent the magazine in various ways. These are volunteer services which I gladly extend to the magazine. For financial gain (or breaking even) I work the graveyard shift. This employment makes it impossible for me to join the Lincoln staff and steering committee. I represent *The New Voice* in Omaha. At present no one represents Omaha to *The New Voice*.

The New Voice needs to have an Omaha representative! It should be someone who is involved in the community and willing and able to attend steering committee and staff meetings in Lincoln. *The New Voice* is a non-profit organization; hence, none of the staff are reimbursed. The publication is important to Omaha and to the community throughout our state and readers out of state.

The New Voice also needs more contribution of articles from Omaha. We need someone to cover various events. With the increase in the number of shows at The Max, my coverage has been less than adequate. I have not attended any functions at any other bar for some time. Things do happen at The Diamond, The Run and The Chesterfield. The Metropolitan Club is active, the MCC as well, and the list of organizations goes on. If you don't consider yourself a writer, submit notes for a final draft from another member of the staff.

The New Voice doesn't want to be a Lincoln-only publication -- but Omaha must be willing to contribute, as should all of Nebraska. Help!

--Jerry Peck



July Issue to Feature Differently-Abled Persons

The New Voice will feature differently-abled persons in its July issue. If you are differently-abled, or if you know someone who is, consider writing an article on this topic. *The New Voice* welcomes contributions from readers on this special issue, as well as other items of interest to the gay/lesbian community of Nebraska. Our address is *The New Voice*, P.O. Box 80819, Lincoln, NE 68501.

Notice to Subscribers

Due to circumstances beyond our control, some *New Voice* subscribers may not have received their April issues. We regret any possible oversights to our subscribers. If you did not receive your April issue, please call us at (402) 474-1205 or write us at P.O. Box 80819, Lincoln NE 68501.

June 1987

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The New Voice of Nebraska

P.O. Box 80819 P.O. Box 3512
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Letters

Gay Prisoner's Viewpoint

Dear Editor:

Being a 21-year-old prison inmate has given me a chance to reflect upon my troublesome past, and build on the weaknesses that put me here.

I feel that those weaknesses are very common among the homosexual community. They are so strong that we are often blinded by them, blinded to our families, friends and even the law.

The main weakness that a lot of the homosexual community faces is the extreme sense of competition. We are so concerned about our public images, always striving to top another person, that we often lose sight of what is really important.

Being originally from a small town,

my move to the big city was a real experience. At first I thought the entire scene was excellent. Then after being at certain places, meeting certain people, doing certain things, I discovered just how plastic the whole scene could be. Needless to say, after a short period of time I was totally involved in it.

In the end, it seemed that in order for your popularity to rise, your bank account or debts must do the same. That's what eventually put me where I am today.

Competition is a natural happening; in fact, we must have it in our society today to be able to maintain the quality of living we are accustomed to. However, when the degree of competition is comparable to a fighting match, it is not healthy for us as individuals or all of us as a community.

We already have obstacles against us, without fighting among ourselves. We need to stick together, lean on each other, and become one instead of individualists.

--Todd Noll



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Local Events

Omaha Pride Week

Pride Week 1987 will be celebrated by member organizations of Bars and Organizations of Omaha (B.O.O.) beginning with the River City Mixed Chorus' Gay Arts Festival on June 13 and 14. June 20 will see the coronation of the new Emperor and Empress of the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON). Pride Week will climax with the third annual Pride Parade on June 27. The final event of the celebration will be a Pride Rally on June 28, sponsored by the various religious organizations and featuring a nationally known speaker from Presbyterians for Gay and Lesbian Concerns. For details contact any member organization of B.O.O. Details about these events are also highlighted elsewhere in this issue of *The New Voice*.

Boardwalk Third Anniversary

The Boardwalk in Lincoln is celebrating its third anniversary in June. Make sure what's happening at the Boardwalk includes you! Check the bar for details.

Midwest Gay Arts Festival II Is June 13-14

An "outrageous" feminist, 70 lesbian and gay singers, numerous community groups, and a number of local artists will come together for two days of fun, music, art and community celebration on June 13 and 14, 1987. The River City Mixed Chorus, with the support of the Nebraska Arts Council, presents Midwest Gay Arts Festival II, the kick-off event for two weeks of Gay Pride celebrations in Omaha. The entire Festival will be held in the Strauss Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Nebraska at Omaha.

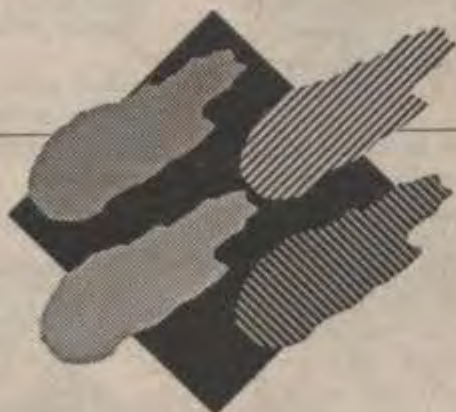
The Second Annual Art Show and Sale will be featured from 1 to 7 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday in the Strauss lobby. Though not a showing of gay art, most artists will be lesbian or gay, and all artwork will be for sale. In addition, representatives from local organizations will be on hand to offer information for visitors. (A few booths are still available; phone 402/551-6354 for information.)

Saturday night, June 13, at 7 p.m., the UNO Women's Resource Center and the River City Mixed Cho-

rus present feminist vocalist Sue Fink in concert in Strauss Recital Hall. Ms. Fink's "synthsational" techno-pop music has excited audiences from coast to coast. Reviews have included: "Sue Fink: taking aim at pop song themes; a clear and appealing voice for thoughtful and incisive songs." --*The Washington Post* . . . "There's no denying the adventurous, experimental spirit displayed." --*City Pages, Minneapolis* . . . "The flamboyant and playful Fink pleased the crowd by overdoing everything." --*The L.A. Times*. Tickets for the Sue Fink concert are \$8 in advance, \$9 at the door.

The final event of the weekend Festival will be a joint Omaha-Kansas City Choral concert Sunday evening, June 14, at 5 p.m. in Strauss Recital Hall. The concert, "Summer Kamp," will feature the River City Mixed Chorus under the direction of Kevin Jones. The Chorus has gone all-out for this one, including a medley from "La Cage Aux Folles" and music by

...continued



MIDWEST
G A Y
A R T S
FESTIVAL
II

June 13 - 14, 1987
1 - 7 pm
Strauss Performing Arts
Center

Stephen Sondheim and Aaron Copland. For the second half of the concert, special guests Heartland Men's Chorus of Kansas City will perform a musical variety, with the finale combining the two choruses. Tickets for the Sunday evening choral concert are \$5 in advance, \$6 at the door.

A special advance "package" ticket for both concerts is just \$10 before June 1, available from any Chorus member.

Tickets are on sale in Lincoln at Kelly's and at Cherchez la femme. Discount ticket prices are available for groups of five or more. Contact Kelly for more information.

The River City Mixed Chorus hopes this Festival is a source of pride and unity for the gay and lesbian population of the Midwest.

"Pack Your Pride For A Picnic"

Unofficially, the only Gay/Lesbian Pride activity scheduled for Lincoln during June is a picnic sponsored by various individuals. This is an opportunity for many of us to come together, if we choose, and should not be overlooked. Announced only within the community, this activity is one where a person can remain anonymous, if necessary.

June 20, 1987 is the date, at 1 p.m.; the site is Antelope Park. The entrance by "A" Street and Capitol Parkway is closest to the pavilion that is planned to be used. Colored streamers will be in the corners of this pavilion as an identifier. A

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volleyball net is close by, as is a softball diamond. Singles, couples, children, parents and friends of gays and lesbians are invited.

A main dish to pass, snacks, etc., are welcome. Grills are available. Hope to see you there.

"BENT" Captivated Audience

The intensity of "Bent," which was written by Martin Sherman and recently performed by the Nebraska Directors Theatre, lingers on. One is fooled by the opening scene. Two male lovers are sparring: one avoiding, one intent upon knowing how the previous drunken evening was spent. Within this scene a "third party" emerges in an ill-fitting bathrobe, an obvious pickup. One relaxes; this play isn't going to be as "heavy" as comments had suggested.

This lapse in mood is momentary. Seconds later two Nazis enter stage left, murdering the "pickup," who is later identified as head of the Berlin storm troopers. Lost is the morning after scene, the ease with which Max, the lead, and Rudy, his lover, pursued their lifestyle.

"Bent" continues, depicting an accurate view of how the Nazis handled homosexuals. However, the focus is not on the Nazis, but on the homosexuals and how they do or do not betray themselves. Much of this is left to Max, portrayed by Scott Tomhave, and Horst, played by Bill Trotter.

Horst advises Max to save himself by denying his lover. Max succeeds

only too well, as does his performance. He is given a yellow star, now a Jew rather than a homosexual.

Bill Trotter mirrors convincingly the effect that each of Max's choices has upon his emotions. To save himself? Yes. To deny his homosexuality by giving a bit of himself to a dead teenage girl? No. The issues flash in and out of the daily moving of a rock pile by Max and Horst, a "privilege" allowed by the yellow star.

Horst provides the bridge to intimacy for Max. Their successful intimacy is the "light at the end of the tunnel" when repression has the upper hand.

--C.M. Carroll

Lesbian Laughter With Ellen & Hillary

On April 26, 1987, Kelly's in Lincoln presented an evening of comedy with local talent Ellen Wisse and special guest star Hillary Harris.

Ellen's Lincoln debut was in June of 1986 when she performed at the YWCA as part of a wimmin's gathering to welcome members of the Great Peace March to our community. She delighted the audience with her insight and ability to showcase everyday life in a lighthearted, often hysterical, manner. From that night on she has been a local favorite.

Ellen opened the show at Kelly's by "discussing" her observations and feelings about such topics as political correctness, tampons,



masturbation, and coming out. As with all of Ellen's performances, the audience related to the topics and thoroughly enjoyed her interpretations.

After a short intermission, Ellen introduced Hillary Harris. Hillary says she draws her material from "harsh issues" and "taboo topics." Using a lesbian/feminist perspective and a comedic forum, she turns those issues into something that can be openly talked about.

Others before her had removed social or sexual barriers which allowed her the freedom to perform from a Lesbian/Feminist perspective.

Hillary has been doing comedy for just over a year. She said she was influenced by Kate Clinton and Robin Tyler, but feels she owes much of her success to having grown up in an "open generation." Others before her had removed social or sexual barriers which allowed her the freedom to perform from a Lesbian/Feminist perspective. Hillary has been touring the South and Midwest for about three months. She said she has gotten good audience response wherever she has performed, and intends to continue touring.

Hillary told me that she has to love her audiences in order to be able to say the things she does during her performances. It was obvious to me that she does just that. Hillary struck me as being a mature and intelligent woman who has a strong commitment to the rights and freedoms of all people, but especially women. I was impressed by this awareness and commitment by a woman who is only in her mid-twenties. She crosses age barriers and closes generation gaps both with her material and her perceptions of life.

While on stage, Hillary is vibrant, confident, poised and incredibly funny. Offstage she is a concerned and caring woman who uses her comedic talents not only to provide excellent entertainment, but to make this world a better place for all of us. I, for one, applaud her efforts.

Don't miss the chance to see Hillary Harris. Attend her performance; you'll not only be thoroughly entertained, but you'll walk away with a bit more awareness than you arrived with. On that note, there is the possibility that Hillary will be returning to Lincoln in January. We'll keep you posted!

--Lynn



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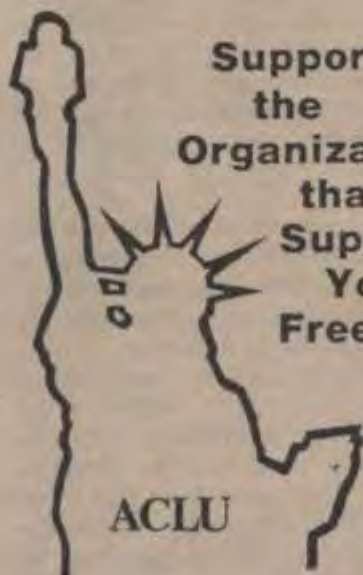
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That's the Ticket!

The New Voice is sponsoring its first annual Summer Raffle. No, we're not raffling off the summer, but we will have a number of fine prizes, including two tickets to the Nebraska-UCLA football game and gift certificates from Dirt Cheap Records. Tickets, which cost one dollar apiece, will go on sale beginning June 13-14 at the Midwest Gay Arts Festival at the Strauss Performing Arts Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. Tickets will be available after those dates from *The New Voice*. Watch for further raffle details in the July issue of *The New Voice*.

Pride & Politics

John Taylor "First Openly Gay" Executive Director of ACLU

I left rejuvenated, ready to tackle the many projects at home. I had come only for an interview. John Taylor was a breath of fresh air in a long day. A reminder that, indeed, "I do too much, because there is too much to be done." John's statement referred to being Executive Director of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union. John is known as the first openly gay man to be an Executive Director for an American Civil Liberties Union affiliate. I asked him to clarify. Clarification takes us a few steps back, to when John's social consciousness was heightened. Fourteen years ago John met his current lover, who had a sense of social and political responsibility and encouraged John to join his neighborhood association.

John lost a job because of his sexual orientation. ... "I never wanted to be in that position again."

In 1973, as John's social and political activities were increasing, a personal loss occurred. John lost a job because of his sexual orientation. His and six other similar discrimination cases were documented at that time. John stated, "I never wanted to be in that position again." For John this meant being up front with his sexual orientation at all times.

The ACLU became a means of pursuing legislation to prevent discrimination. A mobilization within the Lincoln Gay/Lesbian community occurred in 1982. A referendum was put before the public to outlaw discrimination based on sexual orientation in the areas of housing, public accommodation and employment. This mobilization was preceded in 1981 by the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus performing in Lincoln. John sees that as having been a catalyst for many.

The defeat of this referendum was complete. Eighty-percent of the voters were against equality for Lesbians and Gays. The ACLU offered an alternative: it was one of the first organizations to call for equal rights, and continues to do so.

John's openness in gaining his position is the ACLU philosophy in action. In 1984 John ran for a position as a board member with the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union. His list of community involvement included those within the Gay/Lesbian community. Thus he was "out" to anyone who chose to notice. Two years later this same Board was responsible for hiring John in his current position as Executive Director. At this time his sexual orientation was voiced by one board member to the others. The intent was to ensure that John would be supported by the Board

if his orientation became an issue after his hiring. No one would be able to say, "I didn't know." The Board agreed to accept John and the responsibility of supporting him if necessary.

John would like to see more gay men and women within the ACLU.

I asserted to John that "Not all of us could get to where you are today." He disagrees. Every year one-third of the Board of Directors are elected or reelected. Anyone interested can join the ACLU, attend meetings, and become as active as they are comfortable with. John would like to see more gay men and women within the ACLU. As a "parent" organization, the ACLU provides a real safety net, in that it is not a gay group. The ACLU is not always as vulnerable, nor as closeted, as some Gay/Lesbian groups and members of such groups feel they need to be. Impressive and important is that all ACLU funds are derived from donations and membership fees.

A current issue within our community is confidentiality and testing for AIDS. The NCLU maintains that confidentiality is a must, unless laws are put in place prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation.

John is happy with the NCLU. He is comfortable with his sexual orientation and fortunate in that it was not a real struggle for him. It is an advantage, not only to "our" community, but to the community at large, that John is a part of the Nebraska Civil Liberties Union.

--C.M. Carroll



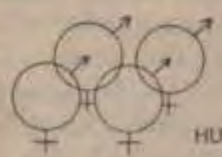


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An Image of Pride

Pride! Once again, the time of year has arrived when we remember Stonewall and declare to ourselves and to each other that we can be proud.

It has become increasingly difficult for me to maintain a sense of pride about myself or the community that I am a part of. We as homosexuals have been accused rather loudly of being the cause of a "plague." The Roman Catholic Church has declared us to be spiritual outcasts. Division within our own community has made it necessary to remove the term "Gay" from our pride celebrations.

The question has often been raised: "What does it mean to be gay?" My simple answer is that a gay person is a homosexual who is happy in her or his sexuality. For me, people who have come to grips with their sexuality -- and are content and happy with who and what they are -- have reason to hold their heads high with pride in their personal accomplishment.

As a member of the gay community (attending gay bars, and other gay organizations, and socializing with other gays) there are many things that I find frustrating. Some people do not reflect a positive image of what I would like the gay community to be. I prefer to accentuate the positive.

In the face of apathy, power struggles and personality conflicts, it amazes me that anything ever gets accomplished, but it does.

Consider the various organizations which exist within the gay community. Every organization has people who want to make living within that community better. In the face of apathy, power struggles and personality conflicts, it amazes me that anything ever gets accomplished, but it does. The fact that concerned gays have put together a number of activities during (Gay) Pride Week is reason enough for all of the community to be proud. The ongoing efforts of these groups and individuals throughout the year is reason to be proud.

Perhaps proudest are those of us who take an active part in the organizations and attend gay sponsored events. Perhaps the least proud are those who are merely homosexuals, who have yet to learn to be happy and proud of who and what they are. A truth is that we must love ourselves before we can love others, and expect others to love us in return. Put on a happy face and join in the Pride Activities during (Gay) Pride Week. It just might feel good!

--Jerry Peck

AMETHYST - Some - thing to Be Proud Of

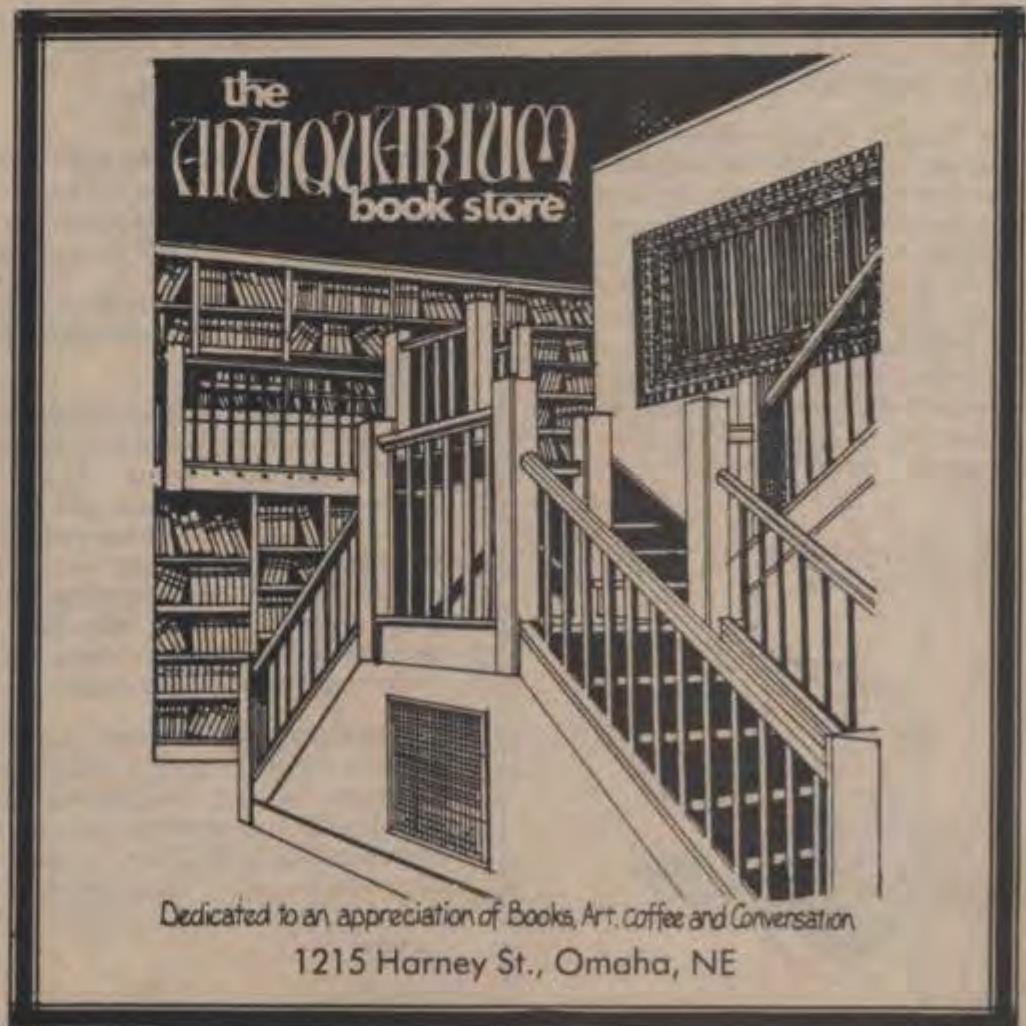
AMETHYST, Lincoln's only all wimmin's band, is proud to announce the release of their demo tape, the first item of their upcoming promotion kit. The tape was produced on April 25, 1987 at Master Tracks in Lincoln, with the help of Tom Larsen.

While Amethyst has a large local following, they would like to increase their audience by making appearances in other communities such as Omaha, Colorado, Iowa and Kansas. They are also looking toward the possibility of performing at wimmin's music festivals next year. In the attempt to achieve these goals they are putting together a promotional kit, including: the band's history; set list; photos; and a video tape. The tape has been sent out regionally, and the promo kit will follow as soon as production money is available.

The demo tape sounds excellent, and consists of five songs: "Somebody Please" (Kathy Tejcka), "It Won't Be Long" (Aretha Franklin), "Since I Fell for You" (Buddy Johnson), "Someone Else Is Steppin' In" (Ernestine Anderson), and "Rockabye Boogie" (Davis Sisters).

The tape, like each performance, has a full range of styles, including rhythm and blues, rock, reggae, and a little slice of country.

continued



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If you have never heard Amethyst, you are really missing a gem of a performance. They are scheduled to perform at the Zoo Bar in Lincoln on June 23, July 15, and August 6. Do yourself a favor and check out this wonderful Lincoln talent.

If you are interested in obtaining a copy of Amethyst's demo tape, please call Pam Pearn, (402) 476-3996, and place your order.

--Sandy

Gay/Lesbian Union Receives Funding

The University of Iowa Gay People's Union was allocated an unprecedented sum by the university Student Senate at its May 5, 1987 meeting. Gay People's Union was given a total of \$6980 for its 1987-88 fiscal year budget. The largest single portion of the budget was allocated for health education, specifically centered around AIDS, HIV, and safer sex programming. The amount given for health education was nearly \$5000. Gay People's Union was also allotted funds for its newsletter, office expenses, and its Outreach/Support Groups.

Gay People's Union requested almost six thousand dollars for health education because, as one officer of the organization said, "The University isn't doing anything about it. (U of I) Student Health Services hasn't allocated a penny this year for AIDS education, and we have a top administrator here who has been quoted by the press twice in the past year as saying, 'We're more concerned about measles right now.'"

--Gay People's Union
University of Iowa



Political Victories to Celebrate:

The *Seattle Gay News* (May 1, 1987) listed the following victories to celebrate. Some are state or local in nature, while others have national import; all of them give reason to take pride in the continuing struggle to achieve civil rights for gays and lesbians.

1. Defeat of right wing anti-gay initiatives or referendums 7, 10, 490 and anti-abortion 479, with widespread support from labor, church and community organizations; LaRouche quarantine initiative fails 3 to 1 in California.
2. Lesbian Resource Center celebrates 16th anniversary and finds permanent home; NLA sponsors 1st National Living in Leather Conference in Seattle; U.W. Women's Commission holds Homophobia Conference.
3. Success in Olympia, the Dorian Group's expanded legislative project gains committee hearing on gay rights bill

- and promotes other legislation; Senator Brock Adams signs on the National Gay Rights Bill.
4. Increasing safe sex consciousness and successful AIDS education programs; Seattle/King County AIDS projects receive 1.6 million grant from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Seattle's lesbian/gay community continues to support people with AIDS/ARC with money, energy and love; Surgeon General Koop issues strong report advocating nationwide AIDS education.
5. U.S. Supreme Court, and Washington State's, find people with AIDS/ARC are protected as disabled persons; anti-discrimination policies adopted by six of Seattle's major employers; U.S. Supreme Court upholds affirmative action hiring for women and minorities in *Johnson vs. Transportation Agency*.
6. Lesbian and gay movement organizes the second National March on Washington, D.C., for human rights on October 11, 1987.

Symbols of Pride

As I reflect upon the past eight years, I see that our "symbols of pride" have undergone changes. Perhaps these changes have occurred simply with passing time, or maybe they are related directly to the geographic regions where I observed them, or possibly both.

Those symbols that come to mind from the past are: gold chains, high top tennies, radically short hair cuts, and key chains hanging on belt loops.

As time goes on, the symbols appear to be more "personalized" and less "radical" while still making a positive statement of pride in oneself and the community. Some things, such as non-traditional dress, Birkenstocks, white tennies and double-pierced left ears, are more individualized statements. Others are indicative of an increased commitment to sisterhood, community and long-term relationships. These latter symbols include the exchanging of rings, a conscious effort to purchase items made by wimmin, attending wimmin's music festivals and other wimmin- or community-related events, and becoming more involved with community organizations.

Maybe the symbols haven't actually changed all that much over the years; perhaps, instead, it is my personal awareness that has grown. Whatever the case, the symbols that we choose to use as expressions of our pride are important parts of who we are. They allow us to show our individual pride. They also serve to show a positive, healthy attitude of acceptance of our lifestyles to those just coming out and to the general population. We have every right to be proud of who we are -- and to show it!

--Lea

vote
Velvet
EMPRESS
VII

Features

PFLAG Booknotes

Sex, Drugs, & AIDS by Oralee Wachter. New York: Bantam Books, 1987; p.b. \$3.95.

Oralee Wachter is the author of *No More Secrets for Me*, and is known for her films on crisis issues for young people. This thin little book is based on the film by the same name, which packs a heavy wallop for anyone who views it, although it is aimed at teenage people. The book attempts to capture the film format, but somehow the printed word does not have quite the same punch as seeing the film. The movie is narrated by Rae Dawn Chong and develops messages about how AIDS is and is *not* transmitted, as well as homophobia. The book contains an introductory note by Mathilde Krim, Ph.D., Co-chair of the American Foundation for AIDS Research, and a question and answer section about AIDS at the back.

The film on which this little book is based is currently being shown in many high schools around the country and in Nebraska. There is a scene in which three young women are discussing their relationships with their boy friends, and one of them is wondering

about contraception. This leads to further talk about options available to them to protect themselves from disease, as well as an unwanted pregnancy. It is this particular scene that has been controversial because, although the option of abstinence from sex is mentioned, it is not given high priority consideration. However, the message is clear that a young person does have choices.

Having seen the film and knowing that its format really appeals to its intended audience, I was eager to read the book. I do not think the book can replace the film, but it is worthwhile. I urge any of you with younger brothers or sisters, or children, to at least browse through it. Its information is essential knowledge, and a book like this in hand is a good conversation starter on a topic that is uppermost in many minds but still not always dealt with comfortably.

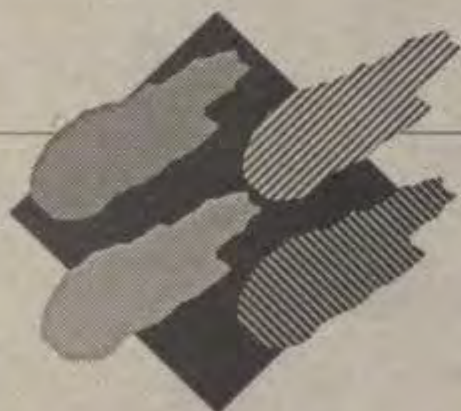
Two more points: Be sure to read the small print information on the copyright page, which stresses the need to keep up to date with information; and, you should know that part of the proceeds from the sale of this book go to the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

--Jean Durgin-Clinchard
PFLAG, 435-4688

ICON News

It has been a long year. As a community, we have seen many changes. Personally, I have realized some successes in achieving my goals. It *has* been a long year and many people need to be thanked.

Most important to me is thanking my friend, my partner, and my lover, Terry Sweeney. Terry made my realizations complete. He led when I couldn't; he followed when I needed him. While working closely with me he found time to organize and implement Project Concern, helping the total community in Nebraska to understand that AIDS is not a gay man's problem. It is the problem of men straight and gay, womyn both straight and gay, and children. He helped the community that education is our best defense. Terry stood by my belief that the Imperial Court of Nebraska is working, as are many "courts" throughout our country. Working in the community to make my life, your lives, all of our lives much better. We have raised monies as well as awareness about organizations throughout Nebraska, with no thought of thanks. The thanks comes at coronation when, with unity, many organizations come together to celebrate our continuous positive efforts.



MIDWEST
G A Y
A R T S
FESTIVAL
II

River City Mixed Chorus

presents their summer concert

Summer Kamp

with guests
Heartland Men's Chorus
from Kansas City

5pm, June 14,
Strauss Recital Hall

Tickets: \$5 in advance
\$6 at the door

This year we have a great opportunity ahead of us at Coronation VII. Only two persons felt strongly enough about our community to run as candidates. Dick Brown is running for Emperor VII and Velvet (Vince Percy) is running for Empress VII. When only two choose to run, it is most important to show your strength by voting. You will have the opportunity to vote yes or no on each candidate. Your votes may never count more. Express yourselves by voting June 20 at Coronation. Voting time is 5:45 p.m. until 7:45 p.m., and Coronation begins at 8.

It has been my privilege and honor to be your Emperor. My thanks to all of you, and thank you for your support.

Imperially yours,
Emperor VI
Pat Phalen

P.S. In the 60's, Vietnam brought people together; in the 70's Harvey Milk and our goal of liberation united us. Now in the 80's we must have a united front against apathy and AIDS. Be Safe, Be Aware.



NEBRASKA
CORONATION VII

Absolutely "The Max" Elite Review

P.S. Your Cat Is Dead

In April The Max presented the play "P.S. Your Cat Is Dead." I marvel at the way a corner of a bar can be transformed into a stage, and at how much talent can be brought to that stage. The cast did a superb job of bringing the characters alive, especially with apparent ad-libs which joined the characters' personalities to the actors. Most memorable for me was "Nice Fabric," as the burglar was draped with a printed sheet.

The story line of the play was unbelievable, and therefore quite entertaining. A burglar returned a third time to the scene of the crime (didn't he get everything before?). He hides under the bed to overhear the woes of the tenant's girlfriend leaving a "Dear John" letter, the tenant lamenting the loss of the only copy of a manuscript (taken in an earlier theft), the loss of his job, and the girlfriend's hearing from the vet that the cat is dead.

The burglar confronts the tenant and shocks him into release by telling him -- while in a strangle hold -- that his cat is dead. (Really!) Tables are turned, and soon the burglar is bound to the kitchen sink. He has to go to the bathroom, so his tenant host cuts off the burglar's trousers and underwear and leaves him dangling in the sink. They end up drinking champagne to celebrate New Year's, and the host learns about his burglar guest's homosexuality.

The situation continues to be far-fetched right up to the time when the two men go to bed together.

The Camp Omaha Cookbook

.....
Exclusively available at
Midwest Gay Arts Festival II
June 13-14, 1 p.m. to 7 p.m.

.....
Strauss Performing Arts
Center, Omaha

On Mother's Day the Elite review brought four men to the dance floor to remove their clothes to the delight of a men-only crowd. My camera and I found our way to this event. *New Voice* policy prohibits publishing photos without permission, and those boys spent most of their time among the patrons. This made the bucks fly but picture-taking difficult.



My personal opinion is that these men devoted more time to collecting tips than to performing. Being less affluent than others in the audience, I did not enjoy this group as much as some earlier shows.

Velvet did a superb job as emcee, and got a Mother's Day bouquet, along with a lot of tips, for her performance.

The Max is in the final stages of planning their expansion, and hopefully the actual work will soon begin. It's difficult to think of The Max getting better -- but bigger will be nice.

--Jerry Peck



Legal Briefs—

Nebraska Victim Fights Back

An increase in national reports of anti-gay violence has brought with it legal vindication of the victims' rights and individual dignity. One victim in Lincoln has now filed a civil lawsuit against his four attackers. One of the attackers is still at large fleeing charges of felony criminal conspiracy.

Phil D. Rexinger, 21, was attacked last November by Edward Holloway, 19, Glen Alfrey, 19, Thomas McKnight, 20, and Tim Irwin, 24. Police reports show that the four had been drinking "quite a bit" until they decided to "go out and beat up a fag and rob some money from him." The four went to the State Capitol Building where they saw "a gentleman who they felt was a fag." They cornered him in a small bus passenger shelter, where they repeatedly struck him with their fists and a baseball bat. Holloway acted as a lookout during the attack. Rexinger suffered severe wounds, bruises, contusions, abrasions, and injuries to his face and hands.

The four were charged with criminal conspiracy, based on Holloway's confession that the four sat together in an apartment and planned the attack.

Pursuant to a plea bargain, Holloway pleaded guilty to a charge of third degree assault and was fined \$300. McKnight initially pleaded not guilty to the criminal conspiracy charge in county court, and was bound over to district court where he later entered a plea of guilty to third degree assault. Judge Dale E. Fahrbruch sentenced McKnight to the maximum one year in the Nebraska State Penitentiary. Alfrey pleaded guilty to a third degree assault charge, and he is scheduled to be sentenced on July 10. Irwin is still at large, and a felony warrant has been issued for his arrest.

Rexinger's civil action asks for money damages for his pain and suffering from the attack and payment of the hospital bills and lost wages. Rexinger's attorney, Randall T. Smith of Lincoln, filed the suit on May 21, 1987 in the Lancaster County Court. Smith stated that he is "confident in a victorious outcome of the civil action because three of the four defendants pleaded guilty in court to attacking Rexinger."

--Mark Wojcik



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Local Organizations

"Camp Omaha Cookbook" Available

A "cookbook of a different color" makes its debut this summer in Omaha. Everything from soup to nuts will be included in the *Camp Omaha Cookbook*, featuring over 200 recipes by River City Mixed Chorus singers and friends.

A wide variety of culinary information is within the pages of the cookbook -- some good for that special candlelight dinner for two, and some good for a laugh. Recipes include award-winning quiches from the annual "Quiche-Off" held each February in Omaha.

The cookbook will be introduced at the Midwest Gay Arts Festival, June 13-14 in Strauss Performing Arts Center at the University of Nebraska at Omaha. The cook-

book, sold as a fundraiser for the Chorus, features a "campy" nature and is of special interest to "our community."

For those who cannot attend the Festival, the cookbook is available by mail from the River City Mixed Chorus, Post Office Box 315, Omaha, NE 68101-0315.

"Dignity" Celebrates Memories

Dignity/Omaha participated in a community-wide memorial service which was held Sunday, May 3, at the Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church, to remember those we have lost in our community this past year. As we call to mind the 20 missing from our midst, we realize that as a community and as individuals, we face threats from

disease, fear, violence, loneliness, and isolation.

This past year those threats have become real and have taken from us friends, lovers, family, and children. Their voices are silent, their laughter is gone; yet in our hearts they linger on and we celebrate the lives of Lynn, Scott, Marilyn, Michael, Sandy, Paul, Jim, Phil, Charlie, Lucille, John, Brad, Dave, Charles, John, Steven, Ric, John, Linda and Roberta.

Intensive Care

A caring Dignity/Omaha group participated in dealing with an intense subject at our April gathering. The topic of the gathering was anger, and ran the gamut of personal, inter-personal, and institutional anger. Helping the group work through those issues and develop strategies for dealing with our anger was Ellie Hites, a psychiatric social worker from the Hudson Center. Ellie indicated that some medical authorities feel that as many of 90 percent of major illnesses are a direct result of the effects of holding anger and stress within ourselves. For our own health and well-being, it is necessary to deal with our anger.

Assertiveness, vs. aggressiveness, is one strategy for dealing with anger. Writing was another strategy that was recommended. When you find yourself becoming very angry, write. Get all of the pent-up energy out. Write until you feel closure. Set the writing aside and then, sometime later, go back to it. After removing the epithets, the aggression, and the accusations, you should be left with a distillation of the central issue. That issue will be much more manageable to deal with in an assertive manner. Many other strategies for dealing with anger were included in a book recommended by Ellie, called *The Dance of Anger*.

--Dignity/Omaha Newsletter
May 1987

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Safe Things to Do With Your Hands and Mouth

What's black and white and red all over? It's the River City Mixed Chorus, in black slacks and skirts, white shirts and blouses, and with red faces when they hold that "high C" for 85 counts (or at least sometimes it seems that long).

You say you haven't been to an RCMC concert yet? What are you waiting for, a personal invitation from Ron Reagan? The Chorus has been around for three years!

Just who is the audience for the Chorus? Twice a year -- at Christmas and in the spring -- they try to be "just another Omaha chorus." But in the summer, it's the annual RCMC Pride concert specifically for the gay and lesbian community. (The same community that has created over 50 gay/lesbian/mixed choruses across North America.)

Grab your datebook and mark June 13 and 14, the dates of the second Midwest Gay Arts Festival. There's a lot of talent in the lesbian/gay community: RCMC is hosting an art show and sale (both days), feminist singer Sue Fink (June 13), and a joint Choral concert with Kansas City's Heartland Men's Chorus (June 14).

What's the last drag show you attended? Last Sunday night? How about a Chorus concert, hmmm? Not for you? Well, you just might be surprised. First of all, it's a fun community social event. You'll see people and be seen. It's a chance to experience just what another gay/lesbian organization is up to.

It's an incredible pride-building experience. Ask anyone who's in the audience for the first time. Better yet, ask a Chorus member after his/her first on-stage concert. It's "Cloud 9" for hours after the last song!

Maybe most importantly, the name of the organization is the River City *Mixed Chorus. Men and women*

singing together. In fact, the largest mixed chorus in the national GALA Choruses network. *Sisters and brothers* making music together!

(And what's the heading got to do with all this? Use your hands to applaud during the concert. And, if you're up to it, join the Chorus as a singer and make beautiful music with your mouth. Rehearsals start with warm-ups -- a kind of foreplay; then members give each other massages; then . . . well, it gets too interesting to tell here.)

--RCMC

Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns

Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns is now meeting regularly in Nebraska and Iowa. The organizing meeting on Feb. 28 was attended by six persons, of both genders, from both urban and rural areas of Nebraska and Iowa. At that time the group decided that for the next year we will concentrate on being a fellowship group and getting to know one another. However, the coordinator will make himself available to speak to Presbyterian and non-Presbyterian groups who are concerned about the role of gays and lesbians within the church.

PLGC is meeting on the last Saturday of the month in varying

places in Iowa and Nebraska. Meetings will most often be held in the Omaha or Des Moines areas. Our June 27 meeting will be special for us: Rosemarie Wallace, national co-moderator of PLGC, will be our guest. Rosemarie, the former moderator of the Baltimore Presbytery and a retired elementary school principal, has been an active voice for the rights of lesbians and gays in the Presbyterian Church for many years. She will be the keynote speaker for the final event of Omaha's Pride Week celebration on June 28.

The June 27 meeting of our area PLGC will feature a cookout on Lake Manawa in Council Bluffs. Please call Cleve at (402) 733-1360 for details. Overnight accommodations can be arranged for out-of-towners who wish to attend any PLGC function. We emphasize that one does not have to be either Presbyterian or gay/lesbian to be welcomed as part of our fellowship.

Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns is happy to be part of the growing gay and lesbian community of Nebraska, and we look forward to being active participants in many future events.

--Cleve



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MCC In Lincoln

Metropolitan Community Church is beginning here in Lincoln. Our first meeting to form an MCC church for the Lincoln community was held on Saturday, May 2, at Lambda House. Pastor Jan Kross from MCC in Omaha came and talked with us.

Those present chose Sunday, July 12, as the date for our first worship service. We will meet at 5:30 p.m. at Lambda House.

A pot luck supper and informal time of fellowship will follow the service. The Omaha pastor and members of the Omaha MCC will be present with us. Pastor Jan will be leading our worship service.

We are open to further suggestions and input from you. If you are looking for a place to share and discuss your spirituality with those in the gay/lesbian community, here is your chance.

Come join us on Sunday, June 12 at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome. See you there.

--Carla W.

BOO

B.O.O. (Bars and Organizations of Omaha) meets on a monthly basis to coordinate the scheduling of events and for organizations to share their accomplishments and plans.

Pride Week is of special interest to B.O.O. Again this year the group sought a logo for Pride Week. Two entries were received (so much for the myth that gays are artsy-craftsy?). B.O.O. selected a design submitted by Joe P., a representative from Dignity/Omaha. The logo is being placed on T-shirts and buttons to be sold prior to and during Pride Week. The wearing of the Pride Week logo entitles the bearer to discounts on various purchases. The T-shirts and buttons are being produced by local gay-owned business. Those selling these items are charged only the cost of the items from the provider. (B.O.O. does not have a treasury and does not intend a profit.)

Representatives at the B.O.O. meetings have discussed and set the date, time and route for the Pride

Week Parade, and ensured that a permit was obtained from the City of Omaha.

Coordination of dates and times for various events has been of great interest to this group, as well as collective promotion of a schedule of events for Pride Week.

B.O.O. representatives requested that the leaders of various community religious groups coordinate a Sunday morning Christian worship service; however, such a service has been deemed to be infeasible. These leaders are preparing a rally to acknowledge the victories which our community has experienced from the time of Stonewall.

The people of B.O.O. have put a great deal of effort in ensuring the best possible Pride Week celebration. They trust that as many members of the community as possible will take advantage of this time when we declare not that we don't have to be ashamed, but indeed are proud of who and what we are.

--Jerry Peck



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National Spotlight

NGLTF Documents Increase in Anti-Gay Lesbian Violence

Reports of violence and harassment against lesbians and gays more than doubled in 1986 from the eleven reported in 1985, according to a report released in April by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). A total of 4,946 incidents were reported to NGLTF in 1986, as compared with 2,042 incidents documented the year before. Directed against persons because they are gay or lesbian or perceived to be so, these incidents included verbal harassment, intimidation, assault, police abuse, vandalism, arson, bomb threats and murder. The reported violence was perpetrated by lone individuals, gangs, and organized hate groups -- including the Ku Klux Klan and neo-Nazi organizations. Victimization occurred in a variety of settings: on the street, in school, on campus, in jail and prison, and even in the home.

...These episodes account for only a very small fraction of the actual number of attacks that occurred.

Documented by NGLTF, the National Gay/Lesbian Crisisline and 41 organizations representing communities in 27 states, these episodes account for only a very small fraction of the actual number of attacks that occurred during the past year. "These numbers do not measure the actual extent of anti-gay/lesbian violence, as the vast majority of such attacks are never reported to NGLTF," stated Kevin Berrill, Director of NGLTF's Anti-Violence Project. "Nor do these statistics measure the physical pain, the anguish, the humiliation, and the loss experienced by the victims and the larger lesbian and gay community."

NGLTF urges all victims of anti-gay/lesbian harassment and violence to contact local anti-violence projects where they exist. Those without local resources can make a

report to the National Gay and Lesbian Crisisline at (800) 221-7044, from 2-8 p.m. Central Time. Victims can also seek help from the National Organization for Victim Assistance hotline, (202) 393-6682, seven days a week, 24 hours a day.

Copies of the 18-page NGLTF report, entitled "Anti-Gay Violence, Victimization and Defamation in 1986," can be ordered for \$2.00 each; order of ten or more cost \$1.25 each. Individual copies are free to NGLTF members and NGLTF Cooperating Organizations. The NGLTF's address is 1517 U St. N.W., Washington, DC 20009.

--NGLTF Press Release

Possible AIDS Definition Revision

The Federal Center for Disease Control is coordinating a revision of the case definition of AIDS used for reporting in the United States. In a letter to state and territorial public health officials, the CDC has outlined a new definition to be adopted for national reporting, and asks for review and comment on the revisions.

The major proposed changes are:

1. Inclusion of HIV encephalopathy (dementia complex), HIV wasting syndrome, and a broader range of specific AIDS-indicative diseases,
2. Inclusion as a separate category of AIDS patients whose indicator diseases are diagnosed presumptively (who are not currently reportable),
3. Elimination of the current exclusions due to other causes of immunodeficiency.

The objectives of the revision are: to track more effectively the most serious morbidity associated with HIV infection; to simplify reporting of AIDS cases; to increase the sensitivity and specificity of the case definition through greater application of HIV-antibody test results;

and to be consistent with current diagnostic practice.

--from *Focus on AIDS*
AIDS Project Los Angeles

Maryland Sodomy

The Maryland Sodomy law reform bill, which would have decriminalized private adult consensual sexual activity, was rejected by the House of Delegates Judiciary Committee on March 28 after having sailed through three separate votes in the state Senate. The final tally on the bill was 15-6. Supporters of the bill have said they will return to the Statehouse in the 1988 legislative session.

Although the bill was not enacted, supporters of sodomy reform in Maryland noted the progress made in the 1987 effort. "We got the bill

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through every Senate vote and, for the first time in ten years, succeeded in getting a vote taken in the House Committee," said Stuart Harvey, president of the Gay and Lesbian Democratic Club of Montgomery County. "We'll be back next year after reviewing this year's progress with members of the House Committee."

--National Gay Lesbian Task Force news release

Travel Services

The International Gay Travel Association (IGTA), an international network of travel industry businesses and professionals involved with the gay and lesbian travel market, has recently published a brochure describing its goals and activities. Travel industry members wishing to learn more about IGTA may obtain the free brochure by calling 303/425-1800 (Denver), or by writing to IGTA at P.O. Box 18466, Denver CO 80218-0466.

IGTA, incorporated in 1984 as a not-for-profit association, has grown from a charter group of 25

members to more than 200 worldwide. The growing membership represents a broad spectrum of the travel industry, including travel agents, tour operators, hoteliers, resort owners, airline and cruise line representatives, travel colleges, limousine services, travel clubs and travel guide publishers.

As a professional service organization, IGTA works for the business enhancement of its members by informing both travel agents and consumers about properties, businesses and destinations that welcome gay clientele, and affording the members an opportunity to network with one another. For the benefit of its members, IGTA publishes a quarterly newsletter and a membership directory, provides a marketing mailing service, holds an annual convention, and sponsors familiarization trips and travel shows.

Membership in IGTA is open to all travel industry businesses and professionals who wish to be supportive of the gay travel industry throughout the world.

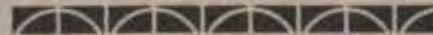
Study Focuses on Safe Sex

A report on sexual practices in San Francisco and the risk of infection by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) has concluded that sexual transmission of HIV in gay and bisexual men in San Francisco has been largely due to the numbers of sexual contacts and the practice of *receptive anal intercourse*.

The report is part of The San Francisco Men's Health Study and was published in the January 16, 1987, issue of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. (The Journal is available at many university and public libraries.)

The report further concluded that the use of a douche or an enema before having sexual contact contributed significantly to the risk of infection.

--Mark Wojcik



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AIDS Pocket Card Offered to Police

In response to reports of growing fear by law enforcement officials about contracting AIDS on the job, the Human Rights Resource Center (HRRC) has published a pocket-size card with concise information about the disease. HRRC gathered the information from medical experts, law enforcement officials, and community service providers.

The pocket card describes tasks that are commonly required of police officers and identifies the level of risk (if any) associated with these activities. Simple procedures to guard against infectious diseases are suggested for performing certain job activities that may present a health hazard. An accompanying training bulletin provides more information on AIDS and infection control measures.

According to Trish Donahue, Law Enforcement Specialist at HRRC, "the AIDS pocket card provides at

a glance information that police officers need, and enables them to perform their jobs without delay."

AIDS pocket cards are available from the Human Rights Resource Center, 1450 Lucas Valley Road, San Rafael, CA. 94903; 415/499-7463. Cards are twenty dollars per 100; a copy-ready original is available free of charge for agencies wishing to produce their own cards.



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Civil Rights in Illinois

Two legislative bills on sexual orientation will be introduced in Illinois. The Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force reports that one bill will add "sexual orientation" to the Illinois Human Rights Act, which would prohibit discrimination in employment, real estate transactions, financial credit, and public accommodation. Another bill will address anti-gay violence by adding "sexual orientation" to the categories of "aggravated battery" in the Illinois Criminal Code.

Question on the legislation can be addressed to the Illinois Gay and Lesbian Task Force (IGLTF), 615 West Wellington, Chicago, Illinois, 60657-5305.



NEBRASKA
CORONATION VII



MIDWEST
G A Y
A R T S
FESTIVAL
II

UNO Women's Resource Center
and
River City Mixed Chorus

Present Vocalist

Sue Fink
in concert

7pm, June 13
Strauss Recital Hall

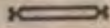
Tickets: \$8 in advance
\$9 at the door



Appreciation is akin to creation.
— T.S. Eliot

Henry A. Waxman's Remarks at National Health Conference

The following remarks were made by Rep. Henry A. Waxman, (D-CA), Chairman of the Congressional Subcommittee on Health and the Environment, before the National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference on March 28, 1987. These excerpts reflect Waxman's realistic views on AIDS and national health care, as well as the continuing inaction of the current administration.



It is particularly appropriate for this meeting to be in Los Angeles and coordinated through the Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center. It was here -- five years ago next week -- that the Health Subcommittee I chair held the first Congressional hearing on what was known as Kaposi's sarcoma and related infections. There were then three hundred cases reported and 123 deaths.

The hearing was held in the Center. Three reporters came. It seems like a lifetime ago.

Since that time there have been thousands of deaths. But still no word from the President.

There have been tens of thousands of cases, but still *no word from the President.*

There have been millions of infections. *But still no word from the President.*

...The first message I want to give you tonight is that there are some things we should neither forgive nor forget.

Don't let the President off now because he is no longer proposing cuts in AIDS budgets. Don't give the President the credit for Dr. Koop's report when no dollars or dedication follow it.

True -- we must work with the Administration. Its positions and endorsements hold great power.

But this president will not be remembered for the tax bill or Star Wars or for Iran and Nicaragua. He will be remembered as the president who allowed thousands to die

and allowed the nation to be frightened and torn apart. He will be remembered as showing less foresight with more information

"He will be remembered as the president who allowed thousands to die and allowed the nation to be frightened and torn apart."

than any leader since Herbert Hoover or Neville Chamberlain.

...I support confidentiality of counseling and testing. I support Federal protections against discrimination. I will work for early passage of such legislation. You will, too.

...I'd like to spend some time tonight talking to the Lesbian and Gay Health Conference about broad health issues -- of which AIDS is a part. The epidemic is so overwhelming that many of you have professional and personal lives that allow no time for anything else.

AIDS shows the failure of American health care.

But although it is unique in some ways, AIDS has only shown in harsh light the cracks and flaws and holes in the American health care system. It is a crystallization of the worst problems in preventing illness and caring for the sick.

AIDS has shown that our insurance system is unfair.

...AIDS has shown that Medicaid is shallow and inadequate.

...AIDS has shown that we can produce medical miracles for the rich and plain neglect for the poor.

...AIDS has shown that our best private hospitals are basically businesses -- dumping patients without insurance.

"...You have two tasks now: First, to take care of AIDS patients within this broken system. And second, to fix the system for all Americans."

And AIDS has shown that our public hospitals are crowded, understaffed, underequipped, and bankrupt.

These failures, however, are not unique to AIDS. AIDS has only shown them in bold relief.

This leads me to say that you have two tasks now: First, to take care of AIDS patients within this broken system. And second, to fix the system for all Americans.

...But the numbers are going to become overwhelming. ...We must be prepared to resist the seductions of con artists and snake oil salesmen. Our enemies come dressed in sheep's clothing as well as that of wolves. Persons with AIDS and the people who care for them must become the sophisticated consumers of health care that many elderly and disabled people have become.

This is a saddening realization, because it is an implicit statement that AIDS is not just an emergency that will be dealt with and be over. AIDS is not just a public health drama played on a political stage.

It is also daily life -- tedious, mundane, maddeningly slow, and detailed. It is not just getting a drug approved, but paying for it. It is not just getting insurance, but also understanding deductibles. It is not just signing up for research, but getting fully informed consent.

You, as health professionals, understand this best. You have lived with the epidemic not just as a catastrophe, but as your daily work.

As difficult as this first task is, the second is even more so.

"...Gay concerns have become not just sexual politics, but budget politics, electoral politics, and foreign politics."

Many gay people have become assimilated into mainstream society. As this has happened, gay concerns have become not just sexual politics, but budget politics, electoral politics, and foreign politics. People

have started worrying about tax shelters or about shelters for the homeless, depending upon your party and your social class.

In the same as AIDS becomes more assimilated into medicine and health care, health professionals will have to manage the enormity of the epidemic while still caring for the other sick and disabled of society.

Even those most concerned for persons with AIDS and the special tragedy of AIDS will have to deal with the routine of keeping the health system functional.

We must hope that when we win the battle to have AIDS recognized as an illness and not a curse, and to have persons with AIDS recognized as people and not as victims -- at that time we must hope that AIDS professionals and AIDS patients continue to care for others as well as for each other.

If there's another lesson that AIDS has made clear to all of us involved in health care, it is that we cannot have a health care system that is "every man for himself."

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NGLTF Targets Testing Programs

Late last year, the U.S. State Department announced a new policy implementing mandatory HIV antibody testing for *all* foreign service employees and their dependents. Less than a month later, the U.S. Job Corps announced plans to test *all* employees and applicants in Job Corps programs. The proposals drew fire from a broad spectrum of civil liberties and gay organizations. "The justifications offered by the federal government for introducing mandatory testing programs were implausible at best," observed Jeffrey Levi, Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF). "We viewed these programs as the federal government's attempt to literally test the waters of mass mandatory testing for all federal employees, and perhaps for all Americans."

NGLTF responded immediately by contacting the Congressional committees with oversight over these departments to obtain hearings on the utility and necessity of the new regulations. To date, no Congressional leader has undertaken a challenge to these policies. The Task Force also contacted federal employee unions such as the American Foreign Service Association and the American Federation of Government Employees. Although the AFSA does not plan to protest the new policy, AFGE is participating as plaintiff in a lawsuit being prepared by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund.

"We believe that the decision to take the antibody test should be an individual one and not one that is coerced by the government," noted Levi. "Given the tremendous psychological, legal, social, and economic impact a positive test result can have on an individual's life, the government has no business interposing itself into this difficult decision."

To focus the debate further, the Task Force has prepared and distributes several fact sheets on antibody testing, including a document "Questions and Answers on HIV Testing and Government Employ-

ment and Programs." Other NGLTF fact sheets include, "Questions and Answers About the HIV Antibody Test," and a "Summary of Positions" on the relative efficacy of prevention programs, testing, and contact tracing.

"NGLTF will continue its fight against repressive measure to deal with the AIDS crisis" Levi said, "We are convinced that such measures do not work. Leading public health authorities such as the Public Health Service and the Surgeon General agree that coercive tools are not the way to proceed. We may not win every battle, but we must be relentless in fighting them."



AIDS

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Humor

Warming Up to The Big Chill

Things to expect once America gets over AIDS Hysteria:

- Blue-light specials on condoms at K-Mart.
- No one pronouncing it "cundums" anymore.
- An annual Condom Bowl football game in Montgomery, Alabama.
- The Goodyear blimp "Condom" floating over the annual Condom Bowl game.
- The collapse of Paul Cameron's income.
- Young Republican "Roy Cohn Clubs."
- Rock Hudson movie festivals.
- Liberace TV show reruns.
- A Liberace plate from Franklin Mint.
- Safe sex articles in *Catholic*

Digest.

- Designer condoms: "The Brooke Shield" by Calvin Klein, and the "Magenot Line (Your First Line of Defense)" by Pierre Cardin.
- Generic condoms.
- AIDS faith healing attempts by Oral Roberts.
- Oral Roberts threatened with AIDS by God unless viewers send in \$10 million.
- Ed McMahon beginning a television commercial: "If you and your lover are over the age of 50 . . ."
- Condom demos at Home and Travel shows.
- A sharp increase in latex stock value.
- A free condom in each box of LeMenu entrees.
- Decent treatment for persons with AIDS.

--Stefan

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Looking to Rent House

Do you have a house to rent? We are 3 women looking for a 3-bedroom to occupy. Can afford \$300 to \$350 per month.

Prefer a fenced yard for we do have an 11-yr.-old dog who is very well trained. A garage would be nice too. If you have something that will be available, please call Sandy at 476-0272 or Lynn at 466-3506.

Lambda House Needs Items

Lambda House needs: dryer; garbage disposal; lamps; bedside tables; occasional chairs; lawn mower; book case; volunteers to assist house management with electrical wiring, plumbing and fixtures. Call Pat or Dave at 474-1205 in Lincoln.

Art Display Space

Good art display space - shows welcome. Amen Art Gallery. 430 N. 27th, Lincoln, 476-8496.

Need Some TLC

A lonely lesbian is looking for some TLC from another understanding and loving lesbian between 30 and 45. If interested please write and send photo if possible: Diane Brandsteeter; 5904 Henninger Dr. #106; Omaha NE 68104.

Gay Pen Pals Wanted

Gay inmate seeks pen pals, no scams, just friends. Visits possible (if willing). Write: Offender #36705; P.O. Box 2800; Lincoln, NE 68502-0800.

Religious Discussion Group

Anyone interested in a religious discussion group? Call 474-1205 and leave a message for Pat. Will call back!

Art and Books: Buy, Trade

Amen Gallery - Art & Books. We need used paperback Western, mystery, science fiction. Will buy or trade. 340 N. 27th, Lincoln, 476-8496.

GWM Seeks Friendship

I'm a GWM interested in forming a close, cooperative friendship that encourages listening, supporting, sharing, being ourselves and respecting differences. I'm 39, 6', 166ish, hairy, toned and nicely defined, warm, direct, sensitive and centered with a healthy vanity and libido. Delights: Chinese food/Frank L. Wright/Gary Larson. Dislikes: lima beans/long lines/smokers. You're late 20's to mid 40's, independent, open, articulate and secure, masculine, muscular (or tightly trim). Let's work out physically and spiritually. Write today with photo and phone, please. P.O. Box 27231; Omaha NE 68127.

Domestic Help Wanted

Student, Airman, or someone interested in 15 to 20 hrs. per week of mostly domestic type household chores. I am a business man and haven't the time or ability to do domestic things. Job would include cleaning, laundry, and shopping. All the little things to make a house a home. Liking dogs is a must, as I have two. Good pay in return for honest work. Person must have references. No heavy drinker or dope. Clean cut is very important to me. Living quarters a possibility. Call 292-6813 after 8:30 p.m.

Female Friendship Sought

Young bisexual looking for (female) companion, friends, and pen pals. Write to: Deb Miller, 920 1st Ave., Nebraska City, NE 68410.

Tired of Playing Games?

Looking for discreet, career oriented, cute GWM 19-30 for mature, responsible, stable relationship. Must be able to prove you're in good health (mentally also). No fats, fems or weirdos. If you don't fit the above don't waste my time or yours. I'm 28 (look younger), 5'11", 150 lbs., br. & br., and I don't drink or drug. Write Boxholder, P.O. Box 6452, Lincoln, NE 68506.

New Voice Advertising Rate Increase

Effective July 1, 1987, *New Voice* advertising rates will increase by \$1.00 per column inch. This in-

crease will affect all current ad sizes. However, this increase will not affect all current contract advertisers until contracts expire. Write or call *The New Voice* for more information about our advertising specifications.

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.,

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 94822, 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 AIDS related community 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.

Presbyterians For Lesbian/Gay Concerns. Organization meeting scheduled for February 28. Phone 733-1360 (Cleve).

UNL Gay/Lesbian Resource Center. Room 342 (Mail; Room 222), Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Hotline: 472-5644. Social activities, AIDS education project, roommate referral, support groups, and library.

Lincoln

Gay/Lesbian Adult Children of Alcoholics. Group meets Sundays. Call 488-3190 for location (late in evening).

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous. Group meets every Tuesday and Friday. Phone AA central office for location, 466-5214.

Capital 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. Phone 423-1374.

Gay/Lesbian Information and Support Line. Box 94882, Lincoln 68509. Referral and support phone line staffed by peer counselors. Phone 472-4697 in evenings.

Lambda Resource Center. 2845 R St. Meeting rooms, outpatient counseling, group activities. Phone 474-1205.

Lesbian Support Group. Contact Women's Resource Center, Room 117, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588. Informal discussion group for lesbians; all womyn welcome. Meets weekly. Phone 472-2597.

Lincoln Legion of Lesbians. Box 30317, Lincoln 68503. Lesbian-feminist collective providing a newsletter, confidential referral, 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. Phone 476-2802.

Open Door Ministry. To provide orthodox spiritual counseling to all people in need at no charge. Phone 474-3380.

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. Phone 474-1205 (Pat).

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

Woman's Journal-Advocate. Box 81226, Lincoln 68501. Monthly feminist publication.

Omaha

Gay/Lesbian Alcoholics Anonymous. Group meets weekly, Friday at 8:15 p.m. at Metropolitan Community Church, 420 S. 24th St. Phone 345-9916.

Gay/Lesbian ALANON. Group meets weekly, Sunday at 4 p.m. at Lowe Ave. Presbyterian Church, 1023 N. 40th St. Phone 556-9907.

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 p.m., 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.

Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon. Group meets Fridays at 8:15 p.m. at MCC. Phone 556-9907.

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 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.; Tuesday evening Bible study at 7:30 p.m.; Wednesday Mid-week Program at 7:30 p.m.; Adult Sunday School at 9:10 a.m. Phone 345-2563.

Omaha Business and Professional Club. Box 24973, Omaha 68124. Networking organization of business and professional persons. Meets third Wednesday of each month. Phone 345-2966.

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

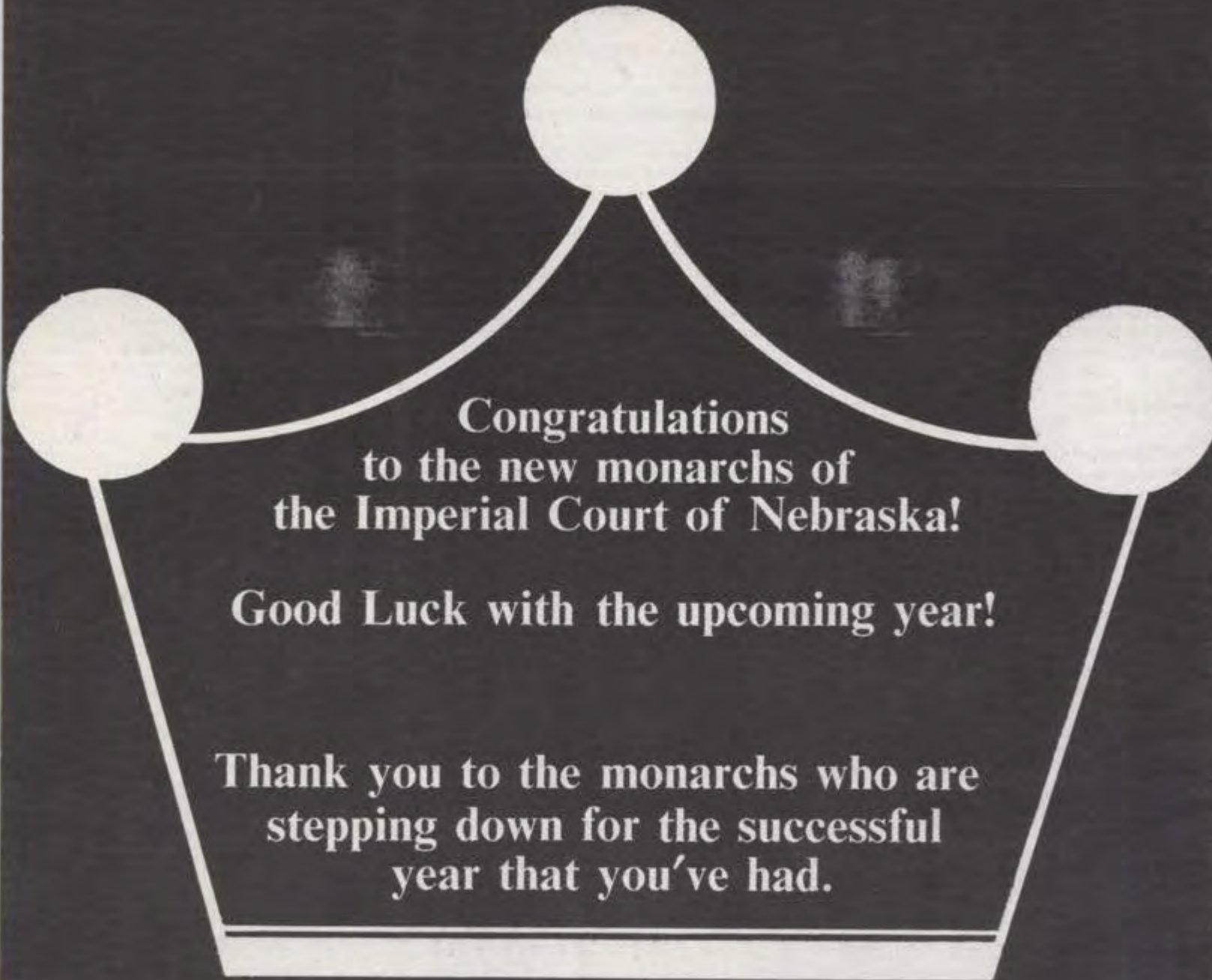
Parents/Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG). Box 3173, Omaha 68103. Support group for the parents, friends, and relatives of lesbians/gays. Phone 556-7481 (Ruth).

Project CONCERN. Box 3772, Omaha 68102. AIDS related information. Speakers, brochures, posters, and VCR tapes. Phone 455-3701.

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. Phone 342-4775.

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

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• SATURDAY JUNE 20 8:00

CORONATION VII
CARTER LAKE WHSE.

VOTING 5:45 - 7:45

\$ 10.00

• SUNDAY JUNE 21

VICTORY BRUNCH
AIR PORT RAMADA INN 12:00

VICTORY SHOW MAX 9:30



Omaha Activities

- June 13
SATURDAY
- SUE FINK CONCERT**
Strauss Performing Arts Center - UNO: a UNO Woman's Center and River City Mixed Chorus presentation. Sue Fink in concert: techno-pop music in a flamboyant and playful style. 7pm
- June 14
SUNDAY
- SUMMER KAMP**
Strauss Performing Arts Center - UNO: featuring the River City Mixed Chorus under the direction of Kevin Jones, with special guests The Heartland Men's Chorus of Kansas City. 5pm
- June 13/
SAT/ 14
SUN
- MIDWEST GAY ARTS FAIR**
Strauss Performing Arts Center - UNO: a River City Mixed Chorus sponsored Art Show and Sale. 1pm to 7pm
- June 19
FRIDAY
- HOSPITALITY ROOM : MEET OUT OF TOWNERS** ICON
Airport Ramada Inn - Omaha, "with cash bar". 3pm to 7pm
- MONARCH'S OUT OF TOWN SHOW** ICON
Airport Ramada Inn - Omaha. 9pm
- June 20
SATURDAY
- CORONATION VII** ICON
Carter Lake Warehouse, Iowa:
Social Hour and voting; 5:45 to 7:45pm
Show Time. 8pm
- HOSPITALITY ROOM : MEET OUT OF TOWNERS** ICON
Airport Ramada Inn - Omaha. 11am to 5pm
- June 21
SUNDAY
- VICTORY BRUNCH** ICON
Airport Ramada Inn - Omaha. 12 noon
- VICTORY SHOW** ICON
The Max. 9:30pm
- June 27
SATURDAY
- * **PRIDE PARADE** BOO
Route: meet on vacant lot NE corner of 18th & St Mary's, East on Jackson to 13th, 1 block North on 13th to Howard, West on Howard to starting point; .8mi. 7:30pm
- June 28
SUNDAY
- * **RALLY** BOO
Turner Park, 31st and Farnam; in front of the Statue of Liberty: Keynote speaker Rosemarie Walase, Arizona; a review of our political accomplishments. 12:30am
- RECEPTION** MCC
Metropolitan Community Church: 420 S 24th. After Rally



T - Shirts on sale all Month!!

